

**The University of Michigan
University Senate
Motion #110325-7**

Motion to Restore Fair Rules and Rule of Law to the University

Whereas fair rules and the rule of law are under attack in the United States and worldwide;

Whereas unfair rules have historically been used to discriminate against and harm targeted groups at the national level (e.g., Jim Crow laws used to target Black Americans) and at the University of Michigan (e.g., the removal due process in SSRR, to target student human rights protesters);

Whereas the University of Michigan is a public institution with a responsibility to treat all of its faculty, staff, and students as citizens, to commit to shared governance, and to be transparent and democratic in how rules are modified;

Whereas although the Statement of Student Rights and Responsibilities (SSRR) has always followed a formal process in which the Regents, the faculty Student Relations Advisory Committee (SRAC), and Central Student Government collaboratively amend the code of conduct, President Grasso recently added language breaking with this tradition. Now, “The Board of Regents maintains the right to modify the Statement outside of the traditional amendment process”;

Whereas University administrators have overturned at least three unanimous decisions by faculty grievance panels in the past year alone;

Whereas the University administration has been disregarding its own stated procedures in cases such as the firing of Director of the Office of Academic Multicultural Initiatives Rachel Dawson;

Whereas the University has amended its SSRR to move away from a fact-finding, due process, and restorative model to one that empowers complainants-for-hire and administrators, discounts “fairness,” and prioritizes “swiftness”;

Be it resolved we call for the university to adopt the SRAC’s proposed amendments to the SSRR, especially those which undo the Regents July 2024 unilateral changes, to ensure that the code is amended by student, faculty, and regents collectively, and provide respondents with a Hearing Board and ensure that the Hearing and Appeals’ Boards findings are respected;

Be it further resolved we call for the administration to publicize the full findings and any dissents of committees convened to discuss policy issues, such as Institutional Neutrality or diversity statements;

And be it further resolved we call for the administration to respect the findings of faculty grievance panels and to ensure that hearing boards made up of faculty, students, and staff play a role in the SSRR process, and to accept their decisions.

***Movant:** Scott Greer, Professor Health Management and Policy, School of Public Health*

Supporting Members:

***Germiné Awad**, Professor of Psychology, LSA*

***Craig Smith**, Librarian, U-M Library*

***Stefan Szymanski**, Professor of Sport Management, School of Kinesiology*

Approved by the University Senate on November 6, 2025

Results: Yes, 2478 (88.4%); 325 (11.6%); Abstain 835 - Motion PASSED

Link to event page: <https://facultysenate.umich.edu/faculty-senate-meeting/>

Link to news item: <https://facultysenate.umich.edu/university-senate-motions-and-voting-results-from-the-november-3-2025-meeting/>