

#ReclaimMSU

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Trustee Mosallam,

We appreciate that you are talking about transparency, inclusivity, and accountability. We have serious concerns and questions about your proposal. As a member of the very governing body that our community has no confidence in and as a member of a board that has repeatedly failed us, you have a responsibility to attempt to address some of the damage this board has enabled and participated in producing. We imagine this is not an easy task for you as the sole board member acknowledging this community, but your leadership has failed us in the past. In these times, it is clear the change we need will not come from the top down. We have been here, and we have been pushing for change. You have asked us to stand behind you. Why haven't you stood behind us?

This community has been pushing for change. We have been urging you to act and to do so with transparency and real accountability. We would like to remind you that committing yourself to promoting a new culture for MSU begins by listening to what the community has asked. You say you have listened. That means you must know the change we seek is about real accountability, real change, and real shared governance.

As you know, Reclaim MSU has reached out to the Board of Trustees (BoT) with [our proposal](#). You have read it. This proposal has gained the support of [nearly 900](#) students, faculty, staff, alumni, and community members. It has also been endorsed by the Faculty Senate, the main representative faculty body. We believe that regardless of who sits on the Board of Trustees, it is critical that the bylaws of the Board are changed to allow full participation of faculty and students in governance of the university and to ensure that the search for our University President includes faculty, students, and staff. We have urged the BoT to adopt the following changes, which they can easily do: create a University Board by adding two students and two faculty with full voting rights, and adopt our guidelines for an inclusive presidential search process that gives students, staff, and faculty a voting voice.

The community has used their voices to call for real inclusivity in university governance, with students, faculty, and staff that can represent our concerns on all issues, not just in certain realms as you have proposed. Your proposal would give only one faculty and one student extremely limited voting rights on only three matters and **not** seats on the

board. Our proposal would add two faculty, a graduate student and an undergraduate, with full voting rights on all matters to the board.

We certainly see some of the points in your proposal as moving in the right direction, and we see others as moving against the very principles of real shared governance that our community demands and needs. We are concerned about how you have put your proposal forward and about how you continue to ignore us. How were members of the community involved? Were the ideas co-developed with faculty, students, and staff? Did groups already working for change, like the RVSM advisory work group (the members of which have been meeting with constituents and asking for their input), contribute to the ideas presented in your proposal? If they have, they should be acknowledged.

We will always support changes that move this institution towards real accountability, transparency, shared governance, and inclusion. We will continue to demand that student, faculty, and staff voices be heard. This is our commitment.

Reclaim MSU