

Approved: January 16, 2018

2017-2018: Meeting # 3

**MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
FACULTY SENATE APPROVED MINUTES
NOVEMBER 14, 2017 3:15 PM
115 INTERNATIONAL CENTER**

PRESENT: E. Appiagyei-Dankah, Y. Bolumole, A. Borcila, N. Bunge, S. Carter, R. Cichy, L. Cloud, J. Dulebohn, B. Dutton, M. Floer, K. Foley, J. Goddeeris, J. Goldbort, D. Gould, M. Morgan (for C. Hogan), G. Hoppenstand, I. Kovar-Gough, G. Lourens, L. McCabe, M. Mechtel, J. Meier, M. Miklavcic, M. Crimp (for D. Moriarty), J. Morningstar, A. Olomu, A. Pegler-Gordon, C. Piermarocchi, R. Quispe-Agnoli, D. Rivera, L. Robbins, S. Safferman, R. Schwab, J. Schwartz, J. Seita, L. Skibbe, J. Smith, R. Spiro, G. Stone, G. Swain, R. Tegtmeyer, L. Tortorelli, E. Watts, D. Wilson, Z. Hayden (for B. Zandstra), P. Mantica (for R. Zegers)

ABSENT: President Simon, Provost Youatt, R. Abramovitch, G. Breitzer, S. Counts, M. Dease, H. Gatlin, K. Hampton, L. Harris, M. Johnson, R. LaDuca, I. Lee, Y. Liu, V. Mandrekar, L. Mansfield, A. McCright, G. Miksicek, K. Miller, K. Noe, R. Ofoli, S. Pager, N. Parameswaran, R. Pratt, A. Ross, A. Sanders-Jackson, P. Soranno, W. Spielman, J. Tang, T. Tomlinson, J. Vargas

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 3:18pm.

2. Approval of Agenda for November 14, 2017

The **agenda for November 14, 2017** was **approved** as presented.

3. Approval of Draft Minutes for October 10, 2017

The **minutes for October 10, 2017** were **approved** as distributed.

4. President's Remarks: Dr. Lou Anna K. Simon (Not-in-Attendance)

5. Provost's Remarks: Dr. June Youatt (Out-of-Town)

6. Chairperson's Remarks: Dr. Laura McCabe

Dr. McCabe reported on the proposed acquisition by Purdue of Kaplan, which came to her attention at the Big 10 Academic Alliance meeting. She noted that Kaplan University is an online for-profit agency that is being purchased by Purdue. The issue at hand, she stated, is that the university administration did not consult the Purdue faculty in the process of this acquisition. She added the Purdue faculty feel this act is in violation of the principles of shared Governance, as faculty were charged with the integrity of the curriculum, as well as sharing in the Governance of the University.

Dr. McCabe stated that Purdue's Faculty Senate is urging the Higher Learning Commission to not approve what will be the "new" university, which would be a combination of Purdue with Kaplan. This is not an issue about opposing online classes, she added. It is not an issue

about the private and public universities combining, but it is an issue about the lack of faculty input with this instructional decision.

Dr. McCabe said that Purdue has requested that Michigan State University sign on to a letter that would be in support of the faculty at Purdue. MSU has created a Faculty Subcommittee to examine this situation, and then potentially drafting a letter of support. Once the letter is drafted, this issue would be presented at the Steering Committee in January, 2018, and then be presented at Faculty Senate for a potential vote of approval. Dr. McCabe noted that the American Association of University Professors is supporting this cause, and there are other universities that are signing on to the Purdue letter.

Dr. McCabe reported that MSU is also moving forward with developing a process to replace Sue Carter, who is the Faculty Representative for the MSU Athletic Council. Dr. Greg Swain, who is an At-Large Member of the Steering Committee, will sit on the committee that reviews the applicants for Sue Carter's position.

7. NEW BUSINESS

7.1. **University Committee on Curriculum (UCC) Report**, Professor Marci Mechtel, UCC Chairperson

Professor Mechtel presented the UCC Report. At the last regular meeting of the full UCC, the committee had no new programs to approve. She added that there are nine program changes, and no program deletions. She also stated that there were 17 new courses approved, 35 course changes, and no course deletions. There were no new moratoriums placed. A motion to approve the Report was made and first and seconded. **The motion carried.**

7.2. **Big Ten Alliance Academic Governance Meeting Report**, Dr. Laura McCabe

Dr. McCabe gave a report on the Big Ten Alliance Academic Governance meeting from October, 2017. She began her report by providing a brief historical background of the organization. She said that in 1956, the presidents of the Big Ten universities assembled to have a discussion in Chicago about potentially forming a group. The idea behind this action was that if the Big Ten universities could work together, then they would be stronger than if they just were “siloeed” in their individual universities. These individuals took steps towards developing the CIC (the Committee on Institutional Cooperation), which has been in place since 1957. In 2016, she noted, the CIC was re-named the Big Ten Academic Alliance.

At the BTAA meeting, which was held at Penn State this year, Dr. McCabe said that the organization discussed the structures of the different academic governances from the different institutions, and it was noted that none are the same. There are various differences, and none are quite like MSU’s Academic Governance structure. She added that, in many cases, MSU’s Academic Governance system was much better than what was found in the other Big Ten universities. In all cases, however, governance is shared with the various university administrations, which leads to the Purdue concern.

Dr. McCabe reported that another important issues addressed at the BTAA Governance Meeting was the topic freedom of speech at the different universities. All

are looking at how to balance freedom of speech. Some universities, she added, have a free speech task force where the faculty are involved in deciding how to pursue free speech. She said that MSU is going to have a session on free speech in January, either in the Faculty Senate or in the University Council.

Another issue that was addressed at the BTAA Governance Meeting was how the various Board of Trustees at Big Ten universities function. Dr. McCabe noted that, in comparison, MSU's faculty relationship with the University's Board of Trustees is superior, because of the one-on-one meetings that are held consistently with the Steering Committee faculty and Board of Trustee members.

Dr. McCabe stated that the final issue that was discussed at the BTAA Governance Meeting was the issue regarding fixed-term faculty. Penn State University presented on this topic, and what their status was with fixed-term faculty. Penn State reported that their fixed-term faculty numbers basically doubled from 2000 to 2013. Dr. McCabe added that this is a situation that is happening at other Big Ten universities, noting that Dr. Terry Curry will discuss this in January with the MSU Faculty Senate about the faculty composition here at MSU, and what the current trends are, as well as what faculty diversity looks like at MSU. Dr. McCabe concluded that she felt that MSU's Academic Governance structure looked good in that group.

Dr. McCabe concluded her remarks by stating that the next important topic to be addressed involves mental health issues at MSU. A panel group will discuss these issues and the various concerns of faculty as they relate to mental health.

7.3. **Mental Health and Support at MSU Panel Discussion**

Panel Members:

Barbara L. Roberts, MSc OT, PhD, Executive Director, WorkLife Office

Jon Novello, LMSW, ACSW, Counselor, Employee Assistance Program

Leigh White, MD, Director of Psychiatric Services, Counseling & Psychiatric Services

The Panel Discussion covered a wide range of mental health and safety topics, listed below:

- The WorkLife Office
- MSU Adopting Mental Health First Aid
- The Employee Assistance Program at MSU
- Addressing the Problem of Anxieties among Junior Faculty in the Tenure-Stream System.
- The Confidentiality of Treatment
- The Mental Health Assistance Provided to MSU Students
- The Free Counseling Services for MSU Students
- How to Make Treatment Affordable for MSU Students
- The Network of Mental Health Providers in the MSU Community

- The Encouragement of International Students to Use MSU's Mental Health Resources
- Discussion of the CAPS (Counseling and Psychiatric Services) Website
- Depression Screening for Students at the Olin Health Center
- Student Safety Issues in the MSU Classroom
- Policing of Safety Concerns in MSU Student Dormitories

Faculty discussion ensued following the Panel's presentation.

8. Comments from the Floor

9. ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn was made and first and seconded. **The motion carried.**

4:52