

Draft Minutes of 23 May 2016 SACUA

Circulated 7 June 2016

Approved 8 June 2016

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
Senate Advisory Committee on University Affairs (SACUA)
May 23, 2016, Monday, 3:15
Regents' Room, Fleming Building

Present: Atzmon, Carlos, Ortega, Schultz (chair), Smith, Szymanski, Weineck, Wright, Potter;
Schneider, Snyder

Absent: Lehman

Guests: David Schafer, CSG President, Nicholas Jansen and Max Lubell representative for Divest and
Invest, Reporters from the *Record* and the *Daily*

3:17 Call to Order/Approval of Agenda and Minutes

The agenda was approved

The minutes for May 2 and 9 were approved

3:25 Announcements

A communication was received from The Office of Institutional Equity (OIE) in response to SACUA enquiries
about outstanding cases.

Professor Weineck discussed revisions to the newsletter, discussing OIE investigations and the Faculty
Governance Conference.

Chair Schultz said that he is the faculty representative on the advisory committee to the Executive Vice President
for Information Technology and Chief Information Officer (VPITCIO)

Chair Schultz said that this is the last planned meeting for May. Doodle polls are checking for June. There will
not be a SACUA meeting in August.

3:30 Central Student Governance (CSG) Officer David Schafer, President

Mr. Schafer expressed interest in working with SACUA in the area of mental health and implementation
of an honor code. He said that improving treatment for students with mental health issues was a long-standing
issue for CSG, which was hoping for improved faculty training and resource enhancement (especially on North
Campus, which, lacking a central facility to serve student needs, is underserved). Mr. Schafer said that Dean
Dillard in LSA had approached CSG with a request from new LSA faculty for guidance in dealing with students
with mental health issue. He said that CSG was preparing a survey concerning mental health issues. He asked
that the survey be sent to all faculty. Professor Potter said that this process could (and would) be administered by
the Secretary.

Two years ago, after the Treetops incident, the CSG president instituted an honor code sub-committee,
but nothing emerged from that initiative. He agreed with President Schlissel that the development of an
aspirational Honor Code would be desirable. When Professor Smith asked if there were schools at the University
of Michigan that did have them, it emerged that some major units do not have one. This is not a main priority, but
CSG is willing to participate in the process. Professor Potter said that he had discussed the issue with Vice
President Harper, who had agreed that it could be a topic for the SRAC in the coming year; he agreed with Mr.
Schafer that the codes of other institutions should be examined.

Mr. Schafer said that he had discussed the appointment to committees (CSG makes Rackham students); question
arose about students on the Secretary Advisory Committee (SAC) and it transpired that CSG had some inaccurate

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information, but also that student membership will be discussed with Vice President Churchill. Chair Shultz asked about students in the Professional Schools. He also asked about discussions with Rackham Student Government (RSG) about the appointment of student members to Senate Assembly committees noting that there are 15-16 seats reserved for graduate students. Mr. Schafer said that the discussions were ongoing. Chair Weineck said that it remained an open question about whether RSG should appoint members to committees. Mr. Schafer said that RSG does not represent students in the professional schools. Professor Smith asked if there was anything in CSG's charter about the make up of its administrative group. Mr. Schafer said that representation was proportional by school, with one representative for each 400 students in a school. Mr. Schafer said he hoped to strengthen the University Council (<https://csg.umich.edu/legislative-branch/university-council>) which has not been utilized for several years. Professor Wright asked if CSG would send the survey to SACUA before distributing it; Mr. Schafer agrees that he would do if practical

3:50 Divest and Invest Campaign, Nicholas Jansen and Max Lubell

Chair Schultz observed that there are precedents for an initiative to generate underlying campus consensus that an industry is so bad that the University should not invest in it; the Regents have suggested that this should be the approach taken be divestment from the Fossil Fuel industry. There have been resolutions passed by Senate Assembly and CSG favoring the creation of a committee to look at the idea of divestment. Some Regents are against the idea as a whole.

Professor Weineck said that she felt the President and the Regents thought that the initiative was not going to be successful referring to President Schlissel's piece in the record (<https://president.umich.edu/news-communications/on-the-agenda/addressing-climate-change-as-a-powerful-community/>). Mr. Lubell pointed to efforts by students at Stanford (<http://www.fossilfreestanford.org/about-us.html>) and Harvard (<http://divestharvard.com/>) to pressure their institutions to divest. Stanford's Board has recently voted not to divest (<https://news.stanford.edu/2016/04/25/stanford-climate-change-statement-board-trustees/>). For Harvard's refusal to divest see the 2013 statement (<http://www.harvard.edu/president/news/2013/fossil-fuel-divestment-statement>). Professor Weineck asked if we have direct investments or if we invest through funds? Mr. Jansen says that we have both forms of investments, but the initiative is not concerned with mutual funds. Professor Szymanski suggested that the argument should be based on principle rather than economics. Professor Weineck said that they should ask Vice president Haggerty about the status of the University's investments, noting that he is very approachable and agnostic in this issue. Chair Schultz offered to support the group in its efforts to move forward. Professor Weineck said that there was a great deal of sympathy on the faculty for these efforts. Professor Schultz referred to an article in the NYT reporting pressure from Exxon shareholders about climate change (http://www.nytimes.com/2016/05/24/science/exxon-investors-seek-assurance-as-climate-shifts-along-with-attitudes.html?hp&action=click&pgtype=Homepage&clickSource=story-heading&module=second-column-region®ion=top-news&WT.nav=top-news&_r=0)

4:10 Discussion of OIE Reply

There was discussion of the reply from Anthony Walesby about OIE investigations under SPG 201-89-0 (sexual harassment); SPG 201.89-1 (discrimination); SPG 601.22 (faculty-student relationships). It is not clear why the data show a decline in the number of cases. Professor Weineck said that we want to know how many people have been sanctioned independently of OIE findings. There was discussion about asking Deans for data from their units on sanctions against faculty in the last five years. Chair Schultz said that he and Professor Weineck would look into formulating an official request for this data. Professor Weineck said that she would ask Dean Martin if this would be a feasible request.

4:30 Selection Process for Senate Assembly Committee Membership Best Practices

Chair Schultz circulated the following timeline with the call to the meeting:

Mid April: SACUA chair contacts VPs for suggestions for committee membership -- either names of fields of expertise

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Mid April: SACUA chair contacts Senate Assembly for self-nominations and suggestions

Early to mid May: SACUA chair and FSO staff prepare preliminary suggestions for committee membership, based on volunteer list, VP suggestions, and suggestions from SACUA/Senate Assembly

Late May to June: SACUA appoints committees and committee chairs

July/August: Committee chairs should meet with VP to jointly set draft agenda for the upcoming year, discuss documentation required, guest experts to be invited, and agree on meeting times.

Committees should meet a minimum of twice a term.

All committees should keep minutes and submit them to the FSO for record keeping.

During the winter term, committee chairs should visit the Assembly to update its members on accomplishments, concerns, ongoing discussions, etc.

Chair Schultz asked about developing relationships with Regents.

Professor Smith discussed the Research Policies Committee, saying that the last meeting was very positive with visitors from the office of sponsored research discussing administrative burden

(MIDAR)(<http://cio.umich.edu/investment/capital-request-status>).

Chair Schultz discussed asking Vice Presidents how they could be advised, as that tends to stimulate more positive interactions.

There was a discussion of SACUA members serving as chairs of Senate Assembly committees.

4:44 Executive Session

There was continuing discussion of the chairing of Senate Assembly Committees and of the status of the Academic Freedom Lecture Fund Committee.

5:01 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 policies 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."