

The Steering Committee

Approved Minutes
October 7, 2025



Present: L. McIntyre, T. Cuellar, A. Wilson, J. Aerni-Flessner, J. St.Charles, A. Tessmer, J. Lipton, E. Gardner, M. Mechtel, J. Alan, K. Douglas, A. Robison, T. Wahl, S. Fireberg, C. Warren, T. Pham, K. Harding, N. Heilman, P. Kothari

Absent: K. Guskiewicz

A regular meeting of the Steering Committee was held on October 7, 2025, at 3:15 p.m. via Zoom with Chairperson Wilson presiding. The agenda was approved as amended. The draft minutes for September 2, 2025, meeting were approved as presented.

Verbal Reports

Verbal reports from standing committees were provided to the Steering Committee for review.

Loss of Title VI Funding and the future of Area Studies programs and loss of funding for migrant education programs (CAMP) at MSU

Vice Chair Aerni-Fleschner raised the issue of the loss of all federal Department of Education Title VI funding, which supported several MSU programs. He requested that the Steering Committee place this item on the Faculty Senate agenda for discussion. The loss of Title VI and FLAS grants affects graduate and undergraduate students supported through these programs, and bridge funding may be necessary to sustain personnel and activities.

General Education Council

Dr. Prouty provided an overview of the General Education Modernization Initiative, launched last December by President Guskiewicz to update MSU's general education curriculum the first major review in over 30 years. The initiative, originally planned as a three-year process, may be condensed to two.

The Council is currently in a "fact-finding" stage. Feedback sessions for faculty, staff, and students begin this month and will continue through early spring. Future work will include analyzing feedback, benchmarking other institutions, and identifying elements of MSU's current general education that are effective

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or outdated. The process will eventually involve UCC, UCUE, and other standing committees.

Academic Specialist Advisory Committee

Secretary Cuellar Cuellar reported that during the transition between interim and current secretaries, a discrepancy was discovered regarding ASAC representation on Faculty Senate and University Council. In April 2024, clarification established that ASAC does *not* currently have codified seats on these bodies. The issue will be referred to UCAG for a bylaw interpretation and recommendation on next steps. Transparency and documentation will be maintained as the matter progresses.

Shared Governance Audit

At Large Member St. Charles summarized a national trend of challenges to shared governance across higher education and proposed forming an ad hoc committee to conduct a Shared Governance Audit at MSU. The audit would clarify how shared governance is defined and practiced. Identify gaps between policy and practice. Recommend strategies for improvement. Establish a regular cadence for future governance reviews (MSU's last comprehensive review occurred two decades ago). At-Large Member Tessmer introduced a motion to form an ad hoc committee to conduct a Shared Governance Audit. N. Heilman moved to table the motion, seconded, and approved. The motion was tabled until the next Steering Committee meeting to allow time for drafting a formal charge.

Develop Faculty Senate and University Council Agendas

Faculty Senate Agenda

1. Remarks

- 1.1. President Kevin M. Guskiewicz, Ph.D.
- 1.2. Provost Laura Lee McIntyre, Ph.D.
- 1.3. Chairperson Angela K. Wilson

2. Returning Business

- 2.1. One Team One Health Survey Update- Ad hoc Committee

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Senator Cunningham

3. New Business

- 3.1. Board of Trustees Summit
Senator Lipton and Senator St. Charles
- 3.2. Working Group on Faculty Conflict Resolution
Senator Alan
- 3.3. Academic Specialist Advisory Committee
Secretary Cuellar
- 3.4. Loss of Title VI Funding and the future of Area Studies programs and loss of funding for migrant education programs (CAMP) at MSU
Vice Chair Aerni-Flessner
- 3.5. Resolution on COMPACT
Vice Chair Aerni- Flessner
- 3.6. Vacancy in Student Affairs Vote
Senator Gardner

University Council Agenda

1. Remarks

- 1.1. President Kevin M. Guskiewicz, Ph.D.
- 1.2. Provost Laura Lee McIntyre, Ph.D.
- 1.3. Chairperson Angela K. Wilson

2. Returning Business

- 2.1. Survey on Digital Learning Platforms

3. New Business

- 3.1. Update from Council of Graduate Students COGS
President
- 3.2. Loss of Title VI Funding and the future of Area Studies programs and loss of funding for migrant education programs (CAMP) at MSU
Vice Chair Aerni-Flessner

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- 3.3. Graduate Program Update
Chair Robison/ Dean Pero Dagbovie

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:57 p.m.

Teresa Cuellar

Teresa Cuellar

Approved: November 4, 2025