REPORT ON MSU FACULTY SENATE
GROUP TASK FEEDBACK
(from Sept 2017 meeting)
Question #1

How can we increase the relevance of academic governance for our colleagues across units/departments?

• Increase understanding of academic governance

• Two way communication

• Transparency
Increase Understanding of Academic Governance

• Academic Governance Website

• Dr. Gary Hoppenstand
  
  October U. Council - present overview of academic governance; include examples of how academic governance had an impact on decisions at MSU
Two way communication
Faculty <-> Academic governance

1) Faculty input for Academic Governance.
   • Faculty input box on the academic governance website – Vannessa Mitchner
Two way communication
Faculty <-> Academic governance

2) Faculty input for Meetings.

• Provide faculty background information (already do)

• Prior to meeting, email Faculty Senate and University Council
  o Ask if faculty have additional issues to put on the agenda
    (already do).
  o 3-4 bullets of what was accomplished at last meeting
  o Ask what faculty want to know from upcoming presentations.

• Ask Senate and Council speakers to think about what
  faculty input they would like. Ask 1-2 questions to Senate
  or Council?
Two way communication
Faculty <-> Academic governance

Academic governance information disseminated

• Academic Governance at college meetings
  -At large Steering Committee members to CAC
  -FS members to their department/chairs and college

• Issue statements when appropriate

• Yearly report from academic governance
Transparency

Develop a tracking system

Develop a grid on the academic governance website with academic governance items and where they are and what is their outcome.
Question #2

What are the top 3 issues to address in academic governance this year?

Campus climate  Campus Mobility
Jessica Norris, Terry Curry

Mental Health  Work/life
David Weismantel

Research  Budget/Facilities

Teaching  Health
Issues to address

Campus climate
Title IX/RVSM; Inclusion; implicit bias; OIE relevance and change
How discuss controversial issues in class; What is our role as faculty; Freedom of speech.

Mental Health
Student/faculty burnout; Underrepresented groups have stresses
What do faculty need to know to recognize and deal with mental health concerns; Recreation centers for mental health resources

Research
Technology and Security information
Maximize use of technology – links between forms; Security and privacy for faculty
Regulatory Issues: RCR programs not applicable for all; IRB
Opportunities for collaborative work and sharing
Plan for future investment in science and engineering buildings

Teaching
undergrad education/teaching assessment
student assessment; SIRS; mid semester review (ASMSU)
class availability; grade inflation; affordability
Mobility on campus

Work/life
maternity leave, parental benefits, campus child care, Community building including emphasizing positive non-academic activities, such as club sports

Budget/Spending/Building
Understand budgeting process; Funding; Plans from University point of view on expanding research budget and facilities
Use of capital campaign funds – info on what using for ahead of time
Budget F&A fund distributions (not balanced from some departments)
Address retirement contributions for summer teaching
Consequences of increased enrollment and research expenditures
Development of current academic departments via additional funding.
Building info

Health
Medical center for faculty and students; Health care for faculty