

Minutes of 12 January 2009
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THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
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MINUTES OF THE SACUA MEETING OF 12 JANUARY 2009

Present: Navvab, Poe, Potter (Chair), Riles, Stark, Thouless; Lehman; Schneider, Carr

Absent: Fraser, Frier, Frost

Guests: President Coleman, Provost Sullivan, K. Gibbons (provost office), J. King (provost office), M. J. Frank (*U-M News and Information*), E. Rothman, K. Brown (*University Record*), D. Gershman (*Ann Arbor News*), *Daily* reporter

MATERIALS DISTRIBUTED

1. Draft agenda
2. Draft minutes of the SACUA meeting of 15 December 2008
3. Draft minutes of the SACUA meeting of 9 January 2009
4. Draft account of the provost's visit with SACUA on 15 December 2008 annotated by the provost.
5. Proposed Action Item for Senate Assembly regarding eligibility for membership on SACUA
6. Memorandum to D. S. Potter from T. A. Sullivan, dated 16 December 2008, regarding refreshed cognate panel.
7. Draft agenda for 26 January 2009 Senate Assembly meeting
8. Background information about bowl travel, dated January 2009
9. "Editorial about free bowl trips based on incorrect assumptions," by D. A. Kahn. *Ann Arbor News*, 21 December 2008.
10. "Travel perk looks like a juicy bone for U-M faculty watchdogs," by K. Riles. Mlive.com blog posted 28 December 2008.
11. SACUA Faculty Hearing Committee. Section 10.7, University of Michigan Faculty Handbook.
12. Request for Faculty Hearing Committee and supporting materials.

Chair Potter convened the meeting at 3:25 P.M.

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

The minutes of 15 December 2008 were corrected and approved.

The minutes of 9 January 2009 were approved as submitted.

FACULTY HEARING COMMITTEE

The active Faculty Hearing Committee will consist of Professors Frier, Stark, and Navvab. The FHC will consider a new appeal received today (distributed item 12).

SACUA ELIGIBILITY

SACUA members reviewed a proposed change to the rules of the Senate Assembly regarding candidate eligibility for election to SACUA.

SENATE ASSEMBLY AGENDA

SACUA members considered and modified a draft agenda for the January Senate Assembly meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENT

SACUA meetings will no longer automatically precede Senate Assembly meetings.

VISIT OF ATHLETE ACADEMIC ADVISING COMMITTEE CHAIR

The chair gave the floor to Professor Rothman at 3:32 P.M. Professor Rothman reviewed the process used by the committee to develop its report. He cautioned that the findings had not yet been finalized because the committee is still waiting for some data. He then outlined the likely elements of the committee report to Senate Assembly.

1. The committee will propose that athletes be treated equally to other students with respect to academic eligibility.
2. The Academic Success Program is an excellent program, but there are opportunities to improve it further by moving all academic advising under the review of an LSA assistant dean.
3. LSA should expand its concentration offerings to accommodate student athletes and other students who are at academic risk.
4. Change and enhance the Bridge program.
5. The committee should revisit the status of its recommendations every six months.
6. BGS oversight should be handled by academic advisers in LSA.
7. NCAA should amend its sliding scale of standards regarding elements of admission criteria.

Professor Rothman said that the committee has already obtained statements of cooperation from several unit deans and central administrators regarding these proposals. He concluded his presentation at 4:05 P.M.

VISIT OF UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT AND PROVOST

The president and provost as well as K. Gibbons joined the meeting at 4:05 P.M. The president provided updates on several topics.

Pfizer Property-

The purchase has not been closed yet; the U-M has 180 days to inspect the property prior to closing. Committees will be exploring opportunities for using the space. It is possible that capital expenses will be incurred as part of renovation. The president said she feels that it will be possible to expand the U-M research enterprise to more than \$1 billion dollars per year. The

provost added that facility and space limitation has become a major impediment to faculty recruiting.

Partnership with GM-

The U-M has formed a partnership with GM regarding battery technology.

Job Market for new Ph.D.s-

The provost said that she spoke with an assistant director at NSF about the prospect of increasing the funding short-term for postdoctoral positions owing to the hiring freeze at many universities.

Economic Issues-

Many schools are reporting substantial attrition between Fall and Winter semesters, but the U-M has experienced relatively little reduction in class size. Student accounts receivable are likewise favorable.

Applications-

Undergraduate applications are running within one percent of last year's numbers. Admission applications from international students are way up, especially from China, and from Shanghai in particular. Quality indicators are higher in the applicant population this year compared with last year. However, yield statistics are complete guesswork at this stage.

GRB Cognate Panel-

The provost said that she will consult with Academic Human Resources regarding the prospect of SACUA adding names to the GRB cognate panel.

The guests left the meeting at 4:30 P.M.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The meeting entered executive session at 4:30 P.M. Discussion topics included (1) status of the Regents' Bylaw 5.09 Tenure Committee report, (2) a request for a Faculty Hearing Committee.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

There was no additional business.

The meeting adjourned at 5:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

John Lehman
Senate Secretary

University of Michigan Bylaws of the Board of Regents, Sec. 5.02:

Governing Bodies in Schools and Colleges

In each school, college, or degree granting division of the University, including those at the University of Michigan-Dearborn and at the University of Michigan-Flint, the governing faculty shall be in charge of the affairs of the school, college, or division, except as delegated to the

executive committee, if any, and except that in the School of Graduate Studies the governing board shall be the executive board, and in the Medical School shall be the executive faculty.
