

To: SACUA

From: Luke McCarthy, Director, Faculty Senate Office

Subject: Director's Report on Faculty Senate Office Activities

Date: May 15, 2026

Faculty Senate Office Activities

Since the last report on May 8, 2026, the FSO continues to be productive:

- Assisted the 18 SA committee chairs with completion of annual committee reports.
- Maintained the Faculty Senate website.
- Assisted the Senate Assembly nominations committee with final work on nominations of members to serve on the SA's committees next year.
- Shared with SACUA nomination packets for two annual faculty awards: the Distinguished Faculty Governance Award and the Regents' Award for Distinguished Public Service.
- Began preparing nomination packets for three other faculty awards not selected by SACUA:
 - Jackie Lawson Memorial Faculty Governance Award (chosen by the faculty senate chairs of the three campuses)
 - The University Librarian Achievement Award and University Librarian Recognition Award (chosen by prior award winners).
- Began reviewing feedback from clinical faculty regarding a draft clinical faculty white paper produced after a 2025-2026 "Clinical Faculty / Faculty Senate Dialogues" series of events. A draft of the white paper had been shared with all clinical faculty, and the FSO is reviewing the responses to make suggestions of possible additions/revisions of the white paper.
- Continued the FSO's annual staff review process.
- Began an annual internal assessment of the FSO's performance as an office of the past year and preparation for the year ahead.
- Started work on processing annual SACUA research fund distributions, in partnership with the Provost's Office.
- Began consideration of various FSO internal projects delayed until the summer, including the following:
 - A reexamination of the Faculty Senate website, in light of digital accessibility and in supporting more frequent information about the activities of Senate Assembly committees.
 - Consideration of archiving practices to support easier online digital searches of Faculty Senate historical documents, in partnership with the Bentley.
 - A pilot production of a possibly yearly publication that would better gather and publicize the activities of the Faculty Senate.

- Drafting annual thank you letters to be sent to committee members with ending terms.

FSO Director Activities

- Assisted faculty with the performance of the annual AEC evaluation of administrators.
- Continued preparations for the next upcoming election of faculty to the Police Department Oversight Committee.
- Along with staff representatives from a number of offices across campus, participated in candidate interviews for a new role at the ECRT to expand restorative justice practices at UM as an alternative, when appropriate, to formal resolution processes.
- Worked on various tasks that had been delayed due to prior workload constraints, including the following:
 - Access to up-to-date and shareable data regarding faculty grievance cases and their resolution
 - Obtaining access to ECRT audit reports and requesting updates regarding efforts to streamline UM support for survivors of sexual violence, such as tuition support, given U-M's decentralized system.
 - Updating Senate membership rules in the HR system in light of the recent passage of an update to research faculty membership.

SACUA Actions

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

- On May 13th, SACUA approved posting on the Faculty Senate website a statement from SACUA member Derek Peterson, with that statement titled as "[Statement from Professor Derek Peterson,](#)" provided that this statement is identified as being his own statement, acting in his individual capacity and not on behalf of the University, the Faculty Senate, or the Senate Advisory Committee on University Affairs (SACUA). SACUA member Derek Peterson was recused from the discussion of this matter and from the vote. The vote result was 4 in favor and 3 against, with 1 abstention (in addition to Professor Peterson's recusal).