

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

SUBJECT: July 2020 Faculty Governance Update

Overview of items discussed:

1. SACUA
2. Senate Assembly
3. Senate Assembly Committees
4. Faculty Senate
5. Faculty Senate Office Update

1. SACUA

SACUA has held additional meetings since the June update. SACUA met virtually on June 15, and in a working meeting on June 22. On **June 15**, SACUA reviewed and discussed feedback received from Senate Assembly members during the breakout groups that were held at the June 8 meeting with President Schlissel. **SACUA also finalized a statement in support of the Black Lives Matter movement** that was sent to Faculty Senate members and posted on the [Faculty Senate Office website](#). **The full text of the statement follows:**

Dear Members of Faculty Senate,

I write today to share with you that the Senate Advisory Committee on University Affairs (SACUA) joins with the many voices across our campus in supporting the Black Lives Matter movement and our community's continuing efforts to confront and eliminate racial inequities at the University of Michigan. We are committed to identifying and addressing power dynamics and climate issues on our campus which facilitate systemic racism. While making our voices heard is a critical first step, an even more critical second step is action.

SACUA will be developing charges for Senate Assembly committees for the 2020-2021 academic year with the primary requirement that they examine the implementation of the University's stated goals of ensuring justice and equality for all members of the University's community. Two committees approved by Senate Assembly earlier this year will take equity and inclusion as their specific focus. These committees are the newly created Committee on Oversight of Administrative Action (COAA), and the Committee for Fairness, Equality, and Inclusivity (CFEI).

As we develop charges for these and all Senate Assembly committees, please contact the Faculty Senate Office with your input, suggestions, or request to volunteer on a committee. We look forward to hearing from you, and we invite you to join us as we do this important work together.

Sincerely,

Colleen Conway
University of Michigan
Professor of Music Education
Chair: UM Faculty Senate

SACUA designated a subcommittee that will be responsible for coordinating and overseeing development of charges for Senate Assembly committees for the 2020-2021 year with a special emphasis on ensuring institutional justice and equity. During the June 15 meeting, SACUA identified [Dr. John Greden](#), Founder and Executive Director of the U-M Depression Center, as the recipient of the 2020 Regents' Award for Distinguished Public Service.

On **June 22**, SACUA had a special working group meeting to formalize a Faculty Senate survey with questions related to the faculty experience with teaching in a COVID-19 environment during winter/spring/summer and anticipated plans for fall. The survey was sent to Faculty Senate members via email on June 25.

2. SENATE ASSEMBLY

Senate Assembly is not scheduled to meet again until fall semester.

3. SENATE ASSEMBLY COMMITTEES

Efforts are underway to finalize committee rosters for Senate Assembly committees. Committee charges will be developed over the coming weeks for the 2020-2021 year. The SACUA subcommittee on justice and equity will be consulted as these charges are developed.

4. FACULTY SENATE

The Faculty Senate Survey for Fall Semester Instructional Planning was distributed to Faculty Senate members via email on June 25. The survey remained open through Thursday, July 2. 875 faculty members responded to the survey. Responses were summarized and provided to the president's office and interim provost's office in anticipation of the Town Hall scheduled for **July 8** from 3:00 to 4:30 with President Schlissel and Interim Provost Collins attending together. Breakout groups will meet immediately following President Schlissel's and Interim Provost Collins' visits.

5. FACULTY SENATE OFFICE

Faculty governance leadership has continued to meet online with the faculty governance consortium to discuss fall planning activities at the various institutions. The Faculty Senate Office Director, MaryJo Banasik, attended the most recent meeting focused on faculty surveys, and whether member institutions might survey faculty of all members of the consortium together. Meetings are being scheduled bi-weekly. Sixteen institutions are represented in the consortium, including Brown, Caltech, Carnegie-Mellon, Columbia, Dartmouth, MIT, NYU, Princeton, Rice, Stanford, UC Berkeley, University of Chicago, University of Pennsylvania, UT Austin, and Yale.

Submitted: July 2020



Colleen Conway, SACUA Chair