ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

FIFTY-FOURTH SESSION

BILL NO. 54-52
INTRODUCED BY: COLPOYS  SECONDED BY: GRAY

A BILL TO: Urge the Michigan State University Board of Trustees to Solicit Community Input in the Presidential Search

THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY ENACT:

WHEREAS, Michigan State University (MSU), due to the failures in leadership of the Board of Trustees and the former University President in the midst of the tragic and egregious Larry Nassar sexual abuse case, is in a position where we must hire a new permanent president; and,

WHEREAS, The Board of Trustees, per their bylaws and the Constitution of the State of Michigan, is tasked with the hiring of a new University President; and,

WHEREAS, In the past two presidential searches and in the search for an Interim President, the Board of Trustees neglected to consult the MSU community and its stakeholders, meaning faculty, staff, students, alumni, and the broader community, when making a decision about who to hire as the leader for the institution; and,

WHEREAS, Currently MSU faculty, staff, and students have no trust or confidence in the leaders of the institution to make decisions that are in our best interest, and there has been a massive breach of trust between the Board of Trustees and the broader community; and,

WHEREAS, Shared governance and community input are essential for MSU employees and students in general, especially in the search for a long-term university president so we feel valued and heard as members of the MSU community; and,

WHEREAS, It is common practice to have search committees for high-level leadership positions at MSU so that stakeholders can have input in the decision-making process; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, The Associated Students of Michigan State University, in the strongest possible terms, urges the Board of Trustees to establish a search committee for the long-term university president before the 2018-2019 school year so that community stakeholders can have a voice in determining the leadership of this institution; and be it further,

RESOLVED, ASMSU strongly encourages the search committee to have the following composition:
- 5 faculty members, chosen by respective units across the university and the Faculty Senate
-3 staff representatives: one from student affairs and two determined by other units across the university
-3 undergraduate representatives: one from the Associated Students of Michigan State University, one from the Council of Racial and Ethnic Students/Council of Progressive Students, and one at-large undergraduate student
-2 graduate student representatives: one from Council Of Graduate Students and one at-large graduate student
-1 Dean, chosen by the Council of Deans at Michigan State University
-1 MSU alumni representative, selected by the MSU Alumni Association Executive Board and Advisory Council
-1 at-large community member, such as a member of the East Lansing Community Relations Coalition
-2 members of the Board of Trustees, one from each political party
-1 representative from OIIS, or a representative who works specifically with international students on campus
-1 representative from MSU Athletics; and be it further,

RESOLVED, ASMSU strongly recommends that once the search committee has designated finalists in the search, the search committee brings these candidates to campus to share their background, leadership experience in a university setting, and ideas on how to move forward and rebuild trust with the MSU community, the public, survivors of Larry Nassar’s abuse, and any other concerned parties; and be it further,

RESOLVED, ASMSU believes that the Faculty Senate, the Council of Graduate Students (COGS), and ASMSU should be able to provide input on which finalist is selected as the next university president; if majority of the Faculty Senate, majority of COGS membership, and majority of ASMSU’s General Assembly membership oppose the selected presidential candidate, the Board of Trustees should not be able to select this candidate to serve as the President of this university.