COMMITTEE FOR A MULTICULTURAL UNIVERSITY

Minutes of the Meeting of January 19, 1999

PRESENT: Professors McGowan, Megginson, Pedraza, Schmerl, Smith, and Wang; Mr. Ransom. GUEST: Dr. Anne Chapelle.

1. The minutes of the meeting of January 5, 1999, were approved without emendation.

2. Professor Sylvia Pedraza of the Department of Sociology was introduced as a new member. Professor Pedraza's teaching and research are both focused on aspects of ethnicity.

3. Announcements and Reports.

(a) Schmerl reported that, at Professor Ensminger's request, he had presented a status report to the Senate Assembly on January 11, 1999. His remarks had elicited neither questions from nor discussion by members of the Assembly, but had been reported in both the Ann Arbor News and the University Record. He distributed copies to the members.

(b) Schmerl had met with Professor Ensminger as scheduled on the following day, as one of several meetings Professor Ensminger was holding with all SACUA subcommittee chairs. The main questions had to do with SACMU's membership (whose listing had not yet been updated by the SACUA staff), and Schmerl's willingness to continue to serve as chair beyond May, 1999. Schmerl had told Ensminger that he would let him know.

(c) Dr. Anne Chapelle, a graduate student at the Center for the Study of Higher and Postsecondary Education of the School of Education, was introduced.

(d) Letters to the deans requesting their cooperation and the participation of selected members of their Executive Committees in the survey and interviews to be conducted by SACMU have been mailed by the SACUA staff. Responses will be reported to the Committee as they are received.


Plans for the survey and interview protocol were discussed. Professor Pedraza recommended that Professor Beth Reed of the School of Social Work should be consulted; Professor Reed had been involved in some relevant work with another colleague some time ago. Professor Pedraza said that she would find out who that had been. Dr. Chapelle said that she would ascertain the nature of her involvement in the
study with her advisor, i.e., whether Schmerl's understanding that she was to get credit for her participation was correct. Schmerl was encouraged to invite Professor James Jackson, the new director of CAAS, to a SACMU meeting to discuss his views of the effectiveness of CAAS's involvement in the recruitment and retention of minority faculty members. It was suggested that Dr. Evans Young, also of CAAS, should be invited along with Professor Jackson. Schmerl said that he would do so.

5. There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:55 p.m. The next meeting of the Committee will be held on Tuesday, February 2, 1999, at 5:15 p.m. in the Conference Room on the first floor of the Student Activities Building.