

Michigan Tech

University Senate

Board of Control Meeting

May 3, 2013

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New Senate Officers
for Academic Year 2013-14

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Role of the Michigan Tech Senate?

How can the Senate help the Board make us a better institution?

Benefits Survey

Concerns exist over declining benefits
(especially health care)

Urge BOC to obtain the results when available to
get a feel for employee satisfaction and ways
forward.

How can we position ourselves in the world of Massive Online Open Courses (MOOCs)?

University Accreditation and Assessment

How can we assess ourselves and get accreditation in the most efficient way?

Currently many volunteer hours are used and it is hard to get the buy-in from the faculty.

Executive Team Evaluation

Urge BOC to review results and discuss
how to use them to move forward.

Share actions based on survey results with
faculty and staff!

Shared Governance

If the University is really to have shared governance, then the Senate needs to be viewed as a partner in decisions.

We have made some good progress on this issue this year but still have a ways to go.

The administration will need to continue to work with the senate, and the senate will need to step up and act in a deliberate , as well as deliberative, manner.

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Some Thoughts

The broad range of thinking styles on campus can be a difficulty in moving forward, but they can also allow diverse problem solving ideas: cognitive diversity. To make use of cognitive diversity:

1. The Senate needs to respond in a timely and responsible manner.
2. The Administration needs to seek input from the Senate early in the process of the development of new policies and procedures.
3. The Board of Control could take advantage of the diversity of ideas if they would allow the Senate to review proposed changes to their policies and make suggestions.

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Summary

Interaction between the Senate, Administration, and Board of Control, if done well, should make Michigan Tech a better University.

We should, as much as possible, think in terms of cognitive diversity.

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