

Minutes of 7 April 2008  
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**THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN**  
**Senate Advisory Committee on University Affairs**  
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**MINUTES OF THE SACUA MEETING OF 7 APRIL 2008**

**Present:** Friedman, Frier, Potter, Riles, Smith (chair), Stark; Lehman; Carr, Schneider

**Absent:** Fraser, Thouless

**Guests:** K. Brown (*University Record*), D. Gershman (*Ann Arbor News*), G. Poe (SACUA member-elect)

**MATERIALS DISTRIBUTED**

1. Draft agenda
2. Draft minutes of the SACUA meeting of 31 March 2008
3. Summary of Responsibilities of the University Senate and SACUA, as Mandated by Regents' Bylaws
4. [University Benefits & Issues, by M. Robert Fraser, dated March 2008](#)
5. Michigan State University Faculty: Health Care Concerns, Policies, and Future Options, dated February 2008
6. [The Bylaws of the University of Michigan Board of Regents, updated September 2007](#)
7. Press Release from the Coalition on Intercollegiate Athletics (COIA) dated 8 April 2008
8. Page proofs: *Principles of Faculty Involvement in Institutional & Academic Unit Governance at the University of Michigan*, second edition.
9. Task Force Vision Statement by W. F. Canning, dated 4 December 2007.
10. "University of Michigan Faculty urges Minority Hiring", by Dave Gershman, *The Ann Arbor News*, 18 March 2008.
11. "University needs a diverse faculty; not just student body," *Michigan Daily*, 3 April 2008.

Chair Smith convened the meeting at 3:00 P.M. The proposed agenda was approved with a change in order of topics.

**CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES**

The minutes of 31 March 2008 were approved.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair Smith announced:

1. The Regents Room is not available next week. SACUA will meet in the conference room of the vice president for research (VPR), 4<sup>th</sup> floor Fleming Building.
2. Christine Gerdes, Office of General Counsel (OGC), and Steve Forrest, VPR, will meet with SACUA next week.
3. C.B. Smith has been appointed the faculty governance representative to the search committee for executive vice president for medical affairs.
4. Professor Poe will act as SACUA liaison to the EVPMA advisory committee.
5. Professors Smith and Potter will meet with the provost for a regularly scheduled private meeting next week.
6. Page proofs for the second edition of the *Principles* document are included in Materials Distributed for final SACUA review (item 8).
7. The Senate Assembly will meet on 21 April 2008.
8. A statement from the Coalition on Intercollegiate Athletics (COIA) is included in Materials Distributed (item 7).
9. A summary of SACUA and Senate Assembly responsibilities is included in Materials Distributed (item 3).

## LIAISON REPORTS

### **Multicultural University-**

Professor Smith reported that the committee met with Lester Monts last week, and Monts stated that the administration was strongly supportive of the committee's recent report to the Senate Assembly.

## RECREATIONAL SPORTS

Professor Stark reported about the monthly meetings of the Recreational Sports task force, with reference to distributed item 9. He explained that reporting relationships for Recreational Sports at the U-M are anomalous compared to other Big-10 universities. He added that funding for U-M Recreational Sports is very low in comparison to other universities, and is reflected in the poor condition of the facilities. SACUA members recommended that it might make more sense to transfer responsibility for Recreational Sports to Student Affairs or Financial Affairs.

## BENEFITS STRATEGIES

The topic was postponed.

## EXECUTIVE SESSION

The meeting entered executive session at 4:00 P.M. to discuss a proposal for a faculty governance initiated review of the Rackham Graduate School. The meeting resumed open session at 4:42 P.M.

## OLD/NEW BUSINESS

Professor Frier suggested that SACUA develop a statement expressing support for the academic freedom of Professor Hagen. Professor Friedman pointed out that SACUA has a subcommittee investigating some academic practices within the athletics program, and may be perceived to

have drawn conclusions prematurely. He suggested that Professor Frier draft the language of his proposed statement so that other SACUA members can review it.

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 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.

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