

# MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

August 8, 2019

**To:** MSU Deans, Directors and Chairs

**From:** Satish Udpa, Acting President

**Re:** Blue Ribbon Committee on IT Integration

In April, I asked John Beck of the School of Human Resources and Labor Relations to conduct focus group interviews with each college to hear about each college's experience with the IT integration, identify strengths and weaknesses of the integration process, and examine ways to work together to collaboratively strengthen IT efforts on campus. We have collected a lot of information and we now need a plan to move forward on the basis of the information we have collected. As a next step, I am naming a Blue Ribbon Committee to continue the work of improving the IT integration process.

The goal is not to undo the integration process begun earlier, but to further the integration process in a way that ensures our IT infrastructure becomes an enabler and a catalyst for positioning MSU as a global leader in education, research and outreach.

Questions that need to be addressed include:

- Which IT functions must be centrally provided to ensure institutional information security?
- Which IT functions should be centrally provided to assure budgetary efficiency?
- Which IT functions should be centrally provided to assure institutional efficiency?
- Which IT functions could be centrally provided to support IT effectiveness?
- Which IT functions are most effectively, but securely, handled locally?

The committee will consist of the following individuals:

- Thomas Glasmacher – Director of the Facility for Rare Isotope Beams (chair)
- Andrea Amalfitano – Dean, College of Osteopathic Medicine
- Bill Beekman – Vice President and Director of Intercollegiate Athletics
- Thomas Cooper – Project Manager, Student Information System Modernization Project
- Leo Kempel – Dean, College of Engineering
- Christopher Long – Dean, College of Arts and Letters
- Rob McCurdy – Vice President and Chief Information Officer
- Deborah Moriarty – Chairperson, Faculty Steering Committee and Professor, College of Music
- Fred Sudler – Chief Operating Officer and Director of Application Services, MSU IT
- Heather Swain – Vice President for Marketing, Public Relations and Digital Strategy
- Mario Kakos – Associated Students of MSU
- Maurice Koffman – MSU Administrative Professionals Association



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- I request that the committee will review Professor Beck's work, interact with campus leaders, and interact with MSU IT senior leadership to develop implementation recommendations to continue the IT integration process in support of MSU's mission.