

Minutes: May 13, 2024
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THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
Senate Advisory Committee on University Affairs
Monday, May 13, 2024, Time
The hybrid meeting was held in 1100 Ruthven

In Person attendance

Chair Rebekah Modrak, Professor Tom Braun, Professor Vilma Mesa, FSO Director Luke McCarthy, FSO Operations Manager Meghan Blanchard, FSO Coordinator Ann Marshall, Secretary Deirdre Spencer

Remote attendance

Vice Chair Heather O'Malley, Professor Simon Cushing, Professor Derek Peterson Professor Soumya Rangarajan, Professor Melanie Tanielian, Professor Alex Yi

Press: Katie Kelton – *University Record*
Edra Timmerman – *Michigan Daily*

3:00 Come to Order and Minutes

The chair called the meeting to order at 3:01. The minutes were approved with revisions.

3:05 SACUA Chair Update

Chair Modrak introduced the topic of two summer working groups. One is to develop a proposal regarding the ethical investment of the University's endowment funds from positions of sustainability, an environmental ethos, human rights, and an economy of peace that does not fuel the arms and defense sectors. The aim is to develop a proposal to consider presenting to VP Chatas and the Regents in the fall. The other group would be to address issues raised in the CESWF recommendations about the University's January changes to retiree health benefits within the Medicare Advantage plan.

A member asked what were the plans of the working groups that would come out of the summer. Many SACUA members will not be available in the summer to participate. Two SACUA members indicated interest in assisting this summer, and there will be an opportunity for SACUA input later.

FSO Director Update:

SACUA members should provide preferences for liaison work via the link provided by the FSO Director by May 16th.

A retreat is planned for Friday September 13th. It will entail a full day through lunch. Boating is a suggested activity at Gallop Park.

A meeting with Regent Weiser will be occurring in the SACUA meeting next Monday, the 20th, between 4:30 to 5:10 or so.

The FSO is finalizing nomination packets for the Regents' Award for Distinguished Public Service and the Distinguished Faculty Governance Award. A non-binding ranking poll is being prepared, with a request that SACUA members rank the nominees for both awards before next Monday at noon. The informal ranking will serve as a starting point for SACUA's discussion, but SACUA will make the actual award selections during the meeting.

3:10 Committee Nominations

It was moved and seconded to approve the current drafts of all committee rosters, except for SRAC.

Discussion:

There are a few nominations outstanding for SRAC, so that roster is not ready for approval yet.

It was noticed that there was a lack of consistency across committee reports regarding faculty titles. The FSO will double check all rosters over the summer to update titles. Some faculty have had promotions since they first joined a committee that should be reflected in the roster.

CAC (Communications Advisory Committee) and CSEWF (Committee on the Social and Economic Well-being of the Faculty) do not have chairs. If those vacancies are not filled, pursuant to Senate Assembly Resolution #102323, the SACUA Chair may appoint chairs to serve for those committees, with notice provided to SACUA and an opportunity for SACUA to reconsider that appointment.

SACUA voted in favor of approving all of the committee rosters, excluding SRAC.

3:40 President Ono Hearing Faculty Perspective Article

SACUA reviewed and provided input on the first draft of a SACUA letter helpfully written by Professor Derek Peterson. The subject of the letter is considerations for President Ono as he prepares remarks, upon being [subpoenaed by a U.S. House committee](#). The letter was not finished during the course of the meeting and editing would continue during the week via a Google Doc.

4:10 SACUA Meeting Time – The Chair suggested that the SACUA meeting time in the fall be changed to return to the prior 3:15 – 5:00 pm time slot on Mondays, but after receiving input, the meeting time will stay as the current 3:00 – 4:45 time slot.

4:15 Matters Arising – Recommendations for meeting with Regent Weiser will be in a Google Doc.

U-M Flint received a new chancellor: [Dr. Laurence Alexander](#), from University of Arkansas, Pine Bluff.

SACUA continued work on drafting the letter to Ono, but the letter was not completed by the end of the meeting.

Adjourned 5:05 -- The meeting was adjourned at 5:05pm

ADDENDUM

SACUA Actions

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

- On April 30, 2024, SACUA nominated the following faculty to the Honorary Degree Committee:
 - Francine Dolins, Associate Professor of Psychology, Department of Behavioral Sciences, College of Arts, Sciences and Letters, The University of Michigan-Dearborn
 - Pamela Pennock, Professor of History, Department of Social Sciences, College of Arts, Sciences and Letters, The University of Michigan-Dearborn
 - Christina Aplin-Snider, Associate Professor of Nursing, School of Nursing, The University of Michigan-Flint
 - Thomas Wrobel, Professor of Psychology, Department of Behavioral Sciences, College of Arts, Sciences and Education, The University of Michigan-Flint
- Pursuant to a vote on May 7, 2024 and a tiebreaking vote on May 10, 2024, SACUA nominated the following faculty to the Residency Appeals Committee:
 - David Potter, Francis W Kelsey Collegiate Professor of Greek and Roman History, Arthur F Thurnau Professor and Professor of Greek and Latin, Department of Classical Studies, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts
 - Nina White, Assistant Research Scientist, Mathematics and Lecturer IV in Mathematics, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts

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."