CALL TO ORDER

3:15 PM

1. Approval of Agenda for October 11, 2016

The agenda for October 11, 2016 was approved as presented.

2. Approval of Draft Minutes for September 13, 2016

The draft minutes for September 13, 2016 was approved as distributed.

3. President’s Remarks: Dr. Lou Anna K. Simon – Out of Town

4. Provost’s Remarks: Dr. June Youatt

Dr. Youatt reported that the Wall Street Journal released a new ranking that evaluates instruction as a new indicator of quality. 30% of this ranking uses student evaluations. Michigan State University ranks 65 out of 1,011 institutions overall. Dr Youatt says that student engagement at MSU ranks 6th out of 1,011 institutions, making MSU the first large public institution in that list.

Dr. Youatt added that regarding the question about the selection of MSU for their education, (and the additional question of would students make the same choice again), on a scale of 1-10 MSU scored a 9.29, which ranked the University 7th nationally. Dr. Youatt states that there is only one answer for this success: the faculty at MSU; and if no one has said “thank you,” Dr. Youatt says thank you to the faculty.

Beginning in December, Dr. Youatt reports that the US Department of Labor has made some changes in compensation levels for executive, administrative, and professional workers with regards to overtime. She added that several groups will be affected by this minimum salary increase, but that teachers are exempt. The salary change will be raised to $46,476.00
annually, and the group of individuals who will be affected are post-docs. She noted that MSU’s current post-docs are not paid at that level, and most have no teaching responsibilities. Post-docs will make this minimum salary after December 1st. Professor Youatt stated that there is no “magical pot” to raise this new money, but that we cannot “cheap out” in following the new unfunded mandate.

Dr. Youatt then introduced Christine Moore, MSU Assistant General Counsel, to provide additional information.

Christine Moore stated that the Fair Labor Standards Act, a Federal statute, governs the way that MSU pays non-exempt employees, and that the previous minimum annual salary minimum was $23,360.00 annually. She added that doctors, teachers, lawyers, and outside salespeople are not affected. She said that about 530 full-time, and 80 part-time employees will be affected by the new salary mandate. She concluded by stating that every three years an update is required to re-evaluate the salary threshold. She suggested that faculty review the MSU website hr.msu.edu, which provides additional information.

5. Chairperson’s Remarks: Professor Deborah Moriarty

Professor Moriarty reported that the College of Music will be presenting “Shostakovich 110 Years,” on Monday, October 17th, 2016, at 7:30 PM, at the Fairchild Theatre, MSU Auditorium. “Trapped between passion and politics, Shostakovich was the Soviet musical hero who’s brilliant and ironic compositions challenged the Stalin musical doctrine.” Flyers were passed out.

Professor Moriarty stated that the Faculty Senate Surveys have been passed to various standing committees, and that she will be giving a report from the Standing Committees at the next Faculty Senate meeting. Professor Moriarty added that she wants to the Faculty Senate, and Academic Governance in general, in campus climate issues. She said to please be in touch with her or Dr. Gary Hoppenstand if you have ideas on this issue.

Professor Moriarty also said that internet cyber security issues will be addressed at the Faculty Senate. Concluding her remarks, Professor Moriarty asked Dr. Gary Hoppenstand to provide a report on the Big Ten Academic Alliance Leadership Conference meeting held at the MSU campus on Wednesday, September 28th, Thursday, September 29th, and Friday, September 30th. Dr. Hoppenstand stated that the Big Ten Academic Alliance meets once a year, with each meeting rotating between the Big Ten institutions. He noted that it was the first time in a decade that all Big Ten institutions attended. Dr. Curry, Associate Provost and Associate Vice President for Academic Human Resources, provided the welcoming remarks at the Thursday, September 29th meeting. In addition, two MSU Board of Trustee members, the Honorable Dianne Byrum and the Honorable Melanie Foster, gave presentations on September 29th about communication premises and pitfalls for university leadership and faculty. Deputy General Counsel, Kristine Zayko, also gave a presentation the same day on the role of academic governance in developing institutional responses to a difficult campus climate regarding relationship violence. The Director of Library Initiatives, Kim Armstrong, offered a presentation on background and future of the Big Ten Academic Alliance, and Professor John Beck, from the School of Human Resources and Labor Relations, conducted a breakout session dealing with faculty engagement in governance. On Friday, September 30th, the topic of discussion moved from academic issues to athletic issues. Professor Martin Crimp provided a talk on COIA (the Coalition on Intercollegiate Athletics), and how it is
involved with the Big Academic Alliance. The day’s meeting concluded with a presentation by James Pignataro, the Executive Associate Athletics Director for Student Services, and Jennifer Smith, the Senior Associate Athletics Director for Compliance at MSU, on student-athlete academic integrity and the NCAA. Formal receptions were held at the Cowles House on Wednesday evening and at the Broad Art Museum on Thursday evening. Both President Simon and Provost Youatt addressed the Big Ten Academic Alliance members at the Broad Art Museum event. The next annual meeting will be held at Penn State the following fall. Dr. Hoppenstand thanked Dr. Curry, Professor Moriarty, and Professor John Powell for their support in making this meeting a success.

6. NEW BUSINESS

6.1. Prescription Drugs Report, Joe Galardi, HR Manager and Chris Hanna, Director of HR Administrative Services

Joe Galardi, Human Resources Manager and Chris Hanna, Director of Human Resources Administrative Services presented the Prescription Drugs Report. This report is also available on their website.

6.2. Update on the Campus Master Plan, Steve Troost, Strategic Infrastructure Planning and Facilities, Campus Planner

Steve Troost, Strategic Infrastructure Planning and Facilities, Campus Planner, presented the Campus Master Plan. He said that this master plan establishes a flexible framework for the organizational structure of the campus. He added that if we can properly organize the campus, we can be more efficient. The Campus Master Plan also addresses campus safety issues, as well as the efficient movement of people and resources across campus. He noted that there are three components of the Campus Master Plan: 1) planning principles, 2) specific system recommendations, and 3) University zoning ordinances.

There was a question from a faculty member about bicycles on campus. Steve Troost stated that it is the law that bicycles have the same rights in the roadway as do automobiles. He added that MSU wants to enhance non-motorized accessibility on campus, including walkable campus neighborhoods. He said that the Campus Master Plan is also concerned with preserving critical environmental resources, such as efficient building use, and that the plan would accommodate about 60 years of growth.

Steve Troost stated that parking creates a conflict with circulation safety issues on campus. Shaw and Farm Lane, he says, is an area of greatest concern, with regards to the volume of motorized and non-motorized transportation. The goals, he says, are to prioritize the pedestrian traffic, then prioritize mass transportation, then the private automobile. He added that the Bessey Hall garage will have to come “offline,” and that there will be other long-term parking structure hinges. He said that MSU is recognized as a bicycle-friendly campus.

When a question was asked by a faculty member about how empty busses can be more efficiently used, Steve Troost replied that moving parking to the campus perimeter is one way on dealing with this issue.
Another question was posed by a faculty member inquiring about assurances that historical preservation is a high priority. Steve Troost replied that it is a high priority, as is attention to public spaces on campus, that MSU takes these places very seriously.

Professor Moriarty reported that faculty have tried to provide input into campus planning in the past. Provost Youatt also said that the President’s “refresh” of the Campus Master Plan is about zoning. It is not about a small group of people planning the future of the institution.

A faculty member asked why reserved parking spaces create a problem for faculty finding parking, and why reserved parking has expanded so much. Professor Moriarty replied that it would be good to have a future meeting with the MSU Parking Police to discuss this issue. Professor Moriarty added that we will be bringing this question before the Steering Committee, including the issue of student employees parking in faculty places. She also added that Friday Night Football parking problems were a concern when an evening music concert was scheduled at the same time. Professor Moriarty stated that campus safety issues have to be dealt with as well, regarding vehicles that have wheels, including bicycles, because of the danger that these vehicles pose to pedestrians.

6.3. University Committee on Curriculum (UCC) Report, Professor Jerry Urquhart, UCC Chairperson

Professor Jerry Urquhart, UCC Chairperson presented the University Committee on Curriculum Report for October, 2016.

Motion to approved first and seconded. Motion Carried.

6.4. Lyman Briggs Dean and Associate Provost Dr. Elizabeth Simmons will be reporting on the Academic Advancement Network at a later Faculty Senate meeting, since the current Faculty Senate meeting ran over its time limit.

7. Comments from the floor - None

8. ADJOURNMENT

4:53pm