Faculty Senate Office Activities

The FSO continues to be productive. Examples of the activities the FSO has been engaged in include the following:

- Continued working with the retreat facilitator on planning for the SACUA Retreat.
- Posted the SACUA/DMNC statement on the passing of Chandler Davis to the Faculty Senate website: https://facultysenate.umich.edu/statement-on-the-passing-of-h-chandler-davis/
- Held a Regent Candidate Forum. Recorded stream available here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b4s8CHk_CGA
- Assisted the DMNC chair with continuing work on scheduling the annual lecture.
- Continued working on scheduling committee meetings and assisted with the minutes of some of the committees, when possible.
- Attended a Ruthven Building staff welcoming event.
- Assisted the Working Group on Public Health with agenda planning.
- Assisted the FAAC Chair and VP Geoff Chatas on committee charges.
- Assisted with coordinating the activities of the AEC and the COAA.
- Met with the Record to discuss the Record’s publication policies.
- Continued attempts to schedule a visit by President-Elect Ono with the SA or at the University Senate meeting.
- Ordered hardware for the new incoming FSO coordinator (starts October 17th).
- Requested updated headcounts for the current Faculty Senate, the Clinical Faculty, and the Lecturers. Received some data, but the presentation was not sufficiently helpful for our purposes. The FSO is working on getting a better presentation of the data.
- Interacted with the FSO for the University of Maryland as part of an effort to review FSO best practices at both our universities.
- Assisted various committees with reviewing charges in light of SACUA member feedback:
  - AAAC: Chair has agreed to discuss with the Provost the administrator evaluation process, including faculty engagement/input during administrator reviews. Discussions about amending the charge document are ongoing, but the existing charge document includes a general provision permitting the above to be raised. Regarding suggestions to also discuss the grievance process, the committee is already attempting to discuss the ECRT; additionally adding as a focus the grievance process this year will be difficult to do effectively, even though it is an important topic. However, there is a broad “catch all” provision in the charges that would permit raising the topic later, if helpful.
  - AEC: After discussion with the chair, an amended charge has been submitted to SACUA to reflect the committee’s goals for the year.
o CAC: Chair agreed for the CAC to look into the university’s decision-making process for controversial and/or sensitive issues. Discussions about amending the charge document are ongoing but this topic can also be raised under the committee’s broad charge to “Address other issues brought forward by the committee members and deemed important for the committee to discuss with the VP for Communications.”

o DAC: Chair agrees with SACUA member feedback that the charge is too vague and will be developing with the DAC members at their first meeting a more specified agenda for the year.

o GCAC: Charges were developed after consideration of SACUA member suggestions.

o ITC: Chair agreed to addition of review of Crowdstrike Falcon as a consideration for the year. An amended charge has been submitted to SACUA for this purpose.

o RAC: Chair agreed for committee to discuss this year the Office of Research’s support for creative projects as well as the Mcube program for interdisciplinary projects. These topics will be brought up through a broad charge to “Address other issues brought forward by the committee members and deemed important for the committee to discuss with the VP for Research.”

o SAC: Chair will raise as a topic the university’s response to survivors of sexual misconduct and discrimination under its inclusive charge to “Provide faculty feedback on issues and policy matters of university concern of high priority such as, but not limited to sexual misconduct policy, climate change and carbon neutrality, and budget matters.”

o SRAC: The agenda for the year is already pretty full, but they will look into finding a date to meet with the Sexual Misconduct Response and Prevention Task Force.

o RPP: Conversations are ongoing about coordinating the RPP with the Faculty Senate Restructuring Working Group.

SACUA Actions

Between meetings, SACUA has performed the following actions that should now be included in the SACUA minutes:

- On September 27th, SACUA received a request from the Provost’s Office for 3-5 nominations for a new SPG 201.96 Review Faculty Group. SACUA received nine interested and eligible nominations. On October 7th, SACUA completed an e-vote on those nominations.
  - Because the request was for a range of nominations (3-5), SACUA voted on how many nominations to return. SACUA voted to return three nominations.
  - The results for the top three nominations were as follows:
    - 1. TIE: Kentaro Toyama and Michael Thouless
    - 3. TIE: Alison Mondul and John Cheney-Lippold

Because of the tie for third place, the following nominees were returned to the Provost’s Office on October 7th for possible appointment: Kentaro Toyama, Michael Thouless, Alison Mondul, and John Cheney-Lippold.