

**The University Senate
of Michigan Technological University**

Minutes of Meeting 573
3 February 2016

Synopsis:

The Senate

- Proposal 9-16: Reducing Deductibles and Out of Pocket Maximums on Michigan Tech's Healthcare-Insurance Plans **passed**
- Proposal 10-16: Rationalization of Senate Procedures on the Selection/Election of Membership of Various Committees **passed**
- Proposal 11-16: Amending Senate Procedure 503.1.1, Evaluation Procedure for the President **passed**
- Proposal on the formation of a Senate ad-hoc committee to review the Senate Constitution and Bylaws **passed**
- The Senate Self-Evaluation will be postponed until next year.

1. Call to order and roll call. [00:00 – 02:20]

President Brian Barkdoll called the University Senate Meeting 573 to order at 5:30 pm on Wednesday, February 3, 2016. The Senate Secretary Marty Thompson called roll. Absent were Senators Stancher, Oliveira and Cai and representatives of Army/Air Force ROTC, Biological Sciences, Engineering Fundamentals, Geological and Mining Engineering and Sciences, Kinesiology and Integrative Physiology, Materials Science and Engineering, Academic Services B, Auxiliaries, Technology and Undergraduate Student Government.

2. Recognition of visitors. Guests included Theresa Coleman-Kaiser (Administration), Anne Beffel (Visual and Performing Arts), Ellen Marks (Library), Ginger Sleeman (Human Resources) and Bruce Seely (College of Science and Arts).

3. Approval of agenda. [02:21 – 04:11]

Barkdoll **moved** to remove item #5.b. from the agenda. Weir **seconded**. The revision **passed** unanimously on a voice vote.

Brown **moved** to approve of the revised agenda. Wanless **seconded**. The revised agenda **passed** unanimously on a voice vote.

4. Approval of minutes from Meeting 572. [04:12 – 04:55]

Schmierer **moved** to approve. Weir **seconded**. The minutes **passed** unanimously on a voice vote.

5. Presentation: Report on the Library by Ellen Marks

[04:56 – 44:34]

Marks, Director of the Library, [\[presentation\]](#) [\[handout\]](#) discussed the budget for collections and the inflationary rate of journal costs.

There was a request to revisit Proposal 32-15 "Establishment of a Library Liaisons and a Library Advisory Committee" which was passed by the University Senate on March 18, 2015 and returned by the administration with revisions. The proposal was referred to RPC on September 9, 2015. Discussion.

6. President's Report [44:35 – 47:34]

President Brian Barkdoll described the rationale for introducing a code of conduct. This code will be reviewed by the senate executive committee for senate consideration.

Forum on University Finances will be held February 4th from 11am to 2pm in Dow 642.

Forum on Fringe Benefits will be held on April 5th from 12pm to 3pm in Dow 642.

Survey of the University President will be open on Tuesday, February 9th.

Barkdoll asked the senate if proposals passed by the Senate should be announced in Tech Today to promote the Senate's work and enhance policy awareness. Discussion.

7. Reports from Senate Standing Committees [47:35 – 54:57]

Academic and Instructional Policy Committee. The committee chair, Nooshabadi, informed the senate about the procedural details regarding the survey of the university president.

Administrative Policy Committee. None.

Curricular Policy Committee. None.

Elections Committee. None.

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 [54:58 – 1:49:59]

a. Proposal 7-16: Amending the Senate Procedure 506.1.1, Evaluation Procedure for Department Chairs and School Deans

Neves **moved** to amend 'Section II. Frequency of Review'. Wanless **seconded**. Discussion. The amendment **passed** by majority vote.

Nooshabadi **moved** to amend 'Section II. Frequency of Review'. Froese **seconded**. No discussion. The amendment **passed** by unanimous vote.

The new wording of 'Section II. Frequency of Review' is as follows:

II. Frequency of Review

The term of appointment for a department chair/school dean is three years. A reappointment review will take place in the third year of each term of appointment, and will be initiated within the first seven weeks of the fall semester. The evaluation process may also be initiated by the college dean/provost or by the entire unit constituency (by a simple majority vote) at any time earlier, but not more than once an academic year. Evaluations may not be initiated by faculty during the first year by a two-thirds majority vote.

The changes are substantial. The proposal will appear as unfinished business next meeting.

b. Proposal 9-16: Reducing Deductibles and Out of Pocket Maximums on Michigan Tech's Healthcare-Insurance Plans

Waddell, Fringe Benefit Committee, described the rationale for the proposal. He **moved** to approve the proposal. No discussion. The proposal **passed** by majority vote.

c. Proposal 10-16: Rationalization of Senate Procedures on the Selection/Election of Membership of Various Committees

Nooshabadi, Administrative Policy Committee, **moved** to approve the proposal. No discussion. The proposal **passed** by unanimous vote.

d. Proposal 11-16: Amending Senate Procedure 503.1.1, Evaluation Procedure for the President

Nooshabadi, Administrative Policy Committee, **moved** to approve the proposal. Discussion. The proposal **passed** by unanimous vote.

e. Proposal on the formation of a Senate ad-hoc committee to review the Senate Constitution and Bylaws

Nooshabadi **moved** to approve a proposal on the formation of a senate ad-hoc committee with the purpose of reviewing the Senate Constitution and Bylaws. Froese **seconded**. The exact text is as follows:

The ad hoc committee is charged with reviewing the Constitution and Bylaws and making recommendations about changes to (1) bring the governing documents in compliance with current University practice; (2) ensure the governing documents are consistent with Robert's Rules, or where the documents need to take preference, function complementarily; (3) resolve ambiguity and improve clarity and consistency; and, (4)

address comments solicited from the Senate Constituency. The Committee will submit to the Senate a report or recommendations for action by April 6th.

Members: 1) Robert Froese; 2) Jacob Guter; 3) Sarah Lucchesi; 4) Martin Thompson 5) David Wanless

Discussion. The proposal **passed** by majority vote.

f. Senate Self-Evaluation

Nooshabadi **moved** to postpone the next senate self-evaluation in order to design an effective survey. Wellstead **seconded**. Discussion. The motion **passed** by majority vote.

9. New Business [1:50:00 – 1:50:58]

Proposal 12-16: Proposal to Shelve Certificate Program: Certificate in Chinese Area Studies, Proposal 13-16: Proposal to Shelve Certificate Program: Certificate in Media, Proposal 14-16: Proposal to Shelve Certificate Program: Certificate in Modern Language and Proposal 15-16: Proposal to Shelve Certificate Program: Certificate in Writing

The Curricular Policy Committee co-introduced Proposals 12-16 through 16-16, which are proposals to shelve certificate programs.

10. Public Comments [1:50:59 – 1:57:19]

Anne Beffel (Visual and Performing Arts) commented on Proposal 7-16.

11. Adjournment

Wanless **moved** to adjourn. Froese **seconded**. President Barkdoll **adjourned** the meeting at 7:27 pm.

Respectfully submitted
by Marty Thompson
Secretary of the University Senate