

Minutes of 10 May 2010
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THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
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MINUTES OF THE SACUA MEETING OF 10 MAY 2010

Present: Barald, Goldman, Kearfott, Lehman, Lusmann, Poe, Rothman (chair); Carr, Schneider

Absent: Frost, Navvab

Guests: *U-M Daily* reporter, *University Record* reporter

MATERIALS DISTRIBUTED

1. Proposed agenda
2. Draft minutes of 3 May 2010
3. *Faculty Governance at the University of Michigan Principles, History, and Practice* by N. H. Steneck, 1991.
4. Committees involved with Faculty Governance
5. Draft Senate Assembly agenda

Chair Rothman convened the meeting at 3:15 P.M. The draft agenda was approved.

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

The minutes of 3 May 2010 were corrected and approved.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Gary Rhoades, AAUP General Secretary, will deliver a talk at noon, Wednesday 12 May in the Wolverine Room of the Michigan Union.
2. A summer meeting schedule is not yet available.

FACULTY GOVERNANCE COMMITTEES

Chair Rothman called attention to distributed item 4 and informed SACUA members that they need to nominate members for the numerous committees.

VISIT OF UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT MARY SUE COLEMAN

The guest arrived at 3:30 P.M. She reported that the U-M has received a lot of media attention in the wake of President Obama's commencement address.

Budget-

There is no progress to report. The state legislature is awaiting revenue estimates.

China Leadership Forum-

A third biennial forum will be held in mid-May. It is funded by China and is aimed at future leaders of Chinese universities. C. Cook from CRLT organizes the program. The president will visit China in June and will host several receptions for alumni, meet with potential donors, and attend a board meeting for Shanghai Jiao Tong University.

Teacher Preparation-

The U-M will begin certifying Teach for America candidates for teaching positions in the Detroit Public Schools.

Accreditation-

A final report has been submitted, but the process will not conclude for several months.

Michigan Road Scholars-

Professor Lusmann gave a complimentary account of the Road Scholars program and encouraged its continuation.

NCRC-

Four potential research areas have been proposed by faculty groups. A space utilization and finance model still needs to be developed. Medicine is underwriting the cost of the space now. It may take up to 10 years to finalize the structure of the research center. Additional attention has been given to the possibility of trying to attract a national laboratory to the site, but it is not clear that interest and resources are available. DOE has placed an RFP for a U.S.-China collaborative energy center that may be of interest.

The guest left the meeting at 3:50 P.M.

CONTINUOUS ENROLLMENT

1. SACUA members discussed the prospect of offering the resolution originally intended for the University Senate as a resolution of the Senate Assembly. Professor Barald commented that she was on the Rackham Board when the policy was proposed, and that she opposed it. She said that tuition shortfalls are being balanced on the backs of sponsored research projects. She added that in her opinion the motivation for the policy was primarily financial in nature, and was aimed at insuring a regular tuition revenue stream. Professor Goldman said that continuous enrollment policy will not solve problems that exist with interruptions in student funding.

2. Chair Rothman said that faculty decision-making often has adverse consequences for student enrollment. He outlined several alternate scenarios whereby graduate students would be faced with paying a re-enrollment fee through no fault of their own. He suggested that SACUA

establish a subcommittee to propose alternative policy. Professor Goldman pointed out that the cost of supporting a graduate student doubled in her first two years at the U-M. She argued for reduction or elimination of the re-enrollment fee. Professor Barald said that many other universities have tuition waivers that are used very effectively.

ACTION OF SACUA 051010-1

Professor Poe moved that Senate Assembly consider the topic of continuous enrollment, but that the resolution not be called for a vote (Kearfott seconded). The proposers accepted a friendly amendment to distribute the language of the resolution to the Assembly.

The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

SENATE ASSEMBLY

The draft agenda was amended and approved.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The meeting entered executive session at 4:45 P.M. The meeting returned to open session at 5:00 P.M.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

There was no additional business.

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

John T. Lehman
Secretary pro tempore

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.
