

- I. The September 1, 2015 meeting of the University Senate was **called to order** at 4:05 pm. (Collins)
- II. **Roll Call** - Present: Abrams, Allen, Alvares, Brook, Coleman-Carter, Collins, Curnutt, Jerry Cutler, Jonathan Cutler, Fails, Ficke, Friedman, Gainor, Gardin, Gaynor, Gingerich, Gurskis, Higgins, Hunt, Jacobson, Kelton, Lucas, Misra, Murray, Noonan, Nurse, Parashar, Pemberton, Pennington, Powell, Prezant, Rosa, Sadowsky, Salzman, Samuels, Specchio, Sullivan, Trubatch, and Wolfson.
- III. **Approval of May 13, 2015 minutes** –motion passed.
- IV. **Good News/Announcements**
 - a. The deans will be leaving early to represent their colleges at Red Hawk Day's College Olympics.
 - b. Senator Roholt will need to step down as he recently became chair of the new Philosophy department. The elections committee will hold elections to fill this 3 year at-large position. The election for the NAL rep will occur at the September 16 meeting.
 - c. The Senate will be making its annual presentation at New Faculty Orientation on September 28 at 4:00 to advise them of the operations and working of the Senate.
 - d. Please note the 2015-2016 roster distributed to see senators' terms, and who they are representing. A schedule of meetings for the year is also included. Meetings are from 3:00-5:00 in SC 419.
 - e. The Senate will be advised of the dates of the cross-disciplinary lunch series at the next meeting.
- V. **Report from Administration** –Provost Gingerich
 - a. Welcome to Dr. Jim German, the new associate provost for undergraduate education. His job is to improve retention and graduation rates. He will be speaking with people across campus to help accomplish this goal.
 - b. Welcome to Leslie Sutton-Smith, the new University registrar, who joins us from Drew.
 - c. Questions were raised about how no longer requiring the SAT in admissions is having an impact on student readiness and performance. Associate Provost Bonato stated that the average gpa of the incoming class went up, and high school gpa is a much better predictor of academic success in college than SATs. It was suggested that the Director of Admissions speak to the Senate on how decisions are being made currently and how the "rigor score" is calculated.
 - d. Attendance tracking for this year will be the same as it was last spring. It will change when the Banner implementation is complete.
 - e. A request was made to hear results of the National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) and the Faculty Engagement survey that was conducted last year.
- VI. **Q & A with President Cole**
 - a. The President welcomed us back to campus and encouraged the Senate to work towards furthering the role MSU takes in tackling larger societal issues.
 - b. President Cole spoke about the timeline for the new School of Nursing. We are in the process of recruiting a founding dean, and then we can look to hiring faculty and staff. The first program will be an RN to BSN which will start in Fall 2016. The following year will see a BSN program, and following that, there will be an MSN, 5-year BSN-MSN program, and a Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) program. There is a severe nursing shortage, so there is incredible demand. Rather than building a clinical medical program on campus, we will partner with health providers in the community.
 - c. In response to a question about how we can get the state to understand that higher education is worth the investment, the President stated she has tried everything she can think of, but if the governor is not in favor of something, it doesn't happen.
 - d. Provost Gingerich stated that we now have a description for a Director of the Research Academy on University Learning and something will be posted shortly. It will not be a vice-provost level position.

- e. Dean Coleman-Carter spoke about the new bystander intervention program. Information on training for faculty students and staff will be coming out in the next two weeks. It was initiated by SDCL, but it is a community initiative. 400 student leaders were trained in August.
- f. The President stated we are not currently looking at creating a Director of Academic Technology position. Once the new VP of Information Technology has been here a bit longer and we are not in the middle of the OneMontclair Implementation, it may be something to be considered.

VII. **Meeting Adjourned at 4:57 p.m.**

Minutes Approved September 16, 2015

Respectfully Submitted by Kathleen Sadowsky, University Senate Recording Secretary