I. The January 21, 2015 meeting of the University Senate was called to order at 3:18 pm. (Collins)

II. Roll Call - Present: Allen, Benfield, Chang, Chatterjee, Collins, Jerry Cutler, Jonathan Cutler, Fails, Ficke, Fleming, Gainor, Gingerich, Gurskis, Hollister, Howell, Jacobson, Kelton, Lucas, McCann, Mengara, Montesinos (Isaacs), Murray, Oosting, Pardo, Pennington, Powell, Prezant (Schneemeyer), Sadowsky, Salzman, Samuels, Specchio, Sullivan, Sweeper, Trubatch, Wilson, and Wolfson.

III. Approval of December 17, 2014 minutes – Motion by Trubatch, 2nd by Sullivan, motion passed with change in date from November to December. Senator Wolfson questioned why his idea to start senate meetings earlier was denied last month. President Collins stated because she cannot get here earlier.

IV. Good News/Announcements
   a. Milos Topic, the Senate representative to the Academic Technology Committee has taken a position at another institution. Senator Collins asked Senator Fails to consider the position. If he cannot, a new rep will be needed.
   b. Enjoy a 70% discount to the Emerging Learning Design conference the Friday after Memorial Day.

V. Elections Committee Report – No Report, Jean Alvares not present

VI. Report from Administration – Provost Gingerich
   a. Since the Izod Center has closed MSU is looking for a new site for commencement. A new date or time may be required. Yogi Berra Stadium is too small as we typically have 4000 on the floor and 19000 in the audience.
   b. An announcement is forthcoming from President Cole that MSU is now a Carnegie designated Community Engaged Campus. This was an extensive application process led by Fred Bonato. It is a very significant recognition of a long-term commitment to keep the university directly involved in the community. The Service Learning program will now be known as the Center for Community Engagement. MSU is part of a statewide movement called Campus Compact.
   c. The provost had few comments on the Red Hawk statue and directed attention to the president’s statement. He also read a letter from an alum and mother of a current student who was very supportive. He said some people have sent money to go towards the statue. One senator took issue with the statue depicting something intimidating and fierce, wondering if this is the message we want to give about what an MSU student is. Rich Wolfson questioned the expense of a statue when an email went out to faculty in Dickson Hall about a paper shortage. Interim Associate Dean Isaacs commented that it was an issue of paper accounting when paper was being removed from copiers for individual printers. Rich Wolfson also asked for more transparency, noting that the Board of Trustees passed a one-line motion for $220,000 with no information or discussion.
   d. The process for attendance verification for financial aid purposes will be completely different this semester and will not involve Canvas. Faculty are requested to complete it on January 29, just before the census day. Attendance does not need to be tracked for students who dropped during add/drop.

VII. Academic Affairs Council Report (Cutler)
   a. The Council will be meeting again soon. Some issues they will be working on include the Student Handbook, academic dishonesty, and prerequisites.

VIII. Administrative Affairs Council Report (Kelton)
   a. SDCL will be investigating bake sale tables left in fire exits and addressing the issue. A “Yield to Pedestrians” sign will be added to the Bond Lot as soon as there is a thaw. Chief Cell and a campus planner will look into lighting issues in pedestrian areas.
   b. A motion was made at the Academic Technology Committee meeting: “That the proposed resolution on the Integrity of Course Web Spaces in the University Learning Management Systems be forwarded to the Administrative Affairs Council of the University Senate for consideration and further passing on to the University Senate.” This was approved unanimously with no abstentions. David Trubatch and others have done very good work.
   c. Senator Samuels will provide a copy of his field trip permission form because Mary Colon does not have a form to link to from the faculty handbook. The form needs to be seen by Maria Anderson and University Counsel.
IX. **Student Affairs Council Report** – (Allen) – Please forward ideas for Senate Book Award topics to Senator Allen

X. **NAL Report** (Benfield)
   a. A detenuring case was settled and the faculty member will be back in the classroom in September.
   b. The union sponsored a pizza luncheon for students on campus during winter break.
   c. Union members will be asked to share your views on issues for statewide negotiations. Many issues that have been negotiated locally in the past will now be done at the statewide level.

XI. **Constitution Committee Report** (Mengara)
   a. A special call meeting for 10:00 on February 13 in SC 411 was announced to provide time for more discussion on constitution issues. No voting will occur and this will not be a reading.
   b. Senator Mengara stated that the Constitution Committee has not yet had an opportunity to meet to discuss the two motions brought to the Senate on term limits and adding the president of the adjunct local as an ex officio member.
   c. Senator Mengara introduced a seventh motion to the motions that had been previously introduced to amend the Constitution. This motion was an attempt to provide a means to amend the Constitution. Several senators took issue with the new motion, stating that it was unnecessary since Robert’s Rules provides instructions on how to amend a Constitution and that we voted in the last meeting on how we wanted to proceed and the new motions contains items that were not discussed. There was also confusion as to whether the motion is something to be approved to take effect in the future, or to go into effect now to influence current discussions. Senator Mengara stated that the purpose of this motion was to provide details on the three items agreed upon at the last meeting: voting on subsections of motions individually, a requirement for 2/3 majority, and no voting until after 3 meetings have taken place. Senator Gardner moved to table motion 7. Senator McCann seconded. The motion to table passed.
   d. Senator Gardner moved to do a reading of the first 6 motions while there was still a quorum, the motion was seconded by Senator Oosting. The motion passed.
   e. Senator Mengara began the reading. Senator Sameuls stated that a “reading” doesn’t mean that it needs to be read aloud. Senator Mengara read the first motion regarding addition of a graduate faculty member to the Senate. A potential reason for this addition is that most discussion is about undergraduate education and graduate education can be neglected. A potential problem is that we already have the Dean of the Graduate School as an ex officio member who can raise issues and “graduate faculty” is not well defined. Most current senators teach graduate students. Some proposed solutions included adding a graduate director, or the chair of the grad council as a non-voting member, or adding “voices from the graduate community” to the agenda. Senator Mengara like the idea of adding a graduate program director.
   f. The second motion was read. This dealt with the addition of an instructional/clinical specialist representative to the Senate. The senators were unclear whether specialists are considered faculty. Senator Kelton yielded the floor to Laura Field, and instructional specialist. She stated that this position is not considered faculty by the administration, and they are not tenure track. They teach 8-12 courses per year, including the summer. The make up 9% of full-time instructors on campus and the number is growing. They do not have a service requirement but they do contribute to their departments and have responsibilities in addition to teaching. They are requesting a seat specifically for instructional specialists, not an at-large seat. Most senators who spoke seemed to be of an agreement that there should be a seat reserved for instructional specialists in the Senate.
   g. This meeting constituted the first reading of all motions.

XII. **New Business**
   a. Issues from Campus Senators - none
   b. Voices from Campus Community - none

XIII. **Meeting Adjourned at 5:09 p.m.**