

MSURA ANNUAL MEETING

MAY 7, 2025 at MSU University Club

The meeting was called to order by President David Brower. He welcomed all, thanked those who contributed to making the meeting a success, introduced special guests, and acknowledged past presidents of the MSURA who were in attendance. He ended his remarks with a call for a moment of remembrance.

Angela Brown, Vice President, introduced our guest speaker, MSU President Kevin Guskiewicz, PhD. President Guskiewicz addressed a variety of the university's many initiatives and priorities. Among them: fund-raising (a new \$4 billion campaign); support for international students; focus on student success, DEI, and future enrollment; review of the MSU 2030 plan with its six major priorities; efforts to stress to DC the importance of higher education and a federal government that believes in the power of research and that understands the dependence of a land grant university on public funding; and several initiatives related to leadership and collaboration.

David Brower provided a status report on fundraising efforts for the Endowed Scholarships. We have raised sufficient money to fund four endowed scholarships at \$2,500 per student per year. We will continue to raise money, now an additional \$50,000, with the objective of increasing the four scholarship amounts to \$3,000 per student per year.

Rick Vogt announced the four Endowed Scholarship recipients for the 2025-2026 academic year. All four recipients attended the luncheon. The winners include: Hudson Goethals (Mulliken, MI); Triniti Halbedel (Flint, MI); Kortney Osborn (Mason, MI); Ruby Ida Mae Wilson (Flint, MI).

Cheryl Pell presented a Certificate of Appreciation to our newsletter's student journalist, JaTasia Powers, a recent graduate with a double degree in Journalism and Communication. JaTasia contributed stories to our newsletter for over two years.

William Anderson announced the 2025-2026 slate for the board elections: Dave Brower, President; Sandra Buike, Vice-President; Robert Patterson, Treasurer; and Kate Wight, Secretary. Mike Gardner was re-elected as At-Large Member; Eric Crawford will replace Christina DeFouw as At-Large Member.

Jacqueline Babcock introduced the Outstanding Volunteer of the Year recipients, Christina DeFouw and William Anderson. As an At-Large Member, Chris has helped in several areas. Among them: planning special events; serving as liaison with the special interest groups; recruiting volunteers who assisted in a variety of activities. Bill has been an At-Large Member for several years. During that time he has been the driving force behind several activities. Among them: MSURA's participation in the Homecoming Parade; a liaison with MSU Safe Place, helping families in need at Christmas; a collaboration with Mike Garland, Champions of the Heart, to offer APR and CED training to retirees.

Mike Gardner awarded the door prizes: gift bags from MSUFCU; and Eat At State meal tickets from MSU Culinary Services.

Dave concluded the meeting with congratulations to the leadership team for the coming year. He also announced upcoming events planned for the summer months: monthly lunch gatherings at Brody Hall; an event at the MSU Planetarium in July, and a Lugnuts' game in August.

Submitted by Kate Wight, Secretary

June 23, 2025