

To: SACUA

From: Luke McCarthy, Director, Faculty Senate Office

Subject: Director's Report on Faculty Senate Office Activities

Date: January 27, 2022

Faculty Senate Office Activities

The FSO continues to productive:

- Ann and Eric have been extremely helpful supporting all the 18 of our Senate Assembly committees with scheduling, minutes, agendas, and reminder emails to committee chairs and members.
- The FSO has been quite busy all month with DMN lecture activities in preparation for the event on Monday, February 6th.
 - In preparation for the event, Rebekah Modrak has created a fantastic poster that will run on the busses during the week prior to the event. The FSO staff is also posting the posters around campus.
 - Director McCarthy has emailed everyone at the University multiple times about the event, and there is an event page on the Faculty Senate website with information about the event and event information included in multiple U-M event listings. Information has also been shared with the *Record* for an article publicizing the event. The program has been developed and will be printed for distribution at the event.
 - The speaker, Jamelle Bouie (NYT columnist), will be staying at the Inn at the League, and Director McCarthy and the DMN chair will be greeting and assisting the speaker when he arrives on the Sunday before the event.
 - On that Sunday night, a political science faculty member, Rob Mickey, will then host Jamelle for dinner some of his colleagues.
 - On the day of the event, the FSO has also organized a luncheon at the League with Jamelle, DMN Chair Stefan Szymanski, 8 fellows from the Wallace House for Journalism, plus the Wallace House director, and 11 student journalists from the *Daily*.
 - The main event, which will include brief remarks from the Provost, will begin at 4pm at the 100 Hutchins Hall, Law School. There will be a three-person video crew from Michigan Media to capture the event, with two cameras. The video will be livestreamed to YouTube with human-generated captioning. The video will be edited for use as a professional production for our historical archiving of the event.
 - After the lecture, there will be some light refreshments provided immediately outside the auditorium and a dinner that the FSO has organized at the Gandy Dancer. There will be approximately 28 people attending the dinner.
- The FSO assisted a meeting between the CFEI Chair, Nicolai Lehnert, and the leadership of Advance to discuss exit interview surveys as a means of examining faculty wellbeing at U-M.
- The FSO assisted with the election of two vacancy replacements to join SACUA, with the two people duly elected being Silvia Pedraza and Lindsey Admon. Director McCarthy met with new SACUA member Lindsey Admon to provide an onboarding orientation.

- The FSO worked with PEAR to organize Senate Assembly breakout groups to provide feedback to PEAR on their developing program.
- Director McCarthy wrote a letter to Tanesia White, Director of Civil Rights at the ECRT, in support of adding “caste” to the University’s list of prohibited discrimination factors. The letter references recent law review articles in support of such an addition. The letter was sent in advance of a meeting to be held on January 30th with Director White, the chairs of CFEI and CAR, and the current and immediately prior SACUA chairs. We are fortunate to be building on Secretary Spencer’s leadership and advocacy on this issue, including her prior meeting with Director White last summer. The aim of this follow-up January meeting is to try again to gain ECRT support prior to the Faculty Senate reaching out to the Regents to add the new language to the U-M bylaws.
- Director McCarthy has been assisting, in various ways, the ongoing efforts involved with the possibility of restructuring the Faculty Senate.
- Director McCarthy met with the President’s speechwriter and administrative assistant to discuss the President’s visit with the Senate Assembly in March.
- Director McCarthy met with an assistant director from OSCR regarding the need for SACUA to appoint a new member to the Appeals Board that reviews cases from OSCR. That appointment process will begin soon.
- Director McCarthy administers the Faculty Ombuds website, which he has updated to reflect the appointment of Stephanie Preston as one of the two University Faculty Ombuds.

SACUA Actions

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

- On January 25th, all nine SACUA members indicated by electronic vote through Simply Voting that they are available to begin SACUA meetings at 3pm for the rest of the term, permitting the SACUA meetings to end at 4:45. In light of that availability, SACUA meetings for the rest of this Winter Term will begin at 3pm and end at 4:45 so that members can be with their families 15 minutes sooner.