

Section 6

The Governance Units

6.1 SUBJECT: UNIVERSITY GOVERNANCE SYSTEM

Date Adopted: October 24, 1981
Revision Adopted: November 15, 1986
 November 14, 1992
 December 6, 2002

Reference: Minute Book: 26 Page: 103
Reference: Minute Book: 36 Page: 23

The Board of Regents of Murray State University endorses the concept of shared authority and responsibility in the governance of the institution. A university is comprised of many persons with knowledge and skills in diverse fields. Each member of the University community can make a special contribution to the vigor and progress of Murray State. Shared authority and shared responsibility tap these resources for the good of the University. Pursuant to the concept of shared authority and responsibility, the Board of Regents of Murray State University by this document recognizes and sets forth the role of the Faculty Senate, Academic Council, Staff Congress, Student Government Association, and the University Standing Committees, in relationship to University governance.

Policies governing University governance bodies, whether characterized as the power to propose, formulate, review, determine or as otherwise stated, shall be considered as advisory in nature to the President of the University. In those cases where a component part of the governance structure is instructed herein to make recommendations to other individuals or groups, a copy of this recommendation shall be delivered to the President or to an appropriate Vice President as the President may direct.

Purpose

This policy establishes and/or clarifies the role of the Faculty Senate, Academic Council, Staff Congress, Student Government Association and the University Standing Committees in relationship to the University governance system of Murray State University. This policy is designed to bring the special talents and expertise of the various elements of the University Community to bear on policy matters of vital interest. University governance bodies shall be considered as being advisory in nature.

Authority

Policies of the Board

6.4 SUBJECT: STAFF CONGRESS

The Staff Congress is authorized by the Board of Regents to act for the University staff, with delegated authority to advise the President in matters involving the formulation and/or review of policies regarding staff concerns.

The Staff Congress shall consist of a maximum of 30 representatives:

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6.6 SUBJECT: UNIVERSITY STANDING COMMITTEE SYSTEM

Date Approved: October 24, 1981

Revisions Approved: November 15, 1986; November 14, 1992; December 10, 1999; March 11, 2003;
December 10, 2010; August 26, 2011; March 2, 2012; June 10, 2016

The President's Office shall keep and maintain a current list of all standing committees and other university-wide committees. At a minimum, the list shall contain the name, special instructions, purpose and membership of each committee.

Elections to standing committees shall be held prior to May 1 of each year. Faculty and staff representatives to a committee, unless otherwise specified, shall be elected for three-year terms, beginning July 1, with the exception of the University Tenure Committee whose members begin their terms October 1. The terms of the elected faculty and staff representatives to each committee shall be staggered so that one third of each group is elected each year.

The election of faculty representatives shall be conducted by the Faculty Senate. Vacancies in elective positions shall be filled by appointment unless another provision has been made by the electorate for that position. The appointment shall be by the Dean for an academic college/school representative; the Dean of Libraries for a library representative; the Provost/Vice President for Academic Affairs for a representative normally selected by the whole faculty; and the President of the Faculty Senate, the Staff Congress, or the Student Government Association for representatives selected by those bodies.

When student membership is specified for a committee, those student members shall be elected by the Student Government Association for one year terms from May 1 to May 1 on the basis of submitted applications.

Ex officio members of the committees, unless otherwise specified, shall not have voting privileges.

The Vice President of the Faculty Senate and the Vice President of the Staff Congress shall ensure that these standing committees are convened for an organizational meeting not later than September 15 of each year unless otherwise specified. Each committee shall choose its own chair from its membership, exclusive of ex-officio members. The chair has full voting privileges.

Each committee shall have the authority to form sub-committees for the purposes contained in the charge to that committee and to invite other members of the University community to meet with the committee.

All committee meetings shall be open except for executive sessions.

Each committee shall keep minutes of each meeting and shall transcribe and maintain those minutes.

University Standing Committees

Academic Appeals Board

Submits decisions, policies, and/or recommendations to the Provost/Vice President for Academic Affairs as indicated below.

Purpose:

1. To adjudicate appeals from students or faculty members relating to decisions made by administrators and/or faculty members on admissions, grades, credits toward graduation and academic dishonesty

programs.

Membership:

1. Two faculty members representing separate disciplines, appointed by the Dean of each academic college;
2. One faculty member appointed by the Dean of each school; and
3. Ex-officio, Associate Provost for Graduate Education and Research.

Faculty and Staff Insurance and Benefits Committee

A quorum of the appeals board shall be any five members present and voting. The appeals board shall elect its own chairperson.

The Office of Student Affairs, with the approval of the President, is responsible for establishing and publishing the procedures for the University Appeals Board and its scope of review.

University Assessment Committee

Submits recommendations to the President and the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs.

Purpose: The University Assessment Committee (UAC) works collaboratively to evaluate and provide feedback about university assessment plans and supports, ensuring that the University engages in best practices for institutional effectiveness. Through their educational efforts with faculty and staff, the UAC builds a culture of assessment at Murray State University. The UAC will work to:

1. Align institutional assessment procedures and policies with University and unit missions, best practices and SACSCOC standards;
2. Evaluate and provide feedback for assessment plans and reports for all reporting campus units; and
3. Educate MSU campus about the importance of assessment by providing workshops and individualized training; and Fostering a University culture that values assessment.

Membership: Members are appointed by the Pr

have the authority either to find in favor of a student against whom allegations are made or to impose one or more of the following sanctions:

Referral to alternative services, such as counseling - This sanction may be accompanied by other sanctions.

University Tenure Committee

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Council for Faculty Development

Submits recommendations to the Provost.

Purpose:

1. To serve as a forum for broad-based discussions;
2. To help provide direction, establish overall goals, and set priorities for faculty development initiatives; and
3. To advise the Center for Teaching, Learning and Technology.

Membership:

1. One faculty member from each academic college/school and University Libraries appointed by the Provost from nominations by the Deans;
2. the Faculty Senate representative;
3. Director of Center for Teaching, Learning and Technology;
4. Director of Office of Sponsored Programs;
5. CISR Chair;
6. Director of Undergraduate Research and Scholarly Activities;
7. Director of the Institute for International Studies;
8. KATE director; and
9. Associate Provost for Graduate education and Research(Chair).

Honors Program Committee

Submits recommendations to the Provost.

Purpose:

Screens, interviews and selects the scholarship applicants who qualify to attend the Academic Excellence recognition events; recommends guidelines for Honors Program members, including course offerings and faculty.

Membership:

1. One faculty member from each academic college/school and the University Libraries selected by the Provost upon recommendation of the Director of the Honors Program;
2. Honors Program Student Council President; and
3. Director of the Honors Program, non-voting.

Information Technology Advisory Committee (ITAC)

Submits information technology recommendations to the Provost and the Vice Presidents for their review

any one college or academic division; and the faculty member of the Board of Regents as an ex officio, nonvoting member. (Amended April 23, 1986)

The faculty representative to the Board of Regents

and will be held at least once each month during the academic year. At least one week prior to each



Upon ratification of this Constitution, the chair of the MSU Faculty Organization shall issue a call for the initial election of senators in accordance with Article III, convene the first meeting of the Faculty Senate, and preside until the Senate elects its first president. The requirement in Article III, Section C, that elections occur in April is suspended for the initial election of senators.

6.8 SUBJECT: MSU STAFF CONGRESS CONSTITUTION

Date Adopted: October 7, 1983
Reference: Minute Book: 30 Page: 243

Preamble

Section 5. Each representative shall have one vote.

Section 6. Any representative may be removed from the membership of Staff Congress for cause (as defined in the Bylaws of Staff Congress) by a two-thirds vote of the Staff Congress.

Article V – Staff Regent

Section 1. The non-teaching personnel of Murray State University shall elect a Staff Regent to the University Board of Regents representing all non-teaching University employees including, but not



6.9 SUBJECT: CONSTITUTION OF THE MURRAY STATE UNIVRERSITY STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

- Date Adopted: May 10, 1980
- Date Amended: June 22, 1987
- Date Amended: May 2, 1989
- Date Amended: May 8, 1993
- Date Amended: May 20, 2011
- Date Amended: June 6, 2014
- Date Amended: June 9, 2017
- Date Amended: August 25, 2023

The purposes of the Student Government Association are to promote the welfare, growth and development of student life in an environment of academic excellence, to represent the students in all phases of administrative effort and to provide a means of promoting cooperative efforts for the general welfare of the University community.

Article I – Composition and Eligibility

Section 1. The officially organized body governing all students and student organizations at Murray State University (MSU) shall be the Student Government Association. The Student Government Association (hereinafter SGA) shall be composed of the Student Senate, the Judicial Board, the Campus Activities Board, the Residential College Association and any other boards as agencies created in accordance with the *Bylaws*.

Section 2. Any full-time student and any part-time student (a part-time student, for the purposes of this Constitution, shall be defined as any student enrolled in 7 to 11 hours for undergraduates or in 5 to 8 hours for graduate students) shall have the privilege of seeking office in any branch of the SGA, as prescribed in the *Bylaws*. "Part-time students" are not eligible to run for or hold Executive Council positions.

Article II – Officers

Section 1. The officers of SGA shall be the President, Executive Vice President, Vice President of Administration and Vice President of Finance of the Student Senate.

Section 2. The President shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the SGA and serve as the Student Regent on the University Board of Regents. The qualifications for office require one to be a full-time student at the time of election and thereafter. In addition, the President shall have attained at least Junior Class standing the fall semester following the election.
be to serve as President of the Student Senate and to serve as an ex-officio member of all SGA committees, councils and boards. The office holder shall maintain these standards, as well as others prescribed in the *Bylaws*, at the time of election and during the term of office.

Section 3. The Executive Vice President, whose qualifications shall be the same as those for President, shall serve as Vice President of the Senate and as Chairman of the Campus Activities Board.

Section 4. The Vice President of Administration shall serve as the Secretary of the Student Senate and Campus Activities Board. The Vice President of Administration must be a full-time student. The office holder shall maintain these standards, as well as others prescribed in the *Bylaws*, at the time of the election and during the term of office.

Section 5. The Vice President of Finance shall serve as the Treasurer of the SGA and monitor all funds received from the University. The Vice President of Finance shall be a full-time student. The office holder shall maintain these standards, as well as others prescribed by the

Section 4. The Judicial Board Chief Justice shall serve as Chairperson of the Murray State University Student Judicial Board. The Chief Justice will preside over the Murray State University Student

Section 4.