
Update from University Shared Governance Committee - Sept 2025 Meeting

Faculty Council <faculty.council@doane.edu>
Bcc: allemployees@doane.edu

Wed, Sep 24, 2025 at 8:34 AM

Dear Doane University,

The University Shared Governance Committee (USGC) was formed in January 2023 and is charged with:

1. Addressing all disputes reported to the USGC
2. Reviewing and recommending updates to the Shared Governance policy

The committee meets quarterly and recently met in September. Here is a summary of our discussion and activities:

- The committee discussed that changes to shared governance were effective immediately, with timely communication provided by quarterly emails and USGC representatives continuing to inform their constituency of any changes. The Shared Governance Policy was seen as sufficient in this regard since continual review is explicitly stated. To additionally improve communication of any changes, copies of the quarterly update emails will also be posted to the Shared Governance website alongside the annually updated documents.
- The committee began discussion on how Approval/Recommend/Consult functions were documented within different constituencies (e.g. minutes of a council or assembly). This year, the USGC will be reviewing the ARC matrix to potentially provide additional clarity about when an ARC line item may refer to certain individuals, the constituency council, or the entire constituency group.
- The committee began discussion on if a person's role at the University may place constraints on their ability to participate fully in shared governance, and if so, what are the processes and persons involved in making such a determination. The USGC has received a submission regarding a potential violation of shared governance related to this discussion, and the USGC is beginning its work to address the submitted dispute.

Updated documents ("Shared Governance Principles and Policy - August 2025" and "Shared Governance Matrix: August 2025") can be found on the [Shared Governance website](#). A reminder that these website documents are updated only in August of each year, and why you will receive quarterly updates by email.

As always, please reach out to your constituency group (Faculty Council, Staff Council, Leadership Team, Board of Trustees) or any member of the University Shared Governance Committee with your questions about shared governance.

Sincerely,

Joel TerMaat and Ann Koopmann (Co-Chairs), on behalf of the
The University Shared Governance Committee

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