University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee
University Committee
2008-2009 Annual Report

Members:

Donald Solomon  Assoc  Mathematical Sci
Cindy Walker, Chair  Assoc  Educational Psych
Tien-Chien Jen  Prof  Mechanical Engineering
William Velez  Prof  Sociology
Lee Ann Garrison  Assoc  Visual Art
Steve Meyer  Prof  History
Marcia Parsons  Prof  Dance

Charter:
Functions/Responsibilities:

University Committee Composition and Function
A3.9 University Committee

Membership.
Seven members as follows: six elected faculty members and the President pro tem of the Senate. No more than three of the members shall be from a single school, college, or equivalent academic unit. No more than one member shall be from a single department in a departmentalized school or college.

For all elections of members to the University Committee, a primary election shall be held. The final election ballot will contain twice as many nominees as there are individuals to be elected, such nominees to be chosen in descending order from the one who received the greatest number of votes in the primary election. The provisions above concerning membership distribution shall be honored.

The Committee annually elects a chairperson-elect from those having at least one more year to serve as a Committee member. The chairperson-elect serves as chairperson the year following his/her election.

Vacancies in the University Committee membership are to be filled as soon thereafter as possible, by special election, through preparation of a special slate of nominees prepared by the Nominations Committee and permitting nominations from the university faculty followed by a mail ballot. The membership that results from the filling of this vacancy will follow the membership composition restrictions of the University Committee with respect to school/college and departmental affiliation as cited in A3.9 (1) (a).

(Document 2477, 05/17/05; UWM Administration, 08/16/05)
Functions.
Serves as the Executive Committee of the Faculty Senate, and in that capacity performs those functions which may be delegated to it by the Senate. Takes action representing faculty interests and prerogatives within the jurisdiction of the Senate when the Senate is not in session. Such actions are reported to the Senate at its next regular meeting for ratification or other appropriate action.

Examines any actions taken respecting the UWM campus by the Board of Regents, the various faculties or faculty committees, or by other bodies or individuals related to the university faculty, and makes recommendation as appropriate.

On its own initiative, studies educational policy matters which are within the jurisdiction of the university faculty and makes recommendations to the Faculty thereon. To the extent feasible, the committee performs this function in consultation with other appropriate faculty committees.

On its own initiative, or upon request, advises the Administration on the implementation of faculty action.

Consults with appropriate administrative officers at campus level or above on budget matters and reports thereon to the faculty.

In consultation with the Rules Committee prepares the agenda for committee of the whole discussions concerning matters of general interest to the university faculty.

Makes an annual report at the Faculty Senate's first regular meeting of the academic year, and regularly submits to the Secretary of the University its minutes on all matters except those matters considered in closed session as permitted by 19.85, Wis. Stats.

Advises the Chancellor on the membership on any campus search and screen committee which involves the faculty in making nominations for appointments to major university administrative positions as specified in ' 6.05, and represents the faculty on any system wide search and screen procedures.

Advises the faculty and the administration on those questions concerning the operation of faculty governance which are within the jurisdiction of the university faculty.

Receives grievances and complaints by or against members of the faculty and refers these grievances or complaints to the appropriate faculty standing committee.

Receive notification within five (5) working days from administrators when they, after conducting preliminary investigations, have grievances or complaints against faculty member(s) that may lead to discipline.

(Document 1016, 3/17/77; UWM Administration approval, 3/30/77) (Document 1076, 3/21/76; UWM Administration approval, 3/28/78) (Editorially revised, 5/13/92) (Document 2424,
Meetings:

In the 2008-09 academic year the University Committee met every Tuesday afternoon, with the exception of winter and spring break. We also met over the summer, although we only met every other week over the summer.

Accomplishments:

The UC regularly met with the Chancellor and the Provost to discuss issues of importance to the campus. Probably the most important issues that were discussed during the 2008-09 academic year were budget and master planning, given the downturn of the economy in this year.

To better understand faculty concerns the UC also initiated two meetings with Department Chairs across the campus in the 2008-09 academic year. These meetings were well attended and great discussions took place about budgetary concerns and other concerns of the faculty which the UC then brought to the attention of the Chancellor, the Provost, and the Deans.

The UC also held a joint meeting with the ASC to discuss issues of concern. Both the UC and the ASC were primarily concerned with the role of faculty governance on our campus. These concerns were brought to the attention of the Chancellor, the Provost, and the Deans.

The UC also invited UWS President Kevin Reilly and Regent Pruitt to have lunch with them to discuss issues of concern. The UC was primarily concerned with the level of support provided by system. Kevin Reilly responded to our concerns by highlighting all of the support he had garnered for our campus in the past year. After lunch he spoke to the Senate on this same topic.

The UC represented the faculty on various committees across campus including the two dean searches (Lubar and Health Sciences), APBC, Board of Visitors, EBC, Enrollment Services Committees, and Master Planning Committees.

In response to a motion by the Senate to administer a survey to the faculty about the Master Planning process, the UC worked with others to design the survey. The UC then administered the survey and disseminated the results to all via the Sec of U’s website and the Master Planning website.

The UC brought the following motions dealing with budgetary issues and issues of faculty workload, to the Senate in the 2008-09 academic year:

FD 2651 UC Resolution for Consideration of the Committee of the Whole Discussion: Budget Strategies
FD 2657 Resolution for Budget Reduction Strategies

All of these were passed unanimously,
The UC also represented our campus at the system level by attending Faculty Rep meetings that are held monthly.

Finally, during the 2008-09 academic year the changes to our policies and procedures that were initiated several years ago to address concerns about joint appointments, were finalized.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cindy M. Walker, Chair
University Committee