

**Student Commission Meeting**  
**Thursday, October 13, 2016**

**Present: Donna Beels, Jacob Cavins, Les Cook, Jonathan Davey, Johnny Diaz, Lynda Heinonen, Jared Johnson, Judy Klutts, Will Lytle, Josh Marshall, Erin Matas, Carol McCullah, Kyle McGurk, Dave Nordstrom, Brenda Rudiger, Kerri Sleeman**

**Welcome – Will and Jacob**

**New Items**

**Printer Station in Daniell Heights Community Room – Will**

Will reported that graduate students living in Daniell Heights are requesting that a printer station be placed in the Daniell Heights Community Room. This would allow easy access for lower and upper heights students. Currently students need to go to campus if they print. Will wasn't quite sure how the arrangement would be made. Would IT set up and Housing cover the cost? After discussion it was decided that Johnny and Travis will meet to discuss.

**Students Working in Dining Halls/MUB – Will**

Will reported that in the past students were allowed to eat if they worked at the MUB or in the Dining Halls. He commented that this was cut out because of some abuse of the system. He also reported that because students often counted on this meal, some of them are now using the Food Pantry.

Will would like to see that if students work more than four hours they are either given an electronic meal swipe or \$8.00 compensation in the pay check.

Les suggested that a meeting be scheduled with Daryl Matthews and Bob Hiltunen or Theresa Coleman-Kaiser. Will and Jacob will put together a list of students who should be invited to the meeting.

**Updates**

**Town Hall Meetings – Jacob**

Jacob reported that the USG Student Affairs committee is working on a Renter's Right Open Forum for students who live off-campus. It would update students and provide rules and regulations for the local area and the student's rights as a tenant. Right now a date has not been set for this town hall.

Also USG, GSC, the Lode, and the MUB Board tried to set up a town hall meeting for the Upper Peninsula candidates (Jack Bergman and Lon Johnson) to address issues that may affect the students at Michigan Tech. The event was canceled because the candidates couldn't agree on a date.

It was reported that the Presidential debate will be streamed in Fisher 135 on Wednesday, October 19 at 9:00 pm.

### **Skate Board/Long Board Rack – Jacob**

Jacob displayed the cad design that he had designed for a skate and long board rack. He explained that it could be either pole mounted or wall mounted and how the boards could be secured to the rack.

It was questioned how expensive these would be to make and Jacob explained that the next step is to get the engineering drawings to Facilities Management. Kerri recommended that Jacob fill out a work request form <http://www.mtu.edu/facilities/maintenance/requests/> and include the drawings with the order. She said a skilled trades' person would then review but with their busy schedules it may take a while to get this done. Kerri said that at some point a full proposal will need to be submitted and it should also include locations where they recommended the racks be placed. Also Occupational Safety and Health Services and the architect will have to do code review.

Les suggested Jacob and fellow long board/skate board users go look for the ideal locations and provide these recommendations to Facilities Management. He also commented that would be happy to support funding.

### **Textbooks – Erin and Josh**

Erin reported that her and Josh has been meeting to discuss this topic. Erin commented that the Library would be willing of offer a storage area or book case for the donated books and some staff time for cataloguing but the two of them haven't been able to meet on common ground on the topic of "who is responsible for long-term maintenance?" Erin explained the Library does not have the resources and Josh feels there needs to be an institutional presence because this cannot be run by a student org. He thought the resources should be given to the Library. Erin commented that most University Libraries do not purchase textbooks.

It was questioned if there could be departmental libraries but Josh didn't think they had the facilities.

It was questioned if Josh had done research on what other Libraries are doing. He commented that it varies.

Will reported that at a Textbook Strategy meeting there was a discussion to consider adding textbook fees to lab fees. This way the University could bargain for cheaper textbooks.

Erin commented that the Library is adding on a consistent basis electronic resources that instructors/professors could elect to use in their courses. These are subscription based so all students, faculty, and staff would have access to them. They are trying to make faculty aware of this. Also faculty can put hard copy text books on reserve at the Library that students can check them out for a few hours at a time.

Additional comments/suggestions:

- Do you have to have a hard copy?
- A lot of students don't buy a required books because they can't afford to
- Some students wait a month before purchasing the book to make sure the instructor is using it

It was questioned if this should be brought to the University Senate and Josh reported that it already has been and a temporary committee is being formed with members from the research, curriculum, and other related committees.

It was questioned how faculty choose their textbooks and it was commented that it varies from department to department

#### **Contract Holder - Jacob**

The group has not had a chance to meet yet so there is no update.

#### **Reflectors – Lynda**

Last year, reflectors were distributed and there was a request to do this again this year. Lynda reported that this is being worked on.

#### **Princes Point – Kerri**

Kerri reported that a number of year ago the “revival” of Princes Point was a student led initiative but she understands that it needs better upkeep. She reported that Facilities Management weed whacks every three weeks and picks up the garbage from the can once a week (they do not go around the property and pick up garbage).

Concern was expressed that there are a lot of nails (from pallets) on the ground and the fire pit is overflowing with ashes.

Discussion followed with these ideas/comments suggested:

- They want students/community to be able to freely use
- Put locked shed on property to make it easier for student orgs to clean up
  - Who has the keys?
  - Training?
  - How do you turn over keys?
- Pallets are free so the students use them
- When trees are cut down could the wood be delivered to Princes Point?
- Could a sign be put up “This is your space – please take care of it”
- It should be a shared responsibility between students and the University
- Get student orgs who are interested in sustainability involved
- Currently it is an open community space – self use, self-regulated
- Leave it on the Make a Difference schedule and possibly have a OAP staff member lead the effort

It was decided that Kerri and Kyle will meet to discuss further. Kyle will propose the meeting.

### **Bus Stop Schedules - Kerri**

There was a request that the bus stops have schedules in them and Kerri reported this is done and will be updated each semester.

It was questioned if the bus stops could be identified. New and transfer students do not always know where they should wait for the shuttles. Kerri commented that she thought they were all marked but she will check to make sure this is the case.

### **Next Meeting**

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 27, 2016, at 2:00 pm in Ballroom A1, MUB.

### **Fall Meeting Dates**

- Thursday, November 10, 2:00 pm, Ballroom A1, MUB
- Thursday, December 8, 2:00 pm, Ballroom A1, MUB