

Minutes of 16 April 2012 Senate Assembly Meeting
Circulated 23 September 2012
Approved 24 September 2012

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
SENATE ASSEMBLY MEETING
16 APRIL 2012

Present: Adlerstein-Gonzalez , Armitage, Aronoff, Barald (chair), Barber, Bayraktar, Borer, Boxer, Carson, Christman, Crane, Davis, Dorsey, Folger, Giordani, Goldman, Hardin, Hirshorn, Holland, Hollingsworth, Jagadish, Jenckes, Jones, Kearfott, Koopman, Koopmann, Lehman, McCullagh, Millunchick, Moore, Mora, Mutschler, Odetola, Pipe, Poulsen, Prygoski, Rothman, Staller, Szymanski, Thornton, von Buelow, Wolfe, Wong, Wright

Requested Alternate, None Available: Bielinska (Medicine), DiPietro (Medicine), Lusmann (Music), Mansfield (Engineering), Miller (Education), Muehlberger (LSA), Ortega (Social Work), Singh (Dearborn)

Alternates: Custer (Beck-Medicine), Hicken (Zemgulys-LSA), Mead (Westlake-Music), Melville (Schriber-Business), Schmaltz (Pando Zayas-LSA)

Absent: Ahbel-Rappe, Atkins, Booth, Friese, Gumucio, Johnson, Larsen, Mars, Nevett, Nunoo-Quarcoo, Shah, Shore, Soellner, Sonnaga, Sun, Thompson, Trandafirescu, Unnikrishnan, Williams, Wright

MATERIALS DISTRIBUTED

1. Senate Assembly Agenda
2. Draft minutes of the 19 March 2012 Senate Assembly meeting
3. Higher education funding tied to social issues.
(www.lansingstatejournal.com/article/20120406)
4. The demeaning of Academic Freedom in Michigan. The Chronicle of Higher Education
5. Draft letter to Michigan legislators

Chair Barald convened the meeting at 3:20 P.M.

AGENDA

The proposed agenda was approved.

MINUTES

The minutes of 19 March 2012 were approved as submitted.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The chair expressed thanks to the members of the Senate Assembly for service during her term as chair.

PROPOSED LEGISLATION

Professor Carson called attention to distributed items 3 and 4. Professor Staller stated that the legislature seems to be inserting itself into educational practices and is attacking university autonomy. Several members of the Assembly expressed agreement. Professor Carson said that distributed item 5 is a model letter that faculty can send to individual legislators.

Professor Rothman suggested that any response from the Senate Assembly should not be narrowly focused, but should speak to the broad issues. Professor Carson agreed to chair an ad hoc committee for drafting a resolution on the subject. Volunteers for the committee should contact sacua@umich.edu.

REPORTS FROM SENATE ASSEMBLY ADVISORY COMMITTEES

Students Affairs and University Secretary Advisory Committees-

Professor Potter reported the activities of both committees from prepared remarks. Student Affairs is working on university policy regarding sexual assaults as mandated by federal authorities.

Medical Affairs-

Professor Boxer reported the activities of the committee using a PowerPoint presentation. He reported pending changes to Medical School admissions and interview procedures. He provided a summary of each meeting of the committee.

General Counsel-

Professor Frier reported on the three meetings of the committee during AY2011-12. He said the committee addressed a range of both external and internal matters:

External-

- Aggressive attitudes of state legislators toward universities and their autonomy
- Domestic partner benefits, guns on campus, religious objections to training programs, Stem cell research.
- Lawsuit by Authors' Guild against Google book digitization
- Faculty reporting responsibilities regarding potential crimes
- Proposition 2 appeal status in the 6th Circuit

Internal-

- Trespass policy
- Revised copyright policy
- Title 9
- GSRA unionization

Professor Frier noted that the current General Counsel has resigned.

Government Affairs-

Professor Garavaglia reported that her committee considered many of the same issues as the General Counsel Advisory Committee, but generally focused more on university funding. The committee also addressed concerns with the image of the UM among members of the legislature, as well as developments at the federal level.

Committee on the Economic Status of the Faculty (CESF)-

Professor Askari provided a preview of his committee's annual report to the Regents. He pointed out that the UM is trailing its academic peers in faculty salaries by 25 to 30 percent, and that it is trailing peers in fitness and wellness facilities.

Academic Affairs Advisory Committee (AAAC)-

Professor Seifert reported the activities of the AAAC. Topics addressed by the committee this year included:

- Academic calendar
- Course improvement initiatives, including advance notice of grading procedures
- Learning outcomes and learning analytics
- Third Century initiatives: university learning and grand challenges
- International Programs and Study Abroad- the UM program is overpriced.
- Financial awards to students

Research Policies Committee (RPC)-

Professor Schultz reported the activities of the RPC during AY2011-12 and AY2010-11. Topics included the NCRC, responsible conduct of research, interdisciplinary junior faculty initiative, data sharing environment, transition of DRDA to the Office of Sponsored Research Programs, conflict of interest, PAF-R for restricted proposals, Ph.D. versus postdoctoral funding.

Financial Affairs Advisory Committee (FAAC)-

Professor Silk reviewed activities of the FAAC during AY2010-11 and AY2011-12. He noted that most members of the committee have recently been from the School of Medicine. Topics considered by the committee included:

- Investment performance
- Financial reports
- Concur expense management/Travel reservation system
- Member engagement health plan and M-Healthy
- Plant facilities and building services
- Administrative services
- IT rationalization- Google implementation
- University comprehensive master plan

Upcoming topics will include a residential life initiative, and the twenty year financial outlook.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:45 P.M.

Respectfully submitted

John T. Lehman

Senate Secretary

University of Michigan Bylaws of the Board of Regents, Sec. 4.01:*The University Senate*

The 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.

University of Michigan Bylaws of the Board of Regents, Sec. 4.04:*The Senate Assembly*

The Senate Assembly shall serve as the legislative arm of the senate.

The assembly shall have power to consider and advise regarding all matters within the jurisdiction of the University Senate which affect the functioning of the university as an institution of higher learning, which concern its obligations to the state and to the community at large, and which relate to its internal organization insofar as such matters of internal organization involve general questions of educational policy.

Rules of the University Senate, the Senate Assembly and the Senate Advisory Committee on University Affairs: In all cases not covered by rules adopted by the Senate, the procedure in Robert's Rules of Order shall be followed.