Approval of Agenda and Minutes

The Michigan State University Faculty Senate held a regular meeting on Tuesday, December 20, 2022 at 3:15 p.m. via Zoom with Chairperson Karen Kelly-Blake presiding. The agenda was approved as presented. The draft minutes of the November 15, 2022 meeting were approved as presented.

Remarks

Interim President Teresa K. Woodruff

Interim President Woodruff gave the following remarks by pre-recorded video:

Good afternoon. I'm attending a funeral with my mother this afternoon. I'm grateful I can provide a few comments to the Faculty Senate by video.

We are gathered today on the eve of the winter solstice, and then we'll begin our journey from a dark day toward those days that bring us more light. I believe MSU is on that journey as well. I want to refer everyone to my comments from the Board of Trustees meeting on December 16 for a more fulsome description of priorities, activities, and my philosophy on actions taken over this last month. The comments are available on the Office of the President [website](https://president.msu.edu/communications/2022/2022-12-16-board-remarks.html). Further, I'll be delivering a State of the University address on January 18 and hope you are able to join me, whether in person or via livestream.

Secondly, I want to bring you up to date on matters pertaining to our graduation weekend. It was a grand and celebratory affair. I want to thank the faculty, academic staff, staff, and the members of the Office of the Provost, Student Life and Engagement, and [the] Breslin [Center] for their collaborative work on the various events. Our student speakers were those I most appreciated for their candor and inspiring stories of perseverance, dedication, love for MSU, and friendships made, leading to their walk across our dais. I thought about the ways in which we are a large and dynamic organization that is made up of individual names and hands outreached to shake mine. I represented each of you in that fleeting moment, and the joy on each face was a reflection of you. Thank you for attending graduation and for all you do to enable the learning outcomes that are the elements of a degree.

I've investigated the matters associated with athletic sponsorships, including legalized sports betting vendors through a contracted third party vendor. We are currently reviewing athletic corporate sponsorships with support from the Office of the General Counsel. Our intention is to ensure that corporate sponsorships not only provide support to the mission of our athletics department but also align with current institutional values.

Finally, I've been chagrined by the nature of reporting on MSU across many different topics. The ways in which chaos continues to be a factor in certain publications belies facts and understanding. Our work is ongoing to prevent harm and maintain safety on our campus, and this work remains a prime objective for myself and for MSU. And we take up this work daily.

Finally, as this is the last time I will address the faculty and academic staff in this calendar year, I wanted to end where we began just a few weeks ago, with the thought about lifting up our eyes. MSU is a strong and remarkable organization with strong and remarkable people. Look upward to the beacon of hope that is ennobled in Beaumont Tower, which stands on the foundation of the first university building. Look upward and see the sower, who is you, the faculty, academic staff, and our remarkable support staff, laying out the furrows with seeds of knowledge and then of growth. Look further upward and see the hands of the clock moving forward no matter the circumstances. Let us learn from the university's past and still have the courage to look upward with hope. I wish all of you a very wonderful end and conclusion to this calendar year, and see you in the new year.

Interim Provost Thomas Jeitschko

Interim Provost Jeitschko gave the following remarks:

Like Interim President Woodruff, I greatly enjoyed our three commencement ceremonies this past Friday and Saturday. It was wonderful to see so many families and friends celebrating with their degree recipients and to think about all the knowledge and skills our most recent graduates will be adding to the world as a result of their MSU education.

In conjunction with commencement, we recognized 52 students who earned the MSU Board of Trustees Award, with each student honored graduating with an impressive, perfect 4.0 GPA. These are tremendous accomplishments. I've never been able to get anywhere near that, and I know some of you may also not have, but some of you probably will. I also know that these accomplishments are a direct result of your commitment to our students, and I know that it is you who helped them achieve these soaring academic heights, so I'm very appreciative of that.

But I also want to note that with each commencement ceremony, we really celebrate all of our graduates. Each has stretched and grown while at MSU. Each has demonstrated perseverance and developed strength and character, greater curiosity and creativity, and a deeper commitment to advance the greater good. And I know that it is also your commitment and dedication to all of our students that supports these achievements. Indeed, I'm certain that for many of you, it is the case that the reason a particular student was able to graduate this weekend, or maybe another student of yours, was due to you going the extra mile in supporting their desire to learn and succeed by offering advice, a listening ear, by providing some understanding and guidance. And for that in particular, I also want to thank you.

Around commencement, we ask our graduates to pause and reflect on what they have achieved and where they're going. And I ask you, our faculty, to do the same for a moment in terms of recognizing what we, as an institution, and you, in particular, as faculty, do to bring our students to the point of graduation, when they pause and reflect on their achievements and also think about where they're going on from here. But as you do so and you stop and reflect a little bit on that, I also want you to expand your scope. I'd like for you to appreciate all that you do and how important you are to our mission and institution. Indeed, between these semesters. I hope you enjoy a well-deserved and much-needed break, and that during that time you are able to remind yourselves of all that you do and why you do it.

Pausing to reflect can be simultaneously calming and invigorating, with each providing unique value and sense of purpose. At the close of this semester, I pause to share how grateful I am for your contributions to MSU and its academic missions, as you, the faculty, are the core of the university, and I also look forward to continuing to advance our mission and collaboration with you and alongside you in this new coming year. Thank you very much.

Faculty Senate Chairperson Karen Kelly-Blake

Chairperson Kelly-Blake gave the following remarks:

Good afternoon, everyone. This has been an active semester for academic governance, and that might be the understatement of the year.

We will have a newly comprised board in January with Trustee-Elect [Dennis] Denno and the new governor appointee. We want to thank Chairperson Byrum for the expression of support for faculty at last week's board meeting.

We were able to speak with the governor's chief of staff and chief operating officer to provide insight on qualifications for the appointee. We also informed them of what we didn't want: primarily no self-selected saviors.

Amidst turmoil, the university has continued to focus on its core work. We want to applaud MSUvote for the incredible work they accomplished in getting the student vote out for the midterm elections. We want to give a sincere and heartfelt thank you to [President] Jo Kovach and [Vice President for Academic Affairs] Aaron Iturralde of ASMSU and [President] Hannah Jeffery of COGS for their leadership as we navigated the semester's disruption.

We also want to express much gratitude to [the Coalition of Racial and Ethnic Minorities] for their advocacy for the winter break and the university-wide MLK holiday. We welcome the newly announced improvements in the 403(b) eligibility criteria. We look forward to working with administration and the board as [the University Committee on Faculty Affairs] begins its budget discussions. We are also thankful for the unanimous approval of the Charles S. Mott Department of Public Health in the College of Human Medicine. I am biased on that one since that's my college.

As I stated in the board meeting on Friday, this semester has been challenging, but we kept the train on the rails because we kept showing up to do the work—the hard, the necessary, and the good work that is required for robust academic governance. The new year brings new opportunity for the board and the institution to be bold and to show exemplary leadership. Let's choose to do better and to be better. We must. I want to thank each and every one of you for your service, and I wish you all a restorative winter break.

Policing at Michigan State University

Vice President for Public Safety and Chief of Police Marlon Lynch gave an update on public safety efforts at the university. He gave an overview of the MSU Police department’s jurisdiction and recent crime statistics.

Chief Lynch described ongoing efforts for improving public safety, including the creation of the Proactive Engagement and Community Enhancement Team which aims to facilitate more interaction between officers and the community. He also discussed plans to centralize video recordings and alarm systems for the university and to address community concerns. He informed Faculty Senate that he anticipated a policy regarding how video recordings are used and guidelines for information sharing between the university and MSU Police Department will be brought before the Faculty Senate in the near future.

University Committee on Curriculum Report

University Committee on Curriculum Chairperson Alison Dobbins gave a report on behalf of UCC. The committee approved ten program changes and fourteen new courses.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:54 p.m.



\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Tyler Silvestri  
Secretary for Academic Governance

Approved: January 24, 2023

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Attendance | |
| Present | 51 |
| Absent | 21 |
| Total | 72 |
| Quorum | 37 |

| **Constituency/Title** | **Name** | **Attendance** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Academic Specialists | Megan Stevenson | Present |
| Agriculture and Natural Resources | Cimberly Weir | Present |
| Agriculture and Natural Resources | Lorraine Weatherspoon | Present |
| Agriculture and Natural Resources | Satish Joshi | Present |
| Agriculture and Natural Resources | Sinem Mollaoglu | Present |
| Agriculture and Natural Resources | Dale Rozeboom | Absent |
| Arts and Letters | Danielle DeVoss | Present |
| Arts and Letters | Karthik Durvasula | Present |
| Arts and Letters | Kate Birdsall | Present |
| Arts and Letters | Yore Kedem | Present |
| Arts and Letters | Brahim Chakrani | Absent |
| At Large | Megan Donahue | Present |
| At Large | Rebecca Malouin | Absent |
| At Large, Chairperson | Karen Kelly-Blake | Present |
| At Large, Vice Chairperson | Stephanie Anthony | Absent |
| At Large | d'Ann de Simone | Substituted:Paul Kotula |
| Business | Ayalla Ruvio | Present |
| Business | John Spink | Present |
| Business | Quan Zhang | Present |
| Communication Arts and Sciences | Dan Hiaeshutter-Rice | Present |
| Communication Arts and Sciences | Rabindra "Robby" Ratan | Present |
| Communication Arts and Sciences | Jeffrey Searl | Absent |
| Education | Amelia Gotwals | Present |
| Education | Matthew Brodhead | Present |
| Education | Emre Umucu | Absent |
| Emeriti Faculty | Gary Stone | Present |
| Engineering | Chengcheng Fang | Present |
| Engineering | Mark Worden | Present |
| Engineering | Neil Wright | Present |
| Engineering | Wei Liao | Absent |
| Facility for Rare Isotope Beams | Chris Wrede | Present |
| Human Medicine | Amber Heard-Booth | Present |
| Human Medicine | Cristian Meghea | Present |
| Human Medicine | Hua Xiao | Present |
| Human Medicine | Scott Counts | Present |
| Human Medicine | Michael Williams | Absent |
| James Madison | Daniel Ahlquist | Present |
| James Madison | Daniel Kramer | Absent |
| Law | Jennifer Carter-Johnson | Absent |
| Law | Wenona Singel | Absent |
| Libraries | Tad Boehmer | Present |
| Libraries | Lisa Robinson | Absent |
| Lyman Briggs | Richard Bellon | Substituted:Robert Pennock |
| Lyman Briggs | Samantha Cass | Present |
| Music | Guy Yehuda | Absent |
| Music | Tasha Warren | Absent |
| Natural Science | Aaron Odom | Present |
| Natural Science | Francois Greer | Present |
| Natural Science | Min-Hao Kuo | Present |
| Natural Science | Thomas Hamann | Present |
| Nursing | Katherine Dontje | Present |
| Nursing | Gayle Lourens | Absent |
| Osteopathic Medicine | Jacek Cholewicki | Present |
| Osteopathic Medicine | Kin Sing Lee | Present |
| Osteopathic Medicine | Terrie Taylor | Present |
| Osteopathic Medicine | Jason Bazil | Absent |
| Residential College in the Arts and Humanities | India Plough | Present |
| Residential College in the Arts and Humanities | Eric Aronoff | Absent |
| Social Science | Laurie Bulock | Present |
| Social Science | Peilei Fan | Present |
| Social Science | Pilar Horner | Present |
| Social Science | Raymond Jussaume | Absent |
| University Committee on Academic Governance | Jack Lipton | Present |
| University Committee on Curriculum | Alison Dobbins | Present |
| University Committee on Faculty Affairs | Jamie Alan | Absent |
| University Committee on Faculty Tenure | Susan Barman | Present |
| University Committee on Graduate Studies | Anne-Lise Halvorsen | Present |
| University Committee on Student Affairs | Jeffrey Tsang | Absent |
| University Committee on the Libraries | Daryl Thompson | Present |
| University Committee on Undergraduate Education | Antoinette Tessmer | Present |
| Veterinary Medicine | Stephan Carey | Present |
| Veterinary Medicine | Sean Crosson | Absent |