

Minutes of 8 December 2008  
Circulated: December 2008  
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THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN  
SENATE ASSEMBLY MEETING  
8 DECEMBER 2008

**Present:** Abdoo, Altschuler, Andjelkovic-Zochowska, Brown, Clague, Eagle, Fitzgerald, Fossum, Fraser, Frier, Hirshorn, Jackson, Ketefian, Larsen, Lenk, Lim, Lomax, Maher, Maybaum, Mueggler, Najita, Ottaviani, Patil, Poe, Potter (Chair), Prygoski, Queen, Rahme, Reddy, Riles, Rothman, Senkevitch, Sheets, Silverman, Smith, Staller, Stark, Sweeney, Thompson, Thornton, Thouless, Wakefield, Yang, Ziff

**Absent:** Adlerstein-Gonzales, Adriaens, Andre, Avi-Yonah, Boxer, Bergin, Culver, Currie, Denver (on sabbatical), Dey, Ensminger, Friesen-Lynn, Frost, Geary, C. Green, R. Green, Hardin, Kabamba, Karni, Kearfott, Koopman, Kosch, Lehman, Mahalingam, Moore, Navvab, Primus, Salesa, Samson, Saunders, Shah, von Buelow

**GUESTS:** First UM Faculty Undergraduate Scholarship Recipient – Lama Bandar

**MATERIALS DISTRIBUTED**

1. Draft Senate Assembly Agenda
2. Draft minutes of the Senate Assembly meeting of 10 November 2008
3. SACUA Nominating Committee Ballot
4. Complaint Handling Process Flowchart for Sexual Harassment Complaints
5. Draft of Procedural Guidelines for Handling Discrimination and Harassment Complaints
6. Draft revision to Standard Practice Guide 201.89: Sexual Harassment
7. [Bylaws of the Coalition on Intercollegiate Athletics, dated November 2008](#)
8. [Regent Bylaw Chapter IV: The University Senate, Section 4.01-4.](#)
9. Article 1: The University Senate, Section 1- Membership.
10. Memo from William C. Martin, Director, Intercollegiate Athletics and Philip Hanlon, Associate Provost, Office of the Provost to Carol Senneff, Executive Director, Sherry Cogswell, Audit Manager and Sundra Meads, Senior Auditor dated 18 July 2007, regarding “Intercollegiate Athletics Academic Support Services”.
11. [SPG Section 505.1, Audit Services – Subject Internal Audits, dated 20 September 2007.](#)
12. Memo from William C. Martin, Director of Athletics to SACUA, dated November 17, 2008
13. Electronic mail from Keith Riles to Senate Assembly re: Follow-up on bowl game perks resolution, dated 28 October 2008.
14. Electronic mail from Stan Berent to SACUA dated 7 December 2008
15. Table of benefits at U-M compared to peer institutions, data source AAUP.

Chair Potter convened the meeting at 3:21 P.M. The draft agenda was adopted.

#### CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

The minutes from the 10 November 2008 meeting were approved as submitted.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Bill Martin, Athletic Director, may attend the January Senate Assembly meeting.
2. Last action item on agenda will be completed in chronological order.

Semyon Meerkov, Chair of the UM Faculty Undergraduate Scholarship Committee, was introduced. S. Meerkov briefly described the scholarship and gave a report regarding its history. He then introduced the first scholarship recipient – Lama Bandar. Ms. Bandar gave a short speech of gratitude.

#### ACTION ITEM: SACUA Nominating Committee

Ballots were distributed by Tom Schneider. The SACUA Nominating Committee will consist of Bruce Frier (current SACUA member) and the following Third Term Senate Assembly Members: Robert Fraser, Gregory Wakefield, Edward Rothman and Margaret Lomax.

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#### ACTION OF SENATE ASSEMBLY 120808-1

The revised Standard Practice Guide 201.89 Sexual Harassment was introduced. There were no comments.

Motion to accept the revised SPG section as written was given and seconded.  
The Action was approved by unanimous vote.

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#### ACTION OF SENATE ASSEMBLY 120808-2

The Coalition on Intercollegiate Athletics Bylaws written November 2008 were introduced. There were no comments.

Motion to accept the bylaws as written was given and seconded.  
The Action was approved by unanimous vote.

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Bob Fraser, SACUA Member and Librarian in Dearborn, gave an overview of the need for a revision of Article 1, Section 1, Paragraph 3 of the Rules of the University Senate, The Senate Assembly, and the Senate Advisory Committee on University Affairs regarding participation by Librarians.

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#### ACTION OF SENATE ASSEMBLY 120808-3

Motion to revise Article 1, Section 1, Paragraph 3 of the Rules of the University Senate, The Senate Assembly, and the Senate Advisory Committee on University Affairs to read, “Librarians

of any rank who have full-time appointments as regular staff members shall be designated as members of the University Senate.”

Motion to accept the revision as written was given and seconded.  
The Action was approved by unanimous vote.

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#### ACTION ITEM – APC/Bowl Game Expenses Motions

This item was tabled during the October Senate Assembly meeting.

Keith Riles made a presentation [live link]. The following motion is based on the original audit letter which referred to possible conflict of interest. The proposed resolution is as follows:

“Whereas members of the Academic Performance Committee (APC) are offered reimbursement for bowl game attendance and travel expenses, including game tickets, airfare, hotel accommodations, and meal per diem, and

Whereas the University Audits Office has found this reimbursement to pose an apparent conflict of interest for APC members in carrying out their advisory responsibilities on academic performance,

The Senate Assembly urges the President to end the practice of reimbursing APC members for any expenses associated with attending bowl games.”

There was a motion to approve and it was seconded.

The floor was opened to discussion.

Ed Rothman stated that the potential conflict of interest may be seen as a conflict in the academic standing of athletes. He proposed an alternative resolution to replace Keith Riles’ resolution:

“According to the NCAA Bylaw 14.012.1, ‘A student athlete shall be in good standing as determined by the academic authorities who determine the meaning of such phrases for all students of the institution...’ The academic authorities who make these determinations are located in the academic advising units of the schools and colleges where the student is enrolled. Therefore, we propose that the academic standing of student-athletes be determined by these same academic authorities.

In order to accommodate the timing requirements of determining eligibility each semester, we further propose that the academic advising units set timelines for approving academic plans and recommending certification of eligibility to the provost by the first day of classes each semester”.

According to Ed Rothman, the rationale for this resolution is that there are two functions of the APC. One involves advocacy for student athletes and the other is the function this proposal transfers to advisors. There is no conflict of interest in the advocacy role; looking out for the

interests of student athletes would continue to be the main role of the APC. What may be seen as a potential conflict of interest is no longer part of the charge to the APC.

Motion was put forth and seconded. Discussion revolved around the questioning of the integrity of the APC faculty implied by the first motion, putting a limit on the number of bowl games an APC faculty member could attend, and finding a possible source of funds from units other than Athletic Department to fund bowl game attendance.

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ACTION OF SENATE ASSEMBLY 120808-4

Motion to table both motions was given and seconded.

22 For

5 Opposed

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GUEST: Tim Slottow, Chief Financial Officer

His presentation was based on his presentation to the Regents at the June 2008 meeting where he reviewed the operating budget and balance sheet of the University.

Items not shown in the operating budget and balance sheet are:

1. The financial policies of the University that are important to all areas of the University.
2. Strong internal controls used by the University.

The balance sheet shows a good relationship between financial assets (\$10M) and debt (\$1M), plus the retiree benefits (\$1.5M) required by the OPEB. Michigan has a AAA rating.

There are currently 6,200 separate endowments within the University. The spending rule (5% of average endowment over a seven-year period) ensures a steady and predictable revenue. Over the past decade, there has been a 6.5% return on revenue.

The recent challenge by Mary Sue Coleman has produced an endowment of \$165M for financial aid, which results in \$1-1.5M for undergrad (non-athlete) financial aid.

There is an on-going commitment to the physical plant and the need to continue improving the current facilities.

In the way of human capital, there are currently 6,633 instruction faculty and 27,000 staff. About 65% of the budget is spent on salaries and benefits.

The University is self-insured and can reduce the cost of claims. The MHealthy Community is a commitment to reducing costs through innovative means.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

There was no additional business.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:02 P.M.

Respectfully submitted

Linda Carr  
SACUA Support Staff

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

*Governing Bodies in Schools and Colleges*

In each school, college, or degree granting division of the University, including those at the University of Michigan-Dearborn and at the University of Michigan-Flint, the governing faculty shall be in charge of the affairs of the school, college, or division, except as delegated to the executive committee, if any, and except that in the School of Graduate Studies the governing board shall be the executive board, and in the Medical School shall be the executive faculty.

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