

**Student Commission Meeting
Thursday, February 28, 2013**

Present: Lynda Heinonen, Judy Klutts, Margaret Landsparger, Ellen Marks, Zachary Mauerman, Rachel Morrison, Dave Nordstrom, Margo O'Brien, Donnie Palmer, Travis Pierce, Kathy Pintar, Lee Presley, Jon Riehl, Kerri Sleeman, Sarah Stoolmiller, Tim Ward, Renee Wells, Chris Wojick, Margo Woller-Carter, Jen Zarzecki

Welcome – Margo

Ellen Marks, University Librarian/Director

Address Concerns Regarding the Library

At a previous meeting, Margo reported graduate students would like to see Library hours extended on Friday evenings. Ellen responded that while they are willing to consider additional hours, the Reading Room is open 24 hours a day seven days a week and questioned if students needed access to the Library too. Margo commented that the graduate students would like access to the library not just the Reading Room. Ellen commented that the Library could pilot extended hours on Friday evenings (7:00 or 8:00 p.m.) for the rest of the spring semester and three months of the fall semester.

Ellen reported that she is always open to suggestions/comments/concerns and she can be contacted at ebmarks@mtu.edu or 487-2552.

Reported through email:

Dear Commission Leaders and Colleagues,

Thank you for enabling me to attend your meeting yesterday and for allowing the library to attend in the future. We are looking forward to continuing to support you.

*Beginning **FRIDAY, MARCH 8** the library will be open from 7:45 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.*

The exception will be the week of break (Friday, March 15th) when we close at 5:00 p.m. Likewise, for extended hours in preparation for finals, we will be open later than 7:00 p.m. as usual.

And, a very special surprise thanks to our friends in Dining Services! The Library Cafe will remain open until 7:00 p.m. along with the library.

We will do our best to promote these new services but your help in letting all students know about this pilot will be greatly appreciated.

New

Utilization of ZipCars – Donny

Donny reported that a student questioned if the Zipcars are being fully utilized. Also they questioned if one does rent a Zipcar where are they allowed to park? Donny commented that he is thinking of developing a survey to find out if students are aware of the Zipcar's availability.

It was questioned if there are flyers promoting the Zipcars. It was commented that they are in the Residence Halls and students were also given a \$20.00 gift card to use toward their first rental.

Suggestions for the promotion of the Zipcars included:

- Include in First-Year Orientation
- Publicize to students before they arrive at Michigan Tech
 - Include at Preview Day
 - Include in tour guides spiel
- Include quick link on departments web pages
<http://www.mtu.edu/facilities/parking/information/>

After discussion it was decided that rather than sending a survey to the students at this time, the committee decided to invite George Butvilas to an upcoming meeting to discuss utilization. Kerri will invite him to attend and will request that he bring the quarterly numbers for the Zipcars.

Updates

GSG IT Ad Hoc Committee Report – Margo

Margo reported that 130 people have taken the survey with most of them being graduate students. The committee is working on compiling the results and when they are complete she will forward to Lynda for distribution to the committee.

Promotion of Student Commission – Donnie

Donnie reported he will start going visiting the various student organizations to promote the Student Commission and will also contact Beth Lunde to discuss promotion.

Promotion was discussed and suggestions included:

- Promotion in Tech Today
- Advertise in Lode/Daily Bull
- Put current poster on EDS
 - Lynda will contact Beth Lunde

Emergency or Supplemental Health Care Fund for Students

Item was tabled.

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

Margo reported that each year a committee meets to review bids from different insurance companies. Recently the committee met with Aetna (current provider) and the topic of a dental plan/reduced rates was discussed.

Aetna has two dental options (if the student is carrying their health plan). They include:

- Preventative
- Discount plan
 - Discounted rate with dentist but currently there is only one network dentist in the area and they are not taking new patients

Margo thought that some sort of dental plan will be implemented this year and will report back.

Student Community Garden/Compost Bins on Campus

Travis reported Housing & Residential Life, Dining Services, and Facilities Management met this week and have come up with a plan and some ideas to use raised beds in the Oozeball area.

Travis commented that this is potentially an exciting project but because there is cost involved a few items need to be determined. They include:

- What is the benefit to the Michigan Tech student?
- What are the goals?
- Is this the best way to go?
- Need more student engagement

Travis reported that Northland College and a school in Maine have a student program “Organic 101” internships and they have contacted these schools to discuss a possible partnership with them.

Facilities Management is on board with this project and the Master Gardener would be able to help get the garden up and running but then would hand it off to whoever will be responsible for the project.

It was questioned if a student organization could run this. Travis commented that the right mix will have to be found to make this work.

Compost Bins – Travis reported that this project would not be able to compost Dining Services waste but rather smaller units could be placed strategically around the gardens.

Travis reported that Alex Bruns has been charged to lead the project but if committee members have any questions/suggestions to forward them directly to him at tlp@mtu.edu.

Computer Printing Lab in Residence Halls – Margaret

Margaret reported that IT is currently inventorying what printers they have. Once this is completed they will contact Travis Pierce to discuss space and resources.

Lightening Cable – Kerri

Kerri reported that she spoke with Chad Arney (Head, Technology Strategy and Innovation, Library) and he has one iPhone 5 adapter and is looking for a way to securely install it. If it works, he will install more of the adaptors. Kerri will report back.

Students attending the meeting reported that the students know where the quick phone charger units are and are using them.

Gated Parking Lots – Kerri

Kerri reported that the gates are manually opened in all of the parking lots (except 11) daily between 3:30-4:00 p.m. and are open all weekend. Lot 11 gate is closed Monday through Thursday but opens between 3:30-5:00 p.m. on Friday and is open all weekend.

If staff, faculty, and students have concerns about parking Kerri suggested they pass them on to Transportations Services at jepastor@mtu.edu or smhoule@mtu.edu.

Parking Lot Occupancy - Zachary

Zachary reported currently they are being held up trying to find data flow (how it gets from IT to Transportation Services). He also reported that all enterprises are completely full right now and the earliest this would be done in the fall for next spring.

Wireless Access in the MUB – Travis

A concern was expressed about wireless access in the MUB. It was reported that the Peninsula Room is very poor and the Alumni Lounge is spotty. Lynda will contact Bob Hiltunen to discuss. *Bob reported that wireless access has been ordered and is in the IT queue and should be moving forward.*

Grounds – Sprinkler System – Travis

Travis reported that the sprinkler system is going to be upgraded this summer so IT and Grounds have had some initial conversations about outdoor access points.

RFID – Donnie

Donnie questioned the status of the RFID card. Travis reported that there are two cards on campus and they are trying to move forward. Margaret also reported that there have been a number of compliance issues to address. Margaret will provide updates.

Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 28 at 2:00 p.m. in the Alumni Lounge A, MUB.