AGENDA

- **Call to Order**
  
  o The September 21 meeting of the University Senate was called to order at 3:06 pm by Senate President Dr. Saundra Collins.

- **Roll Call**
  
  o Present:
    - David Benfield; Edward Chapel; Patrali Chatterjee; Saundra Colins; Ada Beth Cutler; Jonathan Cutler; Danne Davis; Frederick Gardin; Jack Gaynor; Glen Gill; Willard Gingerich; Judith Hain; Todd Kelshaw; Laura Lakusta; Christine Lemesianou; Cindy Meneghin; Daniel Mengara; Marrietta Morrissey; Carol Nurse; Joseph Oluwole; Stephen Oosting; Karen Pennington; Wing Poon; John Powell; Robert Prezant; Denise Rodak; William Sullivan; Milos Topic; Leslie Wilson; Richard Wolfson; Susana Yu

- **Approval of September 6, 2011 Minutes**
  
  o Minutes approved

- **Good News/Announcements**
  
  o Pleased to announce the first of a series of Cross disciplinary lunch discussions on October 7 (SC Ballroom C) at 12:00pm-1:30pm. Dr. Gerard Costa, Director of the Center for Autism and Early Childhood Mental Health will be the facilitator of a discussion on “A Comparative View of Approaches to Assessment and Intervention in Autism: What are the ‘core’ deficits?” There five discussions scheduled for AY 2011-2012.

- **Faculty Representative to BOT Report**
  
  o New Center for Autism to open on campus Fall 2011
  o Replacement of Cogeneration Plan is in the works
  o Faculty/staff appointments/promotions:
    - 18 faculty
    - 16 Professional Staff

- **Report from Administration - Provost Gingerich**
  
  o Current enrollment: 18,498 students (18,609 was the projected goal)
    - Graduate enrollment is lower, a bit short of the 4,000 goal
  o Residence space is all occupied at this time
  o New CELS and SBUS buildings along with the new School of Communications will provide improved facilities, but won’t necessarily account for the exponential growth on campus. We need to be clever and careful, strategic and managerial when it comes to managing our respective budgets.
  o Honors data was shared by Provost Gingerich – currently Honors are awarded to 35-38% of graduating students which makes them a bit too easy to get (per Deans Council). Recommendations will be passed forward to President Cole for transfer to the Academic
Council for discussion. Deans have already made recommendations which are on par with our standards and standards of other comparable universities.

- National reports on grade inflation will be shared with University Senate which shows two significant spikes so far, one in the 1980’s and the second one is now.
- Report on advising – Students were asked for their impression of advising and the impression is that advising needs to be more effective. VP Pennington already made changes towards the improvement and this collective effort will continue in months to come to best serve our student population.
- Steven Johnson will present in near future the findings of the CLA (Collegiate Learning Assessment) exam for freshmen and seniors and is a part of Middle States Outcomes Assessment report. It provides valuable information that we can then extrapolate into our Gen Ed curriculum.

**Elections Committee Report** - Made by President Collins (Jean Alvares away on Jury Duty)

- Call for nominations for the CSAM position will go out soon. Nominations will be open until October 6 with elections taking place on October 10 – 12.

**Appointment of Constitution Committee**

- Senator Mengara
  - Motion to approve three members (Betsy Lin, Jack Gaynor, Fred Gardin) to join the Constitution Committee for AY2011-12. Motion approved.

**Academic Affairs Council Report**

- Senator Lemesianou
  - **Update:** Last year, General Education Committee and Academic Affairs Council collaborated on a campus tour (upon the request from the Provost’s Office) regarding our General Education program. The goal is to generate discussion on how to further improve the program. Senators Adarkar (Chair of the General Education Committee) and Dickinson (Chair of the Academic Affairs Council) have led very fruitful discussions with CSAM and CHSS and these discussing will be continuing this semester. Senators Lemesianou and Adarkar will be visiting with CEHS in November and are planning to meet with SBUS and CART during this academic year to complete this campus tour.
  - Senate received a request this summer to consider the benefits and possible adoption of Student Honor Code which will be researched by the Academic Affairs Council with a goal to bring specific propositions to the Senate.
  - During our May 11th meeting we were asked to gather and compile a list of faculty questions and concerns pertaining to intellectual property rights in regards to developing instructional materials for online teaching. Senators Collins and Dickinson have sent an e-mail soliciting feedback which was distributed to the Senate today as well as forwarded to Academic Technology Committee. If you have additional concerns please share them at your earliest opportunity.
    - VP Hain noted that contractual language in some of the issues will be addressed by Human Resources.
  - Transcript Notation Policy – proposal presented by the Division of Student Development and Campus Life and Provost’s Office. Document was shared with University Senate.
    - Provost Gingerich: To clarify, this request is to put notation on the permanent transcript; the actual approval process will be clarified later.
• VP Pennington: Provided insight into the importance of approving this sooner rather than later as they are currently pending cases which need to be moved forward. Both VP Pennington and Jerry Collins, Coordinator of Student Conduct shared a couple of examples where students expelled from MSU went on to commit the same or similar offenses at other institutions and vice versa.

• Senator Sullivan: Proposed an amendment stating “Provost in consultation with other university officials will make the final decision regarding removal of the notation.” Motion approved as amended.

• Administrative Affairs Council Report
  o Senator Topic
    ▪ Lighting along the newly paved walkway (next to Calcia Hall) has been ordered and will be replaced soon (per James Cassidy, Assistant Director, FM&E)
    ▪ It is illegal to make a left hand turn onto Carlisle Road entrance when coming from the reservoir. A small sign is present on the right hand island and new, larger sights should be introduced soon on both sides of the road (per Paul Giardino, Sergeant on the MSU Police)

• Student Affairs Council Report
  o Enrollment Update - Associate V.P. Bryan Terry and Lisa Kasper, Director of Admissions
    ▪ Enrollment Management and Student Academic Services newsletter from September will be shared soon (containing more information than the presentation).
      ▪ Presentation highlights:
        ▪ Prospect pool increased by 100% (from 25,000 to approximately 50,000 students) – expanded to Southern NJ, Philadelphia, Northeast PA, Staten Island, Lower Hudson Valley and Delaware.
        ▪ Increase in academic quality – GPA is of greater importance (normalized to a 4.0 scale); SAT scores are now 25% of the decision. Academic rigor (difficulty and type of courses taken) is also quantified in the process.
        ▪ Geographical shift (Clifton HS not on top for the first time in years) – top feeder schools are now: East Brunswick HS (very popular in Middlesex County in general), Old Bridge HS, South Brunswick HS, John P. Stevens HS to name a few.
        ▪ Met our freshmen deposit goal for the first time during first week of May. Goal is to become a May 1st school (can stop accepting depositions on May 2nd).
        ▪ We have also increased our out-of-state population by 125% (last year we had 38 out-of-state freshmen; this year that number is 86)
        ▪ Largest freshmen class in history: 2,358 students
        ▪ In 2008 we had slightly over 111,000 projected New Jersey HS graduates. The trend to go out of state continues (approximately at 60% right now) and New Jersey is generally among the top 5 states for sending HS graduates to other states. Some PA schools are matching NJ tuition for NJ students in certain programs.
          ▪ Projected number of HS graduates in on a decline
          ▪ We need to continue to increase our out-of-state presence
            ▪ We have strong presence in Eastern PA
This year we had students enrolled from 20 states
Working with University Communications to get the word out
- Alumni recruitment program in South NJ is active and very successful in marketing MSU to High Schools.
- Newly built residence halls will also help us attract more NJ students.

- Senate Book Award Recipient
  - Lisa Mermini – accepted and thanked the Senate for the award.

- NAL Report
  - Senator Benfield
    - State wide negotiations – another important session to take place this week.
    - Local negotiations will start in early October. Some of the agenda items are range changes, parking space allocations, etc.
  - Senator Wolfson
    - From personal experience, our prescription plans no longer covers any cough medicine with codeine (yet we weren’t notified of this change). Union is working to gather information and address this change (committee was formed)
  - Senator Sullivan
    - Summary of the demands of the Governor and the Presidents was mailed to all members and it is the most aggressive to date.
      - VP Hain responded to this statement by saying that the representation is not entirely accurate.

- New Business
  - Issues from Campus (CART, CEHS, CHSS, CSAM, SBUS, Librarians, Prof. Staff, At -Large)
    - Senator Sullivan
      - Suggested that the add-drop period should be limited to one week as the current setup (8 days) causes students to register for a class after than course has met three times already (
        - Item directed to the Student Affairs Council by President Collins.

- Adjournment
  - University Senate adjourned at 4:58pm

Minutes Approved October 26, 2011
Respectfully Submitted by Kathleen Sadowsky, University Senate Recording Secretary