

Approved: April 16, 2019

2018-2019: Meeting # 6

**MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
FACULTY SENATE APPROVED MINUTES
MARCH 19, 2019 3:15 PM
115 INTERNATIONAL CENTER**

Present: W. Banzhaf, R. Bellon, A. Bennet, Y. Bolumole, A. Borcila, B. Burke, H. Cho, J. Cholewicki, L. Cloud, R. Conner-Warren, M. Crimp, T. Curry, P Eisenlohr, D. Ewoldsen, L. Fernandez, L. Fleck, D. Foran, S. Gasteyer, J. Goddeeris, J. Goldbort, D. Gould, K. Hampton, D. Handspike, B. Holtz, G. Hoppenstand, R. Isaacs, M. Johnson, M. Kaplowitz, G. Hussey (for M. Kiupel), Y. Komori, L. Lapidus, D. Devoss (for S. Logan), E. Marcyk-Taylor, M. Mazei-Robison, L. McCabe, M. Mechtel, J. Meier, M. Miklavcic, R. Miksicek, D. Miner, D. Moriarty, W. Nesbitt, F. Nunes, R. Ofoli, A. Olomu, N. Parameswaran, D. Rivera, R. Root, E. Rosser, J. Slade, E. Strangas, G. Stone, Z. Szendrei, M. Tai, A. Tickner, E. Torrez, L. Tortorelli, S. Udpa, S. Valberg, D. Westrin, D. Wilson, J. Youatt, A. Zeleke

Absent: B. Beekman, A. Bozoki, A. Contreras, S. Degraw, J. Dulebohn, A. Dunn, E. Frantz, J. Johnson, D. Polischuk, N. Smeltekop, G. Swain, R. Tegtmeyer, M. Waddell.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 3:15 pm.

2. Approval of Agenda for March 19, 2019

The **agenda for March 19, 2019** was **approved** as presented.

3. Approval of Draft Minutes for February 19, 2019 (Appendix A)

The **minutes for February 19, 2019** were **approved** as distributed.

4. President's Remarks: Acting President Satish Udpa

President Udpa reported that he used the opportunity of MSU's involvement in the recent Big Ten Championship basketball tournament to meet major donors, as well as a significant number of students who are in MSU's Financial Management Institute, which is part of the Broad Business Program.

President Udpa also presented several announcements. He discussed the Alston case, saying that Judge Wilken, who happens to be the United States District Court Judge in Northern California, issued a ruling (on the Alston case) that has an important bearing and ramification for MSU's Athletics Program. He noted that the ruling essentially involved an NCAA cap that MSU has had for many years on non-cash educational benefits that the University can give to student athletes. He gave an example of the impact of this ruling, stating: "Right now we are obliged or limited to giving them [athletes] tuition support; we give them room and board, things like books and so forth, but we are limited in what we can do for these student athletes. The judge essentially removed the cap on education related expenses." He added: "For example, if the ruling prevails . . . a university should be able to, for example, offer

laptops to students. They should be able to offer expenses covering study abroad, for example, and many other expenses that are related to their educational programs. No cash gifts to the students. Nothing of that sort has changed, but the benefits untethered to education, unrelated to education, continue to remain, so they will be in place.”

President Udpa noted that each conference can come up with its own rules, adding that the Big Ten, for example, can come up with a set of benefits for athletes, saying that institutions that belong to Big Ten will follow certain rules. But, he noted, the Big Ten Conference is barred from conspiring with other conferences, so the Big Ten cannot talk to the Atlantic Conference or the SEC.

President Udpa stated that a great many issues resulting from this decision will keep the various athletic departments and presidents of all the universities busy for the next several months. He said that one of these issues involved an assault on the concept of the student athletes. Concerns arise, he noted, that address the question of whether these individuals are student athletes, or are they professionals? He added that MSU is appealing this decision. He stated that the Presidents of all the Big Ten Universities got together on Sunday morning and agreed to support an appeal of this decision, adding that other conferences also will have to decide whether they want to support this appeal.

President Udpa reported that the Governor has come out with some good budget decisions on higher education. He said that she has recommended a uniform 3% increase for all fifteen universities across the State, a recommendation that he will be pleased to take. He stated that he continue to meet with many State Legislators, and meet with the Governor to press for MSU’s case, adding that he will keep the University posted on news.

On another issue, President Udpa reported that a small group of individuals are discussing what should happen to the IM West pool. IPF, Infrastructure, Planning, and Facilities. He noted that four plans are being evaluated to figure out what MSU should do, figuring out what works best given MSU’s financial constraints.

President Udpa concluded his remarks by acknowledging and welcoming the presence of two of MSU’s Board of Trustees, Trustee Brianna Scott and Trustee Kelly Tebay.

5. Provost’s Remarks: Dr. June Youatt

Provost Youatt reported that she has several announcements that she thinks are relevant to faculty interests. The first, she noted, is the Campus-wide survey to benchmark culture and perceptions, the “No More at MSU” survey. She asked that people please respond to the survey, so that a robust set of responses from faculty and all of our students and staff can be collected, and that this is the first comprehensive survey of this type MSU has ever done.

Provost Youatt said, that WKAR, MSU’s Communications Arts and Sciences public television station, was named the Michigan Public Television Station of the Year in the State of Michigan. She wanted to thank those who have faculty colleagues and others who are involved in WKAR for this honor.

Provost Youatt noted that the MSU Debate Program qualified three teams for the Nationals next week, and that there are only six schools in the country that are allowed to qualify three teams. She said that she looks forward to supporting MSU’s students in completion, and that she looks forward to announcing good news after that competition.

Provost concluded her remarks by calling attention to the latest US News and World Report edition, "America's Best Graduate Schools." She noted that once again, MSU has five programs that are ranked number one nationally. She stated that several of the College of Education programs are ranked number one in the country, and that the Graduate Program in Supply Chain Management is ranked number one in the country. She congratulated who have contributed to these rankings, adding that every time the University sees these rankings, that this accomplishment is due to the collective work of very committed and talented faculty.

6. Chairperson's Remark: Professor Deborah Moriarty

Chairperson Moriarty stated that she wanted to let people know how many individuals voted in the At-Large vote for the At-Large Members of the Steering Committee; the number who voted was 983 which, she remarked, is a very high number in comparison to elections in the past.

Chairperson Moriarty reported that at the last Faculty Senate meeting, Board of Trustee Member, Dianne Byrum, was present and that she commented about having questions submitted to the Presidential Search Committee. Chairperson Moriarty said that an e-mail was sent out to the Faculty Senate to obtain questions as soon as possible, adding that in the meantime, she also received a communication from Trustee Byrum asking if the Faculty Senate could have questions prepared to give her the Friday of Spring Break.

Chairperson Moriarty said that eighteen questions were received from the Faculty Senate, and that these were brought to the Steering Committee. She added that the At-Large Members of the Steering Committee developed themes for the questions, which included themes of diversity. So, she noted, two sets of questions were developed, one long and one short; these included the full list of questions from Faculty Senate, and the other of which include the themes that were presented in a longer list. She said that those questions are presently on the website under the MSU Tracking System.

Chairperson Moriarty stated that Trustee Byrum indicated that what she would be going with, the complete list of questions and would be used as conversations with the Presidential candidates, for the Presidential Search Committee finalists. Regarding the short list of questions, Chairperson Moriarty requested that answers would be received in writing from the candidates, if the candidates are not willing to become public. If the candidates are willing to be public, then they will be asked to the candidates in a public forum. So, she noted, the questions have gone forward and they are on the website. Vigorous discussion ensued.

Professor Andaluna Borcila said that she wanted it to be recorded that this process was fraught with issues, and that people responded in different ways to these issues. She said that she also want to make people aware of the fact that a group of Faculty Senators have started a petition asking for people to sign it to open the search for the top candidates. Vigorous discussion ensued about making the search for the top Presidential candidates a public venue.

NEW BUSINESS

6.1. University Committee on Curriculum (UCC) Report, Professor Marci Mechtel, UCC Chairperson ([Long Report](#), click on link)

Professor Marci Mechtel presented the UCC report. She stated that the UCC met on

February 28th, and approved the following program changes: There are no new programs to report, twenty-nine program changes to report, and no program deletions to report. Furthermore, she added, the UCC approved forty-five new courses, ninety-two course changes, and three course deletions. There were no moratoriums or discontinuations to report.

A motion was made to approve the UCC Report and was seconded. **The motion carried.**

6.2. **Scholarly Publishing and Communications, Joseph Salem, University Librarian**

Joseph Salem reported where MSU is at regarding open access and open education, and several issues that MSU faculty might consider and think about going into the future. An issue that he addressed was the escalating cost involved in the cost of journals and the escalating number of journals. He discussed in detail the Library's efforts to reign in those escalating costs, and to handle open access issues. Discussion ensued.

7. Comments from the floor:

Professor Andaluna Borcila from James Madison College stated that she would like to see the voting process for the Steering Committee/Faculty Senate Chair and Vice-Chair be improved, by including statements from the candidates.

Chairperson Moriarty replied that language for such a process as including statements from candidates does not currently exist in the University Bylaws, and that they would need to be developed by, first, presenting the request at the Steering Committee.

8. ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn was made and seconded. **The motion carried.** Time: 4:09 pm.