




Michigan Tech

Office of the Chief Financial Officer and Senior Vice President for Administration

906-487-1060

Memorandum

TO: Rick Koubek, President 

FROM: Sue Kerry, Chief Financial Officer and Senior Vice President for Administration

DATE: November 5, 2019

RE: University Senate Proposal 5-20

At its meeting on October 9, 2019, the University Senate approved Proposal 5-20, "University Senate in New Employee Orientation."

It is my recommendation that this proposal be approved. Incorporating a component informing new employees about the University Senate during the new employee orientation programming would be an important and beneficial addition to the current program.

I concur do not concur _____ with your recommendation.


Richard Koubek, President

11/5/19
Date



Michigan Tech

University Senate

DATE: October 10, 2019
TO: Richard Koubek, President
FROM: Michael Mullins
University Senate President
SUBJECT: Resolution 5-20
COPIES: Jacqueline E. Huntoon, Provost & Senior VP for Academic Affairs

At its meeting on October 09, 2019, the University Senate approved Proposal 5-20, "University Senate in New Employee Orientation". Feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

The University Senate of Michigan Technological University Proposal

5-20

(Voting Units: All)

“University Senate in New Employee Orientation”

Presented by: Professional Staff Policy Committee

Bryant Weathers (A), Sean Brown (S), Joan Hoffman (A), Rachel Jones (S), Karen Siekas (S)

Background:

A survey of the Senate professional staff constituency in Spring 2019 indicated that only 5% of professional staff members know who their Senator is, 12% have brought an issue to their Senator’s attention, and 79% have never watched or attended a meeting. While 79% were aware the Senate represents them, most felt detached from the Senate and did not know if it represented their concerns. Professional staff members do not seem to fully understand the scope and importance of the Senate, though it represents them on a number of vital issues. This lack of understanding leads to disengagement and dissatisfaction among Senate constituents.

Proposal:

Beginning in January 2020, new employee orientation shall include a component informing new employees about the University Senate. This segment will include the scope, roles, and responsibilities of the University Senate as well as a path for contacting your Senator and getting involved in the Senate yourself. New employees will be provided examples of proposals and common issues that are regularly discussed by the University Senate. The exact contents will be agreed on by the University Senate Executive Committee and presented to the body for approval. The content should be delivered to Human Resources no later than November 2019.