

M | **FACULTY SENATE**
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Faculty Senate Newsletter

*Nominations for five Faculty Senate Awards are due May 9th.
More information is available [here](#).*

April 2023
Allen Liu, Faculty Senate Chair



Remarks from the Chair

This is the last newsletter from me as the SACUA Chair. It has been a tremendous honor to serve our faculty in this capacity from 2021-2022 and in 2023. I have met many wonderful colleagues from across campus, and I learned a lot during this time—I am grateful for the opportunity. I am optimistic about our continued collaboration between the faculty and administration on

shared governance. I encourage you all to participate in central faculty governance. I look forward to my last two official duties at the Rackham Graduate Exercises and the Spring Commencement. Go Blue!

Faculty Well-being Network

The [Well-being Collective](#) at the University of Michigan is a collaborative effort focused on making U-M a better place to live, work and learn for our students, faculty and staff by implementing a system-wide approach to supporting well-being. The Well-being Collective Steering Committee voted to establish several well-being networks to create a comprehensive infrastructure across the Ann Arbor campus. One of those networks being formed is a Faculty Well-being Network of faculty members from the Ann Arbor campus.

Faculty Nominations

The Well-being Collective Steering Committee is requesting faculty nominations to launch the Faculty Well-being Network. The aspiration is to have at least one faculty member from each School/College from the Ann Arbor campus, plus two co-chairs. Nominations of Ann Arbor campus faculty members are due **June 30th**.

Meeting Frequency

- Monthly, beginning in Fall 2023

Faculty Nomination Link

[Well-being Collective: Faculty Nomination Form](#)

SACUA Update

At its April 3 meeting, SACUA met with Dean Solomon from the Rackham Graduate School to discuss the Statement of Values, Privileges, and Responsibilities of the Rackham Graduate Faculty and provide feedback on the proposal. SACUA discussed and approved recommended changes to the Regents' Award for Distinguished Public Service to provide examples of public service. These recommendations will not effect this year's award, but the recommended changes will be pursued for next year. SACUA also began discussing strategies on safeguarding academic freedom and asked several Senate Assembly Committees to discuss this topic (Academic Affairs Advisory

Committee (AAAC), General Counsel Advisory Committee (GCAC), and Government Relations Advisory Committee (GRAC)). President Ono has indicated that his office is working on an Academic Freedom Statement and will seek out SACUA's feedback. SACUA also approved the language of the implementing resolution on the senate expansion proposal that was passed by the Senate Assembly (SA) in March. SACUA established a process for receiving amendments to the implementing resolution to be discussed and voted on at the April SA meeting.

At its April 10 meeting, SACUA met with AAAC members on their recommendations for the Standard Practice Guide review process and had a good discussion. SACUA also discussed and voted on a statement on the [GEO Negotiations](#). SACUA considered a resolution brought forward by the Committee on Anti-Racism (CAR) to create a Senate Assembly committee to pursue a land acknowledgment monument and will bring it to SA for discussion and vote. SACUA elected Tom Braun, Professor of Biostatistics, School of Public Health, and Damani Partridge, Professor of Anthropology, LSA as Chair and Vice Chair of SACUA, respectively. Congratulations to Tom and Damani!

On April 21, SACUA met and discussed the grading policies at LSA and approved a [statement](#) on the faculty's role in grading. At its April 24 meeting, SACUA met with the American Association of University Professors (AAUP) UM Chapter President Julie Boland to discuss a proposal requesting the provost to convene a task force on external harassment. SACUA also had brief discussions on a university-wide faculty salary survey, the status of the GEO strike/negotiation, and the remaining steps of the faculty senate restructuring process. Kentaro Toyama, Sergio Villalobos, and I have finished our SACUA term. Thank you to Kentaro and Sergio for all your work and wisdom.

Senate Assembly Meeting Summary

In the April meeting, SA discussed and voted on four amendments to an implementing resolution for a senate expansion proposal to add Clinical Professors (Assistant, Associate, and Full), Archivists, and Curators as Senate members. The amendments that were approved:

- Amendment 1: A 2/3 vote will be required for *future* changes of the Senate's membership.
- Amendment 2: The resolution contained voting restrictions on Clinical Professors, Archivists, and Curators that were removed while *retaining*

a restriction that only tenure-track faculty may vote on tenure-related issues.

- Amendment 4: A non-exhaustive list of "tenure-related issues" was added to the resolution.

One amendment was not approved:

- Amendment 3: Would have eliminated the restriction that only tenure-track faculty may vote on tenure-related issues.

The SA then voted and passed the [implementing resolution](#) with the approved amendments incorporated. The results were 33 Yes, 15 No, and 1 Abstention. The resolution will now be presented to the full University Senate for consideration.

During the April meeting, the SA also hosted Geoff Chatas, Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer, and Erik Lundberg to discuss an ethical framework for endowment investments. The SA also discussed and approved creating a SA committee to pursue a land acknowledgment monument. Finally, we also heard remarks from outgoing members.

Faculty Senate: Looking Ahead

The Faculty Senate Office hosted a focus group with SA and Faculty Senate committee members with the Strategic Visioning Process team on April 14th to discuss the strategic vision of U-M. [Vision 2034](#) is to focus on impact in several areas: 1) Academic Programs, 2) Student Experience, 3) Research, Scholarship, and Creative Activity, 4) Culture and People, 5) Service to Community, 6) Clinical Excellence, and 7) Spaces, Places, and Processes. I encourage your contributions and you can submit your ideas for Vision 2034 in any of the seven areas [here](#).

A University Senate special meeting will be held to discuss the resolution that passed in the Senate Assembly to expand the University Senate. The resolution would add Clinical Professors, Archivists, and Curators to the University Senate. The special meeting will take place on May 25 from 3:00 to 5:00 pm. The meeting will be hybrid and public, with details to be provided [here](#). You may register to attend [here](#).

The Faculty Senate Office is soliciting nominations for five Faculty Senate Awards through May 9, 2023. Awards are available in the areas of faculty governance, distinguished public service, and librarians. Please visit the

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

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.](#)

GEO Negotiations

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

SACUA In the News

[SACUA discusses academic freedom, fields nominations for upcoming elections](#), by Ryan Kersten, *Michigan Daily*, April 4, 2023

[SACUA elects Tom Braun chair, Damani Partridge vice chair](#), by Katie Kelton, *University Record*, April 11, 2023

[Tom Braun and Damani Partridge elected chair and vice chair of SACUA](#), by Joey Lin, *Michigan Daily*, April 11, 2023

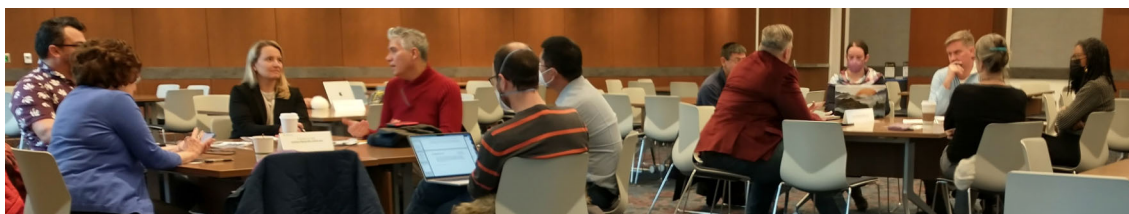
[Senate Assembly talks a physical land acknowledgement, Faculty Senate restructuring](#), by Joanna Chait, *Michigan Daily*, April 18, 2023

[Court order formalizes agreement for GEO to submit grades](#), *University Record*, April 22, 2023

[SACUA discusses task force for external harassment of faculty](#), by Abigail VanderMolen, *Michigan Daily*, April 24, 2023

[Faculty Perspective article: Inclusion of caste in U-M's non-discrimination policy](#), by Dinesh Pal, Manan Desai, Madhumita Lahiri and Matthew Hull, *University Record*, April 24, 2023

[Faculty Senate to consider expansion proposal](#), by Katie Kelton, *University Record*, April 25, 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](#).
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