

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

October 16, 2018

MEMORANDUM

TO: Deans

FROM: June Pierce Youatt, Provost

RE: Fall 2018 Planning

During the past year we made significant progress on a number of important university initiatives.

- In terms of research and scholarship, 16 faculty members will join us this academic year as part of the third round of hiring through the Global Impact Initiative (GII), bringing the cumulative total to 80. The ongoing dedication of our current faculty and the infusion of new talent through the GII and other hiring processes continue to enhance MSU's national and international reputation.
- We continue to focus on creating a national model for student success with particular emphasis on closing the opportunity gaps for lower-income, first-generation, and underrepresented minority student populations. This includes taking three complementary approaches to enhance student success in gateway mathematics: 1) the development and expansion of quantitative literacy courses, 2) the creation of a two-semester version of college algebra to replace the remedial course MTH 1825, and 3) coordinated refinements of our math placement system to guide students more effectively to the best mathematics pathway for their success.
- Additionally, we remain focused on helping students reduce the time to and cost of their degree. The Go Green Go 15 initiative will continue to be one way we are tackling these challenges, seeking to create higher rates of credit momentum among our students that strongly correlates to higher levels of student academic success. The move to a block tuition structure beginning in the 2019-20 academic year will provide further financial incentive for students to enroll in 15 credits each semester and aid in reducing both the cost of and time to degree.
- Enhancements to the teaching and research infrastructure continue through several capital projects. On August 31, we broke ground on the new STEM Teaching and Learning Facility. Pairing this with the renovation of the former Shaw Lane Power Plant will promote interdisciplinary and collaborative opportunities and create a campus hub across the sciences, arts, and humanities. Construction of the new



OFFICE OF THE PROVOST

Michigan State University
430 Administration Building
East Lansing, MI 48824-1046

517-355-6550
Fax: 517-355-9601
provost.msu.edu

Interdisciplinary Science and Technology Building and the Eli Broad College of Business Pavilion continue to progress on schedule with anticipated openings in fall 2019. In October, we will officially break ground for the expansion and facilities renovation for the College of Music with an anticipated completion date of February 2020.

In order to maintain and build upon our successes, it is important to continue to deliberately plan for the future in an integrated manner.

I again ask you to describe how your College is addressing the following priority areas (<https://provost.msu.edu/priorities/index.html>). Succinct updates and examples on the highest priority projects and initiatives are appreciated.

- Providing support for faculty resulting in greater scholarly productivity and instructional effectiveness.
 - Pursuing multiple strategies for expanding, enhancing, and elevating scholarship.
 - Pursuing multiple strategies for enhancing student success (retention, graduation, achievement).
 - Identification of most significant challenges facing the college and planned strategies to address such challenges.
1. Given the projects discussed above, what (if any) updates/changes have been made to the College's strategic plan?
 2. Complete the attached spreadsheet on faculty recruitment efforts in 2018-19 and projections of faculty retirements during the next 5 years.
 3. A copy of your unit's monetary reserves is available at <https://pal.itservices.msu.edu/pmpsvc/applications.jsp>. Once authenticated, please select the "Unrestricted Fund Balance Review" link. Review your unit's status and indicate reasons for increases or reductions and note any planned, significant uses of reserves over 2019-20. During your review, keep in mind that as a public institution, MSU needs to recognize both concerns over accumulated fund balances and the need to provide units with flexibility to utilize funds to plan for and catalyze new strategic initiatives.

In past years, non-academic staff FTE counts and key metrics by college and department were provided during the fall planning process. Given the timing of when various metrics are finalized for the most recently concluded academic year, we will instead provide those materials during the spring 2019 budget request process for review and discussion.

As in previous years, I would appreciate a **narrative limited to 6-8 pages**, although I appreciate the difficulty of creating a thoughtful, integrative commentary within the page constraints. I hope the information requested prompts discussion within your leadership team, and I look forward to our conversation later in the semester. Please submit all materials electronically by **Friday, November 16** to Margie Aimery (aimery@msu.edu). If you have any questions, feel free to contact me directly or to talk with Dave Byelich at 355-9271.

cc: Dave Byelich