

Minutes of 16 December 2013 SACUA
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THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
Senate Advisory Committee on University Affairs (SACUA)
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Present: Holland, Koopmann, Larsen, Masten, Mondro, Oey, Olsen, Staller (chair); Lehman; Schneider, Snyder

Absent: Ziff

Guests: President Coleman, *Record* reporter, *Daily* reporter, C. Whitman (office of provost)

MATERIALS DISTRIBUTED

1. Draft agenda.
2. Draft minutes of 2 December 2013 SACUA.
3. Draft content for Faculty Governance Update to the Faculty Senate
4. Senate Assembly ballot results prioritizing 2013-14 issues
5. Record of faculty appointed to school/college executive committee 2008-2013 and email communication dated 11 Jul 2013 from S. Riegle
6. Issues list dated 9 September 2013
7. Distinguished Faculty Governance Award information sheet
8. Distinguished Faculty Governance Award Nominations for 2011, 2012, and 2013
9. Regents Award for Distinguished Public Service Nominees for 2011, 2012, and 2013
10. Jackie Lawson Memorial Faculty Governance Award Nominees for 2011, 2012, and 2013
11. University Librarian Achievement Award Nominees for 2011, 2012, and 2013
12. University Librarian Recognition Award Nominees for 2011, 2012, and 2013
13. U-M Standard Practice Guide 201.96, Professional Standards for Faculty

Chair Staller convened the meeting at 3:15. The proposed agenda was approved.

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

The draft minutes of 2 December 2013 were corrected and approved.

Announcements-

1. SACUA will meet on 13 January 2014, and will not meet on 20 January 2014.
2. The Senate Assembly will meet on 27 January 2014.
3. The SACUA meeting of 3 February 2014 will include a discussion of a proposed 'Minors on Campus' SPG.

4. SACUA will meet at UM-Dearborn on 10 February 2014.
5. The UM has asked the State legislature for funding to renovate the Dental School.

VISIT OF UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT

The guest arrived at 3:32 P.M.

Dental School Renovation-

Professor Holland asked about a report that the UM has asked the State for \$120M to renovate the Dental School. The president confirmed the report and said that she was optimistic about the request. She added that Dentistry was the #1 priority for new large scale renovation at this time. She pointed out that the Kraus building renovation is an approved and ongoing project that is still in planning stages.

Presidential Search-

The president has not been involved in search activities or deliberations.

Administrative Shared Services Transformation (AST)-

The president stated that the administration will move forward with AST as planned and will not delay for two years. She said it was important to reorganize the work done in the units. There will be only a brief pause to make sure they get the work right in the faculty units. The Regents are informed. The \$5 million savings will be through loss of personnel. Layoffs are not planned, however. The administration needs to reduce costs, and they sometimes need the help of outside consulting firms to provide expertise and extra personnel to work on large projects.

She pointed out that the State is supporting the UM at about 50% of the level that existed when she assumed the presidency. If the State would reinvest in the UM, her administration could ease off on some of these reductions. The president said she makes the argument in every forum she can that investment in higher education offers one of the best possible returns for the State. She said she realizes the State has experienced a tough time, and that the middle class is being squeezed, as well. For that reason, need-based financial aid is a big goal of the capital campaign. She noted that UC Berkeley still gets \$80 million for Cal Grants from the State, whereas the UM gets zero.

Federal Budget-

The next step depends on what action the Senate takes. The agreement approved by the House of Representatives represents a modest compromise, but it will be the first budget in 4 years.

Athletic Schedules-

Professor Koopmann stated that the Big Ten Network is dictating game schedules that conflict with study days and exams. He added that faculty on the Advisory Board on Intercollegiate Athletics (ABIA) have been muted. The president replied that Athletics has been very cooperative in making sure students meet exam schedules, according to the Faculty Athletics Representative (FAR) Anne Curzan. She also noted that faculty often schedule exams during the final week of classes, in opposition to stated University policy. Professor Olsen pointed out that AD Brandon has cut the frequency of meetings and does not seek advice; the ABIA is simply informed. Chair Staller noted that the AD was responsive to the ABIA suggestions for agenda

topics at the first meeting. The president suggested that the ABIA should ask to have more input and she also suggested that SACUA invite the faculty athletics representative, Anne Curzan, to a meeting to discuss issues more broadly.

Capital Campaign-

The campaign is going very well, and vice president May's report will be very encouraging.

The president left the meeting at 4:02 P.M.

NEWSLETTER

Chair Staller called attention to distributed item 3 as well as a digital mock-up of a potential newsletter. Professor Masten urged that an email sent to Senate members should feature a short list of topical issues with links to more substantial content. AST and retirement benefits were suggested as attention-grabbers. The target date is January. Professor Mondro offered to provide some design suggestions.

ELECTRONIC RECORD KEEPING

Chair Staller asked if SACUA members want to continue receiving hard copies of Distributed Materials. Members expressed their personal preferences, which were varied. The chair said that the Senate Office will experiment with different options.

REVIEW OF PRIORITIES AND FUTURE PLANNING

The chair called attention to distributed item 4 and reviewed the status of priority topics identified by Senate Assembly. She asked for feedback for planning purposes. SACUA members expressed concern about the transparency of criteria for tenure and promotion in different units. C. Whitman said that written criteria are included in each promotion case book that is transmitted to the office of the provost. She added that proposed fitness for duty policy will go through another draft after the holiday break.

Chair Staller next called attention to distributed item 5 and reviewed the status of topics identified by SACUA at its Fall retreat. SACUA members discussed steps that could be taken to broaden the nominations for faculty awards.

COMMITTEE LIAISON REPORTS

Government Relations (Oey)- The Committee met twice this term, with the summary of the first meeting reported earlier. The second meeting included a discussion of the electronic billboard controversy. The Government Relations Office is working with the Athletic Department to find a reasonable middle ground. Most of the meeting focused on outreach at the State level.

General Counsel (Oey)- The Committee met once this term, mostly focusing on faculty speech that is, and is not, protected by federal case law. *Pickering v Board of Education* (1968) protects freedom of speech when in the line of duty, and of public importance, including teaching at public institutions; *Garcetti v Ceballos* (2006), however, found that private speech internal to an organization is not protected, e.g., when speaking as an employee, and it left open the question about teaching; *Demers v Austin* (2013) upholds that teaching and academic writing are

protected. In summary: *Faculty should note that private, non-academic speech is NOT protected, although speaking publicly is protected.* Another consequence is that administrators do not have free speech with respect to their administrative roles.

University Values (Mondro)- The committee reached consensus to nominate candidates for the position of UM president.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The meeting entered executive session at 5:02 P.M. at request of Professor Koopmann to discuss developments in the Academic Affairs Advisory Committee (AAAC).

The meeting was adjourned at 5:10 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 polices 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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