1. The May 11, 2011 meeting of the University Senate was called to order at 3:08 p.m. by Senate President Dr. Saundra Collins.

2. Recording Secretary Dr. David Benfield called the roll. Present at the meeting were the following members: Adarkar, Allen, Alvares, Benfield, Chang, Chapel, Chatterjee, Chrite, Collins, Cutler J., Ficke, Gardin, Gaynor, Gill, Gingerich, Hain, Howell, Hunt, Kelshaw, Lakusta, Lemesianou, Lin, Mahadevan, Meneghin, Mengara, Morrissey (Montesinos), Nurse, Oluwole, Pardo, Pennington, Poon, Powell, Roberts, Sadowsky, Sullivan, Topic, Wilson, & Wolfson.

3. The minutes of the April 13, 2001 meeting were approved.

4. Senate President Collins presented various items under the rubric of Good News.

5. Provost Gingerich provided the report from the Administration. Already the undergraduate enrollment is at 101% of the Fall 2011 goals for deposits. The G.P.A. of Freshmen who say that they plan to attend MSU is 3.25. The initial applicant pool is up in the CEHS and CSAM. The admitted applicant pool is up only in the CSAM. After citing some additional enrollment data, the Provost commented that the academic market is hard to explain.

Next, the Provost announced a new dual degree program with the Seoul National Technological University. Students in the program will spend some time here and more time there. Senator Adarkar helped make the arrangements for some GenEd 2002 courses to be taught at the SNTU. Dean Chrite was also thanked for his assistance in setting up this new program.

The Provost distributed data concerning the number of credits that native freshmen graduate with. The average across majors was 134 credits. This number was considered excessive. Senator Alvares inquired whether the effects of a possible change of majors were factored in. Then, Senator Roberts pointed out that for several majors more than 120 credits are required.

Senator Meneghin asked if students are required to obtain advising before they may register. The answer was that currently such advising is not required and the Registrar, Denise DiBlasio, reported that the wisdom of requiring it was being discussed in connection with the new software system. A discussion of ways to encourage students to meet with their academic advisors ensued.

A suggestion that each student be sent, via e-mail, a copy of her or his WESS audit was offered. Vice President Ed Chapel suggested that for technical reasons it would be preferable to send an e-mail message containing the relevant link and text encouraging the recipient to run her or his own audit. Placing holds on the accounts of literally hundreds of students until they consulted with their academic advisors was asserted to be impractical due to the time consuming nature of removing an academic hold.
The Provost reminded senators that there is a line missing from the current academic calendar. In the Fall, the University will follow a Friday schedule on Wednesday, the 14th of December.

A discussion of what to do about the evening classes on the Wednesday before Thanksgiving ensued. It was suggested that classes scheduled to meet on Wednesday evening might meet during the evening of opening day. The consensus was that this idea had enough merit to warrant additional consideration.

The Provost then addressed the issue of MSU’s intellectual property policies for course materials developed as part of a fully Online Program. He said that the only case where it becomes a question of University ownership is when someone drops out of a role he or she is playing in such an Online Program. Courses are, and will be, designed to be compatible with the Online Program format and so the University must be able to maintain the continuity of such program components.

Senator Wolfson brought up the case of a faculty product that includes a textbook and a website with lots of materials. He wanted to know who would own the various elements of such a faculty product? After a brief discussion Senator Wolfson volunteered to write up several different intellectual property scenarios for examination and he moved that the Academic Affairs Council of the University Senate coordinate the gathering of such scenarios and concerns involving online course materials and products for consideration by the relevant parties. At that point Vice President for Human Resources, Judith Hain, observed that in the State of New Jersey Union Contract there is language on this issue of copyright and intellectual property.

Senator Wolfson said that there were several options concerning his motion. It could be voted on, tabled, or ruled out of order. A complicated discussion of intellectual property and how to clarify the ownership issue ensued. It was suggested that involving the OpDot (Online Program Development Team) as a mechanism for collecting the scenarios might work well since it meets twice monthly.

Recording Secretary Benfield asked for an explicit statement of Senator Wolfson’s motion. The motion was said to be:

   It is hereby moved that the Academic Affairs Council coordinate the gathering of scenarios and concerns involving online course materials and products.

Senator Oluwole noted that clarification is needed. He asked specifically about the ownership of podcasts? Would the creator of podcasts be allowed to take those podcasts to another institution? Senator Alvarees brought up Senator Gill’s creation of significant CD-based resources as a possible scenario to be examined. Senator Chatterjee suggested that the Senate take advantage of other institutions’ approach to these questions.
The motion by Senator Wolfson was ruled out of order and the matter of the ownership of Online Course material will be referred to the Academic Affairs Council.

6. Senate President Collins provided the Academic Affairs report: Senator Lemesianou will take over the Council in the Fall while Jason Dickinson is on sabbatical leave.

7. The Administrative Affairs Council report was provided by Senator Topic. He noted that there is now shuttle service to Lot 23. In the past drivers of the E Route were not going to Lot 23. He also reported that the Adjunct Union is concerned over the new location of the 42 parking spaces set aside for adjunct faculty. The fear is that 42 spaces may not be sufficient. Senator Topic believes that a resolution to this problem is in the works.

8. Senate President Collins provided the Student Affairs Council report. The winner of the University Senate Book Award is known but it will not be announced at this meeting. The motion on Smoking Policy will not be presented today.

9. Senator Benfield provided a brief NAL report. He observed that New Jersey Senate President Sweeney’s motion, S-2718, to remove health care from the collective bargaining arena is being fast tracked.

10. A motion of appreciation for the service of various members of the University Senate who are leaving the Senate was passed unanimously. A special motion thanking Senator Helen Roberts for her service to the University Senate was moved, seconded, and passed unanimously.

11. The appointments of Roger Salomon to be the Senate’s representative to the University’s Health and Safety Committee and Delores McMorrin to be the Senate’s representative to the President’s Commission on Affirmative Action were confirmed.

12. Senators Allen, Chatterjee, & Pardo were nominated to be the University Senate’s representative to the University’s Honorary Degree Committee.

13. Various issues from the campus and new business were briefly discussed including a request to revisit the discussion of buildings and to consider the parking problems that will arise once Lot T-1 becomes unavailable.

14. The 2010-2011 Senate was adjourned at 16:54

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1. The 2011 – 2012 Senate was immediately convened and new Senate members Danne Davis, Susanna Yu, and Zamen Zamanian were welcomed.

2. At 16:55 the meeting of the 2011 – 2012 University Senate adjourned.