



**Board of Trustees**  
Policy Statement  
University Policy Library

Operational Area	University Governance
Responsible Executive	MSU Denver President
Responsible Office	President's Office
Effective	August 1, 2024

# Shared Governance Policy

## University Governance

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## I. INTRODUCTION

- A. **Authority:** C.R.S. § 23-54-102, et seq. (2024) authorizes the Trustees of Metropolitan State University of Denver ("MSU Denver" or "University") to establish rules and regulations to govern and operate the University and its programs. The Trustees retain authority to approve, interpret, and administer policies pertaining to University governance. The Trustees authorize the President of MSU Denver to approve, administer, and interpret policies pertaining to University operations.
- B. **Purpose:** The Shared Governance Policy establishes a collaborative decision-making process, which includes the participation of faculty, students, staff, and other University constituencies. It also identifies the MSU Denver President as the University officer responsible for overseeing the shared governance process.
- C. **Scope:** This policy applies to University employees, students and community members.

## II. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- A. **Responsible Executive:** MSU Denver President
- B. **Responsible Administrator:** MSU Denver President
- C. **Responsible Office:** President's Office
- D. **Policy Contact:** MSU Denver President, 303-615-0060



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### III. POLICY STATEMENT

- A. Within the University's statutory role and mission and the Board of Trustees' operational mission, all constituencies have a role and a responsibility to assist the University to achieve excellence in all areas of University activity. The Board of Trustees welcomes and expects the participation of faculty, students, staff and other University constituencies in the decision- making process. The Board of Trustees delegates to the MSU Denver President, as the Chief Executive Officer of the University, full authority and responsibility for administering the University within the policies and procedures established by the Board of Trustees.
- B. The MSU Denver President must establish and maintain an open environment of communication with all members of the University community and establish avenues for consultation and recommendation by faculty, students, and staff regarding policy matters considered by the Board of Trustees. The Board expects the President to elicit the participation and facilitate the fulfillment of the roles and responsibilities of the University's constituencies and organized, constituent groups in the University's internal, decision-making processes through the University's Shared Governance Council. It is through the initiative, participation and effort of all the University's constituencies that excellence is achieved.
- C. **President's Cabinet:** President's Cabinet is a culmination of the University's shared governance structure. Through robust discussion based upon the collective input of their constituencies, President's Cabinet provides responsive and informed recommendations to the President on policies, proposals, and other matters of broad institutional significance, including strategic planning. Cabinet members are responsible for sharing discussions and recommendations with their respective constituency groups before decisions are made that impact a broad University community, unless they are emergency decisions. The Cabinet's goal is to advance MSU Denver as one of the nation's preeminent urban universities.



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#### IV. POLICY HISTORY

- A. **Effective:** August 1, 2024
- B. **Revised:** 2024 revised July 1, 2019; revisions supersede section 1.2 of the *MSCD Trustees Manual*, 2007;
- C. **Original Enactment Date:** 2007
- D. **Review:** This policy will be reviewed every five years or as deemed necessary by University leadership.

#### V. POLICY APPROVAL

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Janine Davidson, Ph.D.  
President, Metropolitan State University of Denver

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Kristin Hultquist  
Chair, Board of Trustees, Metropolitan State University of Denver