

Minutes of 2 December 2013 SACUA
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THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
Senate Advisory Committee on University Affairs (SACUA)
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Present: Holland, Koopmann, Larsen, Masten, Mondro, Olsen, Staller (chair), Ziff; Lehman; Schneider, Snyder

Absent: Oey

Guests: *Record* reporter, *Daily* reporter

MATERIALS DISTRIBUTED

1. Draft agenda.
2. Draft minutes of 25 November 2013 SACUA.
3. Draft resolutions
4. Handout: The Many “Shades” of Shared Services. From <http://sharedservices.lnwprogram.org/sites/default/files/University%20of%20Michigan%20Presenation%20-%20Rowan%20Miranda.pdf>
5. Draft Senate Assembly agenda.
6. University leaders to seek more input on shared services project, dated 2 December 2013, *The University Record*.
7. Email communication from S. Oey to SACUA regarding a proposed LSA resolution.

Chair Staller convened the meeting at 3:15. A proposed revised agenda was approved.

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

The draft minutes of 25 November 2013 were approved.

Announcements-

1. Regent Darlow has postponed her meeting with SACUA.
2. The Senate Assembly will meet on 9 December 2013. Guests will include J. Holloway and J. Hilton.
3. There will be a regularly scheduled private meeting with the provost on 4 December.
4. A Regents Update is due on 6 December.
5. There will be a regularly scheduled private meeting with the president on 11 December.
6. SACUA will meet with the president on 16 December.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

SACUA entered executive session at 3:17 P.M. to discuss a series of proposals from faculty members regarding AST in light of a recent announcement from the administration on the topic (distributed item 6). The meeting resumed open session at 3:30 P.M.

SACUA worked as Committee of the Whole to finalize the language of two resolutions first discussed at its 25 November 2013 meeting.

ACTION OF SACUA 120213-1

AST Process

WHEREAS, we join with the University of Michigan Board of Regents and Central Administration in seeking to deliver excellent education at affordable cost in an era of sharply diminished state appropriations;

WHEREAS, the administration of financial and human resources at the University exists to further the mission of the University by serving its faculty and students;

WHEREAS, the design and development of the Administrative Services Transformation program was performed by external consulting firms and financial office employees without the meaningful participation of and evaluation by the faculty, resulting in inadequate consideration of the consequences and costs of the program;

BE IT RESOLVED that SACUA endorses suspension of the implementation of AST until its impact on the educational and teaching missions of the university can be fully considered and properly evaluated in light of the diverse and often specialized needs of various academic disciplines and units across campus, and that such deliberations include representatives of central faculty governance.

Vote on the Active Motion:

Number approving- all

Number disapproving- none

Abstentions of record- none

Chair Staller declared that the action was approved unanimously.

ACTION OF SACUA 120213-2

Consulting Firms

WHEREAS, The University of Michigan retained outside consulting firms to develop and implement the Administrative Services Transformation (AST) of finance and human resources, the IT Rationalization plan, and the Retirement Benefits review, all of which resulted in deeply flawed planning processes, damaging the confidence of the faculty in the Administration; and

WHEREAS, The University has spent tens of millions of dollars on these consulting firms; and

WHEREAS, The University is a preeminent institution, employing faculty with international expertise, in fields including business, finance, information technologies, organizations, and education; and

WHEREAS, The University's top academic leadership includes some of the most prominent, experienced, and talented Administrators in the nation, most of whom have been faculty members themselves; and therefore be it

RESOLVED, SACUA advises that any continued and future retention of external consulting firms be contingent on supplemental and meaningful consultation, participation, and evaluation by faculty with content expertise in the targeted initiatives.

Vote on the Active Motion:

Number approving- all

Number disapproving- none

Abstentions of record- none

Chair Staller declared that the action was approved unanimously.

SENATE ASSEMBLY AGENDA

SACUA members approved a draft agenda for the 9 December 2013 meeting of the Senate Assembly (distributed item 5).

CESF LIAISON REPORT

Professor Masten reported that CESF was considering the drafting of a resolution about benefits. SACUA members recommended that the committee be apprised of the resolution already adopted by both SACUA (Action of SACUA 111113-1) and the Senate Assembly (Action of Senate Assembly 111813-1) on the same topic.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:04 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

John T. Lehman
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."

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