

Minutes 05-01-2023
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THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
Senate Advisory Committee on University Affairs
Monday, May 1st, 3:00

The hybrid meeting was held in 2010 Ruthven and remotely via Zoom

In-Person Attendance: Chair Braun, Professor Liu, Professor Mesa, Professor O'Malley, Professor Pedraza, FSO Director McCarthy, FSO Co-Ordinator Vandenberg, Secretary Spencer

Online Attendance: Professor Admon, Professor Cushing, Professor Modrak, Professor Yi

Absent: Vice Chair Partridge

Guests – Press – Remote attendance:
Katie Kelton, the *University Record* (virtual)
Madison Hammond, *Michigan Daily* (virtual)

3:02: The meeting began with introductions of the new SACUA members: Professor Vilma Mesa from the School of Education, Professor Heather O'Malley from the Medical School, and Professor Alex Yi from the College of Engineering at the Dearborn campus. Also introduced were the new SACUA Chair Professor Tom Braun of the School of Public Health, and Vice Chair Damani Partridge of LSA.

3:02-4:00: The first hour of the meeting was an informal session to familiarize new members with the Senate Assembly and its committees, the basics of parliamentary procedure, SACUA's Standard Operating Procedures, and a discussion of SACUA group norms and goals.

4:00: The formal business meeting was called to order at 4pm. The minutes of the April 24th meeting were approved by consent.

4:05: The SACUA Chair Reported that the FSO sent out emails announcing the May 25th Faculty Senate meeting and request for registration. The meeting is to discuss the resolution for faculty restructuring. We need a minimum of 100 members to achieve a quorum. We will be asking for individuals wishing to express information in favor of the resolution and against the resolution.

We have received both positive and negative feedback on the most recent SACUA statement about grading during the GEO strike. The polarized opinion about our statement is obvious and demonstrates there is no overall faculty consensus on the current grading issues. There have been public announcements from faculty and entire departments surrounding grading policies stated by the administration. The chair reiterated that there have been direct statements given to SACUA expressing alternative viewpoints to the statements in these letters.

The chair attended the GEO/UM administration negotiating meeting on 4/28 from 11:20am-noon, and again from 1:30pm-2:30pm.

The AAUP letter was sent by Julie Boland to Provost McCauley on Tuesday, 4/25. Provost McCauley emailed on 4/26 expressing her support, setting up a meeting of the Provost, Julie Boland, and SACUA Chair to discuss in greater detail and develop a greater understanding of what can be created to protect faculty.

President Ono will be visiting SACUA on 5/22, as will Regents Paul Brown and Sarah Hubbard (in separate time slots). We will find time in a prior meeting to develop thoughts we would like each to hear from SACUA. We highly encourage in-person attendance from those on the Ann Arbor campus (as well as those at Dearborn and Flint if they are able).

The Chair and Immediate past Chair Liu attended the UM graduation ceremony on Saturday, 4/29; the Immediate past chair attended the Rackham graduation ceremony on 4/28. The commencement speech by Wynton Marsalis was direct and motivational; the entire ceremony is available on YouTube; Marsalis's speech is around the 2 hour, 50 minute mark.

GEO Negotiations – Executive Session

Committee Needs: Faculty Expertise – The FSO coordinators have been working on committee reports and assessing the needs of the committees, based on their functions. The members of the faculty committees could be selected with regard to expertise needed to meet the goals and objectives of the committees. SACUA members will help to provide recommendations.

It was suggested that some committee chairs keep their assignments into the next year in order to keep from disrupting the work of the committee. A model for a committee vice chair to serve as chair the following year was also suggested.

Matters Arising: There were no matters arising.

4:50 Adjourn: The meeting adjourned at 4:50

Respectfully submitted,

Deirdre D. Spencer
Secretary

Addendum

SACUA Actions

- Between meetings, SACUA has performed the following actions that should be included in the SACUA minutes:
 - On April 19th, SACUA voted in the affirmative to make a minor technical correction in the implementing resolution to expand the University Senate

in order to resolve a textual ambiguity in Attachments A and B. Revised language in both attachments now reads as follows:

- For the purposes of Senate Assembly apportionment, UM-Dearborn members shall constitute a “UM-Dearborn” unit; UM-Flint members shall constitute a “UM-Flint” unit; and all Librarian, Archivist, and Curator members from all campuses shall constitute a “Library” unit of the Senate Assembly.

University of Michigan Bylaws of the Board of Regents, Sec. 5.02:
Governing Bodies in Schools and Colleges

Sec. 4.01 The University Senate

"...[t]he Senate is authorized to consider any subject pertaining to the interests of the university, and to make recommendations to the Board of Regents in regard thereto. Decisions of the University Senate with respect to matters within its jurisdiction shall constitute the binding action of the university faculties. Jurisdiction over academic policies shall reside in the faculties of the various schools and colleges, but insofar as actions by the several faculties affect university policy as a whole, or schools and colleges other than the one in which they originate, they shall be brought before the University Senate."

Rules of the University Senate, the Senate Assembly and the Senate Advisory Committee on University Affairs:

Senate: "In all cases not covered by rules adopted by the Senate, the procedure in Robert's Rules of Order shall be followed."

Assembly: "The Assembly may adopt rules for the transaction of its business. In appropriate cases not covered by rules of the Assembly, the rules of the University Senate shall apply."

SACUA: "The committee may adopt rules for the transaction of its business."