

Minutes 5 February 2018
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THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
Senate Advisory Committee on University Affairs (SACUA)
Monday, February 5, 2018 3:15 pm
Fleming Administration Building, Regents Room

Present: Atzmon, Carlos (Skype), Beatty, Ortega (chair), Malek, Marsh, Schultz, Szymanski, Wright, Schneider, Snyder

Absent: Potter

Guests: Members of the Press

3:15 Call to Order - SACUA Chair Robert Ortega called the meeting to order at 3:15.

3:20 APPROVAL OF AGENDA: The Agenda was approved unanimously and without change.

3:25 APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The minutes of the January 8, 2018 and the December 4, 2017 SACUA meetings were approved unanimously and without change.

3:30 ANNOUNCEMENTS:

SACUA Chair Robert Ortega announced that the next SACUA meeting will be held in the Regent' Conference Room in the Fleming Building on February 12 instead of the College of Engineering (CoE). The CoE meeting will be held on another date. The Business School might hold a future SACUA meeting as well.

The deadline for filing a faculty ombuds application has been extended to February 12. Chair Ortega will participate in the selection process with the expectation that the search will extend to March 2.

3:35 SACUA STATEMENT:

SACUA reviewed the free speech Statement SACUA had provided Senate Assembly for information purposes at Senate Assembly's January meeting. SACUA members felt that the main criticism was based upon the assertion of "deplorable people" rather than "deplorable actions". Senate Assembly also questioned whether all divisive actions are wrong. SACUA Chair Ortega stated that he would re-write the SACUA Statement to consider as a Senate Assembly resolution and will include suggested changes by SACUA for consideration at the next Senate Assembly meeting.

4:00 AAAC STATEMENT

Chair Ortega indicated the AAAC Chair asked for an update on SACUA's recognition of the statement his committee reviewed with CIU; and that CIU endorsed. Chair Ortega sent

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SACUA member responses to the AAAC Chair along with the SACUA statement. After discussion, SACUA members suggested the AAAC Chair consider taking the AAAC document directly to Senate Assembly. Concern about bringing two actions at the same Senate Assembly meeting were expressed.

4:10 DEFINITION OF FACULTY

SACUA members discussed the definition of "faculty" which appears to vary depending on its use at the University. Immediate Past Chair William Schultz stated that the best definitions of faculty are in the definition of a Senate Member in Sec.V of the Regents' bylaws. SACUA member Sami Malek asked what the concern is. Professor Schultz said the definitions should be consistent particularly as they relate to faculty rights and privileges. Chair Ortega indicated that the Rules Committee in which Professor Scott Masten is Chair is charged to determine the definition of faculty. SACUA member Stefan Szymanski is liaison to the Rules Committee. Joy Beatty, liaison to SAC will summarize the discussion with her committee since they, too, were interested in clarifying the definition.

4:20 EXECUTIVE SESSION:

SACUA entered into executive session to discuss:

SACUA Nominating Committee
Davis Markert Nickerson Academic Freedom Lecture
UM-Flint Grievance
Impressions of Medical School SACUA Meeting

5:05 MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

5:10 ADJOURNMENT

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas E. Schneider
Secretary Pro Tem

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."

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SACUA: “The committee may adopt rules for the transaction of its business.”