STUDENT RELATIONS COMMITTEE
University of Michigan
February 16, 1990, 12-2
Crofoot Room

PRESENT: Don Kewman, Gail Ann Rickert, Shira Goodman, Vice President Henry Johnson, Interim Vice President Mary Ann Swain, Linda Lee Daniel, Angela DiMartino, Susan Pritzel, Roselle L. Wilson, Robert Beyer, Edward Chudacoff, Chair Katarina Borer, Harvey Bertcher

1. Minutes of 1/17/90 approved, with corrections:
   no "s" at the end of Rickert; add an "r" in Pritzel;
   the next to last sentence should read," The meeting will take place between 11 an 1 on Wednesday, February 14, or 12 - 2 on Friday, February 16."

2. Vice President Henry Johnson thanked the Committee for all of its past support, wished the Committee well, and then formally introduced Vice President Swain to the Committee. She spoke briefly about the nature of her new responsibilities, and her willingness to work with this Committee. Chair Katarina Borer reminded the Committee that its function was basically advisory, either in response to requests from the Vice President's office, or to urge that certain actions be taken, and or that certain policies be formulated or implemented.

Vice President Swain discussed President Duderstat's focus on the "undergraduate experience" which goes beyond the academic experience (but certainly includes it) in an era of global change which includes a shift to greater diversity in the population of countries. All of this is occurring at a time when peace is breaking out all over the world. She noted that these changes place us in situations that we do not know how to manage, whether as governments, or in relation to our own university community. This creates major challenges for everyone at the University; and will create challenges for her, as she assumes the responsibility of her new office.

After some discussion of her remarks, the Committee attempted to reach an agreement about its remaining meetings with the Vice President. When it became apparent that there were no good times for everyone in March or April, it was decided that everyone should send to Vice President Swain a copy of the times that they could NOT come to a meeting. It was recognized that it may be necessary to schedule a meeting at a time other than lunchtime.

3. In relation to the focus of previous meetings on issues pertaining to alcohol and drug use on campus, and University units' policies with regard to substance abuse, a Task Force of Rickert, Jackson and Bertcher had been formed. Gail Ann
Rickert reported for Murray Jackson who had been unable to attend today's meeting. She shared several documents from Housing, which indicated limitations on substances in the dorms, including the clause in housing contracts that could serve as the basis for evicting a student when substance abuse occurs, and so forth. Vice President Johnson commented that Housing makes extensive efforts to discourage alcohol and drug usage in University Housing, including a large number of educational sessions. Gail Ann had been unable to contact Elizabeth Herzog (who had spoken to the Committee) about staging an event near the time of the Hash Bash, to demonstrate the University's opposition to substance abuse in the University community. She will continue to try to reach Elizabeth. Harvey reported that Counseling Services provides short term counseling, much of it focused on assessment and referral when the client needs more extensive services. In some cases, this may include referral to inpatient settings. Counseling Services has helped to create three chapters of Alcoholics Anonymous on campus, and offers support group services for adult children of alcoholics. In addition, counseling is available to students who ask for help with a substance abuse problem, or to those sent to the agency by—for example—Housing, to do something about their substance abuse problem. Counseling Services also has a library of video tapes for use, free, by members of the university community, with regard to information about alcoholism. Harvey had also checked with Don Perigo's office, and showed the Committee orientation materials that specifically draw attention to alcohol and drug problems students are likely to encounter. Gail closed the Task Force's report by reminding the Committee of its expressed interest in doing something dramatic and large in scope to counter the Hash Bash, as a recommendation to the Vice President's office.

4. In reference to the issues raised by the Task Force report, Vice President Johnson noted that the University has no overall policy statement concerning alcohol and drug use. He noted that alcohol, e.g., "a bottle of sherry" can be found in many University offices, which implies that alcohol consumption is acceptable, even tho the University, at many levels, is attempting to discourage the use of alcohol. He noted too that many office parties which had once offered champagne, for example, no longer do so, and offer non-alcoholic beverages instead. Also, it has been noted that almost no liquor is being consumed in the Student Union dining room, during the lunch hours, which represents a change from an earlier day. It was his opinion that do need a general policy statement opposing the use of alcohol and drugs on campus.

Robert Beyer moved that the Committee place on its agenda for the next meeting a discussion of a policy statement that
aims for a smoke-free alcohol-free environment at the University. Motion seconded, and passed unanimously. Robert agreed to draft a policy statement for Committee to discuss at its next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:54.

Respectfully submitted,
Harvey Bertcher
Secretary Pro Temps