UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Silan Fadlallah <silanf@umich.edu>

Re: [UM Academic Freedom Network] UM Academic Freedom Policy and Invitation to 2018 Regent Candidates' Forum - Oct 15th -- at UM Faculty Senate

2 messages

Yasmin Moll <yasminmoll@gmail.com> Sun, Oct 14, 2018 at 4:38 AM
To: um-academic-freedom-network@googlegroups.com

Hello all,

Thanks Samer for publicizing further the faculty senate meeting and encouraging us to attend.

I see that there will be opportunities for attendees to put forward questions for the different candidates running for regent. Should we have a somewhat organized effort to ask questions about their respective stances on academic freedom, etc?

I have no idea who these candidates are and perhaps many other faculty members don't as well.

best,
Yasmin

On Fri, Oct 12, 2018 at 12:10 PM Samer Ali <samermahdyali@gmail.com> wrote:

> Dear Colleagues,
>
> This email will be very boring but important, I promise. Please bear with me: As many of you know, universities in American are expected to extend academic freedom protections to the work of professors in the realms of teaching and research, but going back to the 1940 AAUP statement, they are not obligated to extend that protection to service. (I am told that no ever expected service to become controversial). If you look at UM's Faculty Handbook, we're in line with that state of exception:
> https://www.provost.umich.edu/faculty/handbook/1/index.html
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> Our Handbook also extends protections to "internal criticism" and "public debates" but we still have a gapping hole when it comes to service, where most faculty tend to categorize that vague duty of writing letters of rec.
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> By contrast, the most comprehensive academic freedom statement to wit is Penn State's:
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> where the relevant language is: "Faculty members are free to speak and write on governance issues of their respective departments, colleges, units, libraries, and of the University as a whole, and are free to speak and write on **all matters** related to their professional duties **without institutional discipline or restraint**." That sounds really good right about now. If long term, we want to change our Faculty Handbook, that process beings in the Faculty Senate, of which all UM faculty on all three campuses are members.
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> I urge you to join us on Monday at the Faculty Senate, for three consequential reasons: (1) in the short term, we need to have a voice in selecting the next Regent (2) for the longterm, the Faculty Senate needs your presence to achieve a quorum (3) because … a quorum will enable us to change some arcane rules, and finally authorize electronic voting, which currently prevents reforms in the Faculty Senate. It's a complex travesty, but we have a golden opportunity on Monday 10/15 to take an important step forward.
>
> Hope to see you on Monday,
> Samer Ali
>
> ---------- Forwarded message ---------
> From: **Samer Mahdy Ali** <samerali@umich.edu>
> Date: Sun, Oct 7, 2018 at 7:06 PM
> Subject: Fwd: Invitation to 2018 Regent Candidates' Forum - Oct 15th
> To: Islamophobia Working Group <islamophobiaworkinggroup@umich.edu>

Dear colleagues,

This is the email I mentioned that gives U-M faculty an opportunity to interview candidates running for the position of U-M Regent. And Monday 10/15 will fall during the Study break, so we will have no classes that day.

If you are a U-M faculty member on any of three campuses, then you are **automatically** a member of the Faculty Senate. Please join us for this important event, since Regents wield influence over university operations.

best regards,
Samer Ali
LSA Representative
UM Faculty Assembly (2018-2021)

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: **Faculty Senate Chair** <facultysenatechair@umich.edu>
Date: Fri, Oct 5, 2018 at 2:00 PM
Subject: Invitation to 2018 Regent Candidates' Forum - Oct 15th
To: <samerali@umich.edu>

FACULTY SENATE
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Dear Colleagues,

I am pleased to invite you to attend a joint meeting of the Faculty Senate and Senate Assembly that will host the:

2018 Regent Candidates Forum
Monday October 15th from 3.15 – 5.00 pm
Great Lakes Room, Palmer Commons

Five of the candidates for the two open seats on the Board of Regents will attend. They are:

Jordan Acker	(Democratic Party)
Paul Brown	(Democratic Party)
Andrea Fischer Newman	(Republican Party)
Kevin Graves	(Green Party)
Andrew Richner	(Republican Party)

The candidates will present brief opening statements and then take questions from the floor. This is your chance to hear the views of the prospective Regents and put your questions and concerns to them! (Yes – this is during Fall Study Break, so you don't have to worry about canceling class to attend!)

We also need to transact two brief but important items of Senate business:

i) Election of the Senate Secretary
Prof. David Potter (LSA), an interim Secretary, has agreed to stand for re-election. Additional nominations will be accepted ahead of time or from the floor.

ii) Resolution to Authorize an Electronic Vote of Senate on Changes to Senate Rules (reproduced below)

Whereas, The Rules of the University Senate have become outdated and require revision to reflect modern technologies that allow Senate business to be conducted by electronic means and
Whereas, Such changes to the rules would facilitate increased participation of the Faculty in the governance of the University; therefore be it
Resolved, The Senate hereby authorizes an electronic vote of the Senate on amendments to the Rules of the Senate as may be proposed and approved by SACUA and the Senate Assembly.

Note: this resolution doesn't change any Senate rules by itself. If approved, it will allow SACUA to present proposed changes to the Senate rules to the Faculty electronically; facilitate discussion of the proposed changes through an online forum, and finally conduct a secure electronic vote on the proposed changes. The rule updates we would like to implement involve making it easier to for faculty to participate in Senate business e.g. by attending meetings remotely and voting electronically. The current rules only allow in-person attendance and voting at Senate meetings.

Formal Agenda

JOINT MEETING OF FACULTY AND SENATE ASSEMBLY

October 15, 2018, 3:15 Palmer Commons, Great Lakes Room

Order of Business:
3:15: Call to Order
Election of Senate Secretary
Resolution to Authorize an Electronic Vote of Senate on Changes to Senate Rules

REGENT CANDIDATES' FORUM

5:00: Adjournment

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Samer Mahdy Ali - University of Michigan
Associate Professor, Department of Near Eastern Studies
Director, Center for Middle Eastern & North African Studies | Pronoun: he/his

Center for Middle Eastern & North African Studies
Weiser Hall, Suite 500 | 500 Church St., Ann Arbor, MI 48109-1106
Direct: 734.764.1401 | Fax: 734.936.0996 | http://www.ii.umich.edu/cmenas
https://umich.academia.edu/SamerAli

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Once subscribed, members are unmoderated and free to contribute to the network. Please share news and analysis, and coordinate, and organize. Any and all members are welcome to post by sending messages to:
<um-academic-freedom-network@googlegroups.com>

You received this message because you are subscribed to the Google Groups "UM Academic Freedom Network" group.
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To post to this group, send email to um-academic-freedom-network@googlegroups.com.
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You received this message because you are subscribed to the Google Groups "UM Academic Freedom Network" group.
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To view this discussion on the web visit https://groups.google.com/d/msgid/um-academic-freedom-

network/CADBuvAnE_deC9KOAvx2L%2B46pU1TaC%3DFhrgGDd9C%2BTiP5CGmMuw%40mail.gmail.com.
For more options, visit https://groups.google.com/d/optout.

Melissa Phruksachart <m.phruksachart@gmail.com> Thu, Oct 18, 2018 at 3:57 AM
To: UM Academic Freedom Network <um-academic-freedom-network@googlegroups.com>

Here's the MLive recap of the regents' forum: https://www.mlive.com/expo/news/erry-2018/10/0ebf1269327383/candidates-for-um-board-of-reg.html

On Sunday, October 14, 2018 at 12:38:18 AM UTC, yasminmoll wrote:

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> <um-academic-f...@googlegroups.com>
> ---
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> To view this discussion on the web visit https://groups.google.com/d/msgid/um-academic-freedom-networ k/CAPe0Me6M_yiQifAEQzTXv9reoh3D_Z1JT96jmQfkjte5dg53tQ%40mail.gmail.com.
> For more options, visit https://groups.google.com/d/optout.

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