



BRIGGANTINE

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The Lyman Briggs Alumni Association
Nick White, Co-President
whiten@umich.edu

Diane Barker, Co-President
barker@msu.edu

Indra Neil Saker,
Vice President
sarkar@mlb.edu

Nathan Tykocki,
Secretary
ntykocki@gmail.com

Dale Eaman, Treasurer
eamandotnet@worldnet.att.net

Pat Merry, Director
plmerry@msn.com

Current Director Vacancy

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Dr. Elizabeth Simmons,
Dean
esimmons@msu.edu

Robert Shelton, Faculty
Liaison
Shelton@msu.edu

Kent Workman, Faculty
Liaison
workman@msu.edu

Gerald Urquhart,
Faculty Liaison
Urquhart@msu.edu

Debie Lecato,
Administrative Liaison
lecat@msu.edu

Mary Sheridan,
Consultant
sherida3@msu.edu

Current Participating Members

Yvette Gross
dr_vetty@hotmail.com

Kate Burdick
burdic17@msu.edu

Susan Ohm
ohmslaw234@fastmail.fm

Laurin Gierman
giermanl@msu.edu

Frank Dolinar
frank.dolinar@comcast.net

Letter from the Dean

Dear Lyman Briggs Alumni:

I am absolutely delighted to report that as of June 15, 2007, Lyman Briggs is a College once more.

MSU Provost Kim Wilcox brought the College Transition proposal to the Executive Committee of Academic Council (ECAC) on February 27, 2007, to initiate the university-level governance review. Steve Spees, Philip Strong and I spent the next 6 weeks attending meetings of University Committees on Student Affairs, Faculty Affairs, and Academic Policy, the University Graduate Council, and Associated Students of MSU Academic Assembly to explain the proposal and answer questions. On April 3, ECAC referred the matter to the Faculty Council. The proposal was unanimously approved by Faculty Council on April 10 and by Academic Council on April 17. CNS Interim Dean Estelle McGroarty and I then signed a Memorandum of Understanding between CNS and LBC to formalize the continuing strong partnership between Lyman Briggs and Natural Science.

The MSU Board of Trustees voted unanimously to confer college status on Lyman Briggs at its June 15 meeting. The Lyman Briggs faculty, staff, students, and alumni present to witness the vote included myself, Diane Barker, Anthony DiFalco, Jim Potchen, Jim Smith, Steve Spees, Philip Strong, Jerry Urquhart (and Kim Wilcox).

Here are the remarks with which I thanked the President, the Provost, and the Board:

Lyman Briggs has a proud tradition of educating MSU undergraduates in the sciences and the societal context of science. On behalf of the Lyman Briggs community, including those present here today, I thank you most warmly for restoring Briggs to College status on the eve of our 40th anniversary. I also thank the many here who have helped us prepare for this transition.

As a college, we can best realize the inherent promise of the university's recent investment in our expansion. And as a college, we can be equal partners with James Madison College, Honors College and the new Residential College in Arts and Humanities in recruiting talented students nationwide, in promoting the

professional development of our staff, engaging the expertise of our alumni, and in creating innovative, effective interdisciplinary curricula.

Thank you again. We will make the most of this exciting opportunity to serve our students and Michigan State University.

Following the vote on LBC, the Trustees approved my appointment as Dean. I am happy to tell you that Steve Spees and Philip Strong have agreed to serve, respectively, as Associate Dean and Assistant Dean of LBC.

I look forward to seeing you at the 40th Anniversary Celebration in October and making plans for strong alumni involvement in our next 40 years as a College.

Best regards,

Elizabeth H. Simmons
Dean, Lyman Briggs College

