

Governance Document Revision Talking Points

The University of Massachusetts Medical School Governance Document describes:

- The administrative organization of the campus
- Procedures for selecting, reviewing and replacing the Chancellor, Deans, and Department Chairs
- Composition and function of Governing Bodies (Executive Council, Faculty Council, and Education Policy Council) through which the faculty participate in shared governance of the campus with regard to academic matters and faculty status
- Composition and function of Standing Committees through which the faculty participate in policy decisions related to the academic missions of the campus

Goal of Faculty Council review: To ensure that the Governance Document is up-to-date and that the document describes optimal policies for shared governance

Questions to consider for revising the current document:

1. Include the Office of Provost: The current document doesn't include the Provost in the organizational structure of the campus
2. Update Student Body Organizations: The student body organizations have changed since the document was last revised
3. Create a campus-wide Governance document: The current Governance Document describes the governance of the whole campus (School of Medicine, GSBS, GSN) and also governance issues that are specific only to the School of Medicine (i.e. EPC, Admissions Committee). GSBS and GSN have independent Governance Documents. Revision options are to 1) maintain the current document organization, 2) create a campus-wide document and a separate School of Medicine document, or 3) generate one document that combines governance of the campus and each of the schools together.
4. Rename Governance Document: Currently it is the "Governance Document of the University of Massachusetts Medical School". From the University perspective, we are the "University of Massachusetts Worcester". We can still maintain our identity as UMMS for the outside world.
5. Allow proxies/alternates for Faculty and Executive Councils: Current document describes membership of the Councils but doesn't allow for proxies/alternates to participate in voting to meet a quorum
6. Include voting by electronic media: The current document doesn't contain any provision for voting by e-mail
7. Define "faculty" for voting purposes: The current document is voted on by only the "full and part time academically-salaried faculty". Professionally salaried faculty do not have a vote.