Subject: Faculty Governance Update

Tri-Campus Task Force Resolution was unanimously passed by Senate Assembly on October 24, 2016.

WHEREAS, a large number of Senate members from UM-Flint and UM-Dearborn have requested SACUA to create a Senate Assembly task force to undertake an assessment of and to make recommendations about tri-campus campus faculty governance relationships at U-M, UM-Dearborn, and UM-Flint, and

WHEREAS, creating such a task force received the highest number of votes in the Senate Assembly initial poll at the September 19, 2016 Senate Assembly meeting, then

THEREFORE, be it resolved that Senate Assembly hereby creates such a tri-campus task force to work with any existing local stakeholder, and be it further resolved that Senate Assembly hereby gives SACUA in collaboration with local campus faculty governance the authority to populate and charge a six-member task force subject to final approval of Senate Assembly, and be it further resolved that the task force will report back to Senate Assembly at the April 17, 2017 Senate Assembly meeting.

On November 21, 2016, the Senate Assembly approved the Tri-Campus committee members and charge:

Tri Campus Task Force members:

Tom Wrobel – Flint
John Ellis – Flint
Gerry Moran – Dearborn
Natalia Czap – Dearborn
Rebecca Cunningham – Ann Arbor
Robert Ortega – Ann Arbor
The Task Force shall:

(1) Identify, review, and assemble for comparison source materials and interpretations of those materials pertinent to the faculty governance structure and operation of the Dearborn, Flint and Ann Arbor campuses, and compare it with the structures of the University Senate established by the Regents’ Bylaws.

(2) As deemed appropriate by the Task Force, conduct surveys or interviews of Senate members and key academic administrators of the Dearborn, Flint and Ann Arbor campuses to assess their opinions about the vitality and effectiveness of the current faculty governance structure and operation, faculty rights and prerogatives, and degrees of conformity of governance with all written policy documents identified in charge (1).

(3) Identify ways that the single University Senate formed of the governing faculty on three campuses can interact and communicate with faculty and faculty governance bodies unique to UM-Flint and UM-Dearborn to strengthen faculty governance throughout the University;

(4) Deliver a written report to the Senate Assembly by 17 April 2017 that summarizes its fact-finding, identifies strengths and issues of concern, and offers recommendations for action by the Senate Assembly.

Submitted: December 2016

(T E Schneider on behalf of SACUA)