

Draft Minutes of 6 April 2015 SACUA  
Circulated 12 April 2015  
Re-circulated 27 April 2015  
Approved 27 April 2015

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN  
Senate Advisory Committee on University Affairs (SACUA)  
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**Present:** Holland, Lehman, Masten (chair), Mondro, Oey, Wright, Smith, Potter;

**Absent:** Schultz, Weineck

3:15 Call to Order/ Approval of Agenda and Minutes

Consideration of the Minutes

3:18 The minutes for March 23 were approved.

3:35 Final Consideration of the Minutes for March 30 was postponed.

3:36 Announcements

Professor Weineck was elected Chair of SACUA for the term beginning on May 1.  
Last Senate Assembly meeting of the year is on April 23.  
Associate Provost Holloway offered to visit SACUA to discuss a proposal for releasing course evaluation data

3:25 Status reports

- Model and Unit Grievance Procedures and Ongoing Grievances
- Office of Institutional Equity procedures
  - Questionnaires have been sent to persons identified as having been involved in OIE investigations
- Fitness for Duty and Professional Standards for Faculty SPGs and Tenure
- Unit deviations from University-wide policies and procedures
- Total compensation propriety and transparency
- Administrative Services and IT Rationalization, implementation and oversight
- Unizin/Canvas, implementation and oversight
- Senate Rules Amendments

3:37 SACUA Guidance on Grievability under the University of Michigan 2010 Model Grievance Procedures

- Professor Masten reviewed corrections to the policy
- Professor Oey suggested that the common understanding, “you can grieve the procedure but not the decision,” may still be valid in cases where judgment of professional competence is combined with another factor. She suggested that these additional factors can always be grieved as incorrect application of procedure. However, Professors Masten and Lehman argued that GHBs might only confirm whether procedures are followed, and not whether they are correctly applied. Hence the need for stressing grievability of professional competence together with additional factors. It was decided to further review the possibility of adding language on incorrect application of procedures.
- Professor Oey raised the issue of what it meant to be manifestly unfair in section 1.01. She wondered if that set a very high bar. Professor Masten felt that this was not setting a particularly high standard—the issue is the standard of proof. Professor Lehman said that it was a human value judgment. Professor Potter noted that “manifestly” could be read as suggesting a standard of evidence.
- Professor Masten noted that both the Fitness for Duty and Professional Standards SPGs state that faculty members challenge actions taken under these policies through the applicable procedure, typically the unit’s grievance procedure. He noted that there is a basis in the grievance procedure for grieving the decision and not just the sanction or action. Professor Potter noted that a finding that a faculty member was unfit for duty could be a professional detriment even if there was no penalty.

#### 4:00 Senate Assembly meeting agenda

Possible items for the April Assembly agenda included:

- Approval of the replacement of a SACUA member
- Status Reports on OIE and Fitness for Duty
- Committee reports. Reports will be encouraged from committee chairs; we will have a goal of limiting time for these reports to a total 30 minutes at the meeting. We will invite written reports and invite questions from the floor.
- COIA request for Faculty Senate consideration of support for U.S. House Bill creating a Presidential Commission to look into issues facing Intercollegiate Athletics. A COIA resolution asking faculty senates to endorse legislation creating a committee on intercollegiate athletics was raised as a possible topic; it was decided that it will not be on the agenda at the present time and readdress the issue in the Fall.
- Divestment proposal consideration request (fossil fuels)

The proposal from the students is that a committee be formed to study University divestment from fossil fuels. There was considerable debate as to whether SACUA and faculty governance should take a stand on public policy issues; Professor Masten thought not; Professor Oey argued that this is a crucial issue that students have asked us to address. Professor Smith pointed out that there was a precedent; Professor Lehman pointed out that SACUA had taken positions of Apartheid and Tobacco. Professor Smith proposed that the issue be included on the agenda. The motion carried. Professor Masten suggested that another SACUA member present the issue. Professor Lehman noted that the request is for Senate Assembly is to form a committee to study the issue with students.

- Publication of course evaluations. Professor Lehman noted that AAAC is two votes away from proposing that information from course evaluations be released and thus that this issue is not ready to be presented to Senate Assembly. This will not be on the agenda.

4:36 Regents meeting and presentation, April 16.

SACUA advised the chair to focus on SACUA's work on OIE in his presentation to the Regents

4:39 Proposed Fitness for Duty SPG follow up

Discussion postponed

4:41 Executive Session

Candidates for vice chair

4:44 Executive session ended; Professor Schultz was elected vice chair by acclamation.

4:45 Executive Session resumed

1. Possible additional visit of Provost Pollack
2. Replacement of SACUA member
3. OIE article in the Chronicle
4. OIE issues
5. New case connected with OIE

5: 08 Adjournment

Respectfully submitted,

David S. Potter

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Interim Senate Secretary

University of Michigan Bylaws of the Board of Regents, Sec. 5.02:

Governing Bodies in Schools and Colleges

Sec. 4.01 The University Senate

"...[t]he Senate is authorized to consider any subject pertaining to the interests of the university, and to make recommendations to the Board of Regents in regard thereto. Decisions of the University Senate with respect to matters within its jurisdiction shall constitute the binding action of the university faculties. Jurisdiction over academic policies shall reside in the faculties of the various schools and colleges, but insofar as actions by the several faculties affect university policy as a whole, or schools and colleges other than the one in which they originate, they shall be brought before the University Senate."

Rules of the University Senate, the Senate Assembly and the Senate Advisory Committee on University Affairs:

Senate: "In all cases not covered by rules adopted by the Senate, the procedure in Robert's Rules of Order shall be followed."

Assembly: "The Assembly may adopt rules for the transaction of its business. In appropriate cases not covered by rules of the Assembly, the rules of the University Senate shall apply."

SACUA: "The committee may adopt rules for the transaction of its business."

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