Approved 3-15-16

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
FACULTY SENATE MINUTES
FEBRUARY 16, 2016 - 3:15-5:00 P.M.
INTERNATIONAL CENTER, ROOM 115


1. CALL TO ORDER: 3:18 PM

2. Approval of Agenda for February 16, 2016 – APPROVED.

3. Public Comments (2 minutes per speaker/10 minutes total for comments) - NONE

4. Approval of Draft Minutes for January 19, 2016 – APPROVED.

5. President’s Remarks – Lou Anna K. Simon

The governor’s recently released budget calls for a 4.3% increase in funds for higher education with an overall general increase of 1.6%. In his view, these numbers restore appropriations to FY 2011 funding levels minus inflation. This was done institution by institution with a range of 3.5% to 6.8% with Michigan State’s at 3.9%. MSU is one of five universities in the state that have not yet been restored to the 2011 numbers. In his recommendation he included a tuition cap of 4.8%. The budget is still fluid but it fits within the parameters of our multi-year budget planning.

There is a new webpage that will serve to coordinate the information about Flint that is accessible through the MSU homepage. The Provost will be visiting Flint tomorrow and will provide a report on Flint to the Board of Trustees on Friday. The comments will be available on the webpage.

6. Provost’s Remarks – June Youatt

The twenty-sixth annual Excellence in Diversity Awards ceremony was held yesterday. This year’s winners were among the most interesting groups and ranged from the Urban Immersion Program in the College of Education to the wheelchair bound young women who championed the addition of seating for the disability in Spartan Stadium.

During fall semester there were a series of focus groups around the issue of student health. The discussions focused on four specific questions: 1) what would make it more functional, 2) what would make it more accessible, 3) what kinds of extensions in service and care are available, and 4) what would a real continuum of care look like. This is a
great opportunity for the extension of healthcare into the neighborhoods. Members of the faculty with expertise in this area are encouraged to participate in the conversation as this discussion moves forward.

The first meeting of the Exploratory Group on Recreations and Fitness met for the first time. This is a large group with representatives from faculty, staff and students and includes people with experience in this area from outside the University. They are charged with examining the issues regarding programs that encourage wellness for the future.

The new Dean of Agriculture and Natural Resources will be introduced to the Board of Trustees on Friday. We are hoping to announce the new Broad Art Museum and one additional Dean at the same time. As you remember, we started last fall with a need for seven new Deans; the remaining searches are continuing. Provost Youatt thanked all who participated in the searches.

7. The Steering Committee Chairperson’s Remarks – Professor Mary Noel

Professor Noel announced the Executive Session that would be included toward the end of the agenda.

8. OLD BUSINESS

NONE

9. NEW BUSINESS

University Committee on Curriculum, Professor Gerald Urquhart, Chairperson,

There were six new programs: a graduate certificate in Non-Profit Fundraising, a Masters and Doctoral program in Computational Mathematics, Science and Engineering, which is also a new department, new certificates in Computational Modeling and High Performance Computing, and new certificate in Program Evaluation from Psychology. There were 51 new courses, 218 changes, and 12 deletions. Professor Urquhart moved to accept the Committee’s February Report: APPROVED

University Committee on Academic Governance, Professor Debra Nails, Chairperson

Professor Nails moved to accept the Athletic Council Slate of Nominees APPROVED

Professor Nails moved to accept the Slate of Nominees for The Steering Committee At-Large Members election. APPROVED

10. EXECUTIVE SESSION, Professor Mary Noel 3:35

11. ADJOURNMENT: 4:15