**The University Senate**
**of Michigan Technological University**

Minutes of Meeting 520
18 April 2012

Synopsis:

- Presentation: "Enrollment Outlook" by Vice President for Student Affairs Les Cook Election of Senate Officers
- Proposal 15-12 passed
- Proposal 16-12 postponed until Fall
- Proposal 17-12 passed
- Proposal 18-12 passed
- Proposal 19-12 passed
- Proposal 20-12 passed
- Proposal 21-12 passed
- Proposal 22-12 passed with friendly amendment
- Proposal 23-12 withdrawn

**1. Roll Call of Senators.**

The roll of the current Senators was called by Secretary Barkdoll. Absent were Senators from ROTC, Materials Science and Engineering, Physics, School of Technology, Advancement, and IT. Senators at Large Thompson and Koszykowski were absent. Liaisons from Staff Council, and Graduate Faculty Council were also absent.

**Recognition of visitors.** Guests included Provost Max Seel and Assoc Provost Christa Walck (Provost Office), VP Les Cook (Student Affairs), Dean Bruce Seely (Sciences and Arts), Chair Brad Baltensperger (Cognitive and Learning Sciences), Eli Korttuen (Undergraduate Student Government), and Director Ellen Marks (Library).

**2. Approval of agenda.** Luck asked if there were any changes; there being none Luck declared the agenda stood **approved**.

**3. Approval of Minutes.** Luck asked if there were any changes; there being none Luck declared the minutes stood **approved**.

**4.** Presentation: "Enrollment Outlook" by Vice President for Student Affairs Les Cook

Cook gave enrollment details, stating that there are a high number of applications so far as well as increases in the numbers of admissions, paid deposits, underrepresented minorities, women, transfers, and graduate applications, both MS and PhD. There is some decrease in student numbers due to an unusually large graduating class this year. He also stated that there is not a shortage of on-campus housing this year.

**5. Reports**
**a. Senate President**
Luck stated that the Minor of Global Business was signed by the administration, that the Board of Control meeting was coming up, and that in Proposal 6-11 both of the sections (search procedures and unit evaluation procedures) have been applied successfully recently. He wished the new senate good luck and thanked the senate for a chance to serve the senate as President. As well as thanking the Senate Assistant for her hard work. Seel thanked Luck for his service.

**b. Senate Standing Committees:**

**1. Elections Committee:**

Riehl reported results of elections already held in which Sproule and Shoos were elected to the Faculty Distinguished Service Award Committee and Goldman was elected to the Faculty Review Committee. Geirke and Kampe (only candidates) were approved as the slate sent to the President for the Athletic Council. The names of Hodek, Kampe, and Merz were approved as the slate sent to the President for the MTEC Board, Flaspohler was approved as the only name on the slate sent to the President for the Sabbatical Leave Committee, Johnson and Vitton were elected for the Academic Integrity Committee (Winter, Hamlin, DeWinter, and Hamlin also ran), and Tang was elected for the Conflict Of Interest Committee (Vitton also ran). For the Misconduct in Research, Scholarly & Creative Endeavors Integrity Committee: Charlesworth was elected as the full member and Hamlin as the alternate. For the Public Safety Oversight Committee Rudiger was elected over Raymond.

**6. Old Business.**

a. **Proposal 15-12 revised**: "Proposal to Revise General Education Requirements" (Voting Units: Academic) presented by Curricular Policy and Finance Committees

Breffle gave concerns from Business and Economics regarding the loss of choice by units. Baltensperger gave response based on common practice at other universities. Luck called the vote and the proposal was **approved**.

b. **Proposal 16-12:** "Proposal to Ratify the Final Version of Proposal 25-10: Guide to Completing a Graduate Degree and Preparing and Submitting a Dissertation, Thesis, or Report at Michigan Technological University" (Voting Units: Academic) presented by Instructional Policy Committee

Bulleit asked if Reports were to be left out as discussed previously. Luck did not know and Huntoon was not present to comment. Bulleit moved to postpone the vote until next fall. Mullins seconded. The motion to postpone was **passed**.

c. **Proposal 17-12**: "Proposal to Amend Senate Procedures 101.1.1: Guidelines for an Academic Calendar of 14 Instructional Weeks" (Voting Units: Academic) presented by Instructional Policy Committee

Luck called the vote and the proposal was **approved**.

d. **Proposal 18-12**: "Proposal to Amend Senate Policy 301.1: Course Add and Drop Policy" (Voting Units: Academic) presented by Instructional Policy Committee

Luck called the vote and the proposal was **approved**.

e. **Proposal 19-12**: "Academic Calendar 2013-14 and Provisional Calendar 2014-15" (Voting Units: Academic) presented by Instructional Policy Committee

Mullins said Track A starts too early for students external to Michigan Tech to take Track A summer classes in some years. He proposed a larger gap between spring and Track A summer term. The Proposal was **approved** without amendment.

f. **Proposal 20-12 revised**: "Proposal to Amend Senate Policy 304.1 and 311.1" (Voting Units: Academic) presented by Instructional Policy Committee

Luck stated that amendments had been made based on past Senate discussion. Onder said that the first paragraph is confusing. He proposed a friendly amendment to clarify language regarding when grades are submitted to "All grades are to be submitted by the Tuesday after finals week" Johnson clarified. The Proposal was **approved** without amendment.

g. **Proposal 21-12**: "Amendment to the Senate Bylaws" (Voting Units: Full Senate) presented by Professional Staff Policy Committee

Luck called the vote and the proposal was **approved unanimously by 31 senators in attendance out of 39 senators on the full senate**. Any amendments to the bylaws must be approved by a 2/3 majority vote of the full Senate according to Article XI A. of the Senate Constitution.

h. **Proposal 22-12**: "Proposal to Establish Committees to Recommend Guidelines for Communication Intensive and Global Learning Content of Courses" (Voting Units: Academic) presented by Curricular Policy Committee

Seel discussed membership issues and suggested a change to "at least 5 members" since many units are involved. Mullins moved, Onder seconded, and the amendment **passed**. Mullins asked if this committee will use data to drive the decision of the proposed committees. Baltensperger replied that the committees should develop data for their decisions. Seely stated that these committees will assess criteria using already-identified learning goals. Mullins suggested that the proposal include that in the charge of these committees. Seely confirmed that these committees will align courses with goals to generate data. He also pointed out that under ABET, HASS courses were not able to be assessed. Walck added that ABET goals (among others) were used in forming the university learning goals and that the committees will define how these goals are met. Also, she pointed out that these 2 committees will be under the Gen Ed Council. Baltensperger added that these committees will bring about proposals to the senate for their approval. Seely also pointed out that this is the beginning of a qualitative process that will allow broad patterns that facilitate future quantitative data. Breffle reminded them that the Business and Economics Department wants more latitude to provide different writing courses for each unit. Baltensberger replied that other universities have writing in each major associated to that discipline and that his proposal simply creates committees and doesn't decide these specific issues. Plummer reiterated that these committees will give proposals that the Senate could change.

Luck called for the vote and the proposal was **approved**.

i. **Proposal 23-12**: "Proposal to Establish and Empower a Committee to Improve Performance, Reduce Costs, and Recommend a Broad Set of Reforms and Changes to Achieve These Goals" (Voting Units: Full Senate) presented by Finance Committee

Velat expressed concern that the Senate already has committees for cost issues and that another committee was not needed. A new committee may reduce Senate power. Mullins replied that this proposal requests the administration to create a 4-month ad hoc committee only. It would be a clearing house for economic savings that should include union staff for their ideas also. Bulleit expressed concern that 4 months may be too short and that the proposal does not say that the committee will report to the Senate. Velat stated that it may be similar to the BLG committee that does not report to the Senate. Constituents will be confused as to where to take ideas. Luck stated that this committee will use expertise of other universities to get ideas to save money. He pointed out that the Senate has never talked about funding issues and that this is needed for financial emergency conditions. An example of financial issues that the Senate does not address is tuition. Velat replied that the Senate Finance Committee should bring these issues forward. Luck stated that it could be required that the committee be comprised of senate members, but that the Senate Finance Committee does not have union staff on it. Bulleit pointed out that the Senate is disconnected from the committee in this proposal. Luck reiterated that we could have members be

from the Senate on the committee. Mullins considered that to be a friendly amendment. Scarlett agreed that the Senate should be the foremost body for concerns and proposed the addition of language stating that "the Senate recommends an ad hoc subcommittee within the Finance Committee…" Luck stated that the Senate is proposing this, not the administration. Seel thought that clarification is needed, that Reed did not suggest this directly, and that we do not need another committee. Mullins stated that this could be out of the Finance Committee's purview and that the Graduate Dean is looking at tuition rates, the BLG is looking at benefits, and the Provost is looking at teaching loads. He stated that this committee could breach many various areas. He stated that it could be a charge from the Senate President to the Finance Committee. Bulleit indicated that he would be amenable to this as the incoming President.

The proposal was withdrawn and therefore, **not voted on**.

**7. New Business**: none

**8. Adjournment.**
Onder **moved** to adjourn. President Luck adjourned the meeting at 7:09 pm.

Respectfully submitted
by Brian Barkdoll
Secretary of the University Senate