To: SACUA

From: Gabriel Rauterberg, Chair, Development Advisory Committee

Subject: Report on Activities of Development Advisory Committee for 2023-2024

Members:

Nakhiah Goulbourne
Gintautas Grabauskas
John Mansfield
Kimberly McKee
Stefan Szymanski
Xin Tong
Ivy Wei
Alexander Zaslavsky
Yaqing Zhang
Julian Hemmings
Rainbow Huang

SACUA Liaison:

Silvia Pedraza

Meeting Dates:

Wednesday 10/18 from 1-2pm
Thursday 11/16 from 11am-12pm
Wednesday 12/6 from 1-2pm
Wednesday 2/14 from 1-2pm
Thursday 3/21 from 11-12pm
Wednesday 4/10 from 1-2pm

Committee Charge
1. With the assistance of the Faculty Senate Office and the Office of University Development (OUD), spearhead a fundraising drive for the Faculty Senate’s Faculty Undergraduate Scholarship.

2. With OUD, develop recommendations for better clarifying how faculty can assist with OUD and unit-level development initiatives — including by considering how OUD and units communicate to faculty through online sources, learning modules, faculty orientations, or other professional development venues and activities.
3. Assist OUD with providing better transparency to the UM community regarding UM endowment funds, such as the rules governing expenditures using endowment funds and how the necessary level of an endowment is determined.

4. Consider such other emergent issues or topics brought forward by DAC committee members or the Vice President for Development for discussion over the course of the year. While coordinating with the Faculty Senate Office to help avoid duplicating work that SACUA has now referred to itself or to another committee, the committee may also continue discussing any issues or topics raised in the committee’s most recent annual committee report.

Committee Actions

The committee worked to raise funds for the UM Faculty Undergraduate Scholarship. In conjunction with the Office of University Development (OUD), as well as the Faculty Senate Office, the committee produced a solicitation email that was sent by the SACUA Chair to every member of the Faculty Senate. This solicitation was sent on April 24th.

After consultation with OUD, the committee utilized a crowdsourcing tool to serve as a landing page for the current donation campaign. At the time of writing, the current campaign has raised $1420. The goal is to increase the number of scholarships given out each year, which will require approximately $75,000.

The committee held preliminary conversations on how to improve communication and faculty understanding regarding the University’s endowment. The committee met jointly with the Financial Affairs Advisory Committee and with the University’s Chief Investment Officer Erik Lundberg to gain a better knowledge of the endowment.

Information Obtained

The committee was provided with insight into how faculty can best get involved with their unit’s development efforts. Each unit has their own development staff that faculty can engage with.

The committee met with members of OUD and learned about the history and current status of the UM Faculty Undergraduate Scholarship. The committee learned about best practices for raising funds for the scholarship, and employed this knowledge in its current fundraising campaign.

The committee joined a jointly held meeting with the Financial Affairs Advisory Committee with guest Erik Lundberg, who is the Chief Investment Officer for the University. CIO Lundberg provided insight into the endowment and answered questions committee members had. This led to a better understanding of the endowment.
Recommendations

Continue to work toward the fulfillment of charges proposed by SACUA.