

Minutes: November 20, 2023  
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THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN  
Senate Advisory Committee on University Affairs  
Monday, November 20, 2023, 3:00

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

**In Person Attendance** – Chair Tom Braun, Vice Chair Damani Partridge, Professor Vilma Mesa, Professor Silvia Pedraza, FSO Director Luke McCarthy, FSO Coordinator Eric Vandenberg, Secretary Deirdre Spencer

**Remote Attendance** – Professor Simon Cushing, Professor Anouck Girard, Professor Allen Liu, Professor Rebecca Modrak, Professor Heather O'Malley, Professor Alex Yi

**Guests:** President Santa J. Ono,  
Vice President and CFO Geoff Chatas  
Chair of AAAC Professor Emmanuelle Marquis

**Press:** Jeff Bleiler, *The University Record*  
Brock McIntyre, *Michigan Daily*  
Margot Lavie, *Michigan Daily*

**3:00 – Call to Order, Minutes, and Announcements**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 3:03

**3:05 SACUA Chair Update**

1. Met with CSG President Meera Herle and CGS Vice-President Bipasha Ray. Chair plans to meet regularly with them for the rest of the year, including the Monday after Thanksgiving. They discussed issues of concern and are planning next steps for working together. He plans to invite them both to a Senate Assembly or SACUA meeting and he in turn will attend a student government meeting.
2. The Chair and Vice Chair attended their first President's Council meeting. Faculty governance, student governance, staff and administration from all three campuses were represented. Under discussion was Tim Lynch's statement on academic freedom, the campus plan and vision statement. There was ample time for member input on all of the topics. They were polled regarding frequency of meetings and asked to solicit meeting ideas. There were 25 or so in attendance.
3. The chair and FSO director have been meeting with faculty who have reached out to them regarding Generative AI. Since the report came out from the Generative AI Advisory Committee there has been a surge of interest in the topic. They wanted to discuss deeper issues such as how this will define learning and what learning will look like at UM.
4. The FSO director (with support from the chair) is asking the Provost's Office for an additional person in the FSO office.

**3:15 AAAC Recommendation: SPG Review Committee**

After discussion, SACUA decided by consensus the following:

- SACUA supports the AAAC continuing its work on reviewing the four SPGs named in the AAAC recommendation;
- After that AAAC work is complete, SACUA may revisit this issue to decide whether to create a permanent committee with the administration for performing reviews of SPGs.

**Executive Session**

**3:30 – President Ono and VP-CFO Geoff Chatas RE: Dependent Care / Graduate Student Housing**

**Executive Session**

**4:00 10-minute debrief**

**4:10 Assistant Faculty Grievance Monitors and Grievance System Next Steps.**

We will be asking nominees for Assistant Faculty Grievance Monitors to forward statements of interest. We will need to vote on them soon, selecting our top 5. Candidates have until December 12<sup>th</sup> to submit statements. SACUA will be voting from December 13-15<sup>th</sup>.

**4:40 Matters Arising.**

The FSO will be sending out a request for nominations for members for the 5.09 committee to develop a pool, although we may not be able to vote on them before the end of the year.

**4:56 Meeting 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."