

Minutes of 24 September 2012 Senate Assembly Meeting
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Approved 22 October 2012

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
SENATE ASSEMBLY MEETING
24 September 2012

Present: Adler, Adlerstein-Gonzalez, Barald, Barolo, Biteen, Booth, Boxer, Bradley, Brown, Campbell, Cotera, Danziger, DiPietro, Fagerlin, Fenno, Folger, Hayes, Hershovitz, Hirshorn, Holland, Hollingsworth, Jones, Kearfott (Chair), Kee, Koopmann, Larsen, Lehman, Mansfield, Masten, Mora, Muehlberger, Nevett, Odetola, Pipe, Poulsen, Primus, Ryan, Schriber, Sept, Silveira, Staller, Szymanski, West, Westlake, Wong, Young, Ziff

Requested Alternate, None Available: Bayraktar (LSA), Custer (Medicine), Giordani (Medicine), Gumucio (Medicine), Jenckes (LSA), Moore (Dearborn), Princen (SNRE)

Alternates: Kao (Nursing), McElwain (Johnson)

Absent: Ahbel-Rappe, Armitage, Atkins, Cervetti, Christman, Koopman, Lu, Mutschler, Oey, Panda Zayas, Prygoski, Sarma, Shah, Sonnega, Thompson, Thornton, Trandafirescu, von Buelow, Wright

MATERIALS DISTRIBUTED

1. Senate Assembly Agenda
2. Draft minutes of the 16 April 2012 Senate Assembly meeting
3. Model Faculty Grievance Procedure, dated 6 September 2012
4. Research Universities and the Future of America, Summary. Undated.

Chair Kearfott convened the meeting at 3:18 P.M.

AGENDA

The proposed agenda was approved.

MINUTES

The minutes of 16 April 2012 were approved as submitted.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. All Senate and Senate Assembly members are invited to attend SACUA meetings on Mondays from 3 to 5 P.M. in the Regents Room of the Fleming Building.
2. The Assembly will host a Regents Candidate Forum on 22 October at Palmer Commons.
3. On 31 October Professor George Cohen, Professor of Law and chair of the faculty senate at the University of Virginia, will discuss the leadership crisis at UVA earlier this year.
4. Robert Post, Dean of the Yale Law School, will discuss Academic Freedom and the Constitution on 1 November.

SENATE ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS AND CHARGES

1. Chair Kearfott announced that SACUA had developed a set of proposed committee charges and membership nominations that had been distributed electronically to the Senate Assembly. She offered them as a proposed action to the Assembly. Assembly members made one additional nomination, adding Professor Riles to the Administration Evaluation Committee, and approved the action by majority vote with no dissent of record.

STATUS OF UNIT IMPLEMENTATION OF NEW GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES

2. Vice Chair Staller reviewed the history of a new grievance procedure that was approved by Senate Assembly and was agreed upon in reconciliation meetings with the central administration. She noted that the status of implementation of the policy in the units has been checkered. For example, SACUA has not been apprised of policies from Education or Music, Theater and Design, even though they are reported as adopted. Several policy documents, including Law, LSA, and Dentistry differ markedly from the agreed model. She urged Assembly members to review the policies. Chair Kearfott stated that Professor Staller and T. Schneider from the Faculty Senate Office will assemble the information and distribute it to Assembly members.

VISIT OF PRESIDENT EMERITUS JAMES J. DUDERSTADT

3. The chair introduced the guest at 3:30 P.M. The president-emeritus called attention to distributed item 4 and reviewed its contents and history. His presentation closely followed item 4. He said the cost of the recommendations would amount to about \$68-billion per year. He then outlined the plans for achieving implementation of the recommendations. His prepared remarks concluded at 4:10 P.M. and he invited questions.

4. Senate members commented that item 4 contained useful public relations material, but that the activities of the committee are not widely known. Professor Duderstadt replied that the committee kept its efforts closely embargoed until last June. Professor Ziff asked why Duderstadt thought there was no hope of getting state support for the committee recommendation, considering that states benefit greatly from the universities. Professor Duderstadt responded that one test of that idea will occur in California this November when a referendum about university funding is on the ballot. He added that most state support for universities is dwindling across the country. He said that economists on his committee think the financial situation is unlikely to improve for decades.

5. A member of the Assembly asked why the committee used the word 'productivity' rather than 'cost efficiency.' Professor Duderstadt replied that the language was in part a consequence of the membership of the committee. He noted that the UM has added 25% more undergraduates, mostly by adding lecturers. He said that his committee urged increasing productivity both in instruction and research, in part through increased sharing of facilities. Professor Koopmann asked why the committee did not emphasize value. Duderstadt replied that productivity is seen as a way to maintain quality.

6. Professor Larsen remarked that the goal of keeping university inflation down seemed ambitious. The president-emeritus responded that many constituents want universities to

demonstrate that they can reduce the cost escalation of ongoing activities. He said they remained free to generate new resources for new initiatives. He acknowledged that some universities may fail to control costs, and that most benefits will not materialize for many years to come.

7. A member of the Assembly pointed to the regulatory burden of Institutional Review Boards (IRBs). Duderstadt replied that all such regulation is on the table, including Conflict of Interest procedures. Professor Barald remarked that effort reporting was another point of contention. Professor Duderstadt expressed agreement and cited additional examples of regulation enforcement gone awry.

The guest left the meeting at 4:30 P.M.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 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.