



THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
Academic Affairs Advisory Committee (AAAC)
Ruthven Conference Room 1110 and via Zoom (hybrid)
January 26, 2022, 10:45 am

Minutes: 01/26/2023, 10:45 am

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Approved: 02/23/2023

Present: Christine Gerdes (Provost's Office), Bruno Giordani, Rachel Goldman, Artemis Leontis, Emmanuelle Marquis, Ann Marshall (FSO, Secretary), Luke McCarthy (FSO), Laurie McCauley (Provost), Frank Pelosi, Mark Rosentraub, Priti Shah (Chair), and Jordan Siegel

Chair Priti Shah presided over the meeting, with Laurie McCauley, Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs, and Christine Gerdes, Special Counsel to the Provost, being present.

1. In preparation for the arrival of the Provost, the committee approved the minutes and discussed the plans for the meeting.
2. The meeting began with a follow-up discussion on grading policy. The Provost has received feedback on the *Post-COVID Grade Policy Committee's* four recommendations from AAAC and from associate and campus deans. Discussion included noting the patterns of consistency of the feedback from AAAC and the deans, the usefulness of the process of gathering the feedback, and possible future steps by the Provost's office.
3. The Provost provided an update on the ongoing Graduate Employees' Organization (GEO) negotiations. Agreement had been reached on the terms of negotiation (e.g. the number of attendees at negotiations, the number of speakers, etc.) and the Provost had sent a letter to faculty about the GEO negotiations. The Provost invited AAAC members' feedback and faculty comments included: the helpfulness of the Provost's letter and the information it provided, faculty uncertainty about how to respond to the negotiations, the potential impact of the recent California negotiations, reflections on the difficulty of the 2020 strike, salary as a component of grant funds, and the impact of cost of living increases.
4. Artemis Leontis and Priti Shah introduced a discussion about faculty workload and AAAC's initial work on drafting a memo on this topic. Discussion included: the disproportional burden on women and underrepresented groups; less administrative support for faculty within some units; increase of user-unfriendly ticketing systems; the growing administrative burden of recommendation letters, teaching assessment, regulatory tasks, new trainings, accommodation emails, Canvas maintenance, and COVID-era challenges. Possible initial responses include: onboarding for the new ADVANCE director, leadership best practices on reducing or coalescing mandatory and administrative burden, questions about the helpfulness of collecting data on this issue, and the approach of taking away a faculty responsibility when a new responsibility is added.
5. After the Provost departed, the committee discussed plans for future meetings, including a discussion of SPGs, AAAC interest in hosting a symposium and/or invited lecture on the topic of sexual violence, and possible next steps on the faculty workload issue.

6. The next AAAC meeting is scheduled for February 23, 8:45 am

The meeting adjourned at approximately 12:15 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Marshall, Secretary (FSO)