

Minutes March 2018
Circulated 21 March 2018
Approved 26 March 2018

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
Senate Advisory Committee on University Affairs (SACUA)
Monday, March 12, 2018 3:15 pm
Fleming Administration Building, Regent Room

Present: Atzmon, Beatty, Ortega (chair), Marsh, Schultz, Szymanski, Potter (via Skype),
Schneider, Snyder

Absent: Carlos, Malek, Wright

Guests: Professor Myers; Members of the Press

3:15: Call to Order/Approval of Agenda/Approval of Minutes

Chair Ortega called the meeting to order. The minutes for the March 5, 2018 meeting are still with president Schlissel for review.

3:30 Committee Reports and Assignments

Professor Marsh said there was no formal report from the Academic Affairs Advisory Committee (AAAC), but that the committee was generally dealing with residual business. He said that the Provost was presently concerned with budget issues, and that the issue of salary equity had been discussed.

Chair Ortega discussed his meeting with the Administration Evaluation Committee (AEC) and distributed the committee's report for 2017. Questions that were specifically relevant to campus issues in 2016/17 will be replaced this year. He also noted that there were very few responses (4) to a question about the ADVANCE program. He distributed a draft list of four new questions for 2017/18 and asked SACUA members to submit questions for the survey.

Professor Marsh asked if there was concern that the survey was too long. Chair Ortega said that the survey's length was consistent with previous years and that the response rate was 30%. Professor Marsh asked if the response rate for individual questions depended upon their placement within the survey. Chair Ortega replied that what appeared to be the most important limiting factor was whether or not faculty felt it was not relevant to their situations.

Professor Szymanski asked if the administration influenced the choice of questions. Chair Ortega replied that it was a faculty survey. The survey will go out on March 19 and will close on the last day of classes (April 17).

Professor Beatty said Professor Myers, chair of the Committee for an Inclusive University (CIU) would be meeting with SACUA in Executive Session.

Professor Schultz said that the Communications and External Relations Advisory Committee (CERAC) was well attended and that discussions were lively. The issue of separating the committee into two (one for the Vice President for Government Relations, the other for the Vice President for Communication) was still under consideration.

Professor Szymanski said the last meeting of the General Counsel's Advisory Committee (GCAC) had been in Spring Break and that he would be meeting with the chair, who was new. There were a number of issues on the table.

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Professor Atzmon reported that the Information Technology Committee (ITC) had had several meetings and was concentrating on issues linked with the classroom use of technology as well as issues raised by Central Student Government including Wi-Fi on the Diag and gunshot sensors. There had not been much traction on these issues. Professor Schultz asked if there had been contact between the committee and the committee that had been appointed to search for a new Chief Information Officer. Professor Atzmon said there had been no contact.

Professor Szymanski said that the Research Policies Committee (RPC) had not met often and that it would aim to have a report for the last Senate Assembly meeting of the current academic year but noted that the agenda was quite full. Chair Ortega asked about having committee chairs file written reports. Professor Szymanski agreed that chairs should be encouraged to do this.

Professor Beatty reported that the Secretary Advisory Committee (SCA) had largely been concerned with issues connected with the case of Dr. Nasser at Michigan State University and the University's review of its sexual misconduct policies.

Professor Atzmon reported that the Student Relations Committee (SRAC) had been dominated by the Statement amendment process, that an off-cycle amendment had been passed by the committee in December and the committee was now waiting to hear from President Schlissel about it. The committee is currently discussing the amendment process for the coming year (the regularly scheduled amendment year).

Ms. Snyder introduced SACUA to the spread sheet that will be used to coordinate committee appointments in the coming year. Professor Szymanski noted issues with committee attendance because committees got a late start this year. Chair Ortega said he hoped that the new schedule, with the committee lunch on April 30, would obviate the issue for the coming year. He also asked if SACUA should track committee attendance. Professor Szymanski asked about having alternates for committees when members could not make meetings.

Ms. Snyder said that, with the new schedule, she would be able to take account of teaching schedules when setting meeting times.

4:02 Executive Session

[Professor Christianne Myers, CIU chair]

[Ombuds selection process]

5:30 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 polices 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."

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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.”