
University Shared Governance

Roxanna Curto, Faculty Senate

Jacob Payne, Graduate & Professional Student Government

Emily Cross, Undergraduate Student Government

FACULTY COUNCIL AND FACULTY SENATE AT IOWA



IOWA

Faculty Senate

Early Days of Shared Governance at Iowa

May 1947: President Virgil Hancher appoints the University Committee on Communication between the Faculty and the President

Committee charge: To establish the University Council (later renamed University Faculty Council)

Sixteen members are elected to the Council

Proposals written

May 1948: First meeting of the Faculty Council

October 1959-May 1960: Began discussing whether the university should establish a Senate

Stow Persons, *The University of Iowa in the Twentieth Century: An Institutional History* (Iowa City: University of Iowa Press, 1990)



Faculty Council Vote

- January 1967: Faculty Council voted 8-4 in favor of sending the proposal to create a Senate to a referendum

UNIVERSITY FACULTY COUNCIL
Regular Meeting
January 17, 1967
House Chamber, Old Capitol

Present: Clifton Adams, Dan E. Branson, Michael J. Brody, Richard M. Caplan, David Carew, Samuel Fahr, Joe R. Fritzemeyer, Eugene K. Garber, Henry Hamilton, Donald B. Johnson, Richard Lloyd-Jones, Dee W. Norton, Allan Vestal.

Absent: Clarence Andrews, Etta Rasmussen, Lloyd Smith

The meeting was called to order at 3:50 P.M.

Discussion was held on procedures to be followed with the completed proposal for the constitution of the University Faculty Senate and University Faculty Council. Professor Garber moved, Professor Branson seconding that the proposed constitution be submitted to the faculty for a referendum (around the middle of February) with the Council's recommendation for its approval. The motion carried 8 in favor, Adams, Fahr, Hamilton and Lloyd-Jones opposed.

Professor Brody then moved, Professor Norton seconding that the Chairman communicate with the officials of the local AAUP chapter about joint AAUP-Faculty Council sponsorship of a general faculty meeting for presentation and discussion of the proposed constitution. The motion carried.

The proposed constitution will be prepared for early distribution to the faculty for their consideration.

Faculty Referendum

- 51.5% of faculty eligible to vote cast ballots
- Faculty Referendum: 54% voted in favor



Establishment of the Faculty Senate

- April 1967: President Bowen and the Board of Regents approved the Constitution of the Senate and the Council (as the executive body)

(Regents approve new U of I faculty governing body)

CEDAR FALLS, IOWA--The State Board of Regents Friday (Apr. 14) approved the constitution of a new Faculty Senate that will come into being at The University of Iowa, Iowa City, July 1.

The 76-member Senate will replace a 16-member faculty council as the representative body of the faculty. The purpose of the Senate is to provide the basis for faculty expression of its concern for the welfare of the University, to develop and disseminate ideas for improvements, and to contribute to the formation of general University policy.

An administrative unit, called the Faculty Council, also will be elected by the colleges from among each college's representatives to the full Senate.

The faculty approved the new Senate constitution in a vote last month in which 51.5 percent of the eligible voters cast usable ballots, and 54 percent of them voted in favor of the new Senate.

President Howard R. Bowen said he favors increased faculty participation in University-wide affairs, adding that he hopes the new arrangement will extend the influence of the faculty in U of I policy-making.

Elections are under way in the University colleges to select the Senate membership. Each college will have at least one representative plus others elected on an apportioned basis depending upon the size of the faculty in each. The new Senate will meet in May to elect officers. The same officers will serve both the Senate and its administrative Council.

UI Faculty Senate and Council



Two main governance bodies for faculty at the University level

University-wide faculty shared governance represents ~2800 faculty from the four faculty tracks

Senator/Councilor numbers based on collegiate faculty population

Faculty Senate consists of 80 elected representatives from 10 academic colleges

Faculty Council is 20 members elected from among Senators from each college

Faculty Senate and Council Representing UI Faculty

The UI Faculty Senate serves as the principal channel of communication between faculty members and university central administration. It provides ultimate faculty approval for a variety of university and faculty led policy revisions.



The UI Faculty Council functions like an executive committee of Faculty Senate and meets to discuss important faculty issues arising in different colleges, reviewing draft policy revisions, and preparing items for submission to the Faculty Senate.



Senators/Councilors are also a valuable conduit for information transfer to and from faculty members in their colleges.



Faculty Senate Officers for 2026 – 2027

Committee on Elections organizes slate of officer candidates from current/past Senators. Officers are elected by Senate at last spring semester meeting in April.

TITLE	OFFICER	COLLEGE	CONTACT
President	Roxanna Curto	CLAS	roxanna-curto@uiowa.edu
Vice President	Sarah Vigmostad	Engineering	sarah-vigmostad@uiowa.edu
Secretary	Dawn Anderson	Law	dawn-anderson@uiowa.edu
Past President	Craig Just	Engineering	craig-just@uiowa.edu

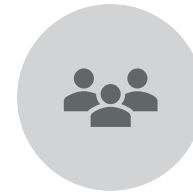
Typical Faculty Senate Officer (FSO) Activities



Engage with Board of Regents members/leaders



Regular meetings with President, Provost, and other senior UI leaders



Interact/collaborate with other shared governance group leadership



Coordinate periodic reviews of central academic offices and their leadership



Ex officio membership on Senate policy and rules committees



Advocate for faculty voices and input to be solicited, heard, and respected

FACULTY SENATE STANDING AND AD HOC COMMITTEES

**COMMITTEE ON THE SELECTION OF
CENTRAL ACADEMIC OFFICIAL**

**COMMITTEE ON FACULTY POLICIES AND
COMPENSATION**

COMMITTEE ON ELECTIONS

**GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS
COMMITTEE**

**MICHAEL J. BRODY AWARD SELECTION
COMMITTEE**

OTHER AD HOC COMMITTEES

CHARTER AND NON-CHARTER COMMITTEES

Campus Planning

Committee on
Diversity

Conflict of
Interest in
Employment
(NC)

Council on
Teaching

Faculty-Staff
Parking Appeals
(NC)

Family Issues

Financial Aid
Advisory

Funded
Retirement and
Insurance

Hancher
Auditorium
Committee

Honorary
Degree Selection
Committee_(NC)

Information
Technology
Advisory

Lecture

Non-resident
Classification
Review_(NC)

Parking and
Transportation

Presidential
Committee on
Athletics_(NC)

Research Council

Student
Publications
(NC)

Sustainability

University
Libraries

University Safety
and Security

FACULTY SENATE AT IOWA

- Faculty Senate Officers
- Faculty Council
- Faculty Senate
- Senate Committees
 - Senate business
- Charter Committees
 - Faculty, administrators, staff, students
- Partnership with Central Administration
 - Regular meetings and communication





QUESTIONS FROM STAFF COUNCILORS

- What opportunities do you see for shared governance collaborations in the coming year?
 - Strategic planning
 - Budget discussions
- What issues are generating the most discussion among your constituents?
 - Center for Intellectual Freedom
 - Letter from the Department of Education
- How can we improve communication and alignment across shared governance groups?
 - Visits to each others' meetings—like today!
 - Presidents can brainstorm
- What is your top priority goal to accomplish this year?
 - Revision of Faculty Senate Constitution
 - Improved communication with all faculty
 - Continued collaboration with the administration to address issues as they arise

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Graduate and Professional Student Government

Shared Governance

Jacob Payne

GPSG President

9 Sept. 2026

Graduate and Professional Student Government

Mission

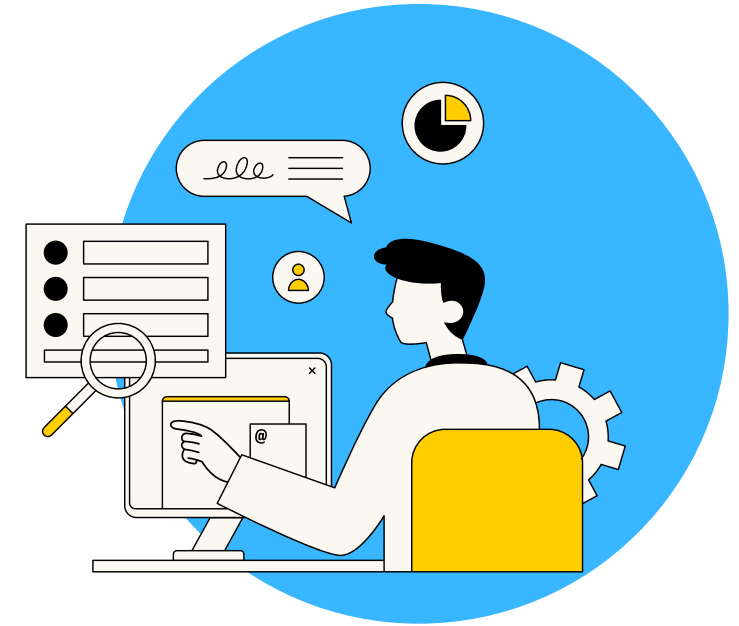
Improve the experience of graduate and professional students at the University of Iowa.

- Represent ~8,000 students
 - 6,200 graduate and 1,800 professional
- Campus, Local, State, and Federal advocacy
- Organization funding and student grants
- Campus-wide services



What issues are generating the most discussion among your constituents?

Programs & Services



1 **Funding**
Organizations (GPAC),
Individual Grants

2 **Partnerships**
Student Legal Services, Iowa
Food Pantry, Airport Shuttle,
Hawk Vouchers

3 **Representation**
Policy changes, Board of
Regents feedback,
Campus Planning



What is your top priority goal to accomplish this year?

Get Grads plugged into campus resources & communities

Organization Structure

Legislative
Branch

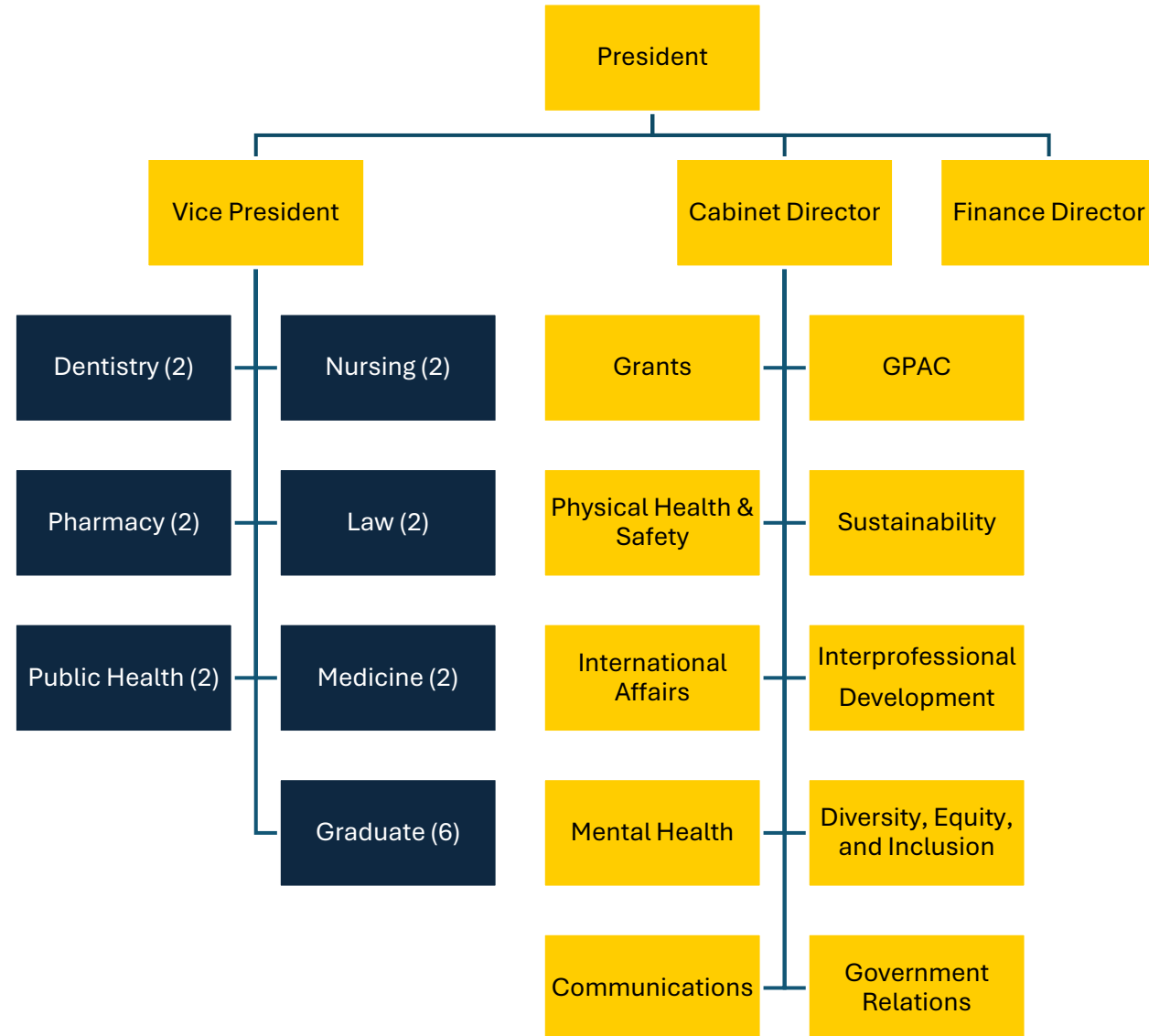
Executive
Branch



What opportunities do you see for shared governance collaborations in the coming year?

How can we improve communication and alignment across shared governance groups?

Meet with directors. Include faculty, staff, USG, and GPSG in conversations outside of Shared Gov. events.



Graduate and Professional Student Government

Jacob Payne: gpsg-president@uiowa.edu

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Undergraduate Student Government

Priorities & Partnerships

Connecting Students & Staff

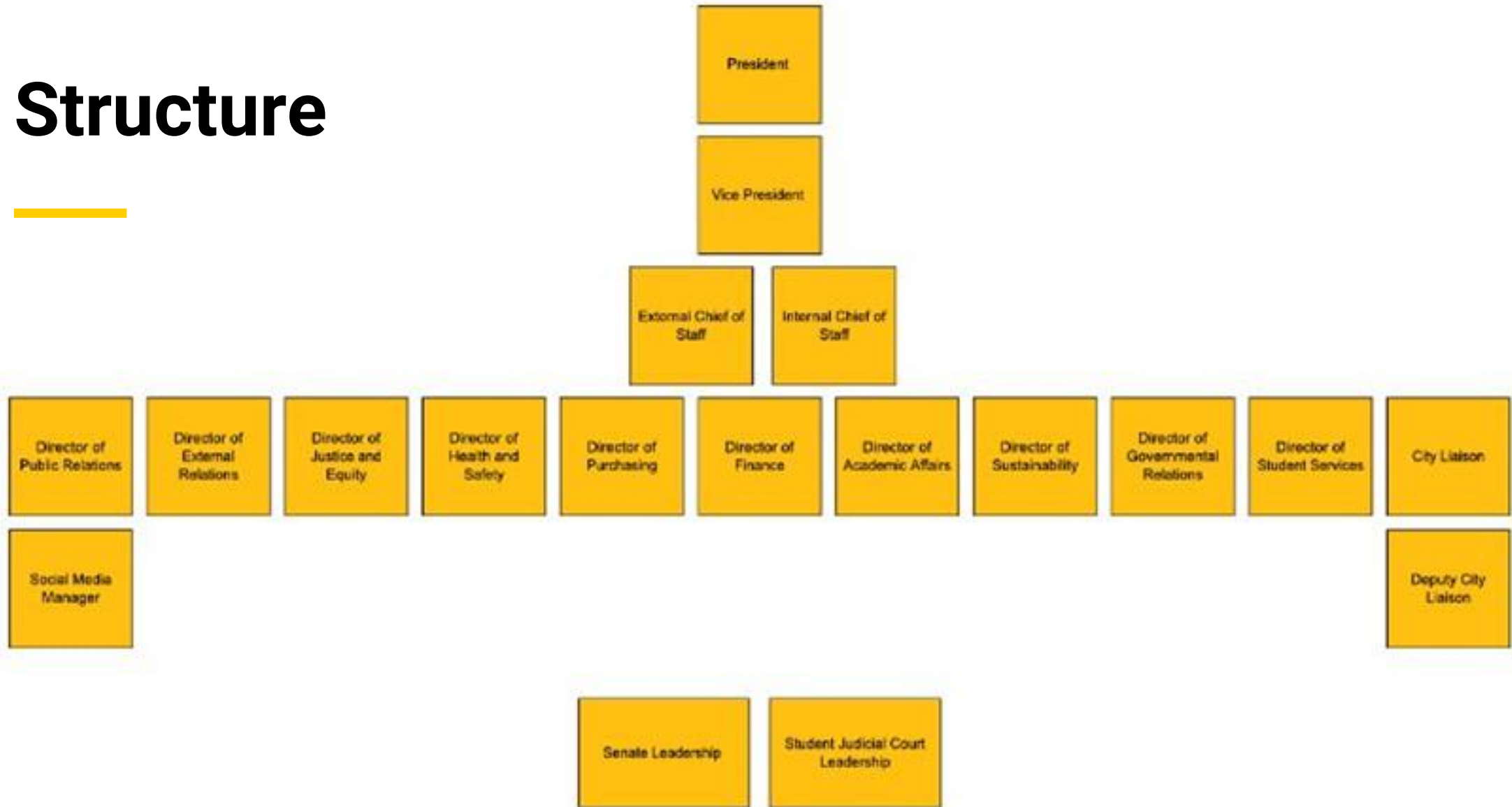
September 9th

Introduction

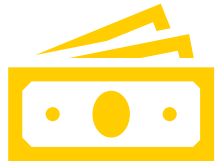
- Senior studying marketing
 - Senator, Director, VP, President
- Marketing Assistant University of Iowa Healthcare



Structure



Priorities



Financial Support



Basic Needs



Mental Health



Advocacy

Current Initiatives

- Uber Vouchers
- Textbook Drive
- Lease Gap Housing



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Undergraduate Student Government

Thank you

→ [Usg.uiowa.edu](https://usg.uiowa.edu)

Emily Cross
Student Body President
USG-President@uiowa.edu