

The Council of Graduate Students held its second Full Council Meeting on March 16th, 2022.

The March meeting primarily consisted of Executive Board Officer Elections. As a result of the election, all positions were filled. The new officers for the 22-23 academic year are: Hannah Jeffery from the Department of Plant, Soil, and Microbial Sciences as President, Arthur Steve Tchoneteck from the Department of Statistics and Probability as Vice President for Internal Affairs, Luis Suarez from the Department of Mathematics as Vice President for External Affairs, Bismarck Amaniampong from the Department of Chemistry as the Recording Secretary, and Miles Roberts from the Genetics Program as Treasurer.

The Full Council passed the following legislation:

* [22-SS-36](https://cogs.msu.edu/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/22-SS-36-Amend-the-Constitution.pdf) which passed an amendment to the COGS constitution which would allow for Executive Board Officer positions to be compensated
* [22-SS-37](https://cogs.msu.edu/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/22-SS-37-Accept-Finance-Committee-Recommendations-for-Professional-Development-Award-Funding.pdf) which awarded four students funds for Professional Development in the amount of $2,000
* [22-SS-38](https://cogs.msu.edu/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/22-SS-38-Accept-Finance-Committee-Recommendations-for-Conference-Award-Funding.pdf) which awarded nine students funds for Conference Expenses in the amount of $2,700
* [22-SS-39](https://cogs.msu.edu/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/22-SS-39-Accept-Finance-Committee-Recommendations-for-GSO-Event-Funding.pdf) which awarded $2,864.00 in funds for Graduate Student Organizations in order to hold events

## Anticipated Items at Upcoming Meetings

Because 22-SS-36 is an amendment to the Constitution, it must now pass to referendum, where is voted upon by the entire Graduate and Professional Student body, during the week of April 4-8. Pending the passing of that referendum, as well as the tax renewal, the Council hopes to discuss how and in what amount Executive Board members will be compensated for the very important labor they do for the University. At the next Full Council meeting, we also intend to induct our new board and set meeting dates for the 22-23 Academic year.



# Report to the Steering Committee | April 5, 2022

## Actions Taken at Recent Meetings

### March 17, 2022

The committee continued to discuss the applicability of section 2.1.2. of the *Bylaws for Academic Governance* regarding dean eligibility requirements. Discussion revolved around whether exceptions should be made for Health Professions Faculty and if eligibility requirements were applicable to acting/interim deans.

The committee proposed two amendments to the *Bylaws for Academic Governance.* The first modified the attendance requirements established in Section 1.4.3. The committee also amended the composition of the University Committee on the Libraries and made it a university-level standing committee. The amendments were referred to University Council, which approved both on March 22.

The committee discussed the Office of Audit, Risk and Compliance’s proposed policy documents, which were referred to UCAG at the February 1 Steering Committee meeting. Members stressed the importance of differentiating between policies, guidelines, rules, and regulations throughout the documents. In general, UCAG members saw the materials as a good first step toward the standardization and centralization of university policies.

## Anticipated Items at Upcoming Meetings

The selection of nominees for various university committees is expected to begin at the April 7 meeting.

The review of the remaining colleges’ bylaws is expected to continue at the April 7 meeting.

Consideration of the role of the executive vice president for health sciences in the Bylaws for Academic Governance is expected to be continued at a future meeting.

*March 15, 2022*

* Office of Civil Rights now has 2 respondents to serve as support for accused faculty
* Updates on numerous past issues.

## Anticipated Items at Upcoming Meetings

Request for Pandemic-Related Financial Information – Budget Subcommittee working with Assoc. Provost Jeitschko.

Awarding of Emeritus Status Policy Revision – Personnel Subcommittee working with Assoc. Provost Lang and K. Yermak

### March 18, 2022

The University Committee on Student Affairs met on March 18, 2022, to discuss the following items:

Senior Vice President for Student Life and Engagement Vennie Gore gave an update on the following items:

1. Multicultural Building: The team has completed the feasibility study last year and shared its findings with the Board of Trustees. Authorization to plan was granted in September. The Smith Group has been selected as the architect. Two of the lead designers are out of Washington D.C. in their cultural practice and were a part of the National African American Museum and Museum for Native American People in Washington D.C. The next step is selecting a construction management team for authorization to proceed and then would be an 18-month construction period.
2. New Recreational Facility: A student recreation fee has been implemented. Operating planning and costs are being worked on. The Service Road field complex is currently under construction and on schedule for an early fall grand opening and use. Moody Nolan has been hired as lead architect for the design with Roseti out of Detroit as a local contact. They have worked with the Gilbert Pavilion and the Breslin Student Events Center.
3. SLE Transition. Feedback was shared from the meeting with the Student Leaders Council from a February session regarding the Strategic Plan.

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## Anticipated Items at Upcoming Meetings

The committee expects to continue to discuss goals and the power of the University Committee of Student Affairs and change its name to University Committee on Student Life and Engagement.

*March 16, 2022*

* The Committee met with Senator Mark Worden to discuss concerns raised by the Engineering College Advisory Council regarding the inclusion of DEI issues in the RPT process. The major concern is that it might become a fourth pillar of the RPT process rather than merely interwoven in expectations within research, instruction, and service. The committee tabled a vote on a recommendation to create a resolution that MSU’s RPT processes should continue to be based exclusively on the three traditional RPT standards.
* The committee approved requests by three faculty to extend their tenure clock.

## Anticipated Items at Upcoming Meetings

The committee will continue to discuss inclusion of DEI in the RPT process.



**The University Committee on Undergraduate Education (UCUE)** met on February 3, 2022 and February 17, 2022. During these meetings they took the following actions on curricular requests:

* Approved request to Phase Out and Discontinue the Agricultural Technology Certificate in Applied Horse Science
* Approved request to Establish an Agricultural Technology Certificate in Urban Forest Management in the Institute of Agricultural Technology
* Approved request for a New Agricultural Technology Certificate in Forest Technology
* Approved request to Change the Graduation Requirements for the Bachelor of Arts Degree in the Eli Broad College of Business

The UCUE also discussed the current Grief Absence Policy and other undergraduate needs and potential processes for a short-term verified absence. No actions were taken.

The March 17, 2022 UCUE meeting was cancelled due to lack of agenda items.

## Anticipated Items at Upcoming Meetings

The UCUE will consider the following curriculum requests at their meeting on March 31, 2022:

* Request to Phase Out and Discontinue the Bachelor of Science Degree in Athletic Training
* Request to Add an Admission Requirement for the Bachelor of Science Degree in Urban and Regional Planning

Other issues that the UCUE will discuss:

* Consideration of Moving to Online Teaching if the University Moved to Modified Operations
* First Fall Probation Rates
* Guidelines for Determining Online vs. Face-to-Face Instruction