

The University Senate of Michigan Technological University

Minutes of Meeting 601

December 13, 2017

Senate minutes are time-indexed [in square brackets] to the relevant segments of the streaming video of the meeting.

Synopsis:

- Presentation:
 - a. Update on search for University President – presented by Bill Johnson, Chair President Search Committee and member, Board of Trustees
 - b. Accessible Technology Working Group (ATWG) – presented by Susan Sullivan & Jeff Toorongian
- Committee Reports
None
- Unfinished Business:
 - a. [Proposal 7-18](#): Bachelors of Science Degree in Sustainability Science and Society – presented by Kedmon Hungwe, **PASSED**
- New Business:
 - a. [Proposal 9-17](#): Proposed Revisions to Board of Trustees Policy 6.4
presented by Chris Middlebrook, **POSTPONED**
 - b. [Proposal 23-17](#): Proposed Changes to Faculty Handbook Section 1.5.5 Non-Tenured Track Academic Rank Definitions – presented by Chris Middlebrook, **POSTPONED**

1. Call to Order

President Marty Thompson called the University Senate Meeting 601 to order at 5:30 PM on Wednesday November 29, 2017.

2. Roll Call of Senators and Recognition of Visitors [0:16-2:32]

The Senate Secretary Brian Barkdoll called roll. Absent were senators Holstrom, Rajachar, Clancey, Wood, Allred, Sutter, Tewari, Azizi, Christianson, Xia, Jones, Velat, Larkin, Guter, Freitag, and Liaisons Storer, Wakeham, and Thompson with no representatives from Army/Air Force ROTC, Biomedical Engineering, Chemical Engineering, Geological and Mining Eng, Library, Material Sciences, ME-EM, School of Technology, Visual and Performing Arts, At-large S, Academic Service B and C, Administration, Student Affairs & Advancement B, and Liaisons from Graduate Faculty Council, Graduate Student Government, Staff Council, and Undergraduate Student Government. Visitors were: Collin Hagan (Forestry), Steven Deeper (Forestry), High Gorman (Social Sciences), Don Lafreniere (Social Sciences), Jackie Huntoon (Provost's Office), Brenda Ryan (Board of Trustees), Bill Johnson (Board of Trustees), Renee Hiller (HR), Theresa Coleman-Kaiser (Administration), and Bonnie Gorman (Dean of Students).

3. Approval of Agenda [2:32-2:54]

Passage of the agenda was moved by Schmierer, seconded by Kerfoot and **passed** on a voice vote with no discussion or abstention.

4. Approval of Minutes from Meetings 600 [2:54-5:06]

Oppliger and Cook mentioned modifying those present. Passage of the amended minutes was moved by Wood seconded by Guter and **passed** on a voice vote with no discussion or abstention.

5. Presentations [5:06-58:00]

a. Update on search for University President – presented by Bill Johnson, Chair President Search Committee and member, Board of Trustees. [5:06-32:15]

Johnson introduced Board member Brenda Ryan and gave overview of search process. The process is transparent but confidential regarding candidate names. A search firm has a portal available for Search Committee to use. To avoid conflict of interest Board has not recommended any candidate. Criteria for President are: fundraising, budgets, academics, ties to Michigan, engineering and technology background, demonstrated significant leadership experience, budget and finance experience, experience transforming large organizations over time, communicating vision and future trends and how to position MTU. Will

meet again in February. There are 2 subcommittees, one to make the questions for the interview and the other to look at the second group of candidates. There were questions on ties to Michigan and confidentiality and interviews.

b. Accessible Technology Working Group (ATWG) – presented by Susan Sullivan and Jeff Toorongian [32:15-58:00]

[These slides were shown.](#) Purpose is making MTU digitally accessible to comply with law and help students and staff. Questions on percentage of current compliance, CANVAS content, definition on accessibility and research publishing, monetary accessibility, and budgetary implications.

6. Committee Reports [58:00-58:30]

None.

7. President's Report [58:30-58:40]

None.

8. Unfinished Business [58:40-1:07:25]

- a. [Proposal 7-18](#): Bachelors of Science Degree in Sustainability Science and Society – presented by Kedmon Hungwe

Hungwe introduced and moved passage. Patchin asked about

placement rates and the possibility of asking perspective employers. Langston gave details and showed employers asked by Arizona State University about a similar degree program. Amador asked about housing the degree in Social Science since it spans many areas. Langston said that courses for many areas are included.

Proposal **PASSED** by voice vote with one nay vote and no abstentions.

9. New Business [1:07:25-1:08:20]

- a. [Proposal 9-17](#): Proposed Revisions to Board of Trustees Policy 6.4 presented by Chris Middlebrook

Middlebrook wanted it postponed.

- b. [Proposal 23-17](#): Proposed Changes to Faculty Handbook Section 1.5.5

Non-Tenured Track
Academic Rank Definitions –
presented by Chris
Middlebrook

Middlebrook wanted it postponed.

10. Public Comments [1:08:20-1:08:30]

None

11. Adjournment

After Hugwe motioned and Kerfoot seconded, President Thompson adjourned the meeting at 6:39 PM.

Respectfully submitted by

Brian Barkdoll

Secretary of the University Senate