UNIVERSITY COUNCIL

The responsibility and authority for the operation of the University is vested in the Office of the President, as delegated to the President by the Board of Trustees. The effectiveness of the President's leadership rests upon knowledge of the needs and concerns of the University community, an ability to make the wisest decisions within the range of feasible options, and an ability to elicit the confidence and support of various constituencies of the University in implementing these decisions. This document aims to establish a pattern of consultation among the President, faculty, staff, and students through a representative structure. The President’s consultation with University Council does not preclude decision-making and action by the President in the course of executing the responsibilities of the Office of the President.

University Council serves as a representative and consultative committee of faculty, staff, and students that serve at the pleasure of the President. On policy decisions regarding matters affecting the operation of the University, the University Council will serve as a confidential advisory body to the President. Responsibilities of the University Council will include advice in the determination of general plans and goals for the University. It is assumed that the deliberation of the University Council would be aided by appropriate knowledge of financial constraints, budget distribution, admissions policy, and other relevant information.

The composition of the University Council will be:

- The President of the University, who is presiding officer of the Council.
- Up to four individuals, including the Provost, selected by the President from the senior administration of the University.
- The Faculty Speaker and Deputy Speaker of the Faculty Senate.
- Six faculty members chosen by the Faculty Senate, including both tenured and untenured members of the faculty and members of various schools of the University. Such members shall not serve for more than three consecutive one-year terms.
- Two staff members appointed by the President in consultation with the Associate Vice President for Human Resources and the Staff Advisory Committee, ordinarily appointed for staggered two-year terms.
- Two graduate student representatives to be selected by the Graduate Student Association. No representative shall serve for more than two years.
- Two undergraduate student representatives to be selected by the Student Association. No representative shall serve for more than two years.

Approved 5/4/2005 by University Council