

Approved: February 20, 2018

2017-2018: Meeting # 4

**MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
THE STEERING COMMITTEE DRAFT MINUTES
JANUARY 9, 2018 3:15 PM
ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, BOARD ROOM**

Present: President Simon, Provost Youatt, E. Appiagyei-Dankah, M. Dease, A. Fuente, J. Francis for C. Hogan, G. Hoppenstand, R. LaDuca, G. Lourens, L. Luna-Gagnon, L. McCabe, R. Miksicek, D. Moriarty, L. Santavicca, G. Swain, T. Tomlinson, E. Watts, Others: T. Curry, S. Lott

Absent: M. Mechtel, C. Rifiotis

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 3:18 pm.

2. Approval of Agenda for January 9, 2018

The agenda for January 9, 2018 was approved as presented.

3. Approval of Draft Minutes for November 7, 2017

The minutes for November 7, 2017 were approved as distributed.

4. Provost's Remarks: Dr. June Youatt

Provost Youatt reported that the first candidate with the College of Natural Science will be interviewing on Friday, with four additional candidates to follow. She noted that she is optimistic about the pool of candidates. Provost Youatt added that MSU will also be welcoming candidates for Lyman Briggs College and the College of Veterinary Medicine this semester.

Provost Youatt stated that if MSU's current Ombudsperson is retiring, and if there are candidates that individuals would like to nominate for Ombudsperson, who are wise, patient and problem solvers, then please ask them to apply. Provost Youatt noted that the Director of the MSU Libraries should also be identified this semester.

Provost Youatt said that an additional search will also have to be launched, because the Dean of the College of Osteopathic Medicine had resigned and is on medical leave. A name will be announced within the week who will serve as interim Dean, until a permanent Dean is identified. Provost Youatt added that active planning for the new STEM Education Building is ongoing, as well as the search for a new Faculty Athletic Representative.

It was also reported that Rick Ward, Head of the MSU Health Team, has been replaced by Michael Herbert, a long-time Medical Systems Director.

5. Chairperson's Remarks: Dr. Laura McCabe

Dr. McCabe reported that the issue involving academic specialists with voice and vote on Faculty Senate will be moved to February for discussion.

Dr. McCabe also reported on the Federal Demonstration Partnership, saying that MSU participates in this partnership, which involves a meeting three times a year that brings faculty, administrators, and federal agencies together in one meeting; these individuals then discuss interactions, and potential bridging, and grant issues. This group conducted a faculty workload survey in 2007, and they discovered that 42% of faculty research time is based on administrative duties regarding their grants. One of the questions being addressed by the FDP is: How can that administrative burden be reduced?

6. Committee Reports

University Committee on Academic Governance (UCAG) – Professor Gayle Lourens

Professor Lourens reported that UCAG met last November and has a meeting coming up in a week. She said that the majority of the meeting in January will be spent working on faculty nominees and developing a slate of candidates for committees. In addition UCAG is also conducting college by-law reviews, with one review already completed.

University Committee on Faculty Affairs (UCFA) – Professor Thomas Tomlinson

Professor Tomlinson reported that UCFA had a relatively short meeting where the Budget Sub-Committee is discussing a proposal to provide retirement benefits for faculty who were appointed during the summer, which is a very complicated issue. In addition to reviewing language for the Mid-Semester Feedback, Professor Tomlinson stated that at UCFA's last Personnel Sub-Committee meeting, a revised survey for the Faculty Grievance Office was approved.

University Committee on Curriculum (UCC) – Professor Marci Mechtel

Professor Mechtel reported that UCC met at the end of November as a full Committee. Eleven new programs were approved, highlighted by some additional linkage with other programs. These are effective summer 2017. She noted that there a new Graduate Certificate in Children's and Young Adult Literature, effective the Summer Semester of 2018, as well as a new Doctor of Musical Arts in Collaborative Piano, effective the Summer Semester of 2018, and a Graduate Certificate in Elementary STEM Education, effective the Summer Semester of 2018. There was also approved a Dual Major with Environmental Sciences and Policy, (which is a Ph.D. Program) effective Fall Semester of 2018, and an approved Healthcare Management Master of Science degree, effective Fall Semester of 2018. Professor Mechtel noted the approvals of a Management Sciences Master's degree, effective Fall Semester of 2018, and a Medical Laboratory Sciences Bachelor of Science degree.

Professor Mechtel stated that there were five program changes and one program deletion. Regarding courses, the UCC approved 95 new courses, 87 course changes, and 28 course deletions. Regarding the implementations of moratoriums, there is a moratorium in the Bachelor of Science degree in Athletic Training, and the discontinuation of the Health Professions Education Master's Degree, effective this Spring Semester of 2020.

University Committee on Undergraduate Education (UCUE) – Professor Richard Miksicek

Professor Miksicek reported that UCUE just wrapped up its work for fall. He noted that UCUE is handling somewhat fewer requests than in previous semesters or previous years, adding that for the whole semester, UCUE only had 14 program changes to review. He stated

that of the seven meetings that UCUE had scheduled for Fall Semester, three of the meetings were canceled due to lack of agenda items, and one of the meeting's business was conducted by email. On November 16th, UCUE approved three requests to phase out and discontinue several Elementary and Secondary Education Teaching Minors, and a new Minor in History was approved.

University Committee on Graduate Studies (UCGS) – Professor Jeremy Francis (alt for Chris Hogan)

Professor Francis reported that UCGS had its first meeting of Spring Semester, 2018, yesterday. He noted that UCGS reviewed a number of changes in Graduate Programs, including the Masters of Music, an M.S. and Ph.D. in Fisheries and Wildlife, a Graduate Certificate in Medical Neuroscience, and the Professional Program in Osteopathic Medicine. He stated that a moratorium on the Ph.D. in Quantitative Biology was approved.

University Committee on Faculty Affairs (UCFT) – Professor Michael Dease

Professor Dease reported that the UCFT had two meetings that were canceled, and Committee business was resolved via email. He added that the majority of UCFT's work dealt with 10-year extension requests. He stated that the UCFT, as per the Steering Committee's suggestion, also looked at the policies on the MSU website regarding tenure, and determined that the policies are current, that these policies are being used.

University Committee on Student Affairs (UCSA) – Lorenzo Santavicca

Mr. Santavicca reported that UCSA met at the last of November, 2017. They brought the Student Rights and Responsibilities document that was presented to the Steering Committee, which will hopefully move to the University Council. Regarding ASMSU, he noted that it is an exciting time. He stated that this Friday, Saturday, and Sunday ASMSU is hosting the Association of Big 10 Students, where all 14 Big 10 Student Governments come to Michigan State University. This event, he stated, only occurs once every seven years for MSU, thus it is a major event.

Mr. Santavicca said that on Saturday, ASMSU is going to the capital, where it will deliver several presentations. Saturday evening, ASMSU will be attending the Huntington Club, with Scott Westerman and Mark Hollice. He stated that ASMSU intends to have round table discussions about the variety of issues that are discussed by student leaders on our Campus. Issues such as academic affairs, diversity and inclusion, and sustainability. On Sunday, he concluded, ASMSU will hold a City-Relations Panel with people from the City Council, including the Mayor and Government Affairs here at the University.

COGS – Ashley Fuente

Ms. Fuente reported that last night, COGS had a meeting with the Board of Trustees, addressing issues such as Campus Climate. She noted that COGS is excited about the MSU race dialogs, and COGS is also putting the finishing touches on the three-event series that it is holding for MSU graduate students: the Grad Student Dialogs.

Academic Affairs – VP of AS of ASMSU – Ewurama Appiagye-Dankah

Ms. Appiagye-Dankah reported that Academic Affairs is super excited for the Grad Student Dialogs event this weekend. She added that Academic Affairs will be conducting a great deal

of research with “hub personnel,” and course affordability, including the cost of attending MSU.

7. NEW BUSINESS

7.1. Faculty Grievance Office (FGO) Name Change, Professor William Donohue, Faculty Grievance Officer

Professor Donohue, Faculty Grievance Official, presented the Faculty Grievance Office Name Change to Faculty Grievance and Dispute Resolution Office. Dr. Donohue explained the various reasons for the name change, which was voted on at the UCFA meeting on the same day as the Steering Committee meeting, and now was being offered to the Steering Committee for their review, to present to the Faculty Senate next week. A motion was made to move this to Faculty Senate. The motion was first and seconded. **The motion carried.**

7.2. Faculty Health Care Council Slate of Nominees, Election Replacing William Davidson

Members submitted their ballots and **Rebecca Malouin was elected** to replace William Davidson for the term beginning immediately and ending August 15, 2018.

7.3. Letter of Support for Purdue Academic Governance, Dr. Laura McCabe

Dr. McCabe presented a motion that stated: “As chair of the Faculty Senate of Michigan State University, I write to express our concern over the lack of consultation of Purdue University faculty in the Purdue administration's decision to acquire Kaplan as described in the resolution of May 4th, 2017, throughout the process at Purdue.” A motion was made to move this to Faculty Senate in January and was first and seconded. **The motion carried.** Members suggested to change the wording of the motion. Discussion ensued on friendly amendments in the letter and all amendments were approved by the Steering Committee Members and **will move to Faculty Senate in January, with amendments.**

7.4. Faculty Composition and Diversity Data, Terry Curry, Associate Provost and Associate Vice President, Academic Human Resources

Dr. Curry presented a Historical Summary of Faculty and Academic Staff – Headcount. He distributed a dataset that provided the backdrop of the presentation that he intends to give at the Faculty Senate, which will be a much more visual, graphic presentation. He stated that every October, MSU takes a snapshot, and looks at the composition of faculty and staff, and then does a comparison to see how the demographics have changed over the past 20 years. Dr. Curry noted in his presentation the evolving diversity of the MSU faculty, stating that MSU is making progress in improving the diversity of the University community. He said that it takes time to change things; for example, he said that MSU still has an issue with regards to women moving through the ranks successfully and reaching full professor. **Dr. Curry will present this research to Faculty Senate in January.**

7.5. Freedom of Speech on Campus, Michael Lawrence, Professor of Law, Foster Swift Professor of Constitutional Law, MSU

Professor Lawrence offered his proposed presentation that will be presented to University Council in January. He addressed the definitions of free speech and the ramifications involved with the conflict between free speech and hate speech. He stated that, regarding a controversial speaker addressing a group at MSU, when there is a threat of violence and personal injury, and if MSU has evidence of that, how does that change the “calculus” of free speech in terms of when there is a sufficient threat to allow for the denial of speech? He said that this issue is a new area.

7.6. Mid-Semester Feedback Discussion, Reports by UCUE, UCGS and UCFA

Ewurama Appeiagyei-Dankah, VPAA ASMSU, presented the discussion, and since the issue was referred to UCUE, UCGS and UCFA for their review and recommendations, they delivered their reports. A motion was made and first and seconded to send their recommendations to approve a voluntary Mid-Semester Feedback endorsement to the Faculty Senate January meeting as an Action Item, and to the University Council for an Information Item. Discussion ensued. **The motion carried.**

7.7. Proposed Changes to the Student Rights and Responsibilities Document, Lorenzo Santavicca, ASMSU President

Mr. Santavicca reported that relatively minor changes regarding some terminology were made to the Student Rights and Responsibilities Document, especially with regards to who will become the Ombudsperson. He noted that "Sanctions for personal misconduct" outlines how a suspended student may not attend, or otherwise participate in any university-sponsored or student group-sponsored student governing or organizations, events or activities, whether on or off campus. Discussion ensued. A motion was made to send this to the University Council for approval. **The motion carried.**

8. Draft Agenda for Faculty Senate for January 16, 2018

- 8.1.** University Committee on Curriculum (UCC) Report, Professor Marci Mechtel, UCC Chairperson (Action Item) (Appendix Short Report) (Long Report, click on link)
- 8.2.** Letter of Support for Purdue Academic Governance, Dr. Laura McCabe (Action Item) (Appendix)
- 8.3.** Faculty Composition and Diversity Data, Terry Curry, Associate Provost and Associate Vice President, Academic Human Resources
- 8.4.** Mid-Semester Feedback Discussion, Reports by UCUE, UCGS and UCFA (Action Item)
- 8.5.** Faculty Grievance Office (FGO) Name Change, Professor William Donohue, Faculty Grievance Officer (Action Item)

A motion to approve the agenda for Faculty Senate for January 16, 2018 was made and first and seconded. **The motion carried.**

9. Draft Agenda for University Council for January 23, 2018

- 9.1. University Committee on Curriculum (UCC) Report, Professor Marci Mechtel, UCC Chairperson (Information Item) (Appendix Short Report) (Long Report, click on Link)
- 9.2. Proposed Changes to the Student Rights and Responsibilities Document, Lorenzo Santavicca, ASMSU President (Action Item) (Appendixes)
- 9.3. Freedom of Speech on Campus – Faculty Discussion, Presentation and Panel Discussion, Michael Lawrence, Professor of Law, Foster Swift Professor of Constitutional Law, MSU; Additional Panelist: Sue Carter and Kristine Zayko (to be confirmed) (Information Item)
- 9.4. Mid-Semester Feedback Discussion, Reports by UCUE, UCGS and UCFA (Information Item)

A motion to approve the University Council agenda for January 23, 2018 was made and first and seconded. **The motion carried.**

10. ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn was made and first and seconded. **The motion carried.** 5:10 pm.