University Committee on Student Life & Engagement Meeting Notes October 18, 2024 | 8:30 a.m. ET



Zoom Meeting

Join Zoom Meeting

https://msu.zoom.us/j/98403818539?from=addon

Meeting ID: 984 0381 8539

Passcode: 598105 MINUTES

Voting Members

Students: Maddie Dallas, Shri Keerthi Alla, Erin Caldwell, Achintya

Chaganti, Connor Le, Gauravi Limbole, Aastha Patel, Miles Roberts, Jesse

Estrada White, Andrew Davis, UACOR Rep, Andrew Sharp

Faculty: (Ms. J.) Jonglim Han, Emily Langhart, Jeffrey Tsang, Sarah

Ward

Non-Voting Members: Shannon Burton, Ray Gasser, Vennie Gore, Genyne Royal, Allyn

Shaw

Guests: Victoria Nelson, Katusha Galitzine, Samm Martin, Su Webster

- I. Call to Order, Welcome @8:35am, introductions of two new members
- II. Approval of Agenda Approved
- III. Review of the Minutes Approved
- IV. Presentations
 - a. Welcome from Victoria Nelson, Secretary, Academic Governance
 - Overview of their position and joining the meeting to see how UCSLE is running
 - b. Anti-Discrimination Policy updates—Katusha Galitzine, Senior Investigator, ISR, Samm Martin, ADP Education Coordinator
 - Introductions of themselves and roles in the Office of Civil Rights (OCR) and how they work together
 - Started with an understanding of the office and the large scope the office oversees on campus in relation to ADP, RVSM, outreach and education, access, support, etc.
 - OCR oversees all these policies as a whole community, not separately compared to other institutions across the country
 - Discussed the landscape of support, utilizing both private (some are confidential) and additional resources.
 - Resources included Ombuds, CAPS, Center for Survivors, RCCE, institutional diversity and inclusion, etc.
 - Discussed the policies enforced by OCR
 - ADP Discrimination/Harassment of protected categories
 - Title IX / RVSM Retaliation, stalking, etc.
 - Pregnancy, Childbirth Conditions Policy
 - Mandatory Reporting Policy
 - The purpose of these policies is to increase access for all Spartans across the campus

- Discussed protected categories linked in the presentation
 - Expansive of categories beyond the federal regulations
- Discrimination under MSU policies in terms of direct evidence and/or circumstantial evidence
 - Explained the basic investigation process, analyzing if the report received from the office if someone has been discriminated against
- Harassment under MSU policies is investigated similarly under discrimination, more so looking at persistent and/or persuasive behavior interfering with their education or employment at MSU
 - Looking at a balancing test
- Retaliation under MSU policies is related to the ADP policy looking at a reasonable person participating in a protected activity
- Discussed the reporting process
 - Office located in Olds Hall
 - Can report anonymously
 - · civilrights.msu.edu
 - 517-353-3922
- Always report if you believe MSU won't be able to do anything with the information/situation
- Responses to Reports
 - Supportive measures help individuals with individualized needs based on the situation
 - Referrals other units on and off campus
 - Tracking know what our MSU is experiencing, respond to the situation, and help prevent those situations in the future
 - Investigations comes after all these previous categories
- The goal is to preserve and restore access to MSU programs
- Brief overview of the investigation process
- Discussed what has changed in OCR
 - Updated identity language
 - Support paired with intake
 - Increased tracking
 - Title IX regulations may change the scope of ADP/RVSM
 - Increased guidance
- Allyn asked if there are ways UCSLE can assist ISR
 - Messaging around encouraging reporting, can help alleviate stressors around campus
 - Most of the time, OCR does not know the impacted parties and needs to hear from the impacted party to help create strategies around their statements of impact
- c. MSU updates-Vennie Gore, SVP, SLE
 - Talked about the new leadership structure
 - Stepping down from the role to assume the new role of EVP of Administration on March 3rd
 - The division of SLE will be called Student Affairs and Housing will report separately
 - VPSA search will run out of the President's office
 - Academic governance is assisting in the search process

- Engaging Spellman and Johnson with the AVP of Housing search for REHS, helping AVP Janet Lillie
- · Opportunity for student engagement
 - Putting Erin on the spot for engaging in the committee
- Student representation on the search committees
- The transition process, interim roles in November, and hang tight on updates as this moves along
- Some structural parts of SLE will not change, such as CORES/COPS funding for signature programming
- Vennie offered to the committee for a tour of the multicultural center in November for the tour of the building/construction
- No questions from UCSLE
- d. MSU Vote Suchitra Webster
 - Fall 2024 Updates
 - 18 days left until election day
 - Looking at ways students can engage with the remaining time frame
 - Three overall goals
 - Getting students registered to vote
 - Amplify programs to have appropriate discourse and dialogue
 - · Utilizing on-campus early voting center
 - Discussed key challenges
 - Participation and collaboration across colleges are inconsistent
 - Many first-time voters cannot see the tangible links to connect with the issues in the current election cycle
 - Perception of the process is complex and flawed
 - Confusion around dates, language, and forms
 - Transient population further exacerbates the issues above
 - Msuvote.msu.edu/resources
 - A resource section for the community at large
 - Teaching civic engagement across disciplines
 - Faculty toolkits
 - Slides, recordings, lists, tips, etc.
 - Fall calendar of events
 - October 21-November 3 Early Voting Center (EVC) (EVC is WKAR Studio B in Comm Sci Building)
 - October 31 Voting isn't Scary at EVC
 - November 5 Election Day
 - EVC opens on October 21 starting daily at 10 am to 6 pm
 - Communication Arts and Sciences building
 - Closed on November 4 per state law to become a polling location
 - Encouraging RSOs to vote together at the EVC
 - Climate and Context; thinking about why you vote and transition that energy at the ballot box
 - Allyn asked if people can still sign up to vote
 - Positions are filling up fast, but you can look up voting clerks for Lansing

- Does MSU vote need volunteers? Yes, serve as line managers and you can reach out to Su for more information
- Andrew Davis asked about registering to vote on campus with voter booths and not using the same address and getting communication from the Secretary of State
 - Temporary when voting in MSU zoning, but you can switch your address with the Secretary of State. Su will do more research into the issue.
 - MI.GOV/VOTE to check registration to vote
 - Vennie put this link in the chat: https://mvic.sos.state.mi.us/

V. Reports

- a. Steering Committee No representative present
- b. Faculty Senate Emily updated, the President came and went over new leadership appointments, the Provost talked about recommending a new dean for the College of Law, the Higher Learning Commission will be visiting campus to discuss accreditation, presentation from UCFA fixed-term faculty language, and discourse occurred around tenure
- c. Council of Graduate Students Miles updated with the most recent membership meeting, two main items were passing a resolution; one to discuss a tax workshop to help fill out tax forms with students with fellowships, students have to figure out and budget for each quarter, and second was another resolution to endorse a recent report from an AD HOC committee to assess graduate student perspectives of laboratory safety, spearheaded by chemistry students and culminated in a bigger survey, generally student felts safe in labs at MSU, pointed out gaps where students were unaware that PPE if they were regularly checked
- d. Associated Students of Michigan State University Connor updated the committee about passing bills. ASMSU advocated for removing Morill's name from an MSU building, suicide and rehabilitation training for MSU, leftover combo swipes donations for the MSU food bank, supporting the Stop Campus Hazing Act, advocating for MSU to release a statement supporting survivors based on recent articles released by the State News from Nassar documents, BOT candidate forums for the public, and Connor dropped links in the chat to the recordings of both candidates. Finished Fall Elections, still open seats. General Assembly interest can be directed towards ASMSU via the Google Form below.
 - General Assembly Link for Application: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSewqfptttfq15hRUojwjHt VeM5P-_n2nu3cK89TBvuRsaGZWQ/viewform
 - BOT Candidate links:
 - Session I: Mike Balow and Thomas Stallworth III: https://mediaspace.msu.edu/media/t/1_vnsg3y1h
 - Session II: Julie Maday and Rebecca Bahar-Cook: https://mediaspace.msu.edu/media/t/1 soafhhlu
- e. Vice President for Student Life & Engagement Homecoming festivities this weekend, discussed Fall break being able to recharge before the final push, NPHC art show at the Wharton Center tonight, show starting at 8 pm

- a. Election of Secretary **Andrew Sharp nominated themselves for the position, called to a vote, and all were in favor**
- VII. Discussion Connor shared with the committee about students in the Residential College of Arts and Humanities about the college being dissolved into the College of Arts and Letters, students are showing concerns about programs, staff positions, etc., coming to a vote to the BOT in December. Vennie answered and did not know any details about it and would reach out to the Provost's office. No additional discussion points.
- VIII. Roundtable Andrew Davis updated the committee about the newly created position for Associate Director of FSL. Over 12% of the student population is in FSL on campus. Also reemphasized about the show in the Wharton Center tonight at 8 pm.
- IX. Adjourn Adjourned at 9:56am

Next Meeting: November 15, 2024