

Minutes: February 20, 2023

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THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
Senate Advisory Committee on University Affairs
Monday, February 20, 2023, 3:01

The Hybrid meeting was held in 1100 Ruthven and via Zoom LOCATION

In Person Attendance – Chair Allen Liu, Vice Chair Tom Braun, FSO Director Lucas McCarthy, Professor Damani Partridge, Professor Silvia Pedraza, Professor Kentaro Toyama, Professor Sergio Villalobos-Ruminott, FSO Coordinator Eric Vandenberghe, Secretary Deirdre Spencer

Remote Attendance – Professor Lindsay Admon, Professor Simon Cushing, Professor Rebekah Modrak

Guests: Members of the Press
Ryan Kersten – *Michigan Daily* – in person
Katie Kelton – *The University Record* – virtual

Call to Order: The chair called the meeting to order at 3:01 pm. The minutes of the January 30th SACUA meeting were approved by consent.

Chair Update: CESWF (the Committee on the Economic and Social Well-Being of the Faculty) is asking the Provost's Office for a faculty salary survey. AAAC, CAR and SACUA have requested in the past a salary survey which included demographic information, so this request has been on the radar for a while.

The SACUA Chair and FSO Director met with Professors Stephanie Preston and Michelle Hanoosh of the Faculty Ombuds Office. Preston is the newly appointed Ombuds to replace Robert Ortega who had previously served in the position. SACUA leadership will meet with the Ombuds on a regular basis, and the Ombuds will meet with SACUA in the Fall.

The Anti-Asian hate statement, which was submitted by CAR and passed by the Senate Assembly was received by VP for DEI, Dr. Tabbye Chavous.

FSO Director Update: There would only be one FSO Coordinator attending meetings henceforth.

The FSO received training on how to operate the duress button in the event of an active shooter. A dry run revealed that when the button is pressed, a lot happens, including a 3-minute response from DPSS.

Plans are already underway for next year's DMN Lecture. The committee has

reached out to Jonathan Friedman of PEN America as a speaker. Check <https://pen.org/user/jonathan-friedman/> or Pen.org for more information.

There are 11 candidates on the slate for SACUA elections (There were 12 but 1 withdrew). We wanted to establish the slate of candidates prior to the break and the March 20th Senate Assembly meeting, so they can be discussed and approved by the SACUA nominating committee.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Faculty Senate Restructuring: The Faculty Senate Restructuring process will continue during the following SACUA and SA meetings. – Executive Session

Flint Transformation / Transfers: The chair reported on meetings held with Flint representatives. – Executive Session

OSCR Appeals Board: The FSO Director reported that SACUA will appoint someone to serve on the OSCR appeals board. – Executive Session

Matters Arising: – The AAUP (American Association of University Professors) wants to approach the provost for policies and guidelines for when faculty are trolled and attacked online.

A question arose regarding the degree to which the faculty of the School of Public Health were consulted regarding the reappointment of Dean Bowman. The process for how deans are reappointed is currently being reviewed by the COAA, which intends to provide recommendations to SACUA later this term.

There will be no meeting next week due to Spring Break.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 4:55pm

Respectfully submitted,

Deirdre D. Spencer
Secretary

Addendum

SACUA Actions

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

- On February 1st, SACUA concluded a vote related to the ongoing Senate restructuring discussion. The vote was (1) to obtain SACUA feedback on a draft ballot to be presented to the Senate Assembly and (2) in response to a set of straw poll questions that the RPP approved on January 31st to present to the Senate Assembly. That draft Senate Assembly ballot was focused on narrowing down who the Senate Assembly wanted to continue considering this term in our ongoing restructuring discussions. In the February 1st vote, SACUA voted against adding the following suggested groups from the RPP straw poll to the Senate Assembly ballot for possible consideration within the Senate Assembly this term: Research Investigators, Clinical Pharmacists, Emeritus Faculty, Adjunct or Intermittent Faculty, and Part Time Librarians. SACUA members also provided written feedback on the RPP poll and the Senate Assembly ballot.
- On February 16th, SACUA voted on nominations for possible appointment by the Provost to a new working group being created to consider the impacts of AI technology such as ChatGPT. Pursuant to that vote, SACUA nominated the following individuals: Kentaro Toyama (School of Information), Rada Mihalcea (College of Engineering), Ivo Dinov (School of Nursing), and Lu Wang (College of Engineering). SACUA was requested to return three nominees, but due to a tie involving Ivo Dinov and Lu Wang, four names were returned.

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 policies 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."