

Draft Minutes 11 January 2021
Circulated 29 January 2021
Approved 1 February 2021

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
Senate Advisory Committee on University Affairs (SACUA)
Monday, 11 January 2021 3:15 pm
The meeting was held via Zoom because of the COVID-19 Shutdown

Present: Ahbel-Rappe Conway (chair), Dinov, Gallo, Liu, Manera, Marsh, Potter, Spencer, Toyama, Banasik

Absent: Finlayson

Guests: Professor Aristarkhova; Professor Colabianchi; Professor Kosnoski; Kate Weiland; Ann Zaniwski

3:17: Call to Order/Approval of the Minutes/Approval of the Agenda

Chair Conway called the meeting to order. She said there will not be a SACUA meeting on 18 January, which is Martin Luther King Day.

Chair Conway said Professor Finlayson will join her for the upcoming meeting with President Schlissel. Professor Manera will join her for the upcoming meeting with Provost Collins. She invited SACUA members to suggest issues for discussion at those meetings. She said that SACUA will work on its' statement in response to political violence in Executive Session and send it to *The Record and The Michigan Daily*.

The minutes for December 7, 2020 were approved.

3:20 Faculty Senate Office Updates

Dr. Banasik said that she had held the budget meeting with the Provost's office, and that the budget will be unchanged for 2021/2022.

Dr. Banasik said an offer has been accepted for the Faculty Senate Office Coordinator position. The new person will start on January 18. Chair Conway said there had been a robust pool for the position and that four people had been interviewed.

Dr. Banasik said that planning for the Davis, Markert, Nickerson Lecture is ongoing and that the Electronic Meeting Task Force will hold its final meeting on January 15 so that a proposal will be ready for the February Senate Assembly meeting.

3:25: SACUA updates

Chair Conway asked SACUA to look at the open mic schedule and sign up for a place. She has added the chairs of Senate Assembly committees and past chairs had been invited to take open mic slots, and hoped that SACUA members would take at least one slot per term.

Chair Conway said she would be attending an eight-hour meeting of the Academic Performance Committee as part of her service on the Advisory Board for Intercollegiate Athletics (ABIA).

She and Dr. Banasik will be meeting with the Office for Institutional Equity (OIE) to explore ways in which faculty governance can be more involved in OIE processes.

3:30: Senate Assembly Agenda and SACUA Nomination Committee Ballot Approval

Chair Conway introduced the proposed agenda and the meeting invitation in which Senate Assembly members are asked to collect responses from their units to questions for the consultants from Guidepost Solutions (questions have been approved by Guidepost Solutions). The ideal conversation is outlined as follows:

1. Please introduce yourself in the breakout room and share your thoughts regarding the climate in your unit?
2. How is morale in your unit?
3. How do faculty and administration work together in your unit?
4. What do your colleagues in your unit want Guidepost Solution to know?

There will be fourteen Guidepost Solutions team members joining the Senate Assembly meeting in breakout rooms and guiding the conversations. The Senate Assembly meeting will end when the breakout rooms end.

Professor Manera asked if faculty comments will be confidential? Chair Conway said faculty comments will be confidential. Professor Gallo asked if people who had a sensitive issue to raise could schedule a private meeting with the consultants? Chair Conway said she will consult with Guidepost Solutions on this point. Librarian Spencer drew attention to the fact that no formal notes will be kept in the breakout sessions.

The agenda is as follows:

- 3:15: Call to order/ Welcome/Announcements/ Approval of Agenda/Minutes 12/14
- 3:20: Faculty Senate Office Updates
- 3:25: SACUA updates
- 3:30: Nominating Committee
- 3:35: Electronic Meetings and Accessibility Task Force Proposed Procedures
- 3:50: COVID Council Update – Professor Hyde
- 4:00: Kevin Hegarty, Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer
- 4:30: Guidepost Solutions, Breakout Groups
- 5:00 Adjourn

The agenda was approved.

Dr. Banasik discussed the Nominating Committee ballot, saying the committee's tasks are to ensure the candidates are eligible, and, if there should be a large number of candidates, to engage in triage, but that is atypical. The ballot was accepted.

See Appendix for the Nominating Committee ballot.

Chair Conway noted that there are four openings on SACUA for 2021-2022.

3:45: Committee on Fairness, Equity, and Inclusion (CFEI) update and CFEI Resolution in Support of One University –Professors Aristarkhova and Jason Kosnoski

SACUA members introduced themselves to Professors Aristarkhova and Kosnoski. Professor Aristarkhova said CFEI arose from a merger of two committees, and that the committee’s main charges are to consider tri-campus inclusion, and to define “inclusivity” and “inclusion” in relevant terms. The committee has fifteen members, and the key question it has considered is the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) initiative that focuses on bringing diverse communities together. CFEI feels it should explore what it means to feel “included” and seek actionable recommendations. The committee’s next meeting will include a visit from Chief Diversity Officer Sellers. The committee will ask him about how the DEI initiative is developing in terms of inclusion. Professor Aristarkhova said that most recent discussion in CFEI was on the resolution that she and Professor Kosnoski are presenting to SACUA. Professor Kosnoski presented the following motion on behalf of CFEI:

WHEREAS the University of Michigan is in a very robust financial position, with an endowment of \$12.4 billion, a AAA rating from Moody’s, and an ability to establish a line of credit of \$1 billion within days of a sudden crisis, and at least \$3.5 billion in expendable, unrestricted funds,

WHEREAS the University of Michigan’s Dearborn and Flint campuses serve a large proportion of the university’s low-income students, first-generation students, as well as students of color,

WHEREAS the Regents have already approved \$10-20 million for the University of Michigan’s Dearborn and Flint campuses in the 2020-2021 budget.

BE IT RESOLVED, the University of Michigan University Senate Committee on Fairness, Equity and Inclusion endorses the continued support of the goals of the One University campaign and the extension of funding beyond that already allocated. We specifically endorse the extension of the Go Blue Guarantee and increasing funding from the Ann Arbor campus to extend DEI initiatives on Flint and Dearborn campuses.

Professor Kosnoski said that neither UM-Dearborn nor UM-Flint had benefitted from outlay of funds for retention and recruitment of students who are economically disadvantaged despite the fact that these campuses serve large communities of economically disadvantaged students. On the Flint Campus, faculty have proposed a pilot “Go Blue Guarantee” (neither UM-Dearborn nor UM-Flint have this program). UM-Flint Chancellor Dutta, when presented with this request, said it was financially unfeasible because the campus had received only one disbursement for DEI. He did not want to bring in students and then leave them unsupported. At UM-Dearborn, the chancellor has not disbursed any DEI funds.

CFEI wishes the chancellors of UM-Dearborn and UM-Flint and President Schlissel to know that faculty want a multi-year commitment to fund economically disadvantaged students on their campuses, which is particularly necessary because of hardships students are currently facing. They are eager to establish a “Go-Blue Guarantee” (<https://goblueguarantee.umich.edu/>) and top up inadequate DEI funds.

Professor Ahbel-Rappe asked if UM-Flint students don’t have a “Go-Blue Guarantee?” Professor Kosnoski said students at UM-Flint who would qualify for a “Go-Blue Guarantee” at Ann Arbor have to take out loans instead. This is also true at UM-Dearborn. Financial stress is one reason why the graduation level is lower, and the debt level is higher, for students on those campuses.

Professor Manera asked where money for the “Go Blue Guarantee” comes from? Would it, she asked, have to come from the UM-Dearborn or UM-Flint budgets, was it funded from a central budget or from the Ann Arbor budget? Professor Kosnoski said that the University takes all surplus funds and invests them; the twenty million dollars that were given to UM-Dearborn and UM-Flint came from accrued interest on surplus funds. The central administration took the money and gave each of the branch campuses ten million dollars to support DEI activities. UM-Flint Chancellor Dutta said that since the money came from Ann Arbor, and it would cost more than ten million dollars to start a Go Blue Guarantee pilot program, he would use the money for other purposes. Professor Kosnoski said he believes the surplus funds are so large that money can be taken from Ann Arbor to support UM-Dearborn and UM-Flint.

Professor Ahbel-Rappe asked if there some momentum to support this proposal? Chair Conway said she hoped that that SACUA’s endorsement of the CFEI motion would focus the attention of the central administration on the issue. She noted that the chancellors of UM-Dearborn and UM-Flint work at President Schlissel’s pleasure and that it is important that an all-university body put the issue to President Schlissel.

Professor Dinov asked if the committee envisioned an expansion of the program or taking money from the Ann Arbor “Go Blue Guarantee.” Professor Kosnoski said the proposal would not take away from the Ann Arbor “Go Blue Guarantee.” He estimated it would cost between three and four million dollars a year to fund the program at UM-Flint. Professor Liu asked what chancellor Dutta had done with the money he had received. Professor Kosnoski said he used the money to create UM-Flint’s Urban Institute for Racial and Economic Justice (<https://www.umflint.edu/uireej/initiatives/>), to hire academic advisers, and for some financial aid. Professor Aristarkhova said that the committee wanted to pressure the administration to develop a way to expand the “Go Blue Guarantee,” noting that many committee members were upset about the underrepresented faculty are pressured to support students to come from underrepresented groups.

Chair Conway reminded SACUA that the resolution is not to propose a solution but to support the notion that a solution should be found.

SACUA voted 7-1 to support the motion.

4:10: Research Policies Committee Charge Update and Name Revision – Professor Colabianchi

SACUA members introduced themselves to Professor Colabianchi. Professor Colabianchi asked SACUA to consider changes to the charge and the title of the committee—to reduce charges from 5 to 4 by combining two charges. Professor Colabianchi presented the original charges and the proposed changes (Professor Colabianchi presented the original charges and proposed changes (<https://facultysenate.umich.edu/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/Colabianchi-RPC-presentation-to-sacua.original-1.pdf>)).

Professor Colabianchi said the committee would like to change its name from the Research Policies Committee to the Research Practices Committee. Chair Conway expressed support for the change, and noted that while changing the charge is up to the committee, a name change will require Senate Assembly approval. Professor Toyama asked about renaming the committee as the Research Advisory Committee. Professor Marsh suggested that a possible title could be Advisory Committee to the Vice President for Research, which would align more closely with other committee names. Librarian Spencer asked if the committee could examine library resources for the three campuses. Chair Conway asked Professor Colabianchi to take the issue of the committee name back to committee before bringing it to Senate Assembly.

4:35: Matters Arising

Executive Session
 SACUA Approved the following statement:

SACUA Response to Political Violence

On behalf of the University of Michigan faculty and the state we serve, we urge all members of our community to work together to affirm and promote civil, non-violent public discourse. Such discourse must be based upon demonstrable truth.

Difference of opinion is the hallmark of a free society; it is by seeking to understand each other that we can reach beyond the present to a future in which violence is banished from public life.

As faculty members, we are devoted to the search for truth, even when that truth is uncomfortable. We recognize our responsibility to provide leadership in shaping public debate that distinguishes fact from fiction, that calms the passions fed by falsehood, that combats the stereotyping that leads to violence. The events of the past year, including racial violence, threats to the welfare of our elected leaders, and wide dissemination of falsehoods about our democratic processes have called into question the viability of our democracy. We are committed to ensuring the fact-based discourse upon which that democracy must rely continues to prevail.

5:26 Adjourn

Appendix: Nominating Committee Ballot

SACUA NOMINATING COMMITTEE BALLOT

January 25, 2021

Third Term SACUA Members: Please select 2 candidates.

Name	School/College
Colleen Conway	School of Music, Theatre and Dance
Ivo Dinov	School of Nursing
Deirdre Spencer	University Library

Third Term Senate Assembly Members: Please select 4 candidates.

Name	School/College
Eunshin Byon	Engineering
Ilya Kolmanosvsky	Engineering
Benjamin Passey	Literature, Science and the Arts
Damani J. Partridge	Literature, Science and the Arts
Samer Ali	Literature, Science and the Arts
Sonya Dal Cin	Literature, Science and the Arts

Suanne Caulfield	Literature, Science and the Arts
Christine Nelson	Medical School
Maria Papaleontiou	Medical School
Mario Fabilli	Medical School
Gabe Mendlow	Law School
Kate Andrias	Law School
Dave Wright	Ross School of Business
Rogério Castilho	School of Dentistry
Bilal Butt	School of Environment & Sustainability
Courtney Snyder	School of Music, Theatre & Dance
Shanna Kattari	School of Social Work
Joseph Trumpey	Stamps School of Art & Design
Marouane Kessentini	U-M Dearborn
Greg Laurence	U-M Flint

Respectfully submitted,
 David S. Potter
 Senate Secretary

University of Michigan Bylaws of the Board of Regents, Sec. 5.02:
 Governing Bodies in Schools and Colleges
 Sec. 4.01 The University Senate

"...[t]he 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. Jurisdiction over academic policies shall reside in the faculties of the various schools and colleges, but insofar as actions by the several faculties affect university policy as a whole, or schools and colleges other than the one in which they originate, they shall be brought before the University Senate."

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

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

Assembly: "The Assembly may adopt rules for the transaction of its business. In appropriate cases not covered by rules of the Assembly, the rules of the University Senate shall apply."

SACUA: "The committee may adopt rules for the transaction of its business."