

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

SUBJECT: March 2023 Faculty Governance Update

Overview of items discussed:

1. SACUA
2. Senate Assembly
3. Senate Assembly Committees
4. Faculty Senate

1. SACUA:

- Our month kicked off with the 32nd Annual Davis, Markert, Nickerson Academic Freedom Lecture on February 6 titled “Revisiting Du Bois and ‘The Propaganda of History’” by Jamelle Bouie, a *New York Times* columnist and a political analyst for CBS news. The [lecture](#) was a timely critique of efforts to stifle academic freedom by reactionary politicians across the US. The lecture drew 120 people in attendance, including Provost McCauley, and 180 people live streamed.
- SACUA members worked in teams of two on a range of faculty senate restructuring proposals that were presented to Senate Assembly (SA) for discussion. SA will be voting in March on a favorable model among these proposals and then will carry out a second vote to decide whether the proposed senate restructuring plan will be sent to the full University Senate for consideration or not.
- The Provost’s Office followed up on SACUA and SA’s concerns on the impact of ChatGPT and Open AI on academic integrity. The Provost’s Office is putting together an advisory working group on Generative Artificial Intelligence and SACUA was asked to nominate faculty members for Provost McCauley’s consideration. SACUA also advocated to having a later start for the winter term and was pleased to see a delayed start for Winter 2024 was proposed by Provost McCauley and approved by the Regents.
- Finally, I shared the anti-Asian racism resolution that was passed by SA in January with Vice Provost for Equity & Inclusion and Chief Diversity Officer Tabbye Chavous and received her acknowledgement of our work.

2. SENATE ASSEMBLY:

- As a first step of moving the senate restructuring discussion to a vote, SA voted to decide on the groups of faculty under consideration this term. The groups that are under consideration include assistant, associate, and full clinical professors, and archivists and curators. The complete vote outcome can be found [here](#). At the February SA meeting, I introduced four half-baked proposals developed by SACUA to the SA, and SA members had breakout room

discussion with SACUA members on each of the proposals. SACUA members will take this feedback and incorporate them into the proposals for SA to vote on in March.

- SA reviewed the ballot for the SACUA nominating committee, which consists of two outgoing SACUA members and four outgoing SA members and voted on the slate of SACUA nominating committee members. The nominating committee will approve the SACUA candidates for March's election.
- Finally, SA had a discussion around topics that we would want to bring to President Ono for his visit to SA in March. SA will be selecting the topics for faculty presentations to President Ono.
- In March, SA will host President Ono for a visit. Three SA members will give short presentations to President Ono on topics of SA's interest. President Ono will address the SA, and then there will be some Q and A. SA will also be voting on 3 new SACUA members. Finally, SA will discuss senate restructuring proposals and vote to identify the most favorable proposal among SA members. SA will vote on the favored model against no change in April.

3. SENATE ASSEMBLY COMMITTEES:

- The Administration Evaluation Committee (AEC) plans to put out its annual AEC survey in March.

4. UNIVERSITY SENATE:

- Depending on the outcome of the SA vote on senate restructuring, a full faculty senate meeting may be held. If the SA vote passes, a full senate meeting will be called for a full senate vote on senate restructuring.

Submitted: March 2023



Allen Liu, SACUA Chair
SACUA Regents Update March 2023