Emergency Resolution of Solidarity with Michigan State University and a Call for a Formal Review of Campus Preparation for Similar Emergencies at Michigan Tech

The Michigan Technological University community mourns with our friends and colleagues at Michigan State University, the community of East Lansing, and the families and loved ones of all those touched by the recent tragedy. The pain and sorrow of losing a friend or loved one or witnessing such a traumatic event can be overwhelming, and we hope that the MSU community finds strength and comfort from each other during this difficult time. Michigan Tech stands in solidarity with MSU, committed to our common ideals. We know our MSU friends and colleagues are defined by their determination, resilience, and optimism that no act of violence can diminish that.

Spartans Will.

So will the Huskies.

Whereas, the time has long passed in the United States when we could stop at expressions of sympathy or outrage against this violence. Although we would prefer to not think about a similar situation occurring here, we cannot pretend that risks are not real or that “it can’t happen here.” Michigan Tech should take this as a call for action, and to provide for the safety of our students, faculty, and staff in the event of a similar attack on our campus.

Therefore, be it resolved by the University Senate, in conjunction with the Undergraduate Student Government, the Graduate Student Government, the Staff Council and the Office of Public Safety and Police Services, that Michigan Technological University review our facilities, practices, institutions, and organizations to evaluate our preparedness for similar events.

This dialog has begun between the University Senate, USG, GSG and the administration on how to prepare for such an unthinkable event here, and we applaud President Koubek’s decision to form a campus and community task force to review Michigan Tech’s safety protocols. Campuses should be safe, welcoming, and respectful to all. We must come together to provide support and care for those impacted by violence and do everything we can to prevent such tragedies in the future.

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