

To: SACUA

From: Luke McCarthy, Director, Faculty Senate Office

Subject: Director's Report on Faculty Senate Office Activities

Date: September 25, 2026

### Faculty Senate Office Activities

Since the last report on August 27, 2026, the FSO continues to be productive:

- Began assisting all of the Senate Assembly committee chairs with the logistics of Senate Assembly committee meetings.
- Assisted with the organization of the first Senate Assembly meeting of the year.
- Organized a chair luncheon for the Senate Assembly committee chairs and the Faculty Senate chair to meet and discuss the year ahead.
- Organized a tour for SACUA of the new Hadley Recreation Center on September 8<sup>th</sup>.
- On September 10<sup>th</sup>, hosted on the diag the first "Political Speech and the Public Square" event of the year, providing UM faculty, staff, and students an opportunity to share their perspectives on "Human / AI Relationships."
- On September 11<sup>th</sup>, helped run an all-day retreat for SACUA at the U-M Detroit Center, with a visit afterwards to the Detroit Institute of Arts museum, and dinner at Grandma Bob's Handmade Pizza.
- Hosted three on-campus work retreats for faculty to help provide faculty with focus time (and lunch): two on central campus (one in the afternoon and one in the morning) and one on north campus in the morning.
- On September 17<sup>th</sup>, assisted the Faculty Senate Chair in holding the first event in a new series of panel events to be held this year: "Open Questions." The first event was focused on Institutional Neutrality. [The Record published a helpful summary of the event.](#)
- With the Faculty Senate Chair, helped organize and run a [Regent Candidate Forum](#) for this year's candidates for the Board of Regents on September 24th. The event was livestreamed and [recorded to YouTube](#).
- Maintained the Faculty Senate website.

### FSO Director Activities

- With the Faculty Senate Chair, completed this year's discussions with committee chairs and executive officers regarding committee charges.
- Assisted the Faculty Senate Chair in various meetings, including with the following:
  - President Grasso
  - Provost McCauley
  - The President and Vice President of CSG

- Met with a staff member from LSA interested in learning more about the Faculty Senate's On-Campus Work Retreats to help inform a possible LSA version.
- With the Faculty Senate Chair and members of the Senate Assembly, attended on September 22<sup>nd</sup> a faculty dinner with Provost McCauley.
- Assisted the DMNC with planning for this year's DMN lecture and later DMN events.
- Following a successful completion of an entrance exam, gained membership in the National Association of Parliamentarians (NAP).

### SACUA Actions

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

- On September 3<sup>rd</sup>, SACUA appointed the following two faculty nominated by their respective deans to the Library Council:
  - Kirsten Herold, Lecturer IV, Public Health (3-year term)
  - Candace Christensen, Associate Professor, Social Work, and Associate Professor, SMTD (3-year term)
- On September 4<sup>th</sup>, after receiving notice of an unexpected vacancy on the Library Council, SACUA appointed the following faculty member nominated by the Dean of the Ford School:
  - Molly Spencer, Lecturer IV, Ford School (2-year term)
- On September 8<sup>th</sup>, SACUA nominated for presidential consideration the following faculty for appointment to fill a temporary fall 2026 vacancy on the Residency Appeals Board:
  - Gina Cervetti, Professor of Education, Marsal Family School of Education;
  - Samantha Kreklau, Consultation and Discovery Librarian, University Libraries
  - John Lehman, Professor of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, LSA
- On September 9<sup>th</sup>, SACUA approved a "[Statement Against Violence, Intimidation, and Harassment](#)."
- On September 9<sup>th</sup>, SACUA approved a draft roster and list of potential chairs to serve on a new SACUA Ad Hoc AI Committee being formed.