The new Shared Governance website is live! For all things Shared Governance:

www.udmercy.edu/governance/

MFA Executive Officers

Mary-Catherine Harrison, PhD  
Steven Huprich, PhD, LP  
Jennifer Bowen, MLIS  
Lori Glenn, DNP, CNM, RN  
Stokes Baker, PhD

President  
Vice-President  
Communications Officer  
Executive Secretary  
Parliamentarian

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Shared Governance is a Shared Endeavor
by Mary-Catherine Harrison, MFA President

Shared governance—the process through which faculty, administrators, staff, and the Board of Trustees contribute to the dynamic process of institutional decision-making—has been a defining feature of modern higher education. My basic philosophy of shared governance is that we are all in this together. Different stakeholders don’t always agree on how best to approach a problem; sometimes we don’t even agree on what the problems are. But we share one common goal: working together for the health of our institution, the success of our students, and the flourishing of our colleagues. As higher education confronts increasing external pressures, a robust system of shared governance—and hard work, innovative thinking, and discernment by all its constituents—will be even more essential.

As articulated in the joint statements below, faculty carry the primary responsibility for curriculum, teaching, research, faculty status, and “other aspects of university life that relate to the educational process.” The MFA and MFA Committees develop policies and procedures that support our academic mission; evaluate academic curriculum and standards; guide the process of program review; review new programs, minors, and certificates; and advocate for innovative faculty ideas. Recognizing that shared governance can only be successful when pursued in the spirit of partnership and collaboration, we also work to promote cooperation and transparent communication across campus.

The McNichols Faculty Assembly is the voice of the McNichols faculty in shared governance. We are most effective when we amplify the voices of our faculty colleagues and engage in open, productive dialogue with the entire university community. Please let us know your ideas, initiatives, and concerns.

From the Joint Policy Statement on a Faculty Rights and Responsibilities Framework, 2000
“The faculty has primary responsibility for such fundamental areas as curriculum, subject matter and methods of instruction, research, faculty status (everything except hiring and firing decisions), promotion and tenure process, and academic/program standards, and with shared responsibility for supporting those procedures for admission of students and other aspects of university life that relate to the educational process.” (Click text for the full statement).

University of Detroit Mercy Board of Trustees and UDMPU

From the Joint Statement on Government of Colleges and Universities, 1966
"The faculty has primary responsibility for such fundamental areas as curriculum, subject matter and methods of instruction, research, faculty status, and those aspects of student life which relate to the educational process." (Click text for the full statement).

American Association of University Professors (AAUP)
American Council on Education (ACE)
Association of Governing Boards of Universities and Colleges (AGB)
Thank you to Jeanne Morgan, Web Communications Specialist, for a new website with all of the campus resources faculty need, including "My Portal," Office 365, Blackboard, Book Orders, Libraries, Human Resources, Catalogs and Class Schedules, Core Curriculum, Faculty Advising, Employee Directory, IT Help Desk, Student Success Center Referral Forms, and more.

Click here: www.udmercy.edu/faculty-staff/
Updated Syllabus Guidelines
This year the MFA updated the guidelines for what instructors should include in course syllabi so that all students have the information they need. Click this text to access the syllabus checklist, and make sure your adjunct faculty know about the guidelines, too. Don't forget that all syllabi must include current statements about Disability Support Services, Title IX, and Religious Observances.
The spirit of shared governance at Detroit Mercy is a dynamic faculty-administrator-staff partnership that promotes collaboration, shared decision-making and accountability.”

Pamela Zarkowski, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

What is the Shared Governance Clearinghouse?

The Shared Governance Clearinghouse is an essential component of Shared Governance at University of Detroit Mercy. MFA Executive Officers and the Provost meet monthly to discuss faculty and administrative concerns and recommendations and forward proposals to the appropriate Committee, Team, or other group. The Shared Governance Clearinghouse exhibits the hallmark features of successful shared governance—transparent communication and respectful mutual collaboration.

Committees and Teams

Much of the heavy lifting of Shared Governance is shouldered by members of MFA Committees and University Teams. Joining a Committee or Team is a great way to get involved in Shared Governance and have a positive impact on the university. Find out more about their work on the Shared Governance website.

MFA COMMITTEES:
- Core Curriculum Committee
- Undergraduate Standards and Enrollment Management
- Graduate Standards and Enrollment Management
- McNichols Campus Academic Program Review
- UDMPU Faculty Research Award Ad Hoc Committee

UNIVERSITY TEAMS:
- Assessment Team
- Faculty Development Team
- Information Technology Team
- Mission Effectiveness Team
- Staff/Administrator Development Team
- Strategic Planning and Budget, Facilities, and Safety Team

How Can I Check on a Proposal?

If you have submitted a proposal and want to know where it is in the process, you can check the Proposal Tracking document on the Proposals tab of the Shared Governance Website:

Click here to access the proposals page:
https://udmercy.libguides.com/shared_governance/proposals
Core Curriculum Website

As the shared academic experience of all Detroit Mercy undergraduates, the Core Curriculum is the signature element of a Detroit Mercy education. The Core serves as the foundation of the university's mission to "integrate the intellectual, spiritual, ethical and social development of our students."

When advising students, you can access the master list of Core Curriculum approved courses at the Core Curriculum page on the Registrar's website. Click the text in this box to access the page.

New Procedures for Institutional Review Board

As of July 1, The IRB process has been revised and the university has implemented a new cloud-based software: Cayuse IRB. The university's IRB website gives a complete overview of the process and links to the Cayuse IRB Dashboard. Click the text in this box to be redirected to the IRB site.

Questions? Contact Michelle Wheater, Ph.D., IRB Chair
wheatemi@udmercy.edu | (313) 494-6634

Blackboard Transition

ITS and the Instructional Design Studio have successfully transitioned to a new, cloud-hosted Blackboard site that is maintained by the support staff of Blackboard, Inc. This was a major undertaking, and it has resulted in a more reliable Blackboard experience overall. Don’t forget to go directly to Blackboard to log in (don’t log in through TitanConnect), and use Chrome or Firefox (not Explorer or Safari) as your web browser.

Click here to access Blackboard: http://blackboard.udmercy.edu

The Instructional Design Studio is (still) there to help.

Questions? Contact Russ Davidson at the Instructional Design Studio.
davidso@udmercy.edu | 313-578-0580
The Structure of Shared Governance at University of Detroit Mercy

Thank you to the 2018-2019 MFA Representatives!
And a special thanks to the outgoing MFA Executive Officers: Theresa Wyatt, President; Noah Resnick, Vice-President; and Cindy Gillham, Executive Secretary.