

The Steering Committee

Minutes

February 1, 2022



MICHIGAN STATE
UNIVERSITY

Present: N. Agarwal, S. Anthony, S. Barman, d. de Simone, M. Donahue, M. Fulton, D. Hershey, S. Hugentobler, A. Iturralde, K. Kelly-Blake, A. Kepsel, Kathleen Gallo (for G. Leininger), M. Mechtel, T. Silvestri, T. Woodruff

Absent: G. Frost, J. Lipton, S. Stanley, C. Stokes

Others Present: N. Beauchamp, A. Corner, W. Gebreyes, S. Lang, M. Largent, J. Salem, T. Thrush

The Steering Committee of Michigan State University held a regular meeting on Tuesday, February 1, 2022, at 3:15 p.m. via Zoom with Chairperson Karen Kelly-Blake presiding. The agenda was approved following an amendment. The draft minutes of the January 11, 2022 meeting were approved as presented.

Executive Vice President for Health Sciences Norman J. Beauchamp Jr. and Provost Teresa K. Woodruff gave remarks.

The chairperson presented [reports from the University Committee on Undergraduate Education and the University Committee on Faculty Tenure and the Associated Students of Michigan State University.](#) Verbal reports were given by Council of Graduate Students President Sara Hugentobler, University Committee on Curriculum Chairperson Marci Mechtel, University Committee on Graduate Studies Chairperson Denise Hershey, University Committee on Student Affairs Chairperson Nikunj Agarwal, University Committee on Undergraduate Education Vice Chairperson Kathleen Gallo, and Secretary for Academic Governance Tyler Silvestri.

University Committee on Faculty Affairs Chairperson Mick Fulton moved to create a task force on [“Providing a Safe Environment for Students, Faculty, and Staff.”](#) The provost moved to create a task force within her office focused on the culture of academic units when members of its faculty are involved in Title IX investigations. The provost also indicated her goal was to report back to the Steering Committee by the end of the semester. The motion was adopted by consent following debate.

Secretary Silvestri gave a status update on the proposed amendments to the Religious Observance Policy, noting that UCUE and UCSA had approved the document and provided feedback, while UCFA is continuing its review.

Secretary Silvestri presented drafts of the [Policy Development, Management, and Review policy](#), a policy [template](#), the [University Policy Submission form](#), and the [University Policy Communication Plan](#). The committee agreed by consent to refer the matter to the University Committee on Academic Governance.

Associate Provost for Undergraduate Education and Dean of Undergraduate Studies Mark Largent gave an update regarding the Code of

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Undergraduate Academic Advising Responsibilities and clarified that no further academic governance action was required.

The committee discussed the remarks given at Faculty Senate and University Council meetings and debated whether questions should be asked after each speaker or after all of them. No resolution was reached.

UCFA Chairperson Fulton moved to form an ad hoc committee on academic specialist equity consisting of members of the University Committee on Faculty Affairs Personnel Subcommittee and members of the University Committee on Academic Governance. Following debate, the motion was adopted by consent.

By consent, the committee adopted agendas for the January 2021 Faculty Senate and University Council meetings with the following new business:

Tentative Agenda for Faculty Senate — February 15, 2022

1. Title IX Data, Practices, and Developments¹ | Office for Civil Rights and Title IX Education and Compliance Leadership
2. University Committee on Curriculum Report | UCC Chairperson Marci Mechtel
3. Caregiving Brainstorming
4. Input on New Academic Governance Website | Secretary for Academic Governance Tyler Silvestri

Tentative Agenda for University Council — February 22, 2022

1. Outreach and Engagement | Interim Associate Provost for University Outreach and Engagement Laurie Van Egeren
2. Research and Innovation | Vice President for Research and Innovation Doug Gage
3. Update from Ad Hoc Committee on Workplace Bullying | Meagan Abel

The meeting adjourned at 4:31 p.m.

Tyler Silvestri
Secretary for Academic Governance

Approved:

¹ This presentation was ultimately delayed due to scheduling issues.