

**To:** SACUA

**From:** Ella Kazerooni & Bill Schultz, Co-Chairs, Rules, Practices and Policies Committee

**Subject:** Report on Activities of the Rules, Practices and Policies Committee for AY 22-23

**Members:** Ella Kazerooni (Co-Chair), Bill Schultz (Co-Chair), Meredith Kahn, Bruce Maxim, John Pasquale

**SACUA Liaison:** Sergio Villalobos-Ruminott

**Meeting Dates:** 10/25/22; 11/29/22; 12/13/22; 1/31/23; 2/21/23; 3/28/23; 4/25/23

### **Committee Charge**

#### Specific Charge 2022-2023

1. Review the University Senate Rules, last revised September 2021, and make recommendations for revisions to the Rules as needed in light of the use of technology that facilitates remote participation in Faculty Senate and Senate Assembly meetings.
2. Define criteria for faculty senate membership looking at how research track faculty and librarians were included in the faculty senate and possible representation in Senate Assembly in lieu of Faculty Senate membership.
3. Review information assembled by the Clinical Faculty Working Group as described in their Charge.
4. Review information assembled by the Lecturers' Employee Organization (LEO) as described in the Charge to LEO.
5. Develop recommendations and a report concerning representation of additional non-tenure track faculty groups (i.e. clinical faculty, lecturers, etc) in Faculty Senate and/or Senate Assembly.

### **Committee Actions**

The RPP committee spent the 22-23 term reviewing information and ramifications of restructuring the membership makeup of the University Senate. The committee regularly interacted with SACUA, the Senate Assembly, and the ad-hoc restructuring committee regarding this topic. The committee assisted SACUA in clarifying language to surrounding clinical faculty and narrowed the scope to clinical professors. The committee also navigated the definition of "tenure-related" with SACUA.

The committee reviewed the various faculty groups not represented by the university senate. In addition to the Lecturers, clinical faculty, archivists, and curators, the committee reviewed other groups, including professor of practice, professor emeritus, pharmacists, among others. The committee was of the mindset that more of the groups should be let into the University Senate than were approved by the SACUA or Senate Assembly votes on the matter.

The committee began to broach the topic of Senate Assembly Attendance. The goal being to increase turnout at meetings and participation in votes. This should be a topic revisited in the coming academic year

### **Information Obtained**

The committee reviewed data, both at the University of Michigan, and at other peer institutions, to guide their thinking on potential University Senate Expansion. The committee reviewed the results of any votes taken by the Senate Assembly in order to determine how best for SACUA to move forward.

### **Recommendations**

- Have the RPP committee as a permanent part of the Senate Assembly in order for it to properly address rules issues
- Assess issues related to Senate Assembly attendance. Find a way to incentivize representatives to attend and participate in Senate Assembly activity.
- Assess issues that arise as any potential faculty senate restructuring occurs based on the currently pending resolution.
- Perform review of bylaws to find potential issues to address
- Other potential topics of focus by the RPP committee at the final meeting of the semester include the following:
  - Voting
    - Electronic- is this the best way?
    - Timing- How long do votes stay open?
    - Anonymity- Should the results of votes be a matter of public record?
  - Apportionment of SACUA
  - 3 campuses, 1 university - Should the Ann Arbor campus have their own Faculty Governance?
  - Request that amendments to bylaws (Senate and Regents) be archived
  - Further expansion of the Senate -- Lecturers, Emeriti
- Current RPP members Meredith Kahn and Bruce Maxim are recommended as co-chairs



- It is recommended that the RPP committee have someone from the Medical school and one or two members from groups not currently in the senate