

Minutes of 9 May 2016 SACUA

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THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN  
Senate Advisory Committee on University Affairs (SACUA)  
May 9, 2016, Monday, 3:15 p.m.  
Fleming Building, Regents Room

Present: Atzmon, Carlos, Ortega, Schultz (chair), Smith, Szymanski, Weineck, Wright, Potter; Schneider, and Snyder

Absent: Lehman

Guests: Reporters from the *Daily* and the *Record*

3:20 Call to Order/Approval of Agenda and Minutes

3:25 Announcements

There will not be a meeting next week (May 16). The next meeting will be May 23. Professor Weineck discussed the development of the SACUA Newsletter. Chair Schultz said that he would like to have one Newsletter a term and encouraged contributions from SACUA members.

3:30 Update on Initiatives of the Chair

Chair Schultz discussed the development of stronger ties with the Regents, saying that there will be 7 Regents' meetings per calendar year (from 3:00-5:00), and suggested that SACUA members should attend one apiece; he asked for volunteers to attend the next meeting and report back. Professor Wright will attend the June meeting, Professor Carlos might be able to attend in July.

Chair Schultz asked for a volunteer to attend the Alcohol and Other Drugs Meeting in June.

Chair Schultz said that he is preparing a piece for the Faculty perspectives Page.

Chair Schultz will be meeting with the new leadership of Central Student Government after the SACUA meeting.

Chair Schultz, Professors Smith and Carlos discussed the problem with using Google Drive for SACUA meeting materials; MBox will be used instead.

Chair Schultz discussed the process of improving the functionality of Senate Assembly committees. He said that the executive officers had been asked to nominate their own people; some executive officers had given names, others had listed qualities they would like in members, and had indicated that they would like to have people who represent the University as a whole. He did not think that general committee charges would be changed, but suggested that some priorities would be offered to the committee for their consideration.

3:40 Update on Member Priorities; review and revision of Committee Charges

Chair Schultz reviewed member priorities for the year. On the subject of changes to the ByLaws, Professor Weineck said that Vice President Churchill was willing to discuss changes and the process. There was discussion of the removal of faculty involvement with the admissions process; Chair Schultz said that it would be good to know when faculty are removed from a process, and why they are being removed. Chair Schultz returned to the issue of the selection of committee members by executive officer and their use of Senate Assembly committees, so as to avoid the creation parallel committees.

Chair Shultz, Professor Weineck and Professor Potter discussed increasing the size of Senate Assembly—the point is that the size of the faculty has tripled since the membership of the Senate Assembly

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membership was set, an increase in the size of Senate Assembly would make it more representative of the University faculty. There was also discussion of the membership of the Senate and the structure of SACUA, and the possibility of changing the structure of SACUA so that the immediate past chair would remain with SACUA after his/her term ended, the question of having a chair-elect selected a year in advance was also raised.

Chair Schultz and Professor Weineck discussed President Schlissel's interest in promoting interdisciplinary research; Chair Schultz said that he hoped that SACUA would be given statistics on the results of President Coleman's initiative to promote interdisciplinary clusters. Professor Smith suggested that we should know more about the Life Sciences Institute. Several members feel that SACUA should address substance abuse issues. Professor Wright said that SACUA should address the student honor code. Professor Potter said that a draft of a policy should come from SRAC to SACUA and go from SACUA to Senate Assembly. Chair Schultz said that substance abuse, and student mental health issues should also be discussed by SRAC.

4:13 Liaison Preferences (executive session)

4:40 Selection Process for Committee Membership (executive session)

There was extensive discussion of the staffing of committees and the role of SACUA liaisons.

4:55 Matters Arising

5:02 Adjournment

Respectfully submitted,  
David S. Potter  
Senate Secretary

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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."