

# University Governance and Organization

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### ADMINISTRATIVE ORGANIZATION EXECUTIVE OFFICERS, 2007-08

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# ORGANIZATION

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

*Powers and Duties*—The Board of Trustees is custodian of the endowment and all properties of the University. The Board administers the invested funds, sets the annual budget, and determines policies for the operation and control of the University. The powers and duties of the Board of Trustees derive from the Founding Grant, amendments, legislation, and court decrees. In addition, the Board operates under its own bylaws and a series of resolutions on major policy.

*Membership*—Board membership is set at 35, including the President of the University who serves *ex officio* and with vote. Trustees serve a five-year term and are eligible for appointment to one additional five-year term. At the conclusion of that term, a Trustee is not eligible for reelection until after a lapse of one year. Eight of the Trustees are elected or appointed in accordance with the Rules Governing the Election or Appointment of Alumni Nominated Trustees. They serve a five-year term.

*Officers of the Board*—The officers of the board are a chair, one or more vice chairs, a secretary, and an associate secretary. Officers are elected to one-year terms at the annual meeting in June, with the exception of the chair, who serves a two-year term. Their terms of office begin July 1.

*Committees*—Standing committees of the Board are Academic Policy, Planning, and Management; Alumni and External Affairs; Audit and Compliance; Development; Finance; Land and Buildings; the Medical Center; and Trusteeship. Special committees include Athletics, Compensation, Investment Responsibility, and Litigation.

*Meetings*—The Board generally meets five times each year.

## THE PRESIDENT

The Founding Grant prescribes that the Board of Trustees shall appoint the President of the University and that the Board shall give to the President the following powers:

To prescribe the duties of the professors and teachers.

To prescribe and enforce the course of study and the mode and manner of teaching.

Such other powers as will enable the President to control the educational part of the University to such an extent that the President may justly be held responsible for the course of study therein and for the good conduct and capacity of the professors and teachers.

The President is also responsible for the management of financial and business affairs of the University, including operation of the physical plant.

The President appoints the following, subject to confirmation by the Board: Provost, Vice President for Business Affairs and Chief Financial Officer, Chief Executive Officer of Stanford Management Company, Vice President for Alumni Affairs and President of Stanford Alumni Association, Vice President for Development, Vice President for Public Affairs, Vice President and General Counsel, and Vice President for Land, Buildings, and Real Estate.

## COMMITTEES AND PANELS

University Committees are appointed by and are primarily responsible to the President. Such committees deal with matters on which the responsibility for recommendation or action is clearly diffused among different constituencies of the University. In accordance with the *Report on the Committee Structure of the University*, Academic Council members are appointed to University Committees on nomination of the Senate Committee on Committees and student members on nomination of the Associated Students of Stanford University (ASSU) Committee on Nominations. The President takes the initiative in the appointment of staff members to such committees. Although immediately responsible to the President, University Committees may be called upon to report to the Senate of the Academic Council or the ASSU. Charges to such committees are set by the President on recommendation of the Committee on Committees and others. There are five University Committees, as follows:

Advisory Panel on Investment Responsibility and Licensing (AP-IRL)  
 Committee on Athletics, Physical Education, and Recreation (C-APER)  
 Committee on Environmental Health and Safety (C-EH&S)  
 Committee on Faculty Staff Human Resources (C-FSHR)  
 Panel on Outdoor Art (P-OA)

Additionally there are ten standing administrative panels which are appointed by the Vice Provost and Dean of Research, and which report through her to the President:

Administrative Panel on Biosafety  
 Administrative Panel on Human Subjects in Medical Research-01  
 Administrative Panel on Human Subjects in Medical Research-03  
 Administrative Panel on Human Subjects in Medical Research-04  
 Administrative Panel on Human Subjects in Medical Research-05  
 Administrative Panel on Human Subjects in Medical Research-06  
 Administrative Panel on Human Subjects in Medical Research-07  
 Administrative Panel on Human Subjects in Non-Medical Research-02  
 Administrative Panel on Laboratory Animal Care  
 Administrative Panel on Radiological Safety

## THE PROVOST

The Provost, as the chief academic and budget officer, administers the academic program (instruction and research in schools and other academic units) and University services in support of the academic program (including budgeting and planning, land and buildings, libraries and information resources, and student affairs). In the absence or inability of the President to act, the Provost becomes the Acting President of the University. The Provost shares with the President conduct of the University's relations with other educational institutions, groups, and associations.

*Schools of the University*—The program of instruction in the University is organized into seven schools: Graduate School of Business, School of Earth Sciences, School of Education, School of Engineering, School of Humanities and Sciences, School of Law, School of Medicine.

The deans of the schools report to the Provost.

## THE ACADEMIC COUNCIL

According to the Articles of Organization of the Faculty, originally adopted by the Board of Trustees in 1904 and revised in 1977, the powers and authority of the faculty are vested in the Academic Council consisting of: (1) the President of the University; (2) tenure-line faculty: Assistant, Associate, and Full Professor; (3) nontenure-line faculty: Associate and Full Professor followed by the parenthetical notation (Teaching), (Performance), (Applied Research), or (Clinical); (4) nontenure-line research faculty: Assistant Professor (Research), Associate Professor (Research), Professor (Research); (5) Senior Fellows in specified policy centers and institutes; and (6) certain specified officers of academic administration.

In the Spring of 1968, the Academic Council approved the charter for a Senate to be composed of 55 representatives elected by the Hare System of Proportional Representation and, as ex officio nonvoting members, deans of the academic schools and certain major officers of academic administration.

In the allocation of representation, each school constitutes a major constituency. The Senate may create from time to time other major constituencies as conditions warrant. Approximately one-half of the representatives are allocated to constituencies on the basis of the number of students in those constituencies and the remainder on the basis of the number of members of the Academic Council from each constituency.

## COMMITTEES

Committees of the Academic Council are created by and responsible to the Senate of the Academic Council and are appointed by the Committee on Committees of the Senate. Such committees deal with academic policy matters on which the primary responsibility for action and decision lies with the Academic Council or, by delegation, the Senate. Pursuant to the Senate's acceptance on September 25, 1969 of the *Report from the Committee on Committees on the Committee Structure of the University* and subsequent Senate action, the Senate has established seven standing Committees of the Academic Council, as follows:

Committee on Academic Computing and Information Systems (C-ACIS)  
 Committee on Graduate Studies (C-GS)  
 Committee on Libraries (C-Lib)  
 Committee on Research (C-Res)  
 Committee on Review of Undergraduate Majors (C-RUM)  
 Committee on Undergraduate Admissions and Financial Aid (C-UAFA)  
 Committee on Undergraduate Standards and Policy (C-USP)

The Senate has also created a Planning and Policy Board of the Senate to consider long-range strategic issues of concern to the faculty. Information regarding charges to these committees is available from the Office of the Academic Secretary to the University.

## ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF STANFORD UNIVERSITY (ASSU)

Web Site: <http://assu.stanford.edu>

All registered students are members of the ASSU. They are governed by the ASSU Constitution and Bylaws, which was last revised and approved by student vote in April 1999.

*Executive*—The President and Vice President serve as the chief executives and representatives for the Association. The Financial Manager acts as business manager of the ASSU, CEO of Stanford Student Enterprises (SSE), and controller of the Students' Organizations Fund in which ASSU and student organization funds are deposited.

*Legislative*—There are two legislative bodies, an Undergraduate Senate and a Graduate Student Council, that work together to determine the Association's budgetary, financial, investment, business, and operating policies. In addition, each entity provides funding for student organizations, participates in recommending student appointments to University Committees and advocates on behalf of its constituents. Each body has 15 elected representatives and an elected chair. Both meet regularly to conduct Association business and discuss and act on issues pertinent to student life at Stanford.

This file has been excerpted from the *Stanford Bulletin, 2007-08*, pages 8-10. Every effort has been made to ensure accuracy; post-press changes may have been made here. Contact the editor of the bulletin at [arod@stanford.edu](mailto:arod@stanford.edu) with changes or corrections. See the bulletin web site at <http://bulletin.stanford.edu> for additional information.