

## **MSU Faculty and Staff:**

I wanted to provide our campus with a quick update on a few items:

- 1) Provost and VP Academic Affairs Search: As you know, Dr. Bob Albert has been serving as Interim Provost and VPAA for this academic year (2018-2019). After some consultation with a few and discussion with Bob, I have asked and Bob is willing to continue serving for an additional year (2019-2020). This extra year will help us bridge our implementation of any general education changes, and allow us time to develop and begin to implement our Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP).
- 2) Indirect Cost Formula: For the past month or two Dr. Mike Henson has been working on some proposed modifications to our indirect cost formula. I am pleased to relay that the one central modification to the formula will be the establishment of a Principal Investigator (P.I.) Fund within the formula of 10%+/- . As you may be aware, P.I. Funds within formulas are quite common and serve as a positive incentive to those seeking grants. Currently, Dr. Henson and others are working on a few 'back of the house' process and procedure items and we hope to have this in place relatively soon.
- 3) Tuition Benefits for Employees: Last spring, during the 2018 General Assembly, the Commonwealth of KY eliminated statutory language allowing employees from one higher education institution to take courses and receive tuition waivers at another higher education institution. As a result, for the Fall 2018 semester all of the public higher education institutions in KY extended those benefits by signing an agreement for the Fall semester. As that agreement comes to an end for the Fall Semester there is a convergence of discussion (and no concurrence to date) of how each campus will move forward with or without waivers for employees from other institutions. Separate from that on-going discussion, we want our employees to know that those of you who are taking courses at MSU will still be able to continue after this Fall, and that there is no change to the current policy in place for MSU employees taking our courses.

Thank you for all that you do.

Jay Morgan