

**Student Commission Meeting  
Thursday, October 11, 2012**

**Present: Andre Bonen, Les Cook, Bill Hall, Lynda Heinonen, Margaret Landsparger, Ben Lauseng, Travis Pierce, Lee Sweitz, Chris Wojick, Margo Woller-Carter**

**Welcome – Les and Margo**

**Updates**

**GSG IT Ad Hoc Committee Report – Margo**

Margo reported that the GSG Public Relations Chair is running this committee. Due to the fact that there are number of issues, they have decided to survey the graduate and undergraduate students before contacting the User Services Manager. The survey will be sent to the graduate students (gradstu-l) and USG will determine the best way to contact the undergraduate students.

It was questioned if the committee was going to consult anybody about the survey design. It was suggested that there are evaluators on campus that could give insight. Margo commented that they are currently trying to determine the issues that students have and what their thoughts are but that if it turns out that a more in-depth survey is needed they will probably have it reviewed.

It was questioned as to what the issues are and Margo reported that there are a variety with the top two being lab closures and submitting tickets that don't get resolved.

A couple suggestions included:

- By working with IT they would get the most beneficial results
- Include in the survey the opportunity to voice "what is going right"

Margo will report back to the Student Commission.

**Table Tents – Bill**

Bill reported that there have not been any requests for larger table tents. It was questioned if student know that they have this option? Bill commented that Dining Services would review requests if they received them.

**Punch Card – Bill**

Bill reported that he spoke to the retail manager and there are not any plans to consolidate cards. He reported that the variety of cards seems to work well and they are adding an additional card for the salad area. Currently there is a smoothie, sandwich, and coffee card.

It was questioned if the Tech Express card could be programmed to be your punch card. Margaret will investigate this idea and report at the next meeting.

### **Water Bottle Filling Stations – Andre and Bill**

Andre reported on the cost of water bottle filling stations in the following buildings:

- Walker - \$400
- DOW - \$2,000-\$3,000
- Fisher - \$5,000-6,000

The higher cost in DOW and Fisher are due to location of the current water fountains and what would be needed to be done to retro fit them.

Andre thought cost in Fisher would make prohibitive in being able to place one there and asked for suggestions for alternate sites. It was commented that the Film Board does not have running water for their concessions in Fisher Hall and maybe the two groups could work together to the benefit of both parties.

Andre reported that Kerri Sleeman is responsible for this issue and if members have any suggestions to forward them to Kerri (kasleema@mtu.edu) or Andre (aabonen@mtu.edu).

Bill reported that one of his goals was to do more for students regarding hydration stations. He reported that 900 water bottles were distributed to potential students at Preview Day. Bill also gave each member present one of the Michigan Tech water bottles. (Thank you Bill!!) A sustainability and recycling statement was included in each bottle along with a list of where Hydration Locations are currently located (Wadsworth, McNair, DHH, MUB, SDC, Library, Rekhi, MEEM).

Les suggested that the Environmental Sustainability Group, USG, and GSG could possible partner to work on having a hydration station in each building that has a lot of student traffic.

Comments and questions included:

- What goal do you hope to achieve by placing hydration stations in buildings?
- Is there a way to track the number of bottle sold in the MUB?
- Have there been any changes to sales once filling stations have been placed in buildings?
- Is it possible to track how many people are using filling stations?

Les commented that by placing the hydration stations around campus we are promoting a healthier campus.

### **New Items**

#### **Bus Shelter – Bill**

It was reported that the bus shelter is up.

#### **Shuttle Service – Chris**

Chris asked if the Student Commission could get some ridership numbers for the new shuttle service. He would like to see specific numbers for runs not just the total ridership for the day. Lynda will contact Pete Pelissero for these numbers and also for use of the Zipcars.

The following was reported/commented upon regarding the shuttle/transportation:

- One run was added in the afternoon
- There are not a lot of pickups at the residence halls
  - Wads is being discontinued
- Once the ski hill is open for business a run will be added
- Could the “last” shuttle leave the MUB at 7:00 p.m.?
- Sidewalks to the SDC need to be kept clear during the winter months

#### **Student Commission Women’s Subcommittee – Les**

Les reported that Beth Lunde, Assistant Vice President for Student Life will be presenting a proposal regarding a Student Commission Women’s Subcommittee at the October 25 Student Commission meeting.

#### **Tuition Rates – Travis**

Travis reported there were conversations last year about involving students in helping to set tuition rates. Les reported that Eli Karttunen reported to the Board of Control today that he has a “FACT” group assembled to meet with the budget team.

#### **Bicycle Etiquette – Bill**

Bill questioned if anybody has issues with bicycle etiquette on campus. Comments included:

- On-campus EMS has had to respond to a number of accidents
- Central Michigan University marks part of their sidewalks for bicycles
- Some universities do not allow them on certain sidewalks
- Do we need enforcement?
- Are students provided any information on bicycle safety at Orientation?
- When students register their bicycles should they be provided with safety information?
- It was reported that an Enterprise Group is doing a study on how to make the Michigan Tech campus more bicycle friendly
  - Chris will pass this information on to the group

#### **Next Meeting**

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 25 in the Alumni Lounge A, MUB at 2:00 p.m.