

Minutes of 19 November 2012 Senate Assembly Meeting  
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THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN  
SENATE ASSEMBLY MEETING  
19 November 2012

**Present:** Adler, Adlerstein-Gonzalez, Armitage, Atkins, Barald, Barolo, Biteen, Boxer, Bradley, Campbell, Custer, Danziger, DiPietro, Fagerlin, Folger, Hayes, Holland, Hollingsworth, Jenckes, Jones, Kearfott (Chair), Kee, Koopmann, Larsen, Lehman, Masten, Moore, Muehlberger, Mutschler, Oey, Princen, Prygoski, Sarma, Staller, Thornton, Turnley, West, Westlake, Wright

**Requested Alternate, None Available:** Bayraktar (LSA), Cervetti (Education), Nevett (LSA), Odetola (Medicine), Pipe (Engineering), Szymanski (Kinesiology), Wong (Medicine), Young (Engineering)

**Alternates:** McElwain (Johnson-LSA)

**Absent:** Ahbel-Rappe, Booth, Brown, Christman, Cotera, Fenno, Gumucio, Hershovitz, Hirshorn, Jacobsen, Kao, Katapodi, Koopman, Lu, Mansfield, Mora, Panda Zayas, Poulsen, Primus, Ryan, Schriber, Sept, Shah, Silveira, Sonnega, Thompson, Trandafirescu, von Buelow, Ziff

MATERIALS DISTRIBUTED

1. Senate Assembly Agenda
2. Draft minutes of the 22 October 2012 Senate Assembly meeting

Chair Kearfott convened the meeting at 3:20 P.M. in absence of a quorum.

TRANSPARENCY

Professor Holland expressed his view that transparency, or rather lack thereof, has been a perennial issue before the Senate Assembly. He noted that faculty concerns have included lack of transparency in minority admissions, total compensation, scandals, donations, syllabi, administrative appointments, and especially unit and departmental budgets. He suggested that the Senate Assembly may want to consider a resolution calling for transparency of budgets, in particular.

VISIT OF INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE DIVISION OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY J. PIERSANTE

At 3:30 P.M. Chair Kearfott introduced Mr. Piersante. Mr. Piersante explained that he simultaneously served as police chief of the UM campus police. He reviewed recent changes in the reporting relations and operations of the DPSS and related campus security forces with the aid of a PowerPoint presentation (see Appendix). He said that the changes were mandated by the Regents in response to the months-long delay in reporting suspected child pornography to the police. He concluded his prepared remarks at 3:50 P.M. and invited questions from the floor.

His responses to questions from members of the Assembly included:

1. The new administrative arrangement has improved conditions that led to the delayed reporting that triggered the reorganization. The problem was that hospital legal counsel did not think there was enough evidence to go forward. They did not know that the UM police had the expertise to recover evidence from the computer in question.
2. Requirements to contact Child Protective Services are mandated by statute. As part of its reorganization, DPSS has developed protocols for all required notifications.
3. Many large universities are developing administrative divisions for security and safety similar to that of the UM.
4. The advisory committee for DPSS is brand new, and has not met yet. Mr. Piersante said that, according to the provost, that committee will eventually have faculty representation.
5. Most of the various units of the new DPSS Division previously existed; what is new is that they are now organized into a single division. Very few new hires have been required by the new administrative structure, but some people are being reassigned. Each unit within the division will retain its unique identity, but now they are coordinated. Otherwise, the units are well funded, well staffed, and well trained.
6. The UM has a very safe campus, particularly compared to a municipality. The trend in crime rate has generally been level, but last year crime was exceptionally low. Violent crime associated with use of weapons is down, but thefts are up.
7. The search committee for a permanent director of DPSS met for the first time last week, and is still developing job requirements.
8. The policy and practice of policing alcohol and marijuana on campus involves some discretion in the allocation of resources. People can drink on private property, but cannot have open containers on public places. The DPSS tries to create a safe and secure environment on game days for people to enjoy themselves.
9. The DPSS has a good relationship with the Ann Arbor Police Department, and both try to have a seamless response to university people who are off campus.
10. DPSS maintains an online public log that is mandated by federal law. It is updated daily.
11. Calls to 911 from cell phones on campus will go to Washtenaw County authorities; upon ascertaining the source, they will transfer the calls to campus.

The visitors left the meeting at 4:05 P.M. The chair declared that quorum had been established.

#### AGENDA

The proposed agenda was approved.

#### MINUTES

The minutes of 22 October 2012 were approved as submitted.

**ACTION ITEM**

Chair Kearfott called attention to a Resolution proposed by SACUA for consideration by the Senate Assembly:

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**ACTION OF SENATE ASSEMBLY 111912-1**

Resolved

Whereas the Senate Assembly and Senate Advisory Committee on University Affairs constitute the official representative bodies of the Faculty Senate, and

Whereas the Senate is authorized by the Regents Bylaws to consider any subject pertaining to the interests of the University, and to make recommendations to the Board of Regents in regard thereto, and

Whereas the selection and appointment of executive officers of the University is of critical importance to the functioning and progress of the University,

We urge that search committees for executive officers and, particularly, the search committee for the University's next president, include representatives of the Faculty Senate chosen from a list of names selected by SACUA and approved by Senate Assembly.

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**Discussion-**

Consensus was expressed that the Action, if approved, should be sent to both the President and the Board of Regents. The chair reported that search committees for executive officers have been constituted in various ways over time. Professor Koopmann remarked that he had served on the search committee for the EVPMA when he was SACUA chair. Professor Masten pointed out that the resolution was prompted by the fact that the search committee for the new vice president and general counsel did not include any regular members of the faculty, and that a search for president is imminent.

**Vote on the Active Motion:**

The Action was approved by unanimous vote with no abstentions of record.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

There was no unfinished business.

**NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:15 P.M.

Respectfully submitted

John T. Lehman  
Senate Secretary

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**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.

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**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.

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**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.

APPENDIX

PowerPoint presentation by DPSS interim director (separate pdf file).