**Present**:J. Alan, S. Anthony, S. Barman, N. Beauchamp, d. de Simone, A. Dobbins,   
M. Donahue, C. Grondin, A. Halvorsen, A. Iturralde, H. Jeffery, K. Kelly-Blake, J. Kovach, J. Lipton, R. Malouin, T. Silvestri, A. Tessmer, T. Woodruff

**Absent:** S. Stanley

**Others Present:** A. Austin, B. Gross, M. Largent, T. Thrush

## **Approval** of Agenda and Minutes

The Steering Committee of Michigan State University held a regular meeting on Tuesday, November 1, 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 October 4, 2022 meeting were approved as presented.

## Remarks

Interim President-Designate Teresa K. Woodruff, Executive Vice President for Health Sciences Norman J. Beauchamp Jr., and Chairperson Kelly-Blake gave brief remarks.

## Reports

In addition to the [submitted written committee reports](https://acadgov.msu.edu/-/media/assets/academicgovernance/docs/steering-2223/a--steering-committee-reports.pdf), Council of Graduate Students Chairperson Hannah Jeffery, University Committee on Student Affairs Chairperson Carl Austin Miller Grondin, and Secretary for Academic Governance Tyler Silvestri gave verbal reports. Secretary Silvestri [reported](https://acadgov.msu.edu/-/media/assets/academicgovernance/docs/steering-2223/b--secretarys-report--october-2022.pdf) that he had referred two items to standing committees: 1) Item 2223-09: Syllabus Language regarding RVSM was referred to the University Committee on Undergraduate Education, and 2) Item 2223-10: Presence and Absence Policies was referred to UCUE and UCSA, with UCUE as the lead committee.

## Consultation on Selection of Interim Provost

Consistent with section 3.1 of the policy titled “Procedures for Faculty and Student Participation in the Selection of Specified University-Level Administrators,” which reads, “The responsibility for the appointment of acting administrators rests with the administrator to whom the acting appointee reports. The President or the Provost shall consult with the Steering Committee regarding such appointments,” Interim President-Designate Woodruff recommended Senior Associate Provost Thomas Jeitschko to serve in the role of interim provost. She stated, “He will lead and continue the initiatives that we have all set together and keep them on an upward trajectory.” Members of the committee expressed their support for the recommendation but noted that students were largely unfamiliar with Senior Associate Provost Jeitschko. Interim President-Designate Woodruff indicated that she and Senior Associate Provost Jeitschko would attend ASMSU’s General Assembly meeting the next evening to foster a relationship.

## Trustee’s Recent Comments

The committee discussed Trustee Pat O’Keefe’s comments at the October 28 Board of Trustees meeting, which included remarks such as, “I want you to know that I am tired of reading about the sexual transgressions of the faculty—which are like reading Fifty Shades of Grey and are as long as Gone with the Wind—without knowing what the outcomes are of such behavior,” and “If academic freedom means doodling [sic] the most vulnerable on our campus without consequences, then yes, academic freedom should be removed.” Megan Donahue stated that the comments “seemed wholly and completely inappropriate for a member of a board who is governing an institution of higher learning to equate sexual harassment reports to pornography.” The committee discussed how to best send a message of support to faculty and survivors across the MSU community.

## Setting Upcoming Faculty Senate and University Council Agendas

After discussion, the committee agreed by consent to set an agenda for the upcoming Faculty Senate and University Council meetings with the following new business:

**Tentative New Business for Faculty Senate — November 15, 2022**

1. University Committee on Curriculum Report | UCC Chairperson Alison Dobbins
2. Research and Innovation | Vice President for Research and Innovation Doug Gage

Faculty Recruitment, Hiring, Retention, Promotion, and Tenure | Interim Provost-Designate Thomas Jeitschko, Ph.D., Interim Associate Provost and Associate Vice President for Faculty and Academic Staff Affairs Ann Austin, & Vice President and Chief Diversity Officer Jabbar Bennett

**Tentative New Business for University Council — November 22, 2022**

1. Undergraduate Enrollment and Student Success | Associate Provost for Undergraduate Education and Dean of Undergraduate Studies Mark Largent
2. Graduate Enrollment and Student Success | Dean of the Graduate School and Associate Provost for Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies Pero Dagbovie
3. Swim and Dive | Athletic Director Alan Haller (Cancelled due to scheduling)
4. Proposed *Bylaws* Amendment re: Faculty Senate Election Process |UCAG Chairperson Jack Lipton

The meeting adjourned at 4:11 p.m.



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

Tyler Silvestri  
Secretary for Academic Governance

**Approved:**  December 6, 2022