

1. CALL TO ORDER – 3:18

2. Approval of Agenda for January 26, 2016

   Professor Noel moved to add the University Committee on Curriculum report as an information item for today’s agenda. Motion to approve the draft agenda – APPROVED

   Motion to approve the amended agenda APPROVED.

3. Public Comments (2 minute time limit per speaker; 10 minutes total for comments)

   Professor Phyllis Floyd spoke on behalf of the American Association of University Professors and academic freedom, presenting the 11th edition of the AAUP Policies and Procedures (The Redbook) to Provost Youatt, President Simon, and Professor Noel.

4. Approval of Draft Minutes for October 20, 2015

   Motion to approve the minutes APPROVED.

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

   For those of you who follow the Chronicle of Higher Education, you may have noted that some states are increasing their budgets for higher education above the rate of inflation. Michigan was not among them and we will continue be at about
the rate of inflation. We are continuing to work with the state government to maintain high priorities for higher education in Michigan.

Dean Aron Sousa of the College of Human Medicine reported on the efforts of the college to resolve the health-related problems in Flint. He described the roles that MSU faculty and MSU extension have had with the public health issues in Flint. Our focus continues to be on the needs of the people of Flint as they see them. We have supported Flint before and during the crisis and we will be there beyond the crisis. It is important that the solution to the crisis be sustainable for the people of Flint.

Provost Youatt identified Deanna East who is with Extension and Dr. Joan Lardo as individuals who are on-site in Flint and will act as coordinators for our operations there. If your colleges have ideas that you feel would be helpful in Flint, please contact Bill Beekman’s office.

Currently there is no central control for the distribution of resources. If Flint is declared a Federal Disaster Area, an area coordinator will be appointed.

6. Provost’s Remarks – June Youatt

Last fall, the students brought to our attentions experiences in the residence halls as well as in the classrooms that challenge us to think further about the ways we are creating truly inclusive classrooms. How do create classrooms where we can deal with difficult issues that are conducive to student learning and maintain an environment that is respectful of all students in the classroom? I will be asking the Steering Committee to support a discussion group to address the issue of inclusive classrooms.

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

Professor Noel noted The Steering Committee At-Large call for nominees is still open and encouraged faculty to self-nominate or nominate colleagues. The Secretary for Academic Governance position is still open, and she encouraged faculty to nominate. The All University Awards Convocation will be held February 9, 2016.

8. OLD BUSINESS

University Committee on Curriculum Report, Professor Gerald Urquhart, University Committee on Curriculum, Chairperson

Professor Gerald Urquhart presented the January report that was approved at Faculty Senate on January 19. Actions taken include two new minors; one in Classical and Ancient Mediterranean Studies through Romance and Classical Studies, and a minor in Energy in the College of Engineering. Additionally approved were two new majors in Biomedical Engineering in the Masters and Doctoral programs, and a new certificate in Medical Partners in Public Health in the College of Human Medicine. Approved: 35 new courses, 30 changes and 7 deletions.

9. NEW BUSINESS
Academic Governance Bylaw Amendments, Professor Debra Nails, University Committee on Academic Governance Chairperson

Professor Nails presented and moved the adoption of the recommended changes to the Bylaws for Academic Governance. The amendments were APPROVED.

Tobacco Free Initiative, Smoking Ordinance Amendment and Ordinance Policy and Exceptions, Dr. David Weismantel, University Physician and Mr. Robert Kent, Assistant General Counsel

Dr. Weismantel described the background and processes that led to the development and implementation of the Tobacco Free Initiative, Smoking Ordinance Amendment and Ordinance Policy. The discussions on the initiative began in 2008 with preparation done by Dr. Beth Alexander, former University Physician, along with other campus partners. Members of the partnership attended the Summit on Tobacco Policy hosted by Smoking National Center for Tobacco Policy in 2013; and in 2014 President Simon and Provost Youatt charged the University Physician’s Office with planning and implementing a policy for a tobacco-free campus. An MSU Tobacco-free Task Force was identified with a mission to guide the development, adoption, implementation, enforcement, and evaluation of a tobacco-free policy. The Task Force included representation from a wide variety of campus stakeholders and was divided into sub-groups to address each of the areas identified in the mission. Various audiences across campus weighed in on the policy as the right thing to do for MSU. The ordinance was approved by the MSU Board of Trustees on June 17, 2015, with an implementation date set for August 15, 2016. The ordinance and civil infraction prohibits the use or sale of products derived from tobacco on any property governed by the University and applies to all MSU employees, students, contractors, and visitors. The policy will be enforced respectfully through education and support though it provides for review of repeat offenders. Violators of the policy may be subject to disciplinary actions. The Task Force will continue to monitor the outcomes of the ordinance and make recommendations as required.

Athletic Council Annual Report, Professor Sue Carter, Athletic Council Chairperson

Professor Sue Carter presented the Athletic Council’s Annual Report of the Council’s activities. The Council meets seven times per year, and all members are appointed by the President to staggered two-year terms. The Faculty Athletic Representative (FAR) is a regular faculty member, serves as Chair of the Council, is appointed by the President, and directly reports to the President. The FAR serves as the faculty representative to the Big Ten Conference and the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA). The Council has four subcommittees; academic compliance and services, planning and equity, communication and operations, and drug education and testing (mandated by the NCAA). Members of the Council are required to attend, not only football and basketball games, but a variety of the non-revenue sports and to report to the Council their experiences. The variety of duties of the FAR and Council can be found on the Athletic Council’s webpage.
Professor Carter introduced Tom Anastos, Head Coach, Spartan Hockey.
Coach Anastos shared with the Council members the Spartan Hockey’s experience. In addition to the athletic piece, we support our athletes as they prepare to take their places in leadership positions in the community and their chosen professions. The activities and support our student-athletes receive from the Smith Center is an integral part of their successes both on and off the ice. We have developed cooperative programs with the Law College to provide learning experiences for players as they prepare for life as professional athletes in the National Hockey League. Additionally, the Broad College of Business, through its graduate program, is developing a process for incorporating analytics on a day by day and game by game basis that connects athletes with students.
Coach Anastos introduced Michael Ferratino, Captain of the Spartan Hockey Team, who described his experiences in coming to Michigan State and being a member of Spartan Hockey.

10. Comments from the Floor
   Lorenzo Santavicca inquired about the diversity content in courses.
   Provost Youatt reiterated MSU’s commitment to developing a campus wide conversation that addresses diversity in our classrooms.

11. ADJOURNMENT 4:28pm