

To: SACUA

From: Luke McCarthy, Director, Faculty Senate Office

Subject: Director's Report on Faculty Senate Office Activities

Date: October 4, 2024

### Faculty Senate Office Activities

The FSO continues to be productive:

- Assisted committee chairs with the following:
  - Meeting scheduling for the year ahead
  - Taking meeting minutes
  - Preparing agendas
  - Distributing documents and meeting notices to committee members.
- Held the annual SACUA retreat
- Assisted with holding the first Senate Assembly meeting of the year.
- Held the first two events of a series of faculty on-campus “[work retreats](#)” to provide faculty an opportunity to focus on their work alongside faculty colleagues, with lunch provided.
- Held a [faculty mixer](#) to welcome faculty back to campus and introduce new faculty to their colleagues.
- After a new process for filling a vacancy on SACUA was approved at the September 23<sup>rd</sup> Senate Assembly meeting, began following the process in order to fill a current vacancy.
- Assisted the chair of the AAAC with two complex issues: (1) a misalignment between faculty 9-month appointments and the academic calendar and (2) U-M support for dependent care
- Assisted with organizing a supplemental session with the Senate Assembly to review a climate report about to be released focused on sexual misconduct
- Started the nomination process for an upcoming election of a Faculty Senate member from the Ann Arbor campus to sit on the Police Department Oversight Committee.
- Assisted SACUA with nominations for four committees:
  - The Military Officer Education Committee
  - An AI working group being created by the Provost
  - A Faculty Grievance task force being created by the Provost
  - An SSR&I Cross-Campus Steering Committee steering committee focused on enhancing religious, spiritual & interfaith (SSR&I) diversity on campus.
- Worked on the logistics of a large number of upcoming events, including the following:
  - The annual DMN lecture, including the following:
    - [Political Speech and The Public Square](#) events on the diag.
    - The bi-annual [Regent Candidate Forum](#).
  - The annual full meeting of the [University Senate](#) on November 4th.
  - [Innovate Brew](#): an initiative to randomly match faculty with faculty colleagues from across the U-M system for coffee meetups.

- Continued assisting with the work of the Ethical Investment Committee.
- Assisted SACUA members with attendance at home games, with passes to the Regents' guest area.

### FSO Director Activities

- Assisted the RPP with continuing work on finalizing a set of recommended changes to the Senate Rules.
- Assisted the SACUA Working Group of Public Health, which met with Chief Health Officer Rob Ernst, with SACUA members Rebekah Modrak and Heather O'Malley participating.
- Assisted the SACUA Chair and the Pauline Jones, the Director of the Michigan in Washington program, with running the September 10<sup>th</sup> [Political Speech and The Public Square](#) event focusing on climate policy, and planning for the October 8th event focusing on reproductive rights.
- Assisted the SACUA Chair with various letters to the Faculty Senate:
  - November 4<sup>th</sup> Faculty Senate Save the Date
  - RSVP email and registration for October 16<sup>th</sup> panel on whether the university should adopt "institutional neutrality."
- Assisted SRAC with its first meeting of the year, reviewing the upcoming process to amend the Statement of Student Rights and Responsibilities pursuant to the regular tri-annual process. Due to unavoidable circumstances, the SRAC chair could not attend the meeting, so another member was found and supported to perform the chair role for one meeting.
- With the SACUA chair, attended the September 19<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Board of Regents.
- Attended a meeting of the Staff Budget Engagement Committee
- Continued logistical tasks related to the upcoming annual DMN lecture, including the following:
  - Evaluating whether to move the lecture to a larger forum
  - Planning continued promotion of the event, including on the radio through Michigan Public and in the *Record*
  - Coordinating video production of the event
  - Emailing a save the date with registration to all faculty and staff
  - Organizing a supplemental event on November 13<sup>th</sup>, in coordination with the CEW+, the Department of Women's and Gender Studies, and the Ford School
  - Submitted a proposal to the CEW+ that was approved to provide funding to purchase copies of the most recent book of the DMN speaker (Judith Butler)
- With the SACUA Chair, met with the U-M Benefits Office regarding a change of benefits limiting coverage of GLP-1 injectables prescribed for weight loss.
- Assisted the SACUA Chair in various other meetings.
- Contacted members of the Standing Judicial Committee with ending terms to inquire as to whether they would like to continue on the committee.
- Assisted LAC faculty with electing a LAC representative for the Senate Assembly.

## SACUA Actions

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

- On September 16<sup>th</sup>, SACUA voted electronically on nominations for the “SSR&I Cross-Campus Steering Committee,” resulting in a tie between two faculty members. On September 19<sup>th</sup>, SACUA voted to break the tie, thereby appointing William Calvo-Quiros, Associate Chair, Department of American Culture, Associate Professor of American Culture, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts and Associate Professor of Art and Design, Penny W Stamps School of Art and Design
- On September 16<sup>th</sup>, SACUA voted electronically on nominations for a LGBTQIA2S+ Task Force and thereby appointed Sari Resiner, Associate Professor, School of Public Health, Epidemiology
- On September 18<sup>th</sup>, without objection, SACUA voted electronically on approving the language of a public statement to be provided by the SACUA Chair at the September meeting of the Board of Regents. Pursuant to the vote, the public statement was approved. The statement called on the Regents to listen to faculty input and respect the principles of shared governance. The statement was subsequently delivered by the SACUA Chair during the public comment period of the meeting of the Board of Regents held on September 19, 2024.
- On September 27<sup>th</sup>, SACUA voted electronically on nominations for a Vision 2034 Artificial Intelligence Working Group. Pursuant to that vote SACUA nominated the following three faculty:
  - H. V. Jagadish, Edgar F Codd Distinguished University Professor of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, Bernard A Galler Collegiate Professor of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, Professor of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, College of Engineering and Director of the Michigan Institute for Data Science
  - Mary Rodena-Krasan, Lecturer IV in Germanic Languages and Literatures, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts
  - Sanjeev Kumar, Lecturer II in Business, Stephen M Ross School of Business
- On September 27<sup>th</sup>, SACUA voted electronically on nominations for the Military Officer Education Committee. Pursuant to that vote, SACUA appointed Anouck Girard, Arthur F Thurnau Professor, Professor of Robotics and Professor of Aerospace Engineering, College of Engineering
- On October 1<sup>st</sup>, without objection, SACUA voted electronically on language for use by the Faculty Senate Office and the SACUA Chair to respond to requests for SACUA/Senate Assembly statements. The language provides that SACUA is pausing on issues such statements, due to the large volume being received and the need for SACUA to channel its energies toward addressing issues through seeking policy changes. Pursuant to that vote, the language was approved.

- On October 4, 2024, SACUA voted electronically on nominations for a Faculty Grievance Procedure Task Force. Pursuant to that vote, the following faculty were nominated:
  - Rebekah Modrak, Professor of Art and Design, Penny W Stamps School of Art and Design
  - Parag Patil, Associate Professor of Neurosurgery, Associate Professor of Anesthesiology, Associate Professor of Neurology, Medical School and Associate Professor of Biomedical Engineering, College of Engineering and Medical School
  - Lauren B. Smith, Professor of Pathology, Medical School

### LAC Faculty Actions

Between regular meetings, the Librarian, Archivist, and Curator faculty of the University Senate has performed the following actions that should be included in the minutes of the LAC Faculty Senate member minutes:

- On September 9, 2024, the LAC faculty of the University Senate elected to the Senate Assembly Craig Smith, Senior Associate Librarian, University Library