

December 1, 2010

MEMORANDUM

TO: Board of Trustees Policy Committee

FROM: President Lou Anna K. Simon 

RE: Revision to Bylaws for Academic Governance for Review by the MSU Board of Trustees

RECOMMENDATION:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Trustee Policy Committee recommends to the Board of Trustees approval of the recommended changes to items 1.1.2.5, 5.2.5.2.1, and 5.2.6.1 of the *Bylaws for Academic Governance* (attached), as approved by Academic Council on November 16, 2010, changes effective Fall Semester, 2011.

In accordance with those Bylaws (8.3.2.1), I have reviewed the changes, concur with the proposed revisions, and now request action by the Board of Trustees. I also request that the Board join me in commending the diligent and thoughtful work of the many faculty and students who were involved in this complex task.



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BACKGROUND

In the course of their work, the University Committee on Academic Governance identified inconsistencies in three existing Bylaws. Slight modifications were made in each so that the content of these three statements is internally consistent with the body of the Bylaws. These modifications were approved by both Faculty and Academic Councils.

Provost Wilcox and I endorse the changes which have been recommended here, and ask your approval of the Bylaws with recommended revisions.

Attachment

C: Board of Trustees Finance Committee
Kim Wilcox, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
Robert A. Noto, Vice President for Legal Affairs and General Counsel
William Beekman, Secretary of the Board of Trustees and
Executive Assistant to the President

The following amended *Bylaws* were approved by Faculty Council and Academic Council on November 16, 2010:

Old Version Showing Changes

1.1.2.5. A full time fixed-term faculty member, who has served at least three consecutive years ~~and is engaged in the activities of the Unit on a regular basis, and or specialists in the continuing appointment system,~~ may be elected to an academic governance body, with the exception of University Committee on Faculty Tenure, as a representative of any unit in which the person holds ~~regular~~ faculty status.

5.2.5.2.1. ~~In formulating policy r~~Regarding the regular season and post-season tickets and trips, voting members of the Athletic Council shall strive to minimize the award of special privileges to themselves ~~that are uncharacteristic of those generally available to faculty.~~ Nonetheless, it is expected that Athletic Council will fulfill responsibilities related to institutional representation as appropriate throughout the year.

5.2.6.1. ~~A report of P~~policies regarding regular season and post-season trips, as well as a record of the disbursement of complimentary tickets and trips, shall be ~~reported~~ included in the annual report of Athletic Council to University Council.

New Version

1.1.2.5. A full-time fixed-term faculty member, who has served at least three consecutive years and is engaged in the activities of the Unit on a regular basis, may be elected to an academic governance body, with the exception of the University Committee on Faculty Tenure, as a representative of any unit in which the person holds faculty status.

5.2.5.2.1. Regarding the regular season and post-season tickets and trips, voting members of the Athletic Council shall strive to minimize the award of special privileges to themselves. Nonetheless, it is expected that Athletic Council will fulfill responsibilities related to institutional representation as appropriate throughout the year.

5.2.6.1. A report of policies regarding regular season and post-season trips, as well as a record of the disbursement of complimentary tickets and trips, shall be included in the annual report of Athletic Council to University Council.