

**MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY**  
**University Committee on Undergraduate Education**  
**DRAFT MINUTES**  
Thursday, April 8, 2021  
10:15 A.M. to 12:00 P.M., via Zoom

<https://msu.zoom.us/j/96531712347>

Passcode: 849464

Present: Brianna Aiello, Rich Bellon, Glenn Chambers, Andy Corner, Corey Drake, Richard Enbody, Kathleen Gallo, David Gilstrap, Jonelle Golding, Aubrey Hanes, Aaron Iturralde, Nick Knowles, Gina Leininger, Amy Martin (for Mark Largent), Helen Mayer, Justin Micomonaco, Linda Sayed (for S. Das Gupta), Steve Shablin, Tyler Silvestri, Emily Tabuteau, Antoinette Tessmer, Elizabeth Webster, Patty West, Scot Yoder

Absent: Sejuti Das Gupta, Jan Eberle, Kionna Henderson, Mark Largent, Sheng-Mei Ma, Dan Manville

The agenda was approved.

The minutes were approved for March 25, 2021.

**Comments from the Chairperson**

Chairperson Corner shared the following announcements from the recent Steering Committee meeting:

- President Stanley welcomed Lisa Frace, MSU's first senior vice president and chief financial officer. Lisa begins on May 10.
- MSU and Lansing Community College have formed a partnership to improve access to higher education. MSU will have two academic advisors working with LCC students to help them create a pathway to MSU from LCC.
- Provost Woodruff announced that Dave Weatherspoon has been named the Associate Provost for Strategic Academic Planning.
- A major fundraising initiative for the Honors College will take place over the next three years. Chris Long, current College of Arts and Letters Dean will serve as Chairperson of the Honors College during this time.

Chairperson Corner welcomed Amy Martin, Assistant Dean, Student Success Operations and Chief of Staff, Office of the Associate Provost for Undergraduate Education. Amy is filling in for Associate Provost Largent today.

**Comments from Assistant Dean Martin**

Assistant Dean Martin described her current work in the Office of the Associate Provost for Undergraduate Education as well as her work in previous positions that have supported student success and living learning communities. She has been on campus for six years.

Assistant Dean Martin informed UCUE members about Re-Orientation, a group made up of a cross section of campus members focused on students' needs as they return for Fall semester. Re-Orientation will have three groups: 1) first year students including transfers, 2) rising second year students, and 3) junior students plus. They are identifying students' needs, strategies to meet the needs, and ways to move forward while sharing information. There will be input from numerous campus groups and a plan to implement on campus. An open campus forum will be held on Friday, May 7 from 1:30 – 3:30pm to

discuss findings of the three groups. All are invited. Assistant Dean Martin will forward Zoom information for the May 7 event.

Assistant Dean Martin updated UCUE members about the search for a new Dean of Students. The search committee is in the process of virtually interviewing 15 applicants and hopes to narrow down the applicants to three or four to interview the week of May 4.

**Request for a Moratorium on Admission to the Bachelor of Arts Degree in Media and Information**  
(Action Item)

Ann Hoffman, Assistant Dean, College of Communication Arts & Sciences

The committee granted voice to Assistant Dean Hoffman.

Assistant Dean Hoffman is requesting the BA be put into moratorium for five years, effective summer, 2021. Students who are coming to orientation who have signed up for the Media and Information BA will be directed into one of the three areas of media and information they were interested in which include Digital Storytelling, Games, or Information Science. The department will request a discontinuance at a later date.

Voice was removed from Assistant Dean Hoffman.

The following motion passed unanimously.

**The University Committee on Undergraduate Education duly considered and endorsed the request for a Moratorium on Admission to the Bachelor of Arts Degree in Media and Information.**

**Moratorium Date Change and Reinstatement of AFNRE Additional Endorsement** (Action Item)

Mike Everett, Dept. of Community Sustainability, College of Agriculture and Natural Resources

The committee granted voice to Dr. Everett.

Dr. Everett stated the department would like to change the end date of the current moratorium from fall, 2022 to spring 2022. A team has been working together designing a curriculum for the additional endorsement.

Voice was removed from Dr. Everett.

The following motion passed unanimously.

**The University Committee on Undergraduate Education duly considered and endorsed the Moratorium Date Change and Reinstatement of AFNRE Additional Endorsement.**

**Request for a New Forestry Coordinate Major in Lyman Briggs College** (Action Item)

Anne Slavin, Lyman Briggs College

The committee granted voice to Anne Slavin.

Dr. Slavin shared a slide indicating the reasons for a partnership between Lyman Briggs College and Forestry to create a Forestry coordinate major. This coordinate major will allow for Lyman Briggs students to have hand-on learning experiences with Forestry's field-studies-based curriculum. Also, the nation is facing a shortage of forestry graduates who are trained to seek solutions that affect everyday

living such as clean water and climate changes. Lyman Briggs College currently has four coordinate majors that exist with the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

Voice was removed from Anne Slavin.

The following motion passed unanimously.

***The University Committee on Undergraduate Education duly considered and endorsed the request for a New Forestry Coordinate Major in Lyman Briggs.***

### **Subcommittee Reports**

#### **Code of Conduct for Academic Advising (Discussion Item)**

Justin Micomonaco, Emily Tabuteau

Dr. Micomonaco reported that the subcommittee is wrapping up a report and hopes to be able to submit it to UCUE in a week or shortly thereafter. The subcommittee is reviewing general guidelines that all advisors should be ascribing to and topics will be covered including a general philosophy related to a commitment to student success.

#### **Non-Binary Grading (Discussion Item)**

Jonelle Golding, Rich Bellon, Steve Shablin, and Helen Mayer

Dr. Golding reported that this subcommittee has had one meeting and has nothing officially to report.

#### **Academic Dishonesty in the Remote Environment (Discussion Item)**

David Gilstrap

Dr. Gilstrap referred to a PowerPoint showing sites used by students to share quiz and exam answers. Some of these sites are called Quizlet or Chegg. Although it is advertised that a large percentage of students who use these sites report higher grades, these sites are often used in ways that would be considered as academic dishonesty.

UCUE members shared their experiences with some of the study sites indicating there are positive and negative uses. The sites allow for cooperative studying and can provide a free study resource. UCUE student members indicated that the sites can be helpful and are great study tools. Members indicated that there can be equity issues for students if some sites charge for information. It was noted that information on the sites may not be credible or validated and often creates frustration for professors by having to constantly rewrite their exams.

Chairperson Corner recommended David speak with Philip Strong, Dean of Students. It was noted that the Hub has been previously informed of the misuse of study sites.

### **Roundtable**

Scot Yoder reported that CUED has recently discussed the topic of non-binary grading and he will forward this document to the current subcommittee.

Respectfully submitted by Lynne Frechen.