

Minutes of 26 September 2016 SACUA  
Circulated 2 October 2016  
Approved 10 October 2016

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN  
Senate Advisory Committee on University Affairs (SACUA)  
Monday, September 26, 2016 3:15 pm  
Regents' Room, Fleming Building

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

Absent: Smith

Guests: Martha Pollack (Provost); Kelly Cunningham (Special Counsel to the Provost); members of the press.

3:15 Chair Schultz called the meeting to order

The agenda was approved  
Minutes for September 12 were approved

3:20 Announcements:

Mr. Schneider reviewed the subscription for the *Chronicle of Higher Education*, pointing out that the University has a site license, which SACUA will use in the future.

Chair Schultz said that we should have SACUA participation for the kickoff of the education event.

Chair Schultz announced that there will be a SACUA lunch with Professor Marc Rotenberg of the Georgetown Center, who will deliver the Academic Freedom Lecture (AFL).

3:22: Report on private meeting with the president

Professor Potter reported on the meeting. Topics covered included the Beginning of Academic Year kickoff events the Bicentennial celebrations; nomination procedures for committees; the status of Vice Presidential searches (three finalists have been identified for the Information Technology position, but the search for a new Vice President for Global Communications is just beginning); SACUA outreach for UM-Flint faculty governance (The President encouraged SACUA to continue the conversation and include the Flint Provost); meetings with GEO, CSG, RSG (there was discussion of cost of living issues in conjunction with the upcoming GEO negotiation); there was also discussion of President Krislov's handling of a free speech issue with the Oberlin faculty and the use of a faculty committee to adjudicate, which led to discussion of Michigan's procedures under Bylaw 5.09, the history of its implementation and its operation.

3:25: Report on the Private Meeting with the Provost

Professor Weineck reported on the meeting. Topics included Sustainability; Diversity, Equity and Inclusion; Bicentennial Awards to alumni for alumni/ae who received their degrees approximately 10

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to 15 years ago, are strong leaders and representatives of the mission and values of the University of Michigan and whose achievements carry on Michigan's traditions of intellectual creative and academic endeavor, civic engagement, and national and international service). She said that the AAAC would consider whether a 10% salary reduction constituted a demotion and should be subject to procedures under regents' Bylaw 5.09. She also reported that the Provost will talk to LSA Dean Martin about the AFL professorship.

### 3:26 Report on the Regents' Meeting

Professor Weineck reported on the September Regents' meeting, which was largely devoted to discussion of building projects see agenda at <http://www.regents.umich.edu/meetings/09-16/index.html>.

### 3:26 Discussion with Provost Martha Pollack

Provost Pollack discussed the racist posters that appeared on campus today. As is consistent with the University's policy on posting, if posters are on building they are taken down, if they are on kiosks administrators cannot legally remove them. She agreed with Professor Szymanski's suggestion that SACUA issue a statement condemning the posters.

She also directed SACUA's attention to the statement that had been tweeted out on the Communications Major Issues Page (<https://publicaffairs.vpcomm.umich.edu/posted-fliers-not-consistent-with-u-m-values/>). Provost Pollack expressed concern for the impact of the flyers on students.

Provost Pollack introduced a discussion of the University's program to promote Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) and discussed the Hail Scholars Program. In the control group, 25% applied to UM, in schools where students got the letter, 68% applied and others were admitted (primarily to Dearborn) with a guarantee of transfer to the Ann Arbor campus after two years if academic achievement is sufficient.

Provost Pollack said that the President asked for a SACUA nominee for the committee to select recipients of the Bicentennial Award (see Professor Weineck's summary of the private meeting with the Provost for details).

Provost Pollack introduced the cross disciplinary aspects of environmental sustainability. Last year the University had an opportunity to review the School of Natural Resources and Environment (SNRE) in the context of the appointment of a new Dean. An external review led to suggestions for a new school, building on the strengths of the current SNRE, but drawing additional resources from The College of Literature, Science and the Arts (LSA), the Law School, the Taubman School of Architecture, the Ford School Public Policy, and the College of Engineering and other units as well. The new school would be more porous, for example, enabling faculty to participate for shorter periods of time. Provost Pollack said that the search for a new Dean has been launched, and there is a faculty transition team for the new SNRE. She feels that changes in the school will enable the University to exploit the breadth of expertise across the campus to become a leader in the area of sustainability. Provost Pollack also said that this would be a redefinition of the purpose of SNRE. A faculty committee suggested a new name for SNRE as (e.g. School of Sustainability, Environment and Society), but the name is being further discussed. Professor Potter suggested that there may be a way to leverage money from Tom Steyer.

Provost Pollack updated SACUA on other searches saying that the Ford School dean search had been launched, and a new director of the Museum of Art will be needed.

The Digital Education Initiative (DEI) will be renamed as the Office of Academic Innovation. What should education in the 21<sup>st</sup> century look like, how can technologies change the way information is transferred both within the University and beyond the campus? Professor Weineck asked if there was a concern that innovation is being defined as new uses of technology, Pollack said that new initiatives are concerned with engaged learning not just digital initiatives.

Professor Atzmon asked if it is enough to tweet about the Posters, assuming that they are not torn down, Professor Weineck and Chair Schultz asked about other views, noting that people can poster over other posters on the kiosks.

Professor Potter asked about more classes on Fridays; Provost Pollack said she would track it.

Professor Szymanski asked about the rollout about the new DEI program for student recruitment, Provost Pollack pointed to October 6 while saying that many of the programs are in effect.

3:50 Executive Session

[Discussion with provost Pollack]

3:55 Executive Session ended and Provost Pollack departed

3:55 Professor Weineck moved that SACUA put out posters affirming the Faculty Senate's commitment to diversity and freedom of speech. Professors Weineck and Ortega will review previous Senate Assembly resolutions to find text that would be appropriate for the posters.

4:04 Professor Schultz introduced a resolution concerning the unification of the three campus faculties for the Senate Assembly. The proposed resolution is as follows:

Whereas the University of Michigan is constitutionally one corporation with multiple campuses, and

Whereas the faculty throughout the three campuses are lawfully one faculty constituting a single Faculty Senate, and

Whereas both Dearborn and Flint have faculty governance structures built to respond to the disparate conditions on their campuses, and

Whereas the relationship between those bodies and the Senate Assembly is ambiguous and frequently suffers from lack of communication, and

Whereas the Bylaws of the Regents of the University of Michigan do not include reference to disparate faculty governance structures, and

Whereas faculty representatives from all campuses of the University of Michigan are elected to the Faculty Senate Assembly:

Be it resolved that Senate Assembly establish a task force of six members, two from each campus. Four of these members shall appointed by SACUA; the Dearborn and Flint faculty councils shall each select one. This task force shall report back to Senate Assembly in March 2017 with any recommendations concerning:

- The nature of the relationship between the faculty governance structures;
- The powers that may be designated by this body to the faculty governance of the regional campuses;
- The advisability of a common faculty handbook with the responsibilities, rights and protections of the faculty throughout the University with supplements for each campus;
- Ways and means that this body can support faculty governance throughout the University.

After discussion it was decided to table discussion of the proposal and create a task force to consider the relationship between faculty governance structures. Professor Ortega said that he would like more information from members of the Flint and Dearborn faculty.

Professor Lehman proposed the formation of a SACUA sub-committee to study the issue. The committee will consist of Professors Lehman and Ortega.

The subcommittee was unanimously approved.

4:15 Senate Assembly Quiz Results

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The quiz results are available in M-Box, the strongest support was for dealing with tri-campus faculty governance, also the presence of a parliamentarian at Senate Assembly Meetings, e-mail voting, committees writing end of year reports discussing their accomplishments; direct faculty representation to the Regents.

4:15 Executive Session

[Membership of members for the Bicentennial Awards Committee]  
[The Academic Freedom Lecture Fund]

5:00 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."