

Minutes: May 8, 2023
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THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
Senate Advisory Committee on University Affairs
Monday, May 8, 2023, 3:00

The hybrid meeting was held in 1100 Ruthven and remotely via Zoom

In Person Attendance: Chair Tom Braun, Professor Allen Liu, Professor Heather O'Malley, Professor Vilma Mesa, Professor Silvia Pedraza, FSO Coordinator Ann Marshall, Secretary Deirdre Spencer

Remote Attendance: Vice Chair Damani Partridge, Professor Lindsay Admon, Professor Simon Cushing, Professor Rebekah Modrak, Professor Alex Yi

Guests – Remote Press:

Katie Kelton – *University Record*
Joshua Nicholson – *Michigan Daily*

Guests - In Person:

Karen Downing – Development Advisory Committee (DAC)
Margaret Hudson, ISR
Alena Stocking, Note-taker Vision 2034 Project Team

Guests – Remote:

James Gulvas, Financial Affairs Advisory Committee (FAAC)
Dinesh Pal – Committee for Anti-Racism (CAR)

3:02 - Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 3:02. The minutes from the May 1st meeting were approved by consent.

SACUA Chair Updates: 1. Names of faculty members to serve on Faculty Senate Committees and Subcommittees are being solicited by the chair. SACUA members can enter their suggestions on a shared spreadsheet. 2. Reminder to attend the upcoming May 25th University Senate meeting to vote on the restructuring of the Faculty Senate. There have been 155 RSVPs received thus far.

FSO Director Updates: (1) The FSO held an appreciation luncheon for the ITS staff to recognize their expertise and thank them for assisting the AEC committee with the survey. Each staff member received individual certificates of appreciation, and a team plaque was presented as well. (2) The FSO Director and SACUA Secretary attended a 2-day workshop on Interfaith Initiatives. The purpose was to generate ideas regarding faith and spirituality as part of DEI and inclusion.

3:12 Committee Chair Reports:

Heather O'Malley, Information Technology Committee (ITC)
Karen Downing, Development Advisory Committee (DAC)
James Gulvas, Financial Affairs Advisory Committee (FAAC)
Dinesh Pal, Committee on Anti-Racism (CAR)

ITC Report by Heather O'Malley: The committee advises VP Ravi Pendse and met five times this year. The issue of equality of accessibility across all three campuses was carried over from 2020-2022. VP Pendse's authority covers Ann Arbor only and does not extend to the regional campuses in other than an advisory capacity. Former chair Rachel Vacek documented suggestions and recommendations. The overly broad use of CrowdStrike Falcon was discussed. It is used on all three campuses and Michigan Medicine to prevent security breaches. There are faculty trust issues regarding its use, as it is overly broad and considered invasive for people who are not engaged in sensitive research. It was suggested that there should be a policy from the OGC covering its use. The issue of international travel for faculty was raised regarding the security of their computers and mobile devices when crossing international borders. The equipment of some faculty has been confiscated by customs agents. The university's travel registry should be expanded to include recommendations for traveling and protecting one's equipment.

DAC Report by Karen Downing: Dr. Downing has served on the committee for three years. The committee which advises VP for Development, Tom Baird met 4 times this year. There were two goals for the committee this term. 1. Discuss and document fundraising goals for the university and integrate them with the 36 individual development units across campus; 2. Demystify the fundraising process for faculty and encourage ways for them to participate with development programming directed toward faculty.

Recommendations by the committee were to:

1. integrate unit level development efforts with new faculty orientation and on-boarding activities which would help to uncover information. The library development office director was a guest at one of the meetings. Librarian faculty regularly collaborate with the library development office to sponsor donor events, etc.
2. The Office of University Development could work with the Senate Assembly and Faculty Senate to deliver content that would be relevant to faculty centered development efforts.
3. The committee needs representation from more campus units. This year only the University Library and Michigan Medicine were represented.

FAAC Report by James Gulvas: The committee which advises CFO Geoff Chatas met 5 times this year. The committee charge was revised from the COVID-19 requirements of last year. This year issues such as sustainability, infrastructure, and DEI were addressed. There was little advising however, and more information and education sessions presented by the CFO's office. There were few deliverables this year.

Gulvas stated that education sessions are needed to onboard new members in place of the dependence on show and tell. The office was fairly transparent with information and addressed mainly Ann Arbor, not the regional campuses. (Michigan Medicine is separate as well).

Recommendations include dialog regarding the committee charge and the formation of subcommittees. More accountability is needed. The chairmanship is largely ceremonial. Conversations with the committee are not a high priority of the office. We should help cultivate faculty recommendations for budget priorities to be communicated at the

beginning or the end of the fiscal year.

CAR Report by Dinesh Pal –This committee is not advisory to a VP but could be in the future. The committee met 6 times this year and drafted 2 resolutions which were voted on and approved by SACUA and SA. These addressed Anti-Asian racism and Anti-Caste discrimination language.

Anti-Caste discrimination does appear on the ECRT website where there is a reporting link which provides a safeguard yet fall short of the desired goal. But, Pal stated that this falls short of a larger goal of having language included within official university language such as the Standard Practice Guide.

CAR initiated and passed through SACUA language recommending the formation a sub-committee to pursue the building of a larger, more prominent monument acknowledging the Native American land grant to the university.

CAR was contacted by a hospital in Oakland California who saw our website. CAR consulted with them via Zoom regarding their anti-racism efforts.

Recommendations are that CAR play a larger role than the current charge. CAR could serve in an advisory capacity to the Chief Diversity Officer and advocate for faculty regarding issues of race on a higher level.

The reporting mechanism on the CAR website is seeing traction by virtue of a second meeting with VP Tami Strickman to form a peer-to-peer faculty mentoring program. Changing the formal university language in the SPG, etc. regarding anti-caste discrimination and specific anti-Asian harassment would require a change in the Regents By-Laws.

Executive Session

4:01 - Vision 2034 SACUA Focus Group
Facilitator: Margaret Hudson, ISR
Note-taker: Alena Stocking, Vision 2034 Project Team

4:46 - Matters Arising: None

4:46 – Adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Deirdre D. Spencer
Secretary

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."