

# Year-End Report

1. **Council:** Governance Council

2. **Academic Year:** 2019-20

3. **Council Members:** Michelle Cascardi, Lashauna Dean, Gary Marks (Co-Chair), Elizabeth Galetz (Co-Chair), Solomon Nyaanga, Diana Peck, Venkat Sharma, Johanna Prado, Chester Verceglia

## 4. **Council Charges and Summary of Council Activities**

Standing Charges:

1. Delineate the role of the Faculty Senate in University governance.
2. Review the various governance statements.
3. Recommend patterns of and responsibilities for self-governance by colleges, schools, institutes, divisions and faculties.
4. Review the Policy Manual periodically and suggest policies that need to be reviewed, revised and/or updated.
5. Review proposed amendments to the Faculty Senate By-Laws and Constitution. To provide guidance to the Faculty Senate in the interpretation of proposals and amendment procedures. To maintain accurate records of Faculty Senate Governing documents, including historical records outlining all amendments and alterations.

Priority Charges 2019-20

1. Propose the Senate approval procedure for non-department faculty appointments to said committees as authorized in the Faculty Handbook.
2. Communicate with various Senate Councils in the areas where conflicts were noted in the Governance Council alignment review and collaborate to propose necessary or recommended amendments or corrections.
3. Evaluate the existing Senate council's documentation and manuals. Assess the necessity of manuals or documentation for the various Senate Councils. Recommend the development of manuals or documentation where necessary and procedures for approving manuals and documents by the Senate.

## 2019-20 Governance Council Summary of Activities

The Governance Council made great strides this academic year in fulfilling its standing and priority charges. The council reviewed priority charge #1 by assessing the new procedures outlined in the faculty handbook. The council advised that duplicating the procedures in the Bylaws would not be necessary but suggested the process could be formalized with the development of an Executive Committee Manual [Priority Charge #3]. [See Governance Response to Priority Charge #1](#)

The council continued to review the Senate Council Standing Charges and the Senate By-laws to ensure alignment (Priority Charge #2, Standing Charge #5). The

Council began contacting identified councils and will continue to conduct outreach and collaborate to submit bylaw revisions, as necessary.

The Council assisted the Research & Scholarship Council in the development and proposal of a bylaw amendment changing the name of the council. The new Research, Scholarship, & Creative Expression Council was recognized with the adoption of the amendment on February 25, 2020. [See Bylaw Amendment](#)

The Council fulfilled Standing Charge #5 by updating the Senate Governing Documents and providing updated copies to the Senate Chair.

The Council became aware of growing concerns and interest in Senate Representation considering the University's discussion of academic reorganization. The Council began to research the impact of reorganization on the Senate and subsequently began a review of existing representative models at peer institutions. The Council was well prepared when the Senate Chair requested a review and possible short-term recommendation for the Senate to consider after academic reorganization decisions were announced. The Council submitted a short-term recommendation document to the Senate on March 18, 2020. [See Recommendation](#)

The Council is prepared to continuing research on various models of representation should the Senate submit a request to do so in the Council's Priority Charges for AY 2020-21.

1. **Recommended Charges For The Next Academic Year:** Standing Charges should remain unchanged.  
**Recommended Priority Charges 2020-21**
  1. Draft emergency and remote operational provisions for the Constitution and Bylaws.
  2. Review and research various models of Faculty Senate representation.
  3. Continue to communicate with various Senate Councils where conflicts were noted in the Governance Council alignment review. Collaborate with the councils to propose necessary or recommended amendments or corrections.