MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
UNIVERSITY COUNCIL APPROVED MINUTES
APRIL 25, 2017 3:15 PM
115 INTERNATIONAL CENTER


1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 3:15 p.m.

2. Approval of Agenda for April 25, 2017

The agenda for April 25, 2017 was approved.

3. Approval of Draft Minutes for March 28, 2017

The draft minutes for March 28, 2017 were approved as presented.

4. President’s Remarks: Dr. Lou Anna K. Simon – Out of town
President Simon is out of town on University business.

5. **Provost’s Remarks:** Dr. June Youatt

Provost Youatt reported that President Simon is out-of-town, making an address in Dublin tomorrow as MSU continues to collaborate with our colleagues on development disabilities, particularly regarding disabilities with children.

Provost Youatt thanked faculty and staff for the work that they have done this year. She noted that she is especially appreciative of the Steering Committee of MSU’s Academic Governance, particularly Deborah Moriarty, Chair of the Steering Committee, who is also traveling out-of-town today. Provost Youatt identified the great student leadership in COGS (Council of Graduate Students) and ASMSU (Associated Students of MSU). Both groups, she said, have achieved a number of their goals that they set out at the beginning of the year.

Provost Youatt reported that graduation will held next weekend, the convocation on Friday and then the ceremonies on Saturday and Sunday. She expressed congratulations to all of the students graduating. She added that MSU has 52 students this year who are receiving the “Board of Trustees Award,” individuals who have completed their programs with a perfect 4.0.

Provost Youatt stated that the Graduate School Dean search continues, and that candidates for that position will be giving presentations on the 8th and 9th of April. In addition, Provost Youatt stated that at the end of this week, there will be an announcement of the finalists for the College of Natural Science Dean search, and that these finalists will visit the MSU campus the beginning next week.

Provost Youatt concluded her remarks with an announcement about the Global Travel Registry that was launched last Friday. She noted that for many years, those who have traveled internationally have been asked to register their travel plans through an international travel database. This registration was implemented for the safety and security of MSU faculty and students. Provost Youatt stated that the new Travel Registry is now available online (at travelregistry.msu.edu), and if students are traveling during the academic year, and if this travel is affiliated with MSU, then you are asked to register. This request, she added, is not about monitoring people's whereabouts; it is about making sure that at any time MSU knows how it can reach out and help, if needed. Provost Youatt said that this Travel Registry has been a long time in the making, specifically identifying Steve Hanson and the Office of International Studies and Programs, as being important to the Travel Registry’s development. She stated that Beth Alexander, former University Physician, has been the project Director on the Travel Registry, and that it was her insights, after many years of working with the Travel Clinic and Study Abroad, that made the Travel Registry an important idea, because she understood what kinds of issues MSU needed to know to create the Travel Registry, what kinds of questions we needed to ask to make it work.

6. **Chairperson’s Remark:** Professor Deborah Moriarty – out of town

Dr. Laura McCabe, Vice Chairperson, gave remarks. She stated that on behalf of herself and Professor Moriarty we, as well as the Steering Committee, thank you for all the hard work you have done this year. She thought that it was wonderful to see how students, faculty, and administrators contribute to some of the policy changes that occurred at MSU during the past year. She added that for next year, to keep the great ideas “percolating in your mind”
regarding what to address at next year's Academic Governance meetings. Dr. McCabe wished everyone a great summer ahead.

7. NEW BUSINESS

7.1. Athletic Council Annual Report, Sue Carter, Faculty Athletic Council Representative

Professor Sue Carter presented the Athletic Council report. She stated that, as called for in the University’s Academic Governance Bylaws, there is an Athletic Council, which functions as the faculty voice in intercollegiate athletics. The Athletic Council itself has representatives from the faculty, and from the students, both graduate and undergraduate levels. There is also a student athlete representative, and one from UCUE (University Committee on Undergraduate Education). Then, functioning as ex-officio, members include the MSU Athletics Director, the Faculty Athletic Representative, the Director of Alumni, and a representative from the Vice President for Finance and Operations (and his designee).

Professor Carter stated that the Athletic Council met seven times during the year, adding that among the responsibilities of the Athletic Council, members deliberate on various policies, including ticket pricing. The Athletic Council also advises the Athletics Director on a variety of policies, noting that anything that concerns both academics and athletics falls under the advising purview of the Athletic Council.

Professor Carter reported that the Athletic Council addressed issues involving the student athlete experience, here are a couple of points to remember. She noted that only amateurs can be student athletes. Expectations for student athletes include being a full-time students, in good academic standing, and making progress towards the degree on a six-year measure. Here at Michigan State, she said that University has a around 800 student athletes this year, though not everybody gets fully-funded, that some students are on a partial scholarship. Some students, she says, have no scholarship at all.

Professor Carter added that 444 student athletes have a 3.0 GPA cumulative average. With eighteen sports, and MSU has 25 sports, the athletes have a 3.0 cumulative GPA, and 54 student athletes have a semester GPA of 4.0, noting that these are people who are amazing young individuals, men and women, organized, great competitors, who are working hard.

Professor Carter concluded her remarks by saying that her comments present an overview of the year with the Athletic Council and student athletes. She adds that there are ongoing challenges, but these challenges represent just a fraction of what MSU’s student athletes accomplish here on the campus. She states that we can all feel good about what MSU’s student athletes are doing, and about the University they represent when they put on that jersey and go out and compete.

7.2. University Committee on Curriculum (UCC) Report, Professor Jerry Urquhart, UCC Chairperson Long Report (click on link)

Professor Urquhart presented the UCC (University Committee on Curriculum) report as an information item only. Dr. Urquhart stated that with regards to programs, the UCC approved four new programs, 16 changed programs, and one program deletion.
The new programs include a biostatistics Ph.D.; a “three-plus-three program” in Communication Arts and Sciences, and Law; a Computational Mathematics and Science and Engineering minor; and a Neuroscience and Law graduate certificate. With regards to course approvals, the UCC approved 26 new courses, 73 course changes, and three course deletions. He noted that some “automatic” course deletions will occur over the summer break.

The report was approved at the Faculty Senate on April 18th.

7.3. International Students and Current Climate, Steve Hansen, Dean, International Studies and Programs

Dean Steve Hansen presented the International Student and Scholar Community. Dean Hansen provided an assessment on three significant issues: 1) a brief update on immigration policy as we know it today (and those at MSU who might be impacted by that policy); 2) a “snapshot” of how MSU has been responding to support our students and scholars through these uncertainties that have occurred here over the last few months; and 3) an outline of a set of principles that MSU has put in place to help guide the University’s response as the University moves forward.

Discussion of these issues followed.

7.4. MSU Patent Policy, Rich Chylla, Executive Director, MSU Technologies

Rich Chylla presented the MSU Patent Policy as an information item only. Director Chylla reported that the current patent policy that is in place was last updated in the year 2001, noting that there are several reason to make changes. First of all, he states that there was a change in patent law (sometimes known as the American Invents Act) in 2011. Some of those changes encouraged MSU to reconsider how the University manages our patents and our processes. Second, he says that the field of tech transfer is actually an evolving one, so just like athletics or academics, what was state-of-the-art a decade ago is probably not state-of-the-art today. MSU thinks that it is important to take a fresh look at what the University is doing. And third, he notes that there were some very specific recommendations that came out from organizations like the AAU (Amateur Athletic Union), the APLU (Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities), and the National Research Council, and that MSU wanted to make sure that all our policies were compliant with those recommendations.

Director Chylla stated that one of the issues that was noticed when MSU was reviewing its policy is that while the University was very much in step with other institutions at the time its policy was implemented, it had subsequently become out-of-date and, in fact, MSU had also found that its royalty distribution policy had become somewhat out-of-date. He says that the new royalty distribution policy is more generous to University inventors.

Director Chylla added that a second issue was addressed regarding the policy that clarifies student ownership of their intellectual property in their role as students and student entrepreneurs. MSU wanted to make it clear that that intellectual property that student may develop is actually owned by the student. The only type of activity that a graduate student would work on where the university would own that invention would
be if the graduate student is, for example, working under a grant administered by the University. But, Director Chylla states, a graduate student who is doing something outside the purview of their academic efforts here at Michigan State, then that intellectual property belongs to them.

Discussion of these issues followed.

The Policy was approved by Faculty Senate on April 18th.

8. Comments from the floor
   None

9. Adjournment
   A motion was made to adjourn and was seconded. The motion carried. 4:21 pm.