Approved 09-20-2016

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
UNIVERSITY COUNCIL MINUTES
INTERNATIONAL CENTER, ROOM 115
MARCH 22, 2016 - 3:15-5:00 P.M.


1. CALL TO ORDER 3:20
2. Approval of Agenda for March 22, 2016 APPROVED
3. Public Comments NONE
4. Approval of Draft Minutes for February 23, 2016 APPROVED
5. President’s Remarks – Lou Anna K. Simon

There is concern on the national level regarding the lack of a Federal budget for the 2017 fiscal year. It appears that, amidst the many pressures being exerted in Washington, there is a concern that inaction will trigger the Budget Control Act and another version of the Sequestration. In addition there doesn’t seem to be much that is positive regarding the Higher Education Re-authorization Act. This may all change in the post-election cycles.

6. Provost’s Remarks – June Youatt
The Higher Learning Commission accreditation team will be on campus on April 4–5, developing its own agenda and deciding on individuals and groups to interview. The team conducted a survey of undergraduate and graduate students, and the results revealed many complimentary comments as well a set of criticisms. They are available on the Governance website.

The Work-Life Office will officially open April 1 with a symposium in the afternoon that will describe the background and rationale for the office.

Interviews for the deans of the College of Social Science, the College of Human Medicine, and the Undergraduate Dean and Associate Provost for Undergraduate Studies will be conducted in April. Hopefully, there will announcement regarding these positions by the fall.

The new Secretary for Academic Governance has been announced as Professor Gary Hoppenstand. He will begin his duties in August 2016.

A few weeks ago the Committee on Movement, Fitness and Recreation was established. Its challenge is to examine programs across campus that would encourage the campus community to engage in activities that enhance personal fitness. The committee has 24 members including administrators, faculty, staff, and students—as well as individuals from off-campus. They are planning specific activities for the Welcome Week agenda in August.

7. The Steering Committee Chairperson’s Remarks – Professor Mary Noel

Deborah Moriarty (Music) and Laura McCabe (Osteopathic Medicine) have been elected to serve as At-Large members of The Steering Committee for 2016-2018. Professor Moriarty has been elected Chairperson of the Faculty Senate and Steering Committee; and Professor McCabe has been elected Vice Chairperson.

8. OLD BUSINESS       NONE

9. NEW BUSINESS

9.1. University Committee on Curriculum Report, Professor Urquhart, Chairperson

The Committee reports three new programs, 16 changed programs, and one deleted program. The new programs are a minor in Communication Arts & Sciences-Journalism titled “Animation in Comics Storytelling in Media”; in Social Science, a teaching minor in “Early Childhood General and Special Education”; and a minor in “Leadership and Organization”. There were 29 new courses, 67 changed courses, and 20 deleted courses.


The Spartan Code of Honor proposed text has been reviewed by a number of student and faculty bodies. The text of the code is not intended to be a policy but a reflection of policies that are in place in the Spartan Life Handbook, e.g., the Integrity of Scholarship and Grades, the Student Rights and Responsibilities, General Student Regulations and Examinations. The following Standing Committees have reviewed the proposed text; University Committee on Faculty
Affairs, University Committee on Graduate Studies, University Committee on Student Affairs, and University Committee on Undergraduate Education. A video outlining the program was shown to the University Council.

The text contained in the Code is intended to represent a pledge that promotes personal integrity, both inside and outside the classroom. The pledge is not a policy statement but an initiative to communicate to students, faculty, and staff the importance of personal integrity throughout life. Student conduct that is inconsistent with the pledge is addressed through existing policies, regulations, and ordinances governing academic honesty and integrity.

The discussion will continue to move toward implementation of the statement as a feature in the Spartan Life Handbook.

Motion to endorse the Spartan Code of Honor documents. **APPROVED.**

10. Comments from the Floor   **NONE**

11. **ADJOURNMENT** 3:55