

# University Committee on Faculty Affairs

Minutes

October 31, 2023



MICHIGAN STATE  
UNIVERSITY

**Present:** J. Alan, A. Annis, A. Austin, J. Buchweitz, B. Cantwell, S. Carlson, K. Prouty (for M. Helton), B. Holtz, N. Lajevardi, D. McCole, J. McElroy, T. Pence, E. Rapinchuk, A. Simon, T. Silvestri, F. Villarruel, L. Walesby, D. Weatherspoon, J. Doherty (for P. White), K. Yermak, S. Yoder, L. Zhang

**Absent:** L. Zhang

A regular meeting of the University Committee on Faculty Affairs was held in Room 437 of the Hannah Administration Building and via Zoom on October 31, 2023 at 1:00 p.m. with Chairperson Jamie Alan presiding. The agenda was approved as presented. The draft minutes of the October 10, 2023 meeting were approved as presented.

Interim Vice Provost and Associate Vice President for Faculty and Academic Staff Affairs Ann Austin, Assistant Provost Kara Yermak, Faculty Grievance Official Francisco Villarruel, and Chairperson Alan gave remarks.

## **Modified Operations Policy**

Assistant Provost Yermak presented on proposed changes to the [Modified Operations policy](#), as well as a draft "[business continuity plan](#)" and an [FAQ document](#). Members of the committee gave feedback, including calling for a definition of "unit" and adding an annual process for units to designate critical employees.

## **Faculty Healthcare Council's Benefits Benchmarking**

The chairperson shared that Faculty Healthcare Council was convening a group to benchmark faculty benefits (especially dental) at other institutions. Scott Carlson volunteered to join.

## **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 1:53 p.m., and the Personnel and Budget Subcommittees met afterward.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "TA Silvestri".

Tyler Silvestri  
Secretary for Academic Governance

**Approved: November 14, 2023**