

## AAAC Meeting Minutes for September 25, 2018

Present: Gaurav Desai, Michael Hess, Enrico Landi, Kimberly Kearfott, Kristin Klein, Chris Lu, Seth Quidachay-Swan, Cathy Sanok, Scott Piper, Kentaro Toyama (chair and notetaker), Katie van Zanen.

Absent: Ketra Armstrong, Michael Atzmon, Maribel Okiye (Rackham student representative), Merissa Maccani (undergraduate student representative), Lissa Patterson, Hsiao Hsin Sung Hsieh.

This was the AAAC's first meeting for the academic year. (The meeting was arranged to occur before the first meeting with the Provost.) After a round of self-introductions, the following was discussed:

**Overview of the AAAC:** The Academic Affairs Advisory Committee is advisory to the Provost of the University of Michigan. The committee members are chosen by the Senate Advisory Committee on University Affairs (SACUA), and our annual charge is also determined by them (with our input). We are *advisory* in that we have no formal power, but we can ask questions, request meetings with university leaders, make requests, and so on.

**Provost Martin Philbert's prioritizes**, as he relayed them to us last year:

- Enhancing our already **collaborative culture** on campus;
- Addressing “**threats**” to the existing **university model**;
- Improving **culture and climate on campus** in deeper ways even beyond existing DEI initiatives;
- **Incorporating more technology into research and teaching** to support the university's mission.
- For more about these priorities, see the AAAC minutes from last year:  
[https://facultysenate.umich.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/22/2018/01/MIN\\_AAAC\\_20171212\\_approved.pdf](https://facultysenate.umich.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/22/2018/01/MIN_AAAC_20171212_approved.pdf)

**Carried-over agenda items from last year's AAAC:**

- Request to commission another salary survey, with attention to gender and racial disparities.
- Understanding / clarifying Office of Institutional Equity (OIE) policies regarding...
  - Federal Title IX policies and how they might affect U-M;
  - Confidentiality guarantees for accuser/accused;
  - Due process for concerned parties.
- Campus policy regarding weapons.
- Centralized accommodations for student athletes, performers, etc.

**Potential new agenda items.** We will continue engaging with the above issues, and here are additional possible issues for this year:

- Broader understanding of university systems for addressing sexual misconduct and other breaches of professionalism:
  - OIE
  - Ombudspersons – e.g., are they provided adequate training? Do they interact with each other?
  - Mandated sexual harassment trainings for faculty and students – Are they in synch? Are students aware of what faculty are told?

- (Work with Gaurav's committee on this.)
- What is the university doing with rise in number of transfer students? Challenges? Opportunities?
- What are the university's perspectives on tuition support for children of faculty?
- What *are* the key threats to the university? How are they being addressed?
- Acknowledge value of Academic Innovation and platforms to support online teaching.
- Support for transport to Detroit.
- Support for research / teaching that impacts state and local communities.
- University policies with respect to clinical-track to tenure-track transitions.
- [Added after meeting] The Presidential Post-Doctoral Fellowship Program (PPFP) potentially allows researchers to enter tenure-track positions without review by the governing faculty. Can this be changed at the university level?

**Requests for action:**

- Before the next meeting, Prof. Toyama will send out a spreadsheet in which members can vote on the issues most important to them.
- Prof. Toyama will be absent for the first meeting with the Provost on Oct. 12 (Fri). The AAAC will meet from 8-10am; the Provost and Special Counsel Christine Gerdes will attend from 8:30-9:30am. A volunteer chair for that meeting is sought.