

Minutes November 13, 2023
Circulated December 6, 2023
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THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
Senate Assembly
Monday, November 13, 2023, 3:15
The Hybrid meeting was held in Ruthven 2000 University Hall and via Zoom

Virtual attendees: Ira Anjali (nonvoting), Christina Aplin-Snider, J. Biermann, Jonathan Brennan, Amanda Brown, Kathleen Brown (nonvoting), Amy Cheng, Daniel Drake, Allison Earl, Rawan Elhusseini (nonvoting), Paul Fossum (nonvoting, parliamentarian), Johannes Foufopoulos (nonvoting), Terri Friedline, Anouck Girard, Gideon Goodrich (alternate), Brendan Haug, Sarah Hawley, Ingrid Hendy, Yihe Huang, Stefanus Jasin, Inderjit Kaur, Shake Ketefian (Retiree, nonvoting), Carolyn Kuranz, Francesca Lameiro (nonvoting), Corey Lester, Yongqing Li, Brian Love, Shahzad Mian, Mojtaba Navvab, Mukesh Nyati, Heather O'Malley, Phillip Palmbo, Damani Partridge, Pamela Pennock, Derek Peterson, Alexander Rickard, Andre Monteiro Da Rocha, Kimberly Saks, Joel Scheuher, Abhishek Sekharan (nonvoting), Sara Soderstrom, Quentin Stout, Melanie Tanielian, Kentaro Toyama, John Traynor, Elizabeth Viglianti, Terri Voepel-Lewis (alternate), Sarah Vordenberg, Craig Wilkins, Sonia Xiang (nonvoting), Alex Yasha Yi, Jason Young, Bradley Zebrack, Paul Zimmerman.

In-person attendees: Tom Braun, Ann Marshall (FSO, nonvoting), Luke McCarthy (FSO, nonvoting), Vilma Mesa, Jessica Pasquale, Silvia Pedraza, Deirdre Spencer (Secretary, nonvoting), Eric Vandenberghe (FSO, nonvoting), Bob Ziff, and approximately seven student guests.

Press:

Katherine Kelton, *University Record*
Violet Boyd, *Michigan Daily*

3:15 Call to Order- The meeting was called to order at 3:26 / The Minutes were approved by Consent / Announcements

3:30 Resolution: Creation of a Senate Assembly Nomination Committee (Resolution #102323)

We are carrying forward business from the previous Senate Assembly meeting. There was a slide presentation on creation of the nominations committee.

SACUA approved the creation of a nomination committee. We will vote today on the committee's formation.

All third term Senate Assembly members would belong to the committee. It would result in a broader cross-section of university representation and would help the Faculty Senate Office with their recruitment for membership on committees. We would like to gather nominations throughout winter term, then have positions filled by May.

1. SA Amendment Revising Committee Chair Selection Results - SA Amendment Revising Committee Chair Selection (Amendment #1)

Vilma Mesa -- moved

Silvia Pedraza – second

Q. Who will chair? The committee will elect its own chair.

The Chair will return for 2nd year as chair but would no longer be part of Senate Assembly. We will need a chair for this year.

Vote to approve the small changes. **Section 1.3 would be replaced with entire set of text, changing how the chair of the nominations committee is selected.**

VOTE RESULTS: 43 yes and 0 no

Amendment 1 was approved.

2. SA Nominating Committee Resolution - Clarifying language without substantive changes to the resolution (Amendment #2)

The Chair asked whether this amendment might be adopted by unanimous consent.

There were no objections, so Amendment 2 was approved by unanimous consent.

3. Jessica Pasquale moved, and Vilma Mesa seconded, that the main resolution be approved, as revised.

VOTE RESULTS: 42 yes, 0 no, and 1 abstention

The SA Nominating Committee Resolution (Resolution #102323) was approved.

4:10 Draft Freedom of Information

There was a discussion regarding the draft “University of Michigan Principles on Diversity of Thought and Freedom of Expression” printed in the *Michigan Record* on October 19, 2023.

Members generally found the language admirable but hard to implement in practice.

This document involves a 3-phase process:

1. Work with a faculty committee to draft the document. The draft is **done**.
2. Release the document and get community feedback, through Nov. 2nd. This is **done**. Tim Lynch has received lots of feedback. In the Record it was stated that Ono, Lynch and the Regents will include this feedback as part of their deliberations of the principles.



3. Appoint a committee of students, faculty and staff charged with examining the extent to which the university community is living up to the principles stated in the document.

For phase 3, the SACUA chair will be on that committee and wants to hear from SA members about how he can best represent our input on phase 3.

Motion from the Floor asking the university to assess and publicize the financial investments by the University in the State of Israel. Results - SA Motion

Derek Peterson -- moved

Melanie Tanielian – second

The Chair inquired whether there were any objections to considering this issue since it is not on the agenda? Hearing no objections, the motion was considered.

After discussion about the language of the motion, the movant restated what would be voted upon as follows:

"The Faculty Senate Assembly asks the University's leadership to make clear and public the extent and nature of the University's financial investments in the State of Israel."

After further discussion, the Senate Assembly voted on the motion to approve the above request.

The Result of the Vote: 26 yes, 10 no, 6 abstain.

The motion was approved.

4:30 Definition of Tenure Discussion

SACUA has been dealing with this issue of the definition of tenure since the beginning of the semester. We are also working with our local chapter of AAUP on this issue. We need to begin talking about this issue in the Senate Assembly, in expectation that SACUA may send something related to the Senate Assembly for a vote later in the academic year.

4:50 Matters Arising

Faculty at UM Flint are being asked to teach all modalities at the same time, which requires considerable effort. The SACUA Chair will speak with the interim chancellor of Flint.

4:52 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."