

**Annual Report of the  
COMMITTEE ON UNIVERSITY GOVERNMENT**

For Presentation at the Faculty Council Meeting of January 19, 2024

**Current Members (and year their terms end):**

Andy Hessick, School of Law (2026)  
Lloyd Kramer, History, College of Arts and Science (2026)  
Stephanie Mahin, School of Business (2024)  
Daniel Matute, Biology, College of Arts and Sciences (2024)  
Adam Persky, School of Pharmacy (2024)  
Joy Renner, Radiologic Science - Health Sciences, School of Medicine (2024)  
Erika Ripley, University Libraries (2025)  
Jill Moore, School of Government, Secretary of the Faculty, ex officio

**Annual Report prepared by:** Joy Renner, Chair. This report covers the period from January 2023 through December 2023.

**Committee Charge.** The Faculty Code of University Government reads as follows:

*§ 4-19. Faculty Committee on University Government.*

“(a) The Faculty Committee on University Government consists of seven members appointed by the chancellor. The secretary of the faculty serves as an ex officio member.

“(b) The committee is concerned with the continuing development, adaptation, and interpretation of The Faculty Code of University Government. Subject to the powers of the University’s Board of Governors and president, and of the Board of Trustees and the chancellor of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, the Code represents legislation enacted by the faculty regarding forms of internal organization and procedures at this institution which are deemed necessary for its fair and effective operation.

“(c) The committee periodically reviews the existing Code and solicits suggestions for its improvement. Based on its review, the committee recommends appropriate amendments in the Code for consideration and a vote of the General Faculty. As provided under Article 1 of the Code, the committee considers and reports on other proposals to amend the Code and periodically makes appropriate adjustments of the elective representatives in the Faculty Council. The committee considers and reports on special questions of university governance which are referred to it by the chancellor or members of the faculty. The committee is especially concerned with maintaining internal forms and procedures of academic administration which reflect principles of democracy and equity, vision and adaptability, and quality and responsibility, toward achieving the intellectual aims of the University.

## Report of Activities.

**Spring 2023:** The committee heard a presentation by a faculty member regarding the selection of chair of the faculties candidates and continued that discussion with the Chair of the Advisory Committee. Presently, the Advisory Committee conducts a search process to identify two chair of the faculty candidates for the faculty election to be elected by the voting faculty. Some aspects of the candidate selection process are not within the committee's control, particularly the negotiations that must occur between prospective candidates, their chairs/deans, and the provost to ensure that a potential candidate and his/her department will have sufficient support to allow the faculty member to serve if elected. The committee did not recommend changing the process but encouraged the Advisory Committee to start the process early by marketing the position the spring before the year of the vote, and to keep both the provost and vice provost for faculty affairs informed about the process.

The chair of the faculty handbook needs to be reviewed along with the creation of a handbook for the new chair-elect position prior to 2025 election.

Other discussion topics included Faculty Council apportionment and committee apportionments. Given the new School of Data Science and Society, a discussion of their electoral district led to the decision to include them in the same voting division as the School of Information and Library Science until they grow their faculty numbers.

**Fall 2023:** The Committee continued discussions related to apportionment. To support the Secretary of the Faculty, COUG discussed clarification in the Joint Rules of Procedure related to introducing resolutions. The discussion related to how to be open to resolution submissions but timely for review by the secretary of the faculty and the Agenda Committee, and dissemination to the Faculty Council.

Continuing with the goal to strengthen and enhance faculty governance, an email sent to all committee chairs requested they review their charge and composition considering the work they do and required responsibilities. The chairs could request a member of COUG to attend the meeting for the discussion or send notes of their discussions to COUG. If a change in composition or charge is considered needed or could be advantageous to their work, the chair would bring that request to COUG for discussion and possible amendments to *The Faculty Code*. The requests from two committees for a change in composition led to proposing code change resolutions at the January 2024 Faculty Council meeting: the Faculty Hearings Committee and Committee on Honorary Degrees and Special Awards have requested an increase in membership numbers.

The issue with establishing a quorum at Faculty Council meetings led to the approval of a third resolution that requires a *Code* change to be presented at Faculty Council in January 2024.

**Other activities:** The Committee reviewed the apportionment report for Faculty Council seats prepared by the Secretary of the Faculty. There was some preliminary discussion of possible changes to apportionment and the implications and intentions related to those changes, as mentioned above.