Approved: October 15, 2019

2019-2020: Meeting # 1

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
UNIVERSITY COUNCIL APPROVED MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 17, 2018, 3:15 PM
INTERNATIONAL CENTER, RM 115

1. CALL TO ORDER
The meeting was called to order at 3:20 pm.

2. Approval of Agenda for September 17, 2019
The agenda for September 17, 2019 was approved as presented.

3. Approval of Draft Minutes for April 23, 2019
An amendment was made to the draft minutes to state that the proposed policy from the University Committee on Academic Governance (UCAG) regarding the convening of emergency meetings of Faculty Senate has been returned to UCAG for further development and processing. An amendment was also made to correct the name spelling of Barney Lutsen should instead be Bonnie Lutsen. The minutes for April 23, 2019 were approved as amended.

4. President’s Remarks: Dr. Samuel L. Stanley

President Stanley reported that he is now serving his seventh week as President of MSU. He noted that this time has been an enjoyable experience for him, and that he has had the opportunity to meet with hundreds of faculty, staff, and students, as well as with Deans and external stakeholders.

President Stanley remarked how impressed he was about the MSU community’s commitment and enthusiasm for the University. He also noted that he has been visiting each of the University’s Colleges for question and answer sessions. He said that one of his first priority as President is listening and learning from MSU’s stakeholders. He noted that he is working on strategic planning as well. He stated that he will be creating a strategic planning committee that represents that various interests of the University.

President Stanley reported that one of the things universities like ours can do is approach the major issues of our time, so that such important issues as water security, food security, creative thinking and art, and analytic politics can be addressed. He added that there are many critical issues of our time that MSU can deal with, because of the University’s
multidisciplinary nature, and that MSU should be thinking about cross-cutting initiatives in those areas that can make a difference.

President Stanley stated that he wanted to emphasize, both as part of the strategic plan but also separately, that MSU will be planning for diversity and equity inclusion as well. He said that he will be naming that committee soon, and that this remains a high priority for him, adding that everything MSU does benefits greatly from having a diverse campus.

President Stanley said that he has named an Interim Provost, the former University of Virginia President and MSU alumni, Teresa Sullivan, who is going to serve through the end of the academic year as both Interim Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs. He also stated that MSU is currently sending out requests for proposals from a number of search firms, for one that has completed successful Provost Searches in the past. In addition, he noted that a Provost search committee will be formed, which again will be broadly representative.

President Stanley stated that Rob McCurdy from IT Services will be returning to the private sector, and when this position became open, he invited Dr. Melissa Wu, who is a PhD in biophysics from the University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana, to replace him. She will be starting her new position December 1st.

President Stanley reported that the U.S. Department of Education this month released findings from the investigation by its Officers' Civil Rights and its Clery Compliance Division. This report, he noted, followed MSU’s consent agreement last month with the Department of Health and Human Services, which focused on safeguarding in medical care. In addition, the OCR and Clery findings, he believes, provide an outline regarding how MSU needs to improve itself in light of how the Nassar and Strampel cases were handled.

President Stanley said: “To state the obvious, we take these findings agreements and requirements very seriously. The letter from OCR was addressed to me, as President of the University. It literally lays out the responsibility for complying with these dictates to me. And I consider them a blueprint . . . for action that we can take [at a] minimum. This is our floor of what we need to do to make this a safer and more respectful campus. But we will do more, as necessary, but this is the floor and this is what we absolutely need to do. And they named a committee to oversee our responses with five campus ... members from the campus who bring expertise in different areas that would be helpful from this.”

President Stanley stated: “Maryland Tarrant, our Chief Audit Risk and Compliance Officer … will be leading this effort for us. This group will report to me and communicate our actions, as well, to the Campus Community, and that transparency is very important. We will be setting up a dashboard, essentially, that will be related to our commitment site that will outline the responses we're making in response to the OCR report. And that will be probably created by next month. And other issues related to survivors, I'll be scheduling a meeting with them, survivors of sexual assault on our campus, survivors of Nassar... We'll
also do an online meeting for those who aren't comfortable coming to a group meeting. And those would be October 3rd and 10th, and there will be an online session October 16th.”

President Stanley thanked everyone for their support. Discussion ensued regarding the method of communicating former Provost Youatt’s departure.

5. **Chairperson’s Remark: Professor Deborah Moriarty**

Professor Moriarty offered a very warm welcome to President Stanley saying that she is delighted that he is at MSU. She thanked him, on behalf of Academic Governance, for his responsiveness to Academic Governance. She noted that President Stanley has been very, very consultative, that he consulted with the Steering Committee about what issues the Steering Committee is looking for with the new Provost, adding that this attitude is extremely important, and she hopes that this work with shared governance continues for the long time that he is here.

Professor Moriarty reported that a presentation was offered by Kelly Roudebush about the Clery Act, and all the things that MSU regularly reports on, regarding such things as dorm room robberies. She noted that, from last year’s report, the breakdown was 22 burglaries. She said that the suspects were identified, and charges are being sought for 10 of the incidents. She said that there were seven motor vehicle thefts; three vehicles were all recovered, and four mopeds were recovered. She noted that the suspect was identified, and charges are being sought, and in one of the cases, the suspect was identified, and an investigation continues in another one. She stated: “So it was just kind of nice to know where things have gone rather than just hearing about what happened and having it up in the air…I just wanted to let you know about that.”

6. **NEW BUSINESS**

**University Committee on Curriculum (UCC) Report, Dr. Marci Mechtel, UCC Chairperson** *(Long Report, click on Link)*

Dr. Mechtel presented the UCC report. She said the following report was accepted by Faculty Senate last week. The UCC met in April and approved the following: Four new Programs, all effective Fall Semester of 2019, highlighted by a Computational Data Science, Bachelor of Science degree, which focuses on Computer Science through the College of Engineering, related to large datasets; a Data Science, Bachelor of Science degree, which is situated in the College of Natural Science; a Data Science Minor; and a Media Photography Minor. She added that there were an additional 15 Program changes, and no Program deletions. Regarding courses, she said the UCC approved 32 new courses, and 28 additional course changes, with no course deletions. An error in a statement on accreditation was noted and corrected.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the report. **The motion carried.**
1. University Policies on Awards and Honors, Forming an Ad Hoc Sub-Committee, Dr. Anna Pegler-Gordon, At-Large Member

Dr. Pegler-Gordon introduced an action item: a motion to create an ad hoc subcommittee to develop policies on the revocation of awards and honors in cases of findings of relationship violence, sexual misconduct and crimes.

She explained her reasons for introducing this motion and provided background information for the need of this ad hoc subcommittee. She stated: “So I think there are a couple of things that this committee would need to do to determine the process by which MSU awards these honors. Some are clearly addressed in [the] Bylaws, the MSU Board of Trustees Bylaws, [and] their policies. Others [are] not so clearly addressed. So, we would need to do that. And then we would also need to determine what is the appropriate conditions under which those awards should be revoked. And currently, the only award that we specifically note it anywhere as far as I can tell in our policies is an Emeritus status. That we do have in the policies, a process, the Board of Trustees policies, a process for revoking emeritus status.” Discussion ensued.

Voting by I-clickers was employed; the motion carried with a vote of 98 members for the motion. It was noted that those interested in this ad hoc subcommittee should contact the Secretary for Academic Governance’s office, at acadgov@msu.edu.

Tyler Sylvestri, Chair of the University Committee on Academic Governance (UCAG) stated: “Just a quick point of order. Bylaw 5.4.2 says that any ad hoc committees of the University Counsel, the Steering Committee recommends to University Counsel procedures for selecting them, how many people will be there, functions and then specific procedures for it. But it specifically says method of selecting members. So I think it's a Steering [Committee] issue.” It was then noted that The Steering Committee would decide at the next Steering Committee meeting.

7. Comments from the floor

It was noted that a scooter update would be available in October.

8. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made and seconded. The motion carried. 3:51 pm.

Standing Committee Reports for 2018-2019, reporting to University Council:

Committee on Academic Governance (UCAG) – SAG has not received to date.
University Committee on Undergraduate Education (UCUE) - SAG has not received to date.
University committee on Graduate Studies (UCGS)
University Committee on Student Affairs (UCSA) - SAG has not received to date.
Other Committees Reporting to University Council:

Athletic Council
University Committee on Honors Programs (UHP)
University Committee on International Studies & Prog. (UISP) - SAG has not received to date.
University Committee for the Library (UCL)
University Military Education Advisory Committee (UMEAC) - SAG has not received to date.