

Minutes of 8 October 2007  
Circulated 9 October 2007  
Approved 22 October 2007

**THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN**  
**Senate Advisory Committee on University Affairs**  
6048 Fleming Administration Building  
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48109-1340  
Phone: (734) 764-0303  
Fax: (734) 764-6564

Internet Address: <http://www.umich.edu/~sacua/>  
Approved Minutes: <http://www.umich.edu/~sacua/sacmin/sacuaminutes.html>

**MINUTES OF THE SACUA MEETING OF 8 OCTOBER 2007**

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

**Absent:** none

**Guests:** M. Kobersky (assistant general counsel), K. Brown (*University Record*), *Daily Reporter*, L. Thomas (Chief Human Resource Officer), M. Eichstadt (Director of Benefits), B. Vasher (Benefits Manager), members of CESF and Budget Study Committee

**MATERIALS DISTRIBUTED**

1. Draft agenda
2. Draft minutes of the SACUA meeting of 1 October 2007
3. Draft minutes of the SACUA meeting of 17 September 2007 with corrections noted by the provost to the account of her meeting.
4. Memorandum of Understanding Regarding Access to and Use of Application, Enrollment, and Post-Matriculation Data from the University of Michigan
5. Electronic mail from Keith Riles to Tom Schneider dated 8 October 2007 regarding "AEC draft questions (as of Friday October 5)"
6. Electronic mail from PNC to SACUA dated 3 October 2007 regarding "The Harvard Crimson: Profs Might Make Their Articles Free"
7. "Profs Might Make Their Articles Free", by Alexandra Hiatt, The Harvard Crimson, 27 September 2007, online edition.
8. "Big Ten Conference, 2006-07 Handbook: Rules of Organization and Procedure, Rules of Eligibility, and Agreements for Men's and Women's Programs"
9. "2008 Medical Plan Profiles for 2007 Faculty and Staff Open Enrollment for 2008 Faculty and Staff Benefits", published on-line

Chair Smith convened the meeting at 3:00 P.M. The proposed agenda was approved.

**CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES**

The minutes of 17 September 2007 were approved with an amendment added by the provost to the account of her visit.

The minutes of 1 October 2007 were approved.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

The meeting entered Executive Session at 3:05 P.M. The topics of the session were (1) discussion of the Memorandum of Understanding developed by the Office of General Counsel (distributed item 4) to require non-disclosure of results uncovered in the AAAC's Student Academic Success Study; (2) university-level budget issues pertaining to the cost of instruction and cross-unit budget transfers; (3) a potential renewed Regents Bylaw 5.09 hearing for dismissal of a tenured professor for failure to teach an assigned course; (4) two additional personnel matters. The meeting resumed open session at 3:55 P.M.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair Smith announced:

1. SACUA will not meet on Monday, 15 October.
2. Professor Friedman and Chair Smith discussed the University Shared Governance report with the president. They achieved an understanding that suitable language needs to be drafted on the one remaining point of disagreement.
3. A subcommittee consisting of Smith, MacAdam, and Potter will consider issues pertaining to intercollegiate athletics and will report back to SACUA.

#### VISIT OF HEALTH BENEFITS

The guests arrived at 4:00 P.M. Chair Smith asked the guests to review the status of new health benefits programs.

Mr. Vasher pointed out St. Joseph physicians do not participate in the Premier Care replacement plan for M-Care. Ms. Eichstadt stated that the U-M Premier Care plan is intended to replicate the M-Care plan. Professor Thouless pointed out that there appear to be no Urgent Care facilities any longer available in Washtenaw County. Ms. Thomas said that there may simply have been a mistake in the listings, and she assured SACUA that Mr. Vasher would report back with specific information. Subsequently, she said that the list of Urgent Care facilities has not yet been updated on the benefits website.

Professor Riles pointed out that the BCBS PPO is markedly more expensive than the M-Care equivalent. Ms. Eichstadt replied that there has been reduced enrollment in the PPO, and that Human Resources only made an effort to replicate the M-Care HMO.

Ms. Eichstadt stated that for retirees on Medicare, the best plan would be BCN PPO because Medicare is the primary insurer.

Mr. Vasher said that currently there are about 3000 M-Care POS plan members. He said that he would provide SACUA with the number of faculty members included in that population.

Ms. Thomas said that EVPMA Kelch and President Coleman directed her office to design the U-M Premier Care benefit to be as parallel as possible with M-Care HMO. She said there was no

need for faculty consultation because there was no design aspect to the plan. She said that she did not expect significant changes to the benefits plans over the next few years.

Professor Potter pointed out that the health benefits changes are imposing a heavy tax on the youngest, least well compensated members of the faculty, often those with small children. He said that those individuals were experiencing the most detrimental effects of the changes.

Ms. Eichstadt said that following the sale of M-Care the U-M is committed to BCN for the next several years.

Ms. Thomas encouraged people with questions to interact with the benefits service center to obtain answers to their individual, family-specific questions. She added that her office is in the process of redesigning its website, and that she welcomes suggestions to make it more informative.

The guests left the meeting at 5:00 P.M.

#### LIAISON REPORTS

**AEC-** Professor Riles reported that the AEC has met and formulated the set of standard and general administration questions for 2007. He said that he would circulate comments from SACUA back to the AEC.

#### SENATE ASSEMBLY MEETING

SACUA reviewed the agenda for the October Senate Assembly meeting.

#### OLD/NEW BUSINESS

Chair Smith reported that some data about BGS degrees had been received from the Athletic Department. Professor Riles called for creation of a subcommittee to examine the use of the BGS degree by student athletes. Chair Smith pointed out that a subcommittee already exists to consider athletics issues, and the matter will be referred to it.

Professor Friedman proposed that SACUA place further discussion of the issue on a future agenda. Professor Riles expressed support, and Chair Smith declared that the topic would be included on the agenda at the earliest opportunity.

The meeting adjourned at 5:07 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.

---