Minutes: November 28, 2022
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THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
Senate Advisory Committee on University Affairs
Monday, November 28, 2022, 3:15
The hybrid meeting was held 1100 Ruthven and virtually via Zoom

In Person Attendance: Chair Pedraza, Professor Braun, Professor Liu, Professor Toyama, Professor Villalobos-Ruminott, Faculty Senate Office Director McCarthy, Faculty Senate Office Coordinator Vandenberghe, Faculty Senate Office Coordinator Marshall, Secretary Spencer.

Virtual Attendance: Vice Chair Singer, Professor Atzmon, Professor Cushing, Professor Modrak.

Guests:
Press: Katie Kelton, University Record
Maddyn Shapiro, Michigan Daily
Hannah Yoran, Michigan Daily
Grace Lahti, photographer, Michigan Daily

3:17 Call to Order: The Chair called the meeting to order at 3:17pm. The minutes of the 11/07/2022 meeting were approved by consent.

3:20 SACUA Chair Updates: Chair Pedraza expressed sadness regarding the passing of Professor Oveta Fuller on November 18, 2022. Dr. Fuller was the recipient of the Regent’s Award for Distinguished Public Service. The Committee for Anti-Racism (CAR) will work through the Development Office to honor her memory with the establishment of a scholarship and will reach out to her family.

Professor Braun will substitute for Vice Chair Singer, when he and the Chair hood the honorary degree recipients at Winter Commencement. The Chair will also make brief remarks which are in preparation.

The Davis Markert Nickerson Lecture Committee (DMN) drafted an article commemorating the life and legacy of Chandler Davis, the final surviving professor for whom the academic freedom lecture is named. He passed away in September. The article will be published in the Faculty Perspectives section of The Record under the imprimatur of SACUA.

Professor Robert Ortega is stepping down from his position as Faculty Ombuds. The Chair is on the search committee for that position and there are several experienced candidates, some of whom have already been interviewed.
3:30 Faculty Senate Office Director Updates: Director McCarthy reported on security preparations for the office which consisted of active shooter training and the installation of an internally operated lock.

Executive Session

3:40 University Senate Meeting Discussion: -- Executive Session – A debrief of the meeting consisted of an assessment of its strengths and weaknesses of the meeting. Recommendations for improvement including advance notice for bringing a motion to the floor and advance preparation for using Simply Voting to ensure confidentiality.

4:30 Provost Office Committee Nomination Process: -- Executive Session – The omission of a faculty member recommended by SACUA to serve on a committee was purely unintentional.

4:45 OEIC Discussion: -- Executive Session – The reporting lines of the new office were discussed as well as possibilities for investigation and oversight.

5:00 Matters Arising: Conflicts of Interest regarding administrative positions and service on SACUA.

Adjournment: -- The meeting adjourned at 5:08

Respectfully submitted,

Deirdre D. Spencer,
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 polices 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.”