

**Student Commission Meeting  
Thursday, April 11, 2013**

**Present: Dan Bennett, Les Cook, Lynda Heinonen, Judy Klutts, Shreya Kumar, Zachary Mauerman, Mary Mongeau, Rachel Morrison, Margo O'Brien, Kathy Pintar, Kerri Sleeman, Sarah Stoolmiller, Tim Ward, Renee Wells, Margo Woller-Carter**

**Welcome – Margo**

**Updates**

**Plateau Tuition – Les**

Les reported that plateau tuition will be 12-18 credit hours. Students will pay by the credit hour for anything below twelve credits or above eighteen credits. It was questioned if students take more than 18 credits how are they charged? Les reported that they will pay the plateau rate and then by the credit hour.

Les reported that the University will work with students who are not able to take more than 12 credits on an individualized basis.

**Counts at Library – 5:00-7:00 p.m. – Mary**

Mary distributed and reviewed a summary of library patrons during the new extended hours on Friday evening.

Mary reported that the new service has been advertised and questioned if individuals had seen their marketing campaign. Staff and students present indicated they had.

Mary reported that they will continue to monitor for the rest of the semester and will re-access after exams. Mary will report back to the Student Commission if the extended hours will continue in the fall semester.

**New Items**

**Graduating Student Commission Members**

To keep roster updated, please let Lynda know if you are graduating in May.  
([lheinone@mtu.edu](mailto:lheinone@mtu.edu))

**Parking Lot Issues – Margo**

Margo reported the following complaints regarding Lot 34:

- Students have complained that they are unable to find spots between 8:00-10:00 a.m.
- Due to construction five spots have been lost. (*Dan reported that these spots were all given back.*)
- The handicap spot does not have a sign but the lines are painted on pavement. (*Dan will discuss this with George Butvilas.*)

### **Michigan Tech “Confessions”, “Secret Admirers”, and “Crushes”**

Jon questioned if the University monitors these Facebook and Twitter Feeds? Les commented that the University does not monitor but will investigate a situation if something of concern is reported to them. He also commented that he hopes students would report anything they determined to be scary or threatening to the Dean of Students Office.

Dan commented that he hopes students understand that nothing is really confidential or anonymous on the internet.

### **HigherOne – Les**

Les reported that the University had an ongoing partnership with HigherOne but recently discontinued this. He reported that the University is still moving forward with new ID cards for the fall of 2013. Proximity technology, similar to RFID will be used. They are also looking at exploring the idea of a banking option with the new cards.

### **Wahtera Center for Student Success – Les**

Les reported that west half of the first floor of the Administration Building will be remodeled this summer. Construction will begin the week of May 6 and be completed by July 12. This remodel will create the Wahtera Center for Student Success.

### **Tobacco Free – Les**

Les reported that the campus will become tobacco free on September 3, 2013, and reminded committee members that this idea originated in the Student Commission.

### **General Education – Les**

Les reported that the Gen Ed curriculum is changing in the fall of 2013.

### **VISA – Les**

Les reported that the University will begin accepting VISA as payment again.

### **Bus Service/Shuttle Service – Shreya**

Shreya reported that she had received a comment that the City of Houghton bus and the Michigan Tech shuttle bus schedules are too close together. Could they be staggered?

Kerri commented that George Butvilas and City of Houghton representatives are planning to meet to review current schedules and determine what needs to be changed in order to improve both services for the fall semester.

**On-line Course Evaluations – Jon**

Jon reported that the University is moving to on-line course evaluations.

Tim commented that if the University would like to have a better response from students it should be tied to the student's grade. It would be anonymous but instructors would be able to determine if a student had filled out the evaluation.

**Absence Policy – Jon**

Jon reported that the University Senate has approved a change to the University's absence policy. He explained that the changes were mostly clerical but it better articulates and is more explicit about what is considered excused.

**Next Meeting**

After discussion, it was decided to cancel the April 25 meeting. Lynda will set up a meeting for May and August.