

Michigan State University Faculty Emeriti Association

Steering Committee Meeting

23 April 2025, 1:00 pm

Room 125, Human Resource Building, MSU

MINUTES

Present: Forsyth, Harsh, Honhart, Hula (Zoom), Leverich, Vieth (Zoom), Gliozzo (Zoom). Guests: Goddeeris and Alesha Willims (Zoom). Absent: Baker, Carr.

1. Opening Comments – Steve Harsh This is the last meeting for this academic year
2. Changes or additions to the agenda. Immediate consideration to change to MSU websites. Vieth moved and Honhart seconded that Hula draft a memo to be sent to the university President, Provost and Chief Marketing Officer expressing disapproval of having the phrase “MSU is an Affirmative Action, Equal Opportunity Employer” removed from the legal footer of the Committee’s website pages. Motion passed. Also moved and passed that the memo, once finalized, be sent to the FEA email list.
3. Prior meetings minutes – John Forsyth – Prior meeting, February 26, 2025, Approved.
4. Projects and committee reports.
 - a. Lecture Series – Steve Harsh
 - Lecture for the current academic year completed
 - Lectures for the coming year will be on the 3rd Wednesday of the month
 - September 17 and October 15 lectures have speakers scheduled
 - b. Healthcare – Gary Stone not present
 - c. Faculty Senate (see attached report) – Peter Berg
 - d. University Council – Jane Vieth: Many end of year formalities and discussion of federal review of grants.
 - e. Faculty Awards – John Baker: no report
 - f. Technology Projects – John Forsyth – to order video camera for recording lectures.
 - g. Oral History Project – Possible restart in the fall.
 - h. Comments regarding ever-changing adjustments, new developments and trends in central administration – Cindy Leverich had to leave before report.
5. Old Business
 - a. Need more suggestions for speakers next year
 - b. Possible new Steering Committee Members (human medical colleges, com arts, business, nat sci, etc.)
6. New Business
 - a. Update on shake-up at human resources and impact on health care providers – John Forsyth: Not practical to change contract for 2026.

- b. “Senior University” – John Goddeeris Alesha Williams, East Lansing Senior Center. Discussed interest in developing “courses” of four to six once weekly sessions in cooperation with East Lansing senior programs. The committee indicated interest. Programs exist at U of Minnesota Winona and Duluth. Reminiscent of the former Evening College but with less formal ties to the MSU calendar and operations. Goddeeris and Williams to develop a proposal that the committee could use to query members for interest in teaching. Course leaders could come from other backgrounds. Attendees not necessarily be limited to retirees nor to MSU affiliates.

7. Adjournment: 2:15 pm

Next Meeting: September 24 (4th Wednesday of the month) 1:00-3:00 pm

MSU Faculty Senate Meeting

November 15, 2024

President’s Report

Searches in progress for Provost and for Deans of CAL, Agriculture, and Student Affairs. Review and revision of General Education is also underway.

Outgoing Trustee Diane Byrum spoke in a Q&A to announce that Kelly Tebay is the new Chair, and that training for Trustees to work collaboratively is ongoing.

Lisa Frace, CFO, provided an update/overview of the budget process. She said her office is working on a hybrid model combining increments with some incentive components.

A request for an Ad Hoc committee to evaluate funding practices and support for non-STEM faculty to align with 2030 Strategic Plan. The Ad Hoc committee was approved.

MSU Faculty Senate Meeting

December 17, 2024

The President and Provost sent holiday greetings via video.

Angela Wilson, Chair of the Senate, spoke of her meeting with MSU Trustees at which she emphasized the need for Trustees to listen to faculty concerns.

Ed Phillips, University Travel Manager, provided an overview on University travel reimbursement and then took questions from the Senate.

A motion was approved to provide close captioning on all Kaltura Media Space.

Presentation and information on updates on Faculty Unions.

MSU Faculty Senate Meeting
January 21, 2025

President's Report

Multicultural building ribbon cutting, February 7, 2025.

Committees in place to study and respond to potential new Federal policy guidelines.

Committee in place to study/revise General Education requirements.

Provost's Report

Planning for February 13th commemoration. No classes.

Planning underway for Ethics Week as MSU prepares to open new Ethics Institute

Faculty Senate Chair Report

Rebecca Behar-Cook is the new Trustee liaison to Faculty Senate.

Applications already received for Provost position.

Honorifics

Ad Hoc committee study reveals that most University honorifics go to STEM fields and College of Business. Plans underway to make these more widely distributed across the University. "Who we honor reflects the values of the University." MSU can do better.

**MSU Faculty Senate Meeting
February 18, 2025**

The President and Interim Provost were participating in the investiture ceremony for named professorships.

In a taped presentation, the Interim Provost announced that the review of General Education is underway.

The raise memo for tenured stream Faculty was approved. There is a request for a 7% raise with 4% in the general merit pool and 3% in the merit/excellence pool.

A resolution to affirm the principles of D.E.I. was approved.

**MSU Faculty Senate Meeting
March 18, 2025**

The President spoke about MSU's response to the ongoing federal government issues and threats of cutbacks to funding. He said that MSU is preparing for budget cutbacks, but at present it is one of the few universities that is not in a hiring freeze.

The President announced the One College, One Health proposal to merge the two medical colleges, create a new College of Health Professions, and establish a new biomedical research institute. The formation of a One Health Council is the next step to explore the feasibility of the proposal.

The President announced a new capital campaign with a \$4 billion dollar goal.

Angela Wilson, chair of the Faculty Senate, reported that she attended a "crisis" meeting of Big Ten faculty chairs.

Wilson also announced that finalists for the Provost position should be on campus in April 2025.

A report was provided about MSU's successful accreditation process.

Lee June and other invited faculty members spoke on the need for a "more hospitable environment" at MSU, and his committee's desire to achieve racial equity at MSU by 20230.

MSU Faculty Senate Meeting April 15, 2025

The last meeting of the 2024-2025 academic year.

The President announced the formation of the One Health Council to study and provide guidance for the proposed One College, One Health.

He reported on MSU fiscal budget: deficits loom with some of the financial challenges predating the current climate. Lisa Frace VP for Finance is preparing a proposal to deal with the challenges.

He addressed the growing fear among MSU's international community due to the revocation of student visas at MSU and elsewhere. He said that MSU through ISP is making effort to support the students.

He announced that on Friday, April 11, 2025, the Department of Energy placed a cap of 15% on indirect costs for all grant recipients. MSU, UM, and seven other universities have sued to stop this policy. MSU receives more funding from the DOE than any other university in the country.

The Interim Provost gave a lengthy report on MSU's response to the revocation of student visas, noting that exchange and Fulbright students have not been affected yet, while those with F1 visas are in danger of having their visas revoked with no warning.

A new draft of the "Conflict of Interest" guidelines was presented, which caused lengthy discussion. Several new proposals /amendments/ clarifications were taken under advisement.

There was a report from the Athletic Council which focused on the challenges of travel to and from the newly admitted West Coast schools. It was also reported that MSU athletes' graduation rates are at their highest level ranking in the top four of public Power Five schools with Berkeley, UVA, and UM.

At the end of the meeting and running over was a discussion of two proposals: the Big Ten Academic Alliance (BTAA) resolution in support of the core values of higher education, and a resolution proposed by Rutgers University for a Mutual Defense Compact" for Big Ten universities. Both were passed.

Both resolutions are here at the bottom of the page: <https://acadgov.msu.edu/facultysenate>