

Minutes: April 8, 2024
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THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
Senate Advisory Committee on University Affairs

Monday, April 8, 2024, 3:00

The hybrid meeting was held in 1100 Ruthven and via Zoom

In-Person Attendance: Chair Tom Braun, Vice Chair Damani Partridge, FSO Director Luke McCarthy, Professor Vilma Mesa, Professor Heather O'Malley, Professor Silvia Pedraza, FSO Coordinator Ann Marshall, Secretary Deirdre Spencer

Remote Attendance: Professor Lindsay Admon, Professor Simon Cushing, Professor Allen Liu, Professor Rebekah Modrak, Professor Alex Yi

Guests: Provost Laurie McCauley
Christine Gerdes, Special Council to the Provost

Press: Katie Kelton, *University Record*
Anna Pierson, *Michigan Daily*

3:00 Come to Order and Minutes Approval

The meeting was called to order at 3:03. The minutes were approved by consent.

Chair Updates: There were no updates due to the tight time constraints of the meeting.

3:05 SA Agenda Approval; 9-Month Salaries; Eclipse Vote

The April Senate Assembly agenda needs to be approved today. Doing so will require first discussing the administration's draft disruptive activity policy and also a resolution received from the AAAC related to faculty pay. However, due to the disruptive activity of a solar eclipse, SACUA tabled those discussions so members could see the eclipse, with protective glasses provided by the FSO.

3:30 Guest: Provost --- Executive Session

4: 00 SACUA Officer Election E-Vote

Professor Rebekah Modrak was elected SACUA chair and Professor Heather O'Malley was elected vice chair. Both ran unopposed. The results were reported in the [University Record](#).

Comments from the candidates:

Chair-elect Modrak described herself as a community organizer and advocate who has led 2,000 to 3,000 faculty members through a group known as Community Advocates. She described SACUA's activities as reactive rather than proactive. She also asserted that faculty feel isolated in their schools.

Vice Chair-elect O'Malley has worked as a clinical researcher from 2014. While her

focus is on her research, she enjoys working with students, and is proud of the work SACUA has done. She says that it is an honor to serve.

4:15 Matters Arising

SACUA returned to the tabled discussions. With minor revisions, SACUA approved for Senate Assembly consideration a “Resolution on Salary Increase Underpayments for Faculty on University Year Appointments.”

With minor revisions, the Senate Assembly agenda was also approved.

4:45 Adjourn—The meeting adjourned at 4:48.

Addendum

SACUA Actions

Between meetings, SACUA has performed the following actions that should be included in the SACUA minutes:

- On April 1, 2024, SACUA approved the final draft of a letter detailing concerns about the use of course recordings as part of a required and ongoing administrative review of a faculty member’s classes.
- SACUA had received a recommendation from the Rules, Practices, and Policies (RPP) in the RPP’s 2022-2023 final report that it be made a standing committee of the Senate Assembly. SACUA approved the recommendation on April 5, 2024. The question will now be referred to the Senate Assembly for consideration.

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 polices 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.”