

Minutes of 11 February 2008  
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**THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN**  
**Senate Advisory Committee on University Affairs**  
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**MINUTES OF THE SACUA MEETING OF 11 FEBRUARY 2008**

**Present:** Fraser, Frier, Friedman, Potter, Riles, Smith (chair), Stark, Thouless; Lehman; Carr, Schneider

**Absent:** none

**Guests:** T. Sullivan (provost), K. Gibbons (provost's office), G. Poe (Senate Assembly), K. Brown (*University Record*), B. Evans (chair of Multicultural Committee), J. Lee (State Conference, AAUP), A. Croll (*Michigan Daily*)

**MATERIALS DISTRIBUTED**

1. Draft agenda
2. Draft minutes of SACUA 4 February 2008
3. Electronic mail from Rex Holland, Chair, Civil Liberties Board, to John Lehman, Secretary of SACUA, Senate Assembly and University Senate, dated 4 February 2008 regarding the future roles and activities of the Civil Liberties Board.
4. Electronic mail from Rich Friedman to SACUA regarding proposed drafts to Mary Sue Coleman regarding clarification of the impasse to the approval of the shared governance document.
5. Preliminary and confidential draft of "Principles of Faculty Involvement in Institutional and Academic Unit Governance at the University of Michigan, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition."
6. Presentation by Billy Joe Evans, Chair, Senate Assembly Committee for a Multicultural University.

Chair Smith convened the meeting at 3:02 P.M. The proposed agenda was approved.

**CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES**

The minutes of 4 February 2008 were approved.

**VISIT OF UNIVERSITY PROVOST**

The provost and K. Gibbons arrived at 3:02. The meeting entered executive session. Discussion topics included (1) a student admission issue, (2) timeliness of e-mail notifications about campus security alerts, (3) revision of *Principles of Faculty Involvement in Institutional and Unit Governance at the University of Michigan*, (4) erosion of faculty and staff benefits, and (5) faculty-administration communications. The guests left the meeting at 3:45 P.M.

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#### ACTION OF SACUA 021108-1

Professor Friedman moved that SACUA present the principles document in its then-current state to the Senate Assembly for vote at the March meeting of the Assembly (multiple seconds).

Vote on the active motion- unanimous approval

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#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair Smith announced:

1. Professor Frier and the chair met with the provost last Friday. A key topic of discussion was the Principles document.
2. HR Director L. Thomas will be a guest at the 18 February meeting of the Senate Assembly. She is expected to discuss benefits and answer questions from the Assembly.
3. SACUA has received a message from the Coalition on Intercollegiate Athletics inviting participation at its next meeting, which will be at the University of Georgia.

#### PREPARATION FOR FEBRUARY SENATE ASSEMBLY

Chair Smith called attention to the draft agenda for the Senate Assembly meeting scheduled for 18 February 2008.

#### LANGUAGE REQUIREMENT FOR STUDENT ATHLETES

Professor Potter reported that a new section for Latin has been scheduled at a time that will make it more widely accessible to all students, including student athletes.

#### VISIT OF CHAIR OF MULTICULTURAL COMMITTEE

Professor Evans joined the meeting at 4:03 P.M. and presented a draft report from his committee (distributed item) that will be delivered in final form to the Senate Assembly on 18 February.

#### LIAISON REPORTS

**Research Policies-** Professor Thouless reported that the RPC met on Friday, 8 February; Steve Ceccio presented an update on current plans concerning the research tracks, based on input from RPC and several units across campus.

#### OLD/NEW BUSINESS

Members discussed Rackham's proposed policy changes that would require continuous enrollment by graduate students. Ms. Carr contacted Dean Janet Weiss for a copy of the proposal, but has received no response. Ms. Carr also contacted Weiss's assistant, Ms. Mary Catherine Weigelin, but likewise received no response yet.

Professor Thouless reported that Professor Stark has contacted a member of the College of Engineering Executive Committee regarding the proposed changes to Rackham policy, and that the item has been added to the agenda of the next CoE EC meeting.

Professor Frier reported that Rackham had approached LSA Dean Terry McDonald about the same issue.

Professor Poe stated that Rackham needs to supply data from peer universities for the time to graduation for students who are continuously enrolled compared to the current UM system.

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

John 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.

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