THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
Senate Advisory Committee on University Affairs (SACUA)
Wednesday, January 30, 2016 3:15 pm
Room 4006, Fleming Building

Present: Atzmon, Lehman, Ortega, Schultz (chair), Smith, Weineck (by Skype), Wright, Potter

Absent: Carlos, Szymanski

Guests: Chief Information Officer Kelli Trosvig; Central Student Government Members
Molly Mearns and A.J. Ashton; members of the press

3:15 Call to Order/Approval of Agenda and Minutes

3:18: The Agenda was approved
        The approved minutes for December 14 will be sent to the Flint participants.
        The minutes of December 5; 14 and January 9 were tabled.

3:20 Announcements:
        Maternal Leave/Affordable Care Act (ACA): There is no maternal leave, only
sick leave (six weeks); Tim Johnson is pushing for a new maternal leave policy. There
were modest changes because of the Affordable Care Act and are unlikely to be
rescinded.
        SACUA Nominating Committee Update.
        The nominating committee will, at the present time, consist of Professors Robin
Beck, Valeria Bertacco, Francine Dolins, John Ellis, John Lehman, and Mariah Zeisberg.
Professor Weineck will be invited to join the committee, Professor Smith who was
elected has declined to serve.
        Chair Schultz opened discussion of possible responses in support of President
Schlissel's January 28, 2017 announcement about immigration issues
(http://president.umich.edu/news-communications/on-the-agenda/protecting-the-interests-
of-our-international-community-of-scholars/).

3:30 Guest: Chief Information Officer (CIO) Kelli Trosvig
Before coming to Michigan, CIO Trosvig worked at The University of Washington (UW)
in a similar role for 8 years.   She is currently acclimatizing to Michigan. In so doing she
is:
        1. Finding there are differences in the breadth and scope, between Michigan and
            UW, where the focus is on the health sciences.

2. Understanding the culture of Michigan, where people like to do things from the ground up rather than using off-the-shelf services, while the model in the industry is to make things happen with available packages.

She feels that one the strengths of large research universities is the ability of faculty members to work with colleagues across the disciplines. She sees such collaboration expanding in the future, but notes that, at Michigan, the environment for collaboration in research computing is more difficult than it should be. She notes that Michigan has not embraced the Cloud, which she feels can be especially useful for graduate students.

CIO Trosvig feels Michigan needs to move faster (especially in a research environment), be willing to try new things and provide better support. She believes that Michigan needs to not "feel failure" in such a way as to inhibit experimentation. She would encourage more pilot programs with strict boundaries of assessment. She notes that at Michigan, "everything that is a pilot becomes a service." It would be better to be more willing to make choices and be willing to invest in different things. There is a problem with self-selection in pilots at Michigan, as there tends to be a testing bias in favor of selecting the object of the pilot.

She discussed UW's move to Canvas, recalling that she had to change to 24/7 support because faculty used Canvas outside normal work hours.

Professor Wright said that rollouts are more difficult when faculty are not part of the decision-making process. She said that there should be a lot of opportunity to ask faculty for their views.

Chair Schultz observed that president Schlissel was interested in uniting Hospital Information Technology (IT) with IT on Campus. CIO Trosvig said this is going well, with big expenditures and cost being averted by sharing resources. She is interested in exploring joint purchasing agreements with Medicine. One of her goals is to enhance data sharing, developing a research computing environment available for all members of the community.

Professor Atzmon said that the hospital plays safe with anonymized data. CIO Trosvig said there is no way to completely anonymize data if it is to be useful in research. In more general terms, CIO Trosvig said she is looking at enhancing handling of three categories of data

1. Learning analytics (controls and governance)
2. Facilities (Campus Data)
3. Patient data

CIO Trosvig's feeling is that there is a conservative bent to Michigan's practices in sharing patient data; noting that there are federal regulations limiting accessibility.

Chair Schultz said that software systems are prescribed top-down in the Hospital. CIO Trosvig replied that one way to deal with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) requirements was to build locked down enclaves. She has worked with scenarios connected with patient records at UW where someone could not send a file from a thumb drive. Because of these experiences, she feels that there should be tiers of data, with differing levels of accessibility, but she notes that the environment is changing. In the summer, she felt there was open sharing of patient records through the

ACA. The repeal of the ACA would impede data sharing that has helped providers provide better care.

Chair Schultz asked about high performance computing (HPC) on campus and the use of the Cloud. CIO Trosvig believes that there is potential to move a significant amount of research computing to the Cloud. While there is a cost advantage to many users for staying on campus, there are things that can be done to make Cloud resources more accessible. She will move forward with enhancing use of the Cloud, and will do some pilots. There are currently no agreements between Michigan and the three main vendors for the Cloud (Google, Amazon and Microsoft). She would like to change this and explore a HPC model such that smaller users are not charged (she sees a lot of inefficient micro-billing).

Chair Schultz asked how HPC compares with archive big-data computing. CIO Trosvig said the University is spending a lot to maintain archives, and needs to know if people are looking at the data. She noted that it can be cheaper to rerun an experiment than to find the archived data. First, she wants to reduce redundant multiple storage. Chair Schultz asked her view of Deep Blue. CIO Trosvig replied that Deep Blue is world class, but the University needs to look at other services. It is ill-advised to say it is great, leave it, and come back in five years. There needs to be a three-year cycle of assessment to assess the service portfolio.

4:11 Executive Session
        [Canvas]

4:25 Guest: Central Student Government (CSG) members Molly Mearns and A.J. Ashman

A.J. Ashman introduced the issue of textbook affordability. He argued for expanding course reserves at the library, getting more copies of textbooks for the top 15 courses, and asking professors to put those books on reserve. He said that 30% of students are not buying books even though they know that will have a negative impact on performance. CSG described ways that there will a service on Wolverine Access to show when a book is on reserve.

Professor Smith said that he teaches a course for which fewer and fewer students get the book, and notes that lower sales increases cost. He noted online sources in his field are of low quality. He said that the Dental School main textbooks were available for free. Professor Wright said in some Business School courses, books are priced into programs, but this only works because they are lock-step courses.

Chair Schultz asked if students preferred pdf versions of textbooks? Mr. Ashman said that Indiana University students prefer electronic versions. He said that the library is eager to make itself relevant to student needs, hence the expansion of reserves. Professor Smith asked for four or five suggestions that SACUA could disseminate. Professor Wright said that textbook publishers will sell individual chapters to reduce cost.

4:55 Discussion of SACUA Message of Support

Chair Schultz asked SACUA to support the statement drafted by Professor Weineck: SACUA expresses its strong support and appreciation of President Schlissel's recent statement, "Protecting the interests of our international community of scholars." We are proud to stand with the President in upholding the core values of higher education and an inclusive society.

The message was emended to read:

The Senate Advisory Committee on University Affairs expresses its strong support and appreciation of President Schlissel's recent statement, "Protecting the interests of our international community of scholars." We stand with the President in upholding the core values of higher education and an inclusive society.

The message was passed unanimously.

Chair Schultz said that SACUA will also indicate the availability of the more general petition circulated about the executive order (https://notoimmigrationban.com/) in the press statement.

5:07 Adjournment

Respectfully submitted,
David S. Potter
Senate Secretary

University of Michigan Bylaws of the Board of Regents, Sec. 5.02:
Governing Bodies in Schools and Colleges
Sec. 4.01 The University Senate
"...[t]he Senate is authorized to consider any subject pertaining to the interests of the university, and to make recommendations to the Board of Regents in regard thereto. Decisions of the University Senate with respect to matters within its jurisdiction shall constitute the binding action of the university faculties. Jurisdiction over academic polices shall reside in the faculties of the various schools and colleges, but insofar as actions by the several faculties affect university policy as a whole, or schools and colleges other than the one in which they originate, they shall be brought before the University Senate."

Rules of the University Senate, the Senate Assembly and the Senate Advisory Committee on University Affairs:
Senate: "In all cases not covered by rules adopted by the Senate, the procedure in Robert's Rules of Order shall be followed."
Assembly: "The Assembly may adopt rules for the transaction of its business. In appropriate cases not covered by rules of the Assembly, the rules of the University Senate shall apply."
SACUA: "The committee may adopt rules for the transaction of its business."

Minutes 30 January 2017
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