

Introduction

On June 13, 2025, the MSU Board of Trustees approved the Residential College in the Arts and Humanities (RCAH)–College of Arts & Letters (CAL) merger, effective July 1, 2026.

The administration was charged to prioritize the following as part of the transition:

Transparency with stakeholders; Continuity of academic programs; Strong support for students, faculty, and staff; Preservation of RCAH's distinctive mission and strengths; and Promotion of collaboration, sustainability, and academic excellence

Steering Committee charge:

- Provide strategic oversight and guidance throughout the merger process
- Ensure alignment with Board mandates and institutional priorities
- Uphold the merger's guiding principles:
 - Transparent communication
 - Collaborative community building
 - Compassionate support
 - Shared governance
 - Preservation of RCAH's identity
 - Strategic stewardship
 - ° Alignment with MSU's land-grant mission

Steering Committee members will:

- Monitor and support progress across working groups
- Resolve cross-functional challenges
- Represent faculty, staff, and student interests
- Shape communication strategies for the university community
- Bring a collaborative spirit and understanding of each unit's contributions
- Commit to the long-term success of the integrated college
- Serve the broader MSU community with integrity and focus



The Steering Committee will be composed of 10 members, including three co-facilitators:

- Glenn Chambers, Interim Dean of RCAH
- Thomas Stubblefield, Dean of CAL
- Amy Hertel, Senior Advisor to the Provost

Committee members will meet weekly throughout Fall 2025 and into Spring 2026, with a focus on sustaining momentum and coordination. Meetings will focus on updates from working groups, cross-cutting discussions, and engagement with relevant MSU systems and structures.

Additional extended sessions may be scheduled as needed for strategic alignment or to address emerging priorities. The meeting schedule may be adjusted based on the collective judgment of the co-facilitators and committee input.

