Faculty Governance Update to the Regents

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
REGENTS COMMUNICATION

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On July 19, SACUA held its annual planning retreat and discussed the following issues for the 2005-06 academic year:

General Issues and Topics for Committees and Senate Assembly

- Revisions to the conflict of interest policies as well as the new conflict of commitment policy (e.g., SACUA model for faculty in each Unit)
- Possible establishment of a faculty code of conduct
- The importance of tenure and flexible tenure (review of flexible tenure document)

Governance Issues

- Criteria-based shared governance proposal
    - Alternative proposal being to rework or add to the blue book
- Transparency of faculty governance at the unit level, including
    - Authority and make-up of executive committees
    - Procedures for changing school bylaws
- Tenure track/non-tenure track faculty issues (growth, ratios, etc.)
    - Non-tenure track faculty participation in governance
- Increased faculty governance awareness and participation (related both to individual units and faculty members)

Evaluation Procedures

- Formal review of student course evaluation content and handling
- Faculty evaluation of administrators and other AEC issues
- Grade inflation, grade reporting and changing, and registration brackets;

Faculty Life Issues

- Junior faculty support;
- Quality of life for faculty including parking, childcare, etc.
- Changes to benefits (healthcare, retirees, drug benefits, etc.)

Student Life Issues

- Financial aid (distribution of scholarship funds)
- Student quality of life and academic priorities during times of budget crisis
- Foreign student issues