

# The Steering Committee

Minutes

September 1, 2020



**Present:** M. Abel, S. Anthony, A. Corner, L. Dilley, M. Donahue, M. Fulton, J. Johnson, A. Kepsel, M. Mechtel, A. Pegler-Gordon, T. Silvestri, B. Van Dyke, T. Woodruff

**Absent:** B. Aiello, A. Bih

**Others Present:** N. Beauchamp, G. Koerner, S. Lang, S. Lott, A. Reifler, S. Stanley, G. Wittenbaum

A regular meeting of The Steering Committee of Michigan State University was held on Tuesday, September 1, 2020, at 3:15 p.m. via Zoom. Chairperson Jennifer Johnson and Secretary Tyler Silvestri were present. The agenda was approved following an amendment. The draft minutes of the April 7, May 19, June 9, and June 23, 2020 Steering Committee meetings were approved as presented. The July 7 draft minutes were approved following an amendment.

Remarks were given by President Samuel L. Stanley, Jr., Provost Teresa K. Woodruff, Executive Vice President for Health Sciences Norman J. Beauchamp, Jr., and the Chair. All attendees introduced themselves.

University Committee on Curriculum Chairperson Marci Mechtel gave a report and moved to place her report on the agendas for Faculty Senate and University Council. The motion was adopted by unanimous consent.

Reports were given by University Committee on Faculty Affairs Chairperson Mick Fulton, University Committee on Academic Governance Chairperson Laura Dilley, Acting University Committee on Graduate Studies Chairperson Ben Van Dyke, and Council of Graduate Students President Meagan Abel.

The Secretary presented on rules of order for The Steering Committee.

The Chair facilitated a discussion on potential tracking systems for academic governance.

The Chair led a discussion about the process for setting Steering Committee agendas. Following debate, The Chair proposed that all potential items be sent to the Secretary, who would place them on The Steering Committee's agenda and, in coordination with the Chair, develop tentative agendas for University Council and Faculty Senate based on the submitted items. No member objected.

The Chair introduced the guest speaker, Director of the Office of Postdoctoral Affairs Aaron Reifler, whose subject was postdoctoral representation in academic governance. Abel moved to refer the issue to the University Committee on Academic Governance. The motion was adopted following debate.

Abel moved to refer the issue of the status of the Executive Vice President for Health Sciences in the *Bylaws for Academic Governance* to the University Committee on Academic Governance. The motion was adopted after debate.

The Secretary led a discussion on the form of the minutes and the availability of transcripts of future Steering Committee meetings.

Agendas for the September 15 Faculty Senate and September 22 University Council meetings with the following new business were adopted by unanimous consent after debate and an amendment:

## Faculty Senate

1. Presentation and Request for Input | Vice President for Finance Mark Haas
2. University Committee on Curriculum Report | Marci Mechtel
3. Proposed Professional Standards for Faculty Handbook | Mick Fulton
4. Amendment to 2019 Ad Hoc Committee Statement | Stephanie Anthony
5. Motions re: Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion | Andrea Kepsel
6. Policing
7. Minutes and Transcripts of Future Meetings | Tyler Silvestri

## University Council

1. University Committee on Curriculum Report | Marci Mechtel  
Academic Calendar Task Force Report | Andrew Corner & Gwen Wittenbaum
2. DEI E-Learning Presentation | Patricia Stewart & Deborah Johnson
3. Proposed University-Level Standing Committee on the Libraries | Nicole Smeltekop
4. Composition of the University Committee on Honors Programs | Meagan Abel
5. Update and Next Steps on Proposed Bylaws Amendments | Tyler Silvestri
6. Minutes and Transcripts of Future Meetings | Tyler Silvestri

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MICHIGAN STATE  
UNIVERSITY

The meeting adjourned at 5:07 p.m.

*TA Silvestri*

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Tyler Silvestri  
Secretary for Academic Governance

**Approved:** October 6, 2020