

Minutes of 14 November 2016 SACUA
Circulated 18 November 2016
Approved 28 November 2016

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
Senate Advisory Committee on University Affairs (SACUA)
Monday, November 14, 2016 3:15 pm
Regents' Room, Fleming Building

Present: Atzmon, Carlos, Ortega, Schultz (chair), Szymanski, Weineck, Wright, Potter; Schnieder and Snyder

Absent: Lehman, Smith

Guests: Members of the press

33:15 Call to Order Approval of Agenda and Minutes

Since the guest, Provost Pollack is not coming (having been appointed President of Cornell today) the agenda was changed, the minutes reflect the revised agenda. Professor Ortega suggested that Professor Lehman provide a status report on the current business of the Academic Affairs Advisory Committee (AAAC).

The following items were removed: 3:20 Preparation for Guest; 3:30 Guest Martha Pollack; 4:00 Reaction to Guest.

The minutes for October 31 and November 7 were approved.

3:24: The revised agenda was passed

3:25 Announcements

Professor Wright will chair the next Senate Assembly meeting.

Professors Weineck, and Wright will join Chair Schultz in meeting with President Schlissel on Thursday morning.

Professor Weineck discussed the letter, with 600 signatures (at that point), urging President Schlissel to take a national leadership role in protecting students covered by Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA). She noted that many faculty feel strongly that protecting DACA students should be a lobbying priority in Washington. Chair Schultz stated that this is preemptive, so pushing it forward is well advised. He will be speaking to leaders of the Latino/a community on campus. Professor Ortega said that students were organizing already to address multiple concerns relevant to citizenship status (e.g., DACA), immigration policies, safety on campus and so on. SACUA members discussed the possibility of having a meeting that would link SACUA, Latinx faculty / staff (e.g., La PLUMA - Professional Latinx University of Michigan Associates), undergrad and grad. student Latinx representatives, and the Provost's office to plan a teach in on immigration and related policies.

Chair Schultz noted that the national search for a new provost has been announced.

Chair Schultz said that he has met with a student representing the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers (SHPE) and suggested that SACUA start a conversation with them. Professor Ortega said that students were organizing already, and they discussed the possibility of having a meeting that would link SACUA, Professional Latina University of Michigan Associates and the Provost's office

for a teach in on immigration policy. He suggested involving the Committee for an Inclusive University. Professor Szymanski suggested extending similar invitations to other groups who feel threatened as a result of the election results. Professor Weineck suggested focusing on specific policy areas; Professor Atzmon brought up the violent undertones of the presidential election, Professor Carlos pointed to the disinterest of the president elect in calming things down. Professor Wright suggested that SACUA should tread lightly in areas that don't directly affect the University. Professor Szymanski said that SACUA address the concerns of groups that exist on campus.

Professor Schultz proposed that for now SACUA concentrate on immigration issues, pointing out that the University relies heavily on foreign students in STEM areas and that visa limitations could have a very negative effect. Professor Potter suggested that SACUA coordinate with Student Affairs in organizing conversations on campus.

Professor Carlos asked about the police response time in light of recent incidents where students have been threatened. Professor Weineck said that some students were initially told by representatives of the Department of Public Safety (DPS) that the threats did not constitute a public safety. Professor Potter discussed the existence of telephone applications that were developed in the context of sexual misconduct to summon campus security to threatening situations.

Chair Schultz invited Professors Weineck and Szymanski to discuss restoration of the banners connected with the Fab Five. They pointed to the cultural implications of the Fab Five, drawing attention to the way African American athletes were treated in the context of collegiate sports, and the ways that the Fab Five did not conduct themselves in a way that conformed with mainstream white culture. They argued that the banners were taken down, because one player from that group received payments in violation of NCAA rules, which was unfair to the others. Professor Szymanski pointed to a plentiful academic literature showing that the value of scholarships in basketball and football is less than the economic value the players return to their institutions, meaning that these individuals are exploited by standard definitions. Professor Weineck noted that all the Regents' candidates agreed to restore the banners. Professor Wright agreed that the players are cultural icons, he has a problem understanding the what is meant by "the restoration of the banners." If, on the one hand, we mean the banner representing the Final Four appearances, those could not be restored because they commemorate victories that no longer exist on the record; those victories were voided as part of the settlement with the NCAA. He said that the University agreed, through that settlement, that we violated the rules. He agreed that the players changed the face of basketball, but that we should stand by the agreement with the NCAA. Chair Schultz said that many groups have a stake in issue, and that the faculty should be respectful of the interests of the other stake holders. Professors Szymanski and Weineck said that they would like to see the issue raised in Senate Assembly and agreed that voices in addition to those of the faculty should be heard on the issue.

4:17 Approval of November 21, 2016 Senate Assembly Agenda

Professor Wright suggested changing the proposed agenda. The new agenda will be:

3:15 Call to Order, Approval of Agenda and Minutes

3:20 Announcements

3:30 Guest President Schlissel

4:30 Tri-Campus Taskforce Update

4:45 Matters Arising

5:00 Adjournment

The motion was approved

4:20 Executive Session

[Tri-Campus Task Force Update]

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4:55 Matters Arising

5:00 Adjournment

Respectfully submitted,

David S. Potter
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."