

University of Minnesota Morris Digital Well

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Consultative Committee

Campus Governance

5-24-2021

Consultative annual report 2020-2021

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Recommended Citation

Consultative Committee, "Consultative annual report 2020-2021" (2021). *Consultative Committee*. 194.
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Campus Consultative Committee End of Year Report

2020-2021

Drafted by: Jimmy Schryver and Clement Loo

Submitted: 5-24-21

Members (as of Spring 2020): Alisande Allaben (Staff), Wes Flinn (Faculty), Devon Johnson (P&A Staff), Clement Loo (P&A Staff)*, Jessica Porwoll (P&A Staff), Jimmy Schryver (Faculty)*, Julia Scovil (Student), Kristina Smith (Staff), Nadezhda Sotirova (Faculty), Sheila Warner (Staff)

*Co-chairs of the committee

Committee Responsibilities

- A. *Reflecting the balance of its composition, the Consultative Committee serves as a campus sounding board for those who wish to seek input or feedback on proposals or initiatives related to campus governance prior to submitting them to the Steering Committee or who wish to express or review concerns outside the scope of campus governance and/or receive recommendations concerning follow-up with appropriate campus offices or programs. The Consultative Committee will hear reports and recommendations from the Morris campus representative to the all-University Faculty Consultative Committee as appropriate regarding relevant all-University issues.*
- B. *The committee may submit recommendations or proposals to the Steering Committee. All proposals or recommendations from the committee, regardless of whether or not they are submitted to the Steering Committee, must be issued in writing and are subject to the same disclosure policies that govern materials produced by other governance committees.*

From: [UMN Morris Campus Constitution](#)

Summary of Activities

Reviewing Applications for Acting Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Dean (Spring 2021)

Finally, at a meeting in the Spring 2021 semester we discussed the process for reviewing candidates for the Acting VCAA/Dean position. At this meeting it was decided that the Consultative committee (as a representative body already in existence and with fixed meeting times already on the schedule) would serve as the Review Committee for candidates. In the end there were two. The committee hosted two virtual public forums where the campus community was able to meet and converse with the candidates. The committee also collected and summarized comments from the campus community and reported general themes within those comments to the current VCAA/Dean who made the final hiring decision.

Consultation: Morris Campus Specific Needs for Works (Spring 2021)

The committee met with a faculty member who expressed concerns with the reports produced by the new Works annual activity reporting software. The concerns centered around the fact that the order of items of categories such as Teaching and Research produced did not match the order traditionally used at UMN Morris. A key question that arose during that conversation was: Could there be a pull-down menu for Campus-specific reports that would allow for the reordering of items?

We subsequently had a productive exchange with Erin Edwards, the Works Project Manager, who brought it to the attention of the work group. They are aware that one size does not fit all (campuses) in this case and are eager to add changes to address issues related to the needs of individual campuses.

Meetings with Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Dean related to the Covid-19 Pandemic (Fall 2020 to Spring 2021)

The committee met with the VCAA/Dean during the early summer in order to discuss possible plans for the Fall 2020 semester under the Covid-19 pandemic. This meeting went well and marked a clear strength of the committee in terms of its role as a sounding board.

Similar meetings were held during the Fall 2020 semester to plan for the Spring 2021 and during the Spring 2021 to plan for the Fall 2021 semester. During these meetings the

VCAA/Dean discussed the alternatives to spring break and concerns regarding the transition back to more regular operations.

Consultation: Campus Outreach (Fall 2020)

The committee sent an email out to the campus requesting feedback, offering our services, and letting everyone know that we would be working with Steering on issues resulting from the Retirement Incentive Options that had been taken by a number of staff. Many of the concerns we received were related to the Covid-19 pandemic and planning for the future.

Meeting with Head of Admissions, Brian Studebaker (Fall 2020)

Committee members met with our new Head of Admission, Brian Studebaker, in order to introduce ourselves, welcome him to the campus, hear how his first months were going, answer any questions, and offer our consultation on future initiatives.

Consultation: Morris Posting Procedure (Fall 2020)

The committee offered feedback on an updated draft of the Morris Posting Procedure.

Review of Charge per Steering Committee (Spring 2020)

Consultative committee members met with members of the Steering committee to review the charge of the Consultative Committee in light of the previous year's vote on whether or not to keep the committee. We also discussed the most effective division of labor between the two committees. It was agreed that the Campus Consultative Committee should be available for frequent consultation with administrators and various committees on campus. This is a particularly crucial role for the committee given that equal representation is a core piece of the committee makeup. The group is composed of students, representation from all staff groups, and faculty, and is able to offer a variety of perspectives due to this composition. In addition, Steering Committee agreed to encourage consultation on items, policy changes, projects, and initiatives before they come to Steering in order to go in front of the assembly.

Update to 2019-2020 Summary of Recommendations

Endorse Jess Larson's 9/3/2019 Campus Assembly Statement on Student Academic Email List

- New Info (10-8-20): To send messages to all students, use ummoofficial@lists.umn.edu. It then goes into the system for approval from the Dean or Dave Israel-Swenson.

Items to Carry Forward

Parking

Consultative was asked to look into parking as an area where UMM could offer employees a small perk.