



**Michigan
Technological
University**

Content Warning: The following report contains graphic descriptions of threats, slurs of many kinds, hate speech, and other potentially triggering language and events.

Senate Ad-Hoc Committee to Review Institutional Policy and Procedures for On-Campus Events

Report to MTU University Senate

January 20, 2021

Committee: Josh Loar (Chair), Tej Bergin, Carl Blair, Patrice Cobin, Michael Gretz, Paniz Hazaveh, George Hommowun, Mary Jennings, Jonathan Leinonen, Daniel Liebau, Jeremy Lundy, Danielle Meirow, Libby Meyer, Laura Schaerer, Rochelle Spencer, Sam Sweitz, Charlie Temple

Background / Rationale:

On Sept. 27th, 2020, a political parade/rally was held partially on campus, with automotive vehicles and drivers assembling in the Rozsa parking lot, and driving through Houghton, Hancock, and other areas north. On Sept. 30th, the Senate Executive Committee was made privy to emails sent to the Senate Committee for Promoting and Facilitating Equity and Understanding. These emails, from MTU students, expressed great distress at the events that they described as taking place at the Sept. 27th rally. In these emails, students stated that they were the targets of:

- Rape threats
- Racist slurs
- Anti-LGBTQ+ slurs
- Intentional “rolling coal”
- Intentional Covid policy violations

The students expressed that they didn’t feel safe or supported by the University, and that these actions were impacting their ability to focus on their education. A range of complaints were also sent about this event from faculty and staff.

The Senate Executive Committee and the Senate take such statements very seriously. Since the majority of Senators were not present at this rally, it was proposed to create an ad-hoc committee to investigate these concerns. The committee was charged as described below, and was approved as an official ad-hoc senate committee on Oct. 14th, 2020. The committee was open to anyone in the MTU community, and features representatives from the faculty, the staff, and the student body (both undergraduate and graduate).

Charge:

The committee was charged with three main action items:

- Documentation of September 27th: to collect any available recordings, photographs, testimonials, and/or firsthand reports of what happened on September 27th. The committee was particularly focused on what happened on MTU campus, but also strove to understand the scope of the full event, from the scheduling and permitting of the event through its completion.
- Analyzing and summarizing events policy and procedure on campus: including but not limited to speech policy on campus, process for reserving campus spaces, policies at other institutions, Covid events policy, etc.
- Making recommendations for improvements to better serve MTU's campus community: to the policy, procedural, or communication structures surrounding campus events.

Structure of Work:

The overall committee held meetings weekly, but the primary work was done in subcommittees. The committee established five subcommittees in order to make the work faster and the teams nimbler, and the subcommittees reported on their work in the weekly full-group meetings. The five subcommittees were established as follows. Members were assigned to the subcommittees they requested, or to those with the lowest enrollment if they expressed no preference.

- Documenting Sept. 27:
 - Patrice Cobin
 - Paniz Hazaveh
 - Josh Loar
 - Danielle Meirow
- Public Safety and Permits:
 - Mary Jennings
 - Jeremy Lundy
 - Laura Schaerer
 - Charlie Temple
- Benchmarking Other Institutions:
 - Carl Blair
 - Mary Jennings
 - Jonathan Leinonen
- Speech Policy on Campus:
 - Michael Gretz
 - Josh Loar
 - Libby Meyer
- Coordination Between Campus Groups/Stakeholders
 - George Hommowun
 - Daniel Liebau
 - Rochelle Spencer

Subcommittees coordinated their work, to make sure to gather questions for any given party from multiple subcommittees into one inquiry. Their reports are aggregated here into this committee report.

The subcommittees then discussed the findings, and identified six key concerns to address. After the subcommittee reports below, the committee summarizes those six concerns, identifies recommendations to address all six, and summarizes the current progress being made towards achieving the recommendations.

Events Policy and Procedures on Campus:

Speech Policy on Campus:

MTU is a robust supporter of free speech, and also provides a set of frameworks beyond the first amendment for the expected conduct of students and others in the campus community. The following summarizes the existing frameworks regarding speech and campus conduct. Note that the existing frameworks are generally focused on issues faced by a single student or group of students, rather than providing pathways for discussion of the wider community within the campus. For many conduct violations, this individual structure is appropriate, though students frequently ask for clearer pathways to address systemic concerns.

CDI Free Speech Page:

<https://www.mtu.edu/diversity-center/resources/free-speech/>

This page is a thorough overview of Free Speech/First Amendment Rights, Hate Speech vs. Hate Crime and Academic Freedom. There are excellent FAQ and resource links. Note that hate speech is protected speech on campus until or unless it crosses the lines defined in the student code of conduct (as harassment or discrimination).

Student Code of Conduct

<https://www.mtu.edu/conduct/policies-procedures/student-conduct/>

This page describes expectations for student conduct. It covers much more than free speech, but for the purposes of this committee, here are the relevant guidelines under [prohibited conduct](#):

Bullying:

Intentional, repeated, and/or severe aggressive electronic, written, verbal or physical acts of physical, social, or emotional domination that are intended to and do objectively and subjectively intimidate, harm, or control another physically or emotionally so as to substantially interfere with or limit their ability to participate in or benefit from an educational program or employment.

[Possible sanctions for this Code violation](#)

Disruptive Behavior:

Causing a substantial disturbance or disruption, including without limitation substantially disturbing or disrupting the use or enjoyment of University premises or the surrounding community, research and teaching, university administration, conduct hearings, or fire, police, and emergency services.

[Possible sanctions for this Code violation](#)

Harassment (General):

Unwelcome conduct of a verbal, written, online or physical nature that could reasonably be understood as being sufficiently severe, persistent or pervasive, and disrupting or undermining to a person's ability to participate in or benefit from a University program, activity, and/or employment.

Possible sanctions for this Code violation

Policy on Discrimination and Harassment (Senate Policy 203.1):

<http://www.admin.mtu.edu/usenate/policies/p203-1.htm>

This document outlines the guidelines including the rights and responsibilities for peaceful protest. Note *D2.1 Demonstrator Roles*: Demonstrate in such a way so as to not disrupt the academic or administrative functions of the University, nor disrupt the free expression of others; and D 4.1-11 Public Safety roles.

Conduct Pathways:

There are formal and informal pathways for responses to violations to the Code of Community Conduct. It is not entirely clear on the website who is responsible, often there is mention of an "official" but not a specified office.

Reporting to the Office of Academic and Community Conduct:

Incident reporting form: https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?MichiganTech&layout_id=0

The University will respond to violations of the Code through a variety of pathways, informally and/or formally, with the goal of educating all parties involved. Resolutions, as well as appeal processes, are administrative functions internal to the University. Students may also face criminal action by the University for violations of Board of Trustees regulations or ordinances, and external, criminal/civil proceedings for violations of federal/state laws and/or city ordinances. Proceedings under the Code may be carried out prior to, simultaneously with, or following criminal/civil proceedings. The stages of the student conduct pathways will normally proceed within five (5) business day increments, as necessary.

Student groups/organizations are expected to comply with the community standards set forth in the Code and may be charged with violations of those standards. Hearings for student groups or organizations follow the same general student conduct procedures. Determinations as to responsibility will be made. Sanctions will be assigned collectively and/or individually, and will be proportionate to the involvement of each individual and the organization.

University community members, law enforcement agencies, or members of the public can report possible Code violations by making a written complaint to the [Office of Academic and Community Conduct](#).

It is within the discretion of the University to determine the extent to which the complaint will be investigated and/or resolved. If a determination is made by a University official that reasonable

cause exists to believe a violation has occurred, then the student alleged to have committed the violation will be provided notice of the violation and an opportunity to respond to the violation. When there is the potential for a sanction of conduct suspension or conduct expulsion to be imposed, the case will normally proceed with a formal pathway. A University official may dismiss the complaint at any stage if they have reasonable cause to believe the complaint is baseless or otherwise unsupported by available evidence. The official may also decide the complaint could be better resolved in a different manner and refer accordingly. Complaints of Sexual Misconduct can also be reported to the [Title IX Office](#), the [Department of Public Safety and Police Services](#), or the [Houghton Police Department](#).

Informal Pathways:

Conduct Intervention:

An unspecified University Official (not clear on the website) will schedule a meeting.

After receiving a report, a University official may decide to schedule a meeting with the responding party to discuss the alleged violation(s). At the meeting, the official will:

1. Explain the purpose of the conduct intervention meeting;
2. Review the incident report and any impacts/harms to individuals and/or community as a whole;
3. Listen to the responding party's explanation of what occurred and why;
4. Discuss community behavioral expectations and conflict resolution techniques;
5. Discuss the consequences of the student conduct process;
6. Assist the student in developing an action plan to: repair the impacts/harms to individuals and or community; avoid recurring behavioral issues; make use of appropriate service referrals, as needed; and reintegrate themselves back into the community; and/or
7. Refer the case for formal action at the request of the responding party.

No sanctions will be imposed other than a verbal warning during the conduct intervention, and there is no right to an appeal. The official has the authority to change handling the incident at the conduct intervention level to the administrative option, voluntary adaptable resolution, or formal action, based on the information revealed in the conduct intervention meeting. Such actions may also be taken if the student fails to appear for the conduct intervention meeting. If a change is made, the responding party will receive the appropriate notice and opportunity to respond.

Office of Academic and Community Conduct:

<https://www.mtu.edu/conduct/>

The Office of Academic and Community Conduct continually strives to support a culture of integrity at Michigan Tech. All participants in the conduct process are treated fairly and with respect to resolve issues in an atmosphere of honesty and trust.

The purpose of the conduct process includes the following:

- Determining responsibility for conduct violations
- Facilitating a student's development of ethical standards of conduct and personal accountability
- Achieving an educational outcome in conduct cases
- Protecting the interest of the Michigan Tech community in an environment that promotes education, personal growth, and peaceful resolution of conflicts

Restorative Practices:

After receiving a report, the official may offer the option for the parties to informally resolve the conflict/incident. If the responding party accepts responsibility for violating the Code, and the reporting parties agree to be involved, restorative practices such as mediation, facilitated dialogue, restorative group conferencing, and/or circle processes may be utilized.

Mediation uses a neutral third party to coordinate a structured intervention to assist with resolving conflict between two or more parties. Facilitated dialogue is a structured conversation between two or more parties in which a facilitator guides the parties to a better understanding of their differences. Restorative group conferencing is a scripted dialogue led by a facilitator in which the responsible party(ies) and the impacted party(ies) engage in collaborative decision making to identify outcomes and develop a formal agreement. The circle process is a means of organizing group communication, decision making, problem-solving and/or conflict resolution.

These voluntary processes allow all parties to be involved in and have influence on the resolution process and outcome. The primary focus is to address the impacts, repair the harm, restore integrity, and reintegrate individuals back into the community. The outcome is a formal agreement between the parties as to what will be specifically done by the responding party. If all parties are not in agreement as to the outcome of the restorative practices, or at any time during the process the official decides it's not in the best interest of those involved, including the University, then the matter will be handled through formal action.

Conflict Resolution:

Dean of Students

<https://www.mtu.edu/deanofstudents/>

Ombuds Office

<https://www.mtu.edu/ombuds/>

<https://www.mtu.edu/ombuds/conflict-resolution/>

The Ombuds Office provides informal mediation services for members of the Michigan Tech academic community. [They] provide services to help individuals resolve their concerns fairly and informally. Informal conflict resolution services are intended to be employed prior to initiating any formal grievance procedures. We do not handle issues specifically addressed by collective bargaining agreements for employees who are represented by labor unions.

Formal Action:

Formal action includes Interim Action, Administration Option and Form Action. These are all listed on the website for the Student Code of Community Conduct:

<https://www.mtu.edu/conduct/policies-procedures/student-conduct/expanded-code.html#possible-sanctions-2>

Each of these refer to an unspecified "University Official" who will carry out the actions.

Summary:

MTU robustly defends the first amendment, and has in place a host of further conduct policies regarding speech. In their responses to the Sept. 27th rally, students repeatedly asked for clearer ways to report issues or concerns on campus, but the reporting mechanisms in place seem very clear to the committee. This may suggest that the University should increase communications efforts regarding the mechanisms for reporting concerns, to increase student awareness. It also may suggest that students have a different idea of what would be useful in such mechanisms, and further that dialog with students about these mechanisms may be warranted.

Outside Use of Grounds (Coordination and Stakeholder Involvement Sub-Committee)

The following provides a summary of the findings of the Campus Groups/Stakeholder Coordination Subcommittee's work. The narrative provides a look at the current state of outdoor event coordination on campus, including a review of the current policies that dictate allowable uses of campus, the procedures used to schedule, review, and authorize use of exterior campus space, and identify campus stakeholders routinely engaged in those approvals.

Objectives

The following subsections provide an overview of the current processes and stakeholders involved in the reservation of outside space on the University's grounds. The document was developed to present the current state of affairs as of January 2021. Improvements to these processes or expansion of stakeholder engagement would need to be based on the findings of the other subcommittees. Minimally the document will consider the following aspects of the current state of event coordination on campus. Framework – What University policies and procedures govern the use of outside campus grounds for events or gatherings?

- Roles and Responsibilities – What department(s) is responsible for approving outside space reservations?
- Consistency – Who can reserve outside space on campus and what criteria is used to evaluate requests?
- Communication – Who is notified of scheduled reservations and how are events advertised on campus?
- Safety and Risk Management – How are safety and potential risks related to a proposed reservation managed?

Discussion

The use of exterior space on campus is minimally restricted and dictated by existing University policies, ordinances, and procedures. Board of Trustees policy establishes Student Leadership and Involvement (SLI) Office and the Department of Public Safety and Police Services (DPSPS) as the offices responsible for managing the reserved use of designated University outside grounds.

The following subsections describe the current state of the University's practices as it relates to the use of campus grounds by groups affiliated and non-affiliated with the University. The review is organized to provide a summary of governing policies and procedures, processes for requesting and documenting space reservations, stakeholder engagement, and risk management.

Policies

The University maintains a number of policies and procedures related to the use of campus exteriors for hosting an event. For reference, it should be noted that the University's Board of Trustees is the only governing body on campus that may create and approve "policies". Supporting procedures may be developed by individual departments or organizations to ensure

compliance with University policy. The policies cited below may be relevant to requests to use campus property for an event.

- *5.06 – Reserved Use of Designated University Outside Grounds* – Describes the processes for any use of University outside grounds by affiliated and non-affiliated groups and persons.
- *5.07—Chalking* – Recognizes “chalking” as a transitory advertising and communication tool and establishes compliance protocols
- *12.2 – Building and Property Rules and Regulations* – Identifies use limitations for campus property and exteriors including, but not limited to posting announcements, distribution of handbills, and unruly behavior.
- *12.3 – Rule Prohibiting Disruption of University Activities* – Identifies the authorities granted to the Board of Trustees for issuing policy, the expectations and responsibilities of the campus community to act in a manner compatible with the University’s function as an educational institution, and prohibitions on any persons attempting to interfere or impede the University’s mission.

Ordinances

Supportive of the policies summarized above, the University also maintains a number of enacted regulations in the form of ordinances. Campus ordinances regulate a number of activities on campus ranging from Traffic Regulations (Ordinance No.1) to Tampering with Safety or Security Devices (Ordinance No.4). The chapters in Ordinance No.1 may be considered when authorizing activities on campus.

- *Chapter 01 – Words and Phrases Defined* – Provides definitions for the words and phrases used in the ordinance.
- *Chapter 04 - Vehicular Noise* – Generally limits the creation of unreasonably loud, disturbing, unnecessary or excessive and raucous noises on any street or public place of the University.
- *Chapter 09 – Littering and Defacing Property* – Describes prohibitions on littering, defacing property, and placement on handbills on campus.
- *Chapter 10 – General Administration* – Outlines the authority of the Vice President for Administration to exercise the powers and duties of ordinance.

Additional information associated with the policies, ordinances, and procedures summarized above are succinctly organized on the SLI webpage: <https://www.mtu.edu/student-leadership/resources/policies/> .

Campus Stakeholders

As stated previously, SLI and DPSPS are responsible for managing exterior space reservations on campus. SLI is responsible for coordinating with on-campus entities, while DPSPS manages requests submitted by off-campus/external groups. SLI interacts on a regular basis with Registered Student Organizations (RSOs) and their advisors to ensure that they understand the

requirements of their reservation. Formal training on these expectations are communicated to RSOs and their advisors as part of their Annual RSO Training. Training is mandatory for all RSO officers and advisors.

Reservations for greenspace on campus include a consultation with the Grounds Department to ensure that there are no maintenance activities scheduled for the area that might conflict with the proposed event. In addition, event requests might require the need for temporary utilities or that irrigation is temporarily suspended in the area.

Similarly, requests for outdoor space may extend beyond the greenspaces of core campus to include a parking lot or roadway. In these cases, SLI and DPSPS typically engage Transportation Services to ensure that there are no conflicts with the proposed use of the parking lot. Often requests require that a parking lot be closed to accommodate the lot reservation. Examples of past events that have required full or partial lot closures include a snowmobile stunt show, motorcycle endorsement training, and winter baja races. In cases where lot access is affected, building occupants may be contacted to review the temporary changes and identify any potential conflicts.

Athletics manages the fees and reservations associated with the baseball fields, Sherman Field, Hubbell Field, the upper and lower soccer fields, and the Nordic Ski Trails. Reservations for these outdoor spaces are typically not coordinated with SLI and DPSPS.

Requests

As stated on the SLI website, all persons or groups seeking to reserve exterior space or desiring to distribute written/printed promotional materials on campus must make their request in advance. Requests must be submitted through an online form that can be accessed through both the SLI and DPSPS websites <https://www.mtu.edu/student-leadership/resources/policies/outside-grounds/>. A copy of the request form is included in **Attachment A**. Inquiries received via phone or email are redirected to the online form to maintain operational consistency.

Requests are monitored by both SLI and DPSPS. Requests are reviewed for completeness, occupancy conflicts, and elements of risk. As stated previously, SLI reviews requests submitted by on-campus groups and DPSPS reviews requests from external groups. SLI and DPSPS make every effort to review each request within two business days (48 hours). Depending on the nature of the request, SLI may contact stakeholders affected by the proposed activity.

Upon receiving any feedback from stakeholders and planning documents from the requester, DPSPS and SLI make a determination regarding the approval of the reservation and notify the requester via email on whether or not the request has been authorized.

Risk Management

A number of exterior space reservation requests on campus include a physical activity or have an element of risk that requires the requester to prepare a Risk Management Plan. Risk Management Plans for on-campus groups must be submitted to SLI in advance and deemed acceptable prior to the event. Similarly, if deemed necessary DPSPS will request a Risk Management Plan from external groups. In addition to basic event details and contact information SLI recommends that

requesters include the following considerations when preparing their event-specific Risk Management Plan:

- Will an advisor or a faculty/staff member be present?
- Does this event involve food/beverage distribution/consumption?
- Does this event involve physical activity of any kind? If so, describe in detail including how you will minimize risk. (Safety equipment, training, waivers, etc.)
- Describe any other risks or possible risk scenarios that participants, spectators, or organization members could experience as a result of this event.
- Describe your organization's action plan in case of an emergency and/or a medical situation.
- Describe your organization's plan for inclement weather?

Generally, the proposed activities and the identified risks can be managed with limited controls in place. In addition, these requests are often annual occurrences or similar enough to previous events, that document reviews are somewhat standardized. SLI and DPSPS make recommendations regarding additional precautions or lessons-learned to ensure that the plan is complete. Depending on the level of risk involved and participant interaction, SLI may require additional plan provisions for on-campus groups including, but not limited to recommending that the requester incorporate one or more of the following forms into the scope of their event.

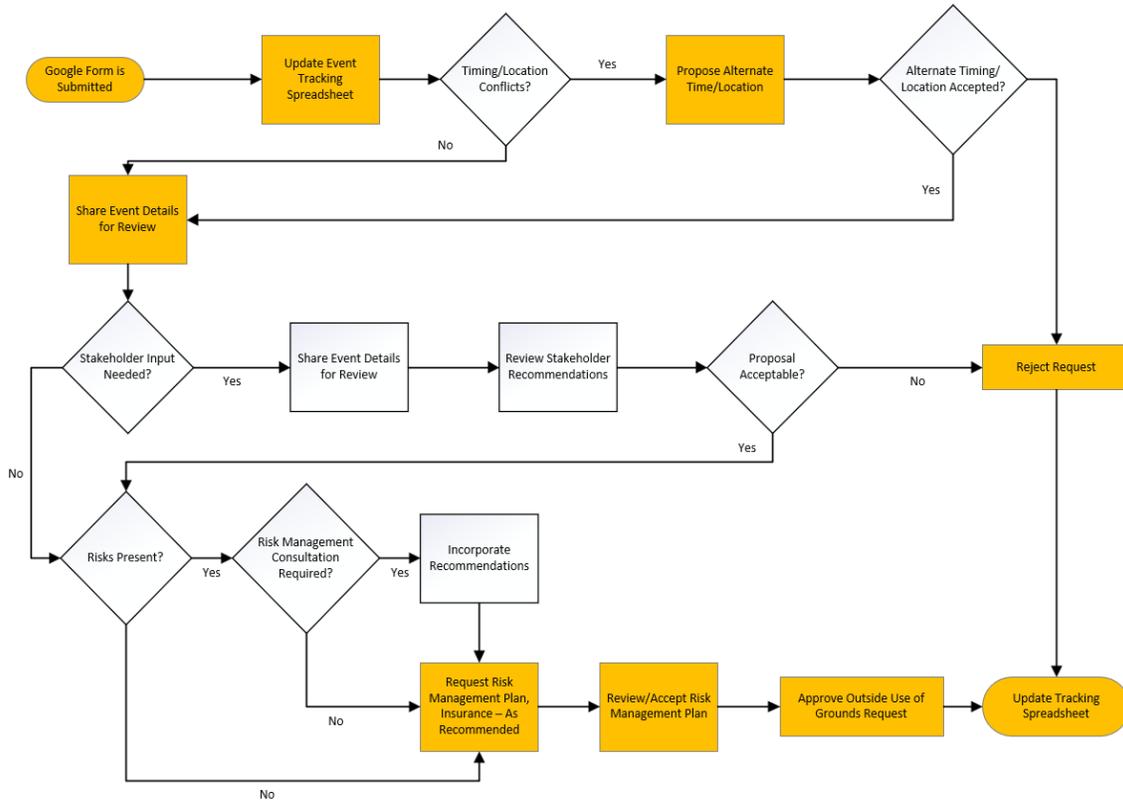
- *Release Forms (Attachment B)* are recommended for use by all event participants when participation in an event could be hazardous.
- *A Large Group Liability Waiver (Attachment C)* is also recommended if an organization is sponsoring an event with elements of risk with large groups of people participating.
- *A Waiver of Liability for Students Under the Age of 18 (Attachment D)* is available for parent/guardian signature. Completion and submittal of this form is required when a student is under 18 and risks associated with the event require students to sign liability waivers

Information related to the preparation of Risk Management Plans and samples of the aforementioned forms are available on the SLI website (<https://www.mtu.edu/student-leadership/resources/policies/risk-management-plans/>)

In cases where proposed activities may include elevated risks, require liability insurance, or include activities that require specialized expertise for evaluation, SLI and DPSPS may consult with Environmental Health and Safety (EHS) and/or the Office of Risk Management and Compliance (Risk Management) prior to authorizing the proposed event.

The processes and procedures described in the preceding sections are presented graphically in **Figure 1**.

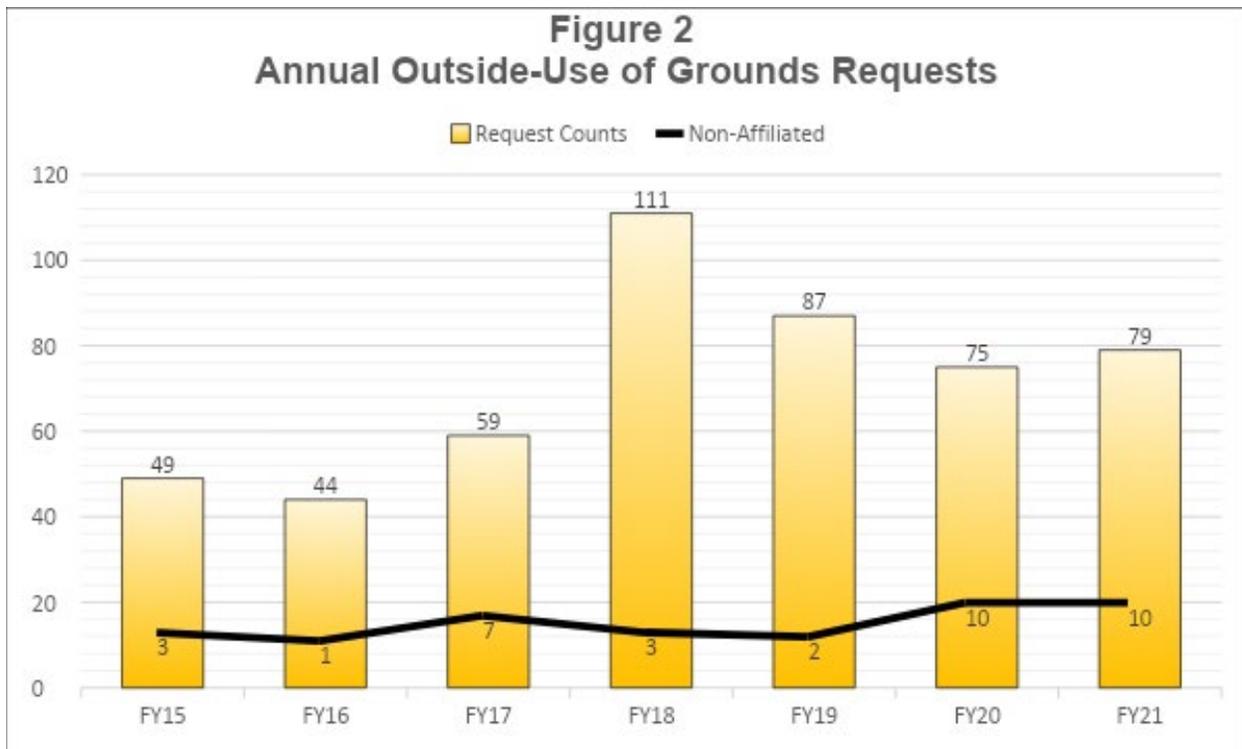
Figure 1 DRAFT Outside-Use of Grounds Request Management Process



Conclusion

SLI and DPSPS have reviewed over 500 requests for space reservations on campus since FY15. Over that time, the number of requests to reserve outdoor spaces has generally increased. This is likely more indicative of procedural compliance and not an overall increase in the number of events hosted on campus.

Request tracking shows that less than 15% of the events annually, are requested from groups or organizations that are not affiliated with campus. In general, these limited number of requests are typically associated with religious and civic organizations promoting specific events or points of view. Annual request data is summarized on **Figure 2**.



Although the responsibility for reviewing and authorizing the use of outdoor space falls on SLI and DPSPS, they also consult with other campus departments on a case by case basis. Grounds and Transportation Services are regularly involved in the review process. Risk Management and EHS are engaged less frequently, but both areas support decision making particularly when requests are more complex or have inherent risks that could result in property damage or personal injury.

Outdoor space reservations are available to groups or persons that are both affiliated and not affiliated with the University. Reservations are confirmed based on the availability of the requested space, on a “first come, first serve” basis. There are no permits or certificates granted for using the space(s). Requesters, their organizations, and their attendees are required to comply with University policies and the planning documents prepared for their event.

Neither DPSPS, nor SLI are responsible for announcing or distributing information related to scheduled events on campus. Event organizers may promote or advertise their scheduled events on campus as long as it complies with University policies for posting and distribution of handbills. In a select number of cases the campus community may be notified of a scheduled event if it has the potential to disrupt campus operations during normal business hours.

Some campus-wide events and traditions like Winter Carnival, Career Fair, and Move-In (for example) do not follow the reservation processes outlined herein. The coordinators for these events generate their own communications regarding potential disruptions to campus operations, most commonly the rerouting of campus traffic. Similarly, other events on campus that periodically involve the staging of cars and busses for events at the Great Lakes Research Center, Rozsa Center for the Performing Arts, and the Student Development Complex are not facilitated through the reservation process for campus exteriors. Communications related to potential disruptions caused by these events are also communicated by the event organizers. The primary

responsibility of SLI and DPSPS in their role of reviewing requests for exterior space reservations is to ensure that coordinators recognize the potential risks associated with their proposal and their responsibility for adhering to University policies and procedures. It is the responsibility of the event organizers to comply with these conditions and any limitations assigned to the event. Non-compliance with these conditions would prevent the coordinator's ability to reserve exterior space in the future.

Central to SLI and DPSPS' roles in the process are the University's policies related to the disruptions on campus. It is not the responsibility of SLI or DPSPS to pass judgment or assume malicious intent when persons or organizations request the use of campus grounds. Ultimately, it is the responsibility of our community members to act responsibly when granted the use of University property.

Benchmarking Other Institutions' Policy for Events:

Summary: This assessment looks at 8 universities' policies for reserving space for an event, with 2 of those universities in Michigan. 2 city websites were also reviewed, as well as 1 state website.

Notable Findings:

- Many require applicants to work with someone from the university to complete the application; some processes require as many as three approvals for one application.
- Applications must always be prepared in advance, with varying lead times
- Generally, there must be an individual available (from the applicant's group) as the main point of contact during the event and afterward.
- Free speech events do not charge fees for use of space.
- There may be an insurance certificate required (which may be waived for free speech events).
- If any protesting or media is expected, then police services are to be available.
- Police should be expected to write tickets if there is a gathering without a permit.
- Parking lots are not always explicitly mentioned in policies, but there is good reason to include them (permitting issues, rights of pass-holders from the campus community during a parking lot event, etc.)
- No advertising is permitted until and unless the event is approved.
- City permits require traffic control plans for parades, and parades should generally be coordinated with the city.

University of Northern Colorado (public) - 7 page application

https://www.unco.edu/police/pdf/forms/Outdoor-Event-Permit-Application.pdf?utm_source=redirect&utm_campaign=event-permit&utm_medium=print

- Coordinator from campus staff is available to help complete applications.
- 3 people need to sign off on the permit (shared accountability).
- Must be done at least 10 days ahead of time (if late, can refuse the event).
- Bottom of page 2 asks if applicants have secured a city permit for any part of their activity that will take place on city sidewalks, roads, etc. (e.g. a parade through town)
- Page 3 asks how many parking passes are being requested for the event.
- Page 4 bullet 3 asks the applicant to list a "primary contact who will be present at the event".
- Page 4 bullet 4 requires contracted police presence at gatherings in excess of 250 people, or where alcohol is served, where there will be traffic control issues (such as a large number of vehicles entering/exiting campus) or other safety concerns (as determined by the Conference and Event Services Office) are present.

University of Southern California (private) - 15 page outdoor event policy and form

<https://trojanevents.usc.edu/files/2016/03/FINAL-Outdoor-Event-Planning-Booklet-and-Approval-Form.pdf>

- Level 5 event for local community (Office of Civic and Community Relations is notified and involved in the planning and approval process)
- Outdoor events require a deposit fee
- Page 10 all advertising and communication plans/timelines must be submitted in advance to the approving departments.
 - No advertising is permitted until all approvals, paperwork and final payments have been received.

University of Utah (public) - Special Event Application – 1 page form

<https://registrar.utah.edu/pdf/special-event-application.pdf>

- Refers to a “Person in Charge” with a list of 12 responsibilities including being available to handle any issues that come up at the time. This person is presumably the main point of contact and able to communicate with other people to address issues as they arise in a timely manner.
- May required a Certificate of Insurance, with university listed as additional insured.

Washington State Department of Enterprise Services - (Reservation for Capitol Grounds) - online web form

<https://apps.des.wa.gov/activityrequest/event.aspx>

- Categorized by Event Type: free speech, private, government, or commercial with different fees attached (political rally and governmental events are free of charge; possible fee for parking lot usage based on the number of vehicles)
- “Busses may not park on Capitol Campus.”

Arizona State University (public) - online web form

<https://eventreg.asu.edu/do-i-need-submit-special-event-registry-form-my-event>

- Event registry form must be completed if the event is open to the general public.
- Must register if programming includes controversial topic (media might cover it, protesters might attend, security might be needed).
- Form not accessible without login id (users must request an ID number via a separately linked page in order to register).

University of Michigan (public) - 6-step procedure, online form

https://fo.umich.edu/outdoor_events/

- Website for “Temporary Campus Exterior Activities Requests”
- All outdoor events held on UM’s campus must be approved by the Associate Vice President’s Office for Facilities & Operations.
- Guidelines include noise restrictions on events.
- Risk must be assessed by the university, and any event that poses a health or safety risk can be denied.

Michigan State University (public) - online form

<http://police.msu.edu/police-services/special-events/>

- List of relevant factors assessed by police services when determining police staffing for an event.

City of Seattle Washington Special Events Office - guidelines

<https://www.seattle.gov/special-events-office/handbook/general-guidelines>

- Requires permit application 90 days or greater prior to the event date.
- May be required to meet with Special Events Committee(s).
- Requires a street use plan for all parade events.

City of Springfield, MO - online application

<https://www.springfieldmo.gov/FormCenter/Public-Information-3/Special-Event-Permit-Application-257>

- Requires Risk Mitigation Plan.
- Registration form requests a list of people working, volunteering, and to the extent possible attending (participating in) the event to be filed no less than 24 hours after the event.
- Requires CDC Guideline Adherence Plan for during the pandemic.

Documenting Sept 27th Rally:

Before the event: Permits, Announcements, and Internal MTU Communications:

The first public announcement of the event, entitled “Trump Train”, was made by the organizer Naomi Leukema on September 17th, 2020 via an Instagram post under her username sewcrazychassell (Image 1a and 1b, see Appendix B: Images). On September 26th, 2020 a second announcement, slightly modified, was made on Instagram by the organizer Naomi Leukema (Image 2a and 2b, see Appendix B: Images). Both announcements state that Michigan Tech’s parking lot at the Rozsa Center is the location to gather for the event. At the time of the first posting Leukema had neither sought nor received permission to use the Rozsa parking lot on campus. Both announcements include a statement of Michigan Tech’s face covering policy (Image 1 and 2b, see Appendix B: Images).

Another announcement of the event was made on September 24, 2020 via the Keweenaw Report, listing Naomi Leukema as the event organizer and announcing the Rozsa Center parking lot as the starting point (Image 3, see Appendix B: Images). It is not known if this announcement via Keweenaw Report came before or after Brian Cadwell (Director and Chief of Public Safety), emailed Naomi Leukema that her request to use the Rozsa parking lot had been approved on September 24, 2020 at 11:34 pm (Image 3, see Appendix B: Images, and Emails 4b, see Appendix D: Emails Before the Event).

Beginning on September 22, 2020 Michigan Tech faculty and staff became aware of these announcements via social media and began sending emails expressing their concern about the event being staged on Michigan Tech property and asking whether or not this event had permission to gather at their stated location of the Rozsa Center parking lot (Emails 1, see Appendix D: Emails Before the Event). As a result of these emails Jared Anderson (Chair of the Visual and Performing Arts Department), emailed Brian Cadwell (Director and Chief of Public Safety), on September 23, 2021 at 8:45 am (Emails 3, see Appendix D: Emails Before the Event).

Brian Cadwell, Director and Chief of Public Safety and Police Services, first received notice of this September 27, 2020 “Trump Train” event via an email from Bonnie Gorman to Jessie Stapleton (Director of Student Leadership & Involvement), on which he was copied, sent September 22, 2020 at 9:01 pm (Emails 2, see Appendix D: Emails Before the Event). John Lehman (Vice President for University Relations and Enrollment) was also copied. (Emails 2, see Appendix D: Emails Before the Event). After checking with staff member Rochelle Spencer (Assistant Director of Student Leadership & Involvement), Jesse Stapleton responded 8 minutes later, at 9:09 pm, stating “They have not filled out an Outside Space Request as of now” (Emails 2 and 4, see Appendix D: Emails Before the Event). Cadwell emailed a response 19 minutes later, at 9:28 pm, stating that he also “...had not seen a request for space usage” (Emails 2, see Appendix D: Emails). In response to questions posed by the University Senate Ad-hoc Committee to Cadwell after the event, he stated he originally learned of the event through an email Jared Anderson

(Department Chair of Visual and Performing Arts), sent him on Wednesday, September 23, 2020 (Question 1a in Document 1, see Appendix G: Documents, and Emails 3, see Appendix D: Emails Before the Event).

In an email dated from Wednesday, September 23, 2020 at 11:22 am Bonnie Gorman wrote “The person whose name appears in the screenshot is not a student. Brian will do the follow up and see if we can identify them. If he’s able to do that, he’ll provide them the form and make sure they are aware that they need to be physically distanced and masked” (Emails 2, see Appendix D: Emails Before the Event). At 3:37 pm that same day Brian Cadwell emailed Reid DeVoge, Detective Lieutenant of Public Safety, asking him to identify the organizer of the planned September 27th Trump Train event, so Cadwell could make contact with the organizer to inform “him ...about the COVID protocols on campus and...other things” (Emails 2, see Appendix D: Emails Before the Event).

Cadwell contacted Naomi Leukema to notify her that she was required to fill out forms if she wanted to use the Rozsa parking lot (Question 1e iii in Document 1, see Appendix G: Documents). Cadwell and Leukema spoke twice by email and once by phone (Question 1e ii in Document 1, see Appendix F: Documents, and Emails 5 and 6, see Appendix D: Emails Before the Event). The event was approved on September 24th, 2020 (Question 1b in Document 1, see Appendix G: Documents, and Emails 6, see Appendix D: Emails Before the Event).

On September 25, 2020 at 8:43 am Stapleton emailed Cadwell, Gorman, and Sarah Schulte (General Counsel), and copied Spencer and Kellie Raffaelli (Associate Dean for Student Engagement and Director of International Programs and Services), to enquire if the Rozsa parking lots had been approved for use by Leukema (Emails 7, see Appendix D: Emails Before the Event). Stapleton was checking to see if the Rozsa parking lots 5 and 9 were available as she had received a request from a Registered Student Organization, Society of Intellectual Sisters (SIS), to use the lots for a “Positive Chalk Art with SIS - Social Event” (Emails 7, see Appendix D: Emails Before the Event). Cadwell responded at 8:59 am informing Stapleton that he had approved Leukema’s request (Emails 7, see Appendix D: Emails Before the Event). Stapleton wrote back at 9:19 am asking Cadwell in the future to engage the Department of Student Leadership & Involvement when approving or denying Outside Space requests (Emails 7, see Appendix D: Emails Before the Event).

During the event:

Number of Participants:

Naomi Leukema filled out the paperwork to use the Rozsa Center parking lot and communicated to Brian Cadwell, presumably during their phone conversation, that 40 to 50 vehicles of people were expected for the event (Question 8 in Document 1, see Appendix G: Documents). Brian Cadwell estimates that approximately 450 to 500 vehicles attended the event (Question 4f in Document 1, see Appendix G: Documents). According

to the Daily Mining Gazette more than 600 cars participated in the event (Document 6, see Appendix G: Documents). The Daily Mining Gazette also stated that Leukema was not surprised by the turnout (Document 6, see Appendix G: Documents).

Notable Features of the Documentary Evidence:

During the time vehicles were in the parking lot the following were observed:

1. Confederate flag anchored on the back of a pickup truck (Image 4, see Appendix B: Images).
2. Multiple pictures from the Rozsa parking lot showing no face coverings being worn, being worn incorrectly and social distancing not being observed (Images 6, 7a, 7b, 8, 9, 10, and 11 see Appendix B: Images). Sometime on September 27, 2020 an individual posted a snapchat of the truck from Image 5 driving along 41 in front of Michigan Tech University expressing they do not feel safe (Image 5, see Appendix B: Images).

During the time the event was driving by the Michigan Tech campus the following were observed:

1. Multiple pictures of the counter protesters along 41 as it crosses through campus show individuals wearing masks correctly (Images 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, and 25, see Appendix B: Images).
2. A maskless individual, likely college aged, is seen accepting an American flag from a maskless individual in a pickup truck with political paraphernalia supporting Donald Trump (Image 26, see Appendix B: Images). In the background, counter protesters along Highway 41 in front of campus buildings are wearing masks (Image 26, see Appendix B: Images).
3. Students that appear to be waiting to cross. It appears all but one individual is wearing a mask (Image 27, see Appendix B: Images). The individual in the red shirt, behind the individual in black with the backpack that has an American flag sticking out of the backpack, is likely the maskless individual in red from image 26 accepting an American flag from the maskless driver, as they are similarly attired and appear to be the same height and have the same hair color (Image 26 and 27, see Appendix B: Images). If the person in the red shirt in image 27 is the same individual in Image 26 they are likely to be maskless as well.
4. The same red truck with the Confederate flag in image 4, 5, and 24 appears in a Video 1 from minute 25:21 to 25:58 (Image 5 and 6, see Appendix B: Images and Video 1, see Appendix C: Videos). The same individual with the American flag hat can be seen in the front passenger seat in Image 4 and in Video 1 from minute 25:50 to 25:56 (Image 4, see Appendix B: Images, and Video 1, see Appendix C: Video).
5. Three incidents of “Trump Train” event participants “rolling coal” on counter protesters, including Michigan Tech students, have been documented, once in a photograph (Image 28, see Appendix B: Images) and three times in a video (Video 1, see Appendix C: Videos).

“Rolling coal” occurs when an individual modifies the emissions systems to burn a richer mix of fuel that will cause the vehicle to intentionally emit significant clouds of noxious black exhaust at the discretion of the driver.

Incidents of “rolling coal”:

1. The first incident of “rolling coal” occurred at minute 20:27 to 20:31 (Video 1, see Appendix C: Videos). A black Ford pickup truck with a Trump and Thin Blue Line flag was responsible for this incidence.

It appears that this incident of “rolling coal” in the video is a recording of the same car captured in Image 29 (Image 29, see Appendix B: Images).

Please also note that right before this vehicle “rolled coal” it appears to not have come to a complete stop to permit individuals to use the crosswalk, seen at minute 20:20 to 20:28. The vehicle kept going forward and appears to have come right up to, if not just over, the crosswalk markings on the pavement (Video 1, see Appendix F: Videos).

2. The second incident of “rolling coal” occurred at minute 20:32 to 20:38 (Video 1, see Appendix C: Video). A white pickup truck with a Trump Train flag was responsible for this incidence.
3. This third incidence occurs as the video pans back to the area of the counter protesters and the crosswalk. From minute 20:40 to 20:48 video is seen panning first to the right to follow the two vehicles who “rolled coal” in incident #1 and #2 (Video 1, see Appendix C: Videos). Once the camera is back on the cross walk area, minute 20:49, the footage shows a concentration of black exhaust following another white pickup truck that has a grill on the front of the vehicle through minute 20:51 (Video 1, see Appendix C: Videos).

This is a third incident, and not just exhaust still dispersing from incident #2, since at minute 20:42 the footage shows the black exhaust from incident #2 has almost completely dispersed (Video 1, see Appendix C: Videos).

Additionally, there could be another attempt at “rolling coal” at minute 20:14 to 20:16, but the black cloud emitted was smaller compared to the three incidents mentioned above.

6. Periods of honking occur throughout the video. From minute 20:49 to 26:25 contains a period of long continuous honking (Video 1, see Appendix C: Videos).

Public Safety Account:

According to Brian Cadwell, Director and Chief of Michigan Tech Public Safety, the following personnel were assigned to patrol the event: Brian Cadwell, Reid DeVoge, Marc Gerborkoff, Haley Bianucci, and Justus Gau (Question 3 in Document 1, see Appendix G: Documents). Cadwell reported that officers arrived at the parking lot at about 12:30 pm (Question 4c in Document 1, see Appendix G: Documents). There are inconsistencies regarding the reported number of officers assigned to this event. The first verbal report from Brian Cadwell (at a meeting on 10/28/2020, attended by Cadwell, Bonnie Gorman, Ian Repp, Jessie Stapleton, Kellie Rafaelli, Sarah Schulte, Theresa Coleman-Kaiser, and Josh Loar) stated that two officers were assigned besides Cadwell himself, but subsequently released staff logs show a total of five officers on duty, with another officer on call.

Leukema stated in her form to request permission to use the Rozsa parking lot as the staging point for the event that it would start at 1:30 pm (Document 5, see Appendix G: Documents). According to Cadwell the event participants began arriving at 12:45 pm, 45 minutes before the event was expected to start (Question 4a in Document 1, see appendix F: Documents). Cadwell reported that the last event participants left the parking lot at about 2:30 pm, the time Leukema stated the event would end (Question 4b in Document 1, and Document 5, see Appendix G: Documents). Cadwell stated that officers arrived on site at 12:30pm.

Cadwell reported that he and his staff "...did witness some cases of people not wearing masks and not social distancing" and that "Officers advised those not wearing masks to either stand six feet apart, put on a mask or sit in their vehicles. No one refused to comply when requested to do so." (Question 4d i and ii in Document 1, see Appendix G: Documents). Cadwell stated verbally that his force was eventually overwhelmed by the number of cars that arrived, and had to turn from enforcing Covid violations to traffic control (10/28/2020 meeting).

Cadwell stated that body-camera footage exists from the event. He states (Question 3c in Document 1, see Appendix G: Documents):

Footage shows officer walking through lot 10 advising participants not wearing masks to either mask up or distance themselves. It then shows vehicles entering and leaving lot 9. Finally it shows officer monitoring the parade passing in front of the residence halls.

He agreed to provide this footage to the Ad-hoc Committee, but a flash drive containing the footage was lost in the mail, and the committee is still awaiting a copy of the body-camera footage (Document 2, see Appendix G: Documents).

Cadwell summarized the event by saying (Question 7 in Document 1, see Appendix G: Documents):

Our management of this event was good overall. My staff performed well and in a professional manner. Given that the actual crowd was about 10 times larger than the size predicted by the organizer, we adapted well to the situation. All vehicles were able to safely arrive on campus, park and exit campus with no accident or injuries. There was no mess left to clean up. We were able to monitor the bottleneck on US-41 in front of Wadsworth Hall and the regularly scheduled officer was able to respond to complaints.

Cadwell concluded by relaying that he communicated to Leukema that since the event was so much larger than she had indicated that she should consider other venues for similar future events (Question 8 in Document 1, see Appendix G: Documents).

Officer Haley Bianucci and Reid DeVoge submitted to incident reports (Document 3 and 4, see Appendix G: Documents). Officer Bianucci provided this overview “Traffic control for the Trump rally” (Document 3, see Appendix G: Documents). Officer DeVoge reported “Report of pedestrians playing “chicken” with vehicles. Found to be students just attempting to cross street during parade. Officer Wakeham provided crossing guard duties until the end of the parade.” (Document 4, see Appendix G: Documents).

Cadwell stated verbally that neither he nor his officers observed any threats or other violations of MTU conduct other than the Covid violations described above. They moved one tee-shirt seller off campus, as he wasn’t approved to sell merchandise on campus (10/28/2020 meeting).

After the event:

Emails:

Following the parade, several students emailed the Senate Committee on Promoting and Facilitating Equity and Understanding, expressing their concerns about what transpired during the parade on Sept. 27th. These emails arrived on Sept. 30th, throughout that day, and were forwarded that same day to the Senate Executive Committee. In these emails, students described several different behaviors that they called out as inappropriate to an event on campus, including:

- Being the subject of racial slurs (Appendix E, Emails 1a, 1c, 1d)
- Being the subject of homophobic/transphobic slurs (Appendix E, Emails 1a, 1b, 1c)
- Being threatened generally (Appendix E, Emails 1a, 1b)
- Being told specifically that they deserved to be raped or would be raped (Appendix E, Emails 1a, 1b, 1f)
- Having coal intentionally rolled at them (Appendix E, Emails 1a, 1b)
- Covid violations (Appendix E, Emails 1c, 1e, 1f)
- Noise disrupting educational work (Appendix E, Emails 1e, 1g)

In these emails, many students also expressed direct actions they want the university to take in order to not only respond to the events of Sept. 27th, but to improve the climate for students at MTU. Their requests are summarized below:

- Upper administration to denounce white supremacy/hate speech (Appendix E, Emails 1a, 1b, 1d, 1e, 1f)
- Inform students in advance before events such as the Sept. 27th parade (Appendix E, Emails 1a, 1b, 1d)
- Create a well-known easy way to report problems ([this exists](#), but is poorly publicized and isn't widely known about by students) (Appendix E, Emails 1a, 1e)
- Require faculty to address issues related to diversity and inclusion in their courses (Appendix E, Emails 1a, 1e)
- Create Black, Indigenous, Gender, and Xicanx Studies majors (Appendix E, Emails 1a, 1e)
- Create an alternate reporting method (outside of student evaluations) for reporting harassment or discrimination from faculty towards students; increase accountability for such actions (Appendix E, Emails 1a, 1e)
- Hire more BIPOC across all campus positions (Appendix E, Emails 1a, 1d, 1e)
- Fund retention and graduation initiatives that help BIPOC, DACA, LGBTQIA+ students graduate from Tech (Appendix E, Emails 1a, 1e)
- Require/increase (where already required) diversity and inclusion training for faculty and staff (Appendix E, Email 1d)
- Provide resources for students in their native (non-English) languages (Appendix E, Email 2)
- Provide greater transparency/context on statistics related to BIPOC students, retention, and graduation rates (Appendix E, Email 2)

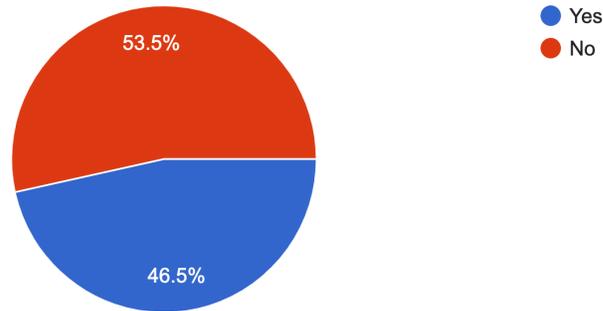
On October 1st, 2020, University President Rick Koubek emailed the campus community with a statement affirming MTU's commitment to the first amendment, and stating that the university does not condone hate speech, or language meant to incite violence or fear (Appendix E, Email 3).

Survey:

The Ad-hoc Committee developed a survey to send to University Senate and constituents, as well as students via housing and other departmental email lists, soliciting further accounts of the events of Sept. 27th, as well as further documentary evidence. The survey was emailed to the senate (to forward to constituents) as well as many student lists beginning November 16th, 2020. The survey in its entirety, as well as all responses in detail (with contact and identifying details removed), are found in Appendix F: Original Survey. 101 responses were collected, 17 of which were from people who stated they were on campus during the events. Image: Summary of quantitative results of survey:

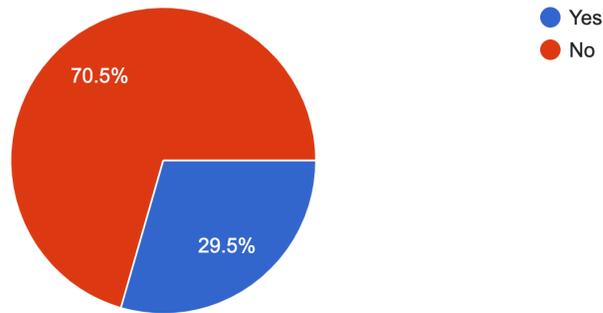
Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

101 responses



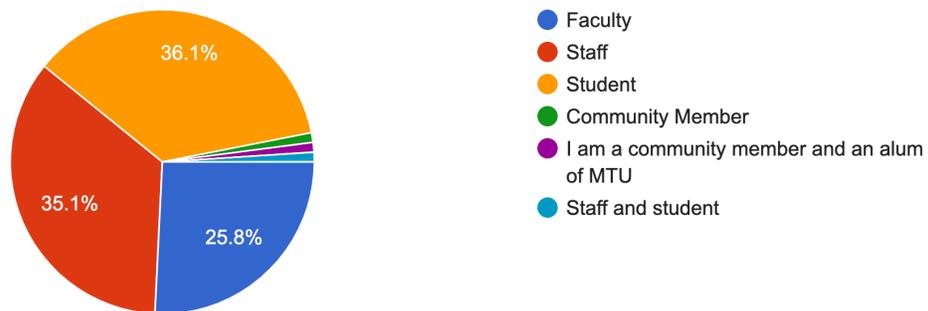
Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

95 responses



What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

97 responses



Notably, there were several responses that mentioned being threatened with rape. The majority of these were reports from off-campus, but several were reported by respondents on campus:

- “Well, to start off I was told many times that I was going to be raped.”
- “When we were waiting to cross the street, we were called all sorts of names, a 30-ish year old man said that if Trump won that he is going to come back and rape me (my friend is male and I am female, so it was directed at me).”

- “I was called many names, including bitch, cunt, and whore. I was also told that I am ‘a liberal deserving of rape’.”

There were many reports of slurs:

- “I witnessed these people yelling at people of color, lgbtq people, and women horrible things. An uncountable amount of racial slurs including the n word.”
- “I got called slurs and had friends threatened with rape.”
- “While on the bridge, I had my windows rolled down and was being yelled at and called slurs from the car next to me.”
- “I saw multiple reports on social media where minority students had planned to simply walk from campus to downtown but they were intimidated by shouting, horns, and ethnic/transphobic slurs directed towards them by this 'political event'.”

There were also defenses of the event from those who felt it was peaceful, as well as descriptions of counter-protesters using profanity:

- “I didn't roll my windows down as I was driving past, however I was able to hear several insults being yelled at traffic...including many uses of "Fuck", and a lot of rude gestures made towards traffic including middle fingers.”

One respondent protested the survey itself:

- “I did not hear about anything bad, but I wish I was there to see. If this was a Democrat gathering, we would not get this survey.”

The survey results were consistent with the initial reports of the event as written in the emails (see previous section).

The survey yielded video recording of “rolling coal” as previously discussed.

Recommendations for Improvement:

In reviewing the events surrounding the Sept. 27th parade, as well as the structures for approving and managing campus events, this committee identified several areas in which we can recommend improvements. These recommendations are derived directly from the concerns expressed by students, faculty, and staff in response to the parade, and from our own investigations and discussions with stakeholders throughout the campus community.

Concern #1: Many in the campus community felt blindsided by the presence of this event on campus, and requested a system whereby they could be warned in advance of such an event.

- Recommendation: Create a listserv that students can sign up for that would notify them of any events held on campus that are put on by outside groups.
 - Progress: Ian Repp (AVP for University Marketing and Communications) and Brian Cadwell (Director and Chief, Public Safety and Police Services) are in the planning phases for such a listserv, and will have more updates as the term progresses.
- Recommendation: Require all outside groups to submit a risk management plan/assessment for their events prior to approval.
 - Progress: Brian Cadwell and Jessie Stapleton (Director of Student Leadership and Involvement) are working on a revision of the reservation procedure, based on Stapleton's template for student org events. All outside groups will be required to submit a risk management plan/assessment prior to the approval of their event. More updates as the term progresses.

Concern #3: If an outside group and a student group request a space on campus at the same time, or within a given publicly established window of time, students should get priority in reserving the campus.

- Recommendation: Restructure reservation procedure such that if a space is requested by an outside group and a student group within the same 48 hour window (or a similar window), student groups have priority for reserving the space.
 - Progress: Kellie Raffaelli (Associate Dean for Student Engagement) is working on a revision of the reservation procedure that would prioritize student organizations. More updates as the term progresses.

Concern #4: Covid violations were difficult to prevent or enforce at so large a gathering as took place on Sept. 27th.

- Recommendation: The University should not approve gatherings that risk growing so large during a pandemic. If an event grows beyond the size planned in a way that renders Covid safety unenforceable, the event should be shut down.
 - Progress: By all accounts, the University did not expect the event to grow as large as it did. As proposed, it fell within the Health & Safety Level 3 guidelines that were in effect on Sept. 27th. Brian Cadwell has stated that one thing he learned from this event was that any potentially volatile event should have more Public Safety staff on duty in future. The event would not have been approved had Public Safety expected it to grow as large as it did.

Concern #5: Advertising an event as taking place on campus before the university has approved the event is potentially misleading.

- Recommendation: Most universities that the committee benchmarked required that groups not use the campus in advertising for an event prior to the university's approval of use of grounds for said event. Use of the university in advertising prior to approval is often grounds for not approving the proposed event. The committee recommends that MTU adopt this policy.
 - Progress: New recommendation as of this report.

Concern 6: Many in the campus community have expressed that they feel disconnected from the administration, and want to hear the administration publicly address the concerns raised in response to the parade of Sept. 27th (many of which are beyond this committee's purview and are focused on the larger culture of the university).

- Recommendation: The University Administration should begin an ongoing series of public town hall discussions, where students, faculty, and staff can openly ask questions and discuss the culture of the University, with a focus on how to make a better, more inclusive, MTU. Ideally, these discussions will lead to further policy, communication, and cultural improvements for our community.
 - Progress: Dr. Wayne Gersie (VP for Diversity and Inclusion) was already in the planning phase for just such a town hall when the committee approached the administration with this recommendation. More information to come.

Conclusion:

Over the course of three months, the committee spoke to students, faculty, staff, and administrators regarding the events of Sept. 27th (at which several students seem to have been verbally threatened and slurred, and had coal rolled at them intentionally), the campus community's response to those events, and the structure of events policy and procedure on campus. As a result of these discussions, the committee developed a list of six primary concerns to address with recommendations, as charged. The committee then developed recommendations for how to address those concerns, and have reported on the current progress/status of those recommendations. In summary:

- Concern #1: Lack of notification to campus community about event(s) put on by outside groups
 - Recommendation: Develop a notification system
 - Progress: Listserv is currently in development
- Concern #2: Outside groups aren't required to submit a risk assessment prior to scheduling campus events
 - Recommendation: Require all groups to submit a risk assessment
 - Progress: Rewritten procedure in development
- Concern #3: Students should have priority when requesting campus space
 - Recommendation: Create procedure that prioritizes student requests
 - Progress: Rewritten procedure in development
- Concern #4: Covid violations were hard to enforce as the Sept. 27 event grew so large
 - Recommendation: Restrict size of events, and shut down events that grow too large during the pandemic
 - Progress: Event sizes will be restricted to the Health & Safety Level requirements.
- Concern #5: Advertising an event on campus shouldn't happen before the event is approved to take place on campus
 - Recommendation: Don't allow organizers to advertise the use of our campus without approval
 - Progress: New recommendation as of this report
- Concern #6: Campus community feels disconnected from the administration on the issues brought up by the Sept. 27th event
 - Recommendation: University Administration should hold town hall meeting(s) to discuss these issues openly with the campus community
 - Progress: Already in planning stages

The Ad-hoc Committee to Review Institutional Policy and Procedures for On-Campus Events has completed its charge and has herein relayed its specific findings and recommendations. It submits this report with the intention that—in whatever ways possible within the committee's

limited purview—the work centers the MTU community and its needs, concerns, and requests, and suggests tangible improvements to the process of approving, communicating about, and managing campus events. This committee emphasizes that all students deserve to be respected, and to be able to study in an academic environment wherein they feel safe and supported, not threatened, harassed, or discriminated against. Regarding any outstanding procedural changes or recommendations, the members of the committee who are members of the University senate will deliver follow ups as progress continues.

Appendix A: Policy & Procedure Links

Campus Policy & Procedure

Outside Grounds:

[Outside Grounds Request Form](#)

[Outside Grounds Release Form](#)

[Outside Grounds Large Group Liability Waiver](#)

[Outside Grounds Waiver of Liability for Students Under the Age of 18](#)

[Policy 5.06 - Reserved Use of Designated University Outside Grounds](#)

[Policy 5.07 - Chalking](#)

[Policies 12.2 & 12.3 - Building and Property Rules and Regulation & Rule Prohibiting](#)

[Disruption of University Activities](#)

Speech:

[Free Speech](#)

Conduct:

[Student Conduct](#)

[Discrimination & Harrassment](#)

[Office of Academic and Community Conduct](#)

Sexual Misconduct:

[Title IX Office](#)

[Department of Public Safety and Police Services](#)

[Houghton Police Department](#)

[Possible Sanctions](#)

Conflict Resolution:

[Incident Reporting Form](#)

[Dean of Students](#)

[Ombuds Office](#)

[Conflict Resolution Network](#) (restorative justice and other more flexible options)

Appendix B: Images

Image 1:

Image 1a:

Screenshot from Instagram on September 17th, 2020 of the event announcement posted by Sewcrazychassel, the username for Naomi Luekema

Photo 1b shows the lower portion of the post not visible in photo 1a.



Image 1b:

Screenshot from Instagram on September 17th, 2020 of the event announcement posted by Sewcrazychassel, the username for Naomi Luekema

Photo 1b shows the lower portion of the post not visible in photo 1a.



Image 2:

Image 2a:

Screenshot from Instagram of a subsequent event announcement posted by Sewcrazychassel, the username for Naomi Luekema.

Photo 2b shows the lower portion of the post not visible in photo 2a.

Image 2b:

Screenshot from Instagram of a subsequent event announcement posted by Sewcrazychassel, the username for Naomi Luekema.

Photo 2b shows the lower portion of the post not visible in photo 2a.



Image 3:
 Event announcement via Keweenaw Report (<http://www.keweenawreport.com/news/local-news/president-trump-parade-sunday-afternoon/>).

PRESIDENT TRUMP PARADE SUNDAY AFTERNOON

September 24, 2020 ■ Featured, Local News, News ● 6,053 Views

If you're a fan of President Trump with no plans for Sunday afternoon, then you're welcome to meet up with other Trump fans, at the Rozsa Center parking lot, and take part in a mobile parade showing support for our president.

Organizer Naomi Luekema.

0:00 / 0:13

"It's very much a patriotic, American thing, support President Trump, all he's doing for our country, trying to preserve our Constitutional rights, and I would like to show him some love and support on that."

The parade starts at 2pm with the singing of the National Anthem and will travel through Houghton, across the bridge into Hancock, head towards Lake Linden, then up US 41 and back through Hancock.

A link to the events Facebook page is here.

Image 4: Confederate flag anchored to a truck sitting in Rozsa parking lot.



Image 5:

Snapchat of a community member reacting to seeing the red pick up truck with a Trump, Confederate and thin blue line flag.



Image 6:

No masks or masks being worn incorrectly and no social distancing evident, photo taken in Rozsa parking lot.



©Pac Photography

Image 7:

Image 7a:

No masks or masks being worn incorrectly and no social distancing evident, photo taken in Rozsa parking lot.



©Pac Photography

Image 7b:

A panorama shot taken right before or right after image 7a. No masks or masks being worn incorrectly and no social distancing evident, photo taken in Rozsa parking lot.



Image 8:

No masks or masks being worn incorrectly and no social distancing evident, photo taken in Rozsa parking lot.



Image 9: No masks or masks being worn incorrectly and no social distancing evident, photo taken in Rozsa parking lot.



©Pao Photography

Image 10:

No masks or masks being worn incorrectly and no social distancing evident. photo taken in Rozsa parking lot.



©Pao Photography

Image 11:

No masks and no social distancing evident, photo taken in Rozsa parking lot.



©Pac Photography

Image 12:

Photos of counter protesters taking place along 41 in front of campus buildings show participants wearing masks.



Image 13:

Photos of counter protesters taking place along 41 in front of campus buildings show participants wearing masks.



Image 14:

Photos of counter protesters taking place along 41 in front of campus buildings show participants wearing masks.



Image 15:

Photos of counter protesters taking place along 41 in front of campus buildings show participants wearing masks.



Image 16:

Photos of counter protesters taking place along 41 in front of campus buildings show participants wearing masks.



Image 17:

Photos of counter protesters taking place along 41 in front of campus buildings show participants wearing masks.



Image 18:

Photos of counter protesters taking place along 41 in front of campus buildings show participants wearing masks.



Image 19:

Photos of counter protesters taking place along 41 in front of campus buildings show participants wearing masks.



Image 20:

Photos of counter protesters taking place along 41 in front of campus buildings show participants wearing masks.



Image 21:

Photos of counter protesters taking place along 41 in front of campus buildings show participants wearing masks.



Image 22:

Photos of counter protesters taking place along 41 in front of campus buildings show participants wearing masks.



Image 23:

Photos of counter protesters taking place along 41 in front of campus buildings show participants wearing masks.



Image 24:

Photos of counter protesters taking place along 41 in front of campus buildings show participants wearing masks. The red truck with the confederate flag is also seen in images 5 and 6.



Image 25:

Photos of counter protesters taking place along 41 in front of campus buildings show participants wearing masks.



Image 26:

In the foreground a maskless individual is accepting an American flag from a maskless individual in a pick up truck. In the background, counter protesters taking place along 41 in front of campus buildings show participants wearing masks.



Image 27:

Students that appear to be waiting to cross. It appears all but one individual is wearing a mask. The individual in the red shirt, behind the individual in black with the backpack that has an American flag sticking out of the pack, is likely the maskless individual in red from image 25 accepting an American flag from the maskless driver.



Image 28:
Likely example of a car “rolling coal” on counter student protesters.



Appendix C: Video

Video 1:

A 30 minute and 30 second long video of the Trump Train event passing by Michigan Tech campus where counter protesters were stationed near the cross walk on both sides of the road.

Times to note in the video are:

00:18 to 00:23: Loud honking. Honking occurs throughout the video.

20:02 People hanging out two car windows

20:14 to 20:16: Potentially an incident of "Rolling Coal"

20:27 to 20:31: "Rolling Coal"

20:32 to 20:38: "Rolling Coal"

20:49 to 20:51: "Rolling Coal"

22:51 to 22:08: Large stuffed monkey strapped to front of car

25:21 to 25:58: Red Ford Pickup truck displaying the Confederate flag

20:49 to 26:25: Loud continuous honking. Honking persists intermittently afterwards until the end of the video.

28:07 to end of video: Michigan Tech Police arrive i

Link to video:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1INyc15AYnUGjVw4dGT83mHAr4jN_0PTv/view?usp=sharing

Appendix D: Emails Before the Event

Emails 1:

Emails to and from Michigan Tech Faculty and Staff

Image 1a:

Begin forwarded message:

From: David Hemmer <djhemmer@mtu.edu>
Subject: Re: Unauthorized use
Date: September 22, 2020 at 10:27:18 PM EDT
To: Jared Anderson <jaredand@mtu.edu>

I would suggest we just let it go, the parking lots are open to the public on the weekend. I've personally heard about many hikes meeting at Rosza parking lot to car pool on Sunday afternoons, we don't do anything to stop them. It doesn't sound like they will be there long.

On Tue, Sep 22, 2020, 10:21 PM Jared Anderson <jaredand@mtu.edu> wrote:

Hi Dave,

This came across my desk. The Rozsa has not approved this. Is there any one official that would like to handle this? I'm happy to inform them that the university remains neutral. Thoughts?

Jared

Image 1b:

Fwd: Unauthorized use  Inbox x



Jared Anderson <jaredand@mtu.edu>
to rozsastaff-l

Tue, Sep 22, 11:13 PM   

Dear Rozsa Staff. Please see the email from David Hemmer regarding the people who are gathering in the Rozsa parking lot. Please let me know your thoughts.

Jared

Jared Anderson, D.M.A.
Chair, Visual and Performing Arts Department

Michigan Technological University
209 Walker Arts Center
1400 Townsend Dr.
Houghton, MI 49931
(906) 487-2143
jaredand@mtu.edu

Image 1c:



George Hommowun <gdhommow@mtu.edu>
to Jared, rozsastaff-l

Wed, Sep 23, 8:26 AM ☆ ↶ ⋮

This should be sent to Public Safety and Transportation Services so that they are aware of this gathering. My only concern is that the building is open for student access to the gallery and practice rooms. If there is a concern, we can consider keeping the lobby locked on Saturday.

George Hommowun
Production Manager
VPA Rozsa Center
Michigan Technological University
106 Rozsa Center
1400 Townsend Drive
Houghton, MI 49931-1295
906-487-1883 (o)
616-780-5776 (c)



Image 1d:

Communicating with the public > Inbox x



Jared Anderson <jaredand@mtu.edu>
to rozsastaff-l

Thu, Sep 24, 5:18 PM ☆ ↶ ⋮

Dear Rozsa Staff,

Yesterday I was involved in some back-and-forth on Facebook concerning the pro-**Trump** parade that would be happening on Sunday at 2 pm. I mentioned this a little in the staff meeting today. I need to make some things clear in what I meant by having me involved when issues arise from our public. As employees of the university we do not have the power to speak for the institution as a whole, only for policies that reside in our own domain of supervision. We each have job descriptions that clearly describe our areas. I am comfortable with individuals speaking about their areas, diplomatically.

Bethany thanks for sharing the two communications that you received. I would like to use them to as cases in what to do and what not to do. I must frame this as well. If someone is communicating in a personal way as friends, individuals are free in their communication, but we always have to remember that we do not speak for the university.

This communication below is very well written. Bethany acknowledged the communication. She mentioned that we are aware of the issue and that it had been brought to the attention of the administration. This message came through the official Rozsa page.

Image 1e:

Is this authorized?  Inbox x



Josh Loar <jloar@mtu.edu>
to me ▾

Thu, Sep 24, 6:10 PM   

Hi Mary,

Is the below mentioned event an authorized event? I am concerned this will bring tons of maskless people to our campus.

http://www.keweenawreport.com/news/local-news/president-trump-parade-sunday-afternoon/?fbclid=IwAR3NR3_DVyEMIAWJmVMg6iBalsQaO2An73A4uZ1OPgvHMFT3db0ZOnlAn-4

LMK, thanks!

J

Josh Loar
Professor of Practice-Sound Design
Program Coordinator-Sound
Visual and Performing Arts
Michigan Technological University

Pronouns: he, him, his
906-487-1714
jloar@mtu.edu
112 Rozsa Center



Image 1f:



Mary Muncil Jennings <maryje@mtu.edu>
to Jared, Josh ▾

Thu, Sep 24, 7:19 PM   

It's not authorized, but I'm not sure it has to be because it's in a public parking lot. This is already been brought to Jared, the Dean, Public Safety and Transportation Services.

Mary Jennings
Directors of Programming and Development
Rozsa Center for the Performing Arts
Michigan Technological University

On Sep 24, 2020, at 6:10 PM, Josh Loar <jloar@mtu.edu> wrote:

...



Josh Loar <jloar@mtu.edu>
to me, Jared ▾

Thu, Sep 24, 8:12 PM   

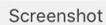
Thanks for letting me know.

I mean, it's public parking on school property. Can mask rules for campus be enforced there?

What a mess.

Hope y'all are staying safe and well,

J





Jared Anderson <jaredand@mtu.edu>

to Josh, me ▾

Thu, Sep 24, 9:48 PM



Hi Josh and Mary,

I have reached out to people involved in the event to have them communicate with public safety to make sure they adhere to current campus policy. It has Brian Caldwell is working on it. It's out of our hands now. Thanks for your thoughts, Josh. I also share the concern about having a large gathering of people who are likely not very good with mask policy.

Jared



--

Jared L. Anderson, D.M.A.
Chair, Visual and Performing Arts Department
Michigan Technological University
jaredand@mtu.edu
906-487-2143

Thank you!

Yes, I agree.

I don't think so.

↩ Reply

↩↩ Reply all

➦ Forward

Screenshot

Emails 2:

An email chain.

Fwd: Rally Using Tech Property

5 messages

Bonnie Gorman <bbgorman@mtu.edu>
To: Jessie Stapleton <jstaple@mtu.edu>
Cc: John Lehman <jblehman@mtu.edu>, Brian Cadwell <bjcadwel@mtu.edu>

Tue, Sep 22, 2020 at 9:01 PM

Jessie--
Please see attached. Do you know if this group has reserved the Rozsa lot for Sunday?
Bonnie

----- Forwarded message -----
From: **William Kennedy** <wkennedy@mtu.edu>
Date: Tue, Sep 22, 2020 at 1:51 PM
Subject: Rally Using Tech Property
To: Bonnie Gorman <bbgorman@mtu.edu>

Bonnie,

My son saw this online. Thought Admin should be aware

Bill

Sent from my iPad

William A Kennedy, Ph.D.
Professor Emeritus
Michigan Technological University

--
Bonnie B. Gorman, PhD
Dean of Students and Vice President of Students Affairs

Pronouns: [she/her/hers](#)

Michigan Technological University
130 Administration and Student Services Bldg.
[1400 Townsend Drive](#)
[Houghton, MI 49931](#)

906.487.2212
www.mtu.edu/deanofstudents



**I gave to the
Campus Campaign.**

image.png
3687K



Jessie Stapleton <jstaple@mtu.edu>
To: Bonnie Gorman <bbgorman@mtu.edu>
Cc: Brian Cadwell <bjcadwel@mtu.edu>, John Lehman <jblehman@mtu.edu>

Tue, Sep 22, 2020 at 9:09 PM

They have not filled out an Outside Space Request as of now.

Jessie.
[Quoted text hidden]
--

Jessie M. Stapleton, M.S.Ed.
Director of Student Leadership & Involvement
Michigan Technological University
112 Memorial Union Building
[1400 Townsend Dr.](#)
[Houghton, MI 49931](#)

jstaple@mtu.edu • 906.487.1963 • www.mtu.edu/sli • Pronouns: she/her/hers

+ Strategic + Empathy + Developer + Adaptability + Learner +



Brian Cadwell <bjcadwel@mtu.edu>
To: Jessie Stapleton <jstaple@mtu.edu>
Cc: Bonnie Gorman <bbgorman@mtu.edu>, John Lehman <jblehman@mtu.edu>

Tue, Sep 22, 2020 at 9:28 PM

I have not seen a request for space usage.

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 22, 2020, at 9:09 PM, Jessie Stapleton <jstaple@mtu.edu> wrote:

[Quoted text hidden]

Bonnie Gorman <bbgorman@mtu.edu>
To: Jessie Stapleton <jstaple@mtu.edu>
Cc: Brian Cadwell <bjcadwel@mtu.edu>, John Lehman <jblehman@mtu.edu>

Wed, Sep 23, 2020 at 11:22 AM

Hi--

So we're all in the loop. The person whose name appears in the screenshot is not a student. Brian will do the follow up and see if we can identify them. If he's able to do that, he'll provide the form and make sure they are aware that they need to be physically distanced and masked.

Thanks,
Bonnie

[Quoted text hidden]

Brian Cadwell <bjcadwel@mtu.edu>
To: Reid DeVoge <rdevoge@mtu.edu>

Wed, Sep 23, 2020 at 3:37 PM

Reid,

Please see if you can identify the organizer of this event and let me know. I need to contact him to let him know about the COVID protocols on campus and a other things.

Thanks,

Brian

Brian Cadwell
Director and Chief
Department of Public Safety & Police Services
Michigan Technological University
206 MacInnes Drive
Houghton, MI 49931
Phone: (906) 487-2216
Fax: (906) 487-2024
Cell: (906) 370-5097

"Make your life a mission, not an intermission." ~ Arnold Glasgow

[Quoted text hidden]



image.png
3687K

Emails 3:

An email chain.



Fwd: Unauthorized use

1 message

Jared Anderson <jaredand@mtu.edu>
To: Public Safety <bjcadwel@mtu.edu>

Wed, Sep 23, 2020 at 8:45 AM

Hi Brian,

I wanted to bring this to your attention. Something that was forwarded to me a a Rozsa staff member. This is not under our jurisdiction since it is congregating in the parking lot.

Jared

Jared Anderson, D.M.A.
Chair, Visual and Performing Arts Department

Michigan Technological University
209 Walker Arts Center
[1400 Townsend Dr.](#)
[Houghton, MI 49931](#)
(906) 487-2143
jaredand@mtu.edu

Begin forwarded message:

From: Jared Anderson <jaredand@mtu.edu>
Subject: Fwd: Unauthorized use
Date: September 22, 2020 at 11:13:40 PM EDT
To: rozsastaff-l <rozsastaff-l@mtu.edu>

Dear Rozsa Staff. Please see the email from David Hemmer regarding the people who are gathering in the Rozsa parking lot. Please let me know your thoughts.

Jared

Jared Anderson, D.M.A.
Chair, Visual and Performing Arts Department

Michigan Technological University
209 Walker Arts Center
[1400 Townsend Dr.](#)
[Houghton, MI 49931](#)
(906) 487-2143
jaredand@mtu.edu

Begin forwarded message:

From: David Hemmer <djhemmer@mtu.edu>
Subject: Re: Unauthorized use
Date: September 22, 2020 at 10:27:18 PM EDT
To: Jared Anderson <jaredand@mtu.edu>

I would suggest we just let it go, the parking lots are open to the public on the weekend. I've personally heard about many hikes meeting at Rosza parking lot to car pool on Sunday afternoons, we don't do anything to stop them. It doesn't sound like they will be there long.

On Tue, Sep 22, 2020, 10:21 PM Jared Anderson <jaredand@mtu.edu> wrote:
Hi Dave,

This came across my desk. The Rozsa has not approved this. Is there any one official that would like to handle this? I'm happy to inform them that the university remains neutral. Thoughts?

Jared

Verizon

10:15 PM

20%

facebook.com



Matt Heikkinen

September 20 at 9:38 AM · 🌐



1 week! Get your flags ready! Leave no doubt, make sure to come out! #TRUMP2020

🇺🇸 It's time! 🇺🇸

Trump Train Event

9-27 2pm.

Roza parking lot 🇺🇸 🇺🇸



ACROSS THE BRIDGE. RIGHT TO

LAKE LINDEN, UP THE HILL TO
CALUMET, US 41 BACK TO HANCOCK
AND THE BRIDGE!   

Emails 4:

An email chain.

Fwd: Rally Using Tech Property

3 messages

Jessie Stapleton <jstaple@mtu.edu>
To: Rochelle Spencer <raspence@mtu.edu>

Tue, Sep 22, 2020 at 9:04 PM

Have you seen an outside space request for this?

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Bonnie Gorman** <bbgorman@mtu.edu>
Date: Tue, Sep 22, 2020 at 9:01 PM
Subject: Fwd: Rally Using Tech Property
To: Jessie Stapleton <jstaple@mtu.edu>
CC: John Lehman <jblehman@mtu.edu>, Brian Cadwell <bjcadwel@mtu.edu>

Jessie--
Please see attached. Do you know if this group has reserved the Rozsa lot for Sunday?
Bonnie

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **William Kennedy** <wkennedy@mtu.edu>
Date: Tue, Sep 22, 2020 at 1:51 PM
Subject: Rally Using Tech Property
To: Bonnie Gorman <bbgorman@mtu.edu>

Bonnie,

My son saw this online. Thought Admin should be aware

Bill

Sent from my iPad

William A Kennedy, Ph.D.

Professor Emeritus

Michigan Technological University

--

Bonnie B. Gorman, PhD
Dean of Students and Vice President of Students Affairs

Pronouns: she/her/hers

Michigan Technological University
130 Administration and Student Services Bldg.
1400 Townsend Drive
Houghton, MI 49931

906.487.2212
www.mtu.edu/deanofstudents



I gave to the
Campus Campaign.

--

Jessie M. Stapleton, M.S.Ed.
Director of Student Leadership & Involvement
Michigan Technological University
112 Memorial Union Building
1400 Townsend Dr.
Houghton, MI 49931

jstaple@mtu.edu • 906.487.1963 • www.mtu.edu/sli • Pronouns: she/her/hers

+ Strategic + Empathy + Developer + Adaptability + Learner +



I gave to the
Campus Campaign.

image.png
3687K



Rochelle Spencer <raspenoe@mtu.edu>
To: Jessie Stapleton <jstaple@mtu.edu>

Tue, Sep 22, 2020 at 9:07 PM

No I have not.
[Quoted text hidden]
--
Rochelle Spencer

Assistant Director of Student Leadership & Involvement
Michigan Technological University
112 Memorial Union Building
1400 Townsend Dr.
Houghton, MI 49931

Pronouns: she/her/hers

Jessie Stapleton <jstaple@mtu.edu>
To: Rochelle Spencer <raspenoe@mtu.edu>

Wed, Sep 23, 2020 at 6:22 PM

FYI

Jessie M. Stapleton, M.S.Ed.
Director of Student Leadership & Involvement
Michigan Technological University
112 Memorial Union Building
1400 Townsend Dr.
Houghton, MI 49931

jstaple@mtu.edu • 906.487.1963 • www.mtu.edu/sli • Pronouns: she/her/hers

+ Strategic + Empathy + Developer + Adaptability + Learner +



I gave to the
Campus Campaign.

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Bonnie Gorman** <bbgorman@mtu.edu>
Date: Wed, Sep 23, 2020 at 11:23 AM
Subject: Re: Rally Using Tech Property
To: Jessie Stapleton <jstaple@mtu.edu>
Cc: Brian Cadwell <brcadwel@mtu.edu>, John Lehman <jblehman@mtu.edu>

Hi--

So we're all in the loop. The person whose name appears in the screenshot is not a student. Brian will do the follow up and see if we can identify them. If he's able to do that, he'll provide the form and make sure they are aware that they need to be

physically distanced and masked.
Thanks,
Bonnie

On Tue, Sep 22, 2020 at 9:09 PM Jessie Stapleton <jstaple@mtu.edu> wrote:
They have not filled out an Outside Space Request as of now.

Jessie.
[Quoted text hidden]
[Quoted text hidden]

Emails 5:



Michigan Tech

Brian Cadwell <bjcadwel@mtu.edu>

Information for parade participants

1 message

bjcadwel@mtu.edu <bjcadwel@mtu.edu>
To: naomi@mysewcrazy.com

Thu, Sep 24, 2020 at 5:54 PM

Hello Naomi,

It was nice speaking with you earlier. Part of our process for having events on campus that involve non-campus groups is the completion of an on-line form regarding the use of grounds. The link to that form can be found here: <https://www.mtu.edu/publicsafety/services/ground-use/> It takes just a few moments to complete.

As we discussed, when the vehicles are lining up for the parade start, participants will not need to wear masks while seated in their vehicles. However, if folks exit their vehicles to socialize, social distancing of six feet must be maintained. If six feet of distancing is not possible, face masks will need to be used. These are the same precautions which must be taken by all faculty, staff and students while on campus.

Thank you in advance for sharing this information with your parade participants. Have a safe event, and feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Brian

Brian Cadwell
Director and Chief
Department of Public Safety & Police Services
Michigan Technological University
206 MacInnes Drive
Houghton, MI 49931
Phone: (906) 487-2216
Fax: (906) 487-2024
Cell: (906) 370-5097

Sent from my iPhone

Emails 6:



Michigan Tech

Brian Cadwell <bjcadwel@mtu.edu>

Approved request for use of grounds

1 message

bjcadwel@mtu.edu <bjcadwel@mtu.edu>

Thu, Sep 24, 2020 at 11:34 PM

To: naomi@mysewcrazy.com

Cc: Roy Britz <rabritz@mtu.edu>, Marc Geborkoff <magebork@mtu.edu>

Naomi,
Your request for the use of the Rozsa parking lot is approved.
Brian Cadwell
Chief of Police
MTU DPSPS
906-486-2216
906-370-5097

Sent from my iPhone

Emails 7:

An email chain.

Outside Space Requests Received

5 messages

Jessie Stapleton <jstaple@mtu.edu>

Fri, Sep 25, 2020 at 8:43 AM

To: Brian Cadwell <bjcadwel@mtu.edu>, Bonnie Gorman <bbgorman@mtu.edu>, Sarah Schulte <shschult@mtu.edu>

Cc: Rochelle Spencoer <raspence@mtu.edu>, Kellie Raffaelli <kraffael@mtu.edu>

Good morning all,

We have received two Outside Space Requests over the course of the last day (all of the details of the requests are in the attached spreadsheet). The first is from a non-affiliated group looking to stage their "Trump train caravan and back the blue" parking in the Rozsa parking lot. The second is from one of our Registered Student Orgs - Society of Intellectual Sisters (SIS) for "Positive Chalk Art with SIS - Social Event" in the Rozsa Lots 5 & 9.

SLI works with the affiliated organizations/departments and before we proceed with the request from SIS, I wanted to touch base with all of you.

Brian, please let me know about the status of the non-affiliated group's event and then we will proceed from there.

Let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you,
Jessie.

Jessie M. Stapleton, M.S.Ed.
Director of Student Leadership & Involvement
Michigan Technological University
112 Memorial Union Building
1400 Townsend Dr.
Houghton, MI 49931

jstaple@mtu.edu • 906.487.1963 • www.mtu.edu/sli • Pronouns: she/her/hers

+ Strategic + Empathy + Developer + Adaptability + Learner +



I gave to the
Campus Campaign.

 Outside Space Requests.xlsx
10K

Brian Cadwell <bjcadwel@mtu.edu>

Fri, Sep 25, 2020 at 8:59 AM

To: Jessie Stapleton <jstaple@mtu.edu>

Cc: Bonnie Gorman <bbgorman@mtu.edu>, Sarah Schulte <shschult@mtu.edu>, Rochelle Spencer <raspence@mtu.edu>, Kellie Raffaelli <kraffael@mtu.edu>

Jessie,

I received the request yesterday and have approved it. I did communicate with the event organizer regarding face covering and social distancing expectations.

Brian

Brian Cadwell
Director and Chief
Department of Public Safety & Police Services
Michigan Technological University
206 MacInnes Drive
Houghton, MI 49931
Phone: (906) 487-2216
Fax: (906) 487-2024
Cell: (906) 370-5097

"Make your life a mission, not an intermission." ~ Arnold Glasgow

[Quoted text hidden]

Sarah Schulte <shschult@mtu.edu> Fri, Sep 25, 2020 at 9:13 AM
To: Brian Cadwell <bjcadwel@mtu.edu>
Cc: Jessie Stapleton <jstaple@mtu.edu>, Bonnie Gorman <bbgorman@mtu.edu>, Rochelle Spencer <raspence@mtu.edu>, Kellie Raffaelli <kraffael@mtu.edu>

For the sake of clarity, Brian -you approved the Trump one, correct?

Jessie - you can offer alternative times to the other group.

Sarah H. Schulte
General Counsel and Secretary to the Board of Trustees
Michigan Technological University
(906) 487-2318
shschult@mtu.edu

[Quoted text hidden]

Brian Cadwell <bjcadwel@mtu.edu> Fri, Sep 25, 2020 at 9:15 AM
To: Sarah Schulte <shschult@mtu.edu>
Cc: Jessie Stapleton <jstaple@mtu.edu>, Bonnie Gorman <bbgorman@mtu.edu>, Rochelle Spencer <raspence@mtu.edu>, Kellie Raffaelli <kraffael@mtu.edu>

Yes, the non-affiliated group.

Brian Cadwell
Director and Chief
Department of Public Safety & Police Services
Michigan Technological University
206 MacInnes Drive
Houghton, MI 49931
Phone: (906) 487-2216
Fax: (906) 487-2024
Cell: (906) 370-5097

"Make your life a mission, not an intermission." ~ Arnold Glasgow

[Quoted text hidden]

Jessie Stapleton <jstaple@mtu.edu> Fri, Sep 25, 2020 at 9:19 AM
To: Brian Cadwell <bjcadwel@mtu.edu>
Cc: Sarah Schulte <shschult@mtu.edu>, Bonnie Gorman <bbgorman@mtu.edu>, Rochelle Spencer <raspence@mtu.edu>, Kellie Raffaelli <kraffael@mtu.edu>

Thank you for the update.

Brian, in the future, can you please make sure to include SLI when approving or denying Outside Space Requests?

We will work with SIS to offer alternate times or locations.

Jessie.

Jessie M. Stapleton, M.S.Ed.
Director of Student Leadership & Involvement
Michigan Technological University
112 Memorial Union Building
1400 Townsend Dr.
Houghton, MI 49931

jstaple@mtu.edu • 906.487.1963 • www.mtu.edu/sli • Pronouns: she/her/hers

+ Strategic + Empathy + Developer + Adaptability + Learner +



I gave to the
Campus Campaign.

[Quoted text hidden]

Appendix E: Emails After the Event

Emails 1: Students

Emails from MTU students expressing their concerns following the Sept. 27th parade. Sent to the Senate Committee on Promoting and Facilitating Equity and Understanding on Sept. 30th. Forwarded by Amy Howard to Senate Executive Committee on Sept. 30th. Each sender was contacted and has approved the inclusion of these emails in this report.

Email 1a: Angela Gutierrez - 9/30/20, 9:24am

In Response to white-supremacy: An Open Letter

Angela Gutierrez <agutierr@mtu.edu>

Wed, Sep 30, 2020 at 9:24 AM

To: Amy Lyn Howard <alhoward@mtu.edu>, Stefani Vargas Krause <skrause@mtu.edu>, Amber Kemppainen <amber@mtu.edu>, Paige Short <prbeyers@mtu.edu>, Kevin Trewartha <kmtrrewar@mtu.edu>, Danielle Meirow <dlmeirow@mtu.edu>

MTU Senate Committee on Promoting and Facilitating Equity and Understanding,

Michigan Tech is public property, on ceded territory of the lands taken from The Original People, the Anishinaabe. What a disgraceful, and tasteless use of Turtle Island's gifts. How shameful that Gichi-Gami must bear witness to the violent showcase of white supremacy upon her life giving waters. ¡Sin vergueñas!

I have written, and re-written this letter but I am having a hard time finding words, and sentences to communicate the pain, sadness, anger, and the overwhelming paranoia of being a target that has recently taken a hold of me. However, I cannot be silent when my community is being threatened. It has been incredibly painful to work through my disappointment on Koubek's silent support of the rally, and Tech's extremely performative allyship. In lieu of the ongoing family separations, disappearance of our BIPOC siblings, child detention centers, police brutality and Breonna Taylor's court ruling, it feels like a slap in the face that the rally happened.

I am concerned with the use of our public property to promote violence against the minority population. Being called "ni**ers", "trannies", "fags" and told that we should get "r/oped" is not free speech, it is violent language that wishes to incite conflict among the student population. It was incredibly taxing to hear those words come from community members and other Michigan Tech students. Quite frankly I don't feel safe, and as a student leader, it would be disingenuous to promote Tech as one of the "safest" campuses in America. What is even more disheartening is that these threats and acts of harassments have not stopped. Those of us who speak out against white-supremacy online have been bombarded with fatphobic, sexist, xenophobic, and homophobic trolls who are primarily feeding off of my community's fears. It is well documented that right-wing rhetoric often turns into deadly violence for those who oppose hate speech.

I am well aware that the rally had Tech's permission to utilize the Rozsa as its starting point under the understanding that 50-100 people were going to attend, and that Public Safety was called in to move the parade along. Two things. I think that Tech should inform their student body whenever any group that is well known for their hate and violence comes to or near our campus. Why were we (the minority students) not warned about this event? This could have given us more time to prepare ourselves for being targets, organize an educational event, or just comfort our members during times of uncertainty. The rally had almost 400 participants, including massive truck horns that could be heard from blocks away. Most of these participants did not have a mask on. The sheer size of this rally made Public Safety turn away from directing the parade to handling the amount of traffic chaos that followed.

Public Safety was clearly underprepared and falsely informed on what was to happen. They rolled coal on us; this is not only incredibly dangerous, but it is also toxic and disorienting. Add this to the overbearing sounds of truck horns, and the scene became chaotic at best.

Lastly, I am infuriated. I am angry that we as minority students are not given proper support on campus and must rely on each other and a few allies to make it through our lives at Tech. How hard is it for Koubek to make a public statement denouncing white supremacy? It has come to my attention that Tech loves to use our bodies for evidence of "diversity" but never stands in solidarity against our struggles. Perhaps this is why retention and graduation rates among BIPOC is so low?

What do I want Tech to do:

- 1.) I want a public denouncement on white supremacy from you, Koubek, Bonnie, and USG representatives and a statement on Tech's commitment to supporting and honoring BIPOC in higher education
- 2.) Create an easy and well-known way to report racially motivated microaggressions and acts of violence

- 3.) Require all professors to include and address diversity in their courses
- 4.) Create Black, Xicanx, Indigenous, and Gender Studies majors
- 5.) Create accountability aside from professor evaluations for students to voice concerns over instructors that engage in xenophobic, homophobic, and racist dialogue
- 6.) Hire more BIPOC across all positions
- 7.) Fund retention and graduation initiatives that help BIPOC graduate from Tech

These are just a few of the things I had in mind, and I am more than willing to sit down and discuss my above requests.

Solidaridad ya,

Angela Gutierrez

1371 Combat Engineer

Corporal of Marines

Michigan Technological University

President of SHPE

SIS Parliamentarian

"When the snows fall and the white winds blow, the lone wolf dies, but the pack survives. Summer is the time for squabbles. In winter, we must protect one another, keep each other warm, share our strengths "

- Ned Stark

Michigan Technological University is located within Ojibwa (Chippewa) homelands and ceded-territory established by the Treaty of 1842, the territory of Native American nations in Gakiwe'onaning (Keweenaw Bay), Gete-gitgaaning (Lac Vieux Desert), Mashkii-ziibing (Bad River), Odaawaa-zaaga'iganing (Lac Courte Oreilles), Waaswaaganing (Lac Du Flambeau), Miskwaabikong (Red Cliff), Wezaawaagami-ziibiing (St. Croix), and Zaka'aaganing (Sokaogon Mole Lake).

Email 1b: Email from Ezequiel Cuellar - 9/30/20, 12:53pm

Supporting Minority Voices

Ezequiel Cuellar <icuellar@mtu.edu>

Wed, Sep 30, 2020 at 12:53 PM

To: Amy Lyn Howard <alhoward@mtu.edu>, Stefani Vargas Krause <skrause@mtu.edu>, Amber Kemppainen <amber@mtu.edu>, Paige Short <prbeyers@mtu.edu>, Kevin Trewartha <kmtrrewar@mtu.edu>, Danielle Meirow <dlmeirow@mtu.edu>

Committee on Promoting and Facilitating Equity and Understanding,

I am sure you have already been contacted by other minority student leaders in our community, and I would like to add my voice in their support.

It is no secret to any of your minority students the way we are held up for the camera and used to prove that this campus is progressive and safe. An interview by Angela Gutierrez and myself was even shared by a Michigan Tech account, recently. Which is why I can say wholeheartedly that the response to the Trump rally was disappointing, disheartening, and disgraceful.

As a transgender and bisexual man of color, I am more than aware that I am in the minority on this campus and in this community. I have taken steps to surround myself with support and to protect myself. To be given no notice by the university of such a dangerous event, especially one being organized and passing through the campus, felt like a deep betrayal of the trust I put in this campus to keep myself and others safe.

The emotions I have gone through these past days have been overwhelming, and it is more so knowing that the university is offering performative support at best. The refusal to denounce the gathering, in defense of free speech, is far more telling than anything else the university has done so far. Speech directly attacking myself and my community members is not free speech, it is hate speech.

In this parade that the University refused to denounce, myself and my peers were threatened and taunted. We had coal rolled at us, we had horns blaring, and I was told I should be raped. I was called a tranny for the first time since joining this community, and I am certainly not the only one.

As a student, I am disappointed by the response from the university, and hope to see meaningful action to protect the minority students moving forward. Denounce white supremacy and the gathering, as you should have done from the start.

Sincerely,

Ezequiel Cuellar

--

Ezequiel Cuellar
McNair Hall Desk Receptionist
Vice President - Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers
LEAP Leader
icuellar@mtu.edu

Email 1c: Email from BoFa Saldana - 9/30/20, 1:19pm

9/27 Parade

BoFa Saldana <mjsaldan@mtu.edu>

Wed, Sep 30, 2020 at 1:19 PM

To: Amy Lyn Howard <alhoward@mtu.edu>, Larkin Hooker-Moericke <usg-president@mtu.edu>, Bonnie Gorman <bbgorman@mtu.edu>, Richard Koubek <koubek@mtu.edu>, Kellie Raffaelli <kraffael@mtu.edu>, Stefani Vargas Krause <skrause@mtu.edu>, Amber Kemppainen <amber@mtu.edu>, Kevin Trewartha <kmtrewar@mtu.edu>, Danielle Meirow <dmeirow@mtu.edu>, Paige Short <prbeyers@mtu.edu>, Alexandra Marshall <aemarsh1@mtu.edu>

Greetings,

I am not sure who to email directly about this issue, so I am emailing you all. I hope you all are well.

I am afraid that I cannot say the same for a lot of MTU students. When I first came to this campus I thought it could be a safe environment for students of every background. However, after the event that took place this Sunday, I can see that it is quite the opposite.

There are a couple reasons I am questioning MTU's care for the safety of its students.

1. A parade of more than four hundred people allowed on our campus during a pandemic. To make matters worse, it was on the same day MTU announced that we were moving into a safety level 4
2. MTU silently supported a non-tech affiliated group on campus that is known to show hate for minorities and LGBTQ+ people. I won't disagree that there is a 1st amendment right, however some of the stuff that happened that day was unacceptable. People were told that they deserved to be raped, They were called derogatory terms ranging from "ni**er" to "fag". There was also a vehicle that had a monkey strapped to the front of it, and many others who sported confederate flags.

The first reason should have been enough to cancel the event, but it seems that MTU is showing a lack of consideration in a pandemic. As for the second reason, there are no words to explain our pain.

With this being said, I can no longer say that I feel safe on this campus. MTU used to be a place that I would tell everyone about with a bright light in my eye. However after this past weekend, I will reveal the ugly truth about this institution until something is done.

I will be here ready to discuss actions that should be done in order to promote safety on our campus. I hope we can all learn from our mistakes.

-BoFa

Email 1d: Email from Dani Cummins - 9/30/20, 3:30pm

September 27

Dani Cummins <dtcummin@mtu.edu>

Wed, Sep 30, 2020 at 3:30 PM

To: Amy Lyn Howard <alhoward@mtu.edu>, Stefani Vargas Krause <skrause@mtu.edu>, Amber Kemppainen <amber@mtu.edu>, Paige Short <prbeyers@mtu.edu>, Kevin Trewartha <kmtrrewar@mtu.edu>, Danielle Meirow <dlmeirow@mtu.edu>

MTU Senate Committee on Promoting and Facilitating Equity and Understanding,

I am writing this letter to express my disdain for the lack of thought I have seen regarding the safety and comfort of diverse students on campus. I understand Michigan Tech is a public university and that discriminating against political beliefs is an infringement of students' First Amendment rights. The Trump Parade inherently is not the issue, as students and everyone are allowed to support whatever they want. However, at that event there were long standing historically racist depictions of black people, confederate flags being flown, and slurs being used. While I maintain that I understand you cannot tell people how to act or what they can or cannot say, I am extremely disappointed that these aggressive actions were not renounced by the University. It is not enough to tell people to not assume that those are the University's beliefs.

The University has continually used BIPOC in photoshoots around campus to encourage diverse groups of people to come to this University. But how can these students feel welcome or even the bare minimum, safe, with actions like this happening without a warning or even their university saying that they don't support those actions. The University needs to at least say they denounce white supremacy. It is not enough to assume people know.

It doesn't take banning their behavior to support your students. It requires you to provide more support to the students who may be targeted. The student body was generally uninformed that this would be taking place and they should have known instead of being bombarded with hate speech and slurs on a Sunday afternoon. Michigan Tech is supposed to be one of the safest campuses in the United States, but that doesn't seem to apply to all students. As one of the least diverse universities in the nation, this is something that needs to be immediately rectified. You need these students to be comfortable where they live to make them want to stay and you continue to fail to do so.

Foundational changes must be made at this university in order to progress towards a better future for everyone. Announcements of polarizing and potentially racist events on campus should be sent out to all students. Also there should be a deliberate effort to hire qualified BIPOC everywhere but especially in positions of power so that these students are also represented in the faculty. There should be better diversity training and accountability amongst the staff. Professor and TA evaluations do not do enough to protect students from people in positions of power who disrespect them or treat them differently for things they cannot change. Perhaps most foundationally though, the University needs to denounce white supremacy as this is not a partisan issue, but basic human rights infringement.

Sincerely,
Dani Cummins

--

Dani Cummins
Michigan Technological University | Environmental Engineering
Pronouns: she/her
President of Society of Intellectual Sisters
Secretary of Babes in Music
President of Canterbury House

Email 1e: Email from Lena Stenvig, Emma Ryden, & Sarah Stadler - 9/30/20, 3:37pm

Open letter In Response to Recent Events

Lena Stenvig <lstenvi@mtu.edu>

Wed, Sep 30, 2020 at 3:37 PM

To: Amy Lyn Howard <alhoward@mtu.edu>, Stefani Vargas Krause <skrause@mtu.edu>, Amber Kemppainen <amber@mtu.edu>, Paige Short <prbeyers@mtu.edu>, Kevin Trewartha <kmtrwarz@mtu.edu>, Danielle Meirow <dmeirow@mtu.edu>

MTU Senate Committee on Promoting and Facilitating Equity and Understanding.

I am speaking on behalf of myself in addition to my classmates Emma Ryden and Sarah Stadler.

I am writing to you in regards to recent events at Michigan Technological University that have deeply troubled me concerning the University's priorities for student safety, especially the few and frequently ignored voices of minority students around campus.

I am speaking primarily, of course, about the parade in which Michigan Technological University has permitted to occur on public university property--this parade that has and will encourage violence against minorities both attending the university and residing in the local area. Not only did this parade feature most attendees neglecting the use of masks during a pandemic, it also disrupted the peace for those simply trying to exist on campus via the screaming of violent language out of vehicle windows towards minority students, in addition to the blaring horns that managed to pierce the bubble of safety in homes and dorm rooms for which some students took refuge for the duration of the parade.

The University claims it will not "discriminate based on viewpoint". I have lived my entire life in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. I have been exposed to drastically different viewpoints in my life here, and I can say I truly do understand what it means to avoid discrimination based on what people's experiences are and what they believe, however I simply cannot stand by and listen while my friends tell me they do not feel safe in the U.P., and that this parade has affirmed their thoughts that the University does not take their safety seriously. When I first attended Tech, I was proud to hear Tech proclaim that it is one of the safest college campuses in the nation--now I feel ill knowing that is only because students understand that if they reach out to the University they will receive little to no help resolving the issue at hand.

It is also an insult to both myself and others when the University prides itself in advertising photos of minority students on campus when said students receive very little support from Michigan Tech in order to succeed. This includes minority students who are posted all over Tech's website, yet of whom Tech has failed to the point they have since left the university.

I, among others, demand that if the University is to start down the path of becoming a truly safe and inclusive community for all of its students, it do the following:

- 1) We want a public denouncement on white supremacy from you, Koubek, and USG representatives and a statement on Tech's commitment to supporting and honoring BIPOC in higher education
- 2) Create an easy and well-known way to report racially motivated microaggressions and acts of violence
- 3) Require all professors to include and address diversity in their courses
- 4) Create Black, Xicanx, Indigenous, and Gender Studies majors
- 5) Create accountability aside from professor evaluations for students to voice concerns over instructors that engage in xenophobic, homophobic, and racist dialogue
- 6) Hire more BIPOC across all positions
- 7) Fund retention and graduation initiatives that help BIPOC graduate from Tech.

I stand in solidarity with minority students on campus who have been hit hard by these recent events, and I hope for their sake that you do as well.

Lena Stenvig,
Emma Ryden,
Sarah Stadler

Students of Michigan Technological University

(no subject)

Maya Geiselhart <megeisel@mtu.edu>

Wed, Sep 30, 2020 at 4:24 PM

To: Richard Koubek <koubek@mtu.edu>, Bonnie Gorman <bbgorman@mtu.edu>, Amy Lyn Howard <alhoward@mtu.edu>, Stefani Vargas Krause <skrause@mtu.edu>, Paige Short <prbeyers@mtu.edu>, Kevin Trewartha <kmtrewar@mtu.edu>, Danielle Meirow <dlmeirow@mtu.edu>

Administration & MTU Senate Committee on Promoting and Facilitating Equity and Understanding,

Today I am contacting you in regard to the "Trump Parade" that was held partially on campus on last Sunday (9/27). I have been sitting on these thoughts for these last few days, and I feel an obligation to speak up though it is difficult to find the proper words for my hurt and disappointment.

I am aware of and have read several times the release stating that any group can reserve outdoor space at Tech and that does not mean the University endorses that group's viewpoints or words. This I understand. I understand our 1st Amendment rights. I understand that not everyone shares my personal values. These are all things I have made my peace with, even at times like this when it can strain my heart.

However, I strongly believe that the University has failed to address the major concerns that many of us are having after this event:

- Why has the University not explicitly stated that the school condemns acts of hate and discrimination?
- Why did the University - especially considering that this rally happened the same day that we moved to a "level 4" of concern - not enforce a mask policy or social distancing?

The fact that these questions seem to have no good answer is alarming to me.

I know that there was at least one public safety officer at the Rozsa parking lot, who acknowledged being "disappointed" that people were not wearing masks or socially distancing. I did not speak with him (so I do not know which officer it was), but my housemate (who is a CCM major who was attempting to get inside to do her work at the HDMZ) kept me on the phone while they spoke. She also emailed the Dean of Students Office and was only told that the organizers were "expected" to comply with our rules.

Why is it not mandatory, during a national pandemic, that people using campus property are held to the same standards as students, staff, and faculty? Why do you expect students to endanger their own health and safety to use campus spaces? Why did the public safety officer there not enforce the mask policy?

Beyond concerns of health, I am purely disgusted by the images I have seen of the overtly racist symbolism and language from that protest. I am disgusted that student counter-protestors were yelled at by people from the rally saying that they were going to "rape" female counter-protestors. I am disgusted that we are now expected to continue giving our time and money to a school that is primarily white and male, and is refusing to even say that what happened at our campus was wrong. I don't care if absolutely none of you knew or anticipated what would happen. I don't care if you silently disagree with it. The fact that an overtly hateful group was made to feel more at home on our campus than our own students of various minorities.

How can the school claim that you care about our health or safety? How can you say that you value our lives? Why won't you give any of us even a halfway legitimate answer? How do you expect us to be satisfied with the way you (refused to) handle the situation?

What happened has been done and cannot be undone. However, the fact that nothing seems to be happening to start a conversation on how the school can do better is upsetting, to say the least. Especially considering this school exists on land that was ceded territory taken from the Anishinabe. What a disappointing way to honor the legacy of the history of this land.

It's a shameful time to be a husky.

--

Maya Geiselhart (she/her)
BS Environmental Engineering
Built World Enterprise Public Outreach Chair
ΑΔΑ Sorority Secretary

Email 1g: Word document emailed by Betsy Lehman - 9/30/20, 8:31pm

To the Senate Committee on Promoting and Facilitating Equity and Understanding and whomever else it may concern,

You have no doubt heard from many already about the university's lack of response and apparent endorsement of the "Trump Parade" event that occurred on the 27th, and I hope that the student body will continue to make their voices heard about this event and the overall climate for marginalized and underrepresented individuals – here at Tech and in America in general. As a white graduate student, I want to give my support to the students of colour who have already spoken out and who will speak out in the future.

I also want to state that I am also personally disgusted by Sunday's event. Let's call it what it is: a rally for white supremacy; it expressed gleeful apathy toward marginalized (particularly BIPOC) lives at best, and exterminatory views toward them at worst. Experiencing the chaos of this rally for hours – up close and personal due to where I live, despite staying home – was terrifying, nauseating, and infuriating. The whole time I worried about the students who had gone to counter-protest and felt like I was waiting for something awful to happen. Have you ever had to plan for what to do, where to literally run if racist violence breaks out? This is what Michigan Tech's students of colour are already doing.

As a bisexual woman, I wasn't sure what Tech would actually be like when I was accepted as a PhD student; having gone to NMU for a BS and MS, I thought of Marquette as my home, and knew there were some differences between Northern and Tech, between Marquette and Houghton. After my first few months, I told my mother that while I loved my program, I wasn't sure that I would ever think of Houghton as my home. Sunday's rally has solidified that opinion to me. I'm scared of what else might happen here, especially during the lead up to the election. I feel terrible now that I brought my transgender partner to a place that isn't safe – they didn't choose to live in Houghton, they're here because of me. Sunday evening they asked me if we could think about how feasible it would be to finish my program fully remotely so we could move away. It's a very tempting idea.

While it wasn't organized by Tech, the university allowing the rally to utilize university space looks an awful lot like endorsement. And, as much as we can say that Tech and the greater Houghton community are not the same, they cannot be disconnected. Students at Tech do not have the option to disengage with Houghton; community problems are university problems.

The fact that I found out about the event in advance by students posting on the MTU subreddit is just the icing on the cake. That there has still been no word from a university official is almost impressive at this point.

Sincerely,
Betsy Lehman

Emails 2: Revision

Angela Gutierrez later emailed a revised/expanded version of her letter (on 11/2/20). A version of this letter was later read aloud, by Ms. Gutierrez, during the Public Comments section of the University Senate meeting on 11/11/20.

Open Letter: Response to Silence and lack of Solidarity on Campus.

Angela Gutierrez <agutierr@mtu.edu>

Mon, Nov 2, 2020 at 3:11 PM

To: Amy Lyn Howard <alhoward@mtu.edu>, Amber Kemppainen <amber@mtu.edu>, Paige Short <prbeyers@mtu.edu>, Kevin Trewartha <kmtrawar@mtu.edu>, Danielle Meirou <dmeirou@mtu.edu>, Stefani Vargas Krause <skrause@mtu.edu>

I am disappointed that neither USG leadership, Senate leadership, Koubek nor Bonnie have not come out specifically against white supremacist rallies and events on campus, nor have we heard anything about solidarity against the killings of Black people all over America.

I have attached my open letter that I sent to Koubek, Bonnie and other campus leaders. I have also attached photos and screenshots of the parade and the online threats and harassment. I have attached a picture with someone having a confederate flag, people throwing water and water bottles at the counter protestors, and finally counter-protestors getting coal rolled on them. The screenshots show Tech's climate via online web forums where people were being racist, fatphobic, inciting and confirming violence, and sexually harassing people. This is the reality that no one seems to believe minorities and often gaslights us as Tech brags to be the "safest" campus in America. One of the pictures show a man fighting back against the people that rolled coal on the counter protestors- he had good reason. Police were there when people started to throw smoke and roll coal at us and did nothing. Who were they protecting? While the people participating at the rally can say that the counter-protestors had F**ck Trump signs, the counter protestors did not show any signs of violence beside the man reacting to the smoke being thrown at him.

I am resurfacing this because I have been gaslighted and met with silence to those I have reached out to. I have gathered that the consensus on campus is that we do not believe minority students unless there is evidence or until it is too late. I hope this time it is the first.

Michigan Tech is public property, on ceded territory of the lands taken from The Original People, the Anishinaabe. What a disgraceful, and tasteless use of Turtle Island's gifts. How shameful that Gichi-Gami must bear witness to the violent showcase of white supremacy upon her life giving waters. ¡Sin vergueñizas!

I have written, and re-written this letter but I am having a hard time finding words, and sentences to communicate the pain, sadness, anger, and the overwhelming paranoia of being a target that has recently taken a hold of me. However, I cannot be silent when my community is being threatened. It has been incredibly painful to work through my disappointment on your silent support of the rally, and Tech's extremely performative allyship. In lieu of the ongoing family separations, disappearance of our BIPOC siblings, child detention centers, police brutality and Breonna Taylor's court ruling, it feels like a slap in the face that the rally happened .

I am concerned with the use of our public property to promote violence against the minority population. Being called "ni**ers", "trannies", "fags" and told that we should get "r/ped" is not free speech, it is violent language that wishes to incite conflict among the student population. It was incredibly taxing to hear those words come from community members and other Michigan Tech students. Quite frankly I don't feel safe, and as a student leader, it would be disingenuous to promote Tech as one of the "safest" campuses in America. What is even more disheartening is that these threats and acts of harassments have not stopped. Those of us who speak out against white-supremacy online have been bombarded with fatphobic, sexist, xenophobic, and homophobic trolls who are primarily feeding off of my community's fears. It is well documented that right-wing rhetoric often turns into deadly violence for those who oppose hate speech.

I am well aware that the rally had Tech's permission to utilize the Rozsa as its starting point under the understanding that 50-100 people were going to attend, and that Public Safety was called in to move the parade along. Two things. I think that Tech should inform their student body whenever any group that is well known for their hate and violence comes to or near our campus. Why were we (the minority students) not warned about this event? This could have given us more time to prepare ourselves for being targets, organize an educational event, or just comfort our members during times of uncertainty. The rally had almost 400 participants, including massive truck horns that could be heard from blocks away. Most of these participants did not have a mask on. The sheer size of this rally made Public Safety turn away from directing the parade to handling the amount of traffic chaos that followed.

Public Safety was clearly underprepared and falsely informed on what was to happen. They rolled coal on us; this is not only incredibly dangerous, but it is also toxic and disorienting. Add this to the overbearing sounds of truck horns, and the scene became chaotic at best.

Lastly, I am infuriated. I am angry that we as minority students are not given proper support on campus and must rely on each other and a few allies to make it through our lives at Tech. How hard is it for Koubek to make a public statement denouncing white supremacy? It has come to my attention that Tech loves to use our bodies for evidence of "diversity" but never stands in solidarity against our struggles. Perhaps this is why retention and graduation rates among BIPOC are so low?

What do I want Tech to do:

- 1.) I want a public denouncement on white supremacy from you, Bonnie, and USG representatives and a statement on Tech's commitment to supporting and honoring BIPOC in higher education
- 2.) Create an easy and well-known way to report racially motivated microaggressions and acts of violence
- 3.) Require all professors to include and address diversity in their courses
- 4.) Create Black, Xicanx, Indigenous, and Gender Studies majors
- 5.) Create accountability aside from professor evaluations for students to voice concerns over instructors that engage in xenophobic, homophobic, and racist dialogue
- 6.) Hire more BIPOC across all positions
- 7.) Fund retention and graduation initiatives that help BIPOC graduate from Tech

These are just a few of the things I had in mind, and I am more than willing to sit down and discuss my above requests.

My list has since grown to include:

- Create academic funds and scholarships for DACA and other undocumented students
- Provide language and resources for non-english speaking households in their native tongue (FAFSA, enrolling info, college culture guides, updates etc)
- Reframe how diversity statistics are talked about/greater transparency on data
- Require more from departments to address the needs of underrepresented groups (mentorships, guidance of department climate and culture, ect)
- Require all staff (student staff at bare minimum) to complete diversity and inclusion training

Solidaridad ya,

Angela Gutierrez

1371 Combat Engineer

Corporal of Marines

Michigan Technological University

President of SHPE

SIS Parliamentarian

"When the snows fall and the white winds blow, the lone wolf dies, but the pack survives. Summer is the time for squabbles. In winter, we must protect one another, keep each other warm, share our strengths "

- Ned Stark

Michigan Technological University is located within Ojibwa (Chippewa) homelands and ceded-territory established by the Treaty of 1842, the territory of Native American nations in Gakiwe'onaning (Keweenaw Bay), Gete-gitgaaning (Lac Vieux Desert), Mashkii-ziibing (Bad River), Odaawaa-zaaga'iganing (Lac Courte Oreilles), Waaswaaganing (Lac Du Flambeau), Miskwaabikong (Red Cliff), Wezaawaagami-ziibiing (St. Croix), and Zaka'aaganing (Sokaogon Mole Lake).

Emails 3: President Koubek

Email from Rick Koubek to campus community - 10/1/20, 3:52pm

Respect, Reason, and Responsibility

Rick Koubek, President <koubek@mtu.edu>
Reply-To: hlherman@mtu.edu
To: dlmeiorow@mtu.edu

Thu, Oct 1, 2020 at 3:51 PM

Dear Members of the Michigan Tech Community:

Our campus community is enriched by each individual voice on our campus. This includes our students, faculty, and staff who are first-generation, minority, LGBTQ+, nontraditional, traditional, commuter, residential, in-state, out-of-state, international, conservative, and liberal. We respect and celebrate the unique perspectives each of you offer.

Unfortunately, choices made by some individuals during events this past weekend tested the unity of our campus community and raised questions about the role a public university plays in protecting First Amendment rights.

As a public university, Michigan Tech is fundamentally bound to uphold the Constitutional right to [free speech](#). We are legally prohibited from abridging free speech rights beyond restrictions on time, place, and manner, which are content and viewpoint neutral. And, as a taxpayer-funded entity, we cannot approve or deny requests from external or internal groups to use University space based on that group's perspective.

However, as an institution of higher learning, we also emphasize a value system that prioritizes a respectful, diverse, and inclusive campus community. Our [Student Code of Community Conduct](#) promotes the mutual and respectful exchange of perspectives, personal experiences, and ideas that enhance the quality of our learning, interactions, and world view. With that said, everyone has the right to freedom of expression. But, in no way does the University condone hate speech or language that incites violence or fear.

Some of you have emailed me to express your frustration. Others have voiced their concerns publicly. Over the next few weeks, I, along with faculty, staff, and student representatives, will meet with our campus community to listen to your concerns, learn from your experiences, and collaborate on ideas that promote safety, inclusivity, equity, and respect on our campus.

We also encourage faculty, staff, and students to reflect on ways they can facilitate respectful dialogue among our broader community. In our multiple roles as parents, friends, club members, or members of faith communities, we can use our skills to demonstrate our values of diversity, inclusivity, and respect for differences.

The weeks leading up to the election will certainly test our resolve, both individually and as a campus community. We encourage you to demonstrate how free speech contributes to, rather than detracts from, the democratic process by using your free speech rights. We implore you to serve as a model for respect and reason. And, please vote.

Sincerely,

Rick Koubek
President

Appendix F: Survey Responses

Original Survey

Where were you during the event held on September 27th? *

Your answer



Documentation of the September 27th Political Event

The University Senate Ad Hoc Committee to Review Institutional Policy and Procedures for On-Campus Events is seeking additional documentation of the event that originated on campus September 27th, 2020. If you would like to share your experience in relation to this event, please fill out this voluntary survey to help us document and understand what transpired.

Information entered into this form will be viewed and stored by members of the Ad-hoc Committee. Information entered in this form may be used in whole or in part as a portion of the Committee's upcoming report to the University Senate. In the Committee's report, identity data will not be associated with information entered in this form, unless the Committee seeks and receives explicit permission to use said identity data. Participation in this survey is voluntary.

The name and photo associated with your Google account will be recorded when you upload files and submit this form. Not dlmeirow@mtu.edu? [Switch account](#)

* Required

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

Yes

No

Anonymity of File Upload

If you would like to submit files (photos, videos, other documentary evidence) anonymously, please do not use the file upload option, as you are required to sign into a Google account in order to upload. Instead, please use a dummy/temporary email address and send them directly to the committee at mtusenateadhocevents@gmail.com.

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed. *

Your answer

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

Yes

No

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

Your answer

If you have any photos, videos, or other recordings of the event that you would be willing to share with the committee, please upload them here:

 [Add file](#)

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

- Faculty
- Staff
- Student
- Community Member

- Staff
- Student
- Community Member
- Other: _____

Name (optional)

Your answer _____

Would you be willing to talk to the committee about your experience? *

- Yes
- No

[Next](#)

Never submit passwords through Google Forms.

This form was created inside of Michigan Technological University. [Report Abuse](#)

Google Forms

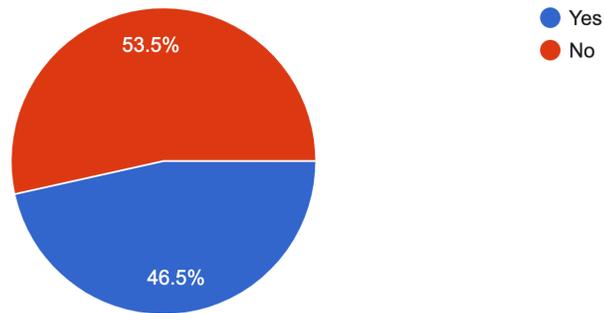
Summary of Quantitative Responses

Total Responses: 101

Responses from individuals on campus: 17

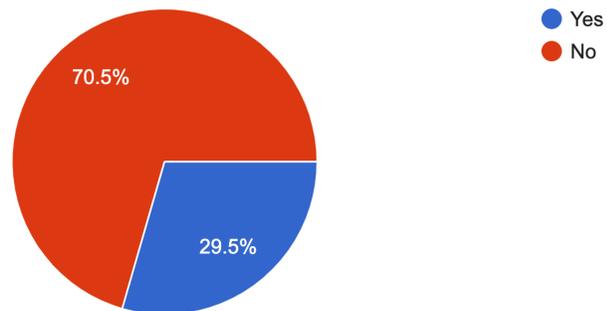
Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

101 responses



Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

95 responses



What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

97 responses



Complete Responses

Response 1:

Where were you during the event held on September 27th?

Inside Rozsa Center

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed.

I only looked out a few times. Truck horns and a lack of social distancing were prevalent. I was impossible to leave campus for about 45 minutes.

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

No

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

Yes

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

Staff

Response 2:

Where were you during the event held on September 27th?

In my house off-campus

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed.

I heard many rumors and much concern expressed about why the University would allow something like that to happen.

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

No

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

No

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

Faculty

Response 3:

Where were you during the event held on September 27th?

At home

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed.

I was not there but heard/saw (photos) enough of what happened.

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

Yes

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

I felt like anyone with differing opinions from those rallying were treated unfairly.

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

Yes

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

Student

Response 4:

Where were you during the event held on September 27th?

at Home in Atlantic Mine

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed.

I avoided the rally

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

No

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

Staff

Response 5:

Where were you during the event held on September 27th?

Home

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed.

Did not witness anything.

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

No

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

No

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

Staff

Response 6:

Where were you during the event held on September 27th?

home

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed.

didn't experience - wasn't present

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

No

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

No

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

Staff

Response 7:

Where were you during the event held on September 27th?

Off campus - not in houghton

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed.

only read about the rally and the comments afterwards

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

No

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

No

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

Staff

Response 8:

Where were you during the event held on September 27th?

In walker lawn

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed.

Well, to start off I was told many times that I was going to be raped. And flipped off many times. Me and my friends were out there for a few hours with our signs, while many trucks intentionally revved their engines to create smoke. I did have videos of this, but I didn't think about saving them to show to people. And the amount of noise they were making was absurd, people trying to study or taking a nap definitely wouldn't have been able to.

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

Yes

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

I was told I was going to get raped multiple times.

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

Yes

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

Student

Response 9:

Where were you during the event held on September 27th?

At home

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed.

None witnessed, just informed of incidents from others, so sad. Not a community event, no benefit to the University.

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

No

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

No

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

Staff

Response 10:

Where were you during the event held on September 27th?

Counter-protesting at the Lift Bridge

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed.

I stood at the Lift Bridge peacefully protesting with a sign for several hours with some friends. People in the "parade" insulted us, threatened us, and purposely blew black exhaust at us with their trucks. I was not on campus, but people where I was were violating COVID protocols (not the counter-protestors, we all wore masks, just the people in the "parade"). They also drove recklessly with flags and signs to obscure driver vision and had people riding unsafely and illegally in the beds of trucks.

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

Yes

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

A man told my friends and I to our faces that he was going to rape us. I don't know if this man lives in Houghton or came in from out of town and if he will recognize me when I am out and follow through on his threat. I now feel very unsafe in Houghton and have stopped taking walks alone which sucks cause I enjoy walks.

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

No

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

Student

Response 11:

Where were you during the event held on September 27th?

Home; not near or around campus.

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed.

Experienced nothing; glad people rallied in support for the President.

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

No

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

Please note: Political speech still qualifies as free speech. Furthermore, not showing support for you lawful leader is, in my opinion, unpatriotic. Trump supporters are not violent. We will not hide our pride for our President and this Nation.

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

No

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

Staff

Response 12:

Where were you during the event held on September 27th?

At home. I did not feel it safe to be out knowing that the Trump rallies attract people

who align with white nationalist parties, Neo-nazism, and other hate groups.

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed.

I witnessed the aftermath; numerous students in my virtual appointments the following week needed space to process from what they saw or experienced. Many were understandably angry that they had no warning this event was taking place on their campus. Some had experienced threats of violence or hate speech first-hand.

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

Yes

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

It felt unsafe to me that our university gave no advance notice to anyone about our campus being used as a staging area for this event. I only learned through word-of-mouth. Therefore, the lack of university foresight (or care!) to give advance notice made me feel unsafe, as I had no idea what protections were in place to safeguard my well being.

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

No

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

Faculty

Response 13:

Where were you during the event held on September 27th?

Not on campus

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed.

I was a surprised to hear it started at a venue on campus. Apart from that, I was not involved directly with the event.

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

No

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

No

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

Faculty

Response 14:

Where were you during the event held on September 27th?

Home

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed.

Community noise pollution was excessive, even 1 mile away from campus

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

No

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

No

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

Faculty

Response 15:

Where were you during the event held on September 27th?

Home

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed.

The only details I witnessed were in photos shared online after the fact.

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

Yes

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

We stayed home and away from town because we wanted nothing to do with the "parade" or any people associated with the parade.

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

No

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

Staff

Response 16:

Where were you during the event held on September 27th?

I was on my way to campus when I ran into it

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed.

I parked and watched it go by...

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

No

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

I thought it was great example of the freedom of expression

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

No

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

Faculty

Response 17:

Where were you during the event held on September 27th?

Home

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed.

I had many conversations with students angry about the event.

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

Yes

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

The fact that a group know for not wearing mask was allowed on campus made me feel not safe.

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

No

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

Staff

Response 18:

Where were you during the event held on September 27th?
at home

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed.

I learned about it afterwards through comments made by others.

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

No

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

No

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

Faculty

Response 19:

Where were you during the event held on September 27th?
home in Houghton

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed.

I received verbal complaints from students and staff that people at the rally were parked in designated student parking preventing access, people at the rally were yelling abusive things at people on campus and on the street, did not wear masks, did not socially distance, and that DPSPS and Houghton PD were present but not taking action. I was told at least one staff member in my office was present, posted on social media, did not socially distance, or wear a mask. I thought it was insulting that students received an email after the fact reminding them to follow the student code of conduct, but there did not seem to be any action with the rally guests to remind them to behave cordially. I think it was misleading to tell students that everyone has free speech when threats were being yelled at them ie: "I'm going to rape you", "eat shit and die"

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

No

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

I avoided the area to stay safe.

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

Yes

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

Staff

Response 20:

Where were you during the event held on September 27th?

At Home

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed.

Was unaware of it until afterwards

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

No

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

Staff

Response 21:

Where were you during the event held on September 27th?

home

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed.

n/a

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

No

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

Staff

Response 22:

Where were you during the event held on September 27th?

At home

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed.

While I was not present for the event, I felt a general level of unease and apprehension in being anywhere in Houghton that day knowing that the rally was taking place. In seeing the events unfold on social media, I felt that it was a detriment to the University and city as a whole that this demonstration was allowed to take place.

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

Yes

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

Through word on mouth & social media, I felt unsafe in my own town regarding diesel fume blasts at peaceful protesters, hazardous driving on main thoroughfares, and harassment of non-Trump fans at local businesses. Based on attitudes I have observed from this specific group in other settings, I have no doubt that COVID protocols were ignored. I stayed home that day from running errands and going in to my office because I felt unsafe being in town at all that day.

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

Yes

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

Staff

Response 23:

Where were you during the event held on September 27th?

hiking; I had to drive through campus on Hwy 41 just before the rally began

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed.

I wondered if the rally participants had all filled out their symptom surveys, as the rest of us are required to do before we enter campus.

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

No

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

I was in my car, so no. I certainly heard about harassment.

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

Yes

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

Faculty

Response 24:

Where were you during the event held on September 27th?

Yes

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed.

Great Event

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

No

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

Calm, peaceful, and energetic

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

No

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

Staff

Response 25:

Where were you during the event held on September 27th?

Houghton

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed.

There was a parade in support of Donald Trump, the current and duly-elected president of the United States of America. The parade happened to start in the Rozsa Parking Lot. The event organizers followed university protocol and received official approval. No rules or policies were broken. The event did not imply any overt or tacit support from the university, any more than if a politician--Democrat or Republican--happened to give a speech on campus, which is a common occurrence throughout America.

If there were a parade in support of Joe Biden, I give 0% chance that such a committee as the Orwellian "University Senate Ad Hoc Committee to Review Institutional Policy and Procedures for On-Campus Events" would ever have been formed. This committee is a political hit job formed because certainly left-leaning faculty and students don't like Donald Trump, or his supporters, or conservative causes, and want to make an example out of them, hiding under the pretended "harm caused to BIPOC students, etc. etc." I call B.S. on all of it. I can't name all the times the university overtly supported liberal and leftist causes in the form of emails, walks, vigils, rallies, parades, statements, guest speakers, and Senate policies. As a conservative, I'm constantly offended by the lack of ideological balance at this university, including the overt, in-your-face messages that only leftist ideas, policies, ideologies, and attitudes shall be allowed on campus. Even though I am offended--and yes, ostracized, because of my conservative bent--I strongly support free speech and freedom of expression and don't seek to squash those leftist ideals by forming committees that supposedly "protect" people from those ideas. Folks, this was a parade that occurred in Houghton and happened to start in the Rozsa parking lot. Big deal. It wasn't an official university event, and stop pretending it was. No one was "hurt" by the peaceful, celebratory parade, other than those who were ideologically offended by the fact that there exist opposing ideas from their own. Stop bullying conservatives and let freedom ring.

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

No

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

No

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

Faculty

Response 26:

Where were you during the event held on September 27th?

At home, Clark Street, near campus.

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed.

I can say that it was loud, and it was a bit unpleasant. It kind of reminded me of Nazi Germany.

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

No

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

No

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

Faculty

Response 27:

Where were you during the event held on September 27th?

I was not at the event

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed.

I have no experience related to the event. I only heard about it through inquiries made after President Koubek's general email sent days later

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

No

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

No

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

Staff

Response 28:

Where were you during the event held on September 27th?

I was in my office on campus preparing for campus to move to Level 4 health and safety standards.

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed.

Viewed the event from my office window and on the University web cams.

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

No

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

No

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

Staff

Response 29:

Where were you during the event held on September 27th?

Home

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed.

I was not involved at all

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

No

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

No

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

Staff

Response 30:

Where were you during the event held on September 27th?

For the majority of it I was driving back to Houghton from Northern WI, so I watched an incredible amount of vehicles decked out in Trump paraphernalia pass by as they returned to WI. I caught the tail end of the rally with the truly disgusting and backwards people that were only on campus to flaunt the fact that they could behave poorly.

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed.

I was on college avenue at a friends house originally to do homework now that we were back in Houghton. We left to cross the street to my apartment a few streets up since it was so loud with the Trump train honking and yelling and revving their engines. When we were waiting to cross the street, we were called all sorts of names, a 30-ish year old man said that if Trump won that he is going to come back and rape me (my friend is male and I am female, so it was directed at me), I witnessed a vehicle with a monkey tied to the grill (implying a black person), and more than one person did that thing where they make their tailpipes spit smoke at us. We were stuck standing there for quite some time since no one stopped so that we could cross. While it wasn't directed at us, there were students (high school age) walking back from the counter protest with signs who were also getting verbally attacked with trucks purposely matching their speed to hurl insults.

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

Yes

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

I got a rape threat. I came to this school so that I could feel safe walking alone and now I no

longer feel safe. I was essentially told that the president of the united states is allowing his supporters to rape people. I have lived in many states in my life and I have never seen this level of disregard and hatred towards fellow human beings. It felt like I had walked into a 1960s documentary. If I had known that this is how the people of Houghton think of me, my BIPOC and female friends, I would not have chosen to attend this university. Last semester I would have gushed about this university if anyone had asked, now I have a much different answer. I now have to pick my little sister up from classes that end after dark because she is too scared to walk home. She also received rape threats.

Multiple threats. From multiple people. There are multiple rapists living in close proximity to the university who are perfectly okay with telling people that they are/ want to be rapists. So, yes, you could say I feel unsafe.

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

Yes

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

Student

Response 31:

Where were you during the event held on September 27th?

at home in Hancock in the morning and then helping a friend build a deck in West Houghton in the early afternoon. No interaction with the "events"

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed.

Was not even aware that they had happened except that there was raucous honking from the Trump supporters parade. Did not see anything happening at the time and only heard of vague rumors that "things had happened" in the weeks following.

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

No

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

No

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

Faculty

Response 32:

Where were you during the event held on September 27th?

I was in my apartment in Wadsworth hall, and throughout it would take my dog onto campus for a walk.

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed.

Throughout the "parade", I saw cars continuing to go east and west on HWY 141 with individuals shouting out of their cars at pedestrians including myself. I saw that the stop lights on Sharon Ave and HWY 141 were changed to a blinking yellow light, which meant the individuals in the parade were able to continue to move through and limited the traffic that was able to come down Sharon Ave to get to downtown Houghton. There were a few protesters along the highway, however this seemed to make the individuals in the parade become more vocal and agitating. While I was sitting in my apartment, the noise from the parade continued to disrupt my dog and left him on edge for the afternoon.

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

No

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

N/A

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

Yes

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

Staff

Response 33:

Where were you during the event held on September 27th?

I was on the bridge as a part of the counter protest

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed.

My housemates and I (five of us total) went to the bridge at about 1pm and stayed until 4pm. We were on the east side of the bridge at first and then crossed under the bridge to the west side as the parade made its way back into houghton. A majority of the counter protestors were not engaging with the Trump parade and were standing silently holding their signs. A group of people not wearing masks and holding Trump flags kept coming over to the counter protestors and trying to get us to engage in arguments with them. The police officers at the event were not wearing masks at first, but I believe they put them on halfway through the event after being asked by one of the organizers of the counter protest. It appeared that none of the people in the Trump parade got any traffic violations although there were people hanging out of the cars and sitting in the beds of trucks, as well as flags and signs blocking their rear windows and license plates.

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

Yes

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

There were two incidents that I witnessed. For one of them, my roommate and I
were

standing on the corner of the bridge, holding our signs and standing silently. A truck full of grown men passed by and one of them shouted at my roommate and I: "We are going to rape you". The second incident happened twice, on both sides of the bridge. There were groups of teen boys in trucks that would slow down right by the counter protestors and then speed up very quickly in order to blow black exhaust fumes in our faces.

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

No

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

Student

Response 34:

Where were you during the event held on September 27th?

In Hancock

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed.

None except that I saw a parade of cars and trucks displaying Trump flags coming down Highway 41 towards Houghton. I was in the Pat's IGA parking lot.

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

No

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

This is much to do about nothing and complete waste of university resources fretting about

people exercising their first amendment rights (as much as I completely disagree with them).

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

No

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

Faculty

Response 35:

Where were you during the event held on September 27th?

In my home (on campus apartments)

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed.

early in the day on September 27th, right after I had eaten breakfast and had started working on organizing my week and starting homework for the day I started to hear a bunch of loud, obnoxious honking outside. Even with all of my windows closed and not even being directly on 41 the noise was ridiculous. I got to listen to 600 cars honking. And they continued to honk for HOURS, looping back and around a few times just to be more disruptive and

obnoxious, which made it nearly impossible to get any work done (and left a nice headache). I could not imagine having to be a student in the dorms. I lived on ground floor in Wadsworth during concert events on Walker lawn and even that was not as purposefully disruptive and obnoxious as honking car horns for several hours and calling it an event. Not only was I subject to it because it surrounded my home, I was also stuck in my home because they blocked the roads for HOURS, which made me get more involved with the situation as I was severely annoyed. I was incredibly disappointed that Michigan Tech let this occur on their campus. This is supposed to be a place of learning and to allow events that purposely disrupt the environment of the students for a political show is incredibly disappointing. I've never heard of an event on techs campus that is "be obnoxiously loud and disrupt all the students to make them look outside and be aware of your political standings". Basically forcing all of campus to be apart of your event by being obnoxious and making it impossible for them to focus on other stuff. If they wanted to show their support for Trump there were plenty of ways to do so that didn't force the entire student body to partake. I don't care if people have other political affiliations, but campus should not be allowing let alone supporting pushing political agendas this aggressive of a manner, that's what causes divide in this community, and the schools constant inability to step in in fear of looking controversial is what makes students feel unsafe.

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

Yes

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

I felt unsafe plenty on September 27th. After an hour or so of ridiculous honking I grabbed a mask to go on campus and be pissed off with the rest of the students who were on the side of the road telling cars to shut up. Sadly, I saw too many unmasked individuals and decided to just walk to Jims along 41, getting things yelled at me by cars driving by, including the ever classy "grab her by the pussy". After Jim's I decided to take the longer way back that was not along 41.

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

Yes

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

Student

Response 36:

Where were you during the event held on September 27th?

In my home near campus and needed to drive through town to pick up a family member

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed.

Excessive noise, intentional traffic congestion

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

No

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

No

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

Staff

Response 37:

Where were you during the event held on September 27th?

Downtown Houghton and along the river walk along the Portage canal.

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed.

I remember walking past the Dee and all along the path under the bridge and being unable to hear my spouse speaking next to me as we walked. The horns and continually revving engines were pretty loud.

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

No

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

No

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

Staff

Response 38:

Where were you during the event held on September 27th?

Lake Linden

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed.

Our family was trying to make a lefthand turn to go north on M26 in Lake Linden. The Trump parade vehicles would not let us out. We were there for 45 min. They heckled anyone with Biden signs.

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

Yes

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

I did not like how they treated the people on the roadsides holding Biden signs. I was not impressed with signs that had vulgar words.

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

No

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

Faculty

Response 39:

Where were you during the event held on September 27th?

I drove through town and observed some of the parade (going the opposite direction.)

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed.

I saw many vehicles participating in the Trump parade. I could not hear any interactions because I was in my vehicle. I observed people on the side of the road, some in support of the parade and some demonstrating against the parade. Some of the flags waved by Trump vehicles had images that some would describe as offensive. Some of the signs that were held up by protesters included language that would be considered offensive.

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

No

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

No

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

Faculty

Response 40:

Where were you during the event held on September 27th?

Houghton

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed.

I was worried that leftist protestors would disrupt, or even attack, the peaceful rally...as happened in DC this weekend. I was also concerned that the false outrage of some in the community regarding this event might be used to inhibit free speech on the MTU campus in the future.

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

No

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

No

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

Response 41:

Where were you during the event held on September 27th?

Driving around the Houghton area for adopt a highway cleanup.

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed.

I had a very negative experience. I was driving home from the adopt a highway event that was just south of Calumet when I got caught in the train of rally participants. I felt very threatened as I was forced to drive with them because they took up the main road. I drove along into downtown Houghton. I witnessed these people yelling at people of color, LGBTQ people, and women horrible things. An uncountable amount of racial slurs including the n word. I saw a car with a monkey strapped to it, implying the racist comparison of black people to monkeys. I saw them yell at multiple overweight people that they should die because of their weight and that they should be killed. I witnessed people yell at women and sorority houses that they should be raped or that they will go there later that day to rape them.

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

Yes

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

As a woman I feel unsafe walking around the community, including the campus community, as I saw peers and familiar faces screaming that women should be raped. As a minority I feel unsafe they will hunt me down and kill me.

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

Yes

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

Student

Response 42:

Where were you during the event held on September 27th?

At home in Hancock

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed.

I watched it on campus web cameras, at first. I thought it was over, but the caravan came down 41 from Calumet in the early afternoon. It lasted between 40-50 minutes, maybe longer, and kept me indoors since I wasn't sure I would be able to merge onto 41.

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

Yes

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

What concerned me was how backed up 41 was from the hospital to the bridge. I was concerned that if I went out, and they were violent, an ambulance would not have been able to get to me due to construction on that part of 41.

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

Staff

Response 43:

Where were you during the event held on September 27th?

at home

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed.

Why are we wasting valuable tech resources on this issue. Please let's focus on research and education. This should not be costing me my pay raise.

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

No

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

No

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

Faculty

Response 44:

Where were you during the event held on September 27th?

Hiking at Mt. Baldy

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed.

I heard from neighbors in East Hancock that the sound of the parade progressing through our town was intense and frightening. I read some comments on a student message board, ranging from worried to apathetic. Students seemed to feel that the event reflected the general political climate in this area.

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

Yes

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

Though I was north of town on the 27th, I did drive by a number of "Trump trucks" on my return to Hancock. The number, size, and appearance of the trucks' many flags was concerning. (E.g., a flag that was half American flag, half Confederate). On the occasions of other, similar rolling rallies, I felt very anxious in my home because of the sustained noise (incessant, blaring car horns for 15+ minutes).

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

No

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

Faculty

Response 45:

Where were you during the event held on September 27th?

I was at Douglass Houghton Hall. I walked around campus at the time of the event, which involved seeing the event.

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed.

In the short walk-by I made by the event (less than 5 minutes), I saw a large crowd (over the 200 person restriction set by the governor at the time). No one was wearing masks or socially distancing. Following this walk by, I heard the cars going by for nearly 30 minutes honking loudly as they drove by the residence halls. I had numerous students complain about the noise and the disruption of their studies. The contents of their banners and messaging was a concern for some students, but many were disrupted due to the honking.

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

No

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

I replied no personally, but that's because I'm a white, straight, man. The messaging that is

tied to this specific event has not largely targeted me, but many of my students with underrepresented identities felt very unsafe during this and are very concerned by the lack of university response to the event.

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

Yes

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

Staff

Response 46:

Where were you during the event held on September 27th?

Driving my car with my wife on a color tour from Chassell to Houghton.

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed.

I witnessed a traffic jam when approaching Houghton. Then I detoured around the rally through Houghton and over the bridge to Hancock. I originally planned to drive from Hancock through Dollar Bay to Lake Linden and then on to Gah, but realized that I was in the "train" and then turned around to drive from Hancock to Calumet. Only then did I realize that the "train" was driving from Lake Linden to Calumet as I was driving the opposite direction from Calumet to Lake Linden. I thought it was very interesting to see all of the folks sitting by the side of the road showing their support for President Trump. They were enthusiastic and peacefully expressing their affection for the President. A little disturbing were some confederate flags, but I thought that maybe those folks were confused as to where they were; in the UP of MI and not in the deep South. But mostly it was impressive the support they showed for the President.

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

No

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

No

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

Faculty

Response 47:

Where were you during the event held on September 27th?

At a counter protest on the bridge.

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed.

After just walking down the street, I had by-standing people yell at me for wearing a Black Lives Matter shirt, I got an open container of water thrown at me and another peer from a moving vehicle. I had adults yell in my face without masks on as well.

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

Yes

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

I had multiple people without masks yell into my face, reckless driving and speeding very close to protesters.

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

Yes

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

Student

Response 48:

Where were you during the event held on September 27th?

At home in Hancock.

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed.

I did not witness any of the on campus activities but I did see the parade drive by my house.

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

Yes

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

A person in a Ford Truck yelled an obscenity at me while I was raking my yard. I assume it was because of the political sign that was on display in my front yard.

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

No

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

Staff

Response 49:

Where were you during the event held on September 27th?

No, I didn't know about it until a day or two later.

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed.

I did not hear about anything bad, but I wish I was there to see. If this was a Democrat gathering, we would not get this survey. Trump supporters seem very happy and peaceful. I suspect it would be rare for Trump supporters to start trouble or break the law, unless others attack or provoke them. One side would make complaints about the other no matter what. (seems to be the case here)

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

No

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

No

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

Staff

Response 50:

Where were you during the event held on September 27th?

At my home on College Avenue.

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed.

There was a lot of yelling, cussing, and noise which prevented myself and my housemates from going about our day (especially school related activities) for multiple hours. Some of my housemates who were attempting to return from campus had great difficulty crossing the street or going anywhere for the duration of the event.

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

Yes

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

Several of my housemates stood on the porch to oppose the event and were cussed at

when it did occur, but several weeks after we have been yelled at by people who drive by or walked by about some of us opposing the event, which definitely made me feel uncomfortable since I have known people in the area

whose homes were broken into to remove Black Lives Matter signs (which we had previously displayed at our house as well).

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

No

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

Student

Response 51:

Where were you during the event held on September 27th?

Home in Calumet

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed.

I heard about it, it seemed terribly inappropriate and I would even say threatening to our students, faculty, and staff of color, or who are part of the LGBTQ+ community. If it had occurred during the work week, I would have stayed home.

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

Yes

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

I am deeply concerned about this. I was luckily at home, but I did hear that colleagues and friends on campus felt fearful. I received frightened and angry messages.

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

No

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

Staff

Response 52:

Where were you during the event held on September 27th?

Near the Portage Lift Bridge, downtown Houghton

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed.

I witnessed a truck with a Confederate Flag flying alongside the Trump/Pence 2020 flag from the tailgate.

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

Yes

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

The sign of the Confederate Flag is a racist symbol. Its presence indicates that the flyer of

said flag is a racist, which makes me feel unsafe and angry.

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

No

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

Faculty

Response 53:

Where were you during the event held on September 27th?

walking downtown

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed.

Walking downtown i was harassed by multiple trucks and cars of people. this included being yelled at, being honked at, and watching an older couple rip down a parade of nation flag with video evidence.

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

Yes

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

Being yelled at continuously while walking the two miles to downtown.

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

Yes

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

Student

Response 54:

Where were you during the event held on September 27th?

At the bridge

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed.

I was standing alone on the south side of the street. I arrived early and was holding a hand-painted sign which read, "#45 doesn't care about you." I honestly don't believe most of the people around me actually knew I was quietly protesting. I wore a mask. I was slowly surrounded by individuals who were Trump supporters. Some appeared to be families. None wore masks. Given the recent violence surrounding protests I promised my children I would distance myself from the protest group in case any violence should erupt. A van parked across the street from me. It was a family who showed up to watch the parade. The driver, probably the mom, read my sign and gave it a "thumbs down." What I would expect - we both engaged in peaceful free speech.

I noticed police arrive about 15 minutes before the parade was to start. One police officer emerged and addressed a group of anti-Trump protesters who were positioned along the sidewalk between the Downtowner parking lot and the bridge. I do not know what transpired in the conversation.

As I waited for the parade a truck parked in the parking lot across the street from the Downtowner. There were several teenagers sitting in the truck. Because they did not emerge until after the parade started, it made me feel uncomfortable. I moved a few feet so that I could position myself on the other

side of a retaining wall that separated the parking lot from the sidewalk. I felt extremely vulnerable.

Several cars and trucks, many flashing large flags, revved engines and sped across the bridge before the parade began. I heard a lot of squealing tires. Some vehicles circled around the "Yooper Loop" from Hancock, over the bridge, then back again. It seemed like nearly all these vehicles were large; large engines, large tires, heavy trucks.

Once the parade began those around me shouted and waved to friends who were participants in the parade. I watched a stream of private vehicles and (disturbingly) heavy equipment trucks. There was obnoxious horn beeping and unnecessary engine revving for what seemed like eternity. There kids riding in the back of pickup trucks and hanging out windows.

When the last cars seemed to have gone across the bridge people started to disperse. There was no clear indication of what was "parade" and what was likely a stream of Trump supporters possibly heading home across the bridge or (worse) following the parade to it's next destination. Following my activist daughter's advice, I checked to make sure I wasn't followed as I walked home after the parade. Many vehicles with Trump flags and signs were parked at local businesses and restaurants.

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

Yes

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

The loud air horns and beeping combined with revving motor vehicles made me feel

unsafe. I felt that many of the participants were provoking protesters with aggressive driving, speeding up and quickly braking. The revving engines were clearly an aggressive tactic intended to intimidate.

My feeling about the "parade" is that the overall result was to intimidation, not "celebration," as the organizers promoted and maybe even intended. Motor vehicles used in this aggressive way are frightening. **THE ABILITY FOR A MOTOR VEHICLE TO BE USED AS A WEAPON IS NO DIFFERENT THAN IF THE "PARADE" WAS COMPRISED OF INDIVIDUALS WALKING WHILE BRANDISHING LOADED GUNS.**

To call it a "parade" was extremely misleading. Using the streets of our community for this aggression was dangerous and authorities at Michigan Tech and the City of Houghton should have vetted the entire process and disallowed the movement of vehicles through the city. If supporters want to conduct a rally or stage a protest, weapons should be left at home, including motor vehicles.

I have since heard streams of trucks passing over the bridge honking and revving in response to Trump supporters stationed on the bridge, waiving flags. There was another such "rally" just a couple of weeks ago, with a string of trucks beeping and revving. It puts me on edge. I can hear it from my home. This is not OK.

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

No

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

Faculty

Response 55:

Where were you during the event held on September 27th?

Stayed home in Calumet.

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed.

I was alarmed, horrified, and deeply saddened that it happened at the Rozsa Center, where I have worked for 11 years. We had staff and students there on site and it interfered with their safety and work. I thought it violated the university commitment to a diverse workplace, a place of welcome to people of all faiths, nationalities, races, sexual orientation, and disabilities. It was ugly and hateful and a gross show of public support for bigots. University property, and my workplace,

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

Yes

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

I was the first person to see this in relation to use of the Rozsa name on Facebook. I told

the people from whom I saw it posted that without university permission they could not use out lot. That the Rozsa staff had no knowledge of this so it could not yet be approved. I was subject to verbal harassment at that time.

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

No

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

Staff

Response 56:

Where were you during the event held on September 27th?

At the counterprotest on the side of the road holding an ace pride flag

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed.

I stood on the corner for several hours getting jeered at, saw people steal country flags out of other folks's yards, lots of people hanging out of trucks in very unsafe manners

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

Yes

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

I got called slurs and had friends threatened with rape

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

Yes

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

Student

Response 57:

Where were you during the event held on September 27th?

I was at home in Minnesota for a funeral.

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed.

I was scared for my peers up in Houghton because I know the biases Trump supporters have with BIPOC. I wasn't here personally but seeing images/snapchats online made me scared to come back to Houghton. The image that really got to me was the monkey attached to the front of a car at the rally. It was obviously an attack on our fellow African Americans in the community. Also, one of my peers was harassed on Instagram after posting her opinions on the Trump rally.

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

No

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

Yes

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

Student

Response 58:

Where were you during the event held on September 27th?

At my home near Houghton.

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed.

n/a

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

No

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

n/a

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

No

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

Staff & Student

Response 59:

Where were you during the event held on September 27th?

I was at my apartment as well as accidentally caught in the middle of the parade as they were driving.

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed.

I knew there was a Trump parade going on so I avoided leaving my apartment that day. I had to drive to Hancock and got caught driving in the middle of the parade. Since there were so many cars and people honking/driving slowly to wave around flags I was in the traffic for about 10 minutes.

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

Yes

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

While on the bridge, I had my windows rolled down and was being yelled at and called slurs

from the car next to me.

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

Yes

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

Student

Response 60:

Where were you during the event held on September 27th?

I was part of the counter protest, but I spent most of my time in the Trump supporter crowd talking to the people. I started off the day in the parking lot of the Rozsa talking to the people as they prepared for the parade.

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed.

I started the day in the Trump parade at the parking lot. I parked in the middle and when people started to gather I went about to talk to them about why they supported Trump. I did wear makeup and dressed in pink. I talked to them and reported to the officers there when they tried to drive off with not only students and adults, but children in the back of the pickup trucks. After this, I went to the bridge and continued to talk to people. Mostly bringing up Christian ideology because I was raised as a missionary. I just spent the time trying to talk to everyone. No one I met wore masks.

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

Yes

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

No one wore masks and they grabbed my shoulders and arms at times while talking even as I asked them not to. One of them told me to, "fuck off back where you came from tranny". They did this after trying to hit me in the parking lot with a truck while I talked to another member of the parade. I was regarded with open hostility and middle fingers. One person tried to take my mask off and called me a bootlicker. When I was at the bridge, there was a man who spit in my face and said, "faggots have no right to talk to me. fuck off".

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

Yes

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

Student

Response 61:

Where were you during the event held on September 27th?

Counter protesting the rally on the portage bridge.

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed.

I heard about the event and contacted the university, specifically the president and dean, regarding it, making multiple points about the tone and purpose of the rally, as well as numerous COVID 19 safety concerns. I only received a response from President Koubek, and it was impersonal and didn't address any concerns. I decided to attend a counter-protest on the bridge, and witnessed numerous LEOs casually talking and laughing with the Trump supporters (multiple of which were not wearing masks). Aside from the fact that Donald Trump has ran his presidency on homophobia, transphobia, xenophobia, etc. The size of the event violated COVID-19 safety concerns, and MTU was complacent in letting it happen. I get the university is in a tough spot trying to be apolitical and allow expression, but they have a responsibility to not allow/spread hate and deadly virus on their campus, and they've failed at both.

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

No

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

I answered no BUT - As a member of the LGBT+ community I didn't feel welcome in the community.

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

No

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

Student

Response 62:

Where were you during the event held on September 27th?

For the duration of the event, I stood outside of the southern entrance to Fisher Hall. I later walked eastward along 41. I was at this location due to

leaving my job at the same time that the event began, and decided to remain and document it.

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed.

I remained at the event for approximately a half hour, after which I believed it to be more or less over. A large number of vehicles, most of which were sporting "Trump 2020" or "MAGA" signs, flags, or other displays of support, proceeded westward through campus on 41. Many of these vehicles created loud noises or had their occupants yelling at people along the path.

On the side of 41 opposite to Wadsworth Hall, a group of student "counter-protesters" were gathered, holding "Black Lives Matter" and Rainbow Pride flags.

There was some friction between this student group and the main "rally/parade" group. I was not close enough to document anything that was said, but I was close enough to document some of the events that happened, which are shown in the attached video, documenting my entire experience, and much of the event itself.

Although I am going to respond "yes" to the question asking if I would be willing to talk to the committee, I would prefer not to if possible, because I would not like to be dragged into any kind of hearing relating to politics on campus, I believe that my attached video can speak for itself, and I do not have much more to add to it, aside from answering any specific questions the committee may have.

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

Yes

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

The first thing that made me feel unsafe was a group of people in a single vehicle yelling at

me to remove my mask. This made me feel unsafe because we are in the middle of an

unprecedented pandemic, and I am attempting to do my duty to keep myself and those around me safe in its midst by wearing a mask. Although I was outside, I still wanted to be cautious.

The second thing that made me feel unsafe was the general yelling that occurred. As it has been quite some time since the event took place, I am unable to remember any exact details of what was said, but I remember loud yelling, honking, and other noise that interrupted the calm of the afternoon, and appeared to be at times directed at specific members of the community. In my opinion, this was a mild inconvenience, but I feel it is important to include as something that gave me a slight feeling of being unsafe and unwelcome.

The third and most important thing that made me feel unsafe were the two separate occasions I witnessed (and videotaped, I believe this occurs at approximately 20 minutes into the attached video) where vehicles in the parade "rolled coal" on the student group. I thought about reporting this to the local authorities, as I have heard mixed things about it being a crime to do so, but I was unsure and therefore did not pursue that option. If you are unfamiliar with "rolling coal," it is purposefully blowing excess exhaust from your vehicle over people or other vehicles.

A minority of the vehicles also included imagery or displays that are, in my opinion, hate speech or hate speech adjacent, including the confederate flag, and one specific vehicle that had a human-sized stuffed monkey strapped to its front bumper, but I shall allow the video to show that.

I am unsure if I observed violations of COVID-19 protocols, as this was a while ago, so I shall answer no, though looking through the video could show some if closely watched.

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

No

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

Student

Response 63:

Where were you during the event held on September 27th?

Working from home in Hancock, MI

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed.

A slow caravan of vehicles crawled through my neighborhood, blaring their horns the entire time. Vehicles were dressed up with militaristic flags. The event disrupted my work and my partner's writing. I went into the basement to insulate myself from the noise. We think the disruption continued for about an hour. The caravan later returned to cross the bridge some time later, making just as much noise and moving just as slowly.

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

Yes

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

The event itself was designed to intimidate and display a show of political force: blaring car

horns, slow cars causing protracted disruptions, and militaristic banners. This was not designed to include others. It was designed to frighten opposers and marshal supporters. This event directly contradicted MTU's commitment to inclusion. The students staying in the dorms I am in contact with told me they contacted the police about the highly disruptive noise. The police refused to step in. This made them feel trapped. One gender fluid student told me she left campus to get away, and was shouted at by participants as she tried to enter a

coffee shop. Afterward, she began considering options for leaving MTU. We were shocked that MTU allowed a xenophobic, white supremacist hate group to convene on their property--the message to students and employees was that MTU was condoning and even legitimizing this rhetoric. At the very least, there could have been a counter-event to balance campus's political involvement.

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

No

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

Staff

Response 64:

Where were you during the event held on September 27th?

At home in Hancock and riding my bike in Hancock.

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed.

I saw and heard constant honking for over an hour and saw trucks with flags driving around town.

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

Yes

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

The general tone of the parade was loud and obnoxious. Some of the flags were confederate or had similar symbolism on them; for anyone aware of the history of such symbols they represent racism, white supremacy, and threats of violence. Many people who are ideologically aligned with Trump subscribe to such racist and anti-democratic beliefs.

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

Yes

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

Faculty

Response 65:

Where were you during the event held on September 27th?

Driving back to campus from Copper Harbor along Highway 41 until MacInnes Drive. I was not a participant in the parade, although I was in the middle of a group of parade participants while driving back to campus.

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed.

I encountered the parade around Calumet and was in the middle of a group of parade members throughout my entire drive back to Houghton from Calumet. From Calumet until the lift bridge there was a lot of people along the side of 41 waving American flags, Trump flags, and cheering the parade. I personally didn't see any Confederate flags throughout the entire time I was driving, although I have heard secondhand that there were a few being flown behind

some trucks. In general, when the parade wasn't in Houghton I didn't see anything negative.

Once I got to the lift bridge, I saw people protesting the parade. The first (and most memorable due to its size and profanity) sign I saw was a large "Fuck Trump" sign that was easily readable from the Hancock side of the lift bridge. Getting closer, I was able to see a large group of what appeared to mostly be Tech students grouped very closely together on the sidewalk right by the beginning of the Yooper loop. To the best of my ability, I can remember that there were several black students who appeared to be making the black power fist, there were multiple other signs with various messages including protesting Trump (some using profanity or simply calling Trump rude things), Biden-Harris signs, other signs/flags showing support for more left-leaning politicians and a few rainbow flags, as well as a number of protestors chanting and shouting at traffic. I didn't roll my windows down as I was driving past, however I was able to hear several insults being yelled at traffic (presumably directed at those participating in the parade, however from my experience it didn't seem like any effort was made to distinguish between normal traffic and parade participants), including many uses of "Fuck", and a lot of rude gestures made towards traffic including middle fingers. In addition, there was a protestor taking pictures who stepped into the road by the Yooper loop, almost directly in front of my car. There were several others who were very close to stepping into the road as well since they were packed fairly tightly into the sidewalk as far as I could tell.

I didn't see what the parade participants around me were doing as I went by the lift bridge, although many of the vehicles I saw were clearly driven by community members and many of them had children with them in their vehicles.

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

Yes

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

Several protestors on the sidewalk by the lift bridge were stepping or almost stepping into the road by the Yooper loop, and there were multiple inappropriate things being yelled towards traffic that could be perceived as a threat towards those in traffic based on the clear amount of anger and in some cases hatred that could be heard in the shouts.

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

No

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

Student

Response 66:

Where were you during the event held on September 27th?

I was biking around town and the countryside.

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed.

I was on a long bike ride for September 27 and biked in front of MTU when I saw a large gathering of trucks with US flags, and blue and back striped flags. People were walking around without masks and others honking their horns. Later on my bike ride, the caravan passed me going very fast and honking their horns and nearly driving me off the road.

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

Yes

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

I feel threatened when people are not wearing masks. US flags on the back of pickup trucks

threaten me especially when they are also flying the blue and black striped flags. I feel very threatened while biking when cars pass me at high speeds without giving me space on the road.

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

Yes

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

Faculty

Response 67:

Where were you during the event held on September 27th?

my home in houghton

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed.

I was proud of the exercise of free speech. The nonviolent nature was in stark contrast to left-wing looting and violence we have seen elsewhere in the country.

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

No

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

The asymmetry in behavior and hate between left and right is incredible.

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

No

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

Faculty

Response 68:

Where were you during the event held on September 27th?

Driving back into town

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed.

Trump supporters driving through Houghton, screaming, honking, making a scene. Gatherings/protests with no social distancing or masks

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

Yes

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

During a global pandemic, the congregating and protests without social distancing and masks made me feel vulnerable

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

Yes

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

Student

Response 69:

Where were you during the event held on September 27th?

I was running errands in Houghton/Hancock and then left town to go to Marquette, passing the congregating masses of Trump supporters in the Rozsa lots.

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed.

In the morning, prior to leaving town, I was driving to Walgreens and passed several shouting individuals from their trucks/cars - yelling Trump rhetoric at anyone they passed and honking loudly. There were hubs of vehicles all over Houghton - in parking lots and in lines in traffic. As I passed the Rosza lots (probably within an hour of the rally start), I was struck by the number of vehicles that were present, people congregating in the lots without face masks, individuals in the beds of trucks shouting, tractor trailers honking loudly (and other horns that were not vehicle horns). It was so distracting and shocking, that I watched as multiple cars coming in and going out of the lot almost were in accidents - in which I even nearly rearended someone turning up toward McNair hall and the traffic was really congested and people were crossing the streets - or hanging next to tractor trailers on the side of the highway (not even in the lots). It was a lot.

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

Yes

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

There was a lot of excessive honking (and loud 16 wheeler honking), peeling out or tire

smoking, folks shouting at passing cars, excessively loud horns that were not car horns, and a lot of unsafe driving (getting really close to the rearending one another and such), and truly just the overwhelming congregating ALL

around town, not just on campus - with people shouting and being aggressive in their driving and then seeing individuals not adhering to the COVID19 restrictions - it all made me feel incredibly unsafe and anxious.

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

Yes

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

Staff

Response 70:

Where were you during the event held on September 27th?

Running errands and then in my apartment near campus

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed.

I got home to my apartment as the event was starting and only saw people gathering to begin the event. Most of what I saw after that was shared by my friends who live on campus, and then later in the event, my friends who lived in Hancock. Most of them were distraught by how loud and disruptive the event was. One was called a f*ggot by a participant in a pickup truck.

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

Yes

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

All it takes to make marginalized people feel unsafe is knowing that such a large and vocal

portion of their institution supports this administration and its heinous human rights violations. Expressing support of an administration whose actions have a death toll is no longer "just an opinion," it's an attack on people who have been victimized by the Trump administration. Lest we forget, the Trump administration has allowed 200k+ COVID-19 deaths by dismissing the virus's severity, separation of migrant parents and children at the border, forced sterilization of migrant women, murder and severe injury of racial justice protestors by police, attempts to legislate transgender people out of existence, encouragement of white nationalist conspiracy theories, and the repeal of 100+ climate change safeguards, just to scratch the surface. When marginalized people and their allies see "Trump 2020" signs, we see support for an administration that is responsible for unimaginable amounts of pain. There is no such thing as a "peaceful" gathering when you're supporting oppression.

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

No

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

Student

Response 71:

Where were you during the event held on September 27th?

In my dorm, but went down to support protestors against the rally for a little bit.

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed.

When I walked down, I was with my roommate and a couple of our friends and we were standing near the LED sign outside the Walker/Rozsa building in the Walker lawn. I do not remember the time but it was around midday to mid-afternoon. We experienced somebody getting bumped by one of the pickup trucks in the parade. There were 3 people in the median of the road wearing "Blue Lives Matter" and "Trump 2020" clothes and they verbally harassed individuals holding an LGBTQ+ pride flag a few times. None of the individuals in the grass median were wearing masks, but everybody protesting against the truck rally was wearing covers.

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

Yes

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

I needed to cross the road in order to get to Wadsworth Dining Hall for food, and a truck participating in the rally sped up as I began to cross the street.

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

Yes

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

Student

Response 72:

Where were you during the event held on September 27th?

I was in my home, in Houghton

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed.

I live 2 blocks away from College Ave. Being from a minority, I didn't feel safe walking in my neighborhood, nor town that day. I feel threatened by the aggressive discourse Trump and his supporters have shown the past 4 years. It's a fact that violence against minorities has significantly increased in Michigan, and the UP is not isolated in that. I know of POC having been insulted and followed around town, other days than Sept. 27th. For that reason, I decided to stay home. On the other hand, realizing the institution I work in, that calls itself diverse, allowed the rally to start in its premises, was disappointing. I understand the legal reasons adduced, however between allowing the event to happen and providing safety on campus, MTU chose to allow it to happen.

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

No

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

No

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

Faculty

Response 73:

Where were you during the event held on September 27th?

At home - I am deeply offended that the univ. senate president (and others on this campus) referred to supporters and participants as "white supremacists". Like it or not, Donald J. Trump is still the sitting president of the UNITED States of America. (And, reminder, this university enjoys a liberal amount of funding through federally-funded research grants.) That is inflammatory defamation of character to attack law abiding citizens and galvanize against your opponents. I don't see any "diversity of thought" or "inclusion" by labeling and judging harshly people you don't agree with politically. If the objective is unity and civility, this is no way to approach integration. This committee thinks it has perfect consensus on campus and a "mandate" to run with this blatant abuse of power, but that is not accurate. Where is the text box for respondents to provide their candid comments about how your committee is addressing this important issue? BIAS paints both ways. Consider your own before attacking your colleagues.

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed.

I wasn't aware of the event until the university senate meeting later that week. I was appalled at the verbal outrage delivered by the senate president. It was completely out of proportion to the actual event.

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

No

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

No

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

Faculty

Response 74:

Where were you during the event held on September 27th?

In my room, median in the road

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed.

I first saw the cars driving through campus from my room and I decided to walk down to the road and take some pictures to document it.

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

No

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

No

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

Student

Response 75:

Where were you during the event held on September 27th?

Yes

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed.

I stood outside of Wadsworth Hall on Walker Lawn with a nonbinary flag. I was there for about two hours. I was called many names, including bitch, cunt, and whore. I was also told that I am "a liberal deserving of rape"

There were many cars that drove by with their horns blaring for long distances, trucks blowing black smoke in front of us, and it just felt like there were cars going by for hours.

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

Yes

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

I was told I deserved to be raped.

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

Yes

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

Student

Response 76:

Where were you during the event held on September 27th?

on campus for a portion

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed.

It was a great experience

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

Yes

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

Many people near wads had signs with very hateful messages, and constantly invited me

do do impossible things, like fuck myself. They screamed at me and made unfounded accusations. They also stopped my vehicle by crossing the street, then turning around and crossing the other way.

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

Yes

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

Staff

Response 77:

Where were you during the event held on September 27th?

At home

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed.

Stayed home to avoid being harassed

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

Yes

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

Proud boys parading through town with flags intimidating others who don't think like them

made me reconsider using my free speech to display political signs due to safety considerations for my home and family

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

Community Member

Response 78:

Where were you during the event held on September 27th?

Rozsa

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed.

I was leaving the Rozsa parking lot and drove past the event held in the adjacent parking lot. Lots of people standing around without a mask.

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

No

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

Yes

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

Student

Response 79:

Where were you during the event held on September 27th?

Working in my office.

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed.

I was not aware of any event.

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

No

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

No

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

Faculty

Response 80:

Where were you during the event held on September 27th?

Driving through Houghton/Hancock.

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed.

Other than having to wait a bit for traffic, nothing earth shattering.

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

No

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

No

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

Staff

Response 81:

Where were you during the event held on September 27th?

Downtown Houghton

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed.

Lots of big pickup trucks and logging trucks with American flags and trump flags. Lots of people riding in the bed of the pickup trucks screaming and yelling, "Trump!," "Four more years," etc. Lots of aggressive attitudes towards bystanders on the street.

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

Yes

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

It was a very emotionally charged event. People were yelling and honking vigorously. Some of the passengers in the beds of the pickup trucks had water guns and were spraying people giving thumbs down, or counter protesting with Biden-Harris signs, or other contrary messaging. I had the sense that some of the participants were actively seeking a confrontation with counter protestors. Few if any of the participants were wearing masks or practicing social distancing.

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

No

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

Community Member

Response 82:

Where were you during the event held on September 27th?

In my room

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed.

I was trying to study for an exam I had the following week. My house is downtown, where all of the honking happened. I could not focus, the honking went on for at least a half hour. The rally took valuable time away from my studies. The fact that Tech was the one to allow this is not ok.

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

No

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

Yes

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

Student

Response 83:

Where were you during the event held on September 27th?

On campus

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed.

Nothing abnormal. Well organized and strong/visible oversight by Public Safety,

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

No

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

No

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

Response 84:

Where were you during the event held on September 27th?

Watching the parade

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed.

Witnessed American citizens celebrating the country and the president

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

No

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

The right-wing group held a parade celebrating the USA and the president of the USA. I did

witness some hate from people that weren't pleased with what was going on (left-wing protestors). They had vulgar language on signage, they were yelling obscenities, and giving inappropriate gestures to people in the parade (flipping them off).

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

No

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

Response 85:

Where were you during the event held on September 27th?

At home

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed.

I was at my home and not out to see it

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

No

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

No

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

Faculty

Response 86:

Where were you during the event held on September 27th?

Near 41 west

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed.

Havin fun with the goons in overzealously decorated compensation trucks

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

No

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

No

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

Student

Response 87:

Where were you during the event held on September 27th?

Sitting at my computer

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed.

The horns were annoying

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

No

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

No

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

Student

Response 88:

Where were you during the event held on September 27th?

In my apartment downtown

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed.

There were way too many horns. My cat was actually panicking about them and remained panicked for hours after it was over, as well as the hour in which it took them to drive. I saw pictures from my friends snapchats that they were attending the rally closer to the school and the bridge to counterprotest and they had people shouting at them and swearing at them, calling them names as well

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

Yes

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

The presence of people who seemed to want to use intimidation to make people conform to ideals like racism

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

No

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

Student

Response 89:

Where were you during the event held on September 27th?

On campus

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed.

I did not know it was even happening

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

No

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

No

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

Student

Response 90:

Where were you during the event held on September 27th?

I was at home in Hancock with my wife and daughter, and then we left our home to drive up the peninsula for a day trip.

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed.

Right before we left our house (which is near 41) we began hearing a lot of repeated horn honks, and this continued for probably at least 30 to 60 minutes. Myself, my wife, my daughter, and our dog and cat got in our car, left our house, and when we go to 41 we witnessed a constant parade of vehicles driving south on 41 and honking their horns. Most, if not all, of these vehicles had multiple people inside each vehicle ranging in age from older adults to young children. Many, if not all, of these vehicles were decorated with some or all of the following: Trump/Pence 2020 flag, confederate flag, American flag, and Trump/Pence signage and writing. At this point our car was at the corner of 41 and Elevation St, and we were preparing to turn north onto 41, while the parade of vehicles was driving south. My wife got out of our car and stood on the side of 41 holding a sign that said "stop racism". While she was holding this sign multiple people from this parade of vehicles yelled at her and flicked

her off while she stood there calmly. My daughter, who is 4, was very concerned and confused about why people were being so mean, and I tried to explain this difficult situation to her. After about 5 to 10 minutes my wife got back in our car and we drove north up 41. The parade of vehicles was still happening and as we drove along 41 we saw multiple/several groups of people standing on the side of the road in support of the parade of vehicles. We also witnessed multiple instances of non-parade vehicles heading south on 41 and being stuck amongst the parade vehicles, and with the drivers/passengers looking very uncomfortable.

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

Yes

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

For the last four years, and for many years before that, Donald Trump has supported and propagated, among many things, racism, sexism, xenophobia, hate, etc. And for someone to support him they must at minimum acknowledge that they are supporting that, if not completely, openly supporting it themselves. On Sep 27 I saw a huge mass of people in support of hate that I feel is the antithesis to the values of America, and directly impacts me, my family, my friends, my community, etc. I feel that I am surrounded by a local community/culture that is opposed to the well-being of so many. I already felt this way, but it is even more amplified now.

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

No

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

Student

Response 91:

Where were you during the event held on September 27th?

At the counter-protest for the event

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed.

I was at the counter protest, near the bridge downtown, for pretty much the entire duration of the event. There was mostly a lot of honking and shouting, although some people took it a step further. There were participants in the parade who blew air horns at us, and many were shouting profanities. Additionally, a few individuals rolled coal on us.

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

Yes

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

I attended the protest with a female friend, as she hadn't wanted to go alone. At one point a man driving a vehicle past shouted at her specifically. I didn't catch all of what he said, but he very clearly said "rape you".

Additionally, the Trump supporters who came out on foot to hold signs on the other side of the street from us were not wearing masks. Several of them came over to talk to us. While they were not being physically threatening in any way, there were still not wearing masks, while every member of our group was. Some of the police officers overseeing the protests were also not wearing masks, and some even took their masks off to talk to the maskless protestors.

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

Student

Response 92:

Where were you during the event held on September 27th?

Was driving on the road coming back from volunteering with an elder with Little Brothers Friends of the Elderly, this was after most of the event was over.

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed.

Was not involved in the event, was driving on the road coming back from volunteering with an elder with Little Brothers Friends of the Elderly after most of the event was over and the incident described below occurred...

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

Yes

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

A young man in a car almost hit me while I was driving just so they could swerve up through

traffic to catch up to and scream negatively at some Trump supporters. The man while swerving through traffic almost hit at least 4 vehicles ahead of me (this was on the main drag of Montezuma Ave coming out of downtown). Then they cut off the Trump supporters by swerving in front of them, slamming on their brakes in front of all the cars on the straight arrow one way to College Ave, got out of their car, and started yelling at people with Trump stuff on their cars. That man could have easily caused an car crash and was lucky that no one got hurt because of his reckless actions.

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

No

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

Student

Response 93:

Where were you during the event held on September 27th?

Coming home from church, homework in my apartment, grocery shopping

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed.

I was coming home from church (Houghton Baptist), driving my boyfriend, a friend from India, and a friend from Rwanda. We were seeing a bunch of cars waving Trump flags as they drove around the area. We stopped at Walmart for my friend to run inside and pick some things up. Driving home, both friends were appalled at what was going on, and on the way to drop my friend from Rwanda off at his place, he said, "There are sure a lot of Trump supporters here," to which I replied, "Not everyone is." And burst into tears.

The day was highly emotional for me. I saw many of my own classmates flock to the bridge to counter the rally. I saw many cars with multiple flags blaring their horns, pulling out way too quickly and driving aggressively. Giant semis waving flags, tons of people yelling out windows. Relentless honking. All from the Trump supporters. I did see one F*** Trump sign on the bridge, but other than that I did not see any abusive language from the students. People driving were mostly white men, although there were some wives (no females driving alone that I saw) and sometimes a small kid in the back. I don't recall seeing any college or high school aged students.

Later, my friend from Rwanda moved out of Hancock and to Nebraska for the time being because he was harrassed his way home from campus one day (not this day, I think) and is too scared to go out now. He didn't tell the police or public safety.

I am now at home in Grand Rapids for a few reasons, but one is that I couldn't handle the climate in Houghton/Hancock. My mental health was going downhill rapidly, as I can't understand why people believe hate is ok.

Also, some pictures can be found on the MTU reddit page around the time of the event. I have videos from the second rally. email me if those are wanted.

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

Yes

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

For sure; we have a Black Lives Matter flag on our apartment, and we have been making

sure everything is locked and closed throughout the day. We are trying to figure out if we should take it down now that Trump didn't win the election because we are concerned about our safety; but we also want to show our support for different communities.

I am embarrassed of my community, embarrassed and confused that people who call themselves Christian can publicly flaunt flags that are regarded as hate flags in our current political climate, embarrassed that somebody might think that I believe the same thing as what these people presented to be the the "overwhelming majority" of the ideas of people in this area. I am embarrassed, hurt, and frustrated that so many people look to profit on their own and can't understand the importance of others. I am proud of the response of my peers - if there was any hateful speech, excluding that, but the fact that my peers stood up for the safety of our brothers and sisters when the community wanted to strike fear.

I hate seeing my classmates so distressed, fearing for their own safety. I wonder what the response of the community will be in January. Our house got egged, and we didn't know if that was because of our flag or because some kids wanted to have fun. If it was because of our flag, what might that mean when Biden becomes president? I'm scared for how Trump's followers, the vocal ones, seem to have no regard for the well being of others.

Yes, some people voted for Trump not out of hate for LGBTQ+ or non-white Americans, but for other reasons and are ashamed about the leader that represents their political views (but find their political views to be more important than the safety of others or the hate culture that has been built, or are just uneducated about what Trump has done/uneducated about the lives of others). But those who proudly boast about their support for Trump...there is something totally wrong and terror-striking about that. Absolutely. I can't believe that this was not shut down immediately, coming from a school that protects its people. I understand people have the right of free speech, but not when it's taking away someone's dignity in the way this event did. I also heard there was very little presence of officers or public safety, if any. Intolerable. At any rally.

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

No

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

Student

Response 94:

Where were you during the event held on September 27th?

At Brockway mountain, I heard it was happening so we left town.

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed.

I saw a few snap stories of the event and we were honked at by people on our way back into town. Me and my roomie were a frightened by the display.

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

Yes

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

The amount of people that showed up...

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

No

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

Student

Response 95:

Where were you during the event held on September 27th?

Driving over the bridge.

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed.

I was driving over the bridge coming back into town from a trip at the very tail end of this event (I believe the rally was coming back from Calumet across the bridge at this point). As I drove over, those protesting the rally were screaming profanities at cars driving by. I had people trying to get out onto the bridge shaking their fists, etc as I innocently drove by.

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

Yes

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

I did not feel my property (my vehicle) was very safe. And felt bad for any innocent families

driving by with children in the car. I wanted to share this as the only stories I have heard about the rally were pitting the rally participants as the only ones causing violence and unrest. This is not true and I hope the committee looking at this will be mindful of this as they look at campus policies.

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

No

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

Staff

Response 96:

Where were you during the event held on September 27th?

at my home near campus

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed.

I was attempting to avoid the chaos, but the noise was deafening and incredibly disruptive

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

Yes

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

I was concerned that the involved parties may start vandalizing houses with political signs

that did not align with their own beliefs, or deface my church which has a Pride flag in the front

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

Yes

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

Student

Response 97:

Where were you during the event held on September 27th?

At home

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed.

I saw multiple reports on social media where minority students had planned to simply walk from campus to downtown but they were intimidated by shouting, horns, and ethnic/transphobic slurs directed towards them by this 'political event'. Many of them were starting to reconsider their safety in our community and were reaching out to social media to find out if this was a common occurrence in the community.

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

No

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

No

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

Response 98:

Where were you during the event held on September 27th?

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church on College Avenue

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed.

I was at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church on September 27, 2020 from 1:30 - 5:00 p.m. I am a member of the Cooperative Campus Ministry and we were sponsoring our annual Progressive Social for students. It's an opportunity for students to experience food, faith and fellowship between the partnering faith based organizations (Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, St. Al's Parish, Portage Lake United Church, Temple Jacob, Keweenaw Unitarian Universalists, Canterbury House). During my time at Good Shepherd on September 27th, I was able to observe the entire vehicle parade. The only negative thing I witnessed was a college-age female, whom I assume lives a couple doors down from the church, yelling, "F*** Trump" and other derogatory comments at the passing vehicles.

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

No

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

No

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

Staff

Response 99:

Where were you during the event held on September 27th?

At home

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed.

I live a few block from campus. For at least an hour, I could here vehicles using horns, whistles, people screaming, and loud radios playing. Unfortunately, I had to drive by that area and people were not following social distancing or wearing masks. I was embarrassed for MTU that we aloud this to occur.

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

No

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

Yes

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

Staff

Response 100:

Where were you during the event held on September 27th?

On my way to Wadsworth Dining Hall

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed.

As I walked down from McNair, I was met with what was the start of a Trump rally. At this point it was at a stand still as cars were unable to move due to the traffic caused by this rally. As I walked I received all types of stares and looks from Trump supporters and as one of the few black kids in this school, I did as much as I could to avoid eye contact with many of these supporters who also happened to carry confederate flags as well as blue lives matter flags which made it that much more uncomfortable. I was outside for about 6 to 7 minutes in total as I walked back and forth from McNair to Wads.

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

Yes

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

I just felt really uncomfortable even going down but I knew I had to grab food. I went down

and attempted to walk all the way to Wads as quickly as I could. Seeing Trump, Confederate and Blu Lives Matter flags was especially uncomfortable and I genuinely felt unsafe as I walked by and people in their cars stared at me the whole way.

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

No

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

Student

Response 101:

Where were you during the event held on September 27th?

Lining up in the Trump Parade in the Rozsa parking lot

Please tell us about your experience in relation to the event that originated on campus on September 27th, 2020. Please share relevant details including location, length of time, and incidents you witnessed.

The event was a very positive experience. When we arrived in the parking lot, it was orderly and controlled. People were very positive and excited about the event. Most people were not wearing masks, however they were social distancing by staying in or around their cars.

Did you experience anything that made you feel unsafe during the event on September 27th?

No

If yes, please elaborate on your previous response.

The only incidents that I observed were "anti-Trump" bystanders that were protesting the event with vulgar, negative signs (Fuck Trump, He's a Racist, etc.) and flipping off people in the parade. Those protesters also yelled profanity at the parade attendees. I saw video of protesters damaging cars with their signage and by throwing things at the cars in the parade. I did not witness any of this type of behavior from the parade participants.

Did you observe violations of COVID-19 protocols on campus property?

No

What is your affiliation with the university? (optional)

Staff

Appendix G: Documents

Document 1: Initial questions sent to Brian Cadwell, Director and Chief of Michigan Tech Public Safety. Brian Cadwell answers are in red.

1. Please walk us through the timeline leading up to the event on September 27th.
 - a. How did you originally learn of the event?

I received an email from Jared Anderson on Wednesday, September 23rd. David Hemmer had seen a post on Facebook advertising the event and he had sent it to Jared.
 - b. On what date was the event approved?

9-24-2020
 - c. What, if any, other offices on campus did you coordinate with?

I contacted Transportation Services to see if the requested parking lot was available. I also had conversations with John Lehman and Sarah Schulte.

 - i. Was the office of government relations consulted prior to approval of this event?

No, I did not confer with Bill Kordenbrock.
 - d. Was this event thought of as a political demonstration?

This was a request to use university grounds to line up for a parade. The group obviously had a political interest.
 - e. Who was the event organizer(s) you communicated with?

The organizer's name is Naomi Leukuma.

 - i. What forms of communication did you use (phone, email, etc.)?

Phone and email.
 - ii. How many times did you communicate with the event organizer(s)?

Twice by email and once by phone.
 - iii. Who initiated the first contact between the event organizer and yourself?

I contacted her after learning of the event to advise her of the requirement to complete the proper form.
 - f. Please include documentation of all communication exchanged with event organizers, this can include but not limited to, emails, text messages, and notes from phone calls.
2. Was this approval process the same as all previous requests handled by your department?

Yes. After receiving the request, I verified that the requested location was available.

 - a. Is it standard for Public Safety to solicit an external group to fill out an event application or appropriate paperwork prior to receiving an event request?

Off-campus groups are typically unaware of the requirement to file a request to use the campus grounds. On those occasions, informing them of the process is necessary.
3. Who was assigned to patrol for the event?

Brian Cadwell, Reid DeVoge, Marc Geborkoff, Haley Bianucci and Justus Gau.

 - a. Were the assigned officers asked to write a report of their patrol for the event?

There are two brief reports for the event and they are attached.
 - b. If yes, can you share the report(s)?

The reports are attached.
 - c. Was body-camera footage taken? Can it be retrieved?

Yes, there is body camera footage. Footage shows officer walking through lot 10 advising participants not wearing masks to either mask up or distance themselves. It then shows vehicles entering and leaving lot 9. Finally, it shows officer monitoring the parade passing in front of the residence halls.
4. Please walk us through the timeline of the event on September 27th as it occurred on campus in the parking lot:
 - a. When did people begin assembling in the parking lot?

People began to at approximately 12:45 pm

- b. How long did this event last on or near campus? When did the last vehicle leave?
The last vehicle left Cliff Drive and turned onto US-41 at about 2:30 pm
- c. When did officers arrive at the parking lot?
Approximately 12:30 pm
- i. Did staffing change throughout the event? If yes, how?
No, staffing was consistent throughout the event.
- d. Did you witness any violations of campus policy or procedures (safety, COVID-19, etc.) during the event? If so, what were they?
Yes, we did witness some cases of people not wearing masks and not social distancing.
- i. If yes, what violations did you witness?
Yes, we did witness some cases of people not wearing masks and not social distancing.
- ii. If yes, what action was taken to enforce MTU's policy/procedures?
Officers advised those not wearing masks to either stand six feet apart, put on a mask or sit in their vehicles. No one refused to comply when requested to do so.
1. If action was taken, what further action was taken when it became clear that participants were not going to comply with the university's masking and gathering policies?
- e. Did you witness any criminal activity either on campus, or on the portion of US41 that cuts through campus, while this event was taking place?
No.
- f. How many vehicles would you estimate ultimately participated in this event?
Approximately 450-500

5. How many calls for service did the DPSPS receive regarding this event?

There were two calls for service during the event.

- A motorist assist in lot 10 at 1:33 pm
- A report of pedestrians playing chicken with cars in front of Wadsworth Hall at 2:28 pm

- a. Did the unexpected size of this event prevent DPSPS from responding to other calls elsewhere on campus?

No. The personnel assigned to the event were in addition to the regular day shift officer who could still respond to calls for service.

6. Are there changes to the event approval process that you would recommend be made for future on-campus events?

I think that the current process accomplishes the intended goal of allowing groups to use campus grounds, however I believe that the group currently working on the approval process is making headway toward improving the process so that campus constituents are better informed and given preference over outside groups when the same area is requested to be used.

7. Are there changes you would recommend to how events that congregate on campus are managed and patrolled?

Our management of this event was good overall. My staff performed well and in a professional manner. Given that the actual crowd was about 10 times larger than the size predicted by the organizer, we adapted well to the situation. All vehicles were able to safely arrive on campus, park and exit campus with no accidents or injuries. There was no mess left to clean up. We were able to monitor the bottleneck on US-41 in front

of Wadsworth Hall and the regularly scheduled officer was able to respond to complaints.

8. Is there anything else you would like to share that we did not ask about?

The vast majority of participants in this event were overall cordial and respectful, and when advised to mask up or move apart, they did comply. However, I did tell the organizer on the day of the event that the number of participants far exceeded the 40-50 cars that she had stated would be participating. I further advised her that if future events of this nature were held, she needed to consider a different venue, such as the Copper Country Mall parking lot. Since this event, there have been two or three more parades, and they have launched from the mall parking lot.

Document 2: Follow up questions sent to Brian Cadwell, Director and Chief of Michigan Tech Public Safety to expound upon his answer in Document 1. Brian Cadwell answers are in red.

Pursuant to the original question 1D: Were the promoters of the event sent the MTU Peaceful Protest Procedures, or informed of them?

(<https://www.mtu.edu/deanofstudents/voter-information/peaceful-protest-procedures.pdf>)

A. No, they were not. The Peaceful Protest Procedures went on-line on 10/29/20. This event was held on 9/27/20. Pursuant to the original question 1F: Were the organizers required to complete Covid symptom-tracking forms before coming to campus? Are any outside groups?

A. All visitors to campus are required to complete symptom-tracking. This has been in local media, is online, and there are signs on campus to remind individuals.

Pursuant to the original question 3: Where was each officer stationed during the event?

A. Officers were roaming and working in stationary spots as conditions warranted.

Pursuant to the original question 3C: Can we get a copy of the body-camera footage from the event?

A: Yes, I will be placing the video clips on a thumb drive and forwarding it to Josh.

Pursuant to the original question 4D: What is the usual procedure if someone disobeys Covid or noise restrictions on campus after a warning? What are the penalties for noncompliance?

A. Those failing to follow Covid protocol after a warning would be reminded to do so or asked to leave campus. Noise issues would be addressed as they arose.

General question: In the past 5 years, what (if any) events held on campus has Public Safety shut down? On what grounds were they shut down?

A. No events have been shut down.

Document 3: Incident Report 1 from DPSPS

Case Number **2020-001709**



Michigan Tech Police
MICHIGAN TECH - PUBLIC SAFETY & POLICE SERVICES
206 MACINNES DRIVE
HOUGHTON, MI, 49931

Case Report

Reported by: **BIANUCCI, HALEY**

Incident Types Label 9900-8 GENERAL ASSISTANCE : EVENT Incident Disposition
Offender SECURITY

Report Disposition Related Number:

CLEARED/CLOSED 2020-09-27-10675

Report Recorder Manager/Supervisor On Duty Manager/Supervisor Notified

BIANUCCI, HALEY

Incident Occurred Date Incident Occurred End Date Incident Discovered / Called In

09/27/2020 at 12:00 PM 09/27/2020 at 2:30 PM 09/27/2020 at 12:07 PM

Location Specific Location

MICHIGAN TECH. (PARKING LOTS) : LOT 10 US 41 AND LOT 10

Report Synopsis/Overview

Traffic control for the Trump rally

Prepared By: BIANUCCI, HALEY(hbianucci)		Submitted Date 09/27/2020 4:25 PM
Signature	Reviewed By/Date BRITZ, ROY 10/27/2020 1:17 PM	

Document 4: Incident Report 2 from DPSPS

Case Number

2020-001711



Michigan Tech Police
MICHIGAN TECH - PUBLIC SAFETY & POLICE SERVICES
206 MACINNES DRIVE
HOUGHTON, MI, 49931

Case Report

Reported by: DEVOGE, REID

Incident Types Label 9900-8 GENERAL ASSISTANCE : EVENT Incident Disposition
SECURITY

Offender

Report Disposition

CLEARED/CLOSED

Report Recorder
DEVOGE, REID

Manager/Supervisor On Duty

Related Number:

2020-09-27-10683

Manager/Supervisor Notified

Incident Occurred Date

Incident Occurred End Date

Incident Discovered / Called In

09/27/2020 at 2:28 PM

Location

STREETS & ROADS : US 41

Specific Location

IN FRONT OF WADSWORTH HALL

Report Synopsis/Overview

Report of pedestrians playing "chicken" with vehicles. Found to be students just attempting to cross street during parade. Officer Wakeham provided crossing guard duties until the end of parade.

Contact # 1 (COMPLAINANT)

Full Name

ADAM J THARP

Drivers License

M353531220

Drivers License State

Email Address

Age

19

Date of Birth

01/26/2001

Gender

M

Race

W - WHITE

Addresses

Street Number

1701

Street Direction

Street Name

TOWNSEND

Street Type

DRIVE

Apt./Suite

407E

City

HOUGHTON

State

MI

Zip

49931

Country

Address Type

Phones :

(CELL) 906-370-4596

Prepared By:

DEVOGE, REID(RDEVOGE)

Submitted Date

09/28/2020 3:31 PM

Signature

Reviewed By/Date

BRITZ, ROY 10/27/2020 1:14 PM

Document 5: Naomi Leukema’s form to see approval to use the Rozca parking lot for her event.

Timestamp	Name:	Email:	Phone:	Affiliated with a Michigan Technological University entity?	Name of Your Organization (if applicable):	Name and type of event:	Please describe what you intend to do and/or what materials you intend to distribute:	Please describe (be as specific as possible) your requested location for your reservation: (Ex: MUB Circle or Outside Dow main entrance)	Date of Event:
9/24/2020 18:27:36	Naomi Leukema	naomi@mysew crazy.com	9065236253	No		Trump train caravan and back the blue	Just park in the parking lot of the Rozsa so we can leave in an orderly fashion at 2 pm on Sunday 9-27	Just park in the parking lot of the Rozsa	9/27/2020

Additional Date and Time	Do you plan to serve food or beverages at your event?	All persons and groups, both affiliated and unaffiliated with Michigan Technological University, are expected to review and abide by the following policies related to outside grounds use, risk management, and/or promotional materials and food:	Start Time:	End Time:	Please select			
					By checking this box, I acknowledge that I have reviewed and agree to the above policies.	1:30:00 PM	2:30:00 PM	Parking Lot

Document 6: Mining Gazette Coverage

<https://www.mininggazette.com/news/2020/09/cmon-ride-the-train-trump-parade-draws-more-than-600-cars/>

The Daily Mining Gazette

C'mon ride the train: Trump parade draws more than 600 cars

Trump parade draws more than 600 cars



More than 600 cars showed up in support of Presidential Donald Trump Sunday, also drawing about 75 protesters near the Portage Lake Lift Bridge. Cars and trucks flew flags with "Trump 2020," "Keep America Great" and depictions of Trump as Rambo. Some also waved homemade signs or decorated their cars with slogans such as "4 More Years." The cars drove through Houghton, then crossed the bridge to Lake Linden, taking U.S. 41 back through Hancock.

Garrett Neese/Daily Mining Gazette

HOUGHTON — As a show of support for President Donald Trump, more than 600 cars participated in a parade from Houghton to Calumet, drawing a counterprotest of about 75.

"The silent majority is just dying to speak up," said organizer Naomi Leukuma. "President Trump takes a lot of heat every day, and this is a way to show him our support and respect. And if people would review history, there's a really common thread" — communism, she said — that's about to repeat itself."

Leukuma said Trump's biggest accomplishments in his term have been the Mideast peace deals, including recent agreements between Israel, Bahrain and the United Arab Emirates, as well as the continued drop in the Black unemployment rate during Trump's administration prior to the COVID-19 epidemic, hitting a record low of 5.4% in August 2019. (The rate was 13% in August, down from 16.8% in May.)



Garrett Neese/Daily Mining Gazette More than 600 cars showed up in support of Presidential Donald Trump Sunday, also drawing about 75 protesters near the Portage Lake Lift Bridge.

Matt Heikkinen of South Range said Trump had proven his support of the working class, citing lower taxes and the job gains prior to the COVID-19 epidemic. He also contrasted Trump's reduced military conflicts overseas with other recent presidents.

He described the parade as "a real look at the polls."

"I think people should take a look at how many in their own community actually have those same values that they believe are represented by the president, and they're looking forward to another four years as opposed to what we had suffered through previously," he said.

Ralph Sackett of Baraga said his top reasons included his appointment of conservative Supreme Court justices—two so far, and another potentially to come with the nomination Saturday of Amy Coney Barrett. A former law enforcement officer at the Baraga prison, Sackett also credited Trump for strong support for police and the military, in which his wife and their son have both served.

"Promises made, promises kept," he said.



More than 600 cars showed up in support of Presidential Donald Trump Sunday, also drawing about 75 protesters.

Leukuma was not surprised by Sunday's turnout.

"On my business page, I can see how many people reach, but not too many will speak up," she said. "But I know they're looking. People want to defend our freedoms from communism, or the deep state, whatever word you'd like."

Cars met at Michigan Technological University, filling much of the Rozsa Center parking lot and an adjoining lot.

In a statement Friday after criticism regarding the use of Michigan Technological University property as a staging area, the university said approval granted to an external group to use university space should not be regarded as an endorsement.

"Michigan Technological University is a public institution, and our outdoor (and many indoor) spaces are available for public use," Tech said. "Any individual or group may submit a request to use our outside grounds, even if that individual or group is not affiliated with the University. When reviewing those requests, Michigan Tech – in keeping with the First Amendment of the US Constitution – does not discriminate based on viewpoint."



Daver Karnosky/Daily Mining Gazette A logging truck from CJ Transportation in Chassell takes part in a parade for the re-election of President Donald Trump that rolled through downtown Houghton and crossed the Lift Bridge headed for Lake Linden Sunday.

Pro-Trump and anti-Trump viewers also watched along Shelden Avenue in Houghton. By the Portage Lake Lift Bridge, about 75 counterprotesters watched the parade. They held signs such as “Resist Fascism, Resist Trump” and “Unless You’re in the 1%, Donald Trump is Not Your Friend.”

Olivia Torola of Hancock said she feared for the future of the planet if Trump is elected, as well as the erosion of rights for women and the LGBTQ community. She was also appalled at Trump’s push to confirm Barrett with voting for the general election already underway.

“It’s especially hard because we’re seeing people we went to high school with and some of our family members on the wrong side of history through this,” she said. “I hope they realize they’re wrong, but that’s where we are.”

The counterprotest was a way to show that anti-Trump voices also exist in the Upper Peninsula, said her sister Alice Torola, also of Hancock.

“It’s not all these white racists,” she said. “We’re out here trying to fight for rights. We shouldn’t have to, but we’re here and we’ll keep doing it over and over again ... I’m sorry I want you to have free health care.”



EMAIL ADDRESS Daily Newsletter: [Breaking News](#)

Richard Byrd/For the Gazette From semi trucks to Chevrolets, a parade of over 100 vehicles for the re-election of President Donald Trump rolled from a Michigan Tech parking lot across the Lift Bridge to Lake Linden Sunday afternoon. Afterwards a party was held at Chutes and Ladders.

Trump paraders and counterprotesters exchanged words and gestures at the bridge. However, the event was peaceful, Houghton Lt. Nick Roberts said.

“We didn’t realize it was going to be so big, with so many people here,” he said. “We haven’t heard of any injuries or anything like that, so as far as we’re concerned, everybody was able to do what they wanted to do safely.”

Editor’s note: Keep an eye out this week for more parade and protest photos.

Editor’s note: This story has been edited to more accurately reflect the sentiments of Olivia Torola.