I. CALL TO ORDER: 7:09pm
   a. Present: Representatives Kyle Lady, Mike Hand, David Weinreich, David Malewski, Stefan Turcic, Malcom Tariq, Sidney Ellington, President Saccone, Vice President Mbagwu, Treasurer Benson
   b. Absent:
   c. Excused: Pat Pannuto, David Barton, Pier Davis

II. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA
Motion to approve agenda with reorder modification by Mike Hand, seconded by Michael Benson. Approved unanimously.

III. APPROVAL OF THE PREVIOUS MINUTES
Motion to approve by Kyle Lady, seconded by David Malewski. Approved with 1 abstention.

   Motion to suspend rules for Guest Session by Michael Benson, seconded by Kyle Lady. Approved unanimously.

IV. SPECIAL GUEST: DR. ALEC GALLIMORE
Dr. Gallimore introduce himself, professor of Aerospace, chairing the Search Committee. There is a wide range of members of the Search Committee spanning many different segments of the university (reads full list). The search is primarily internally focused on the University. Janet Weiss felt that due to the nature of graduate school, it would be better to be internally focused, and also that there are many good candidates. Alec compromises that the committee will not go through an external firm for the search, but still keep the search pool open internally and externally. Advertise through higher education channels/communities/forums.

   Our goal is to by early November to have a list of 10 or 12 candidates, do a series of intensive interviews, narrow the search to 8 to 9, more interviews, narrow to 4 or 5. Then let candidates meet with faculty and students and groups on campus, and come up with an unranked list of 3 candidates. Committee at this point steps away; a selection is then made by the President and Provost.

   Characteristics: We are looking for a bonnified scholar and research oriented. Someone able to be an effective administrator, as well as a good mentor for graduate students.
Looking for a good communicator, listener, and someone who is engaging and exciting. We would like someone who is interested in the national scene and brings fresh face and excitement to the position. Dean Weiss was strongly skilled administratively. Will now take questions, etc.

Phil: At this time I’d also like to introduce you to Olida Johnson from FEMMES who was invited and joining us for this discussion.

Michael: What are you looking for in the next Dean, personally?

Alec: Looking for someone with a vision for the university, as well as impact nationally. We graduated 900 PhD students and over 2000 masters students. This person needs to also have the wherewithal to also execute that vision. I look at the disconnect at the way we train certain PhD students towards careers in academia without regard to the actual job prospect. I look at the disconnect at the type of resources for professional development that we provide undergraduates as opposed to graduate students. I really want to see someone that has the experience and knowledge to articulate a vision that addresses these issues.

Michael: I have a brief follow-up. Looking at the average graduate student, many don’t know they are a part of Rackham. Is there some type of push for a better understanding of how graduate students fit into the full Rackham picture?

Alec: This was brought up many times with various people we met with. For example, I’ve attended many activities where people say the diversity of our student body has really plummeted. However, this is much less so at the graduate level. Rackham needs to form partnerships with key leaders on our campus. Our current dean has not been effective in that regard as the next dean needs to be. They have been extremely effective administratively. We think that that is something that needs to be addressed moving forward.

David W: You mentioned a disconnect of training for academia and the job market. However, because of a push to graduate earlier sometimes students are not receiving paper writing or teaching experience to be competitive in job market. Is this something coming top down?

Phil: That is an interesting and unique issue. To rephrase, what kind of initiatives from the top down can the dean effect to correct issues such as these?

Alec: I think Michigan has done a decent job in placing students. I don’t believe that there is as much a strong top down (above the Dean) push for something like [the issue David W mentioned].
Olida: Introduces self, representing FEMMES. The nature of my program is unique because it’s very interdisciplinary. Something I’ve noticed among grad students is that they feel the parent programs have more of an influence on the than Rackham does. Is there anything the Dean can do that can unite these type of programs as well as others across the board?

Alec: That’s an interesting issue we have with many interdisciplinary programs. What we do is a program review for every grad program. One of the benefits of this process is that … The dean of Rackham should have/forge a good relationship with each of the programs, and this depends strongly on the personality and communication of the new dean.

Phil: One thing I’ve seen from sitting on the Rackham Executive Board, it’s amazing how disjointed things are across the university and the deans. To what extent would it be permissible or acceptable to have a dean that had a more top down approach to management? I don’t think the Rackham dean should be telling the other deans what to do, etc., but there are certain administrative things that could be better implemented across the board (such as an annual review for PhD student progress).

Alec: I think the current dean has done a successful job doing that. Dean Weiss has executed a fine piece of legislation in the continuous enrollment policy, which other deans have tried and been unsuccessful. I think going forward the next dean could continue onto big projects like that as well.

Olida: What resources are there available for female faculty advancement, and is there a lot of effort for resources for women and women with families?

Alec: Not to be a cheerleader for the current dean, but Dean Weiss has also made great strides in this area, and our Family Friendly programs and policies have been very effective.

Michael B: We have a new University President. We will have a new engineering dean in the next 2 years. What are your hopes both for the new Rackham Dean, and the forthcoming new Engineering Dean, to be able to work together for improving engineering, which is 1/3 (the largest) of the Rackham body.

Alec: It is important for the next dean recognize that the college of engineering and its dean is already effective in managing graduate students in education. That said, there is a lot of room for collaboration. One of the major areas would be improving resources for Masters students, and professional development, etc.

David W: I want to follow up on your discussion about professional development. In our department we have a staff member to help students with applications for funding, scholarships, job market, etc. Last term there was the AST initiative that pushed for consolidation of these types of services, and moving around of these critical staff members.
Alec: AST did not have a lot to do with targeting people with professional development in individual departments, that was probably some type of error.

David M: RSG

Sidney: I’m curious about diversity initiatives and that the new dean can focus on, etc, and whether that plays into the your committees search criteria?

Alec: To be clear, when we thought about targeting external candidates, it was decided to find those from states with bans on affirmative action policies. We definitely want to maintain or improve the diversity at the university, and not let it regress. We are more limited than other universities in being able to target certain groups. Instead we use surrogates for diversity. One of the big equalizers at the PhD level is the pull of funding; with that out of the way you can target students in other forms. That is something that will have to be worked out differently for Masters students.

Phil: Thank you for coming Dr. Gallimore, and we hope to see you again in the future.

V. OFFICER REPORTS
   a. President Phillip Saccone
      Thank you to all the committees for meeting and having put together a budget which we will cover shortly.

      Next week we will be having Holly Malkovich from SAPAC to discuss the new sexual assault training policies being effected to all faculty and not just new ones.

      I have officially accepted Alex Gutierrez’s resignation last week – he will focus on schoolwork but try to maintain an active role in Academic Affairs.

      Due to a lack of response and involvement, I am vacating Matthew Kaminer’s seat to open it up for others. If you have any objections please voice them now.

   b. Vice President Chuky Mbagwu
      We have released the most recent version of the Gazette this week with information pertinent to the student body. Lots of input from board members is included and welcomed, submit items directly to me.

      University committee applications have gone out to the student body. We look to have a graduate student representative on each of the SACUA committees to provide a voice for our constituents. Board members are welcome to apply. Due date is midnight, October 1st.

   c. Treasurer
      We have $29,000 in the account.
Please send me any receipts for outstanding expenses.

VI. **BUDGET**
Please see the proposed budget in the agenda. It outlines many of the events and structure for the upcoming semester.

Any of the committees that want to add events or request more money must bring them up to the board.

Motion to approve budget by Michael B, seconded by Kyle Lady. Roll call vote. Passes 10-0-0.

VII. **COMMITTEE UPDATES**

Phil: I would like someone to make a motion for approval of the committee chairs. Benson, co-chair, LAC. Lady and Hand, co-chairs, SLC. Tariq, chair, AAC.

Motion to approve by unanimous consensus the committee chairs. Approved unanimously.

a. **Academic Affairs Committee**
Motion by Malcom to receive and approve minutes. Approved unanimously with 1 abstention.

Committee met, chose chairs and generated the budget.

b. **Budgetary Committee**
We will be meeting this week, 2 applications in the pipeline.

c. **Elections Committee**

d. **Legislative Affairs Committee**
Motion to receive and approve minutes by Benson, seconded by Mike Hand. Approved unanimously.

Selected chairs, put together a budget, and planned election forum details and SAGE details.

e. **Student Life Committee**

i. **Community Outreach & Social Action subcommittee**

VIII. **OPEN DISCUSSION**
Michael: Direction for the executives to the update website for the meeting minutes.
Motion to adjourn by Kyle, seconded by Mike. Approved unanimously.

IX. **ADJOURNMENT** at 8:18pm.