THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
Senate Assembly
Monday, February 13, 2023, 3:15
The meeting was held virtually via Zoom

Attendees:

Guests:
Press:
Katie Kelton -- The University Record
Joey Lin – The Michigan Daily

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 3:16pm. The minutes of the January 23rd Senate Assembly meeting were approved.

The rules of engagement for today’s meeting were stated by the chair. Zoom chat is disfavored and members were asked to use the Zoom “raise hands” function instead to be called upon to speak.

- Announcements and updates by the Chair. He stated that today has a packed agenda consisting of Senate Restructuring, SACUA Nominating Committee, and Brainstorming topics for President Ono’s visit.
- The chair reported on the DMN Lecture with Jamelle Bouie of the NYT which took place on February 6th. It was well attended with 120 in person attendees, 180 remote attendees, and ~850 views on YouTube up until end of February 12th.
- He also gave an update on the anti-caste discrimination efforts. There was a follow-up meeting with ECRT regarding the inclusion of anti-caste discrimination language in the SPG and other university language. It appears that this endeavor is moving in a positive direction.
• AEC (the Administrative Evaluation Committee) has implemented an impact evaluation poll to the deans and the chairs. To date, 62% of deans and 50% of chairs have responded. The committee would like more input from the administration, and for them to recognize the value in the polls. The AEC survey is to be released sometime in March.
• The chair spoke with the provost regarding the academic calendar, specifically, beginning the winter term later.
• The provost has also reached out to SACUA to help form a working group around ChatGPT, Artificial Intelligence, and academic integrity.

Faculty Senate Restructuring: To facilitate the discussion on Faculty Restructuring the chair presented slides breaking down all of the faculty tracks and read summaries of each proposal to be discussed. Due to the packed agenda and the chance for members to provide feedback during breakout sessions, the chair stated that questions would be saved until Matters Arising.

The formation of breakout groups chaired by SACUA members took place to discuss four proposals referred to by the chair. The proposals under consideration were named 1. Representatives, 2. Senate Expansion, 3. Senate Expansion with Restructuring, and 4. A Multi-Branch Collective Senate.

Reports from the breakout groups were to be added to Google document sent in advance to each SACUA member or sent to the Faculty Senate Office. At the March Senate Assembly meeting there will be a vote taken to determine the next steps on restructuring, based in part on the information gathered from today’s groups.

SACUA Nominating Committee: A vote was started regarding the formation of a SACUA Nominating Committee, required to establish a slate of candidates to run for SACUA. This committee is comprised of 2 out-going SACUA members and 4 out-going Senate Assembly members. The ballot determining who would be elected to the SACUA Nominating Committee will close 48 hours after the Senate Assembly meeting, on February 15, 2023.

Topics of Discussion for President Ono’s Visit: Members are encouraged to attend the next Senate Assembly meeting in person with President Ono. We are recommending that (1.) 3 faculty members make a 2-3 minute presentation. (2.) 10 minutes of remarks from President Ono. (3.) 10 minutes of Q & A.

The following topics were suggested by Senate Assembly members.

1. Among the faculty, there is a lack of sufficient clarity regarding who an “Individual with Reporting Obligations (IRO)” is and what their mandatory reporting responsibilities are.
2. The University needs a robust Office of Ethics, Integrity, and Compliance.
3. Teaching is challenging in our current environment, in which students may be uncomfortable with the content of a course.
4. The University needs a comprehensive vision for how the regional campuses are practically, not just rhetorically, treated as part of one University of Michigan.
5. The University needs better strategies of faculty retention and recruitment, such as by obtaining recent data for our various tracks, examining pay equity, and ensuring that there are good conditions for work at the University.
6. The Faculty Senate should be playing a larger leadership role in the University. For example, SACUA/SA can provide valuable assistance to President Ono as he develops and implements the University’s vision for the future. There can also be a Faculty Senate representative who participates in Regent meetings.
7. The University needs a comprehensive and clear policy on student use of artificial intelligence for classwork.
8. The University should provide better support for faculty childcare.
9. In relation to international students, the University needs to address differences between the values/policies of education and the values/policies of companies.
10. The Faculty Senate has been engaged in an ongoing consideration of its composition.

**Matters Arising:** Senate Assembly members are encouraged to volunteer to serve on Senate Assembly committees.

It was suggested that there be a faculty code of conduct policy review by units for different needs. We could collect these codes of conduct.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 4:55pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Deirdre D. Spencer  
Secretary

**Addendum**

**Senate Assembly Actions**
Between meetings, the Senate Assembly has performed the following actions that should be included in the Senate Assembly minutes:

- On February 9th, the Senate Assembly voted on which groups to continue considering this term in the Senate Assembly’s ongoing Senate restructuring discussions, with any groups not selected being able to be addressed in a future term. Pursuant to that vote, the Senate Assembly approved continuing to consider this term all Clinical Track Professors (Assistant, Associate, and Full), Archivists, and Curators. The Senate Assembly voted against considering this term Clinical Instructors, Clinical Lecturers, and the Lecturers (I, II, III, and IV).

- On February 15th, the Senate Assembly voted on which outgoing SACUA and Senate Assembly members to elect as the 2023 SACUA nominating committee. Pursuant to the Senate rules, two outgoing SACUA members and four outgoing Senate Assembly members shall comprise the SACUA nominating committee. As a result of that vote, the following SACUA members were elected: (1) Allen Liu and (2) Kentaro Toyama. In addition, the following Senate Assembly members were elected, (1) Ella Kazerooni, (2) Dinesh Pal, (3) Min-Hui Huang, and (4) a tie between Ishani Maitra and Ivo Dinov. To resolve that tie, Ivo Dinov volunteered to serve officially as an alternate. Both Ishani and Ivo will be invited
to participate in the SACUA nominating committee activities, with Ivo being officially noted as an alternate for purposes of voting.

On February 22nd, the Senate Assembly voted on three topics to present to President Ono’s March visit. They are: 1) The University needs better strategies of faculty retention and recruitment, such as by obtaining recent data for our various tracks, examining pay equity, and ensuring that there are good conditions for work at the University. 2) The Faculty Senate should be playing a larger leadership role in the University. 3) The University should provide better support for faculty childcare.

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.”