

**Student Commission Meeting**  
**Thursday, October 24, 2019, 2:00-3:00 p.m.**  
**MUB, Ballroom A1**

**Present: Daniel Byrne, Marc Geborkoff, Bonnie Gorman, Robert Head, Lynda Heinonen, Beka Horsch, Mia Kemppainen, Pattie Luokkanen, Justin Mentink, Benjamin Petrie, Zoe Quinn, Chris Roy, Bryce Walbrun**

**Welcome – Bryce**

**Updates**

**Non-Motorized Transportation Working Group Report on Meeting**

Bryant Weathers reported through email on the committee's first meeting in the 2019 fall semester.

Our Google Group is "Non-Motorized Transportation Working Group" <nonmotorizedtransportation-l@mtu.edu>. Our Google Shared Drive was shared with all of you. Let me know if you didn't receive the share.

**Action Items:**

**Everyone:** Look at other institutions that are similar to us in size, climate, and culture. Please put your notes and findings in the "Benchmarking" Google Drive folder. We will review these at our next meeting.

- University of Minnesota Duluth
- Clarkston

**Everyone:** Review the documents in the google team drive. This will take a while to review as there is a lot of content.

**Marc:** Will look into benchmarking regarding bike enforcement.

**Mike:** Will look into who can help us with grant writing and submission

**Dan Liebau** will update the timeline.

**Mike, Dan, and Melanie** will start drafting a survey to send to their respective constituents.

**Bryant** will find a representative from Civil and Environmental Engineering

**Bryant** will upload a draft outline of a non-motorized transportation plan created earlier this summer.

**Dan Bennett** will provide pizza at our next meeting.

We will plan on meeting again on October 30 to review the timeline, benchmarking findings, survey timeline, and discuss next steps. Invite will be out shortly. If you are unable to attend at this time, please send an alternate in your place.

At the Student Commission meeting it was questioned if pedestrian safety could be discussed at the next Non-Motorized Transportation Working Group meeting.

After the October 30<sup>th</sup> meeting, the committee will provide an update.

### **Promotion of Student Commission**

- Posters – Lynda had posters printed and distributed to those at the meeting who wanted them.
- EDS – Daniel processed a slide for EDS and it should be on display soon.
- Table Tent – Zoe designed a rough draft and will wait for Lynda to forward past Student Commission accomplishments so they can be added to the document.
- Other material
  - Social Media (Facebook and Instagram)
  - Daniel and Bryce will ask the appropriate people at USG and GSG to post on social media and link to the Student Commission website.  
<https://www.mtu.edu/student-affairs/administration/committees/student-commission/>

### **New Items**

#### **Crossing US-41 - Bonnie**

Bonnie reported that concern has been expressed regarding conflicting signage on US-41. One of the signs makes it look like students should cross at the cross-walk even if traffic is coming and the other makes it look like they should yield to highway traffic. Some students are waving cars on and others are crossing the road in front of cars.

Marc reported that in the State of Michigan, cars have the “right-away” on US highways. Bonnie questioned if one set of signs could be taken down. Marc will bring this up at the next MDOT meeting.

Bonnie reported that a student asked her to send an email to the students on the correct way to cross the highway. Bonnie asked Marc if he could ask MDOT to draft language regarding what message they’d like to the students to receive regarding this issue. It was also suggested that it should also include language about not standing close to the side of the road while waiting to cross.

#### **Under Utilized Yoga Studio Hours (SDC)**

A complaint had been received that the yoga studio is underutilized. Chris distributed and reviewed the fall schedule for the studio and it IS heavily scheduled. He commented that student orgs are able to reserve the studio any time that it is free. They should call the SDC to make reservations. He also commented that the studio has a very specialized floor and was designed with dancing in mind.

### **Ringling of the Bell**

Bonnie reported a committee has been formed to determine when the clock tower bell should ring. Some of the suggestions have been:

- K-Day
- Classes at Noon
- September 11
- Parade of Nations
- Homecoming Kick-off
- Winter Carnival and Homecoming (when classes are dismissed)
- Spring Fling
- Commencement
- May 1 (Michigan Tech anniversary)
- PhD Dissertation completion
- National Championships

Bonnie asked for input from the students. Comments included:

- Start and end of business day
- Midnight (time to go home)
- 2:00 a.m. (move your car)
- K-Day
- Commemorate/acknowledge events
- K-Day (ring only once a year)
- Completion of PhD Defense (over time it would become a tradition)

Bonnie will bring back these suggestions back to the committee.

### **M&M U115 Classroom Renovation**

It was reported the M&M U115 classroom needs renovation. It was commented that it is a “sad” lecture hall, with small desks that are hard to use.

Bonnie commented that Mike Meyer ([mrmeyer@mtu.edu](mailto:mrmeyer@mtu.edu)) is the lead who is reviewing classroom facilities and she questioned if a student would be willing to set up a meeting to discuss these concerns with him. Bryce volunteered to do this.

### **M&M Signage Re-visited**

This concern was originally brought to the Student Commission because of the poor signage in the building. A committee had been formed (Travis Pierce, Anita Quinn, and Nathan Shaiyan) and quotes were solicited from Cook Sign and Industrial Graphics. The quotes ranged from \$8,888 to \$12,019. Since all of the committee members are no longer at the University the project was put on hold.

After lengthy discussion the committee decided it could:

- Do nothing
- Approach the Provost for funding
- Contact Facilities (it was commented that the Library, Admin Building, and the SDC all have paid for their own signage)

It was questioned “how truly big of a problem is the signage for the students in that building?” Both Daniel and Bryce will bring it back to GSG and USG for discussion and report back to the committee.

### **Women’s Bathrooms in the MEEM**

It was reported that there are no women’s bathrooms on the 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, or the basement floors in the ME-EM and the 4<sup>th</sup> floor only has a lactation space. It was questioned if this is a campus-wide issue and does the Student Commission want to tackle this? After discussion, it was decided that Bonnie will reach out to Sue Kerry, Chief Financial Officer if this issue is on her radar. The Student Commission will proceed from there.

### **Bathroom Hooks in Stalls**

Concern was expressed because a lot of the bathroom stalls do not have hooks on the doors and one has to put their purse/backpack on the floor. If a department requests that they be put on the doors they will probably be charged the cost of the hook and labor. After discussion, it was decided that this will be discussed further at the November meeting.

### **Next Meeting**

The next meeting is scheduled for November 14, 2019, 2:00 p.m., MUB, Ballroom A1

### **2019 Fall Meeting Dates**

- Thursday, December 12, 2019, 2:00 p.m., Admin 404