

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

To: Black Student Alliance

From: Lou Anna K. Simon, President *LAS*

Subject: Response to BSA Demands and Future Dialogues

Date: November 7, 2011

In anticipation of our discussions, I, along with other key senior administrators, have reviewed the list of demands provided at the October 28, 2011, meeting. We have organized them into categories simply for the purpose of ease of communication. You will note that certain administrators are identified with the various groupings, because the items are more closely aligned with their unit and responsibilities and they are best able to provide meaningful discussion on the issues. Dialogue may also likely involve others reporting through the designated administrators. We have restated verbatim your demands, and have provided our response, but clearly we anticipate, based on further discussion, opportunities to explore these issues in greater detail.

Consistent with your request, every Friday afternoon through the end of this semester has been set aside for meetings to begin our dialogues. Dr. Maybank's office will take the lead on scheduling meetings; they will be in touch with you shortly. Due to my existing commitments, I am not able to attend all the meetings, but I will endeavor to meet with you to discuss our progress and meet with you before the conclusion of scheduled meetings with the various administrators. Each administrator associated with the grouping of demands is expected to communicate directly to me the status of the discussions with BSA. I will review any recommended changes in our policies, procedures, programs, and activities, as will Provost Wilcox and Vice President Fred Poston. Please be assured, that even though my schedule will not permit me to be present at all of the discussions, I will be fully apprised of what takes place.

Again, as I stated on Friday, your issues – and this process – are important. I believe that, working together, we can make Michigan State University a better place than it is today for those who come after us. I look forward to engaging in that work with you.

attachment

c: Kim Wilcox, Provost
Bill Beekman, Secretary to the Board of Trustees and Executive Assistant to the President
Paulette Granberry Russell, Director, Office for Inclusion and Intercultural Initiatives
Fred Poston, Vice President, Finance and Operations
Denise Maybank, Interim Vice President, Student Affairs and Services
Linda Stanford, Associate Provost for Academic Services
June Youatt, Senior Associate Provost
Vennie Gore, Assistant Vice President, Housing and Food Services
Kelley Bishop, Assistant Vice President, Student Affairs and Services
Doug Estry, Associate Provost for Undergraduate Education
Kristine Zayko, Deputy General Counsel
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