

# MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

Date: January 30, 2026

From: Professor Oscar Naviliat-Cuncic (current senator, AY 2024/25; 2025/26)  
Professor Chris Wrede (former senator, AY 2020/21; 2021/22; 2022/23;  
2023/24)  
Professor Filomena Nunes (former senator, AY 2018/19; 2019/20)  
Professor Remco Zegers (former senator, AY 2015/16; 2016/17; 2017/18)

To: Steering Committee of Academic Governance

Copy: MSU faculty members with their primary appointments in FRIB (MAU 49)

Subject: FRIB Representation in Academic Governance

We are writing on behalf the faculty at the Facility for Rare Isotope Beams (FRIB) to request that the Steering Committee of Academic Governance review and mitigate what we believe was an unintended consequence of recent bylaws implementations following changes in academic governance.



Oscar Naviliat Cuncic  
Professor of Physics

## Facility for Rare Isotope Beams

640 S. Shaw Lane  
East Lansing, MI  
48824

517-908-7668  
naviliat@frib.msu.edu

frib.msu.edu

As a result of these implementations, faculty at FRIB lost their dedicated Faculty Senator representation elected by the faculty at FRIB. We have discussed this matter in our FRIB faculty meetings and are unanimous in our request to restore the dedicated seat we have held since 2015 for faculty at FRIB, elected by the faculty at FRIB.

FRIB is an academic, non-degree granting major administrative unit reporting to the Provost. FRIB's faculty members are engaged in teaching, research, and service/outreach, like other faculty members of units carrying "College" in their names.

In recognition of this, the faculty at FRIB (formerly the National Superconducting Cyclotron Laboratory, NSCL) earned in 2015 a dedicated seat with voting rights in the Faculty Senate. Since 2015, the faculty at FRIB have elected their representative and the successive mandates have since then been carried out by the signees of this letter.

We realize that the status of FRIB, with faculty active in teaching, research, and outreach and with their dedicated representation in the Senate might not have been

clear to the parties practically implementing the bylaws since some of the history and practices may not have been properly documented.

The faculty at FRIB feel strongly about their continued voice within MSU Academic Governance and request that their acquired right to have their own elected representative in the Faculty Senate be maintained.

We offer to assist with documenting the practice.

Thank you for your consideration,



Senator Oscar Naviliat-Cuncic



Former Senator Chris Wrede



Former Senator Filomena Nunes



Former Senator Remco Zegers