

MINUTES OF THE MEETING  
OF THE  
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

January 13, 2009

President Simon called the meeting of the Board of Trustees to order at 2:10 p.m. in the Board Room.

Trustees present: Dianne Byrum, Joel Ferguson, Melanie Foster, Colleen McNamara, Don Nugent (by telephone), Faylene Owen, George Perles (by telephone), and Diann Woodard (by telephone).

**University officers present:** President Simon (by telephone, then in person), Provost Wilcox, Vice President Poston, Secretary Beekman, Vice President and General Counsel Noto, Vice Presidents Denbow and Gray. Faculty liaisons present: James Potchen and Rand Spiro. Student liaisons present: Christopher Kuleszka.

All actions taken were by unanimous vote of the Trustees present, unless otherwise noted.

1. There was no Public Participation on Issues Germane to the Agenda.

2. Election of Officers

A. Board of Trustees Officers—Chairperson

Trustee Owen **moved to nominate** Trustee Ferguson to serve as Chairperson of the Board of Trustees.

Trustee Nugent **moved that** Trustee Ferguson be declared Chairperson by unanimous consent, with support from Trustee Byrum.

**THE BOARD VOTED to elect** Trustee Ferguson as its Chairperson.

B. Board of Trustees Officers—Vice Chairperson

Trustee Owen **moved to nominate** Trustee Foster to serve as Vice Chairperson of the Board of Trustees.

Trustee Nugent **moved that** Trustee Foster be declared Vice Chairperson by unanimous consent, with support from Trustee Byrum.

**THE BOARD VOTED to elect** Trustee Foster as its Vice Chairperson.

### 3. Trustee Comments

Trustee Ferguson thanked Trustee Owen for nominating him to serve as Chairperson. He stated that he would work hard to keep up the momentum built by President Simon.

Trustee Foster thanked Trustee Owen for nominating her to serve as Vice Chairperson and thanked her colleagues for their unanimous support. She stated that it is a pleasure to serve as Vice Chairperson. She noted that she looked forward to the continued bi-partisan support of President Simon and the administration.

Trustee Nugent said that he appreciated the past cooperation of the Board and looks forward to that continuing with the new members.

Trustee Woodard said she looked forward to working with everyone.

Trustee Perles welcomed Trustee Byrum and Trustee Woodard

Trustee Byrum said she looked forward to working with the Board

President Simon congratulated Trustees Ferguson and Foster and welcomed Trustees Byrum and Woodard.

### 4. Public Participation on Other Issues

#### A. FOIA Requests

Dr. Thomas Woods stated that the MSU FOIA office lacks openness and sincerity. He asserted that the terminology "broad and expansive" is commonly used to deny requests. Dr. Woods suggested too many hurdles are placed in the way of receiving information, including long wait times and high expenses. Dr. Woods also suggested that discrimination against minorities may be taking place within WKAR. He urged the Board to investigate possible discrimination at WKAR and operations within the MSU FOIA office.

5. On a motion by Trustee Owen and supported by Trustee Ferguson, **THE BOARD VOTED to adjourn** at 2:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "W. Beekman", is written over a light blue rectangular background.

William R. Beekman  
Secretary of the Board of Trustees