

M | **FACULTY SENATE**
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Faculty Senate Newsletter

May-June 2023

Tom Braun, Faculty Senate Chair



Remarks from the Chair

I am now starting my second of three years with SACUA, and this is my first newsletter as the SACUA Chair. I first want to express how much I enjoyed attending the UM graduation ceremony this year and encourage everyone, who has not already, to hear the powerful words given by Wynton Marsalis at the ceremony. Now it is time, hopefully, for everyone to slow down a bit, reflect on the previous academic year, and catch up on work and activities that had to be postponed until summer.

SACUA Update

Damani Partridge (Ann Arbor), Professor of Anthropology, was elected as Vice-Chair of SACUA for the upcoming academic year; I look forward to leading SACUA with his expertise and guidance. We also welcomed three newly elected SACUA members beginning their three-year terms on May 1, 2023: Heather O'Malley (Ann Arbor), Assistant Research Scientist of Pharmacology, Alex Yasha Yi (Dearborn), Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering, and Vilma Mesa (Ann Arbor), Professor of Education and Mathematics.

At its May 1 meeting, SACUA informally spent the first hour familiarizing both old and new members with the function of the Senate Assembly and its 18 committees, the basics of parliamentary procedure, SACUA's Standard Operating Procedures, and a discussion of SACUA group norms and goals. The SACUA meeting then began formally with a review of the upcoming [May 25th University Senate special meeting](#) to discuss the Resolution to expand the Faculty Senate to include Clinical Faculty, Archivists, and Curators, followed by a conversation about the continuing GEO strike and faculty thoughts and concerns with the ongoing negotiations. You can find information and updates on GEO negotiations from UM administration [here](#) and from GEO [here](#). The remainder of the meeting was focused on the membership of the SACUA committees and our desire to identify individuals with expertise in areas that could meet the goals and objectives of the committees. SACUA members will provide recommendations to the chair, who then will reach out to those individuals seeking their interest in joining a committee. SACUA also discussed potential changes to the structure of the committees, including suggestions that committee chairs serve in their roles more than one year or that we develop a potential model for having committee vice chairs, who could then serve as chair the following year.

At its May 8 meeting, SACUA heard from four Senate Assembly committee chairs: Heather O'Malley, Information Technology Committee (ITC), Karen Downing, Development Advisory Committee (DAC), James Gulvas, Financial Affairs Advisory Committee (FAAC), and Dinesh Pal, Committee on Anti-Racism (CAR). Each chair presented a summary of the information detailed in their end-of-year report submitted to SACUA and responded to questions raised by SACUA during their presentation. The remainder of the meeting was allocated to a conversation with Margaret Hudson and Alena Stocking, who are

members of the Vision 2034 Project Team. The conversation focused on the role of faculty governance in Vision 2034 and input from several SACUA members were given.

At its May 15 meeting, SACUA considered final details concerning the May 25th University Senate special meeting to discuss the Resolution to expand the Faculty Senate to include Clinical Faculty, Archivists, and Curators and the additional amendment that was submitted to include Lectures in the expansion. The remainder of the meeting was allocated to hearing from five additional Senate Assembly committee chairs: (i) Analisa DiFeo, Medical Affairs Advisory Committee (MAAC), advisory to Marshall Runge, (ii) Yasmina Laour Committee on the Economic and Well-Being of the Faculty (CESWF), (iii) Yulia Sevryugina, Research Advisory Committee (RAC), advisory to Rebecca Cunningham, (iv) Nicolai Lehnert, Committee on Fairness Equity and Inclusion (CFEI), and (v) Rogerio Pinto, General Council Advisory Committee (GCAC), advisory to Tim Lynch. As in the previous meeting, each chair presented a summary of the information detailed in their end-of-year report submitted to SACUA and responded to questions raised by SACUA during their presentation.

At its May 22 meeting, the final meeting for the academic year, SACUA met to select an individual to be awarded the Distinguished Faculty Governance Award and an individual to be awarded the Regents' Award for Distinguished Public Service. SACUA also met for 30 minutes with UM Regent Sarah Hubbard and then for an additional 30 minutes with UM President Santa Ono. Topics included the continuing negotiations with GEO, their views on the role of faculty governance in UM administrative decisions, and their visions for all three UM campuses (Ann Arbor, Flint, and Dearborn).

Although SACUA will not be meeting again until mid-August, please know that SACUA and the Faculty Senate Office continue to focus on campus issues relevant to Senate members. Please contact me or the FSO with any issues you would like to discuss. Also, please feel free to reach out to your Senate Assembly representatives if you have any questions, concerns, or feedback! The [roster](#) can be found on the Faculty Senate Office website.

Faculty Senate Update

Faculty Senate Votes for Senate Expansion

On June 3rd, the University Senate concluded voting on the resolution, [Senate Expansion to Admit Clinical Professors, Lecturers, Archivists, and Curators](#). The resolution passed, with ~66 voting in the affirmative, ~34% voting in the negative, and ~1% abstaining. The official voting results are [here](#). With the passage of the resolution, a request to revise the Board of Regents' Bylaws will be made in order to permit these membership changes.

Preceding the most recent vote, the University Senate also passed an [amendment](#), which added Lecturers to the original expansion resolution to admit Clinical Professors, Archivists, and Curators. A collection of information and resources related to lengthy consideration of this issue (within various committees, the Senate Assembly, and the two most recent University Senate meetings) can be found [here](#).

GEO Negotiations

Updates and additional information on GEO negotiations are available [here](#) and [here](#).

Senate in the News

[SACUA discusses May 25 University senate meeting, hears committee reports](#), by Joshua Nicholson, *Michigan Daily*, May 15, 2023

[Faculty Senate voting this week on expansion proposal](#), by Katie Kelton, *University Record*, May 31, 2023

AEC Information Technology Appreciation Luncheon



IT members Robert Jones, Brian Cors, Elizabeth Barrieault, Haripriya Mahadevan, Christopher Gardner, and Michael Hess (in abstentia) are honored for their exemplary contributions to the AEC survey at a May 1, 2023 luncheon, with Vice President for IT and Chief Information Officer Ravi Pendse, AEC Chair Semyon Meerkov, SACUA Immediate Past Chair Allen Liu, AEC SACUA Liaison Silvia Pedraza, and FSO staff members Luke McCarthy, Eric Vandenberghe, and Ann Marshall also attending.

Newsletter of the [Chair of SACUA](#) and the [Faculty Senate Office](#).
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