

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

**SUBJECT: June 2023 Faculty Governance Update**

**Overview of items discussed:**

1. SACUA
2. University Senate

**1. SACUA:**

- Damani Partridge (Ann Arbor), Professor of Anthropology, was elected as Vice-Chair of SACUA for the upcoming academic year; I look forward to leading SACUA with his expertise and guidance. We also welcomed three newly elected SACUA members beginning their three-year terms on May 1, 2023: Heather O'Malley (Ann Arbor), Assistant Research Scientist of Pharmacology, Alex Yasha Yi (Dearborn), Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering, and Vilma Mesa (Ann Arbor), Professor of Education and Mathematics.
- At its May 1 meeting, SACUA informally spent the first hour familiarizing both old and new members with the function of the Senate Assembly and its 18 committees, the basics of parliamentary procedure, SACUA's Standard Operating Procedures, and a discussion of SACUA group norms and goals. The SACUA meeting then began formally with a review of the upcoming [May 25th University Senate special meeting](#) to discuss the Resolution to expand the Faculty Senate to include Clinical Faculty, Archivists, and Curators, followed by a conversation about the continuing GEO strike and faculty thoughts and concerns with the ongoing negotiations. You can find information and updates on GEO negotiations from UM administration [here](#) and from GEO [here](#). The remainder of the meeting was focused on the membership of the SACUA committees and our desire to identify individuals with expertise in areas that could meet the goals and objectives of the committees. SACUA members will provide recommendations to the chair, who then will reach out to those individuals seeking their interest in joining a committee. SACUA also discussed potential changes to the structure of the committees, including suggestions that committee chairs serve in their roles more than one year or that we develop a potential model for having committee vice chairs, who could then serve as chair the following year.
- At its May 8 meeting, SACUA heard from four Senate Assembly committee chairs: Heather O'Malley, Information Technology Committee (ITC), Karen Downing, Development Advisory Committee (DAC), James Gulvas, Financial Affairs Advisory Committee (FAAC), and Dinesh Pal, Committee on Anti-Racism (CAR). Each chair presented a summary of the information detailed in their end-of-year report submitted to SACUA and responded to questions raised by SACUA during their presentation. The remainder of the meeting was allocated to a conversation with Margaret Hudson and Alena Stocking, who are members of the Vision 2034 Project Team. The conversation focused on the role of faculty governance in Vision 2034 and input from several SACUA members were given.

- At its May 15 meeting, SACUA considered final details concerning the May 25th University Senate special meeting to discuss the Resolution to expand the Faculty Senate to include Clinical Faculty, Archivists, and Curators and the additional amendment that was submitted to include Lectures in the expansion. The remainder of the meeting was allocated to hearing from five additional Senate Assembly committee chairs: (i) Analisa DiFeo, Medical Affairs Advisory Committee (MAAC), advisory to Marshall Runge, (ii) Yasmina Laour Committee on the Economic and Well-Being of the Faculty (CESWF), (iii) Yulia Sevryugina, Research Advisory Committee (RAC), advisory to Rebecca Cunningham, (iv) Nicolai Lehnert, Committee on Fairness Equity and Inclusion (CFEI), and (v) Rogerio Pinto, General Council Advisory Committee (GCAC), advisory to Tim Lynch. As in the previous meeting, each chair presented a summary of the information detailed in their end-of-year report submitted to SACUA and responded to questions raised by SACUA during their presentation.
- At its May 22 meeting, the final meeting for the academic year, SACUA met to select an individual to be awarded the Distinguished Faculty Governance Award and an individual to be awarded the Regents' Award for Distinguished Public Service. SACUA also met for 30 minutes with UM Regent Sarah Hubbard and then for an additional 30 minutes with UM President Santa Ono. Topics included the continuing negotiations with GEO, their views on the role of faculty governance in UM administrative decisions, and their visions for all three UM campuses (Ann Arbor, Flint, and Dearborn).
- Although SACUA will not be meeting again until mid-August, please know that SACUA and the Faculty Senate Office continue to focus on campus issues relevant to Senate members. Please contact me or the FSO with any issues you would like to discuss.

## 2. UNIVERSITY SENATE:

- On June 3rd, the University Senate concluded voting on the resolution, [Senate Expansion to Admit Clinical Professors, Lecturers, Archivists, and Curators](#). The resolution passed, with ~66% voting in the affirmative, ~34% voting in the negative, and ~1% abstaining. The official voting results are [here](#). With the passage of the resolution, a request to revise the Board of Regents' Bylaws will be made in order to permit these membership changes.
- Preceding the most recent vote, the University Senate also passed an [amendment](#), which added Lecturers to the original expansion resolution to admit Clinical Professors, Archivists, and Curators. A collection of information and resources related to lengthy consideration of this issue (within various committees, the Senate Assembly, and the two most recent University Senate meetings) can be found [here](#).

Submitted: June 2023



Tom Braun, SACUA Chair  
SACUA Regents Update May 2023