Approval of Agenda and Minutes

The Michigan State University Faculty Senate held a regular meeting on Tuesday, October 17, 2023 at 3:15 p.m. via Zoom with Chairperson Jack Lipton presiding. The agenda was approved with one amendment. The draft minutes of the September 19, 2023 meeting were approved as presented.

Remarks

Interim President Teresa K. Woodruff, Interim Provost Thomas D. Jeitschko, Executive Vice President for Health Sciences Norman J. Beauchamp Jr., and the chairperson gave remarks.[[1]](#footnote-2)

Faculty and Academic Staff Affairs & Development

Interim Vice Provost and Associate Vice President for Faculty and Academic Staff Affairs Ann Austin and Assistant Provost for Faculty and Academic Staff Development Marilyn Amey gave a presentation providing an overview of the Office for Faculty and Academic Staff Affairs and the Office for Faculty and Academic Staff Development.

University Committee on Curriculum Report

UCC Chairperson Valeta Wensloff gave [a report](https://acadgov.msu.edu/-/media/assets/academicgovernance/docs/faculty-senate/fs-2023-2024/fs-2023-10-17/a-ucc-report-long.pdf) on behalf of the University Committee on Curriculum.

Resolution on Climate Survey

Senator Danielle DeVoss moved to adopt a resolution that, after amendment, read:

*Whereas*, The Faculty Senate recognizes the critical importance of maintaining a campus climate that promotes inclusivity, diversity, equity, and belonging for all members of our university community; and

*Whereas*, Fostering an environment conducive to excellence in research, creative work, teaching, and learning necessitates an ongoing assessment of the campus climate to identify areas of improvement and ensure that our policies and practices align with our institution's values and goals (especially in the context of the 2030 Strategic Plan and DEI Strategic Plan); and

*Whereas*, A comprehensive climate survey is a valuable tool to collect data on the perceptions and experiences of faculty, staff, and students; and

*Whereas*, The information gathered through a university-wide climate survey will provide valuable insights into the experiences of various groups within our community and will aid the incoming president in understanding the strengths and needs of the community they will serve; and

*Whereas*, The Faculty Senate is committed to ensuring the well-being and satisfaction of all members of our university community and believes that a climate survey is an essential step towards achieving this goal;

*Resolved*, The Faculty Senate strongly urges that a comprehensive climate survey be conducted to assess the campus climate and gather data on issues related to overall campus culture.

*Resolved*, The climate survey should be designed in collaboration with relevant stakeholders, including faculty, staff, students, and external experts, to ensure its effectiveness and inclusivity.

*Resolved*, The results of the climate survey should be made transparent and readily accessible to all members of the university community.

*Resolved*, The incoming president should be invited to publicly comment on the climate survey and to publicly share their approaches toward supporting strengths and addressing shortcomings.

The motion was adopted by 30–25 vote following debate.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:48 p.m.

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Tyler Silvestri  
Secretary for Academic Governance  
**Approved: November 21, 2023**

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| **Attendance** | |
| **Present** | 66 |
| **Absent** | 13 |
| **Total** | 79 |
| **Quorum** | 41 |

| **Constituency/Title** | **Name** | **Attendance** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Academic Specialist Advisory Committee | Kelly Hodges | Present |
| Agriculture and Natural Resources | Satish Joshi | Present |
| Agriculture and Natural Resources | Matt Raven | Present |
| Agriculture and Natural Resources | Jeff Swada | Present |
| Agriculture and Natural Resources | Lorraine Weatherspoon | Present |
| Agriculture and Natural Resources | Cimberly Weir | Present |
| Arts and Letters | Kate Birdsall | Present |
| Arts and Letters | Brahim Chakrani | Present |
| Arts and Letters | Danielle DeVoss | Present |
| Arts and Letters | Zach Kaiser | Present |
| Arts and Letters | Kristen Mapes | Present |
| Associated Students of Michigan State University | Alissa Hakim | Present |
| At Large, Chairperson | Jack Lipton | Present |
| At Large, Vice Chairperson | Rebecca Malouin | Present |
| At Large | Justin St. Charles | Present |
| At Large | Angela Wilson | Present |
| At Large | d'Ann de Simone | Present |
| Business | Quan Zhang | Absent |
| Business | Ayalla Ruvio | Present |
| Business | John Spink | Present |
| Communication Arts and Sciences | Alexandra Thrubis Stanley | Absent |
| Communication Arts and Sciences | Dan Hiaeshutter-Rice | Present |
| Communication Arts and Sciences | Rabindra "Robby" Ratan | Present |
| Council of Graduate Students | Hannah Jeffery | Present |
| Education | Emre Umucu | Absent |
| Education | Amelia Gotwals | Present |
| Education | Matthew Pontifex | Present |
| Emeriti Faculty | Gary Stone | Absent |
| Engineering | Chengcheng Fang | Present |
| Engineering | Andrew Mason | Present |
| Engineering | Mark Worden | Present |
| Engineering | Neil Wright | Present |
| Executive Vice President for Health Sciences | Norman Beauchamp | Present |
| Faculty Grievance | Francisco Villarruel | Absent |
| FRIB | Chris Wrede | Present |
| Human Medicine | Cristian Meghea | Absent |
| Human Medicine | Scott Counts | Present |
| Human Medicine | Claire Margerison | Present |
| Human Medicine | Michael Williams | Present |
| Human Medicine | Hua Xiao | Present |
| Interim President | Teresa Woodruff | Present |
| Interim Provost | Thomas Jeitschko | Present |
| James Madison | Daniel Ahlquist | Present |
| James Madison | Russell Lucas | Present |
| Law | David Favre | Absent |
| Law | Noga Morag-Levine | Present |
| Libraries | Tad Boehmer | Present |
| Libraries | Kathleen Weessies | Present |
| Lyman Briggs | Peter White | Absent |
| Lyman Briggs | Samantha Cass | Present |
| Lyman Briggs | Stef Shuster | Present |
| Music | Jane Bunnell | Absent |
| Music | Cara Stroud | Present |
| Music | Guy Yehuda | Present |
| Natural Science | Gustavo de los Campos | Absent |
| Natural Science | Francois Greer | Absent |
| Natural Science | Brian Gulbransen | Present |
| Natural Science | Min-Hao Kuo | Present |
| Natural Science | Aaron Odom | Present |
| Nursing | Gayle Lourens | Present |
| Nursing | Chastity Warren | Present |
| Osteopathic Medicine | Janice Schwartz | Present |
| Osteopathic Medicine | Jason Bazil | Substituted: Shane Crandall |
| RCAH | John Aerni-Flessner | Present |
| RCAH | Tama Hamilton-Wray | Present |
| Social Science | Laurie Bulock | Present |
| Social Science | Guo Chen | Present |
| Social Science | James Dulebohn | Present |
| Social Science | Raymond Jussaume | Present |
| Social Science | Zeenat Kotval-Karamchandani | Present |
| UCC | Valeta Wensloff | Present |
| UCFA | Jamie Alan | Present |
| UCFT | Sue Barman | Present |
| UCGS | Trixie Smith | Absent |
| UCSLE | Jeffrey Tsang | Present |
| UCUE | Antoinette Tesmmer | Present |
| Veterinary Medicine | Stephan Carey | Present |
| Veterinary Medicine | Sean Crosson | Present |
| Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education and Dean of Undergraduate Studies | Mark Largent | Absent |

1. A video of their remarks (and the rest of the meeting can be found at <https://mediaspace.msu.edu/media/Faculty+Senate+%7C+October+17%2C+2023/1_9lslz3r5>. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)