

**The University Senate
of Michigan Technological University**

Minutes of Meeting 562
1 April 2015

Synopsis:

The Senate

- Proposal 31-15 "Amending Senate Policy 210.1, Board of Control Policy 4.8, and Tenured/Tenure-Track Faculty Handbook Section 8.2: Office of the Ombuds" **passed**
- Proposal 32-15 "Establishment of a Library Liaisons and a Library Advisory Committee" **passed**
- Sense of the Senate Resolution for Sufficient Notice of University Closure **passed**

1. Call to order and roll call. [00:00 – 01:48]

President Craig Waddell called the University Senate Meeting 562 to order at 5:30 pm on Wednesday, April 1, 2015. The Senate Secretary Marty Thompson called roll. Absent were Senators DeWinter, Caneba, Oliveira, Schmierer and Cadwell and representatives of Army/Air Force ROTC, Computer Science, Kinesiology & Integrative Physiology, Materials Science & Engineering, Mathematical Sciences, Visual & Performing Arts, Academic Services A, Administration, Finance, Library, Student Affairs & Advancement A, Student Affairs & Advancement C, Technology, Undergraduate Student Government and Staff Council.

2. Recognition of visitors. Guests included Max Seel (Provost's Office), Theresa Coleman-Kaiser (Administration), Bonnie Gorman (Dean of Students), Sasha Teymorian (Graduate Student Government), Debra Charlesworth (Graduate School), David Hale (IT), Ellen Horsch (Administration), Ginger Sleeman (Human Resources), Renee Hiller (Human Resources) and Jackie Huntoon (Graduate School).

3. Approval of agenda. [01:49 – 02:16]

Scarlett **moved** to approve. Mullins **seconded**. The agenda **passed** unanimously on a voice vote.

4. Approval of minutes from Meeting 561. [02:17 – 02:46]

Scarlett **moved** to approve. Wanless **seconded**. The minutes **passed** unanimously on a voice vote.

5. Guest Presentations

a. Graduate Student Government (GSG) President Sasha Teymorian: Food Insecurities: Survey Results and Sustainable Approaches [02:47 – 22:38] {slides}

Teymorian discussed ways food insecurity impacts college students. She noted that Saint Albert the Great Catholic Church and the Canterbury House provide free meals to students, staff and faculty. She suggested donating food to Saint Vincent DePaul and the Western U.P. food bank. Donations can be made to the student's food insecurity fund. Ways to tackle this problem are still being studied.

b. Chief Information Security Officer Dave Hale: Anthem-BCBS security breach and identity theft [22:39 – 1:01:19] {slides}

Hale discussed the recent identity theft impacting Michigan Tech due to a failure of Anthem Healthcare's IT security. He recommended everyone sign up for the AllClearID service offered by Anthem to prevent ID theft through the credit bureau. Report all ID theft to security@mtu.edu.

c. Vice President for Administration Ellen Horsch: Rationale for disbanding and reassembling the Benefits Liaison Group (BLG) [1:01:20 – 1:27:09] {slides}

Horsch provided a history of the BLG which started with Senate Proposal 22-00. She discussed the membership, charge and purpose of the committee. Horsch provided a comparison of the changes she is making to the BLG to what was defined in the original proposal approved by the senate and the administration. Discussion raised questions about the rules of order for the new BLG.

d. Senate Finances and Institutional Planning Committee Chair Mike Mullins: University Finances [1:27:10 – 2:04:49] {slides}

Mullins provided a detailed analysis of the financial health of Michigan Tech. He discussed the impact that deep cuts in retirement contributions and healthcare benefits have had on employees and contrasted that with some of the steep increases in undergraduate tuition. He raised questions about the increased number of employees and lower cost of benefits may mask a more distressing trend in avoiding healthcare and an inability of employees to contribute to their retirement funds. Mullins also noted that Michigan Tech is among the lowest of low-cost providers of graduate education.

6. President's Report

None

7. Reports from Senate Standing Committees [2:04:50 – 2:10:42]

Academic and Instructional Policy Committee. None.

Administrative Policy Committee. None

Curricular Policy Committee. Barkdoll read items approved by the Graduate Faculty Council and coming from the Graduate School. If there are any objections, these items can be brought as proposals. There were none. Thompson **moved** to accept the recommendations in the report. Scarlett **seconded**. No discussion. The report was **accepted** unanimously on a voice vote.

Elections Committee. Riehl said the elections process is underway and will be concluded on Friday 4/3/15. He read the nominees for the Senate officer positions for next year.

Finance & Institutional Planning Committee. None.

Fringe Benefits Committee. None.

General Education and Assessment Committee. None.

Information Technology Committee. None

Professional Staff Policy Committee. None.

Research Policy Committee. None.

8. Unfinished Business [2:10:42 – 2:43:29]

a. Proposal 31-15 "Amending Senate Policy 210.1, Board of Control Policy 4.8, and Tenured/Tenure-Track Faculty Handbook Section 8.2: Office of the Ombuds" [2:10:42 – 2:17:08]

Olson noted the changes made to the proposal regarding membership of the committee. She read the GSG resolution supporting the proposal. Olson **moved** to accept. No discussion. The proposal **passed** by a majority vote.

b. Proposal 32-15 "Establishment of a Library Liaisons and a Library Advisory Committee" [2:17:09 - 2:19:07]

Froese **moved** to accept. Discussion. The proposal **passed** by a majority vote.

c. Proposal 16-15: "Annual Community Feedback to the University Leadership" [2:19:08 – 2:37:25]

Olson **moved** to accept.

Vable **moved** to amend the proposal. Nooshabadi **seconded**. He requested that all public comments be removed from the report and only be provided to the university president. Discussion. The amendment **passed** by a majority vote.

Nooshabadi **moved** to amend that all members of the sub-committee created by this proposal be allowed to vote. The specific text reads: "Unlike the Senate standing committees, all members of this committee have the right to vote". Scarlett **seconded**. Discussion.

Mullins **moved** to end discussion. The motion **passed** by a majority vote.

Nooshabadi requested a Roll Call. Roll Call of senators indicated a quorum was present.

The amendment **passed** by a majority vote.

Because this is a substantive change, the amended proposal will appear as unfinished business next meeting. Discussion.

Mullins **moved** to table discussion. Thompson **seconded**. The motion **passed** by a majority vote.

d. "Sense of the Senate Resolution for Sufficient Notice of University Closure" [2:37:26 – 2:43:29]

Olson **moved** to accept.

Nooshabadi **moved** to postpone indefinitely the discussion. Froese **seconded**. Discussion. Motion **rejected**. The resolution **passed** by a majority vote.

9. New Business [2:43:30 – 2:57:47]

a. Proposal 33-15 "Academic Calendar for 2016-2017 and Provisional Calendar for 2017-18"

Scarlett noted that the proposed changes in the K-Day and the Career Fair scheduling are significant and will come up in debate next meeting.

b. Proposal 34-15 "Restructuring the Benefits Liaison Group"

No discussion.

c. Proposal 35-15 "Modify the Definition of the Term 'Adjunct' Faculty"

No discussion.

d. Proposal 36-15 "Definition of 'Affiliated' Faculty Appointments"

No discussion.

e. Proposal 37-15 "Revision of Graduate School Policy Regarding External Members of Graduate Committees"

No discussion.

f. Proposal 38-15 "Policy on Accommodated Examinations"

No discussion.

g. Proposal 39-15 "Amending Senate Policy 602.1: Final Exam Policy"

No discussion.

h. Proposal 40-15 "Amending Senate Policy 312.1: Syllabus Requirement for All Courses at Michigan Technological University"

No discussion.

i. Proposal 41-15 "Modify the University's Defined Contribution Retirement Benefit"

Mullins asked everyone to review the ranking of Michigan Tech on retirement contributions.

j. Proposal 42-15 "Minors in Degree Programs"

No discussion.

k. Proposal 43-15 "Undergraduate Certificates"

No discussion.

I. Proposal 44-15 “Proposal for a New Bachelor’s of Science Degree in Natural Resources Management”

Guter, Finance Committee noted the lack of financial data that accompanied the proposal and requested detailed financial information. Discussion indicated broad support for the program. Storer said a financial analysis will be provided to the committee.

10. Public Comments [2:57:48 – 2:59:00]

Storer requested confirmation that the all the changes to procedures initiated by the Graduate Faculty Council were accepted by the senate as given in the CPC report. This was affirmed by Waddell.

11. Adjournment.

Mullin **moved** to adjourn. Wanless **seconded**. President Waddell adjourned the meeting at 8:29 pm.

Respectfully submitted
by Marty Thompson
Secretary of the University Senate