

**UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
REGENTS COMMUNICATION
Item for Information**

SUBJECT: May 2021 Faculty Governance Update

Overview of items discussed:

1. SACUA
2. Senate Assembly
3. Senate Assembly Committees
4. Faculty Senate
5. Faculty Senate Office Update

1. SACUA

SACUA held meetings on March 22, March 29, April 5, April 12, April 26, and May 3. At the **March 22** meeting, SACUA met with the Faculty Ombuds Professor Michèle Hannoosh and Senate Assembly members representing the Medical School attended the meeting in executive session. At the **March 29** meeting, SACUA approved a Standard Operating Procedure to guide the nomination process of faculty to serve on search committees. Vice President of Student Life Martino Harmon visited along with Chris Kolb, Vice President of Government Relations. The VPs were accompanied by the respective Senate Assembly committee chairs of their advisory committees, Chair Gina Cervetti of the Student Relations Advisory Committee (SRAC) and Alexandra Rivera, Chair of the Government Relations Advisory Committee (GRAC). At the **April 5** meeting, Provost Susan Collins was a guest with Sonya Jacobs, Chief Organizational Learning Officer. Athletic Director Warde Manuel attended the meeting to provide an update on athletics. Guidepost Solutions met with SACUA in executive session. On **April 12**, Dean of Libraries, James Hilton and Director of the University of Michigan Press, Charles Watkinson, were in attendance. SACUA elected officers SACUA Chair [Allen Liu](#), Associate Professor, Mechanical Engineering, and Vice Chair [Caitlin Finlayson](#), Associate Professor, English, UM-Dearborn. For the **April 26** meeting, President Schlissel was a guest. Damani Partridge, Chair of the Committee on Anti-Racism (CAR), a new Senate Assembly committee this year, attended. At the **May 3** meeting, Provost Susan Collins was a guest. Gloria Hage from the Office of General Counsel discussed the draft Supervisor-Employee Relationships policy in executive session. SACUA considered proposed changes to the University Senate Rules for electronic meetings. SACUA endorsed the proposed changes.

SACUA endorsed a statement condemning statements by Regent Weiser. The statement was put to a vote before the faculty, including Faculty Senate members, lecturers, and clinical faculty. The ballot was sent to 7,320 faculty, and 1,837 votes were cast, of which 1,807 endorsed the statement, and 30 faculty members voted against it.

2. SENATE ASSEMBLY

Senate Assembly met on April 19 and on May 10. During the **April 19** meeting, Vice President for Research Rebecca Cunningham attended. Mike Hague, Vice Chancellor for Business for UM-Flint and Bryan Dadey, Vice Chancellor for Business and Finance for UM-Dearborn were also guests. Senate Assembly endorsed a Resolution to mandate vaccinations for all students, faculty, and staff with limited exception. Senate Assembly does not customarily meet in May. However, a May 10 meeting was added so that reports could be received about the work of Senate Assembly committees. On **May 10**, the Faculty Senate Office provided a brief report on the work of the seventeen Senate Assembly committees. Senate Assembly committee chairs and representatives attended the meeting to be available to answer questions about their work from Senate Assembly. Senate Assembly members participated in breakout groups to discuss improving connections between Senate Assembly committees and the faculty at large, and to identify future topics of interest for the next year. Senate Assembly considered the proposed

changes to the University Senate Rules for electronic meetings. Senate Assembly endorsed the changes to the University Senate Rules for electronic meetings with 29 votes in favor of the changes, 11 opposed, and zero abstentions.

3. SENATE ASSEMBLY COMMITTEES

Senate Assembly committee work continues. The following committees recently met, or have upcoming meetings scheduled since the last update:

Academic Affairs Advisory Committee	April 14
Development Advisory Committee	April 16
General Counsel's Advisory Committee	April 5
Government Relations Advisory Committee	April 20
Information Technology Committee	April 29
Medical Affairs Advisory Committee	April 21, May 19
Research Policies Committee	April 29
Secretary of the University Advisory Committee	April 6
Administration Evaluation Committee	May 13
Student Relations Advisory Committee	April 16
Committee on Anti-Racism	April 23, May 12
Committee for Fairness, Equity, and Inclusion	April 14
Committee on Oversight of Administrative Action	April 9
Davis, Markert, and Nickerson Academic Freedom Lecture Committee	April 12, April 28

4. FACULTY SENATE

There are no new updates for Faculty Senate at this time.

5. FACULTY SENATE OFFICE

The Faculty Senate Office is currently compiling nominations received for Faculty Awards. Faculty Award administered by the Faculty Senate Office include the Distinguished Faculty Governance Award, Regents' Award for Distinguished Public Service, Jackie Lawson Memorial Faculty Governance Award, University Librarian Achievement Award, and University Librarian Recognition Award. Work continues in collaboration with the SACUA Chair and Immediate Past Chair to populate Senate Assembly committee rosters, and to identify future committee chairs to serve next year.

Submitted: May 2021



Allen Liu, SACUA Chair