

Minutes of 28 July 2014 SACUA
Circulated 29 July 2014
Approved 4 August 2014

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
Senate Advisory Committee on University Affairs (SACUA)
6048 Fleming Administration Building
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48109-1340
Phone: (734) 764-0303
Fax: (734) 764-6564
www.sacua.umich.edu

Present: Holland, Lehman, Masten (chair), Mondro, Oey, Smith, Ziff, Schneider, Snyder

Absent: Schultz, Weineck

Guests: *Record* reporter

MATERIALS DISTRIBUTED

1. Draft agenda
2. Draft minutes of 7 July 2014 SACUA
3. Committee Report: The SACUA Special Task Force on Scholarship: Transmission and Ownership, dated 16 June 2014

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

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

The minutes of 7 July 2014 were approved.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. The Regents approved the president's selections from SACUA's recommendations for membership on the Advisory Board for Intercollegiate Athletics (ABIA).
2. President Schlissel has requested to meet with SACUA in executive session one time per semester. Professor Holland expressed the view that such meetings are problematic because of lack of transparency to SACUA's constituents. Professor Smith suggested that an initial meeting in executive session could be beneficial to both the president and SACUA. SACUA's first meeting with the president will be on 8 September 2014. Chair Masten offered to discuss SACUA's preferences for limited use of executive sessions at a scheduled private meeting with the president in August.

STATUS REPORTS

Model and Unit Grievance Procedures-

The chair has been working on a set of grievability guidelines, and he invited additional volunteers to join him.

Office of Institutional Equity Procedures-

This topic could be added to the charge to the Civil Liberties Board.

Fitness of Duty and Professional Standards for Faculty SPGs and Tenure-

The chair and vice-chair met with Professor Frier, and this topic will be an agenda item for a future meeting. There were no additional developments regarding Fitness for Duty, but the provost's office indicated openness to revisions to the Professional Standards policy.

Unit deviations from University-wide policies and procedures-

The provost reported to Chair Masten that the problematic new Pharmacy policy regarding faculty responsibilities will be changed. The provost also offered to survey the units about their current policies. Professor Smith suggested that many deviations arise because of lack of communication. Chair Masten suggested this might be a good topic for one of the two meetings with the Academic Programs Group (APG). Professor Oey recommended that SACUA consult with Senate Assembly for information about unit policy.

Total Compensation Propriety and Transparency-

No new developments.

Administrative Services and IT Rationalization, Implementation and Oversight-

The chair met twice with Professor Alfred Franzblau, vice-provost for academic and budgetary affairs, regarding governance structure. Franzblau agrees that transparency is of paramount importance. SACUA will appoint two representatives to the Governing Council. There will also be an Administrative Council for operational issues, and SACUA representatives can be offered ex officio positions on that group.

Senate Rules Amendments-

No new developments.

SCHOLARSHIP TASK FORCE REPORT

Professor Kossoudji joined the meeting at 3:40 P.M. Chair Masten called attention to distributed item 3 and asked Professor Kossoudji to provide a historical context to the report. Professor Kossoudji reported that her committee discovered that the UM was surprisingly behind the times with respect to rapidly changing patterns of scholarship. Efforts are uncoordinated and idiosyncratic, with very little faculty input. She said that SACUA and Senate Assembly should spearhead serious conversations about changes that are underway regarding dissemination of scholarly works, open access, and access to data. Chair Masten asked why discipline-specific practices necessitate a university-wide policy. Professor Kossoudji replied that changes are affecting the UM library in fundamental ways with regard to publishing and archiving information. She pointed out that some schools at the UM do not use open access journals for tenure decisions. There is also a growing interest in counting published data sets as equivalent to published research articles.

Professor Kossoudji said that her committee strongly supports having units declare explicitly what types of scholarship count for tenure decisions. Do blogs qualify, for example? Notions of originality are changing as well. She said that most unit policies are extremely vague. Perspectives about valid forms of scholarship vary with demography such that young faculty

favor less traditional forms. The concept of ownership has become more complex. Chair Masten asked how the issues raised by her committee report might be directed to the Senate Assembly committees. No consensus about future steps other than renewed communication emerged.

The guest left the meeting at 4:15 P.M.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The meeting entered executive session at 4:15 P.M. to hear a status report from the Faculty Hearing Committee and to develop committee membership nominations.

The meeting resumed open session at 5:00 P.M.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

John T. Lehman
Interim Senate Secretary

University of Michigan Bylaws of the Board of Regents, Sec. 5.02:

Governing Bodies in Schools and Colleges

Sec. 4.01 The University Senate

"...[t]he 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. Jurisdiction over academic policies shall reside in the faculties of the various schools and colleges, but insofar as actions by the several faculties affect university policy as a whole, or schools and colleges other than the one in which they originate, they shall be brought before the University Senate."

Rules of the University Senate, the Senate Assembly and the Senate Advisory Committee on University Affairs:

Senate: "In all cases not covered by rules adopted by the Senate, the procedure in Robert's Rules of Order shall be followed."

Assembly: "The Assembly may adopt rules for the transaction of its business. In appropriate cases not covered by rules of the Assembly, the rules of the University Senate shall apply."

SACUA: "The committee may adopt rules for the transaction of its business."

###