

**THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN**  
**Student Relations Advisory Committee (SRAC)**  
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March 9, 2018  
11:30 am - 1:00 pm  
Pond ABC, Michigan Union

**Present:** Gina Cervetti, Chair  
Michael Atzmon, Anton Avancena, Royster Harper, Donna Hayward, Marita Inglehart, Madison McKenzie, Lisa Nevett, Sujay Shetty, Simone Himbeault Taylor, Olga Virakhovskaya

**Absent:** Amy Chavasse, Charles Koopman, Lisa Low, Kyriaki Marti, Jairam Menon, Max Rothman, Chitra Subramanian

**Guests:** Erik Wessel, Diane Meyer

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## Agenda

1. Lunch/Call to Order
2. Welcoming, opening statement and review/vote of January minutes
3. ADDITION: Statement of Student Rights & Responsibilities Update
4. Strengthening the First Year Experience
5. Adjournment

## Welcome, Opening Statement, and Review/Vote of January Minutes

Chair Gina Cervetti opened the meeting by welcoming attendees and addressing two actions: (1) Agenda Addition: She requested approval to add an item to the agenda as Director Erik Wessel, OSCR, was asked to attend the meeting in order to provide an update on the Statement of Student Rights and Responsibilities process. Approval granted.; and (2) Approval of January Minutes: Chair Cervetti noted that La Casa was provided the opportunity to review them and were onboard with them as written. Professor Lisa Nevett made a motion to accept and Professor Marita Inglehart seconded the motion. The minutes were approved as written.

## Statement of Student Rights & Responsibilities – Update

Chair Cervetti and Director Wessel have recently made presentations to the Academic Program Group, Central Student Government, Rackham Student Government, Residence Hall Association, and University Council. Chair Cervetti thanked Director Wessel and Senior Associate Vice President Simone Himbeault Taylor for their efforts in ensuring they were able to tour the campus with the SSRR updates Chair Cervetti offered to email the SRAC with a list of student groups for potential presentation (see attached). ACTION: If any committee member has a group that they feel should be added to the list, they are to let Chair Cervetti know.

Director Wessel provided a brief update on the status of the off-cycle amendment proposal:

- On schedule and is currently sitting with President Schlissel for review
- Anticipate receiving this back and being able to communicate the amendment before the end of winter term

Director Wessel projected and walked through the updated OSCR website with the SSRR information featured prominently. The goal is to make this site, and the process, as simple as possible to navigate, engage and collaborate.

Next Steps:

There are two scheduled amendment workshops that are co-sponsored with Central Student Government. CSG is graciously providing space and funds. The first workshop will take place on North Campus on March 24<sup>th</sup>, which is a Saturday. This day was chosen in order to provide as much unencumbered time and space for students to engage. The second workshop will be held in CSG Chambers in the Union at 8:30 on March 28<sup>th</sup>.

In addition, a social media campaign will allow engagement with a large cross section of the student population. Also, a story will be drafted and provided to Public Affairs, which works with The Daily, in order to better inform the campus community.

Professor Cervetti thanked Director Wessel for attending the meeting on short notice and asked the SRAC to spread the word about the updated amendment process and point students to the website.

Vice President Royster Harper thanked SAVP Taylor, Chair Cervetti and Director Wessel for their work with the SSRR, stating that this allows students to have a voice around issues that impact them. Providing everyone the opportunity to create/submit a proposal is both creative and powerful.

## Strengthening the First Year Experience

VP Harper introduced guest Diane Meyer. Ms. Meyer is a University alum whose professional career has been spent working with community colleges. She has created an endowment focused on transfer students to UofM from community colleges. VP Harper thanked her for her continuing commitment to the University.

VP Harper introduced Strengthening the First Year Experience by stating that we, as a collective, want undergrads to maximize a powerful learning experience at UofM. In order to do so, we need to ensure that students launch their UofM experience with support to: (1) gain the skills necessary to establish a pattern of academic success; (2) develop sustainable and healthy relationships; and (3) engage and connect with a more diverse living and learning community.

A common mantra heard from students is that they don't know what resources are available to them. It is crucial to strengthen what we provide and find ways to organize our offerings in order to help students thrive. However, we must find a way to strike a balance – we want to provide enough assistance to help students thrive but not so much where they feel smothered. As part of a Five-Year Strategic Plan that rolls up to the Student Life DEI plan, we are strengthening the first year experience. Key focus areas will include:

- Providing more opportunities for first-year students to integrate their classroom learning experiences with their residential life by expanding access to Michigan Living and Learning Communities
- Helping more first-year students navigate and make meaning of their Michigan experience by increasing student access to Making the Most of Michigan, a goal-setting course in the residence halls
- Offering more first-year students the opportunity to tailor their residential experience to their needs, interests and diverse backgrounds by developing more Theme Communities in the residence halls (current themes include First-Gen, Innovation, and Multicultural)
- Helping more first-year students explore their skills, interests, and values related to future endeavors by prioritizing University Career Center's programs devoted to helping students begin their professional journey
- Developing increased student intercultural competence by introducing the Intercultural Development Inventory pilot in more schools and colleges
- Providing more students with the opportunity to serve and learn about their surrounding community and meet new people by offering new community immersion programs during the first semester
- Take the activities we currently offer and make them more cohesive and coordinated
- Be more thoughtful and intentional in helping students prepare for a robust Michigan learning experience

SRAC members engaged in Q&A and suggestions about how Student Life can continue to strengthen the first year experience. A discussion about the various activities competing for students' interests during their 1<sup>st</sup> semester ensued. VP Harper invited members of the Committee that have concerns and suggestions to meet with her in person to further discuss these. SAVP Taylor urged the attendees to think about what we are providing vs. how we are providing it and what conflicts this may cause. She also asked the group to consider what it takes to inspire physical and psychological engagement.

### **Adjournment**

Chair Cervetti adjourned the meeting at 1:00 pm and thanked the Committee for a robust discussion surrounding SSRR and FYE.

Dear SRAC Colleagues:

I am writing to touch base about our efforts to inform the community about the Statement amendment process.

As I mentioned in last week's SRAC meeting, we are beginning to transition from direct outreach efforts (e.g., presentations for individual groups) to other approaches for involving the community, including open workshops and social media outreach. Nevertheless, I want to consider whether there are other groups that we should visit. As such, I have included a list of student groups (provided by Anushka Sarkar) below. Please look through the list and let me know if there are groups that stand out as particularly strategic candidates for direct outreach (i.e., because a visit might have broad impact or might help us reach especially interested members of our community).

Thank you!

Gina

Gina N. Cervetti  
Literacy, Language, and Culture  
School of Education  
University of Michigan

**Groups We Have Visited**

Academic Program Group (deans and provost)  
Central Student Government Assembly  
Faculty Senate Assembly  
Rackham Student Government  
Residence Hall Association  
University Council

**Possible Student Organizations for Direct Outreach**

ACLU Law School Chapter  
Active Minds  
African Student Association  
Arab Student Association  
Armenian Student Association  
Asian American Association  
Bangladeshi Students Association  
BBA Council  
Black Business Student Association

Black Medical Association  
Black Student Union  
Black Undergraduate Medical Association  
Bond Consulting  
Brazilian Student Association  
Chabad House  
Chinese Student Association  
College Democrats  
College Republicans  
Dance Marathon (DMUM)  
Delta Sigma Pi, Business School  
Dental School Council  
Encore  
Filipino American Student Assoc.  
Funktion  
Gender Violence Project (UM Law)  
HeForShe  
Hillel  
Hindu Students Council  
Hispanic Business Student Association  
Indian American Student Assoc.  
Indian Student Association  
Inter-cooperative Council  
Inter-fraternity Council  
Iraqi Student Association  
Japan Student Association  
Jewish Business Student Assoc.  
Jewish Graduate Student Network  
Korean Students Association  
LA CASA  
LatinX Social Work Coalition  
Lean In UM  
LEO  
LGBT+ Michigan  
LSA Student Government  
MAASU  
Maize Mirchi  
Malaysian Students Association  
MGC  
Michigan Emissary Group (MEG) Consulting  
Michigan Interactive Investments Club  
Michigan Pakistanis  
MPowered Entrepreneurship  
MRAP

MuJew  
MUSIC Matters  
Muslim Students Association  
NAACP  
NASA  
National Council of Negro Women  
National Society of Black Engineers, Omega Psi Phi  
NCNW  
Nexecon Consulting Group  
NOiR  
NPHC  
NSBE  
optiMize  
optiMize, Alpha Chi Omega  
Organizing on campus  
oSTEM  
Panhel  
Pretty Brown Girls  
Progressives UM  
Rackham Student Government  
Residence Hall Association  
Revolution  
RHA  
ROTC  
SAAC - Athletics  
SAAN  
SAFE  
SCOR  
SHIFT House  
SHPE  
Social Justice Art Festival  
Society of Women Engineers  
Solar Car  
SSW People of Color Collective  
TEDx UM  
The Michigan Daily  
Uncover A/PIA  
VSA  
WeListen  
Wolverine Support Network  
WolvPAC  
Yoni Ki Baat