

The Steering Committee

Draft Minutes

December 2, 2025



MICHIGAN STATE
UNIVERSITY

Present: J. Aerni-Flessner, T. Cuellar, S. Fireberg, E. Gardner, K. Harding, J. Lipton, M. Mechtel, T. Pham, A. Robison (Substitute: R. Shillair), J. St. Charles, A. Tessmer, T. Wahl, C. Warren, A. Wilson

Absent: J. Alan, K. Douglas, K. Guskiewicz, N. Heilman, P. Kothari, L. McIntyre

A regular meeting of the Steering Committee was held on December 2, 2025, at 3:15 p.m. via zoom with Chairperson Wilson presiding. The agenda was approved as presented. The draft minutes for November 4, 2025, meeting were approved as presented.

Verbal Reports

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

The Learning Goals Project

Emily Conrad Krutz, professor in the History Department, provided an update on the Learning Goals Project, a campus-wide effort to revise MSU's undergraduate learning goals, which were developed about 15 years ago and are not widely integrated across the university. The project is led by four co-chairs with support from a large working committee and advisory council and aims to create holistic, aspirational learning goals that connect curricular and co-curricular learning and align with MSU's Student Success Framework. Emily explained that updated learning goals are intended to foster a shared educational vision, reduce siloing across units, and help students better navigate their undergraduate experience. The project is currently in an information gathering phase, with draft learning goals expected in the spring, followed by additional campus feedback and a two-year governance and approval process. She emphasized the importance of faculty participation, requested assistance in promoting an upcoming January survey, clarified that the project operates in parallel with but separate from General Education reform, and confirmed her willingness to present to Faculty Senate.

Planning for Future Meetings

The group discussed planning future Faculty Senate and University Council agendas, particularly being thoughtful about topics and speakers for meetings

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in January and beyond. There was general agreement that guest speakers should be included only when there is a clear purpose, such as the need to inform governance bodies about new policies or when faculty input is genuinely needed, rather than for purely informational updates. Several members emphasized that presentations are most valuable when they are participatory and give faculty an opportunity to share perspectives while initiatives are still underway. Ongoing work such as the Learning Goals Project, General Education reform, and recent AI discussions were cited as examples where early and meaningful faculty engagement could be beneficial. Overall, the consensus was that future invitations should be intentional, clearly framed, and focused on dialogue and faculty input rather than one-way presentations.

Develop Faculty Senate Agenda

By consent, the committee developed agendas for Faculty Senate and University Council with the following new business:

Faculty Senate- December 16, 2025

- *The Learning Goals Project*
- *Athletic Council Report*
- *Update on Capital campaigns: Uncommon Will & For Sparta*

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:25 p.m.

Teresa Cuellar

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Approved: [month day, year]