

**UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
REGENTS COMMUNICATION
Item for Information**

SUBJECT: March 2020 Faculty Governance Update

Overview of items discussed:

1. SACUA
2. Senate Assembly
3. Senate Assembly Committees

1. SACUA

SACUA met on February 10, February 24, and March 9. The Tri-Campus Faculty Governance Leadership Meeting scheduled at Dearborn on March 20, and the year-end recognition dinner scheduled for March 31 were cancelled. SACUA intends to meet electronically at our regularly scheduled meeting times for the remainder this year, through May 18.

During the **February 10** meeting, SACUA approved a Committee Realignment Resolution that was presented at Senate Assembly and approved on February 17. The Resolution merged and consolidated the Committee on Civil Rights and Liberties (CCRL), Committee for an Inclusive University (CIU), and Tri-Campus Committee (TCC) into one committee, to be named the Committee for Fairness, Equality, and Inclusivity (CFEI). The Financial Affairs Advisory Committee (FAAC) and Building, Facilities, and Infrastructure (BFIC) were merged into one committee, FAAC, addressing issues related to both financial affairs and building, facilities, and infrastructure.

During the **February 24** meeting, names were solicited to recommend to serve on the Honorary Degree Committee. The Director of the Faculty Senate Office gave a summary about administrative updates that will help with the functioning of the office, including maintaining institutional memory. A redesign of the Faculty Senate Office website is underway. SACUA Senate Assembly Committee liaisons gave updates concerning the committees they serve as a liaison. During executive session, SACUA discussed standard operating procedures for OIE imposed sanctions.

On **March 9** Tami Strickman, Associate Vice President for Institutional Equity, was a guest as well as a faculty member from the Medical School who expressed concerns about restrictions imposed on faculty freedoms through an institutional anonymized reporting mechanism.

On **March 16**, SACUA met in executive session to share and review items that have arisen as the campus shifts to online instruction and the community moves to limited operations due to COVID-19.

2. SENATE ASSEMBLY

Senate Assembly met on February 17. The March 16 meeting was canceled, and the election was held electronically.

On **February 17**, Senate Assembly approved an action to permit electronic voting in the March 16, 2020 SACUA election. Senate Assembly also approved a Senate Assembly Committee Realignment Resolution described above for the February 10 SACUA meeting. Gina Cervetti, Chair of the Student Relations Advisory Committee and Mary Jo Callan, Director of the Ginsberg Center, discussed civic engagement and involving students in debate-related activities for fall 2020. Catherine Carver, Operations Co-Lead of the 2020 Presidential Debate Initiative, also attended to discuss plans that are underway related to the scheduled presidential debate.

The **March 16** Senate Assembly meeting was canceled due to COVID-19. The first electronic election was held to fill three SACUA seats of outgoing members Joy Beatty, Sami Malek, and Neil Marsh, whose terms are ending on April 30. The electronic voting system worked as planned, with 52 senate assembly members participating. The incoming SACUA members are: J. Caitlin Finlayson (Dearborn), Allen P. Liu (College of Engineering), and Kentaro Toyama (School of Information).

3. SENATE ASSEMBLY COMMITTEES

Senate Assembly committees have continued to meet regularly with Executive Officers. On March 12, SACUA Chair Beatty sent an email to Senate Assembly committee chairs encouraging them to consider holding virtual meetings when needed, to continue addressing time-sensitive or pending work that should not wait until next semester.

Meeting agendas are available on the Faculty Senate website. The following committees recently met:

Academic Affairs Advisory Committee	February 11
Committee on the Economic Status of the Faculty	February 18
General Counsel's Advisory Committee	February 12
Information Technology Committee	March 5
Medical Affairs Advisory Committee	February 19
Secretary of the University Advisory Committee	February 10
Student Relations Advisory Committee	February 14, March 13
Tenure, Promotions, and Professional Development Committee	February 13

Submitted: March 2020



Joy Beatty, SACUA Chair