

**The University of Michigan  
University Senate  
Motion #042726-2**

**A Call for GenAI-Free Zones**

**Whereas** in November 2025 the Faculty Senate [overwhelmingly endorsed a resolution](#) “demanding a comprehensive policy addressing the role of Generative Artificial Intelligence at the University of Michigan”;

**Whereas** there is no mechanism by which we as teachers can know whether a student has used GenAI in the composition of an essay, a problem set, or any other piece of work, making it impossible for us to accurately assess anything that a student does outside the classroom context;

**Whereas** GenAI thereby short-circuits the work of education, making it too easy for even the most well-intentioned students to take shortcuts;

**Whereas** a number of our students wish for means to distance themselves from the embrace of GenAI;

**Whereas** New York University has [recently launched a campus-wide “In Real Life” initiative](#) to create device-free opportunities for learning and sociable interaction;

**Whereas** the Ann Arbor Provost and the Vice President for Information Technology have now commissioned a working group to “explore the thoughtful, ethical, and effective integration of artificial intelligence into teaching and learning at the University of Michigan”; and

**Whereas** a number of UM faculty have sound pedagogical and ethical reasons for not integrating GenAI into our teaching and learning;

**Therefore, be it resolved** that the Faculty Senate urges the Provost and the U-M administration to invest in the creation of infrastructure designed to make it easier for faculty to manage if, when, and how GenAI platforms can be accessed by students based on the learning goals set by faculty;

**Be it further resolved** that the administration should work with our students and faculty to cultivate a variety of ways for students to choose the level of engagement with GenAI they want in their education. We might for example create intentional learning communities where students could voluntarily live and work without easy access to GenAI platforms. These learning communities might be [modeled after the Residential College](#);

**Be it further resolved** that Information Technology Services should incorporate a lockdown browser option that would allow faculty, if they so choose, to require students to complete certain kinds of work on a closed platform, without access to GenAI platforms. We note that UM Flint and the UM School of Nursing have access to Respondus Lockdown Browser; we urge that a similar platform would be made generally available to UM schools and colleges;

**Be it further resolved** that University should expand the capacity of the teaching accommodation infrastructure so that students needing extra time could compose in-class examinations under the supervision of monitors; and

**Be it further resolved** that the University should create a required training module that would bring into view the academic and ethical questions that GenAI use can raise, including the societal, intellectual, political, and environmental damages that GenAI portends. This training module would be designed to help create a campus culture wherein the inappropriate use of GenAI is discouraged.

***Movant:** Salome Viljoen, Assistant Professor of Law, School of Law*

***Supporting Members:***

***Gretchen Keppel-Aleks**, Associate Professor, Department of Climate and Space Sciences and Engineering, College of Engineering*

***David Potter**, Francis W Kelsey Collegiate Professor of Greek and Roman History, Arthur F Thurnau Professor and Professor of Greek and Latin, Department of Classical Studies, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts*

***Carina Ray**, A.M. and H.P. Bentley Chair in African History, Associate Professor, Department of History, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts*

***Melanie Schulze Tanielian**, Director of the Program in International and Comparative Studies, Associate Professor, Department of History, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts*

***Kentaro Toyama**, W K Kellogg Professor of Community Information and Professor of Information, School of Information*

*Approved by the University Senate on April 30, 2026*

*Results: Yes, 1711 (82.8%); No 356 (17.2%); Abstain 269 - Motion PASSED*