

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

SUBJECT: December 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 met on October 18, October 25, November 1, November 8, and November 29. At its **October 18** meeting, SACUA met fully in executive session to discuss collegiality in communications, follow up to motion passed during the October 4 Faculty Senate meeting, and a discussion with representatives from the Office of General Counsel and Human Resources to discuss the University's draft Anti-Retaliation Policy Standard Practice Guide (SPG). On **October 25**, SACUA voted to request that the Lecturers' Employee Organization (LEO) prepare and share information about lecturers that will help the Rules, Practices and Policies Committee evaluate the question of lecturer representation in the Faculty Senate. SACUA participated in a listening session with a consultant conducting the search for the Vice Provost for Equity and Inclusion and Chief Diversity Officer. SACUA discussed the handling of the Bright Sheng incident in the School of Music, Theater and Dance. At its meeting on **November 1**, Provost Susan Collins was a guest. SACUA had a discussion of follow-up items suggested by a Senate Assembly member regarding Guidepost Solutions. SACUA also discussed the promotion and tenure process. At its meeting on **November 8**, SACUA discussed Rules of Engagement for SACUA-appointed committees and task forces. Guests attended from the Provost's office and from the Equity, Civil Rights and Title IX (ECRT) Office to discuss the draft Electronic and Information Technology Accessibility SPG. At its **November 29** meeting, SACUA discussed a new charge for the Rules, Practices and Policies Committee (RPP) to consider a potential request to expand representation in Faculty Senate, and a revised charge for the Davis, Markert, and Nickerson Academic Freedom Lecture Committee to permit the selection of speakers for two lectures in 2022. SACUA also discussed the organization of central faculty governance, principles of engagement and transparency, and an update on a Work Connections Working Group.

2. SENATE ASSEMBLY

The Senate Assembly met on November 15. Dean Patricia Hurn, co-chair of the Working Group on Culture Change provided an update, and she addressed questions from Senate Assembly Representatives. Tami Strickman, Executive Director of the ECRT Office attended the meeting along with fourteen staff members from ECRT. The group split into six breakout groups to discuss the following questions:

1. What happens when ECRT gets a report?
2. Why are so few matters formally investigated?
3. Why do investigations take so long?
4. Do people have to talk to ECRT?

3. SENATE ASSEMBLY COMMITTEES

Senate Assembly committees continue to meet. Several committee chairs are making plans to attend Senate Assembly in December, January, and February to provide updates on their respective committee's work. Committee chairs have committed to give updates for the following committees: Development Advisory Committee, Committee on the Oversight of Administrative Action, Research

Advisory Committee, Committee for Fairness, Equity, and Inclusion, Academic Affairs Advisory Committee, and Financial Affairs Advisory Committee.

4. FACULTY SENATE

The Faculty Senate will host the Davis, Markert, and Nickerson Academic Freedom Lecture on Monday, March 14, 2022. Dima Khalidi, founder and director of Palestine Legal and Cooperating Counsel with the Center for Constitutional Rights, has agreed to deliver the lecture.

5. FACULTY SENATE OFFICE

The Faculty Senate Office is exploring available options to create a database to manage an ongoing directory of participation of faculty in central faculty governance activities. Previous resolutions and central faculty governance actions may also potentially be captured in a database. Faculty Senate Office staff will be meeting with ITS representatives to discuss the database on December 2. The Faculty Senate Office has received approval to hire an additional Faculty Governance Coordinator at 60% time to assist with administration of Senate Assembly committees. The job posting will be posted soon with the goal of hiring a new Coordinator in January.

Submitted: November 2021



Allen Liu, SACUA Chair