

Minutes January 8, 2024
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THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
Senate Advisory Committee on University Affairs
Monday, January 8, 2024, 3:00
The hybrid meeting was held in 1100 Ruthven and via Zoom

In Person: Chair Tom Braun, Vice Chair Damani Partridge, FSO Director Luke McCarthy, Prof. Heather O'Malley, FSO Coordinator Erich Vandenburg, Secretary Deirdre Spencer

Remote, Prof. Simon Cushing, Prof. Anouck Girrard, Prof. Rebekah Modrak, Prof. Allen Lieu, Prof. Alex Yi

Absent: Silvia Pedraza

Press:

Katie Kelton: *University Record*
No representation from *The Daily*

3:00: Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 3:02. There were no minutes to approve from the last meeting.

3:05: SACUA Chair Update

1. The chair is part of the Big Ten Consortium. He met with the Faculty Senate counterpart at Michigan State University (MSU), Jack Lipton. Their board of trustees is in turmoil. Their faculty senate chair is asking for new individuals. The university hired a new president. The governor may intervene with the issue of the board of trustees. Chair Braun suggested that SACUA meet with the MSU Faculty Senate.
2. The chair and the FSO is meeting with Sascha Matish from AHR to discuss faculty grievance procedures. They will discuss how to make the process more enforceable and how to make the process easier to follow through.
3. FSO Director announced we voted for Assistant Faculty Grievance Monitors. Faculty Grievance Monitor Karen Stallar is looking forward to meeting with us, along with the new assistants Scott Masten, Silke Weineck, Jennifer Griggs, and Donald Likosky.

3:10: UM-Flint Tenure Support Statement Vote

1. SACUA members spent time during the meeting editing a draft statement regarding support for tenured faculty at UM-Flint prior to voting on its acceptance. The title would be "SACUA Statement in Support of Tenure at U-M Flint"
2. After extensive editing, the document was approved by unanimous consent.
3. SACUA agreed to send it in advance to Chancellor Fry and the faculty members from UM-Flint who met with SACUA. The statement would be distributed to

University Senate members through the UM targeted email system. The FSO would ask the *Record* if they would publish the statement.

3:30: 5:09 Process and the Standing Tenure Committee –

The FSO Director gave a slide presentation regarding the 5.09 process. SACUA discussed the 5.09 process and the Standing Judicial Committee described in the process.

4:15: Matters Arising

Teaching Modalities

1. The question was asked if faculty have the capacity to change in-person lectures to Zoom. It is the understanding of the chair that faculty don't have the ability to decide the modality of the class. Officially, all classes are in-person, and faculty must request permission to teach hybrid classes.
2. According to the FSO director, there are concerns raised at UM-Flint about a new "flex" modality that permits students to choose individually how they engage with the same course: in-person, synchronously online, and asynchronously. Faculty are finding this modality challenging.

Faculty Sanctions

SACUA continued an ongoing discussion of how the university sanctions faculty.

4:45: Adjournment -- The meeting was adjourned at 4:45

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."