

Minutes of 24 January 2005
First Circulated 14 February 2005
Re-Circulated 21 February 2005
Approved 21 February 2005

**THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
SENATE ASSEMBLY MEETING
24 JANUARY 2005**

Present: Abdoo, Albers, Aller, Andersen, Berent, Brown, Cebulski, Giordani, Gull, G.R. Holland, M. Holland, Hollar, Huntley, Jackson, Kahn, Koopmann, Lehman, Luera, Matjias, Meerkov, Moran, Orr, Pedraza, Pohl, Prygoski, Quint, Robertson, Sagher, Schwendeman, Seabury, Severance, Simpson, Thouless, Watkins, Wechsler, Younker, Zorn

Alternates: Akingbehin (Dearborn for LaChance), Ashe (LSA-Nat Sci for Lange), Brock (Medicine for Chang), Cureton (LSA-Humanities for Liu), Lavaque-Manty (LSA-Social Science for Mitani), Vaillant (LSA-Social Science for Benamou)

Requested Alternate But None Available: Carlisle, Fricke, C.B. Smith, Smock

Absent: Agrawal, Annich, Bartlett, Ben-Shahar, Bhavnani, Burant, Ceballo, Colas, Combi, Ensminger, Fishman, Goldman, Green, Hu, Hutchinson, Lemos, Ludlow, Ohye, Peters, Potter, Pritchard, Ross, Rush, Sahiner, Schultz, Senkevitch, Sension, Seyhun, Stark, Tropman, Whatley, Ziff

MATERIALS DISTRIBUTED

1. Senate Assembly agenda
2. Draft minutes of the Senate Assembly meeting of 13 December 2004
3. Electronic mail message from J. Lehman to members of the Senate Assembly, dated 18 January 2004, regarding SACUA nominating committee
4. COIA AID proposed final meeting draft, undated

The meeting was convened by the chair at 3:20 P.M. The proposed agenda was adopted with a change of order.

REPORT FROM THE ADMINISTRATION EVALUATION COMMITTEE

AEC Chair Lehman reported that the Administration Evaluation Committee had completed the first annual round of evaluations of administration by the faculty by the end of Fall Term 2004, in accordance with the instructions of the University Senate. He said that the results for all evaluated administrators are posted at the AEC website: <http://aec.umich.edu>

Professor Lehman said that the AEC would be developing a report including recommendations that it plans to present to the University Senate and Senate Assembly in March. He reminded the Senate Assembly representatives from the Flint and Dearborn regional campuses that the AEC was awaiting reply from them as to whether the core and topical questions used on the Ann Arbor campus are appropriate to their campuses. He said that evaluations would not be conducted for those campuses until communications were completed through the formal Assembly channels, and he asked the representatives to caucus with their faculty governance groups and to get back to the AEC.

A member of the Assembly asked why clinical faculty were not included in the evaluation process. Professor Lehman replied that it was a matter of jurisdiction. He said the University Senate adopted the process, and that the membership of the Senate is formally defined. He noted that a number of lecturers and clinical faculty had inquired about the possibility of participating in the evaluations. Because the lecturers are a self governing body their organization is the proper channel for such communication. He said that of course the AEC would make its software and technical ability available on request because the evaluation system the committee created is open to anyone. By the same token, he said, if either the clinical faculty or librarians not currently represented on the Senate were to form a self-governing group and make a request on its own behalf, the capability could be shared with them, as well.

SACUA NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Chair Berent called attention to distributed item 3 and reported that there had been a miscount of the ballots for the SACUA nominating committee. He explained that one of the candidates who had been declared elected in fact had received fewer votes than a number of other candidates. He said that the recount also revealed that there had been a tie between two candidates for one seat. He asked the Assembly to propose a remedy.

ACTION OF THE SENATE ASSEMBLY 012405-1

A member of the Assembly moved that the chair should inform the original individual about the miscount, ask him to step aside, and fill the nominating committee by adding both individuals who tied for the open position (multiple seconds).

The action was approved without dissent, but with three abstentions of record. Accordingly, the revised SACUA nominating committee consists of Professors
Berent
Pedraza
Goldman
Orr
Ross
Andersen
Tropman

MINUTES OF THE SENATE ASSEMBLY MEETING OF DECEMBER 2004

The agenda item was omitted.

ATHLETICS REFORM

Chair Berent reported that he and Mr. Schneider recently attended a meeting of the Coalition for Intercollegiate Athletics (COIA) and that the meeting had focused on academic integrity in intercollegiate athletics. He recounted a personal recollection about interactions with a coach regarding the academic performance of a star player, and he suggested that guidelines may be needed for how faculty are approached regarding the performance of athletes who are in their courses. He said that a vote by member schools would be conducted by the end of February. He called attention to distributed item 4 and encouraged Assembly members to send comments about the document to him directly.

Chair Berent then invited Mr. Schneider to provide background information about COIA itself. Mr. Schneider said that COIA is a grassroots organization started within the Pac-10, but that it has subsequently grown to include Indiana and other Big-10 schools. He said the organization has developed a best practices or aspirations document, but that there are no commitments from the institution implied even if they endorse the document.

Chair Berent next invited Professor Bates, the U-M faculty representative to the NCAA, to comment about the relevance of COIA to NCAA. Professor Bates reported that owing to the structure of the NCAA, only Conferences may submit legislation. He said that the faculty athletics representatives from Division 1A schools agreed to take what comes out of COIA and see what could be adopted within the NCAA system.

A member of the Assembly asked what the goal was for this agenda item. He asked if it was Assembly business on which the body would vote to adopt the document. Chair Berent said this is not something for the Assembly to vote on. He said that our institution will have to register with COIA whether we accept this document and that was really going to fall to him. He said that he is not going to put this to a formal vote, but that he wants some feedback.

General discussion continued for another 30 minutes about standards for admission of student athletes, scholarship eligibility, scholarship status of injured athletes, athletic event ticket prices for faculty, obstacles faced by student athletes, numbers of athletes at the university, and learning assistance for athletes vis-à-vis other students. Professor Bates also noted that the University's response to those who might call for "paying" or otherwise reimbursing student athletes has always been that the University guaranteed that student athletes would obtain the best possible education they could at the University of Michigan. Professor Giordani noted that given the previous discussion, he was quite sure the University would want to make this guarantee for all students at the University of Michigan, not just athletes. No action items were proposed or adopted.

Professor Thouless remarked that if either the Assembly chair or the provost sign on to item 4, they cannot thereby impose rules on the faculty. He said that faculty alone

control class attendance and grading. He said that unilateral adoption of a document like this is counter to faculty governance principles.

The discussion concluded at 4:30 P.M.

OLD AND NEW BUSINESS

Professor Lehman reported that immediately prior to the Assembly meeting, SACUA had met and in a tie vote decided by the chair had rejected a recommendation by the Rules Committee to reform the manner in which the SACUA and Senate Assembly chair is elected. He pointed out that at the present time newly elected members of SACUA are not eligible to either run for or vote for the person who will serve as their chair. Instead, the retiring members vote to elect the chair who serves after they depart. Lehman said that several SACUA members agree with the Rules Committee that current practice violates the basic democratic principle that a group should be able to elect its own leaders. He asked the Assembly members for their guidance in this matter.

Professor Giordani noted that changing the current process for electing the chair of the University Senate, Senate Assembly, and SACUA would require changing the procedures in the document, RULES OF THE UNIVERSITY SENATE, THE SENATE ASSEMBLY, AND THE SENATE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON UNIVERSITY AFFAIRS that had been discussed and approved by the Senate Assembly on April 21, 1997. He suggested that Senate Assembly members might want to review that document prior to making any changes to the existing, approved procedures.

Chair Berent declared that the meeting had fallen below quorum and that no further action would be possible today. He said that the matter would be deferred to the next Assembly meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 4:37 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
John T. Lehman
Senate Secretary

University of Michigan Bylaws of the Board of Regents, Sec. 5.02: *Governing Bodies in Schools and Colleges*

In each school, college, or degree granting division of the University, including those at the University of Michigan-Dearborn and at the University of Michigan-Flint, the governing faculty shall be in charge of the affairs of the school, college, or division, except as delegated to the executive committee, if any, and except that in the School of Graduate Studies the governing board shall be the executive board, and in the Medical School shall be the executive faculty.
