

**UPPAC**

# Utah Professional Practices Advisory Commission

Finance Committee - January 2016

# UPPAC Overview

Pursuant to Title 53A, Chapter 4, 6, and 15 of the Utah code, UPPAC is a commission of educators and community members who make recommendations to the state Board on issues of teacher misconduct. To aid the commission in this responsibility, UPPAC staff:

1. Investigate allegations of teacher misconduct - interviewing witnesses and gathering evidence in an effort to prepare recommendations for Commission discussion.
2. Prosecute unstipulated allegations of misconduct against educators in administrative hearings.
3. Coordinate follow up on educator background checks to obtain information needed for recommendations on background clearances.
4. Make arrangements and provide logistical support for UPPAC meetings and hearings.
5. Provide assistance to educators, district and university officials with questions about the discipline/background check process.
6. Provide professional development training to educators on the educator standards.

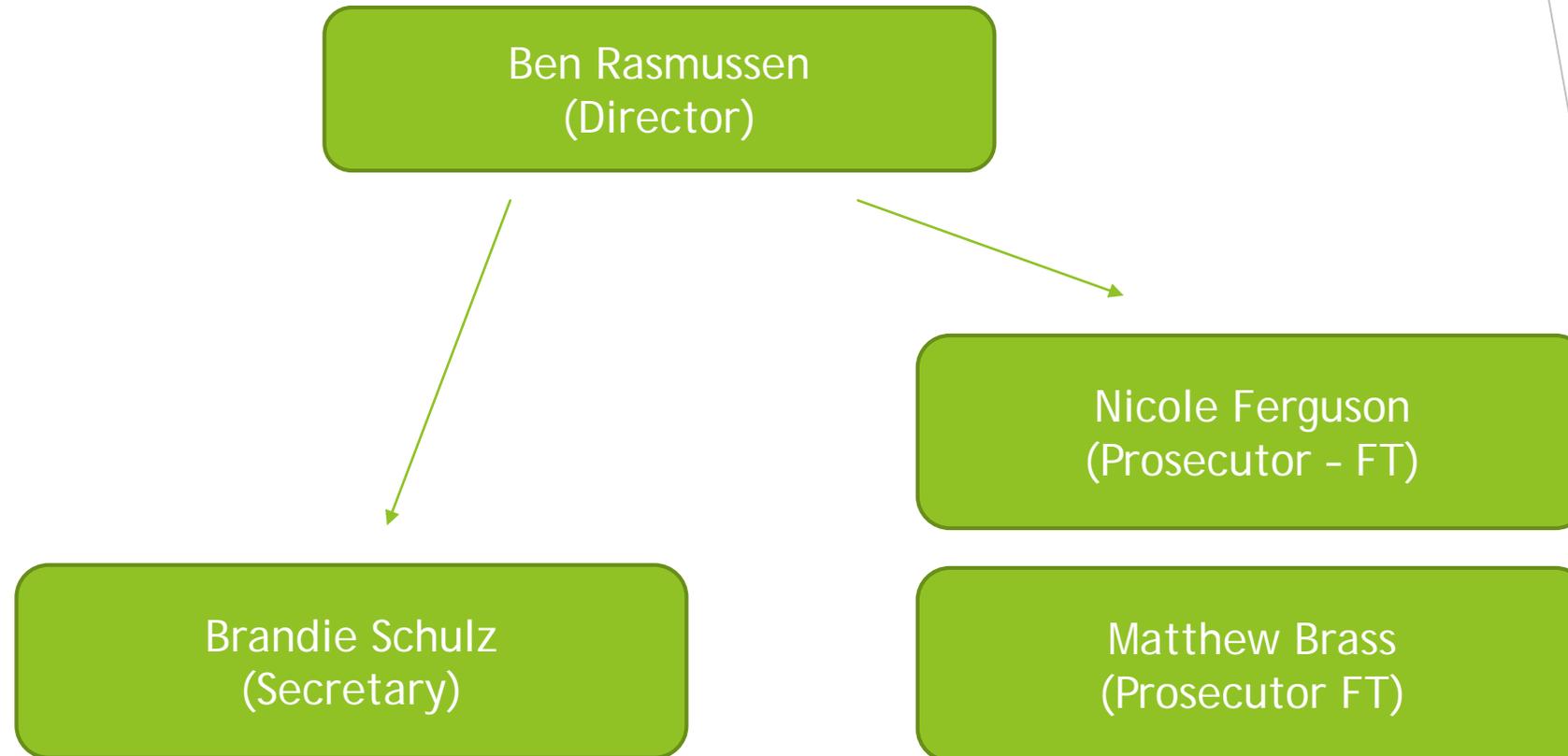
# UPPAC FY16 Budget

Licensing and UPPAC Fees (0667) Funding Sources	Actual FY 2015	Board Approved Budget FY 2016	Revised Budget
Professional Practices State Funding (0667 project 03)	446,326	450,000	0
Total	446,326	450,000	0
Professional Practices (66703) Areas of Expenditures by Budget Categories	Actual FY 2015	Board Approved Budget FY 2016	Revised Budget
Salaries & Benefits	227,741	270,807	270,807
Purchased Services	22,487	112,459	112,459
Travel	1,588	2,550	3,100
Supplies and Materials	19,858	15,439	16,789
Unallocated Expenses	0	0	0
Equipment	998	0	0
Capital Expenditures	0	0	0
Indirect Cost	30,745	48,745	48,745
Grants and Transfers to Other Agencies	0	0	0
Flow Through Funds to LEAs	0	0	0
Total	303,418	450,000	451,900
Carry Forward - Unused Budget	142,908		

# UPPAC FY16 Budget

- ▶ UPPAC is funded from a dedicated fund of teacher licensing fees.
- ▶ The state may want to revisit this in the future. Given the need for funds from this pool, teacher licensing fees will have to be raised significantly in the near future to meet need, especially given rising case levels and increased hearing requests.
- ▶ Alternatively, the state may want to look at funding UPPAC in a different manner given increased hearing and investigation costs.

# UPPAC Organization Chart



# UPPAC Position Responsibilities

- ▶ Ben Rasmussen: Director and Executive Secretary of UPPAC. Position funded wholly out of Special Projects budget. Oversees UPPAC and coordinates all UPPAC meetings, hearings, and supervises UPPAC staff. Reviews and makes recommendations to Board on background checks based on criteria in rules. Briefs Board on UPPAC matters.
- ▶ Nicole Ferguson and Matthew Brass: Investigator/Prosecutor. Investigate allegations of misconduct and prepares reports for UPPAC and the Board. Represent UPPAC at all initial disciplinary hearings, reinstatement hearings, and licensure appeal hearings. Train educators on educator standards and ethical issues.
- ▶ Brandie Schulz: UPPAC Administrative Secretary. Provides logistical support for all UPPAC meetings and hearings. Provides customer service to educators with UPPAC questions. Processes all paperwork for educator background check hits.