

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

SUBJECT: June 2022 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 met on May 2, 9, 16, and 23.
- At its **May 2** meeting, Chair Silvia Pedraza gave an update on the search for a new Faculty Senate Office Director. Fully eleven applications were received for the position. The SACUA leadership team (composed of the Chair, Past Chair, Vice-Chair, and Secretary) began to evaluate the applications, guided by Jaime Zawistowski, Business Manager, Academic and Faculty Affairs.
- SACUA discussed the nominations for the Faculty Governance Awards. The awards consist of the Distinguished Faculty Service Award, the Regent's Distinguished Faculty Governance Award, and the Jackie Lawson Memorial Faculty Governance Award. Two other awards, the Librarian Achievement Award and the Library Recognition Award, are not handled by SACUA.
- SACUA also discussed the Committee on Anti-Racism's (CAR) statements on Anti-Chinese Racism and Anti-Caste Racism, which CAR urges should be included in formal university statements.
- In Executive Session, SACUA also met with Gloria Hague, Associate General Counsel; with representatives of the Working Group on Work Connections; and with representatives of the Working Group on Sexual Misconduct.
- SACUA also discussed the *Faculty Perspectives* article for *The University Record* being written by Colleen Conway, former SACUA Chair, and David Potter, former SACUA Chair and former Secretary of SACUA. They stressed the need for a central Office for Ethics, Integrity and Compliance at U of M.
- At its **May 9** meeting, SACUA met with Robert Jones, Executive Director of Support Services for University Information Technology, Ravi Pendse, Vice President for Information Technology, and with Sol Berman, Information Technology. They discussed the use of university platforms, such as SLACK, that are safe for students to use when they use the U of M version protected by Enterprise Systems.
- Chair Pedraza relayed the information from Jamie Iseler, Editor of *The University Record*, regarding the rules of engagement for SACUA with the publication. The articles published in *Faculty Perspectives* should be no more than one a month and carry the imprimatur of SACUA, though written by individual authors. The articles should relate to the Faculty Senate and faculty governance issues.
- In Executive Session, SACUA met with Regents Jordan Acker, Chair of the Regents, and Denise Ilitch, and guest David Potter, former SACUA Chair.
- In Executive Session, SACUA also met with representatives of the Working Group on Sexual Misconduct.
- At its **May 16** meeting, SACUA met with Alex Pietrantoni, Division of Public Safety and Security, and Jessica Drake, 21CP--21st Century Policing Solutions, who U of M hired to look at the role of security officers and security within medical facilities, public safety and student care. They are

conducting focus groups and listening sessions with faculty, staff, and students regarding these issues

- SACUA met with guest Professor Dinesh Pal and SACUA Secretary Deirdre Spencer regarding their work on the Committee on Anti-Racism proposals (CAR), particularly their documents that addressed anti-race and anti-caste discrimination. Professor Pal brought information on the caste system as it is lived in India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, and among their immigrants in the US and other countries. SACUA voted unanimously to approve the language submitted by CAR.
- SACUA also considered the issues regarding the Clinical Faculty Working Group, presented by Past Chair Allen Liu and Durga Singer, Vice-Chair, regarding the growth of the Clinical Faculty and their diversity as well as their knowledge. Representatives of the Clinical Faculty stressed that they wish to be included in the Senate Assembly and SACUA. Professor Kentaro Toyoma presented a proposal to include the entire faculty in faculty governance. The proposal to restructure faculty governance at U of M will continue to be carefully considered. SACUA voted unanimously to approve the formation of a Working Group to work on this issue over the summer.
- Chair Pedraza and Vice-Chair Singer proposed that SACUA engage, as in the past, in a Retreat. Chair Pedraza proposed that we wait for the new Director of the Faculty Senate Office (FSO) to be on board, as well as the new Coordinator of the FSO, so that they can participate in the Retreat and benefit from it.
- In preparation for SACUA's meeting with the new Interim Provost, Laurie McCauley, on May 23, SACUA sent her the Work Connections Working Group Report.
- At its **May 23** meeting, in Executive Session, SACUA met with and welcomed Interim Provost Laurie McCauley, together with Christine Gerdes.
- In Executive Session, SACUA discussed the Faculty Awards. In Executive Session, SACUA approved the creation of a Working Group for the possible Faculty Senate Restructuring. The Working Group was charged with identifying proposals to restructure the Faculty Senate regarding the possible inclusion of non-tenure track faculty in the Senate Assembly and SACUA, and the implications of their inclusion for the size of these bodies and their input on Senate Assembly issues. Senate Assembly members on the Working Group are: Silvia Pedraza (SACUA Chair), Durga Singer (SACUA Vice-Chair), Allen Liu (SACUA Past Chair), Kentaro Toyoma (SACUA), Simon Cushing (SACUA UM-Fllint), Bill Schultz (Senate Assembly RPP), and Ella Kazerooni (Senate Assembly RPP).

2. SENATE ASSEMBLY:

- At its April 25 meeting, the last of the year, under Chair Allen Liu, the Senate Assembly (SA) discussed and voted on three resolutions:
- 1) a SACUA resolution to urge the university to create an Office of Ethics, Integrity, and Compliance with an independent reporting line to the Board of Regents, rather than the reporting line it now has to the President. The resolution was voted upon and approved. Of the 48 faculty attending, 95.7 % (44) voted yes, 4.3 % (2) voted no, and 2 abstained.
- 2) a SACUA resolution regarding the Syllabus Insert. The Working Group on Sexual Misconduct – David Potter (former SACUA Chair), Rebekah Modrak (now SACUA) and two students who were victims, Cassie McQuarter and Isabelle Brouman – gave a presentation. The intent of the syllabus insert is for instructors to include them in the syllabi of their courses to educate students about faculty/student boundaries. They would like faculty to consider using it in the Fall, as a Best Practice for faculty/student interactions, to promote cultural change. The resolution was voted upon and approved. Of the 47 faculty attending, 73.3 % (33) voted yes, 26.7 % (12) voted no, and 2 abstained.
- 3) a SACUA resolution on reapportionment of the Faculty Senate seats that is done every 3 years. The reapportionment entails the Medical School gaining 3 seats, due to their growth; the College of

LSA, the College of Engineering, and the School of Public health each losing 1 faculty seat, due to their loss of faculty relative to the total faculty. Of the 44 faculty attending, 95 % (38) voted yes, 5 % (2) voted no, and 4 abstained.

- SA also had Bill Schultz from the Rules, Policies, and Procedures (RPP) Committee, give a presentation. The RPP argued that we should approve the Clinical Faculty as well as the Lecturers to become part of the Faculty Senate. SA decided to continue working on this issue the following academic year.

3. SENATE ASSEMBLY COMMITTEES:

Several Senate Assembly committees continue to meet. They will soon turn in their yearly Reports and new Chairs will be appointed.

4. FACULTY SENATE:

SACUA gave several awards to the faculty at the end of May:

The Distinguished Faculty Governance Award went to both David Potter, Professor of Greek and Latin, Department of Classical Studies; former SACUA Chair, and Neil Marsh, Professor of Chemistry and Biological Chemistry; former SACUA Chair.

The Regents' Award for Distinguished Public Service went to A. Ovetta Fuller, Associate Professor of Microbiology and Immunology, Medical School, and the African Studies Center, International Institute.

The Jackie Lawson Memorial Faculty Governance Award went to Caitlin Finlayson, Associate Professor of English Literature, Culture, and the Arts, University of Michigan-Dearborn; former SACUA Vice-Chair.

5. FACULTY SENATE OFFICE:

The Faculty Senate Office welcomes Ann Marshall, who is a new Faculty Senate Office Coordinator working part-time.

The position for Faculty Senate Office Director received eleven applications. With the guidance of Jamie Zawistowski, the SACUA leadership team (SACUA Chair, Vice Chair, Immediate Past Chair, and Secretary) reviewed the resumes, narrowed the field to a few applicants, and began conducting the interviews.

Submitted: June 2022



Silvia Pedraza, SACUA Chair