The University Senate of Michigan Technological University
Date: 04/06/2022
Subject: Minutes for University Senate Meeting #673

Video recording of the meeting can be found here:
https://huskycast.hosted.panopto.com/Panopto/Pages/Viewer.aspx?id=15b45acc-623b-43ee-8b5c-ae700032ec2c

Format: In-person/Online

Senate Officers: Sam Sweitz (President), Steve Knudstrup (Vice-President), Kette Thomas (Secretary), Ashley Buchanan (Senate Assistant)

President Sweitz called meeting 673 to order at 5:30pm.

Roll called by Secretary Thomas. Quorum met.
(Absentee list: Justin Casey, Susanne Kilpela, Courtney Archambeau, Lindsey Wells, Nicole Seigneurie, Quincy Higgins, Jessica Stormoen)

Motion made to approve agenda for meeting 673. Motion approved.

Motion made to approve the minutes for meeting 672. Approved.

Presentations:
Elections Committee, Carl Blair
Presentation on elections for Senate Officers.
Call made for any last-minute nominations from the Senate floor. None made.
Forego presentations from the candidates because there are no competing categories.
Ballots will be distributed.

President's Report:
Forego the evenings President's report.

Committee Reports:
Question from the Fringe Benefits Committee. A grievance has been filed against removal of the RSVP program.
How does this affect the non-represented salaried employee?
Provost Huntoon states she is unaware of the situation at this time.
Recommendation that terms should be the same for all MTU employees.

Unfinished Business

    a. Proposal 14-22: "Proposal on the Scheduling of Examinations, Projects, Presentations, and Papers on Election Day" Presented by: Academic and Instructional Policy (Voting Units: Academic)
Motion made to approve. Motion moved to a ballot. Passed.

    b. Proposal 15-22: "Proposed change to Senate Policy 706.1.1 section 8 on timing of sabbatical applications" Presented by: Administrative Policy Committee (Voting Units: Academic)
Amendment made to change deadline dates to Feb 1.
Soften the word "deadline". Just state when applications are due.
Wording can be "for full consideration, applications are due Feb 1 or similar language.

Amendment approved.

Amendment: Applicants will be notified by April 1 on the decision. AIPC supports the amendment.
Amendment approved.

Motion to approve proposal. Motion passed.

c. [Proposal 16-22](): "Institutional Compliance Standard Changes to Senate Procedure 804.1.1: Senate Search Procedures for University President" Presented by: Administrative Policy Committee (Voting Units: Full Senate)
d. [Proposal 17-22](): "Institutional Compliance Standard Changes to Senate Procedure 803.1.1: Senate Search Procedures for the Dean of the Graduate School" Presented by: Administrative Policy Committee (Voting Units: Full Senate)
e. [Proposal 18-22](): "Institutional Compliance Standard Changes to Senate Procedure 801.1.1: Senate Search Procedures for University Administrators" Presented by: Administrative Policy Committee (Voting Units: Full Senate)
f. [Proposal 26-22](): "Revisions Requested from Institutional Equity: Senate Search Procedure for College Deans Senate Procedures 802.1.1" Presented by: Administrative Policy Committee (Voting Units: Full Senate)

Motion made to accept all proposals as a unit.
Question: Can you confirm that the changes are reflected in the same way for all proposal?
Response: Yes.
Proposals passed.

g. [Proposal 19-22](): "Uses of Student Evaluations of Instruction: Best-Practice and Minimal Standards" Presented by: Academic and Instructional Policy (Voting Units: Academic)

Clarification made about the complexities of the proposal. Current proposal reflects minimal compliance.
Motion made to postpone the vote on this proposal until next Senate meeting.
Recommendation made to have an additional meeting to discuss. Concern that evaluations are thought of as a "precision instrument." Concerns over slanderous comments. Concerns over legal responsibilities. Recommendation that substantial "safeguards" against "cherry-picking" are implemented.
Concern over integrating comments rather than simply the supervisors get to see the comments.
Response: Units have to look at all the triggers to get the supervisors to see the comments.
Concern over the timeline.
Concern that Chairs are barred from doing their responsibility. Concern over true shared governance.
Discussion about the timeline and the deadline. Recommendation that this proposal be implemented in the fall.
Question for Provost, can some of these details go into a manual instead of department charters?
Concern that these pieces do not belong in operating manuals but in a document where

there can be oversight.
What does the "minimum" (standard) mean?
How do professors respond to comments used by their chairs?
How do students get feedback that their comments are being read?
Concern over implicit bias. Concern that these processes promote implicit bias. Legally, comments can make the University more accountable for instances of Title IX, etc. Affirmation that this would create greater accountability.
In regards to "closing the loop", the Senate and faculty should be encouraged to communicate with students about the whole process.
Concern over the kind of information are provided to the students.
Recommendations about mentorship.
Postpone until April 20 passed.

h. [Proposal 27-22](): "Proposal to Modify Senate Policy 413.1: Accelerated Master's Programs" Presented by: Curricular Policy Committee (Voting Units: Academic)
Motion made to pass proposal. Motion passed.

i. [Proposal 31-22](): "Establishment of an Accessible & Affordable Course Materials University Standing Committee" Presented by: Academic and Instructional Policy Committee and The Ad hoc Committee on Textbook Accessibility and Affordability (Voting Units: Academic)
Motion made to pass proposal.
Question: How does this become less of a substitute and more of more options for the students?
Response: This would be helpful to bring attention to other options, though it does not interfere with academic freedom in the classroom.
Proposal passed.

j. [Proposal 33-22](): "Establishment of a New Graduate Certificate in Automation and Controls in Mechatronic Systems" Presented by: Curricular Policy Committee (Voting Units: Academic)
k. [Proposal 35-22](): "Establishment of a New Graduate Certificate in Industrial Robotics" Presented by: Curricular Policy Committee (Voting Units: Academic)

Two of three stackable certificates. Motion made to accept proposal. Both will be voted on together. Motion passed.

l. [Proposal 39-22](): "Amending the Scheduling of Spring Break in Senate Procedure 101.1" Presented by: Academic and Instructional Policy Committee (Voting Units: Academic)

Motion made to accept proposal.
Amendment proposed: Add that the break will coincide with Houghton County Schools whenever feasible.
Point of order: this should be a substitute amendment because this amendment is too substantial.
Language is adjusted to reflect amendment.
Problem with amendment is too substantial. Would need to define "substantial."
The timing of Spring break would be too variable if it had to coincide with Houghton schools.

Concern that new date is too close to Winter Carnival.
Question: Voting unit?
Question: When does the Houghton School district submit their calendars?
Concern: We have not discussed this with the school district.
Concern over speaking to the students about this.
USG member discussed this and moving it later received negative response. Need more time to discuss it. Only prepared to vote on week seven change.
Concern over exam schedule.
Concern that we should consider an amendment that moves dates back.
Concern over Track A and Track B classes would be deeply affected.
Concern that shift from academic semester is being determined by parental concerns.
Concern about student mental health for both semesters. This should be about the students only.
Amendment is stricken.
Motion to amend voting units to full.
Motion passed.
Question: should this be tabled?
Concern over calendars.
Proposal passed by ballot.

m. [Proposal 40-22](#): "Improved Access to Health and Wellness Programs/Activities" Presented by: Fringe Benefits Committee (Voting Units: Full Senate)

Motion made to accept proposal.
Concerns about making SDC free. Asking to give a discount rather than making it free.
Response: Number of people accessing SDC is not because of faculty, staff, or community. Actual numbers suggest that this proposal would save money rather than "bankrupting" the SDC.
Concern that Swedetown Trails is not on Option B, though it is very popular.
Concern over SDC price for family.
If students are paying, faculty and staff ought to pay as well.
Questioning about the uses of the $450.
Concern that current system is discouraging uses of the SDC.
Proposal passed.

n. [Proposal 41-22](#): "Amendments to the University Senate Constitution" Presented by: Ad-hoc Committee to Update the Senate Constitution and Bylaws (Voting Units: Full Senate)

o. [Proposal 42-22](#): "Amendments to the University Senate Bylaws" Presented by: Ad-hoc Committee to Update the Senate Constitution and Bylaws (Voting Units: Full Senate)

Motion made to accept both proposals as a set.
Request that a careful review precede presentation to the Board of Trustees.
Motion passed by ballot.

New Business
a. [Proposal 20-22](#): "Proposed College-level Tenure and Promotion Review Process" Presented by: Academic and Instructional Policy Committee

(Voting Units: Academic)

b. [Proposal 34-22](): "Establishment of a New Graduate Certificate in Fluid Power in Mechatronic Systems" Presented by: Curricular Policy Committee (Voting Units: Academic)

c. [Proposal 36-22](): "Establishment of a new Master of Science in Sustainable Communities" Presented by: Curricular Policy Committee (Voting Units: Academic)

Presentation. No questions.

d. [Proposal 37-22](): "2023-24 Academic Calendar and Provisional Calendar for 2024-25" Presented by: Academic and Instructional Policy (Voting Units: Full Senate)

Presentation. No questions.

e. [Proposal 38-22](): "Proposed Revisions to Academic Ran k Definitions Section of the Faculty Handbook and Associated Proposed Revisions to Board of Trustees Policy" Presented by: Academic and Instructional Policy(Voting Units: Academic)
Recommendation that a path be created to make tenure track possible.
Recommendation that teaching tenure become an option.

f. [Proposal 43-22](): "Revision of Misconduct Policy in Research, Scholarly, and Creative Endeavors" Presented by: Research Policy Committee (Voting Units: Academic)

Clarification made by President Sweitz. No questions.

g. [Proposal 44-22](): "Proposal to Change Degree Title from "Bioinformatics" to "Computational Biology"' Presented by: Curricular Policy Committee (Voting Units: Academic)

h. [Proposal 45-22](): "Proposal to Change name of Minor from "Pharmaceutical Chemistry" to "Medicinal Chemistry"' Presented by: Curricular Policy Committee (Voting Units: Academic)

i. [Proposal 46-22](): "Proposal for a Bachelor's of Science Degree in Policy and Community Development" Presented by: Curricular Policy Committee (Voting Units: Academic)

Presentation. No questions.

j. [Proposal 47-22](): "Revisions to Senate Policy 108.1: General Policy For Academic Program Planning" Presented by: Curricular Policy Committee (Voting Units: Academic)

Presentation. No questions.

k. [Proposal 48-22](): "Revisions to the Academic Integrity Policy" Academic and Instructional Policy Committee (Voting Units: Full Senate)

Presentation. No questions.

l. [Proposal 49-22](#): "Establishment of a New Graduate Certificate in Scientific Computing" Presented by: Curricular Policy Committee (Voting Units: Academic)

Presentation. No questions.

m. [Proposal 50-22](#): "Proposal to Create an 'October Recess'" Academic and Instructional Policy Committee (Voting Units: Full Senate)

Presentation.

Clarification made that staff does not go on break during student breaks. Should not be considered a recess.

Concern over the impact on Orientation.
Concerns were addressed.
Question: Are we unique in having a full week for Thanksgiving?
Response: We are fairly unique.
Proposal is widely supported on campus.

Public Comments:

Vice-President Knudstrup would like to publicly recognize Ashley Buchanan for her extensive service to the Senate and University at large.

Something….

Adjourned

ROLL CALL

Meeting #673   2021-22

CONSTITUENCY	SENATOR	ALTERNATE	SUBSTITUTE
Academic Departments			
Army/Air Force ROTC	_A__ Justin Casey	___ Paul Weiss	_____
Biological Sciences	___ Michael Gretz	___ Guiliang Tang	_____
Biomedical Engineering	___ Sangyoon Han	___ Smitha Rao	_____
Chemical Engineering	___ Kurt Rickard	___ Michael Mullins	_____
Chemistry	___ Lanrong Bi	___ Pat Heiden	_____
Civil & Environmental	_A__ Eric Seagren	___ Stan Vitton	_____
Cognitive and Learning Sciences	___ Erich Petushek	___ Kevin Trewartha	_____
Applied Computing	___ Paniz Hazaveh	___ Nathir Rawashdeh	_____
Computer Science	___ Keith Vertanen	___ Scott Kuhl	_____
Electrical & Computer Engineering	___ Chee-Wooi Ten	___ Paul Bergstrom	_____
Engineering Fundamentals	___ Jon Sticklen	___ Brett Hamlin	_____
Geological and Mining Eng & Sci	___ Greg Waite	___ John Gierke	_____
Humanities	___ Kette Thomas	___ VACANT	_____
Kinesiology & Integrative Phy	_A__ Qing-Hui Chen	___ Zhiying Shan	_____
Library	___ **Nora Allred	___ ** Pattie Luokkanen	_____
Materials Sci & Eng	___ Erik Herbert	___Steve Kampe	_____
Mathematical Sciences	___ William Keith	___Tamara Olson	_____
ME-EM	___ VACANT	___ VACANT	_____
MMET	___ Rick Berkey	___ David Labyak	_____
Physics	___ Ramy El-Ganainy	___ Bryan Suits	_____
Pavlis Honors College	___ Laura Fiss	___ VACANT	_____
College of Business	___ Robert Hutchinson	___ Jeff Wall	_____
College of Forestry	___ Paul Doskey	___ VACANT	_____
Social Sciences	___ Samuel Sweitz	___ Tim Scarlett	_____
Visual & Performing Arts	___ Susanne Kilpela	___ Libby Meyer	_____
Senators-At-Large			
At-large F	___ Carl Blair		
At-large F	___ Radwin Askari		
At-large F	___ L. Alexandra Morrison		
At-large F	___ VACANT		
At-large S	___ Courtney Archambeau		
At-large S	___ Shaun Burriss		
At-large S	___ John Lenters		
Professional Staff Units			
1. Academic Services A	___ VACANT	___ VACANT	_____
2. Academic Services B	___ Lindsey Wells	___ VACANT	_____
3. Academic Services C	_A__ Nicole Seigneurie	___ VACANT	_____
4. Administration A	___ Paige Short	___ VACANT	_____
5. Administration B	_A__ Quincy Higgins	___ VACANT	_____
6. Advancement & Alumni Engage	___ Mike Olson	___Lorraine Young	_____
7. Auxiliaries & Athletics	_A__ Patrice Cobin	___ VACANT	_____
8. Information Technology	___ Steve Knudstrup	___ VACANT	_____
9. Research 1	___ VACANT	___VACANT	_____
10. Research 2	___ VACANT	___VACANT	_____
11. Student Affairs	___Jessica Stormoen	___VACANT	_____
12. University Relations and Enroll	___ VACANT	___ VACANT	_____
Official Non-Voting Liaison Members			
Graduate Faculty Council	___ ?		
Graduate Student Government	___ Nathan Ford		
Staff Council	___ Paige Short		
Undergraduate Student Government	___ Davi Sprague		

Quorums:

To transact business:	**24 of 44**
For academic matters:	**17 of 29**
For research matters:	**14 of 27**

For staff matters: **8 of 15**
Other: **1/2 of eligible**

UNIVERSITY SENATE MEETING #673
VISITORS LIST

6 April 2022

	Name	Department or other affiliation
1.	Jackie Huntoon	Provost Office
2.	Amy Marcarelli	Biol. Sci.
3.	Shari Stockero	Provost's Office
4.	Rob Bishop	Academic & Community Conduct
5.	Aaron Taslitz	The Lode
6.	Davi Sprague	USG
7.	Don Lafreniere	Social Sciences
8.	Ranit Karmakar	Public (GSG)
9.	Wallace Southerland	Student Affairs
10.	AUDRA MORSE	CEGE
11.	Glen Archer	ECE
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