



Academic Affairs Advisory Committee (AAAC)
Ruthven Conference Room 1110 and via Zoom (hybrid)
February 23, 8:45 am

Minutes of Meeting: 2/23/2023
Circulated: 03/31/2023
Approved: 04/06/2023

Present: Christine Gerdes (Special Counsel to the Provost), Bruno Giordani, Aubree Gordon, Rachael Goldman, Emmanuelle Marquis, Laurie McCauley (Provost), Frank Pelosi, David Potter, Mark Rosentraub, Priti Shah (Chair), Jordan Siegel, Eric Vandenberghe

Absent: Andrew Chang, Julie Catalano, Artemis Leontis, Gabrielle Scott, Sergio Villalobos-Ruminott,

1. In preparation for the arrival of the Provost, the committee approved the minutes and discussed plans for upcoming meetings including: a proposed symposium on gender violence and discrimination, an update on SPG work, and an update on faculty efforts with Work Connections.
2. David Potter presented AAAC's statement endorsing SACUA's proposals regarding the new Office of Ethics, Integrity and Compliance to Provost McCauley, who will pass along the statement to the group working on this project.
3. Provost McCauley provided an overview of the UM Strategic Visioning Process, emphasizing the importance of faculty input.
 - Plans include: over the next two months, information will be collected from the academic community, with outreach across all communities, e.g. faculty, students, staff, alumni, etc. Based upon this feedback, themes and trends will be identified over the summer. In the fall, the identified themes and trends will be presented for feedback. The initial draft of the strategic vision will be presented in November, with a final version planned for January 2024.
 - Discussion included: the mission statement of the University will be examined, but it is not required to change this statement; the University's core values will be at the forefront of the process; a question was raised about the decentralized nature of the units and whether there will be specific and/or overarching goals for the units; public visibility of research was identified as a potential area of improvement; a need was expressed for a well-rounded curriculum and the visioning process as a good time to examine UM's core competencies; writing courses and the budgetary model was also discussed.
4. The faculty workload discussion included the topics of: the challenges of compliance training timing; the recent change to the academic calendar, as well as SACUA's role as a catalyst to this change; the shared services model and feeling a lack of human connection between staff and faculty with this model; issues with UM's purchasing system; demands of mandatory training and the role of legislation in determining the frequency of trainings; a suggestion was made to have a more centralized resource for all trainings; a workload



management consultant/czar was suggested as a possibility.

5. After the Provost departed, the committee discussed plans for future meetings, including: that the April meeting will focus on SPGs; a suggestion was made regarding additional AAAC meetings and for strategic planning meetings. Scheduling the meetings soon was recommended.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 10:17 am

Respectfully submitted,

Eric Vandenberghe
Faculty Governance Coordinator
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