

Date: Wed, 23 Mar 2011 17:49:31 -0400  
From: John Lehman <[jtlehman@umich.edu](mailto:jtlehman@umich.edu)>  
Subject: results of Senate meeting reported to Regents  
To: [senate.assembly@umich.edu](mailto:senate.assembly@umich.edu)

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Dear Colleagues,

Some news accounts about our University Senate meeting on Monday, 21 March 2011 are not entirely accurate. However, you can review and distribute to your unit colleagues the official report transmitted to the Board of Regents ([attached](#)). All the letters in the package are identical except for the salutations.

The Senate is the highest faculty governance body at the UM, consisting of all tenured and tenure track faculty, librarians, most research scientists, and executive officers. For example, the provost and several members of his office attended as voting members, as did the deans of both LSA and the Medical School along with associate deans and department chairs. The dean of the Medical School and at least one of his chairs spoke to the questions before voting.

It may be useful to explain that the Senate is authorized under Regents' Bylaw 4.01 "to consider any subject pertaining to the interest 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." Hence, you and your faculty colleagues may wish to learn how the Regents and the executive officers respond to the action items adopted by vote on Monday during that historic meeting.

Cordially,  
John Lehman  
Senate Secretary

[Attachment](#)