



## **University Senate Newsletter**

## January 2023 Allen Liu, Faculty Senate Chair

Remember to submit your Cleary Act reporting feedback. Read more below.



## **SACUA Update**

This month, SACUA welcomes Damani Partridge back to SACUA from his leave last year. SACUA also welcomes newly elected members Lindsay Admon and Silvia Pedraza (our immediate past SACUA chair). Our fall Faculty Senate meeting aimed to provide education for our Faculty Senate members on the issue of possible inclusion of clinical faculty and lecturers in the University Senate. This is a very complex issue, and SACUA (along with the SA Rules,

Practices and Policies Committee) is working to define the scope and language of future votes on the issue. This is an ongoing discussion.

SACUA met with Provost McCauley to discuss a number of pressing issues that the University is currently facing. We also met with Vice Provosts Sara Blair and Lori Pierce about ongoing academic challenges faced by faculty related to the pandemic.

# **Senate Assembly Meeting Summary**

At the January SA meeting, we had guests from Prevention Education, Assistance & Resources (PEAR), led by PEAR director Kaaren Williamsen. We received an introduction to PEAR's history (formed in Fall 2022) and PEAR's functions. We also learned from Carrie Landrum about Adaptable Resolution, which is as a set of conflict resolution and harm-repair services newly available to U-M faculty and staff through the Equity, Civil Rights, and Title IX (ECRT) Office. SA members had breakout groups with PEAR staff to have discussion on the three functions of PEAR services, prevention education, assistance, and resources. The feedback from SA members has been shared with the PEAR office.

SA discussed and voted on a <u>resolution</u> related to anti-Asian racism brought forward by the Committee on Anti-Racism (CAR), led by Dinesh Pal. The resolution passed with 35 Yes, 2 No, and 3 Abstentions.

Finally, I spent some time providing the latest update on the faculty senate restructuring discussion related to the incorporation of clinical faculty, lecturers, and other non-tenure track faculty groups. The goal of this information was to provide a framework of the potential votes that will take place in the coming months with the SA and the potential process we could follow. As changes to University/Faculty Senate structure likely would entail changes to the Regents Bylaws, I also shared with SA the scenarios for doing so and how these scenarios fit within our Winter Term timeline. Much of this is still under development but SA will play a crucial role in the determination of the next steps.

SA members have brought up two important areas that are of high relevance to many faculty. They are about the ongoing GEO negotiation and the impact of ChatGPT and Open AI on academic integrity. With respect to the latter, SACUA/SA/SA committees will work to engage the administration on this important topic.

#### Senate Assembly Looking Ahead:

In February, we will continue the important discussions on the topic of University/Faculty Senate composition.

#### **Faculty Senate Looking Ahead:**

The **Davis, Market, and Nicholson (DMN) lecture** will take place on **February 6**. Details can be found <u>here</u>.

#### Volunteer for a SA Committee

Lastly, I want to encourage you to consider volunteering for a SA Committee in the upcoming academic year. We have 11 committees with advisory roles to executive officers and 7 other committees that address matters important to the faculty. Serving on SA committees is a way to contribute to the university and connect with colleagues from other units. They will enrich your experience as a faculty member at Michigan – much like how undergraduate students join clubs and societies to enrich their educational experience. Please see the <a href="Faculty\_Senate Office website">Faculty\_Senate Office website</a> for more information about the committees. An interest form will be sent out in February.

#### **Contact your SA Representative**

Please feel free to reach out to your SA representatives if you have any questions, concerns, or feedback! The roster is available on the <u>Faculty Senate</u> <u>Office website</u>.

# Faculty Senate Office Requests Feedback

### **Cleary Act Reporting**

The Faculty Senate Office is collaborating with the U-M Clery Act Compliance Coordinator to improve the University's communications regarding reporting obligations under the Clery Act. We are most interested in feedback regarding any of the following:

- U-M's Clery Act information site here;
- The email communications provided to Clery Act reporters at the start of the Fall Term.

To submit your feedback, kindly use the form <a href="here">here</a>. Please do not provide feedback by replying to this email. The purpose of this feedback is to provide the Clery Act Compliance Coordinator with constructive suggestions to implement for next year.

Please note that the focus of this feedback is on information about Clery Act reporting obligations, **not** the sexual or gender-based misconduct reporting obligations for Individuals with Reporting Obligations (IROs) described on the ECRT's website <a href="here">here</a>.

# **GEO Negotiations**

The University has created a website to share information regarding the ongoing GEO negotiations. You may visit that site <a href="here">here</a> for background information and future updates.

#### **SACUA In the News**

Faculty Perspective: Remembering
H. Chandler Davis, by the Davis,
Markert, Nickerson Academic
Freedom Lecture Committee,
University Record, January 12, 2023

<u>Senate Assembly will vote to fill two</u> <u>SACUA vacancies</u>, by Katie Kelton, *University Record*, December 12, 2022 Senate Assembly discusses
prevention education, Faculty
Senate restructuring, by Courtney
Plaza, Michigan Daily, January 23,
2023

<u>Senate Assembly passes statement</u> <u>against anti-Asian racism</u>, by Katie Kelton, *University Record*, January 24, 2023



Faculty provide feedback to the Prevention Education, Assistance & Resources (PEAR) team at in-person and zoom breakout groups at the January 23 SA meeting.

# Newsletter of the Chair of SACUA and the Faculty Senate Office. January 2023 facultysenateoffice@umich.edu

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