

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

APPROVED

JUNE 21, 2019

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

June 21, 2019

MEMORANDUM

To: Committee on Academic Affairs

From: June Pierce Youatt
Executive Vice President and Provost

Subject: Revisions to Policy 04-17-07 (Emeritus Title)

RECOMMENDATION

The Trustee Committee on Academic Affairs recommends that the Board of Trustees approve revisions to the Policy 04-17-07 (Emeritus Title).

RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of Michigan State University hereby approves revisions to the Emeritus Title Policy (04-17-07), as shown in Attachment A.

BACKGROUND

The "emeritus" title is an honorific award made at retirement, and grants certain privileges. The University Committee on Faculty Affairs (UCFA) considered whether or not the title and privileges should be extended to additional individuals under certain circumstances and if there were circumstances under which the honorific title should be revoked.

The UCFA has reviewed and approved two proposed revisions to the Emeritus Title Policy. The first allows for the "emeritus" title to be conferred upon faculty, academic, and administrative staff who end their employment at MSU after a substantial period of distinguished service short of the years of service needed for retirement eligibility, upon recommendation of the Provost to the President, after consultation with the UCFA. The second change allows for the revocation of emeritus status in those exceptional cases in which behavior occurring or discovered after being awarded emeritus status is deemed to be substantially inconsistent with the behavior expected of MSU faculty, academic staff, and administrative staff. The UCFA must approve a revocation recommendation from the Provost and President.

Upon a careful review of the policy, the revisions were initiated by the UCFA and approved by the University Council at its meeting on March 26, 2019.

cc: Board of Trustees, S. Udpa, K. Wilbur, N. Barr, B. Quinn, M. Zeig, G. Hoppenstand, T. Curry



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EMERITUS TITLE

04-17-07

Members of the faculty, academic staff and administrative staff who leave the University with official retirement status and in good standing¹ are granted certain privileges and the "emeritus" title. For faculty members with the rank of professor, associate professor or assistant professor, the "emeritus" designation is appended to the rank held at the time of retirement, e.g., professor emeritus. For academic staff the title would be librarian emeritus, etc. For administrators whose administrative appointment requires approval by the Board of Trustees ~~and for all executive managers~~, the emeritus designation, upon approval by the Provost and the President, is appended only to the most senior administrative title held at Michigan State University, which may be held at or prior to the time of retirement, e.g., dean emeritus. The emeritus designation is not normally awarded for administrative titles held on an "acting" basis.

Faculty, academic staff, and administrative staff who end their employment at the University after a substantial period of distinguished service short of the years of service needed for retirement eligibility, may be granted emeritus status upon the recommendation of the Provost to the President, after the Provost consults with the University Committee for Faculty Affairs.

Faculty with the emeritus designation are entitled to attend Academic Senate meetings with voice but without vote; to march in academic processions such as commencement; ~~to receive the MSU News-Bulletin~~; to avail themselves of the libraries; to have continued access to an MSU e-mail account; to receive, on application, a faculty vehicle permit; to represent the University, on appointment, at academic ceremonies of other institutions; and, in general, to take part in the social and ceremonial functions of the University.

Emeritus status may be revoked upon the recommendation of the Provost to the President, after approval by the University Committee for Faculty Affairs in those exceptional cases in which behavior occurring or discovered after being awarded emeritus status is deemed to be substantially inconsistent with the behavior expected of Michigan State University faculty, academic staff, and administrative staff.

Enacted: 5/18/50

Amended: 4/5/91, 6/21/19

¹ "Good Standing" is assumed unless one ends employment while suspended or during dismissal proceedings.