University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee
UNIVERSITY COMMITTEE
2015-16 Annual Report

Members:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Department</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Swarnjit Arora</td>
<td>Prof</td>
<td>Economics</td>
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<tr>
<td>Robert Schwartz</td>
<td>Prof</td>
<td>Philosophy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Michael Brondino</td>
<td>Assoc</td>
<td>Social Work</td>
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<tr>
<td>John Reisel, Chair</td>
<td>Prof</td>
<td>Mechanical Engineering</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Margo Anderson</td>
<td>Prof</td>
<td>History</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sandra McLellan ¹</td>
<td>Prof</td>
<td>Freshwater Sciences</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kristian O'Connor **</td>
<td>Assoc</td>
<td>Kinesiology</td>
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** President pro tem of the Senate
¹ Rep C. Walker (2016-E)

Charter:
Functions/ Responsibilities:

University Committee Composition and Function
A3.9 University Committee

(1) Membership

a) Seven tenured faculty 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. All UC members are automatically Faculty Senators.

For all regular 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.

b) Vacancies in the University Committee membership are to be filled as soon thereafter as possible. If the vacancy cannot be filled within the regular annual committee elections process as specified in 6.24(1&6), then a special election will be held through preparation
of a special slate of nominees by the Nominations Committee and permitting nominations from the university faculty followed by a mail ballot. If the special slate has more than two nominees for an available position, a final election will be conducted as specified in A3.9(1)(a). 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, 5/17/05; UWM Administration, 08/16/05)
(Document 2560, 2/15/07; UWM Administration, 2/21/07)
(Document 2659, 5/14/09; UWM Administration, 4/6/09)
(Document 2716, 4/15/10; UWM Administration, 4/20/10)

(2) **Functions**

a) 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.

b) 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.

c) 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.

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

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

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

g) 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.

h) 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.

i) Advises the faculty and the administration on those questions concerning the operation of faculty governance which are within the jurisdiction of the university faculty.
j) Receives grievances and complaints by or against members of the faculty and refers these grievances or complaints to the appropriate faculty standing committee.

k) Receive notification within five 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, 4/15/04; UWM Administration approval, 4/26/04)
(Document 2477, 3/17/05; UWM Administration, 08/16/05)

Meetings:

The University Committee (UC) met every week on Tuesday afternoons from 1:00pm until approximately 4:00pm during the Fall 2015 and Spring 2016 semesters. During winter break and during the summer, the UC met roughly every other week.

Summary of Actions:

1. The UC met regularly with Provost Britz (about every other week) and Chancellor Mone (approximately once a month) during the year in order to keep informed and provide input on important campus issues.

2. The UC spent much of the year monitoring the situation involving changes to tenure in the UW System, and providing input on proposed changes. This included the development of a position paper on academic freedom and tenure, which was brought to the Faculty Senate for committee of the whole discussions in September 2015 and November 2015, and which was approved by the Senate in December 2015. After the Board of Regents adopted policies regarding tenure, faculty lay-off due to program discontinuation, and post-tenure review, the UC prepared two versions of a UWM policy on faculty lay-off for discussion at the April 2016 Faculty Senate meeting. It was decided following this discussion to not move forward with this policy at this time, as it was likely that the Board of Regents would only accept a version that would be in conflict with current UWM P&P. Over the summer, the UC worked on modifying the current UWM SAAP on post-tenure review (S52.75) to conform with the new Board policy on post-tenure review.

3. Throughout the year, the UC monitored and provided advice regarding the campus budget situation. UWM was faced with a historically large cut to its budget from state GPR, and also needed to reduce a structural deficit that had grown over the past few years. Campus activities to address these issues included the creation of CCOET (Chancellor’s Campus Organization and Effectiveness Team), the Campus Budget Planning Task Force, and the Budget Model Working Group. The UC had representatives on CCOET and the Budget Planning Task Force, and worked with all the concerned groups to try to develop ways to best manage the budget crisis. The UC gathered input to the CCOET report from faculty, and transmitted that input to Chancellor Mone. The UC also met several times with Vice Chancellor Robin Van Harpen and Associate Vice Chancellor Jerry Tarrer to gain a better understanding of the budget situation and accounting practices of UWM and the UW System.
4. As the UWM budget is now heavily dependent on tuition revenue, the UC sought information on campus enrollment, and advocated for strong leadership and management of the recruitment and retention of students at UWM.

5. The UC regularly advocated for greater support for graduate students through increased TA and RA stipends.

6. The UC periodically worked on developing ideas for maintaining and enhancing the research enterprise at UWM. These efforts grew more focused following the R1 designation granted to UWM by the Carnegie Classification. The UC learned from Prof. Kyle Swanson how the rankings are determined, and based on that developed a set of suggestions for UWM administration on how the research enterprise can be best maintained at R1 levels.

7. In October, the UC drafted a statement opposing proposed legislation in Madison that would allow for concealed weapons on campus. This statement was passed by the Faculty Senate, and subsequently transmitted to elected officials. The proposed legislation was not passed by the legislature.

8. In November, the UC met with members of the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel editorial board and MJS journalists with the purpose of continuing an ongoing dialogue. The discussion proved useful in that it helped to highlight the benefits to Milwaukee of UWM and also to directly communicate the challenges facing UWM to the city’s primary newspaper.

9. The UC explored ways of better gathering data on scholarly activity across campus, and provided suggestions to Provost Britz. One thing that the UC emphasized is that the schools and colleges need to be gathering data annually through “brag sheets” and then this data should be used to make determinations on research allocations and workloads.

10. The UC met with Associate Vice Chancellor Adrienne Bass on several occasions to discuss ways of integrating UWM faculty with alumni relations, and to provide faculty input on proposed ideas from the alumni association.

11. In March, the UC met with Vice Chancellor Pat Borger to discuss the progress of the UWM Comprehensive Campaign and how faculty could be involved in the campaign.

12. The UC expressed concern over the UWM website, primarily focusing on the difficulty in finding information on faculty and misinformation on the website. The UC provided input on how the website could be more useful for those outside the university other than prospective students for learning about resources at UWM.

13. The UC also performed its usual function of transmitting faculty complaints to the FAGC or FRRC as appropriate, and monitoring the progress of the cases. The faculty did transmit to Provost Britz concerns from some faculty that tenure decisions were potentially including consideration of the budget situation on campus.

14. The UC has received data regarding time at rank for faculty across campus units, and will be exploring that data to determine if there are any clear bottlenecks that exist on campus for faculty promotion.