Faculty Senate

Draft Minutes
October 13, 2026

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

A regular meeting of the Faculty Senate was held on October 13, 2026 at 3:15 PM via Zoom with Chair Aerni-Flessner presiding. The agenda was approved as amended. The minutes of the September 15, 2026 meeting were approved as presented.

Student Athlete Missed Class Policy

UCUE Chair Rachel Barnard provided feedback from UCUE concerning the proposed changes to the Student Athlete Missed Class Policy. Following discussion, it was determined that the revisions to the Policy will go back to the Steering Committee during its November meeting, at which point it will likely be steered to the University Council for a final vote.

UCUE Feedback on Standing University Committee on General Education

UCUE Chair Rachel Barnard provided feedback from UCUE concerning the proposal to create a new Standing University Committee on General Education, as requested at the Faculty Senate meeting in September. Following discussion, it was determined that the Steering Committee will discuss this topic during its November meeting, at which point it will be determined where it needs to be steered.

Student Voting Plans Resolution

UCSA Chair JJ DeFeo introduced a resolution to ask the administration to allow for greater flexibility for students to be able to vote in the upcoming November elections. Following discussion, a motion was made and seconded to consider the resolution. A vote was then undertaken and a majority voted in the affirmative, and the resolution was adopted.

UCAG Motion to Senate Vice-Chair

UCAG Chair Diana Bello-DeOcampo informed the Faculty Senate that Natoshia Cunningham's nomination to be an At-Large Member to finish out Vice-Chair Lipton's term had been forwarded by UCAG. Chair Bello-DeOcampo also discussed the election process for Vice-Chair, which will commence on October 19. A motion was made and seconded, and a vote was then undertaken with a majority voting in the affirmative. Therefore, Senator Cunningham was confirmed as an At-Large Member.

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Potential Changes to ICER Funding

Senator Christlieb brought forward an item concerning concerns over changes to funding for research institutes such as the Institute for Cyber-Enabled Research (ICER). Following discussion, the item was referred to the Steering Committee where it will be discussed and subsequently referred.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:18 PM.

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Nicholas Reynolds, Deputy Secretary for Academic Governance
Approved: [month day, year]

Present	Absent	Total	Quorum
68	8	76	39

Agriculture and Natural Resources	Laura Schmitt Olabisi	X	Present
Agriculture and Natural Resources	Jeff Swada	X	Present
Agriculture and Natural Resources	Henry Chung	X	Present
Agriculture and Natural Resources	Holly Wang	X	Present
Agriculture and Natural Resources	Narendra Das	X	Present
Arts and Letters	Jon Frey	X	Present
Arts and Letters	Alejandra Marquez	X	Present

Arts and Letters	Jon Keune	X		Present	
Arts and Letters	Brahim Chakrani	X		Present	
Arts and Letters	Jeff Wray	X		Present	
ASMSU	Genevieve Lucas	X		Present	
At Large	Justin St. Charles	X		Present	
At Large	Elizabeth Gardner	X		Present	
At Large	John Aerni-Flessner	X		Present	
At Large	Kyoo il-Kim	X		Present	
At Large	Jack Lipton	X		Present	
Athletic Council	Gerald Urquhart	X		Present	
Business	Ahmet Kirca	X		Present	
Business	Dwight Handspike	X		Present	
Business	Michelle Nessa	X		Present	
COGS	Priyanka Kothari		X	Absent	Nic Heilman
Communication Arts and Sciences	Casey O'Donnell		X	Absent	
Communication Arts and Sciences	David Markowitz	X		Present	
Education	Rebecca Jacobsen		X	Absent	
Education	Stefanie Marshall	X		Present	
Education	Monica Byrne-Jimenez	X		Present	
Emeriti Faculty	Peter Berg	X		Present	

Engineering	Dana Spence	X		Present	
Engineering	Huazhen Fang	X		Present	
Engineering	Yadu Pokhrel	X		Present	
Engineering	Joydeep Mitra	X		Present	
Engineering	Jitao Zhang	X		Present	
Human Medicine	Nadia Abuelezam	X		Present	
Human Medicine	Sabrina Ford	X		Present	
Human Medicine	James Anthony	X		Present	
Human Medicine	Bruce Uhal	X		Present	
Human Medicine	Natoshia Cunningham	X		Present	
Secretary for Academic Governance	Teresa Cuellar	X		Present	
James Madison	Kristin Brathwaite	X		Present	Andaluna Borcila
James Madison	Allison Berg	X		Present	
Law	Glen Staszewski		X	Absent	
Law	Stephen Wilks	X		Present	
Non-College Faculty	Gen Iverson	X		Present	
Non-College Faculty	Jonglim Han	X		Present	
Non-College Faculty	Mahmoud Parvizi	X		Present	
Lyman Briggs	Stef Shuster	X		Present	Doug Luckie
Lyman Briggs	Jennifer Doherty	X		Present	
Music	Michael Largey	X		Present	

Music	Octavio Mas-Arocas	X		Present	
Natural Science	Lindsey Claire Wlosinski	X		Present	
Natural Science	Megan Elwood Madden	X		Present	
Natural Science	Yuying Xie	X		Present	
Natural Science	Andrew Christlieb	X		Present	
Natural Science	Saul Berceio Novo	X		Present	
Nursing	Horng-Shiuann Wu		X	Absent	
Nursing	Michael Martel	X		Present	
Osteopathic Medicine	Adam Storts	X		Present	
Osteopathic Medicine	Nathan Tykocki	X		Present	
Osteopathic Medicine	Sarah Tilden		X	Absent	
Osteopathic Medicine	Martha Faner		X	Absent	
President	Kevin Guskiewicz	X		Present	
Provost	Laura Lee McIntyre	X		Present	
Social Science	Chenwai Liao or Alytia Levendosky	X		Present	
Social Science	Linda Halgunseth	X		Present	
Social Science	Brandy Ellison	X		Present	
Social Science	Sue Grady		X	Absent	Excused

UCAG	Diana Bello-DeOcampo	X	Present	
UCC	Marci Mechtel	X	Present	
UCFA	John McElroy	X	Present	
UCFT	Kevin Douglas	X	Present	
UCGS	Trixie Smith	X	Present	Ruth Shillair
UCL	Sara Barnwell	X	Present	
UCUE	Rachel Barnard	X	Present	
Veterinary Medicine	James Wagner	X	Present	
Veterinary Medicine	Andres Contreras	X	Present	
Veterinary Medicine	Sarah Jacob	X	Present	