

Approved: October 8, 2019

2019-2020: Meeting #1

**Michigan State University
Faculty Senate
Approved Minutes
September 10, 2019, 3:15 PM
115 International Center**

Present: M. Abel, A. Esfahanian (for W. Banzhaf), R. Bell, G. Benitez, A. Borcila, J. Bunnell, H. Cho, J. Cholewicki, L. Cloud, A. Contreras, P. Crane, T. Curry, J. Dulebohn, A. Dunn, P. Eisenlohr, L. Fernandez, E. Frantz, R. Fulton, G. Garrity, R. Gardner, S. Gasteyer, J. Goldbort, D. Gould, C. Grosso, J. Guzzetta, A. Hauser, B. Holtz, G. Hoppenstand, E. Benbow (for R. Isaacs), j. Jiang, J. Johnson, M. Kiupel, L. Lapidus, S. Logan, E. Marcyk-Taylor, L. Martin, M. Mechtel, J. Meier, M. Miklavcic, R. Miksicek, K. Miller, D. Moriarty, W. Nesbitt, F. Nunes, R. Ofoli, S. Rayamajhi (for A. Olomu), N. Parameswaran, A. Pegler-Gordon, D. Polischuk, R. Root, J. Rosa, E. Rosser, A. Ruvio, D. Sheridan, J. Slade, N. Smeltekop, S. Stanley, G. Swain, Z. Szendrei, M. Tai, N. Teagan, B. Teppen, S. Thobani, S. Valberg, M. Wallace, G. Wittenbaum, N. Wright, A. Zeleke

Absent: S. Anthony, B. Beekman, A. Bennett, A. Bozoki, A. Corner, D. Ewoldsen, J. Felton, M. Johnson, K.S. Lee, M. Mazei-Robison, G. Stone R. Tegtmeier

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

2. Approval of Agenda for September 3, 2019

The **agenda for September 10, 2019** was **approved** as presented.

3. Approval of Draft Minutes for April 16, 2019

The **minutes for April 16, 2019** were **approved** as distributed.

4. President's Remarks: Dr. Samuel L. Stanley

President Stanley reported that that during his first 41 days in office that he has been working hard to listen and learn from various members of the university community. He also said that he had just finished visiting the College of Osteopathic Medicine, and that he is going to be visiting all of the colleges over the next few months. He stated that what he is

working on, and what MSU needs to work on together, is listening to people and their comments.

President Stanley added that one of the things that he thinks to be very important is that the University begins work on strategic planning as a whole. He said that he wants to engage people in that process, and start getting ideas of how MSU formulates a plan that will be inclusive of a number of viewpoints, but that helps MSU lay out what the University should look like, five, ten years from now.

President Stanley reported that in the meantime, MSU has some immediate things to deal with, such as the Office of Civil Rights report. He noted that last Thursday, the Office of Civil Rights and the Department of Education released their report on the things that took place at Michigan State University, including their view of how these issues were handled, and where responsibility lay. He encouraged anyone who is interested to read the report.

He stated: “So actions [were taken] by individuals that were extraordinarily detrimental to the University, and the people who depend on it. A culture that allowed those things to take place, and then structures that weren't designed to adequately detect that kind of behavior... we have a blueprint, essentially, from that OCR report on how we should move forward. That's what I look upon it as, as a blueprint for what we need to do. There's a whole series of things that are set out. And I guess, probably the most important thing to say is that letter was addressed to me. So that letter from the Department of Education, their OCR was addressed to me. So I bear responsibility for implementing this, but it's not something I'm going to be able to do alone.”

He continued: “I'm going to need help from all of us, when we talk about culture change; we all have to get engaged. When we talk about the implementation of the facts, I'm going to need help from senior leaders, and from you as well, to implement the things we put forward. And I'm appointing a special oversight committee to take a look at all of the recommendations...to take a look and make sure that we're implementing as we're supposed to...We're going to complete that. And we will be transparent about it.”

In addition, President Stanley noted that he is also scheduling meetings with survivors of sexual assault on Campus, survivors from Nasser, and that there will be a video conference for those who do not feel comfortable speaking in person. He said that these meetings will take place in September and October.

President Stanley reported on the Provost's resignation, and on the search for an Interim Provost, as well as the upcoming national search for the Provost.

President Stanley said that he wanted to thank the Faculty Senate for their collaborative input over the last year on the Discipline and Dismissal Policy changes, which was approved by the Board of Trustees at their last meeting. Discussion ensued.

5. Chairperson's Remarks: Professor Deborah Moriarty

Professor Moriarty stated that it is wonderful to have a University President, and that MSU has been in a state of transition for some time. She also thanked Interim President Satish Udpa for his work and calming influence. Professor Moriarty reported that efforts are underway to improve the communication during Faculty Senate meetings, including looking at new spaces for the meetings and the improved use of microphones. She then also the members of the Faculty Senate to introduce themselves. She also provided information on the operations of Academic Governance at MSU, including the Standing Committee structures and operations.

6. NEW BUSINESS

6.1. Orientation, Professor Deborah Moriarty

Professor Moriarty explained the orientation materials provided to the Faculty Senate members, including a diagram that explains the structure of Academic Governance at MSU. She also offered materials that clarified acronyms and their meaning at MSU.

6.1.1. Clarification of Rules for Faculty Senate Meetings

Professor Moriarty then introduced Dr. Jennifer Johnson, who outlined the ad hoc committee's work on making Academic Governance more effective and efficient.

6.2. Report from Ad Hoc Faculty Senate Committee, Dr. Filomena Nunes

Dr. Nunes offered the report and recommendations from the ad hoc committee on the best way to facilitate future Faculty Senate meetings. She presented six recommendations. Discussion ensued.

In addition, Barb Krantz provided a report on possible facilities for future meeting spaces for Faculty Senate meetings. Discussion ensued.

A motion was considered to see if there was a consensus to charge the Steering Committee with implementing, as expeditiously as possible, the individual recommendations of the ad hoc committee. It was then suggested that the University Committee on Curriculum consider the proposed changes first, and so no motion was made.

6.3. University Committee on Curriculum (UCC) Report, Dr. Marci Mechtel, UCC Chairperson (Long Report – [click on link](#))

Dr. Mechtel reported that the UCC met in April, and approved the following: Four new Programs, effective Fall Semester of 2019, highlighted with a Computational Data Science Bachelor of Science degree, a Data Science Bachelor of Science degree, a Data Science Minor, and a Media Photography Minor. She added that there were an additional 15 program changes, and no program deletions to report. In addition, she said

that, regarding courses, there were 32 new courses approved, and an additional 28 course changes, with no course deletions. She noted that this was an informational report, and that at the next Faculty Senate meeting, the UCC report will require an action item approval.

6.4. Future Agenda Items for Faculty Senate, Dr. Jennifer Johnson, Vice-Chairperson and At-Large Member

Dr. Johnson reported that next month, the Faculty Senate's topic is going to be the budget, and asked the Faculty Senate members to solicit questions and suggestions. She added that the Faculty Senate is also going to talk about undergrad enrollment and success, but since the University is currently without a Provost, the focus will be on the budget.

7. Comments from the floor

It was moved and seconded that a voice vote of the Faculty Senate be taken to achieve some consensus on the recommendations put forward by the ad hoc committee on changing the organization and deliberations of the Faculty Senate, with a separate vote on each one of the six items, to determine if there is a consensus to move forward, which would be to charge the Steering Committee with implementing it as expeditiously as possible, the six recommendations. Discussion ensued. The motion was withdrawn.

Another motion was made to accept the ad hoc committee report, regarding deliberations of the Faculty Senate. The motion was withdrawn.

8. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 5:08 p.m.

Annual Reports Reporting to Faculty Senate for 2018-2019:

University Committee on Curriculum (UCC)

University Committee on Faculty Affairs (UCFA)

University Committee on Faculty Tenure (UCFT)

Faculty Grievance Office – SAG has not received to date.

