

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

SUBJECT: December 2019 Faculty Governance Update

Overview of items discussed:

1. Davis, Markert, Nickerson Academic Freedom Lecture
2. SACUA
3. Senate Assembly
4. Senate Assembly Committees
5. Faculty Senate

1. Davis, Markert, Nickerson (DMN) Academic Freedom Lecture

The Faculty Senate hosted the Davis, Markert, Nickerson Academic Freedom Lecture on October 30, 2019. Hank Reichman, Chair of the American Association of University Professors Committee A on Academic Freedom and Tenure, was this year's DMN speaker. By training a historian of Russia and the Soviet Union, Dr. Reichman is Professor Emeritus of History at California State University, East Bay, where he taught for 25 years. Dr. Reichman delivered the lecture, "*Do Adjuncts Have Academic Freedom?, or Why Tenure Matters.*"

We are pleased to have confirmed an impressive group of four panelists who will deliver the 30th anniversary DMN Lecture on October 27, 2020. The panelists are:

Nadje S. Al-Ali, Brown University
Jan Tomasz Gross, Princeton University
Michael Bérubé, Pennsylvania State University
Susan Benesch, Harvard University

2. SACUA

SACUA met on October 7, October 28, November 4, and November 11. There was a fall break on October 14.

During the **October 7** meeting, Provost Martin Philbert was a visitor along with Special Counsel to the Provost, Christine Gerdes. Provost Philbert described the recently announced Arts Initiative as well as the plan to grow academic innovation. He acknowledged the work that is taking place concerning Bylaws 5.09 and 5.10, and he thanked SACUA for its role in the process of compiling a working group that will be working on recommending revisions. Members of Provost Philbert's team also joined the meeting to discuss Higher Learning Commission accreditation.

The **October 28** meeting included a visit from Dr. Mike Imperiale, Associate Vice President for Research – Research Policy and Compliance who discussed the University's response to foreign influence in research. A motion was also approved at the meeting to move forward with developing an appropriate e-voting platform to use in the event of a vote for faculty governance.

During the **November 4** meeting, Christine Gerdes, Special Counsel to the Provost; James Burkel, Vice Provost for Academic and Faculty Affairs; Sascha Matish, Associate Vice Provost for Academic and Faculty Affairs; and Patricia Petrowski, Associate Vice President and Deputy General Counsel visited the meeting to discuss the University's proposed Umbrella Policy, answer questions, and receive feedback. A productive conversation took place.

For the **November 11** meeting, visitors included Dr. James Hilton, Vice Provost for Academic Innovation, University Librarian, and Dean of Libraries; and Charles Watkinson, Associate University Librarian and Director, University of Michigan Press. Dean Hilton spoke about open access and transformational publishing models.

3. SENATE ASSEMBLY

Senate Assembly met on **October 21**. Dr. James Hilton, Vice Provost for Academic Innovation, University Librarian, and Dean of Libraries, visited the meeting to discuss the structure of the Library, the challenges the Library faces concerning publishing and open access, and managing facilities to house resources.

The group received unit reports outlining the status of their schools and efforts they have taken to liaise with Faculty Senate from the School of Information (Kentaro Toyama, W. K. Kellogg Professor of Community Information and Professor of Information), Library (Meredith Kahn, Librarian for Gender and Sexuality Studies), and Dearborn (Caitlin Finlayson, Associate Professor of English).

4. SENATE ASSEMBLY COMMITTEES

Senate Assembly committees have continued to meet regularly with Executive Officers. Meeting agendas are available on the Faculty Senate website. The following committees recently met:

Medical Affairs Advisory Committee	October 16, November 20
Committee on Civil Rights & Liberties	October 24, October 29
Financial Affairs Advisory Committee	October 24
Development Advisory Committee	October 25, November 14
Research Policies Committee	October 25, November 22
Committee for an Inclusive University	October 28
Communications Advisory Committee	October 31
General Counsel's Advisory Committee	November 5
Academic Affairs Advisory Committee	November 8
Committee on the Economic Status of the Faculty	November 6
Student Relations Advisory Committee	November 15
Secretary of the University Advisory Committee	November 25

5. Faculty Senate Meeting and Senate Assembly Meeting

A Faculty Senate Meeting was convened on November 18, 2019, to hear from representatives from the Provost's and Vice President and General Counsel's offices regarding the draft Umbrella Policy and to solicit input from faculty. A productive conversation took place and faculty members had the opportunity to express their views concerning the proposed policy (see the [article](#) in The University Record). A Senate Assembly meeting was also held in which the Committee on Civil Rights & Liberties introduced a resolution concerning cross-examination of students during an investigation of sexual or gender-based misconduct. Since the meeting lacked a quorum, the resolution will be brought forward at the December Senate Assembly meeting to allow Senate Assembly to vote on the resolution.

6. Tri-Campus Faculty Governance Leadership Meeting

Continuing our practice from last year, faculty governance leadership (including chairs, vice chairs, and immediate past chairs) for the faculty senates of the Ann Arbor, Flint, and Dearborn campuses met in Ann Arbor for an informal lunch and information sharing on November 22. Similar gatherings will be held on the Flint and Dearborn campus in the Winter semester.

Submitted: November 2019



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