

Minutes of 25 April 2011
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THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
SENATE ASSEMBLY MEETING
25 APRIL 2011

Present: Adlerstein-Gonzalez, Aronoff, Barald, Barber, Bergin, Booth, Borer, Boxer, Brown, Crane, Davis, Dorsey, Folger, Friese, Giordani, Goldman, Hirshorn, Holland, Jenckes, Johnson, Jones, Kearfott, Koopman, Koopmann, Larsen, Lehman, Lenk, Lusmann, Mars, Navvab, Ortega, Poe, Prygoski, Rothman (chair), Schriber, Sharma, Sheets, Shore, Silverman, Smith, Soellner, Sohn, Staller, Thornton, Westlake, Wolfe, Zengulys

Requested Alternate, None Available: Andre (LSA), Green (Medicine), Jagadish (Engineering), Millunchick (Engineering), Pipe (Engineering),

Alternates: Shedden (Carson-LSA), von Buelow (Norton-Arch & Urb Plan)

Absent: Ahbel-Rappe, Armitage, Atkins, Beck, Bielinska, Ferris, Gumucio, McCullagh, Miller, Najita, Nassauer, Nunoo-Quarcoo, Pando Zayas, Reddy, Salesa, Sun, Trandafirescu, Williams, Yang

MATERIALS DISTRIBUTED

1. Draft Senate Assembly Agenda
2. Draft minutes of the Senate Assembly meeting of 21 March 2011
3. Charges to the Smoke-Free University Advisory Committee
4. SACUA Election Procedures Guidelines
5. Resolution 042511-1 requesting W-2 data
6. Comparison of Apportioned Student Credit Hours Taught to Total Academic-Year Salary Averages by Rank and to School/College
7. Resolution 042511-2 on SACUA Compensation Policy
8. Senate Assembly Action Items 012411-1 and 012411-2
9. [10 Years to Tenure at Michigan. Inside Higher Ed, 25 April 2011](#)

Chair Rothman convened the meeting at 3:20 P.M. The draft agenda was adopted.

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

The minutes from the 21 March 2011 meeting were approved as submitted.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. SACUA officer elections were conducted on 18 April 2011. Professor Barald was elected chair

and Professor Kearfott was elected vice-chair.

2. Volunteers are needed for the president's smoke-free advisory committee, one from North Campus and one from Central Campus.

3. The Board of Regents voted unanimously to extend the maximum tenure probationary period to 10 years. See Distributed Item 9.

SACUA ELECTION

Chair Rothman reported the candidates nominated for election to SACUA, and invited additional nominations from the floor. Professor Larsen was nominated by Professor Goldman. Professors Lenk and Ortega were named tellers.

The candidates were invited to make oral statements to the Assembly. After statements, ballots were distributed to Assembly members.

Tellers subsequently reported vote tallies as follows:

Garavaglia - 14
Haig - 4
Hirshorn - 15
Holland - 12
Koopmann - 18
Larsen - 16
Masten - 16
Stafford - 4
Staller - 26

Professors Staller and Koopmann were declared elected to two of the three open SACUA seats. A run-off election was declared between candidates Larsen and Masten. Ballots were distributed to Assembly members.

Tellers subsequently reported vote tallies as follows:

Larsen - 19
Masten - 18

Professor Larsen was declared elected to the third open SACUA seat.

The three-year terms of the three elected candidates commence 1 May 2011.

VISIT OF UNIVERSITY PROVOST PHIL HANLON

Chair Rothman introduced the provost at 3:47 P.M. He made prepared remarks about the University budget and State appropriations, illustrated by PowerPoint slides (Appendix A).

Key elements of his report included:

- Growth in expenditures for financial aid and new faculty appointments.
- Cost savings through a variety of strategies.
- Diversification of revenue streams.
- Cost containment measures.

The provost concluded the first part of his prepared remarks at 4:15 P.M. Professor Goldman inquired what target was being established for percent composition of out of state students in future year classes. The provost replied that the administration planned to increase non-resident composition from 35% at present to about 39% in future years. Professor Goldman asked for further clarification about the figures the provost had cited regarding space utilization. The provost replied that the numbers in displayed tables reported the actual growth in General Fund supported space. He said that the growth rate of such space has been considerably reduced. Professor Barald asked if new construction projects would be frozen. The provost replied that there were no plans to do so.

Professor Koopmann commented that the auxiliary fund described by the provost is really taxation and confiscation; he said that the funds to launch the Life Sciences initiative were transferred from health system coffers by former president Bollinger. He added that as a consequence of fund transfers many departments are at the margin of being in deficit mode. Moreover, he said, construction delays caused by the Life Sciences fund transfers increased the cost of Mott renovation by \$400M. The provost replied that Professor Koopmann's concerns have been noted.

The provost then continued his prepared remarks with comments about future funding challenges, and needs for innovation and academic excellence. He said that in competitions for faculty with peer universities, the U-M has been successful 61% of the time. He concluded the second portion of his remarks at 4:32 P.M.

Professor Askari suggested that the provost may have painted too rosy a picture of state appropriations, and that considerable retrenchment has already occurred. The provost said that he agreed there has already been a lot of pain associated with budget cutbacks. Professor Barald added that federal agencies were likewise experiencing budget restrictions in ways likely to affect the U-M. The provost said that he agreed.

At the request of Chair Rothman, the provost next showed slides of academic year faculty compensation data that his office had shared with CESF in 2008. He noted that about 46% of total student credit hours are taught by tenure track faculty.

The guest left the meeting at 4:40 P.M.

ACTION OF SENATE ASSEMBLY 042511-1

The Budget Study Committee and the Committee on the Economic Status of the Faculty introduced the following action item:

1. WHEREAS, the Budget Study Committee and the Committee on the Economic Status of the faculty have repeatedly requested that the University administration release to them total annual compensation data (W-2 date) for all members of the university community, itemized by individual

but not linked to names, in order to permit the committees to conduct analyses sanctioned by the Senate Assembly in the areas of faculty compensation, health benefits, and retirement benefits, and

2. WHEREAS the information is necessary for developing advice to executive officers and the Board of Regents about the functioning of the university, and
3. WHEREAS, the administration has repeatedly and persistently refused to comply with these legitimate requests, and
4. WHEREAS the Senate Assembly is authorized to request information from any member of the university staff,
5. THEREFORE, the Senate Assembly, acting in its authority under Regental Bylaw Sec. 4.04, asks the University President and the Provost to release the compensation data specified in paragraph 1 to the respective committees within two months of this action.

Chair Rothman asked Vice-Chair Poe to preside temporarily so that he could speak from the floor. He said that release of salary information could paint an unfair picture about faculty compensation because it would include compensation from other than General Fund sources that were not tied directly to teaching effort. He added that the compensation figures might invite criticism from members of the general public who are not so well compensated. Professor Barald pointed out that she and others received large portions of their salaries from sponsored projects rather than from General Fund sources. Professor Peters said that the Assembly committees were unable to conduct meaningful analyses about cuts in retiree and health benefits without adequate data across the entire university staff population.

Vote on the Active Motion:

Number approving- 19

Number disapproving- 14

Abstentions of record- 1

Chair Rothman questioned whether a quorum existed, and made a quorum call. Thirty six members of the Assembly voted their presence, and the presence of a quorum was established. The Action Item was approved.

ACTION OF SENATE ASSEMBLY 042511-2

Assembly members Lehman and Smith introduced the following Action Item:

RESOLUTION ON SACUA COMPENSATION POLICY

WHEREAS, the Senate Advisory Committee on University Affairs (SACUA) serves as an instrument for effecting the actions of the Senate and the Assembly;

WHEREAS, the SACUA Chair and Vice Chair as well as the Secretary of the Senate are officers of the Assembly; and

WHEREAS, the members of SACUA are members of the Senate Assembly;

THEREFORE, the Senate Assembly ratifies and approves the recent practice of providing

discretionary funds from central administration sources to the Vice Chair, Secretary, and SACUA members in consideration for their service commitments to central faculty governance.

Chair Rothman explained that for the previous two years, the vice-chair has received additional annual funding of \$5,000 and regular members of SACUA have been offered \$3,000. Professor Smith asked what funds had been given to the interim secretary last year. The chair replied that it was \$5,000.

Vote on the Active Motion:

Number approving- 27

Number disapproving- 2

Abstentions of record- 7

FINAL REMARKS OF RETIRING SACUA CHAIR

Chair Rothman assumed the floor at 5:03 P.M. to deliver his concluding remarks (Appendix B). He discussed the recent rebuff of the voted actions of central faculty governance, including SACUA, the Senate Assembly, and the University Senate by the Board of Regents on 21 April 2011. He urged vigilance regarding extended tenure probation not only in the Medical School, but in other units, as well. He encouraged the Assembly to stay engaged with the issue, and to communicate more effectively with faculty in their units. He said that the faculty governance website has been reconfigured to facilitate rapid communication and to encourage feedback from faculty on emerging issues. He noted that current participation in the AEC process is less than 30%. He said he had received assurance from the office of the provost that it would contribute \$1 to the general scholarship fund for every Senate member who participates next year.

Vice-Chair Poe urged Assembly members to enlist their colleagues in responding to poll questions on the faculty governance website. She suggested that the faculty could employ grassroots efforts in future policy challenges.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

There was no additional business.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:12 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.

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.