

Minutes of 18 March 2019
Circulated 11 April 2019
Approved 15 April 2019

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
UNIVERSITY SENATE MEETING
JOINT SENATE AND SENATE ASSEMBLY MEETING
18 March, 2019

SENATE ASSEMBLY MEETING

18 March 2019
Monday, 3:15
Hussey Room
Michigan League

Present: Atzmon (by virtue), Beatty, Byon, Campbell, Castilho, W. Chen, Y. Chen, Costa, Dal Cin, Drach, Eaton, Fabilli, Fenno, Finlayson, Ghaferi, Indjekian, Jones, Kattari, Kannatey-Asibu, Knoblauch, Larson, Likosky, Malek (by Virtue), Mao, Manera, Marsh (by Virtue), McInnis, Meek, Noll, Papaleontiou, Passey, Sandhu, Schultz (by virtue), Shah, Spencer (by virtue), Tonomura, Toyama, Traynor, Zhu

Alternate Requested: Ali, DeYoung, Djuric, Gallo, Hartley, Meyer, Myers, Trumpey

Alternate Present: Gutterman (Medicine), Croft (SMTD), Rauscher (LSA), Sharon (LSA)

Absent: Alam, Andrias, Blackburn, Burzo, Carlos (by virtue), Caulfield, Chatterjee, Conway (by virtue), Greve, Herbert, Kaartinen, Kahle, Laurence, Lippert, Mendlow, Menon, Nelson, Partridge, Philipich, Rao, Shtein, Snyder, Soloway, Suwanabol, Turnley, Wright

3:22: Call to Order, Approval of Agenda and Minutes

The agenda was approved. The minutes for February 18, 2019 were approved.

3:22: Announcements

Chair Marsh invited nominations for:

The Faculty Governance Award (<https://facultysenate.umich.edu/about/awards/distinguished-faculty-governance-award/>);

The Regents Award for Distinguished Public Service
(<https://facultysenate.umich.edu/about/awards/regents-award-for-distinguished-public-service/>);

The Jackie Lawson Memorial Faculty Governance Award
(<https://facultysenate.umich.edu/about/awards/jackie-lawson-memorial-faculty-governance-award/>);

The University Librarian Achievement Award
(<https://facultysenate.umich.edu/about/awards/university-librarian-achievement-award/>);

The University Librarian Recognition Award
(<https://facultysenate.umich.edu/about/awards/university-librarian-recognition-award/>); The
Honorary Degree Committee.

3:26: Provost Philbert

Chair Marsh introduced Provost Philbert.

Provost Philbert presented an overview of the budget process, identifying Amy Dittmar, Vice Provost for Academic and Budgetary Affairs as the leader of the budget team. His office provides funding for academic units, research units, public good units and central units such as the office of General Counsel and Student Affairs. His Office does not allocate money to the medical system or auxiliary units (e.g. intercollegiate athletics).

The first phase of the budgeting process consists of in-depth conversations with the deans and directors about programs that will add to the unit's excellence. He also identified "environmental threats" to the University as including public questioning of the value of a liberal arts education; of the value of pure research; the charge that the University environment silences conservative voices; the claim that a university degree is unnecessary for getting a good job; and that spending is wasteful and extravagant, with excessive expenditure on non-educational items such as dormitories, recreational facilities, and mental health services. Provost Philbert recognizes that incomes have been stagnant and that people do not feel they are better off than their parents at the same age, a sentiment that is translated into "college does not work."

Provost Philbert feels that the conclusion that "college does not work" is false as a college degree improves average earning trajectory, while enhancing quality of life, individual and community involvement, opportunity, mobility, citizenship, civic engagement, health and longevity. University research advances knowledge and enhances culture, while the institutions serve as conservatories of history and culture. Money spent on facilities responds to student interest in participating in extra-curricular activities, and the common interest of faculty and students in pursuing healthy lifestyles in high quality exercise environments.

Provost Philbert said university budgets began to change at the end of the Second World War when the federal government enhanced funding for both research and student support. These remain important sources of revenue and are supplemented by private money derived from tuition, fees, gifts and endowment distribution. While there has been in an equilibrium of growth for the last few years, the University now faces some specific challenges, including a decline in state support from 64% to 15% of the General Fund, with the result that the University has to provide the bulk of support for students.

Provost Philbert said that his goals in developing the budget are to increase academic excellence with strategic investments that build on the strength of outstanding academic programs and solidify the University's position as the nation's top public university. He singled out the Bioscience Initiative, the potential of augmented-, virtual, and mixed-reality technologies (much of which has uses in the entertainment industry); the search for poverty solutions; and pedagogies based on "learning by doing." In terms of the University's role as a conservator of culture he drew attention to the Power Family Program for Inuit art at the University of Michigan Museum of Art (<https://www.umma.umich.edu/exhibitions/2019/the-power-family-program-for-inuit-art-tillirnanngittuq>). He noted that employers of recent graduates report satisfaction with their skills.

In terms of the University's effort to enhance access and affordability, Provost Philbert drew attention to the Wolverine Pathways Program (<https://wolverinepathways.umich.edu>) which had supported a graduating class of 88 students in 2018 (45 of whom enrolled at the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor and 15 of whom enrolled at the University of Michigan-Dearborn), and the transition of the Hail Scholarships (<https://record.umich.edu/articles/hail-promise-effectively-recruits-low-income-students-u-m>) to the Go Blue Guarantee (<https://finaid.umich.edu/go-blue-guarantee-eligibility/>), which currently supports nearly 1700 students. He pointed out that undergraduate aid had increased more rapidly than tuition over the past decade as a result of fiscal restraint, reallocation of resources and philanthropy. He noted that the University's freshman retention rate is 97%; its six-year graduation rate is 92%, and it receives \$1.4 billion in federal grants.

Provost Philbert identified the major challenges as being political limitations to the high tuition/high aid model of funding, on altering the mix of in-state and out-of-state students despite the foreseeable decline of the number of students graduating from Michigan high schools below 100,000; uncertain growth in the state's higher education budget; and the increasing difficulty in identifying administrative efficiencies.

Librarian Spencer asked if the Provost was worried by President Trump's threat to cut federal funding to Universities that failed to allow conservative voices to be heard on campuses. Provost Philbert

said that this was not a concern given that Ben Shapiro and other very conservative speakers had been to campus. A Senate Assembly member asked Provost Philbert if he would rather have more out-of-state undergraduates. Provost Philbert replied that the University needs a balance of in-state and out-of-state students congruent with its mission as a public institution.

4:00 SACUA Nominee remarks

Chair Marsh asked if there were people who wished to stand for election to SACUA who had not already indicated a desire to do so. There were none. The announced candidates were: Professor Ahbel-Rappe (LSA); Professor Dinov (School of Nursing); Professor Eaton (Medical School); Professor Gallo (LSA); Professor Ghaferi (Medical School); Professor Kileny (Medical School); Professor Likosky (Medical School); Professor Manera (College of Engineering); Professor Richstone (LSA); Professor Reddy (Medical School).

The candidates were invited to make statements. Professors Ahbel-Rappe, Dinov, Eaton, Ghaferi, Kileny, Likosky, Manera and Reddy delivered statements. Chair Marsh read statements from Professors Gallo and Richstone who were not able to attend the meeting. He reminded the Assembly that only one seat was available for the Medical School and that two were available for the College of Literature, Science and the Arts (LSA).

4:30 SACUA Election

Professors Atzmon, Potter and Schultz served as tellers. Professors Ahbel-Rappe, Gallo and Manera were elected.

4:45 Group Photo

The group photo was not successful and will be repeated at the April meeting.

5:00 Adjournment

Respectfully submitted

David Potter
Senate Secretary

University of Michigan Bylaws of the Board of Regents, Sec. 4.01:

The University Senate

The 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.

University of Michigan Bylaws of the Board of Regents, Sec. 4.04:

The Senate Assembly

The Senate Assembly shall serve as the legislative arm of the senate.

The assembly shall have power to consider and advise regarding all matters within the jurisdiction of the University Senate which affect the functioning of the university as an institution of higher learning, which concern its obligations to the state and to the community at large, and which relate to its internal organization insofar as such matters of internal organization involve general questions of educational policy.

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

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