University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee
UNIVERSITY COMMITTEE
2016-17 Annual Report

Members:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Department</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jasmine Alinder*</td>
<td>Assoc</td>
<td>History</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kristian O'Connor**</td>
<td>Assoc</td>
<td>Kinesiology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Boyland ***</td>
<td>Prof</td>
<td>Electrical Engr &amp; Comp Sci</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marcia Parsons</td>
<td>Prof</td>
<td>Dance</td>
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<tr>
<td>Swarnjit Arora</td>
<td>Prof</td>
<td>Economics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert Schwartz</td>
<td>Prof</td>
<td>Philosophy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michael Brondino</td>
<td>Assoc</td>
<td>Social Work</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Reisel, Chair</td>
<td>Prof</td>
<td>Mechanical Engineering</td>
</tr>
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* Resigned February 28, 2017
** Term began April 25, 2017
*** President pro tem of the Senate

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 3:30pm during the Fall 2016 and Spring 2017 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. Much of the Fall 2016 semester was devoted to revising UWM’s Post-Tenure Review Policy so that the policy was in compliance with the new Board of Regents policy. The policy was first presented to the Faculty Senate at the September 15, 2016 meeting, and the Senate referred it back to the UC for modifications. The revised policy was then approved by the Faculty Senate at the October 20, 2016 meeting. After that, the UW System administration decided to impose new requirements on the policy, resulting in the need to further revise the policy. This was done, and the Faculty Senate approved the newly revised policy at the November 17, 2016 meeting. This version of the policy was forwarded by the UW System to the Board of Regents, and the Board of Regents approved UWM’s policy at its December 2016 meeting.

3. After the post-tenure review policy was approved by the Board of Regents, the UC developed recommendations on the initial implementation of the policy. The campus administration agreed to these recommendations, and they were promulgated to the academic units. Subsequently, the UC responded to questions from academic units on the policy itself and the recommendations on the implementation of the policy.

4. Throughout the year, the UC monitored and provided advice regarding the campus budget situation as well as the campus enrollment. During the biennium, UWM was faced with a historically large cut to its budget from state GPR, reduced tuition income due to declining student enrollment and also needed to reduce a structural deficit that had grown over the past few years. The UC provided feedback and made recommendations as appropriate regarding the campus activities on these matters.
5. The UC had representation on the UWM Strategic Position Control Committee, which was primarily responsible for managing the budget reductions through personnel. The UC regularly expressed concern over the lack of strategy being employed in this process, and that the decisions being made were potentially permanently damaging some academic units on campus. The UC also expressed concern over the number of administrators on campus. In general, the UC was concerned with the large reduction in the size of the faculty at UWM, and how it would be difficult to maintain R1 status with fewer faculty but little reduction in the number of programs at UWM.

6. The UC participated on the three dean Search & Screen Committees, as well as supported the identification of non-UC faculty members to serve on these committees. The UC also made recommendations for faculty appointments to other campus Search & Screen committees, as well as faculty standing committees.

7. Two members of the UC were on the Chancellor’s Strategic Opportunities Work Group (CSOWG), participating in the discussions and writing that led to the formulation of the Strategic Opportunities document.

8. The UC provided feedback on the potential of creating pathways programs for international students to enroll at UWM. These programs were to be operated by an external company. The UC urged caution in rushing into an agreement, recommending that more consideration be given with more input sought from academic units. Ultimately, no agreement was signed with the initial two companies under serious consideration.

9. 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.

10. In January, the UC met with Athletic Director Amanda Braun, and discussed her ideas for effectively messaging about the importance of Division I athletics at UWM.

11. The UC met with Graduate School Dean Marija Gajdardziska-Josifovska to discuss the ongoing efforts to increase graduate student stipends.

12. The UC met with UWM Police Chief Joseph LeMire to discuss a Coffee with a Cop event for UWM faculty as well as other issues surrounding campus safety which was being co-sponsored by the UC.

13. The UC monitored the governor’s proposed budget and the modifications to that budget request as it proceeded through the legislature. The UC was pleased that many of the non-financial requests in the governor’s proposal were removed by the Joint Finance Committee. Overall, the budget being developed by the legislature was more positive than many recent state budgets have been for the UW System, but the UC believes that significantly more funding is still needed to maintain the UW Systems’ quality.

14. The UC returned to the Faculty Policies and Procedures on Layoff and Termination that were initially brought forward for consideration by the Faculty Senate in April 2016, but then set aside due to little interest in passing a policy that was detrimental to faculty. However, developments at other campuses in the System prompted the UC to revise the P&P, for consideration by the UWM administration and Faculty Senate in the 2017-18 academic year. The revisions would offer more protection to the faculty.

15. The UC suggested changes to S-46 to make the language referring to faculty representatives on administrative search and screen committees more consistent throughout the document.
16. 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.

17. The UC elected Kris O’Connor to be chair for the 2017-18 year.