

The University Senate of Michigan Technological University

Minutes of Meeting 649

[Video of Meeting 649](#)

November 11, 2020

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

Format:

- Meeting held remotely by Zoom conferencing with participation on Campus

Synopsis:

Unfinished Business on proposals concerning charters, certificate programs, emergency proposals, and an open letter to the university concerning the inadequate response to white supremacist aggression during the September Trump Train Rally.

1. Call to Order

President Samuel Sweitz called the University Senate Meeting 645 to order at 5:30 PM on Wednesday November 11th, 2020 by Zoom remote video-conferencing. No use of Dow 135 classroom.

2. Roll Call of Senators and Recognition of Visitors

The Senate Secretary Carlos Amador called roll. Please see attached roll call sheet

1. Approval of Agenda

Amendment to the Agenda—Jason Gregerson adds one emergency proposal 36-21

Motion seconded and approved

Amendment to the Agenda—Josh Loar to add proposal 24-21 to New Business

Motion seconded and approved

Motion to approve agenda

Minutes approved by unanimous consent

Agenda approved.

4. Presentations (10:00—24:30)

Presentation by John Lehman on enrollment numbers and trend.

6. President's Report (24:31-27:02)

Information on open enrollment and values statements from the Dean of Students

7. Committee Reports [27:03—33:40]

a. Academic and Instructional Policy – Chair Jason Gregerson: *Brief words on student evaluations and some communication with USG; also other proposals for the future.*

b. Administrative Policy – Chair Mark Rudnicki: *Working on Policy 506.1.1 evaluation of department chairs and the university grievance committee*

c. Curricular Policy – Chair Josh Loar: *Certificates and new business later during the night's meeting*

d. Finance and Institutional Planning— Chair Robert Hutchinson: *No report*

e. Fringe Benefits Committee – Chair Greg Waite: *No report*

f. Information Technology – Chair Jingfeng Jiang: *No report*

h. Professional Staff Policy – Chair Steve Knudstrup: *No report*

i. Research Policy – Chair Eric Seagren: *No report*

k. Elections Committee –Chair Anne Beffel: *Athletic council and other elections*

L. Committee for Equity, Inclusion, And Understanding –Chair Amy Howard: Meeting with the VP for diversity and continuing the development of the committee's charge.

K. Ad Hoc Committee reports:

Textbook Committee – Nora Allred: *convened, chair elected, much work in the future*

Ad Hoc Senate COVID-19 committee—Jacob Guter: still working on the bylaws revision

Committee for On-Campus Events—Josh Loar: still working with stakeholders and research on how events are booked.

8. Unfinished Business [33:41—1:15]

Proposal 26-21: “Proposed Revision to Policy 710.1” Presented by: Administrative Policy Committee (Voting Units: Academic)

Motion to change voting constituency to *ALL* from Academic

Seconded.

Motion to change voting constituency does not pass

Seconded.

Motion does not pass

- a. Proposal 4-21: “Establishment of a New Graduate Certificate in Quality Engineering” Presented by: Curricular Policy Committee (Voting Units: Academic)
- b. Proposal 5-21: “Establishment of a New Graduate Certificate in Vehicle Dynamics” Presented by: Curricular Policy Committee (Voting Units: Academic)
- c. Proposal 11-21: “Establishment of a New Graduate Certificate in Geoinformatics” Presented by: Curricular Policy Committee (Voting Units: Academic)
- d. Proposal 12-21: “Establishment of a New Graduate Certificate in Medical Devices and Technologies” Presented by: Curricular Policy Committee (Voting Units: Academic)
- e. Proposal 18-21: “Establishment of a New Graduate Certificate in Aerodynamics” Presented by: Curricular Policy Committee (Voting Units: Academic)
- f. Proposal 19-21: “Establishment of a New Graduate Certificate in Computational Fluid Dynamics” Presented by: Curricular Policy Committee (Voting Units: Academic)
- g. Proposal 20-21: “Establishment of a New Graduate Certificate in Dynamic Systems” Presented by: Curricular Policy Committee (Voting Units: Academic)

Motion to vote on that as a slate.

Motion passed

Motion to accept graduate certificates passed. [1:19]

Proposal 36-21 Emergency Proposal: Student Evaluations during the COVID-19 pandemic

Discussion

Motion passed [1:42]

9. New Business [1:58]

a. Proposal 15-21: “Establishment of a New Graduate Certificate in Sustainable Pavement Design and Construction” Presented by: Curricular Policy Committee (Voting Units: Academic)

b. Proposal 21-21: “Establishment of a New Graduate Certificate in Natural Hazards and Disaster Risk Reduction” Presented by: Curricular Policy Committee (Voting Units: Academic)

c. Proposal 24-21: “Proposal to rename the minor in Environmental Studies to a minor in Sustainability Science and Society” Presented by: Curricular Policy Committee (Voting Units: Academic)

10. Public Comments [1:43—2:07]

Reading of public letter on white supremacy by MTU students. Letter enclosed within minutes.

11. Adjournment

Sam Sweitz moved to adjourn @ 7:39 pm

Meeting adjourned @ 7:39 pm