The University Senate of Michigan Technological University

To: Senators, Alternates, and Liaisons
From: Robert Hutchinson, Senate President
Date: September 6, 2023
Subject: Agenda for University Senate Meeting #688
Copies: President, Provost, Board of Trustees Secretary, Vice Presidents, Library, Staff Council
            Chair, *Tech Today,* Michigan Tech *Lode*

Meeting #688 of the University Senate of Michigan Technological University will convene at 5:30 p.m. on **Wednesday, September 6, 2023, in DOW room 642.**

Senators are responsible for making their constituents aware of the agenda for this meeting.

Senators who are unable to attend should arrange for their alternates to attend in their place.

Agenda	Time
Call to Order	
Roll Call of Senators and Recognition of Visitors	**5**
The quorum was met.	
Approval of Agenda	**2**
The agenda was approved.	
Approval of Minutes from Meeting 687	**5**
Minutes from Meeting 687 were approved.	
Presentations	**0**
No presentation	
President's Report	**15**

    a. Senate Introduction

The Senate President presented a presentation about the senate. Michigan Tech has the highest standards of shared governance. Michigan tech has received recognition for the highest level of freedom of speech. There is an A-list item where the senate has the highest authority to place relevant policies. An originator sends his/her proposal to the senate assistant, Ashley Buchanan. The senate assistant will forward the proposal to the Executive Committee. The proposal will be assigned to a relevant committee. The committee will contact the originator and will work together on the proposal. The proposal should be approved in the senate, then the administration should approve it to become a policy.

There are three main categories of meeting agenda items: 1) report, 2) information items, and 3) action items. New action items are listed as new business; proposals that should be considered by the senate.

There are different types of motions such as unanimous consent, acclamation, roll-call, and ballot (anonymous ballot).

Rules of order were presented.

General productivity: the senators should be prepared for each senate meeting by reading the proposals beforehand and have discussions with their constituencies.

    b. Standing committee membership approval

Standing committee membership is available on the senate website.

    c. Formally constitute an Ad-hoc Academic Calendar Committee

They have been working on a comprehensive proposal to address the academic calendar since the summer. The senate welcomes faculty, staff, and students for their input. The committee was approved.

Committee Reports   **10**
        a. Academic and Instructional Policy – Convener Jeremy Shannon
They tried to meet but did not reach a quorum.
        b. Administrative Policy – Convener Jon Sticklen
They met and elected Jon Sticklen and Eric Seagren as co-chairs.
        c. Curricular Policy – Convener Paul Bergstrom
They met and elected Paul Bergstrom as the chair.
        d. Committee for Promoting and Facilitating Equity and Understanding – Convener Lanrong Bi
They met and elected Lanrong Bi and Sangyoon Han as co-chairs.
        e. Elections – Convener Laura Fiss
They met and elected Laura Fiss as the chair.
        f. Finance and Institutional Planning – Chair Carl Blair
They met and elected Carl Blair as the chair. Their first goal is to evaluate what has happened in terms of enrollment in the various programs that have been approved within the last three years.
        g. Fringe Benefits – Chair Patrice Cobin
They met and elected Patrice Cobin as the chair.
        h. Information Technology – Convener Paniz Hazaveh
They met and elected Paniz Hazaveh as the chair.
        i. Professional Staff Policy – Convener Christine Grotzke
They did not have meeting.
        j. Research Policy – Chair Kelsey Kocher
They met and elected Kelsey Kocher as the chair.
        k. Ad Hoc Committee Reports
Patrice Cobin and Jon Sticklen participated in a safety task force. A draft has been finalized. But Patrice Cobin and Jon Sticklen have not heard anything back.

Working Groups:
    1) Academic Advising
        For the university academic advising group, the provost office is overseeing to ensure the diversity is met within all advising groups.
    2) Curriculum Masterplan
    3) Artificial Intelligence
        The main task is to identify ways in which we can prepare students for workplace in which AI will be omnipresent.

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Unfinished Business
    a. [Proposal 29-23](#): "Proposal for a Bachelor's of Science Degree in Environmental Data Science" Presented by: Curricular Policy Committee (Voting Units: Academic)

Proposal 29-23 was approved.

     b. [Proposal 40-23](#): "Senate Budget for 2023-24" Presented by: Finance and Institutional Planning (Voting Units: All)

Proposal 40-23 was approved.

New Business

     a. None   **0**

Public Comments   **10**

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned.