

UNIVERSITY SENATE OF MICHIGAN TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY
Minutes of Meeting #734
Thursday, April 2, 2026 | 12:30 p.m. | ChemSci 102

I. Call to Order

Senate President Robert Hutchinson called the meeting to order at 12:30 p.m.

II. Roll Call

Roll was called.

III. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved as presented.

IV. Approval of Minutes from Meeting #733

The minutes of Meeting #733 were approved as distributed.

V. President's Report

No report.

VI. Committee Reports

Academic Policy Committee (APC):

The APC reported that it is continuing work on the chair's evaluation policy and the charter template.

Academic Integrity Policy Committee (AIPC):

The AIPC provided an update on ongoing policy work.

Elections Committee

The elections committee presented the slate of candidates for Secretary, Vice President, and Senate President and noted the process for elections as spelled out in the bylaws including run-off procedures in case no candidate receives a majority of the votes. The senate assistant shared the [voter information page](#) with statements provided by candidates.

VII. Unfinished Business

a. 33-26: Proposal to Modify Course Add and Drop Policy 301.1 (AIPC; Voting Units: Academic)

The AIPC moved adoption of Proposal 33-26. The motion was seconded. The Senate voted to approve.

b–e. Proposals to Shelve Graduate Certificate Programs (CPC; Voting Units: Academic)

The Curricular Policy Committee moved to shelve the following graduate certificate programs. Each proposal was moved and seconded and approved by voice vote (ayes unanimous, no nays):

- 08-26: Proposal to Shelve the Graduate Certificate in Computational Materials Science
- 09-26: Proposal to Shelve the Graduate Certificate in Fundamentals of Materials Engineering
- 10-26: Proposal to Shelve the Graduate Certificate in Vehicle Dynamics
- 11-26: Proposal to Shelve the Graduate Certificate in Safety and Security of Autonomous Cyber-Physical Systems

f. 23-26: Proposal to Establish a Master of Science in STEM Public Policy (CPC; Voting Units: Academic)

The CPC presented Proposal 23-26 to establish a new online Master of Science in STEM Public Policy. The motion was moved and seconded. The Senate voted to approve (ayes unanimous, zero nays).

VIII. New Business

a. 16-26: Enhancing Shared Governance: Clarifying Staff Voting Eligibility in the Senate (Elections Committee; Voting Units: All)

Casey Nelson, chair of the Elections Committee, presented Proposal 16-26. Senator Nelson noted that no vote would be taken at this meeting; the proposal is introduced for discussion with a vote scheduled at the next meeting.

Discussion followed. A point of order was raised. Senators discussed the relationship between accreditation standards and the proposed constitutional change. Some senators have raised concern that expanding voting eligibility could constitute an erosion of academic units' authority over academic policy; A question was raised regarding potential departmental implications of the proposed change and it was suggested that further information about impacts of accreditation in relation to this proposed constitutional change be provided.

No vote was taken. The proposal will be brought to a vote at Meeting #735.

b. 32-26: Proposal to Rename the PhD in Integrative Physiology to the PhD in Kinesiology & Integrative Physiology (CPC; Voting Units: Academic)

The CPC presented Proposal 32-26. A question was raised regarding potential character limitations in degree-granting systems.

c. 37-26: Proposal to Shelve the B.S. in Natural Resource Management (CPC; Voting Units: Academic)

The CPC presented this proposal.

d–f. PhD Restructuring in Electrical and Computer Engineering (CPC; Voting Units: Academic)

The CPC presented the following interrelated proposals regarding the PhD programs in Electrical and Computer Engineering. The degree will be offered in a new modality.

- 31-26: PhD in Electrical and Computer Engineering (new combined program)
- 12-26: Proposal to Shelve the PhD in Computer Engineering
- 13-26: Proposal to Shelve the PhD in Electrical Engineering

g. 24-26: Applied Process Control Minor (CPC; Voting Units: Academic)

The CPC presented Proposal 24-26 to create an Applied Process Control Minor.

IX. Public Comments

Senator Janet Callahan (Materials Science & Engineering) offered public comment related to [ABET Criterion 6 \(Faculty\)](#), which addresses faculty qualifications, sufficiency, and authority to guide academic programs. The comment was offered in the context of the Senate's discussion of shared governance and staff voting eligibility.

X. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 1:14.

Respectfully submitted,

Holly Hassel
Secretary, University Senate