

The Steering Committee

Minutes

September 6, 2022



MICHIGAN STATE
UNIVERSITY

Present: S. Anthony, S. Barman, d. de Simone, A. Dobbins, M. Donahue, A. Halvorsen (for G. Hoppenstand), A. Iturralde, H. Jeffery, K. Kelly-Blake, J. Kovach, J. Lipton, R. Malouin, T. Silvestri, S. Stanley, A. Tessmer, T. Woodruff

Others Present: A. Austin, N. Beauchamp, B. Gross, M. Largent, A. Sousa, T. Thrush, K. Yermak

Approval of Agenda and Minutes

The Steering Committee of Michigan State University held a regular meeting on Tuesday, September 6, 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 April 5, 2022 meeting were approved as presented.

Remarks

President Samuel L. Stanley Jr.

President Stanley welcomed members back to campus and thanked everyone for a great start to the school year.

Provost Teresa K. Woodruff

Provost Teresa K. Woodruff also welcomed everyone back to classrooms. She thanked both ASMSU President Jo Kovach and COGS President Hannah Jeffery for their outreach to students at the beginning of the year. She also commended EVPHS Beauchamp's work in the health sciences.

Executive Vice President of Health Sciences Norman J. Beauchamp Jr.

EVPHS Beauchamp thanked all of the faculty who worked on the COVID-19 Early Detection Program. He also discussed the re-opening of on-campus PCR COVID-19 testing at various locations across campus.

Chairperson Karen Kelly-Blake

The chairperson welcomed new members to the committee. She thanked all of the members for their hard work last year and discussed goals for the upcoming year.

Creation of Department of Public Health in the College of Human Medicine

At the Steering Committee's April 5, 2022 meeting, the committee referred a proposal for the creation of the Charles Stewart Mott Department of Public Health in the College of Human Medicine to the University Committee on Faculty Affairs; because there were no underlying academic program changes associated with the proposal, the Steering Committee opted not to refer it to the University Committee on Graduate Studies or the University Committee on Undergraduate Education. The proposal was brought to the Steering Committee again so that the newly elected UCGS and UCUE chairpersons understood why their committees were not involved. The committee took no further action, leaving the matter with UCFA.

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Consent Business

Secretary for Academic Governance Tyler Silvestri gave a brief overview of how consent business works in parliamentary procedure. Afterward, the committee agreed by consent to:

- Refer a request for guidance on implementing the replacement for SIRS to the University Committee on Undergraduate Education and the University Committee on Graduate Studies, with UCUE as the lead committee.
- Inform the provost that the request to change the name of the Department of Writing, Rhetoric, and American Cultures to the Department of Writing, Rhetoric, and Cultures did not require further academic governance input given the relatively minor nature of the proposed change, the department-level and college-level support for the amendment, and the detailed rationale underlying the proposal.
- Request that the secretary draft a new schedule for annual guests at Faculty Senate and University Council meetings and present it for approval at the next Steering Committee meeting.
- Refer a proposed amendment to the *Bylaws for Academic Governance* to the University Committee on Academic Governance. The proposed amendment would change the name of the University Committee on Student Affairs to the “University Committee on Student Life and Engagement.”

Search Procedures for the New Dean of the Libraries

The committee reviewed the provost’s proposed search procedures for the next dean of the Libraries. Among the questions posed during discussion was whether the size of the search committee (15 to 17 members) would prove too onerous for scheduling purposes; the provost assured members that the size was practical and necessary. The committee agreed by consent to request feedback from the members of the Faculty Senate by September 13 via email and to endorse the procedures contingent on no senators raising major concerns. One senator provided feedback, questioning the size of the proposed search committee; given that the Steering Committee had already raised the question and had it answered, the Steering Committee officially endorsed the proposed procedures.

Faculty Healthcare Council Vacancy

The secretary gave background information regarding the process of selecting members of the Faculty Healthcare Council. The committee voted to select Ping Wang of the College of Human Medicine to fill a vacancy created by a member’s resignation.

Faculty Liaisons to the Board of Trustees

Chairperson Kelly-Blake requested volunteers for September’s Faculty Liaison Group to the Board of Trustees. Anticipated discussion topics included voting access, campus safety, and campus health, including COVID-19 and monkeypox. d’Ann de Simone and Anne-Lise Halvorsen volunteered to attend.

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Cancellation of September University Council Meeting

d'Ann de Simone moved to cancel the September 27, 2022 University Council meeting. Following discussion regarding Rosh Hashanah falling on the selected meeting date, the motion was adopted by consent.

Setting September 20 Faculty Senate Agenda

Following discussion, the committee agreed by consent to set an agenda for the upcoming Faculty Senate meeting with the following new business:

1. University Committee on Curriculum Report | UCC Chairperson Alison Dobbins
2. Emeritum Policy Updates | Provost Teresa K. Woodruff [2122-34]
3. [Pending UCFA Approval]¹ Creation of Department of Public Health in the College of Human Medicine [2223-01]
4. Introduction to Faculty and Academic Staff Affairs | Interim Associate Provost for Faculty and Academic Staff Affairs Ann Austin and Director of the Office of Faculty and Academic Staff Affairs Kara Yermak
5. [Pending Confirmation]² Relevant Policies to Faculty and Academic Staff | Associate Provost for Faculty and Academic Staff Development Marilyn Amey

The meeting adjourned at 4:11 p.m.

Tyler Silvestri
Secretary for Academic Governance

Approved: October 4, 2022

¹ UCFA did not approve the proposal in time for the Faculty Senate meeting, so this item did not appear on the Faculty Senate agenda.

² For logistical reasons, this presentation was combined with the preceding one at the Faculty Senate meeting, and the two presentations appeared as a single item on the agenda.