

**The University of Michigan
University Senate Meeting
April 27, 2026**

Motions

Vote Results

Turnout: 2336 (30.1%) of 7753 Faculty Senate members voted in this ballot. The ballot was open for a 72-hour period that ended on April 30, 2026 at 5:30pm.

Motion 1: Resolution Calling for Support for Faculty and Staff Childcare Needs

Option	Votes
Yes	1863 (87.9%)
No	256 (12.1%)

Voter Summary

Total	2336
Abstain	217 (9.3%)

Motion 2: A Call for GenAI-Free Zones

Option	Votes
Yes	1711 (82.8%)
No	356 (17.2%)

Voter Summary

Total	2336
Abstain	269 (11.5%)

Motion 3: Resolution on the use of Early Decision Admissions

Option	Votes
Yes	1364 (76.3%)
No	424 (23.7%)

Voter Summary

Total 2336
Abstain 548 (23.5%)

Motion 4: Resolution in Support of Intersex, Transgender, and Gender-Diverse Students: Inclusive Athletics and Alignment with University Values

Option	Votes
Yes	1299 (69.4%)
No	572 (30.6%)

Voter Summary

Total 2336
Abstain 465 (19.9%)

Motion 5: Resolution to Offer Tuition Support to Faculty

Option	Votes
Yes	1961 (90.3%)
No	211 (9.7%)

Voter Summary

Total 2336
Abstain 164 (7.0%)

Motion 6: Resolution to Reject Collaboration with the Senior Service College Fellowship Program

Option	Votes
Yes	1440 (77.7%)
No	413 (22.3%)

Voter Summary

Total 2336

Abstain 483 (20.7%)

Motion 7: Motion to Update Research Track Faculty Senate Membership Language

Option	Votes
Yes	1713 (92.1%)
No	147 (7.9%)

Voter Summary

Total	2336
Abstain	476 (20.4%)

**The University of Michigan
University Senate
Motion #042726-1**

Resolution Calling for Support for Faculty and Staff Childcare Needs

Whereas the University of Michigan is a public institution that prides itself on promoting equity and a culture of care;

Whereas, as of fall 2023, the Ann Arbor campus has 8,189 faculty members and 18,422 regular staff, 500 instructional faculty and 500 staff in Flint, and 755 instructional faculty and 500 staff in Dearborn. Over 75% of University of Michigan faculty and staff—across all three campuses and hospitals—live in Washtenaw and Wayne counties, with 62.2% in Washtenaw County and 13.4% in Wayne;

Whereas faculty research and teaching suffer without access to high-quality, affordable childcare;

Whereas University of Michigan faculty with children often spend years on the waitlist for the University of Michigan daycare centers. As of May 1, 2025, [1,094 children](#) were waiting for placement across the three University centers;

Whereas University of Michigan childcare is more expensive than many other institutions in the state (Full-time monthly tuition for babies and toddlers is \$2,353, whereas full-time tuition for infants at Michigan State University is \$1,454 and \$1393 for toddlers); and

Whereas it is not always possible to get a substitute caregiver on days with severe weather;

Therefore, be it resolved that the University support teaching mode flexibility on snow days when daycares close and K-12 schools have canceled classes so that staff and faculty can work from home;

Be it further resolved that in addition to current options like Kennedy Care that are provided by HR the university provide all University employees, irrespective of rank or income, with a [Care.com](#) membership and a fixed discount on caregiving services negotiated by the University that applies to all employees on [Care.com](#), because caregiving can take many forms (like care of elderly parents etc.) and [Care.com](#) offers a broader bouquet of services;

Be it further resolved that the university provide child-friendly co-working spaces like [Student Parent and Caregiver Study Rooms](#) that are already provided to graduate students, because not all departments are necessarily spaces where children are welcome;

Be it further resolved that the University of Michigan align our fall and winter breaks with Ann Arbor Public School (AAPS) breaks so that faculty, the majority of whom live in Washtenaw County, may travel or otherwise enjoy family time together and parents do not need to secure childcare during the AAPS break;

Be it further resolved that the University increase the number of childcare centers to accommodate more faculty and staff; and

Be it further resolved that the University raise wages for Early Childhood Educators at U-M to the minimum salaries and raises requested by University Staff United (USU).

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

Supporting Members:

***Swapnil Rai**, Associate Professor of Film, Television and Media, Communication and Media (Courtesy), Women's and Gender Studies (Courtesy), College of Literature, Science, and Arts*

***Katherine Manz**, Assistant Professor of Environmental Health Sciences, School of Public Health*

***Devi Mays**, Associate Professor of Judaic Studies, History (Courtesy), Comparative Literature (Courtesy), College of Literature Science and Arts*

***Stella Yu**, Professor of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, College of Engineering*

Approved by the University Senate on April 30, 2026

Results: Yes, 1863 (87.9%); No 256 (12.1%); Abstain 217- Motion PASSED

**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

**The University of Michigan
University Senate
Motion #042726-3**

Resolution on the Use of Early Decision Admissions

Whereas the University of Michigan last year implemented a new admissions procedure for undergraduates known as “Early Decision” whereby prospective students, if offered admission, are obligated to accept the offer;

Whereas prospective students applying through Early Decision do not know what financial aid they may receive prior to committing;

Whereas Early Decision admission advantages students from affluent families who are not dependent on financial aid to attend college;¹

Whereas Early Decision admission financially advantages academic institutions whilst denying prospective students the ability to properly consider offers from other colleges;² and

Whereas the decision to implement the Early Decision mechanism was taken with little or no consultation with the faculty, students, and staff;

Therefore, be it resolved that the University immediately halt the use of Early Decision admissions pending broad and substantive consultation with its stakeholders, including both faculty and students, to determine whether this admissions mechanism aligns with the educational values of the University of Michigan and under what, if any, circumstances its use is merited.

***Movant:** Neil Marsh, Professor of Chemistry, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts and Professor of Biological Chemistry, Medical School*

¹ See Mathew Kim, [“Early decision and financial aid competition among need-blind colleges and universities.”](#) *Journal of Public Economics* 94, no. 5-6 (2010): 410-20; and Karen Bussey, Kimberly Dancy, Alyse Gray Parker, Eleanor Eckerson Peters, and Mamie Voight, [“Eliminating Early Decision Policies.”](#) chap. 3 in *“The Most Important Door that Will Ever Open”*: Realizing the Mission of Higher Education Through Equitable Admission Policies (IHEP, 2021).

² Beth Kraemer, [“The Admissions Funnel Is Clogged. Here’s How to Fix It.”](#) *The Chronicle*, January 22, 2026.

Supporting Members:

Colleen Conway, Professor of Music Education, School of Music, Theatre & Dance

Elena Gallo, Professor of Astronomy, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts

Allen Liu, Professor of Mechanical Engineering, Associate Chair, Department of Mechanical Engineering, College of Engineering, Professor of Biomedical Engineering, College of Engineering and Medical School and Professor of Biophysics, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts

Approved by the University Senate on April 30, 2026

Results: Yes, 1364 (76.3%); No 424 (23.7%); Abstain 548 - Motion PASSED

**The University of Michigan
University Senate
Motion #042726-4**

**Resolution in Support of Intersex, Transgender, and Gender-Diverse Students:
Inclusive Athletics and Alignment with University Values**

Whereas on the first day of the Fall 2025 term, the University announced that [gender-affirming care would no longer be provided for persons under 20 years of age](#);

Whereas during the same term, the University, without prior communication to the community, removed intersex and transgender students from athletic teams, including varsity, intramural, and club sports;

Whereas the University’s [“Intramural Sport Policies”](#) now include provisions citing Executive Order 14201 (“Keeping Men Out of Women’s Sports”), restricting participation based on “biological sex,” a term that is not clearly defined in the policy and does not reflect current scientific and medical understanding of sex and gender;

Whereas these Intramural Sport Policies do not adequately recognize intersex, transgender, and other gender-diverse individuals (including nonbinary people), thereby limiting equitable participation in essential University programs that support physical health, mental well-being, and social connectedness;

Whereas research demonstrates that the exclusion and stigmatization of intersex, transgender, and other gender-diverse individuals are associated with [adverse mental health outcomes and increased vulnerability](#) for marginalized community members;

Whereas the application of federal executive guidance in this context may conflict with protections under Michigan’s [Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act](#), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex and [explicitly includes protections for gender identity and expression](#);

Whereas the University of Michigan Faculty Senate has [previously affirmed its support](#) for transgender, nonbinary, and gender-diverse members of the university community; and

Whereas these policy changes were not discussed with the University community or the Faculty Senate prior to implementation, nor clearly communicated afterward, undermining shared governance, institutional transparency, and community trust, and creating potential legal and reputational risks for the University;

Therefore, be it resolved that the University provide full transparency regarding the legal and administrative basis for these actions and clearly communicate the scope and implications of policy

changes affecting intersex, transgender, and gender-diverse students' participation in varsity, intramural, and club sports;

Be it further resolved that the University reverse the removal of intersex, transgender, and gender-diverse students from varsity, intramural, and club athletic participation, affirming that all admitted students are treated as full members of the University community with dignity and respect; and

Be it further resolved that the Faculty Senate calls upon University leadership, including the Office of the Vice President for Student Life, to revise intramural and club sports participation policies to allow all students to participate in accordance with their gender identity, in a manner consistent with the University's stated commitments to non-discrimination.

Movants:

Dani Jones, Associate Research Scientist, Cooperative Institute for Great Lakes Research, School for Environment and Sustainability

Marita R. Inglehart, University Diversity and Social Transformation Professor; Professor of Dentistry, Department of POM, School of Dentistry and Faculty Associate, Department of Psychology, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts

Supporting Members:

Charlotte Karem Albrecht, Director, Arab and Muslim American Studies Program Associate Professor, American Culture and Women's & Gender Studies, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts

Sean D. Johnson, Assistant Professor of Astronomy, LSA Collegiate Fellow, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts

Shanna K. Kattari, Associate Professor of Social Work and Associate Professor of Women's and Gender Studies, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts

Sandra R. Levitsky, Arthur F. Thurnau Professor and Associate Professor of Sociology, and Professor of Law (by courtesy), College of Literature, Science, and the Arts

Rebekah Modrak, Professor of Art and Design, Penny W. Stamps School of Art and Design

Rafael Neis, Jean and Samuel Frankel Professor of Rabbinic Literature, Professor of History and Judaic Studies, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts; Faculty Director of Arts Learning and Teaching, the Arts Initiative

Daphna Stroumsa, Assistant professor, Division of Reproductive Endocrinology and Infertility, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Medical School

Approved by the University Senate on April 30, 2026

Results: Yes, 1299 (69.4%); No 572 (30.6%); Abstain 465 - Motion PASSED

**The University of Michigan
University Senate
Motion #042726-5**

Resolution to Offer Tuition Support to Faculty

Whereas staff members at the University of Michigan are offered “tuition support . . . to increase the career opportunities available to staff members, enhance their performance and encourage professional growth” ([SPG 201.69: “Tuition Support Program”](#));

Whereas U-M faculty members are not offered tuition support, even when they need certain skills that may enhance their teaching, learning, research, and service;

Whereas faculty are often tasked with community organization, administrative planning, marketing, and fundraising as part of their regular work, and the necessity of seeking additional funding to cover skill acquisition presents undue time and financial burdens; and

Whereas a lack of tuition support can incentivize faculty to pursue non-UM course offerings, even though many relevant courses are already offered at the University of Michigan;

Therefore, be it resolved that the University Senate request that the University offer faculty tuition support to take courses at the University of Michigan, such as language, statistics, methods, or other courses that are relevant to their research or professional advancement; and

Be it further resolved that the existing tuition support program be either expanded to include faculty or be used as the model for the creation of an analogous program for faculty.

***Movant: Swapnil Rai**, Associate Professor of Film, Television and Media, Communication and Media (Courtesy), Women’s and Gender Studies (Courtesy), College of Literature, Science, and Arts*

Supporting Members:

***Justin Mitchell**, Assistant Professor of English Language and Literature, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts*

***Giulia Riccò**, Assistant Professor of Romance Languages and Literatures, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts*

***Rebecca Scharbach Wollenberg**, Associate Professor of Judaic Studies, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts*

***Sangseraima Ujeed**, Assistant Professor of Tibetan Buddhism, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts*

Approved by the University Senate on April 30, 2026

Results: Yes, 1961 (90.3%); No 211 (9.7%); Abstain 164 - Motion PASSED

The University of Michigan
University Senate
Motion #042726-6

Resolution to Reject Collaboration with the Senior Service College Fellowship Program

Whereas the Secretary of Defense Peter Brian Hegseth has eliminated Senior Service College (SSC) Fellowship programs within graduate-level Professional Military Education (PME) at 13 top-ranked US colleges and universities, arguing that those institutions “subject[ed] our warriors to woke indoctrination” and “anti-American resentment” rather than promoting “the study of victory” and “developing the most lethal and effective leaders and warfighters the world has ever known”;

Whereas the Department of Defense has designated the University of Michigan as a potential partner to “to restore and maintain the warrior ethos within the [DoD]”;

Whereas the Department of Defense under Peter Hegseth’s leadership has continuously engaged in conduct broadly considered illegal and constitutive of war crimes, and has attacked the Islamic Republic of Iran without congressional authorization in a war that has already led to the deaths of more than 1500 Iranian civilians, including 200 children, as well as the deaths of at least 13 American troops;

Whereas Mr. Hegseth has aggressively undermined the separation of church and state in the Department of Defense;

Whereas Mr. Hegseth has blocked the promotion of highly qualified Black or female service personnel and has dismissed highly qualified Black and female four-star officers;

Whereas the faculty of the University of Michigan remains committed to the very principles of inclusion, equity, and diversity that Mr. Hegseth has declared to be incompatible with the training of US military officers; and

Whereas it is decidedly not the mission of the University of Michigan to train military officers in a manner that aligns with Mr. Hegseth’s ideological priorities;

Therefore, be it resolved that the faculty calls upon the University of Michigan to publicly reject collaboration with the Senior Service College fellowship program under this administration;

Be it further resolved that the faculty of the University of Michigan will continue to stand ready to educate military officers, like all of our students, according to the intellectual and ethical standards of a great secular research university, which aim to foster a critical mindset; and

Be it further resolved that the U-M faculty stands in solidarity with our colleagues at Harvard, Columbia, Brown, Georgetown, Princeton, Carnegie Mellon, John Hopkins University, Yale, and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology; and wishes to join them in being rejected by Mr. Hegseth.

Movant: Silke-Maria Weineck, Grace Lee Boggs Professor of Comparative Literature and German Studies, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts

Supporting Members:

Julie Boland, Professor of Psychology & Linguistics, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts

Francine Dolins, Associate Professor of Comparative Psychology, College of Arts, Sciences & Letters, UM-Dearborn

Kirsten Herold, Lecturer IV, School of Public Health

Rebekah Modrak, Professor, Stamps School of Art & Design

Yi-Li Wu, Associate Professor of Women's and Gender Studies and History, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts

Basit Zafar, Reuben Kempf Professor of Economics, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts

Approved by the University Senate on April 30, 2026

Results: Yes, 1440 (77.7%); No 413 (22.3%); Abstain 483 - Motion PASSED

**The University of Michigan
University Senate
Motion #042726-7**

Motion to Update Research Track Faculty Senate Membership Language

Whereas in 2023 the University Senate was expanded to include clinical professors, lecturers, archivists, and curators;

Whereas research-track faculty were already members of the Faculty Senate, and therefore the research-track membership language in the Senate Rules was not considered as part of the 2023 Senate expansion;

Whereas the language defining research-track faculty membership is older language that differentially treats research-track faculty compared to other tracks;

Whereas after the 2023 Senate expansion, LAC faculty, lecturers, and clinical faculty membership is defined based on having at least a 50% appointment:

- Faculty who have a regular, primary appointment of at least 50% as a Librarian, Archivist, or Curator of any rank shall be designated as members of the University Senate;
- Faculty who have a regular, primary appointment of at least 50% as a Lecturer I, Lecturer II, Lecturer III, or Lecturer IV shall be designated as members of the University Senate;
- Clinical Faculty who have a regular, primary appointment of at least 50% as a Clinical Assistant Professor, Clinical Associate Professor, or Clinical Professor shall be designated as members of the University Senate;

Whereas the older research-track faculty membership instead requires a “full-time appointment”:

- Research personnel who hold Primary Research rank (Assistant Research Scientist, Associate Research Scientist, Research Scientist, Senior Associate Research Scientist, Senior Research Scientist, Distinguished Senior Research Scientist) and have a full-time appointment as a regular staff member shall be designated as members of the University Senate;

Whereas the Faculty Senate’s Rules, Practices, and Policies Committee has recommended that the research-track membership language be updated to be parallel with the other tracks;

Whereas the Faculty Senate Office has determined that changing the research faculty membership to parallel the other tracks by requiring a 50% appointment, rather than a “full-time appointment,” will only add 41 faculty to the Faculty Senate;

Whereas the older research-track faculty membership has also not been updated to include, explicitly, research professors, even though the Faculty Senate has nonetheless long included research professors as a matter of practice; and

Whereas a change of the University Senate membership rules requires a 2/3rd affirmative vote of the University Senate;

Therefore, be it resolved that the research-track membership language in Article I, Section 1 of the University Senate Rules is now updated to be the following:

- Research Faculty who have a regular, primary appointment of at least 50% as an Assistant Research Scientist, Associate Research Scientist, Research Scientist, Research Assistant Professor, Research Associate Professor, or Research Professor;

Adopted by the Senate Advisory Committee on University Affairs on April 14, 2026.

SACUA Approval Certified by Derek Peterson, SACUA Chair, Ali Mazrui Collegiate Professor of History and African Studies, Associate Chair, Department of History, Professor of History and Professor of Afroamerican and African Studies, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts.

Approved by the University Senate on April 30, 2026

Results: Yes, 1713 (92.1%); No 147 (7.9%); Abstain 476 - Motion PASSED