To: SACUA

From: Luke McCarthy, Director, Faculty Senate Office

Subject: Director’s Report on Faculty Senate Office Activities

Date: March 24, 2023

Faculty Senate Office Activities

The FSO continues to productive:

- The FSO staff continues its excellent work assisting all 18 SA committees by writing minutes, helping with agendas, scheduling meetings, and sending reminder emails.
- The FSO continues to assist with the ongoing Senate restructuring issue.
- The FSO completed its work notifying all the units that comprise the Senate Assembly of the most recent reapportionment and of how many assembly seats are available for election this year.
- The FSO has reserved Ruthven room 1100 and University Hall for tentative dates for all the SACUA and Senate Assembly meetings for next year as well as for the annual University Senate meeting.
- The FSO has begun a review of past SACUA, Senate Assembly, and University Senate resolutions as part of a project to compile and publish all prior resolutions still in effect.
- The FSO coordinated with the President’s Office regarding President Ono’s attendance at the March Senate Assembly meeting. President Ono has also now been scheduled to visit SACUA in May. The FSO is currently working on scheduling the President and the Provost for SACUA and SA meetings for next academic year.
- The FSO has been organizing a Faculty Senate 2034 Vision input session to be held on April 14th.
- Working with Chair Liu, advice was sent to all the committee chairs regarding the contents of final committee reports and the timing.
- The FSO attended a symposium for Research Track Faculty. Ann and Eric provided copies of the “Faculty Voice” summary of the Faculty Senate created for the Fall New Faculty Orientation. A sign-up sheet for intereset to volunteer for committee for next year. For the table, the FSO had designed a new Faculty Senate table covering to be used at this event and future events.
- The FSO assisted Chair Liu in sending an update to the Faculty Senate regarding a number of time-sensitive opportunities: registration for upcoming all-faculty 2034 Vision input sessions, a Bold Challenges event registration, and the form to volunteer for committees for next year.
- For the March Senate Assembly meeting, FSO worked with SA members and SACUA candidates to organize presentations during President Ono’s visit and SACUA candidates statements provided during the meeting.

FSO Director Activities

- I have been working with the chair of the DMN and the speaker, Jonathan Friedman, regarding scheduling the event. We are currently targeting Thursday, November 16th.
I have been working with the AAAC to organizing a keynote and panel discussion on the topic of reducing gender-based violence and harassment on campus. The original intention was to hold an event this term, but doing so proved too difficult to schedule. The plan now is to hold the event in the Fall Term on October 25th, with Jennifer Freyd to provide the keynote. I have reached out to Dr. Freyd, and she has graciously agreed to visit U-M to provide the keynote.

For next year’s Faculty awards, I have begun working on clarifying the authorizing documents and procedures supporting each award. Information and suggestions will be provided to SACUA, but this work does not need to be completed for this year’s awards.

I have been assisting the AEC with communication efforts regarding the annual evaluation of administrators, such as by sending a targeted email to all the administrators in the evaluation and coordinating with President Ono’s office regarding an email to be sent from the President in support of the evaluation.

SACUA Actions

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

- On March 8th, SACUA voted on nominations for the Honorary Degree Committee, resulting in five members being nominated: Audrey Bennett, Patricio G. Herbst, Tom Braun, Anna Stefanopoulou, and Nicole Ellison. The sixth nomination deadlocked in a tie between Devon Powers and Francine Dolins. To break the tie, SACUA voted on March 13th, resulting in another tie, with Chair Liu participating in the creation of that tie. To break the tie so this matter could be finally resolved, Chair Liu offered to change his prior vote to an abstention, permitting the rest of SACUA to determine the nomination. Doing so would result in Francine Dolins being nominated. This intention of Chair Liu changing his vote to an abstention to break the tie was communicated to SACUA with a request for SACUA members to raise any concerns. Hearing no concerns raised about the vote change for this particular situation, Chair Liu’s vote was therefore changed to an abstention, resulting in Francine Dolins being nominated. A packet of six nominations was then returned to the President’s office with the following SACUA nominations: Audrey Bennett, Patricio G. Herbst, Tom Braun, Anna Stefanopoulou, Nicole Ellison, and Francine Dolins.

- On March 14th, SACUA voted on three nominations to be return to the Provost’s Office for the Integrated Disability Management Advisory Committee that provides feedback for the Work Connections program. The vote resulted in the following two nominations: Vilma Mesa and Magdalena Zaborowska. However, the vote resulted in a three-way tie for the third nomination between Bruno Giordani, Emmanuelle Marquis, and Patricia Anderson. To break that tie, SACUA voted on March 17th, using ranked choice voting. Pursuant to that vote, Patricia Anderson was nominated. The following three SACUA nominations were therefore returned to the Provost’s Office: Vilma Mesa, Magdalena Zaborowska, and Patricia Anderson.

Senate Assembly Actions

Between meetings, the Senate Assembly has performed the following actions that should be included in the Senate Assembly minutes:
On March 22nd, the Senate Assembly voted on four restructuring proposals in order to identify one of them as the preferred model to serve as the framework for a subsequent implementing resolution. The four models were identified as “PROPOSAL #1: Representatives”; “PROPOSAL #2: Senate Expansion”; “PROPOSAL #3: Senate Expansion with Restructuring”; and “PROPOSAL #4: A Multi-Branch Collective Senate (aka the ‘Super Senate’)”. The Senate Assembly used ranked-choice voting, resulting in “PROPOSAL #2: Senate Expansion” being selected as the most-favored model.

On March 22nd, the Senate Assembly voted on the slate of SACUA candidates for the 2023 SACUA election, with three new SACUA members to be elected. Pursuant to that vote, the following two individuals were elected to SACUA: Vilma Mesa and Alex Y. Yi. There was a tie for the third SACUA seat between Heather O'Malley and Shanna Kattari. To break that tie, the Senate Assembly voted on March 24th between the two of them, with Heather O'Malley being thereby elected to SACUA. Vilma Mesa, Alex Y. Yi, and Heather O'Malley will begin their three-year terms on SACUA starting May 1st.