

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

SUBJECT: October 2021 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

A Senate Assembly meeting was held on September 20, and a Faculty Senate meeting was held on October 4. There is only one SACUA meeting to report on for this October update. At its **September 27** meeting, Provost Susan Collins was a guest in executive session. SACUA Vice Chair Caitlin Finlayson reported on a meeting she had with Central Student Government (CSG) leadership. SACUA discussed grievance matters and the roles and responsibilities of SACUA members in executive session.

2. SENATE ASSEMBLY

The Senate Assembly had its first meeting of the academic year on Monday, September 20, and its second meeting on October 11. The **September 20** meeting took place in a hybrid format allowing participation in person at Palmer Commons or remotely via Zoom. Based on the limited attendance in person, subsequent Senate Assembly meetings will be held virtually this semester without an in-person component. During the September 20 meeting, the Senate Assembly approved the charges for seventeen Senate Assembly committees. The Senate Assembly participated in breakout groups to discuss fall teaching plans and COVID. The Senate Assembly approved a minor modification to the [University Senate Rules](#). Past Immediate Chair Colleen Conway gave an update on work that has been done by central faculty governance concerning the Sexual and Gender-Based Misconduct policy. At its **October 11** meeting, representatives from Guidepost Solutions were guests along with Tami Strickman, Executive Director of the new Equity, Civil Rights, and Title IX (ECRT) Office. The Senate Assembly discussed the Sexual and Gender-Based Misconduct Policy and next steps.

3. SENATE ASSEMBLY COMMITTEES

Many Senate Assembly committees have begun to meet for this academic year. A Senate Assembly Committee Chairs luncheon has been scheduled for Monday, October 18 at the Union. Ten committee chairs have committed to attending the luncheon along with a handful of executive officers. This luncheon will give committee chairs the opportunity to network with other chairs and executive officers so they may identify areas of mutual interest on which their committees may work together.

With the aid of the Provost's Office and the President's Office, the Administration Evaluation Committee (AEC) leadership is working with Human Resources to improve appointment data that are used to enable faculty to complete surveys for the appropriate administrator depending on their faculty appointment. Information Technology Services (ITS) is also working with AEC leadership to identify technical support that will facilitate administration of the survey without relying on specific faculty members who have managed the administration of the survey since its inception.

4. FACULTY SENATE

A Faculty Senate meeting was held on Monday, **October 4** from 3:15 to 5:00. President Schlissel and Provost Collins were guests. Five Resolutions were discussed during the meeting. Voting remained open

for the motions in Simply Voting for forty-eight hours following the meeting. More than 350 Faculty Senate members participated in the meeting via Zoom, twenty-two participated in person, and over 900 people viewed the meeting via livestream. Voting remained open for twenty-four hours to elect a Senate Secretary and a Parliamentarian. The Parliamentarian position is a new position this year. The Parliamentarian will attend Senate Assembly and Faculty Senate meetings. Terms of office for both the Secretary and Parliamentarian will begin on November 1 and will continue for three years.

The text of the motions can be viewed at this [link on the Faculty Senate Office website](#).

The results of the votes on the motions are below:

Motion 1: Work Connections

A total of 681 votes were cast in support of Motion 1 and a total of 329 votes were cast in opposition. The motion passed. 68 abstentions were recorded.

Motion 2: COVID Protocols

A total of 563 votes were cast in support of Motion 2 and a total of 439 votes were cast in opposition. The motion passed. 76 abstentions were recorded.

Motion 3: Choice of Methods of Instruction

A total of 611 votes were cast in support of Motion 3 and a total of 403 votes were cast in opposition. The motion passed. 64 abstentions were recorded.

Motion 4: Handling of Sexual Misconduct

A total of 701 votes were cast in support of Motion 4 and a total of 243 votes were cast in opposition. The motion passed. 134 abstentions were recorded.

Motion 5: Remote Teaching for Parents with Young Children

A total of 681 votes were cast in support of Motion 5 and a total of 320 votes were cast in opposition. The motion passed. 77 abstentions were recorded.

Deirdre Spencer, Arts and Humanities Librarian, was elected to serve as Senate Secretary. Paul Fossum, Professor of Education at UM-Dearborn was elected to serve as Parliamentarian.

5. FACULTY SENATE OFFICE

The Faculty Senate Office jointly distributed a central faculty governance [newsletter written by the chair](#) to Faculty Senate members. A newsletter will be distributed monthly to improve connections between Senate Assembly and individual Faculty Senate members.

Submitted: October 2021



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