

Minutes of 1 December 2008
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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 1 DECEMBER 2008

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

Absent: Frost, Stark

Guests: Regent K. White, President M. S. Coleman, K. Gibbons (office of provost), K. Brown (University Record)

MATERIALS DISTRIBUTED

1. Draft agenda
2. Draft minutes of 24 November 2008
3. SACUA/Senate Assembly Planning Schedule, updated 24 November 2008
4. Account of the provost's 24 November 2008 meeting with SACUA, annotated by the provost.
5. Draft agenda for the Senate Assembly meeting of 8 December 2008.
6. <http://www.regents.umich.edu/about/bios/white.html>

Chair Potter convened the meeting at 3:10 P.M. The proposed agenda was approved.

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

The minutes of 24 November were approved.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The meeting entered executive session at 3:15 P.M. to meet with Regent White. Topics of discussion included (1) financial outlook of the U-M, (2) endowment, (3) health benefits, and (4) role of faculty oversight in intercollegiate athletics. The meeting resumed open session at 4:00 P.M.

VISIT OF PRESIDENT

The president arrived at 4:00 P.M. She reported the status of several initiatives.

Developments at Dearborn and Flint-

Efforts have been underway to increase the regional campus enrollment at UM-Dearborn to 12,000. Great progress has been made. Also, two new Ph.D. programs have been added to the engineering school at Dearborn. The campus has also been making advances in allied health programs.

On the Flint campus, with about 6500 students the freshman class has been expanded by about 50%. A new residence hall has been added there, and efforts are underway to expand further. The campus has been reviewing its curricular offerings with the goal of serving the community more effectively..

Flint and Dearborn exceeded their goals for their own, respective capital campaigns. This was a great achievement considering the relative youth of the two campuses.

Study Abroad-

The president has asked the provost's office to give particular attention to study abroad programs and issues. SACUA members provided a series of examples to illustrate the complexity of the issues involved with having U-M students and faculty at foreign universities.

University Research Corridor-

The Detroit Economics Club has established an award for initiatives beneficial to the State. The first award will be given to the University Research Corridor. This is a significant acknowledgement of its value to the State.

The guests left the meeting at 4:35 P.M.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/UPDATES

1. The annual Davis, Markert, Nickerson Academic Freedom Lecture will take place on 4 December at 4 P.M. in the Law School Honigman Auditorium. There will be no official dinner with the speaker because the speaker will return home immediately after the lecture.
2. The Academic Advising committee report may not be delivered until January.
3. The Tenure Committee will be holding a hearing under Regents' Bylaw 5.09 next week. Its report will be transmitted to SACUA for comment before it is sent to the president.
4. SACUA has transmitted three names to the provost's office for membership on the provost's new Grievance Procedures committee.

SENATE ASSEMBLY MEETING

SACUA members discussed the structure of the Senate Assembly agenda for 8 December. The General Counsel's office will reopen discussions about the Standard Practice Guide regarding sexual harassment with SACUA next year.

LIAISON REPORTS

General Counsel Advisory-

The committee decided to add recent adverse court findings about academic freedom issues to its future agenda.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

There was no additional business.

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.
