

Date: July 28, 2020

TO: Jere Morehead, President of the University of Georgia and Presiding Officer of the University Council of the University of Georgia
Professor David Shipley, Chair of the Executive Committee of University Council

RE: Petition for a Special Meeting of University Council

FROM: Members of University Council

WHEREAS Article 5 of the [University Statutes of the University of Georgia](#) gives University Council “legislative power on matters of general educational policy” and “on matters dealing with the general welfare of the entire University,”;

WHEREAS policies, some enacted and others proposed, by the University of Georgia’s administration and its appointed task forces in response to the COVID-19 pandemic have bypassed the legislative power and responsibility of University Council,

We, the undersigned members of the University Council of the University of Georgia, petition for a *special meeting* of the Council to discuss the following two resolutions.

RESOLVED:

1. Given that between the last regular meeting of the University Council (February 19, 2020) and its next scheduled regular meeting (September 30, 2020) the COVID-19 pandemic has critically impacted general educational policy and the general welfare of the entire University, the Council’s Executive Committee shall immediately form an *ad hoc* COVID-19 Crisis Response Committee of 12 elected, not *ex-officio*, members who reflect the current composition of faculty, staff, and students on Council and charge the committee as follows:
 - a. To participate as a legislative stakeholder in the administration’s discussions with active COVID task forces and committees by relaying COVID-related views and concerns of members of Council and its standing committees to the administration and collecting its responses.
 - b. To report in writing directly to University Council members and its Executive Committee at least every 30 days on COVID-related status reports and policies.

2. The University Council endorses in its entirety the joint Resolution of the Faculty Senates of the Mary Frances Early College of Education and the Franklin College of Arts and Sciences. See the Resolution at the Franklin College Senate website:

https://www.franklin.uga.edu/sites/default/files/FacultySenateCOVID19Resolution_July27_2020_3.pdf

If you are a member of UGA’s University Council and support this petition, please click on the link below to sign the petition before midnight on Friday, July 31, 2020.

https://ugeorgia.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_4ZrPgdJnTg1Gst