

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
Senate Advisory Committee on University Affairs
The hybrid meeting was held in 2010 Ruthven and via Zoom

Minutes of Meeting: May 19, 2025
Circulated: August 22, 2025
Approved: August 25, 2025

Present: Derek Peterson (Chair), Meaghan Blanchard (FSO), Kirsten Herold, Ann Marshall (FSO), Luke McCarthy (FSO), Heather O'Malley, Rebekah Modrak (Immediate Past Chair), Soumya Rangarajan (Vice Chair), Melanie Tanielian, Kentaro Toyama, Alex Yasha Yi
Absent: Jesse Capecelatro, Vilma Mesa

Press:

Genevieve Monsma – *University Record*
Glenn Hedin – *Michigan Daily*

3:02 Call to Order and Approval of the Minutes

- The May 12, 2025 meeting minutes were approved.

3:05 Chair's Update

- The newly elected University Senate Secretary, Rogério Meireles Pinto, was welcomed to his first SACUA meeting.
- At the May 15th Regents meeting, Chair Peterson provided a brief statement as the new SACUA Chair. Chair Peterson will follow-up with Regent Paul Brown regarding the discussion of [Motion 1](#) that occurred as part of Chair Peterson's Regents meeting remarks. At the same meeting, SACUA member Kirsten Herold was recognized as outgoing LEO President.
- Chair Peterson recently met with newly appointed Interim U-M President Grasso. During the meeting, Chair Peterson called for action on [Motion 1](#), the resolution about a mutual compact of BTAA schools, and [Motion 4](#), a resolution regarding international students.
- The Faculty Ombuds search is ongoing, with both Rebecca Modrak and Derek Peterson reviewing candidates. The finalists are to be interviewed by SACUA.
- SACUA members will be asked to identify faculty nominees to serve on the Dean of Public Health Search Committee and the Director of the Life Sciences Institute (LSI) Search Committee.
- Chair Peterson expressed appreciation for a Faculty Senate Office report detailing a thorough list of FSO activities.

3:11 Presidential Search; Draft Statement

- SACUA members discussed a draft *Statement of Principles Concerning the Upcoming Presidential Search*. SACUA members discussed interest in having the statement reflect the responses received from the survey of Senate Assembly members as well as the importance of upholding transparency throughout the search

process. SACUA plans to finalize the text within the next 24 hour at which time a vote on the statement will commence.

3:44 Senate Assembly Elections & Unit “Professionalism” Requirements; Draft Resolution and Letter

- SACUA members discussed a drafted letter about Medical School faculty eligibility for Senate Assembly elections. The letter, to be sent to the Medical School dean and two executive vice deans, asks that unit-level “professionalism” requirements not prescribe who can run for Senate Assembly seats. After discussion, approval of the letter was moved by Soumya Rangarajan, seconded by Kirsten Herold, and passed unanimously with one abstention.
- Relatedly, a [Resolution Regarding Recent Medical School Senate Assembly Ballot Provision](#) was discussed. Approval of the resolution was moved by Melanie Tanielian, seconded by Heather O'Malley, and passed unanimously with one abstention. In addition to being a public document, the letter will be sent with the aforementioned approved letter.

3:58 New Business

- Without objection, New Business was moved from the end of the meeting to being the next agenda item of consideration.
- A SACUA member raised concerns about U-M Flint’s closing of the Recreation Center pool.

4:00 Faculty Awards

- This agenda item was during Executive Session and no minutes were taken.

4:31 Committee Nominations

- This agenda item was during Executive Session and no minutes were taken.

5:00 Adjourn for Summer Break

Pending Matters

At the close of the meeting, the following items were pending matters for later resolution:

- Chair Peterson would discuss Motion 1 with Regent Paul Brown
- The Faculty Ombuds search
- SACUA nominations for the Dean of Public Health Search Committee and the Director of the Life Sciences Institute (LSI) Search Committee.
- SACUA’s draft *Statement of Principles Concerning the Upcoming Presidential Search*

ADDENDUM

SACUA Actions

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

- On March 16, SACUA nominated the following faculty for a Nursing School Dean Search Advisory Committee being formed by the Provost's Office:
 - **Emily Dove-Medows**, Assistant Professor of Nursing, School of Nursing
 - **Kathleen Potempa**, Professor of Nursing, School of Nursing
 - **Shahzad Mian**, F. Bruce Fralick Professor of Ophthalmology, and Professor of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences, Medical School
- On March 19, SACUA nominated the following faculty for a Kinesiology School Dean Search Advisory Committee being formed by the Provost's Office:
 - **Stefan Szymanski**, Professor of Sport Management, School of Kinesiology
 - **Sara Soderstrom**, Arthur F Thurnau Professor, Associate Professor of Organizational Studies, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, Associate Professor of Management and Organizations, Stephen M Ross School of Business, Director, Program in the Environment and Associate Professor of Environment, Program in the Environment, School for Environment and Sustainability
 - **Michele Bird**, Clinical Assistant Professor of Kinesiology, School of Kinesiology
- On March 19, SACUA selected the following faculty to receive a faculty award:
 - Distinguished Faculty Governance Award
 - **Michèle Hannoosh**, Professor of French, Department of Romance Languages and Literatures, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts
 - Regents' Award for Distinguished Public Service
 - **Lilia Cortina**, University Diversity and Social Transformation Professor, Chair, Department of Women's and Gender Studies, Professor of Psychology, Professor of Women's and Gender Studies, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, Professor of Management and Organizations, Stephen M Ross School of Business
 - **Stephen Ward**, Arthur F Thurnau Professor & Associate Professor of Afroamerican and African Studies, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, Associate Professor & Director Academic Program, Semester in Detroit Program, Residential College
- On March 21, SACUA approved a "Statement of Principles Concerning the Upcoming Presidential Search" regarding the selection of a new U-M president, and approved a list of potential candidates for private submission to the Board of Regents.
- On March 21, SACUA nominated for the President's consideration the following faculty for the Advisory Board on Intercollegiate Athletics:
 - **Seth Guikema**, Professor of Industrial and Operations Engineering and Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering, College of Engineering
 - **Doo Jae Park**, Lecturer III in Kinesiology, School of Kinesiology and Lecturer I in American Culture, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts

- **Kate Wroblewski**, Lecturer IV in History, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts
- **Sara Soderstrom**, Arthur F Thurnau Professor, Associate Professor of Organizational Studies, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, Associate Professor of Management and Organizations, Stephen M Ross School of Business, Director, Program in the Environment and Associate Professor of Environment, Program in the Environment, School for Environment and Sustainability
- On March 30, SACUA nominated the following faculty for a School of Public Health Dean Search Advisory Committee being formed by the Provost's Office:
 - **Aubree Gordon**, Professor of Epidemiology and Professor of Global Public Health, School of Public Health
 - **Caren Goldberg**, Ruth H Strang M.D. Research Professor of Pediatrics, Clinical Professor of Pediatrics, Clinical Professor of Cardiac Surgery, Medical School
 - **Jon Zelner**, Associate Professor of Epidemiology, School of Public Health
- On March 30, SACUA nominated the following faculty for a Director of the Life Sciences Institute (LSI) Search Advisory Committee being formed by the Provost's Office:
 - **Phyllis Hanson**, Minor J Coon Collegiate Professor of Biological Chemistry, Chair, Department of Biological Chemistry, Professor of Biological Chemistry, Professor of Cell and Developmental Biology and Professor of Neurology, Medical School
 - **Connie Wu**, Research Assistant Professor, Life Sciences Institute, Assistant Professor of Biomedical Engineering, College of Engineering and Assistant Professor of Pharmaceutical Sciences, College of Pharmacy
 - **Shyamal Mosalaganti**, Assistant Professor of Cell and Developmental Biology and Assistant Professor of Biological Chemistry, Medical School and Research Assistant Professor, Life Sciences Institute, Assistant Professor of Biophysics, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts
- On June 6, SACUA approved its written report for a pending 5.09 proceeding, pursuant to a vote of the tenured members of SACUA.
- On June 18, SACUA approved a "Statement Concerning Surveillance on the University of Michigan Campus."
- On June 24, SACUA approved a statement concerning the new travel policy requiring that all University of Michigan employees book flights for university-related travel exclusively through Collegiate Travel Planners (CTP).
- On June 30, the Librarian Achievement Award selection committee selected this year's award recipient:
 - **Karen Downing**, Librarian, Education Liaison, Library Research, Social Sciences and Clark Library, University Library

- On June 30, the University Librarian Recognition Award selection committee selected this year's award recipient:
 - **Maggie Vanderford**, Librarian for Instruction and Engagement, William L. Clements Library
- On July 17, SACUA approved the roster for the Senate Assembly's Information Technology Committee (ITC).
- On July 23, upon the decision of the SACUA Chair, the Chair of the UM-Flint Faculty Council, and the Chair of the UM-Dearborn Faculty Senate, Jackie Lawson Memorial Faculty Governance Award was granted to the following faculty member:
 - **Bruce Maxim**, Narasimhamurthi "Nattu" Natarajan Collegiate Professor of Engineering, Professor of Computer and Information Science, College of Engineering and Computer Science, University of Michigan-Dearborn
- On August 1, SACUA voted to remove a member from the GCAC roster.
- On August 18, SACUA appointed the following faculty nominated by the deans of their respective academic units to the Library Council for three-year terms beginning on September 1, 2025:
 - **Enrique García Santo-Tomás**, Frank P Casa Collegiate Professor of Spanish and Professor of Spanish, Department of Romance Languages and Literatures, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts
 - **Lynda Oswald**, Louis and Myrtle Moskowitz Research Professor of Business and Law and Professor of Business Law, Stephen M Ross School of Business
 - **Claire Pettersen**, Assistant Professor of Climate and Space Sciences and Engineering, College of Engineering

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Marshall
Faculty Governance Coordinator, Faculty Senate Office

[University of Michigan Bylaws of the Board of Regents, Sec. 5.02:](#)

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.”