

**Student Commission Meeting  
Thursday, February 14, 2013**

**Present: Les Cook, Lynda Heinonen, Judy Klutts, Zachary Mauerman, Rachel Morrison, Dave Nordstrom, Donnie Palmer, Travis Pierce, Kathy Pintar, Jon Riehl, Kerri Sleeman, Tim Ward, Chris Wojick, Margo Woller-Carter, Jen Zarzecki**

**Happy Valentine's Day!**

**Welcome – Donnie**

**Updates**

**Trash Receptacles on Campus**

Kerri reported that Facilities Management took the recommendations from the Student Commission and purchased 25 additional trash receptacles and they will be placing them around campus. Kerri distributed an updated map of their proposed locations.

**Winter Carnival Cleanup – Donnie and Kerri**

Donnie reported he had contacted IFC and the Panhellenic Council to discuss the possibility of their groups volunteering to clean up on the Thursday of Winter Carnival. These groups expressed concern that it would be a too long a shift for their members. Les commented that different students need to be looked at because a lot of the student groups have been out all night building snow statues. Les commented that it would not have to be a large group (30 or less). Margo volunteered to discuss this with GSG.

Kerri commented that Blue Key did an outstanding job of keeping everything in order this year. Kerri also reported that another dumpster had been brought to campus for Winter Carnival.

**GSG IT Ad Hoc Committee Report – Margo**

Margo reported that 130 people have taken the survey with most of them being graduate students. She questioned how it could be sent to undergraduate students. Donnie reported that it had been sent to them. To generate more interest, he volunteered to put it on Facebook.

**Promotion of Student Commission – Donnie**

Donnie reported that he will start going visiting the various student organizations to promote the Student Commission.

Les reported that Beth Lunde is having Student Commission posters printed and distributed a draft copy for the committee to review.

### **Discussion of Issues Brought Forward at January Meeting Emergency or Supplemental Health Care Fund for Students**

Margo reported that the Betty Chavis Fund is \$500.00 and it is for undergraduate students and it is used mostly to cover travel expenses for students who have an emergency situation come up.

Les volunteered to contact Bill Roberts in the Financial Aid Office to discuss what type of fund they have for emergencies.

### **Health Care Provider on Campus**

Margo reported that interest has been expressed by graduate students to have a health care provider on campus rather than just at the SDC. Les commented that until students are willing to pay a student health fee this is unlikely to happen. Currently Michigan Tech has a facility at the Student Development Complex staffed with a nurse practitioner that includes both morning and afternoon hours that give preference to Michigan Tech students.

### **Access to Dentist with Reduced Rates for Students/Student Dental Plan**

Les questioned if there are local dentists who would be willing to give a reduced rate to students.

Margo reported if you purchase the policy through Michigan Tech it does not have any coverage for dental but does have a vision plan.

Margo volunteered to contact Renee Hiller in the Benefits Office to discuss adding a dental coverage to the plan offered by Michigan Tech and the possibility of local dentists offering reduced rates.

### **Student Community Garden/Compost Bins on Campus**

Margo reported that students have expressed interest in “eat the lawn”. While there are three gardens in Daniell Heights they would prefer a centrally located garden.

Various locations were discussed and it was the agreement that it should be someplace visible. It was questioned if there is an interest by students to plant a garden. Margo reported that students from Forestry would like to use it as an educational project and involve elementary students from the local communities.

It was commented that the Master Gardener (Lynn Watson) needs to be consulted about this idea. Travis volunteered to set up a meeting with her and interested students. Margo will forward the student’s name to Travis. After discussion, it was decided that the garden project and compost bins will be a dual project and discussed at the same meeting.

Kerri reported that Facilities Management has a campus wide sprinkler project scheduled for this summer and this need to be included in discussions.

## **Library**

There have been complaints that the Library is only open until 5:00 p.m. on Friday. Students present were asked what time they thought the Library should stay open on a Friday evening. After discussion, it was decided that 8:00 p.m. would be an adequate time. Donnie volunteered to contact the Library to discuss.

## **Computer Printing Lab in Residence Halls**

Margaret reported the following through email:

- IT is going to work with Travis on where to put the printers.
- They have black and white printers in stock that can put into place, once locations have been identified.
- A new queue will be created, separate from the husky print queue, that will have quotas, to avoid free for all printing.
- Since the equipment is in stock, IT hopes that the printers will go into place during Spring Break.

Travis reported at the meeting that while he supports this idea he has not been contacted and he has questions regarding the logistics; who will fill the paper, change toner, etc. He commented that Housing and Residential Life does not have the staff to dedicate to taking care of these tasks.

## **Universal Dining Punch Card – Tim**

Tim questioned what the status was regarding having a Universal Dining Punch Card. It was commented that IT is exploring the idea of having this on the Michigan Tech ID card and Margaret has updates she will report back on how this is progressing.

## **New Items**

### **Lightening Cable – Tim**

Tim commented that the new quick phone charger units do not have a lightening cable. The new iPhone 5 will not work without this cable. Kerri will contact Chad Arney to determine what needs to be done to correct this.

Kerri reported that there are three quick phone chargers on the first floor of the Library. They are located in the Library Café, East Reading Area, and in the seating area behind the former reference desk. They are clearly marked so students will be aware they are available for usage.

Kerri also reported that additional outlets have been added in the MUB Commons area and Facilities Management may put in more if usage warrants it.

**Snow Banks - Margo**

Margo commented that while she is aware that Facilities Management is cutting back snow banks, she would like to make the recommendation for them to remove snow from visible sightlines. Kerri will pass this on to Pete Pelissero.

**Gated Parking Lots**

It was questioned if there is a standard time for parking gates to open. It was suggested they be opened late afternoon and on the weekends so students would be able to park in them during the off hours. Kerri will look into this and report back.

**Parking Lot Occupancy - Zachary**

Zachary reported that an enterprise group is looking into developing a web app that would determine the occupancy of parking lots. He questioned if the committee thought it was a good idea. It was commented that students would probably use this more than staff and faculty.

**Next Meeting**

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 28 at 2:00 p.m. in the Peninsula Room, MUB.