

**Student Commission Meeting
Thursday, September 25, 2014**

Present: Dan Bennett, Lynda Heinonen, Mike Johnson, Judy Klutts, Marco La Manna, Carol Makkonen, Andrey Merzlyakov, Dave Nordstrom, Margo O'Brien, Travis Pierce, Brenda Rudiger, Jacqueline Spitzack, Chris Wojick

Welcome – Marco

Updates

Zipcar and Shuttle Update – Angie Kolehmainen, Manager Husky Motors, Transportation Services and Resources

Angie distributed two handouts:

- Transportation Services Shuttle Schedule and Map
 - The shuttle is free to students, faculty, and staff if ridden on campus
 - If you catch a ride downtown Houghton there is a charge
 - Changes have been made to the Daniell Heights' schedule
 - Upper Heights – one stop
 - Lower Heights – one stop
 - New shelters will be available at the beginning of December
- Zipcar Updates
 - A third vehicle is being added
 - Currently there is a car at Wads and the Memorial Union Building
 - The new one will be placed at Daniell Heights (visitor lot)

Angie will keep the Student Commission updated on Transportation Services.

Food Insecurities

Andrey reported that at the USG meeting the Dean of Students asked if students would be interested in forming a committee to determine if there are students going hungry on campus. At that meeting nine students expressed interest.

Lynda reported that Dean Gorman would also like to have a Graduate Student representative on the committee. Marco will forward the name of the GSG rep to Lynda. *Chelsea Nikula will serve on this committee.*

Blue Light Stanchions

Tabled.

E-Cigarettes

Andrey reported that Steven Steinhoff will provide an informational presentation to USG at their next meeting.

Weather Closure Policy

Lynda distributed Proposal XX-15 "Proposal for Sufficient Notice of University Closure" that Jon Riehl had forwarded to her. Jon had reported to Lynda that the current policy is in the University Senate Administrative Policy Committee but has not been acted upon. He thought it may be on the October 8 University Senate agenda. He asked that the Student Commission review the proposal and comment. After review comments/questions included;

- What does the Senate consider a power outage?
- Policy is ridiculous
- A 2-hour notice is ludicrous
- The University should not have their hands tied by the Senate
- Even though the University closes – graduate students are still on campus
- Welcome to the Copper Country
- What if it clears up in two hours?
- What if there is freezing rain?
- Houghton County Road Commission makes the decision to pull the plows off the road not the University
- No control over the weather
- Public Safety is constantly monitoring any inclement weather and makes their recommendation to the President/Provost
- Campus should be reassured that as notice as possible will be given
- Are faculty understanding if students miss class because of weather?

The Student Commission members present were not in favor of the proposal.

New Items

Commuter Survey Carpool Data – Chris

Chris reviewed the data collected from the 2013 Student Satisfaction Survey:

FY 2013 Michigan Tech Commuter Survey Carpool Data

	Grad Students	Undergrad Students	Faculty	Staff
Overall Survey Response Rate	44.1%	25.7%	47.3%	53.3%
% That Currently Carpool	5.1%	5.2%	4.7%	9.4%
% Interested in Carpooling **	20.8%	21.0%	11.5%	19.0%

**"Would you be more likely to carpool if there was an incentive program? (Such as priority parking or a discounted rate?)"

He wondered if anybody on the Student Commission would be interested in researching what other universities are doing about carpooling and if they have incentive programs. Angie reported that she will look into this more and report back at a future meeting.

Library – Computers

Carol reported that the Library has added 30+ computers to the 24/7 area and the Opie Reading Room.

Husky Statue/Plaza Dedication - Brenda

Brenda reported the Husky Statue/Plaza Dedication will take place on Monday, October 13 at 2:00 pm. All are welcome.

Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 9, 2014, at 2:00 pm in the MUB, Alumni Lounge A.