

Minutes of 29 April 2013
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THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
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MINUTES OF THE SACUA MEETING OF 29 APRIL 2013

Present: Barald, Goldman, Holland, Kearfott (Chair), C. Koopmann, Masten, Staller; Lehman: Carr, Schneider

Absent: Larsen, Oey

Guests: President M. S. Coleman; D. Brandon (Director Intercollegiate Athletics), J. Weiss (Office of Provost), Profs. A. Mondro, L. Olsen and R. Ziff (SACUA-elect members)

Press: Kevin Brown, U Record; Kellie Woodhouse, AnnArbor:com

MATERIALS DISTRIBUTED

1. Draft SACUA agenda
2. Draft minutes of 22 April 2013 SACUA

The meeting was convened by Chair Kearfott at 3:15 pm.

CONSIDERATION OF AGENDA AND MINUTES

The draft agenda and the minutes of 22 April 2013 were approved.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. The annual SACUA recognition dinner with executive officers will be held Wednesday, 1 May 2013 at 6 P.M. at the Clements Library. SACUA guests are welcome.
2. SACUA will meet on 6 May 2013.
3. The new SACUA chair, K. Staller, will represent faculty governance and will carry the ceremonial mace at graduation activities both Friday and Saturday. Professors Barald and Olsen volunteered to accompany the new chair on Friday and Saturday, respectively.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The meeting entered executive session at 3:22 to review a report from the Committee on University Values. The meeting resumed open session at 3:32 P.M.

VISIT OF UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT MARY SUE COLEMAN

The guest arrived at 3:32 P.M. President Coleman reported the following:

Reception for new provost-

A reception for provost-designate M. Pollack will be held at the Clements Library on 10 May from 3:30 to 5 P.M.

State Budget-

Punitive language directed at the U-M and several other universities in the original legislation has been removed. The budget under consideration includes a modest increase for the Ann Arbor campus, and somewhat better allocations for Flint and Dearborn.

Recreational Sports-

The Board of Regents voted for facilities renovation at its last meeting. The facilities will be funded through student fees of \$65 per term. The fees will be used to support the issuance of public bond debt. Parking will likewise contribute \$1M toward the bond, as will the Athletic Department. The cafeteria at Pierpont will be renovated, too, as part of the 10 year project. Professor Koopmann expressed gratitude to the president on behalf of SACUA.

Capital Campaign-

Planning is going well. Donors are feeling good about the economy, and that bodes well for the effort.

Graduate Housing-

Graduate Housing has become the beneficiary of a large gift that the president characterized as a "game changer," including an associated fellowship program. The administration is currently trying to design the fellowship program and hopes to start construction this fall.

Administrative Services-

The goal of ongoing reorganization is not to shift work to faculty, but to increase efficiency. The administration will be monitoring the situation carefully and it wants feedback.

Bicentennial Committee-

A Taskforce report with recommendations has been received. The plan is to have a year-long celebration, and planning will begin in earnest this summer.

State funding outlook-

Professor Holland asked if the president believed that state funding to the U-M would increase with an improving economy. President Coleman replied that it was unlikely to happen without a lot of work. She said that the American Association of Universities (AAU) sees a broad threat to public education in the U.S. Michigan provides less individual scholarship support than any other state. The question is what is obligation of the state? Professor Koopmann pointed out that residency positions in the Medical Center are in a shortage, resulting in a lack of training opportunities. The president expressed agreement and concern.

Football playoff system-

Professor Koopmann expressed his opinion that the U-M needs to be among the leaders in opposing extension of the playoff system. He also inquired about the prospects for providing continuing medical attention and insurance for student athletes who become injured. The president referred the question to the Athletic Director.

Sequestration-

The president acknowledged that the U-M will be affected by sequestration. She cited 10% cuts to existing grants as well as sequestration of Medicare reimbursements to the hospital.

The guest left the meeting at 3:57 P.M.

VISIT OF ATHLETIC DIRECTOR DAVID BRANDON

The guest arrived at 3:59 P.M. He provided a series of opening remarks:

1. The current budget for athletics is \$135M. Debt load is \$240M. The U-M is one of only 22 Division I schools that have a positive balance sheet. He said there is a myth that Athletics is subsidized, but that in fact there is no contribution from general fund. However, it is not a highly profitable enterprise. He said that the athlete population is generally comprised of student athletes, not athlete students. He acknowledged, however, that commercial opportunities create tensions in football and men's basketball, but not so much in the other 29 sports. He said that the Athletic Department was not detached from university community, and engaged in lots of fund raising. He cited efforts on behalf of C.S. Mott, blood drives, organ transplant drives, and interactions with Kinesiology. He said that the program provides \$2M per year to general fund for scholarships, contributions to the recreational sports program, community service competitions, social media sites, etc.
2. Professor Koopmann congratulated the AD on holding the line on playoffs. He then urged the AD to work for NCAA approval to permit reimbursement for course materials that are recommended rather than just for required items. AD Brandon replied that he was working on that issue, but pointed out that NCAA limitations also included travel stipends, and that there was much internal dissent among the member schools. Professor Koopmann pointed out that injured student athletes typically have no recourse for continuing medical needs after they leave the university. The AD expressed reluctance to embrace unlimited liability.
3. Professor Ziff speculated that renovation of the stadium must have added a lot of debt. Brandon replied that the project actually generates a positive \$14M annually above that needed for debt service. He said that without that revenue, the program would be insolvent. He added that the generosity of donors has helped finances. He added that the supply and demand ratio for stadium tickets is favorable.
4. Chair Kearfott remarked that the student section is often sparsely attended at football games. The AD replied that he was very concerned about that situation. He said that his staff tracks attendance and scans all tickets. He said they were moving to a general

admission approach in the hope of motivating students to arrive earlier. He said they also decided to increase the price of student season tickets, and that the difference in revenue will be given to the recreational sports program. Chair Kearfott inquired about the likely effect the price increase would have on less affluent members of the student population. The AD replied that he thought the effect would be minimal. He said that there are two secondary markets for tickets, including StubHub. He stated that 7000 tickets were not used at the Northwestern game, out of 22,000 tickets sold.

5. Professor Staller asked about the degree of oversight provided for kids at athletic camps over the summer; and referred to incidents at Penn State. AD Brandon replied that the U-M has a good track record, and that they try to learn from other people's mistakes.
6. Professor Staller asked if the Athletic Department has a strategy for choosing charities to support. Brandon replied that he gives coaches a lot of latitude, and that sometimes it is driven by players. He said that the Department bestows both individual and team awards for service activities. He said that the Special Olympics is the Athletic Department's charity of choice, as a charity outside the university.
7. Professor Goldman asked if the Academic Success Center is open to all students. The AD replied that it was, but it is primarily used by athletes.
8. The Athletic Director concluded by saying that he sees the need to improve facilities for many non-revenue sports. He pointed out that the U-M is currently at the top of combined national ratings for intercollegiate sports.

The guest left the meeting at 4:45 P.M.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The meeting entered executive session at 4:45 P.M. to continue discussion of a report from the Committee on University Values and to consider candidates for committee memberships. The session concluded with no action items adopted.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:33 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

John T. Lehman
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."