



Student Relations Advisory Committee (SRAC)

Minutes of Meeting: 9/19/25

Circulated: 10/8/25

Approved: 10/17/25

Present: Jonathan Brennan, Cindee Giffen, Matt Lassiter, Jamie Niehof, David Potter, Joel Scheuher, Stephen Ward, Kirsten Herold (SACUA), Devon Woodruff (graduate student), Marita Inglehart (Chair), John Kloosterman, Connie Tingson Gatuz (Associate Vice President for Student Development, Learning, and Social Change Education), Tonya Marion (Office of Student Life), Martino Harmon (VP for Student Life), Sri Likhita (graduate student), Charlie Koopmann, India Hayes (OVPSL)

Absent: Bruno Giordani

Guests: Lindsey Mortenson, M.D., M.S., Clinical Assistant Professor Chief Mental Health Officer, University of Michigan Student Life

Jesse Beal, Director of the Spectrum Center, Student Life

Faculty Senate Office: Eric Vandenberghe, Luke McCarthy

11:30am-11:37am: Call to Order, Approval of Agenda and Minutes, Announcements

The agenda was approved. Introductions were made. There were no minutes to review.

11:37am-11:51am: Student Life Updates and Current Issues

Summary: VP Harmon provided an update on the work of OVPSL. Student move-in took place at the start of the term. The volunteers who assisted with this are thanked.

The Ginsberg Center opened a new center on corner of Hill and E. University. It is a dynamic Building with lots of space. Their new space is an upgrade. The central campus residential unit will provide space for 2300+ residents and will open in Fall of 2026. A lot of progress has been made. The progress with building a new recreation center is discussed.

There is a new umbrella unit for student resolution resources. This new unit includes OSCR and OSSA. They all strive to be restorative according to VP Harmon. A member offers the opinion that they are not restorative. There will be an update to the hazing policy.

President Grasso sent his response to the committee's proposed amendments to the SSRR. There is one outstanding issue, regarding the reconstitution of an appeals board. Members indicate the importance of these appeals boards. Brief discussion ensues.

Action: Updates

11:51am-12:34pm: Gender Affirming Care

Summary: The Chair introduces this topic and indicates that University Leadership's



decision to [cease offering gender-affirming care](#) to minors is shameful and likely to be illegal according to the [statement](#) made by Michigan Attorney General Dana Nessel.

Professor Mortenson introduces herself and indicates that she brings perspective from CAPS. Background is provided on how this change will affect community members, particularly with counseling services. Counseling services remain intact. She explains that federal and civil charges are a huge concern of many physicians. A call for compassion for these physicians is made, as they have been put in a very precarious position.

Spectrum Center Director Beal is introduced and provides an overview of their background. They explain that this announcement concerning ceasing offering gender-affirming care was expected, but the actual timing was not known prior. The Spectrum Center stands as a resource to the LGBTQIA+ community. This is a crisis. The impact on this community is devastating.

Director Beal offers their thoughts on the decision. A significant portion of the UM committee is part of the LGBTQIA+ community. Modeling how to mourn and how to grieve that are communal and based in relationship, towards action is necessary at this time. There needs to be a sense of belonging. How do we reflect on our struggle? We have to reach back. Our history of struggle has not been erased.

A member thanks the guests and indicates that this is an institutional failure. A member offers insight into this issue and provides [data](#).

A member indicates that this decision could have cost Medicaid funding, which would be devastating in a different way.

A member discusses the cloaked nature of major decisions by upper administration and Regents. The lack of transparency is discussed. A member states that making this announcement at Day 1 of the Fall term was an incredibly insensitive timing, making any students who need gender-affirming care rejected and not welcome on their first day of classes.

A member asks what faculty governance can do to be helpful. Possible action to be taken at the University Senate Meeting is discussed.

Action: Discussion

12:34pm-12:44pm: Discuss committee charge for 2025-26

Summary: The Chair reads through the Charge items. She strongly suggests that committee reach out to her with suggested guests well in advance of the meetings. The prioritization of the charge items is discussed. The process for approval of the charge is discussed.

Action: Discussion

12:46pm-1:08pm: Discuss president's response to SRAC proposed amendments to the Statement on Student Rights and Responsibilities and next steps

Summary: The Chair introduces this topic and expresses disappointment with the response.



She provides an overview of the responses to the 19 proposed amendments and explains (a) which were accepted (#1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 13, 15, 19), (b) which of these were accepted but with an opposite wording (Example: #119), (c) which were rejected because of the Regents' vote (8, 9, 11, 12, 14) and (d) which were rejected due to "redundancy" and because of legal guidance to do so (#3, 6, 10, 16, 17). The regents' vote referred to was related to the specific changes in July 2024 that are now not going to be revised at this time. Discussion ensues with the next steps that the committee should take.

A member suggests requesting an audience with members of the Board of Regents to try to work with them. The Chair provides the history of the committee from last year to the current moment. Another member suggests inviting particular members of the board.

A member indicates that the response was unacceptable, and disrespectful.

A member offers their view on how to effectively sway members of the Board. Another member suggests providing them with a compelling story that can contextualize the importance of some of these changes, particularly reconstructing the appeals board.

The Chair concludes the meeting by indicating that the topics for the next meeting will include:

1. A revised Student Sexual and Gender-based Misconduct Policy
2. A new University of Michigan Policy Against Hazing in compliance with the Stop Campus Hazing Act
3. A new University of Michigan Interim Policy and Procedures on Discrimination, Harassment, and Retaliation by Students to comply with Title VI
4. And a discussion of the next steps concerning the SSRR amendment.

Action: Discussion

1:08pm: Adjournment

Respectfully submitted,

Eric Vandenberghe
Faculty Governance Coordinator
Faculty Senate Office