

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

Student Advisory Council (STAC)

CONSTITUTION

Article I: *Purpose of the Council*

Section 1. The purpose of the Student Advisory Council (STAC) is to provide a means for UMUC students to give input to, and be informed about, significant institutional decisions. STAC members will act in an advisory capacity to the President and other University officials as appropriate.

Section 2. Four STAC members will serve on the University Advisory Council (UAC). One graduate STAC member will serve on the University Graduate Council (UGC), and one undergraduate STAC member will serve on the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee (UCC). STAC representatives will be voting members on these councils.

Article II: *Council Representatives*

Section 1. Students must meet certain minimum eligibility requirements to serve on the Student Advisory Council.

- Undergraduate students must be seeking a UMUC degree or certificate and must have been registered for at least one course within the year prior to serving on STAC. Eligible undergraduate students must also have at least a 2.0 GPA.
- Graduate students must be UMUC degree or certificate seeking in active status and have successfully completed at least 9 UMUC graduate credits with a 3.0 GPA.
- Any student who has violated the Code of Student Conduct and/or the Code of Civility is not eligible to serve on the Student Advisory Council.
- All members must be able to serve on the council for at least two years. However, if a member graduates in December, he or she can serve for the remainder of that year after graduation occurs.
- All members must have access to e-mail and the World Wide Web.

Section 2. The Council will consist of twelve (12) members – nine (9) undergraduate students and three (3) graduate students. The distribution of Council positions between undergraduate and graduate students and among the various divisions of UMUC is based on the percentage of student enrollment at each level and at each location worldwide. Specific distribution of the Council seats will be outlined in the bylaws.

Section 3. The members of STAC will be selected by a general election vote open to all UMUC students. The election process will be conducted through the UMUC Web site according to rules outlined in the bylaws.

Article III: *Term and Tenure*

Section 1. The Council's annual year shall be from September 1 through the following August 31.

Section 2. Each member shall serve on the Council for two years. A Council member may apply for one extension to his/her two-year tenure during the regularly scheduled election season. That extension would be for one year. The STAC Executive Committee (described in Article IV), in consultation with the office of Student Affairs, will review/ approve the extension request, basing the decision on the member's STAC performance and maintaining continuity of staggered positions on the Council. If a student wishes to continue to serve after three years, they must renominate themselves for selection to STAC, and go through the general election process.

Section 3. The specific election process and timeline shall be detailed in the bylaws.

Article IV: *STAC Officers and Other Council Representation*

Section 1. The Officers of the Council shall consist of a chairperson, a vice-chairperson, and a secretary. These positions shall constitute the STAC Executive Committee. The Council may establish additional officers deemed necessary or essential to the operation of the STAC.

Section 2. Four Council members, two of which shall include the chair and vice chair of STAC, will serve on the University Advisory Council (UAC). The entire STAC body will select the remaining two positions on the UAC. As outlined in Article I, Section 2 of this constitution, STAC shall have representation on the University Graduate Council (UGC) and the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee (UCC). The STAC members will choose their representatives to these positions according to the bylaws. These positions are necessary for STAC to operate as a productive and effective group. If no members volunteer for one of these positions, then UMUC reserves the right to appoint a current STAC member to fill that position.

Section 3. The Officers of the Council and other committee representatives shall hold office until the end of the year, their removal, or until their successor(s) are selected. Vacancies in any office shall be filled in accordance with Article IV, Section 2.

Article V: *Council Meetings*

Section 1. The Council shall meet bi-monthly during a standard academic year (September – May). Meetings will consist of a teleconference, but the STAC retains the right to choose an alternative form if necessary and can be accommodated by UMUC.

Section 2. UMUC representatives to STAC, along with STAC's Executive Committee, will arrange the details of each meeting including date, time, location, and telecommunication systems. STAC members will be reimbursed for any costs incurred for attending a meeting.

Article VI: *Ratification & Adoption*

Section 1. The STAC will establish bylaws, consistent with this constitution, to guide its operations and rules of order. Bylaws will be adopted, and may be amended, by a majority vote of STAC's voting members.

Section 2. This constitution may be amended by a two-thirds majority vote of STAC's voting members. In accordance with the Board of Regents (BOR) and UMUC policies on shared governance, amendments will be subject to approval by the university president before implementation.

This updated constitution, ratified and adopted by STAC on March 31, 2003, replaces the previous version, dated Aug. 31, 2001.