

**M** | **FACULTY SENATE**  
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Faculty Senate Newsletter

---

**February 2023**  
**Allen Liu, Faculty Senate Chair**

---

Please [volunteer](#) to serve next year on a Senate Assembly committee! Read more below.



**SACUA Update**

Our month kicked off with the 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Davis, Markert, Nickerson Academic Freedom Lecture on February 6 titled “Revisiting Du Bois and ‘The Propaganda of History’” by Jamelle Bouie, a *New York Times* columnist and a political analyst for CBS news. The [lecture](#) was a timely critique of efforts to stifle academic freedom by reactionary politicians across the US. The lecture

drew ~120 people in attendance, including Provost McCauley, and ~180 people live streamed.

SACUA members worked in teams of two on a range of faculty senate restructuring proposals that were presented to Senate Assembly (SA) for discussion. SA will be voting in March on a favorable model among these proposals and then will carry out a second vote to decide whether the proposed senate restructuring plan will be sent to the full University Senate for consideration or not.

The Provost's Office followed up on SACUA and SA's concerns on the impact of ChatGPT and Open AI on academic integrity. The Provost's Office is putting together an advisory working group on Generative Artificial Intelligence and SACUA was asked to nominate faculty members for Provost McCauley's consideration. SACUA also advocated to having a later start for the winter term and was pleased to see a delayed start for Winter 2024 was proposed by Provost McCauley and approved by the Regents.

Finally, I shared the anti-Asian racism resolution that was passed by SA in January with Vice Provost for Equity & Inclusion and Chief Diversity Officer Tabbye Chavous and received her acknowledgement of our work.

## Senate Assembly Meeting Summary

As a first step of moving the senate restructuring discussion to a vote, SA voted to decide on the groups of faculty under consideration this term. The groups that are under consideration include assistant, associate, and full clinical professors, and archivists and curators. The complete vote outcome can be found [here](#). At the February SA meeting, I introduced four half-baked proposals developed by SACUA to the SA, and SA members had breakout room discussion with SACUA members on each of the proposals. SACUA members will take this feedback and incorporate them into the proposals for SA to vote on in March.

SA reviewed the ballot for the SACUA nominating committee, which consists of two outgoing SACUA members and four outgoing SA members and voted on the slate of SACUA nominating committee members. The nominating committee will approve the SACUA candidates for March's election.

Finally, SA had a discussion around topics that we would want to bring to President Ono for his visit to SA in March. SA will be selecting the topics for faculty presentations to President Ono.

---

## Senate Assembly Looking Ahead:

---

In March, SA will host President Ono for a visit. Three SA members will give short presentations to President Ono on topics of SA's interest. President Ono will address the SA, and then there will be some Q and A. SA will also be voting on 3 new SACUA members. Finally, SA will discuss senate restructuring proposals and vote to identify the most favorable proposal among SA members. SA will vote on the favored model against no change in April.

## Faculty Senate Looking Ahead:

---

Depending on the outcome of the SA vote on senate restructuring, a full faculty senate meeting may be held. If the SA vote passes, a full senate meeting will be called for a full senate vote on senate restructuring.

The Administration Evaluation Committee (AEC) plans to put out its annual AEC survey in March. Please be on the lookout for it and take part in this important survey.

## Volunteer for a SA Committee

---

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 [Faculty Senate Office website](#) for more information about the committees. An interest form has been sent out and can be found [here](#).

## 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 [Faculty Senate Office website](#).

## Opportunities of Interest

---

## Bold Challenges

---

The Office of the Vice President for Research is spearheading a "[Bold Challenges](#)" initiative "to empower researchers to create dynamic teams, produce transformative discoveries, and improve the quality of life for our communities, state, nation, and world." The Bold Challenges 2023 Boost Program provides financial support for research teams working on producing highly competitive proposals in response to large-scale external funding opportunities, with more information to be found [here](#).

The Bold Challenges initiative also has a number of upcoming events of potential interest provided [here](#). More details will follow about the April 14th Pollination Event (An In-Person Opportunity to Network, Meet Collaborators, and Build Teams).

The Bold Challenges program managers will be holding weekly office hours on Zoom on Thursdays, 10 am EST to answer questions about the programs, application process, and events ([Zoom link](#))

## GEO Negotiations

You can find information and update on GEO negotiations [here](#).

## SACUA In the News

[Lindsay Admon, Silvia Pedraza elected to fill SACUA vacancies](#), by Katie Kelton, *University Record*, January 13, 2023

[Senate Assembly discusses prevention education, Faculty Senate restructuring](#), by Courtney Plaza, *Michigan Daily*, January 23, 2023

[Academic Freedom Lecture to feature N.Y. Times columnist](#), by

[SACUA continues discussion about Faculty Senate restructuring](#), by Courtney Plaza, *Michigan Daily*, January 30, 2023

[Academic freedom lecturer addresses teaching of racial history](#), by Katie Kelton, *University Record*, February 7, 2023

[SACUA updates on anti-Asian sentiment, academic freedom lecture, election](#), by Ryan Kersten, *Michigan Daily*, February 20, 2023

Katie Kelton, *University Record*,  
January 30, 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](#).  
February 2023  
[facultysenateoffice@umich.edu](mailto:facultysenateoffice@umich.edu)**

---

---

This email was sent to [facultysenateoffice@umich.edu](mailto:facultysenateoffice@umich.edu)  
[why did I get this?](#) [unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)  
University of Michigan · Faculty Senate Office · [1109 Geddes Ave, Ste 1120](#) · [Ann Arbor, MI 48109-1079](#) · USA