

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Senate Advisory Committee on University Affairs (SACUA)
The hybrid meeting was held in 1100 Ruthven and via Zoom

Minutes of Meeting: November 17, 2025

Circulated: November 25, 2025

Approved: December 8, 2025

Present: Derek Peterson (Chair), Meaghan Blanchard (FSO), Jesse Capecelatro, Kirsten Herold, Ann Marshall (FSO), Luke McCarthy (FSO), Vilma Mesa, Susan Najita, Kentaro Toyama

Absent: Rebekah Modrak (Immediate Past Chair), Rogério Meireles Pinto (Secretary), Soumya Rangarajan (Vice Chair)

Press:

Genevieve Monsma – *University Record*

Maddyn Shapiro – *Michigan Daily*

Guests:

Marita Inglehart, Student Relations Advisory Committee (SRAC) Chair

3:02 Call to Order and Approval of the Minutes

The November 10, 2025 meeting minutes were approved.

3:05 SACUA Chair Update

- A meeting has been scheduled with interim CFO Bobby Hewlett, Chair Derek Peterson, and SACUA member Jesse Capecelatro to discuss [Motion 1, the resolution on Collegiate Travel Partners \(CTP\)](#), and the CTP survey results. A meeting has also been scheduled with CFO Hewlett to discuss Work Connections.
- In December, Chair Peterson will meet EVP David Miller to discuss [Motion 2, the resolution on Gender Affirming Care](#).
- In the upcoming weeks, a meeting will be held to discuss [Motion 4, on the topic AI](#), with attendees including Chair Peterson, movant Silke Weineck, and VP Ravi Pendse.
- For [Motion 5 on CSCAR](#), a meeting has not yet been set with VP Arthur Lupia.
- An announcement is expected regarding help from ECRT in relation to [Motion 6, the resolution on making U-M materials digitally accessible](#).
- Plans are underway to follow-up with the Regents on [each of the nine approved Faculty Senate motions](#). Regent Brown is scheduled to be a guest at SACUA in a couple of weeks, and Regent Acker’s visit to SACUA will be rescheduled (he was unable to attend SACUA today due to a last minute scheduling conflict).
- Chair Peterson will email the full Faculty Senate with an update on actions taken since the passage of the nine Faculty Senate motions.
- The next [Political Speech and the Public Square](#) will be held on November 18 on the topic, “Surveillance: Does it Make Us Safer?” with moderator Mira Edmonds.

Professor Edmonds serves on the newly formed DPSS committee. It was noted that there are two new security cameras facing the Diag.

- The next [Faculty On-Campus Work Retreats](#) will be held on November 19th and 20th at the North Quad, room 2345, from 9 am to 1 pm.
- As discussed in a [recent Michigan Daily article about Work Connections](#), SACUA has long advocated for changes to Work Connections. In the upcoming months, both [FAAC](#) and [AAAC](#) will continue to push for reforms to Work Connections, and a meeting with Chair Peterson, members of both committees, and VP Bobby Hewlett is being planned. In addition, CESWF Chair Stefan Syzmanski has requested to speak at the upcoming Regents meeting on the topic of Work Connections.
- Also on the topic of Work Connections, the Total Worker Health Advisory Committee is scheduled to meet on Thursday, November 17, and SACUA's representative, Vilma Mesa, is unable to attend. At this meeting, the committee is expected to roll out a two-year plan. It was noted that Integrated Disability Management (IDM) was the name of the entity that had to-date managed Work Connections. In preparation for the meeting, Member Mesa also received documents about the work of the committee from CHO Robert Ernst. Kirsten Herold will check her schedule to see if she is available to attend the November 17th meeting to represent SACUA.
- Kirsten Herold shared information about an upcoming town hall. On December 4th, speakers will share their experiences about Work Connections. LEO is one of the co-sponsors, and the Regents have been invited to attend. Member Herold will speak on behalf of several individuals who wish to remain anonymous. While progress has been made on specific cases with Work Connections, systemic issues have not yet been addressed.

3:17 SA Agenda Approval

- Chair Peterson reviewed the November 24th draft Senate Assembly agenda. There was discussion about the breakout groups planned for the agenda item, "Publicizing the Impacts of Research Funding Cuts."
- **Action Item:** It was recommended that breakout groups be organized into affinity groups, such as groups focused on the social sciences, engineering, Medical School, etc.
- **Approval:** The Senate Assembly agenda was approved by unanimous consent without any changes.

3:20 University Discipline of Student Protesters

- Marita Inglehart, Chair of the Student Relations Advisory Committee (SRAC) joined the meeting. SRAC Chair Inglehart also has extensive experience serving as the Faculty Senate appointee to the Office of Student Conflict Resolution (OSCR) Appeals Board.
- SRAC Chair Inglehart provided an update on recent processes related to the cases of eleven student activists undergoing disciplinary procedures by OSCR. She shared that it has been a very stressful time for both the students going through the process

- and for herself and others serving on the Appeals Board. There have been numerous process problems, including those related to the [SSRR](#). Students went through a process prior to August 2024, and then those decisions were thrown out, and now the students have been called back to yet another set of procedures. This means that the students have been subject to disciplinary procedures for fourteen months. In addition, students who requested a student panel did not receive one. There have been conflict of interest issues with an OSCR staff member (see [Daily article](#)) providing the initial OSCR student intake process while also being the non-neutral complainant for most cases. These process issues have negatively impacted students in numerous ways. It has meant that students have been considered in poor academic standing for extended periods of time and have had an indication of poor academic standing on their transcript while trying to apply for an internship, medical school, and/or law school. These impacts on students' academic standing have resulted from a student simply holding up a sign at the Honors Convocation.
- There have also been transparency and communication issues, with Appeals Board members not being given full information about cases and with there being no follow-up with Appeals Board members regarding the outcome of cases. The students who have been subject to these proceedings have been high-achieving students. For example, one student had compiled a long list of character statements from both organizations and individuals. The process is no longer an education-centered experience and the proceedings have instead had a chilling effect on protest and on students' first amendment rights.
 - **Discussion of Next Steps:** SACUA members expressed interest in having SACUA sign on to Central Student Government (CSG) and Rackham Student Government resolutions on these issues. Both CSG and Rackham have passed resolutions that request that future hearings be postponed until there are enough students trained to serve on student panels. It was suggested that this issue goes to the heart of what an academic institution is about and that SACUA could usefully pursue multiple communications, i.e. a Faculty Perspectives Record article and an op ed outside of U-M. Many faculty don't know about these procedural flaws. It was also suggested that there might be a joint meeting of CSG, Rackham, and SACUA.
 - **Action Items:** As immediate next steps, Chair Peterson will 2) contact Eric Wessel, Director of OSCR, 2) bring together CSG and SACUA to address the issues raised during the meeting and to continue to involve Marita Inglehart as helpful, and 3) draft a resolution for SACUA to consider.
- 4:04 Cameras; SPG 510.02: Physical Security Technologies**
- The university has replaced [SPG 606:01 Proper Use of Security Cameras \(Internet Archive version\)](#) with a new [SPG 510.02 Physical Security Technologies](#).
 - Chair Peterson wrote to Rick Arnold, Interim Director of DPSS, with concerns about the new SPG 510.02, including that the new policy does not mention academic freedom and also does not mention spaces, such as academic spaces and resident halls, that are excluded from surveillance. In response, Rick Arnold, had shared the [STEP FAQ](#). The FAQ however is not a policy document and there are discrepancies

between the FAQ and the SPG.

- There was also an ownership change with the prior SPG 606:01 being owned by the Provost, the CFO, OVPR, and VPMA, and the new SPG 510.02 being owned by DPSS. Additional concerns with the new SPG include less provisions in general for public spacing, no reference to the prior SPG, and provisions for oversight being replaced with an option for outreach.
- It was noted that, in Texas, there are policies that gender and race inequality can't be discussed without first talking with the president, and that such issues are particularly relevant to the humanities.
- **Action Item:** Chair Peterson will follow-up with Rick Arnold with SACUA's concerns and also contact OGC with an invitation to visit SACUA to discuss SPG 510.02. It was also suggested that the policy change be raised with CSG, and that the surveillance issue and OSCR issue are related.
- **Action Item:** Faculty Senate Office will work on creating documentation on changes to SPGs.

4:00 New Business

- No new business items were raised.

4:18 Grievance Procedures

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

4:45 Adjournment

Respectfully submitted,

Rogério Meireles Pinto
Faculty Senate Secretary

[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.”