

**THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN**

*Regents Communication*

**ACTION REQUEST**

Subject: Regents' Bylaws Sec. 4.01- The University Senate

Action Required: Approval of bylaw amendments

Effective Date: July 20, 2023

Attached are amendments to the Regents' Bylaws Sec. 4.01- The University Senate.

The amendments add one clinical faculty member, bringing the total membership from six to seven. It also adjusts expiration dates for members to improve committee continuity. The University Senate approved a resolution on June 3, 2023 to expand the University Senate to include Clinical Professors (Assistant, Associate, and Full), Lecturers (I, II, III, IV), Archivists, and Curators.

I recommend adoption of the amendments presented.

Respectfully submitted,



Sally J. Churchill  
Vice President and Secretary of the University

## Regents' Bylaw Revision - July 2023

Revisions to the University of Michigan Board of Regents' Bylaws, have been proposed and are now being posted for public comment before coming before the regents for approval in July. Please submit comments no later than July 19 to [bylawcomments@umich.edu](mailto:bylawcomments@umich.edu).

The University Senate approved a resolution on June 3, 2023 that would expand the University Senate to include Clinical Professors (Assistant, Associate, and Full), Lecturers (I, II, III, IV), Archivists, and Curators. The University Senate respectfully requests the Board of Regents to revise the following sections of its bylaws.

Original language of the bylaws with additions in **bold**, and proposed deletions are indicated with ~~striketrough~~.

### Sec. 4.01. The University Senate

The University Senate shall consist of all members of the tenured or tenure-track professorial staff,<sup>1</sup> the executive officers of the University, the deans of the schools and colleges, such members of the research, clinical, lecturer, archival, curatorial, and librarian ~~library~~ staff as may be designated in accordance with standards and procedures approved by the Senate Assembly, and such other major officers as may be designated by the Board of Regents from time to time. The chair of the assembly shall preside at meetings of the University Senate. In the absence of the chair, the vice chair of the assembly shall preside. The 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.

### Sec. 4.03. Senate Assembly Composition

There shall be a Senate Assembly which shall consist of ~~seventy-four~~ seventy-seven senate members apportioned among the various schools and colleges according to the number of senate members in each school or college. However, no Senate Assembly unit shall be apportioned more than 17 members. For the purposes of Senate Assembly apportionment, UM-Dearborn members shall constitute a "UM-Dearborn" unit; UM-Flint members shall constitute a "UM-Flint" unit; and all Librarian, Archivist, and Curator members from all campuses shall constitute a "Library" unit of the Senate Assembly. The assembly shall make a reapportionment every three years. The members of the assembly shall serve for terms of three years (or longer in accordance with Sec. 4.07) so adjusted that the terms of approximately

one-third of the members shall expire each year. A member who has served one term will not immediately be eligible for re-election.

<sup>1</sup> *Explanatory note: While most faculty do not view themselves as “staff,” this “professorial staff” term is used throughout the Regents’ Bylaws and is defined to “include professors, associate professors, and assistant professors” (Sec. 5.01). While adding “tenured or tenure-track” before “professorial staff” does not alter the historical understanding that, for the University Senate, this term is referring to the tenure-track faculty, this addition would provide useful, explicit clarity.*