

## **Faculty Council**

Functional Lead: VPAA

Division: ASD

Responsible Office: Academic Policy Officer

Reference: (a) Principle 10.4 SACSCOC Principles of Accreditation

(b) Resource Manual for the Principles of Accreditation

1. Purpose. This policy establishes operating procedures of the Faculty Council and defines its role as an independent forum responsible for expressing ideas and concerns of academic and governance matters to the President, MCU.

### 2. Background

a. A fully engaged faculty is essential for the ongoing intellectual development and governance of Marine Corps University. Faculty input in the form of creative ideas and innovative policy recommendations is critical to the future growth and development of the University. Consequently, the Faculty Council was established in July 2002 in order to give a voice to the unique character of the input MCU's civilian scholars and military professionals bring to the University community, and to take better advantage of the resources that this body collectively provides while serving as a vehicle for faculty input to the President, MCU.

b. Within the University's predominantly military culture, civilian faculty and educational staff members offer academic excellence that broadens and deepens the character of the educational experience for students, faculty, and administrators alike. Conversely, military faculty provide a wealth of real-world, relevant operational expertise and leadership experience. It is important to have both civilian and military faculty on the Council given their complementary strengths and experiences.

c. The faculty council also serves to promote shared governance and transparency at MCU. The council is composed of members from across all MCU schools and centers and provides a direct advising line (via both face-to-face meetings and the sharing of meeting minutes) to MCU leadership regarding faculty/staff recommendations and concerns. MCU leadership also meets bi-annually with the faculty council in an effort to keep the lines of communication open and accessible.

### 3. Policy

a. Voting Members. The voting membership of the Faculty Council will be determined by the Faculty Council and published in the faculty council by-laws.

b. Chair. The Chair of the Faculty Council, chosen by its membership for a two-year term (academic year), will serve on the President's Planning Council (PPC). One way the Chair presents faculty concerns and recommendations to the President, MCU is through the meetings

of the PPC. The Chair of the Faculty Council, or his/her designated representative, will be invited to attend MCU Board of Visitors meetings.

#### 4. Procedures

a. Meeting Schedule and Scope. Meetings of the Faculty Council will be held at least twice a year, once between January and June, and once between July and December. Meetings should occur prior to the scheduled PPC meetings, in order to develop faculty concerns and recommendations that may warrant presentation to the President, MCU during the PPC. Procedures will be governed by Robert's Rules of Order. Meetings of the Faculty Council will generally be open meetings, with minutes prepared. Minutes from the Faculty Council meetings will be submitted through VPAA to the President, MCU for consideration at the PPC meeting. Any MCU faculty member can attend and observe the proceedings; however, voting will be in accordance with established Faculty Council By- Laws.

b. By-Laws. By-Laws for the Faculty Council are independently developed and subsequently approved by its voting members and so attested to by signature of the Council Chair. The By-Laws outline the purpose of the Council, its goals, function, and its internal organization and processes, including procedures for amendment. By-Laws and meeting minutes can be found in the *Faculty Council* folder on the Google Drive, which is accessible for all members.

#### Related Policies and Forms:

Faculty Council By-Laws

Promulgated: 21 Sep 2020

Last Reviewed: 16 Jun 2021

Last Update to Procedures: 21 Sep 2020