1. CALL TO ORDER
The meeting was called to order at 3:15 pm.

2. Approval of Agenda for March 27, 2018
The agenda for March 27, 2018 was approved as amended.

Professor Lisa Lapidus from the College of Natural Science requested an amendment to the agenda:

“I’d like to make a motion to amend item 7.2, and I'd like to make this amendment in the spirit of making a coherent and focused statement to the Board of Trustees so that we can actually effect the process of selecting the President. I propose that the At-Large members of the Steering Committee come up with an assembled list of a small number of the most prominent items that come out of our discussion, and do that over the next couple of weeks.
Then, I propose that we put that shorter list in front of the Academic Congress, the same way that we did for the ‘no confidence’ vote, and let faculty vote on the items that they agree with.”

She also stated that, with this shorter list, it can be placed before the Board; when the Board has reviewed this list, it can be returned to the University Council to be reviewed.

The motion was first and seconded. **The motion carried.**

3. **Approval of Draft Minutes for February 27, 2018**
   The [draft minutes for February 27, 2018](#) were approved as amended.

4. **President’s Remarks**: Interim John Engler
   Not in attendance.

5. **Provost’s Remarks**: Dr. June Youatt
   Provost Youatt stated that President Engler sends his apologies for not being here today, noting that he is dealing with important issues at the office. She reported that MSU has been dealt another significant blow today regarding the news about the charges against one of MSU’s former colleagues. The alleged charges against Bill Strampel, if they are true, have broken the trust of MSU in profound ways.

   Provost Youatt stated that the University is fully cooperating in every way MSU possibly can to help discover what may have happened or what did happen. She added that she cannot imagine how difficult this is for the students in the College of Osteopathic Medicine, and for the faculty and staff of the College. She said that MSU is wanting to make sure that the students know that MSU will support them in all the ways that it can. In addition, she noted that the University is just going to continue to do everything it can do help discover what has actually happened, and MSU will support whatever the decisions are, in terms of the actions that will be taken.

   Provost Youatt reported that the process to revoke tenure of the former Dean of Osteopathic medicine is already in process, and this will continue. She said that the President is working on that situation this afternoon, and he is also working on some issues involving insurance and conversations with the victims, the survivors of Nassar, and how MSU can come to an equitable and fair settlement with those who've been hurt.

6. **Chairperson’s Remarks**: Dr. Laura McCabe
   Dr. McCabe reported that issues involving RVSM and the Title IX report are moving forward. She noted that there was a meeting of the faculty yesterday that involved positive discussions about ways that MSU can improve the training and connectedness of the campus. Dr. McCabe stated that an external group is conducting a review, and that they are listening to all of the stakeholders (faculty, staff and students). She said that they have provided their comments together in their preliminary report, adding that individuals can review and can add additional information they deem important.

   Dr. McCabe said that one of the issues being discussed is the embracing of MSU values, and including issues regarding respect for one another in those values, such as the wearing of the teal ribbons across campus, in order to show this connectedness across campus. An example of these efforts involves the RVSM work group that is being assembled, stating that there is
room for faculty to be involved in the work group. In closing, Dr. McCabe wanted to remind the University Council that the Academic Advancement Network has received an award in recognition and appreciation for the hard work and dedication exhibited by academic leaders, including Department Chairs, School or Unit Directors, as well as Assistant and Associate Deans. Individuals can access information on the Academic Advancement Network website to add nominations.

7. NEW BUSINESS

7.1. University Committee on Curriculum (UCC) Report, Professor Marci Mechtel, UCC Chairperson (Long Report, click on Link)
Professor Mechtel reported that one new program was approved, a History Minor, effective Fall Semester of 2018, She also said that 17 program changes were approved, and that there were no program deletions. Regarding courses, 19 new courses were approved, 44 course changes were approved, and four course deletions were approved. Regarding moratoriums, one moratorium was approved in International Business, and a moratorium was approved in the Master of Science degree, effective Fall Semester of 2018 to Fall Semester of 2019. She concluded her comments by saying that the short report is in the appendix, and the long report is in the link.

A motion to approve the Report was made, first and seconded. The motion carried.

7.2. Report on Input for President Search, Dr. Laura McCabe
Dr. McCabe assembled the University Council into smaller groups to answer the questions:

1) What are the top five qualities you want in the president?

2) What are the top five components of a good search?

Dr. McCabe noted that a list of answers to these questions will be assembled and sent to members.

7.3. Discussion
After the groups assembled and fashioned their lists, Dr. McCabe instructed members to send in all the submitted materials, in order come up with a shorter list which the Steering Committee can take to the Academic Congress, so that the best recommendations can be reviewed.

Professor Lisa Lapidus made a Proposal to charge the At-Large Members of the Steering Committee to collate the materials, and then shorten the list to 15 that can then be taken to Academic Congress. A friendly amendment was made that this list, when collated by the At-Large members of the Steering Committee, be presented to the entire Steering Committee. Discussion ensued.

The amended motion was first and seconded. The motion carried.
8. Comments from the floor

Ewurama Appiagyei-Dankah, the Vice President for Academic Affairs at ASMSU, stated that, at the Steering Committee meeting earlier the month, efforts have been made as an organization about what a potential search committee composition could look like, and these efforts were based on the given research conducted on the qualities of best practices for Presidential searches, looking at what models look like at other universities around the state of Michigan, including their best practices. She noted that the best practices include the composition of the search committee as having five faculty members, chosen by their respective units across the University and the Faculty Senate; three staff representatives, one from Student Affairs; two representatives determined by other units across the University; three undergraduate representatives, one from the Associated Students of Michigan State University and one from the Council of Racial and Ethnic Students/Council of Progressive Students; an At-Large undergraduate student; two graduate student representatives, one from the Council of Graduate Students and an At-Large graduate student; a representative from the MSU Alumni Community, chosen by the MSU Alumni Association Executive Board and Advisory Council; and an At-Large community member. She also suggested that there be representation from a member of the City Council; a member of the East Lansing Community Relations Coalition; two members of the Board of Trustees; one representative from each political party; a representative from OISS (Office for International Students and Scholars), or someone who works specifically with international students; and a representative from MSU athletics.

Ewurama Appiagyei-Dankah made several additional announcements about upcoming events regarding changing culture at MSU. One event, she noted, is the On Us Spring Week of Action, which is taking place from Monday, April 2nd, to Friday, April 6th. In addition, she reported that on Wednesday, there will be a self-care yoga event at the Broad Art Museum, and on Thursday, a speaker named Steve Thompson will be addressing the power of one voice. She also stated that during the following week, there will be a Take Back the Night event, held on April 10th. Additionally, she said that there will be a survivor speak out; a March to East Lansing City Hall; and a candlelight vigil.

Cookie Rifiotis reported that on Friday, April 6th, starting at 5 in the afternoon, there will be held “a day of action,” with various organizations from the Michigan Coalition to End Domestic and Sexual Violence; SARV; and the Sexual Assault Program. This event will be held in the Spartan Stadium.

Professor Rand Spiro stated: “In thinking about the recommendations for the search, in the effort to find consensus and to group as many of the things under a single bullet, it's important that we not diffuse our message. Yes, good leaders, yes, lots of other things you're always looking for, and so just as an opportunity to be very specific in what we most want to call to their attention at the top as the header, not just open to share governance, strongly supportive of shared governance. We want four or five messages to come through loud and clear, not be buried in with a bunch of other things just so we can make sure we have a lot of items.
The one thing I think might be as important as anything else is, obviously, they're not going to go for a veto. That was one of the things on the list, but when we're talking about transparency, the three finalists, or however many finalists, that being public is crucial, and in gathering the feedback about the three finalists, super important, almost an implicit veto is make the feedback public. Much harder for the Board of Trustees to go for an unpopular candidate if they already know that candidate is not supported by 90% of the faculty, for example. So, things that we really want to make sure happen specifically up front I think would be a really good idea.”

9. **ADJOURNMENT**
A motion to adjourn was made, first and seconded. **The motion carried. 4:37 pm.**