

# The Steering Committee

Suggested Agenda Item

September 7, 2021



MICHIGAN STATE  
UNIVERSITY

Secretary for Academic Governance Tyler Silvestri received the following communication from Faculty Senator Christie Poitra of the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources<sup>1</sup> on April 28, 2021:

I have noticed this year that sometimes we don't get a chance to loop-in relevant campus stakeholders before moving forward with a resolution. I think a good example of this phenomena would be the mask mandate resolution and issues COGS raised. There was a similar issue with the resolution about OIE briefing Faculty Senate (and Academic HR's concerns about not having a chance to provide input on the draft).

I think more intentional collaboration could help streamline the work. Could we put together a subcommittee that can work on a set of recommended practices for faculty senators working with campus stakeholders to move resolutions forward? Alternatively, could we bring an expert in to help with forming stronger collaborative norms?

Senator Poitra and Secretary Silvestri met on July 8, 2021 to discuss the proposal. After the meeting, the proposal evolved. The current suggestion is to create an ad hoc committee of faculty, students, and administrators charged with developing principles and best practices for collaboration between academic governance bodies and the administration.

The matter is referred to the Steering Committee for further action and to gauge administrators' interest in such a committee.

---

<sup>1</sup> Note that on September 2, 2021, the Secretary for Academic Governance was informed that Senator Poitra would be resigning from the Faculty Senate shortly because her unit had been moved out of the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources.