

Faculty Senate

Approved Resolution
January 20, 2026



MICHIGAN STATE
UNIVERSITY

Whereas, The Bylaws for Academic Governance (Bylaws) establish that the faculty possesses delegated authority to review and approve all courses and curricula (Bylaw 4.5.3); and

Whereas, The Bylaws establish that the faculty shares responsibility with the administration for policies pertaining to curriculum revision, methods of instruction, and advising (Bylaw 4.4.5); and

Whereas, The Bylaws reserve to the faculty the exclusive right to "establish and maintain the intellectual authority of the university" (Bylaw 1.2.3.1.3); and

Whereas, The President and administration have announced the "Green and White Council Initiatives" via a press release dated January 21, 2026, stating that this external body has "designed" and intends to "launch" specific initiatives, certificate programs, and university-wide degree frameworks (e.g., "AI-Ready Spartans," "Career-Connected Spartans") as directed by a \$5M donor gift; and

Whereas, Attempting to implement academic curriculum and degree requirements designed by external private interests circumvents the established academic governance system and degrades the faculty's role as the primary guardians of the University's educational standards; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Faculty Senate expresses its profound displeasure with the administration's failure to adhere to the Bylaws for Academic Governance regarding the development of the Green and White Council initiatives; and be it further

Resolved, That the Faculty Senate asserts that no "foundational AI course," "AI certificate," or "Career-Connected" degree requirement described in the January 21, 2026 announcement shall be implemented or listed in the University catalog until it has been proposed by an academic unit and approved through the established faculty governance process (UCC and UCUE) as required by Bylaws 4.5.3 and 4.4.5; and be it further

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Resolved, That the Faculty Senate calls upon the President to immediately pause the implementation of these initiatives and submit the Green and White Council's recommendations to the appropriate Standing Committees for genuine review, amendment, or rejection, consistent with the faculty's delegated authority.