

Senate Assembly Committee Updates for October 21, 2019

Senate Assembly Committees (Advisory to Executive Officers)

Academic Affairs Advisory Committee (AAAC), Chair: Kentaro Toyama

The Academic Affairs Advisory Committee (AAAC) is advisory to the Provost of the Ann Arbor campus. The committee had its first meeting of the academic year with Provost Martin Philbert on Oct. 2, 2019, during which time three issues were discussed: First, Regents' Bylaws 5.09 and 5.10, which specifies the process by which tenure can be removed from tenured faculty, is likely to be amended, and the faculty committee proposing the amendments has just been [announced](#). What prompted the Regents to review these bylaws is that even in the case of clear, egregious transgressions, tenured faculty receive full compensation and benefits throughout the proceedings and then for another year after termination; the administration fears that the state legislature will intervene to end this use of public funds unless the bylaws are amended in a way that seems more just. Second, the Office of Institutional Equity is undergoing a search for a director; there are also changes in response to external review of OIE policies/procedures which will be discussed with AAAC in coming months. Third, U-M is preparing for renewal of accreditation with the Higher Learning Commission, and the committee heard an update on the process. The AAAC additionally reviewed its charge from SACUA and discussed priorities for the year.

General Counsel's Advisory Committee (GCAC), Chair: Margaret Hannon

The General Counsel's Advisory Committee (GCAC) is advisory to the Vice President and General Counsel. This Committee met, but does not keep formal minutes due to the confidential nature of meetings. The agenda for the meeting is available on the Faculty Senate Office [website](#).

Research Policies Committee (RPC), Chair: Francine Dolins

The Research Policy Committee (RPC) is advisory to the Vice President for Research. The Committee met on September 27, 2019. Craig Reynolds, Executive Director of the Office of Research and Sponsored Projects, and Debbie Talley, Director of Sponsored Programs, were guests at the meeting. Mr. Reynolds delivered a presentation on Enterprise Risk Management. The risk management office will provide tools and consulting for local decision-making and will focus on high risk areas. Mr. Reynolds also discussed federal concerns in international research. He acknowledged the importance and success of programs that have foreign collaborations, and emphasized the need to properly report and manage these collaborations. Ms. Talley described a faculty research administration website (FaDoRA) that is being developed which will be a resource for faculty in the field of research administration. She solicited faculty volunteers to test this resource.

Secretary of the University Advisory Committee (SAC), Chair: Megan Schimpf

The Secretary of the University Advisory Committee (SAC) is advisory to the Vice President and Secretary of the University. The Committee met on October 3, 2019. The Committee discussed the upcoming retirement of E. Royster Harper, long-time Vice President for Student Life. A search committee is being formed to find a permanent replacement. Also discussed is a planned search for a permanent Vice President for Research. Dr. Rebecca Cunningham is currently serving in an interim capacity. The Committee discussed the issue of named

building/schools in the setting of legacy honorific namings and gift agreements. Other items discussed included the declining high school-age student population; housing on campus as buildings continue to age; the logistic and financial hurdles of achieving carbon neutrality goals; and national concerns about international students and research, who make valuable contributions domestically.

Student Relations Advisory Committee (SRAC), Chair: Gina Cervetti

The Student Relations Advisory Committee (SRAC) is advisory to the Vice President for Student Life. The first SRAC meeting was held at the Trotter Multicultural Center on September 27, 2019. The Center Director, Julio Cardona, and the Intercultural Learning and Innovation Lead, Nathan Hawke, led SRAC members in a tour of the Center. Following the tour, we convened the meeting. After brief comments from Vice President Harper, SRAC Chair Gina Cervetti welcomed the group and provided an overview of the committee and the year. Cervetti discussed the goals of the committee, explained how the agenda for SRAC is built, and introduced some of the issues the committee can expect to address this year. She also introduced the focus of the October and November meetings: how Student Life can raise awareness of the upcoming national elections, fuel participation by students, and use the election as an opportunity to develop our students' and broader community's ability to engage in civil conversations across different perspectives. Cervetti then invited conversation about potential topics for SRAC. The discussion was far-reaching, but two common themes were considering ways to address the needs of masters students on our campus and shining light on student groups who are sometimes invisible in conversations about DEI, including rural, nontraditional, undocumented, and commuter students and veterans. Following this discussion, Michigan Dining Director Steve Mangan shared recent data on food insecurity at U-M and led a tour of the new food pantry, [Maize and Blue Cupboard](#).

Additional Scheduled or Pending Committee Meetings:

Communications Advisory Committee (CAC), Chair: Dorene Marke

The Communications Advisory Committee (CAC) is advisory to the Vice President for Communications. A meeting is scheduled for October 30, 2019.

Development Advisory Committee (DAC), Chair: John Pasquale

The Development Advisory Committee (DAC) is advisory to the Vice President for Development. A meeting is scheduled for October 25, 2019.

Financial Affairs Advisory Committee (FAAC), Chair: Brian Love

The Financial Affairs Advisory Committee (FAAC) is advisory to the Vice President for Development. A meeting is scheduled for October 24, 2019.

Government Relations Advisory Committee (GRAC), Chair: Ellen Bauerle

The Government Relations Advisory Committee (GRAC) is advisory to the Vice President for Government Relations. Meeting scheduling is in process.

Information Technology Committee (ITC), Chair: Melvin McInnis

The Information Technology Committee (ITC) is advisory to the Vice President for Information Technology and Chief Information Officer. Meeting scheduling is in process.

Medical Affairs Advisory Committee (MAAC), Chair: Rishindra M. Reddy

The Medical Affairs Advisory Committee (MAAC) is advisory to the Executive Vice President for Medical Affairs. A meeting took place on October 16, 2019.

Senate Assembly Committees (Other)

Committee on Civil Rights and Liberties (CCRL), Chair: Barry Belmont

The Committee on Civil Rights and Liberties (CCRL) met on September 19, 2019 to review current issues in civil rights and liberties affecting the University. These included: briefly comparing two newly introduced pieces of legislation from the Michigan House of Representatives (H.B. 4435, the “Campus free speech act” and H.B. 4436 “College campus intellectual and expressive freedom act”) to the University’s current policy governing freedom of expression (SPG 601.01); formulating a position on the University’s interim student sexual misconduct policy following the open letter on the matter published by the American Civil Liberties Union; determining that the Committee would draft a resolution to present to the Faculty Senate Assembly to vote on revising the policy; and determining that we would draft a similar resolution for a similar purpose on the recently enacted University policy (SPG 601.38) regarding the required disclosure of felony charges and convictions by the end of the academic year.

Committee on the Economic Security of Faculty (CESF), Chair: Martha McComas

The Committee on Economic Status of the Faculty (CESF) met on October 9, 2019. The Committee reviewed its charge to use longitudinal data from faculty salary records and other relevant sources to examine how salary raises and reductions are distributed across different faculty demographics. The Committee also worked toward refining their charge with the end goal of producing a deliverable. The Committee discussed previous efforts undertaken by the Academic Affairs Advisory Committee (AAAC) to have a new faculty salary study commissioned. The administration, for undisclosed reasons, has delayed undertaking a new faculty salary study. Given that the last study was completed seven years ago and is overdue, CESF will continue pursuing the commissioning of a new faculty salary study. The Committee reviewed several questions or requests concerning faculty salary issues that were received from Faculty Senate members. An assertion that written salary practices at LS&A do not align with the actual way the College awards salary increases was referred back to the local level for handling, but was also duly noted and forwarded to the Chair of SACUA. A request to include the Medical School and all faculty tracks in a future salary equity review was also received.

Committee for an Inclusive University (CIU), Co-Chairs: Maria do Carmo Pereira da Costa and Hitomi Tonomura

The Committee for an Inclusive University (CIU) met on September 24, 2019. The Committee discussed its specific charge and noted that revisions could be made as needed. Professor Tonomura briefly described what CIU has done over the past two years. Committee members shared their experiences and insights gained from other DEI-related work and emphasized the importance of working across faculty, staff, and students. They agreed to bring their ideas for potential revisions to CIU's specific charge to the next meeting for discussion. Dr. Mary Rose, Program Manager in the Office of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion, was a guest at the meeting. She described the format for Community Conversations, and distributed handouts that included notes of ideas expressed by attendees of the first Community Conversation. Dr. Rose described

a second Community Conversation that was scheduled to take place on October 16. She indicated that notes from Community Conversations will be available on the [Community Engagement](#) section of the Diversity, Equity & Inclusion website.

Tri-Campus Committee (TCC), Chair: Caitlin Finlayson

The Tri-Campus Committee (TCC) met on September 23, 2019. The Committee discussed the parameters of committee membership and the potential to add new members. The Committee reviewed last year's activities in anticipation of preparing an annual report. Next steps for the Tri-Campus Faculty Fellowship in Academic Excellence for the 2019-2020 academic year were discussed. Professor Schultz proposed, with unanimous agreement, that the Fellowship be named in Sarah Lippert's memory to honor her and her past work on the Committee. This year's priorities will be discussed at the next meeting when new members have had the opportunity to join.

Additional Scheduled or Pending Other Committee Meetings:

Administration Evaluation Committee (AEC), Chair: Keith Riles

Meeting Pending spring 2020

Building, Facilities and Infrastructure Committee (BFIC), Chair: Doug Richstone

Meeting scheduled: October 28, 2019

Davis, Markert, and Nickerson Lecture Committee (DMNC), Co-Chairs: Michael Atzmon and Gary Krenz

Meeting scheduled: October 23, 2019