

2010

Faculty Senate Minutes, April 7, 2010

Faculty Senate
Eastern Michigan University

Follow this and additional works at: http://commons.emich.edu/sen_all

Recommended Citation

Faculty Senate, "Faculty Senate Minutes, April 7, 2010" (2010). *Faculty Senate Materials*. Paper 58.
http://commons.emich.edu/sen_all/58

This Minutes is brought to you for free and open access by the Faculty Senate at DigitalCommons@EMU. It has been accepted for inclusion in Faculty Senate Materials by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@EMU. For more information, please contact lib-ir@emich.edu.

UNIVERSITY FACULTY SENATE MINUTES – MEETING TWELVE

April 7, 2010, 3 – 5 p.m.

Salon next to Ballroom in the Student Center

www.emich.edu/facultysenate

faculty_senate@emich.edu

487-0196

I. Approval of the Agenda

Alida Westman moved and John Texter seconded approval of the agenda. It was approved unanimously (22-0-0) after the addition of the names of two more faculty members willing to serve on the Evaluation Committee for Academic Programming for First Year Students.

II. Approval of the Minutes of March 17, 2010

Carol Haddad moved and David Crary seconded the approval of the minutes. The minutes were approved with one abstention (21-0-1).

III. Election of Faculty Senate Officers

Mahmud Rahman, Mark Higbee, and Carol Haddad were acclaimed as vice-president, secretary, and membership coordinator, respectively.

IV. Questions and Answers with President Martin

President Martin introduced Linda McGill who is her Special Assistant to the President. With this hire there are no more interims. There is a new search in the near future, namely the VP for Advancement and Executive Director of the Foundation. Don Loppnow will have a year's sabbatical leave and then return to teaching.

President Martin also visited the Fletcher Autism center which now is serving 75 families.

The shell of the addition to the science complex is very close to being finished, and it looks very good. The dislocations caused by the renovations of Pray-Harrod and Mark Jefferson present a challenge, and President Martin expressed her appreciation for people's continued cooperation and patience. There is software which will keep track of where faculty offices and classes are, and this will permit people to find them.

College Place will be resurfaced. It will not be changed into a mall. Many other updates have been performed. For example, Wise hall has a new boiler plant which saves on gas. The Parson center is complete and will soon be opened officially. Brown-Munson has new glass. Hill and Pittman towers are being renovated; Hill was done last year, and Pittman will be done now.

Eagle Nation Station has been opened in the Student Center, and banners have been hung on light poles around town which show the various arts in order to encourage people to come to art events.

The Capital Campaign will begin on April 19. More gift officers will be added also. It looks like the state support of EMU will be reduced by 3.1%, and this means that increased resources must come from enrollment increases and fundraising.

There is a new Crime Response Unit due to the hiring of three police officers, and response to crimes is much faster than before. We now also have four additional dispatchers, so that the screens from across campus can be watched continuously and there is continuous coverage of the dispatch service which does not require the subbing by a police officer when a dispatcher is absent.

Suicide is an increasing concern, and an awareness campaign is underway to be more proactive. More students are coming for counseling.

There also was a student who died during a house fire in Ann Arbor, and this is causing concern both at EMU and the U of M.

Ethan Lowenstein raised the concern that some students experience racism on campus and that we need to be proactive on this also.

Marti Bombyk indicated that the emergency texting will not work in all buildings, because some places have no signal. President Martin indicated that warnings are shown also on digital signs across campus and as messages on computer screens.

Daryl Barton indicated that the sound system of the stadium is very loud for neighbors.

V. Senate Motions

A. Resolution on Recording Faculty Senate Motions – Mahmud Rahman. Mark Higbee moved and Sally McCracken seconded the approval of the resolution to record resolutions by date, sponsor, vote, action and perhaps outcome. It is recommended that if the motion passes, the Faculty Senate motions voted upon in the past two years also be listed in accordance with this resolution. The motion passed unanimously.

B. Motion on the Second Bachelor's Degree – Jill Dieterle, Chair of the College Advisory Council of Arts & Sciences. Currently students have to graduate, reapply, re-enroll and take 30 hours before the next degree can be obtained. Most universities permit students to earn a second Bachelor's degree at the same time.

Sandy Nelson called the question, and the following motion, which had been passed unanimously by the CAC of CAS, was passed unanimously (26-0-0). *An EMU student may obtain two bachelors degrees upon his/her initial graduation, provided he/she: (a) has met all university, department, and program requirements for both degrees, and (b) has completed 30 credit hours beyond that required for the first degree.*

C. Motion to Support Provost Jack Kay's Efforts to Increase Funding for Academic Affairs.

A motion to move to Executive Session failed (9 in favor).

The following motion passed (23-0-3). *The number of ABBP (Above Base Budget Proposal) requests put forward in Academic Affairs very clearly demonstrates the need for more funding in that division. The Faculty Senate strongly supports Provost Kay's efforts to increase Academic Affairs funding.*

Matt Evett will make the resolution available for inclusion in the packets for the regents at the next Board of Regents' meeting on April 20. The resolution also will be forwarded to the president and the provost.

The provost indicated that the current requests amounted to approximately 7½ million dollars, far more than the money available. He will give highest priority to ABBPs for (a) Student Success, such as Freshmen seminars, (b) Graduate Students, such as the stipend increase, and (c) Equipment requests.

Daryl Barton and Sally McCracken indicated that Faculty Council used to provide prioritization for the requests. This is how computer refresh began. Faculty Senate would like to participate again in the prioritization.

D. Motion to Honor Dr. Bush and Support the Faculty Development Center – Mark Higbee. The following motion from the Faculty Senate Executive Board

passed unanimously (26-0-0).

Resolved,

The University Faculty Senate expresses our profound thanks to Dr. Karen Busch for countless contributions to the University during her tenure as the Director of the Bruce Nelson Faculty Development Center; in this capacity Dr. Busch transformed the FDC into a true center of innovation, excellence, and faculty support, and thus did much to advance the University's purposes.

Since Dr. Busch has decided to leave EMU as of late May 2010 (a decision we understand but regret), the Senate, in addition to expressing its gratitude to Dr. Busch, also affirms the vital importance of maintaining the high level of activity provided by the FDC during Dr. Busch's years here. We urge the University leadership to continue its support of these critical scholarly and teaching support activities.

In the competitive environment of higher education today, EMU cannot afford to neglect our faculty development activities for any period of time, and thus we must quickly move to build on Dr. Busch's achievements, which always centered on collaboration with faculty members.

- E. Motion to Revise the Parking Committee.** The following motion passed unanimously (26-0-0). Leigh Greden, Executive Director of governmental and Community Relations, will join the committee, and the committee hopes to work collaboratively with the provost and the president.

Resolved, the Faculty Senate recognizes the accomplishments and dedication over the years of all who have represented various stakeholders on campus through service on the Parking Committee. We are particularly grateful for the work of our Faculty Senate appointees and commend their leadership.

Upon consideration of the evolving needs of our University and in the context of global concerns for the climate and the environment, the Faculty Senate recommends:

- 1. That the University rename the Parking Committee to the Transportation Committee.*
- 2. That the purpose of the Transportation Committee be to study and implement new ways EMU can further its civic mission (e.g. as recognized by our Carnegie designation) by addressing transportation issues both in relation to environmental impact and sustainability and issues of access and equity. The work of the Transportation Committee will fit within a larger institutional move to become a leader in the State and Washtenaw County in these areas and to promote to the campus community ecologically sustainable practices.*
- 3. That in addition to current methods of committee representation (faculty, students, and relevant units like DPS, Physical Plant), the Transportation Committee shall add the EMU Executive Director of Governmental and Community Relations to the committee.*
- 4. Future ideas to be discussed by the Transportation Committee include but are not limited to:*
 - a. Negotiate, as has the University of Michigan, an AATA bus pass system for all EMU students and staff.*

- b. Generously provide bicycle racks throughout the campus.*
- c. Develop a schedule and driver matching system to encourage faculty with premium parking to share their space when not in use with other faculty and staff.*
- d. Develop a vigorous internal PR campaign to promote positive and green transportation at EMU.*
- e. Develop a more collaborative relationship with the City of Ypsilanti with regards to transportation issues, such as the Amtrak stop in Depot Town and Ann Arbor.*
- f. Collaborate with the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments (SEMCOG) to join the effort for improved transportation as a regional partner and to utilize its resources.*
- g. Adopt a web-based commuter matching program to facilitate travel to and from campus.*
- h. Make BIKES EMU bicycles part of the benefits for north lot parking.*
- i. Work with the faculty and staff of the Academic Service Learning Program, VISION, and other student organizations to provide students learning opportunities that will contribute to the work of the institution in these efforts.*
- j. Develop a metric to track carbon emissions related to transportation; gather baseline data of EMU's carbon footprint as it relates to transportation; and develop a plan for tracking and publishing carbon emission reductions.*
- k. Identify and address issues of access to transportation for EMU community members who face economic stress and hardship and for EMU community members with disabilities.*

VI. Appointments to the Faculty Senate Executive Board

Affirmed were the appointments of Lidia Lee as the Chair of Technology Issues and Sandy Norton as the Chair of Student Affairs.

VII. Committee Appointments

A. Election: Evaluation Committee for Academic Programming for first Year Students. A very impressive group of people volunteered to serve. Only three could be elected, and these are Ann Bednar, Sarah Fabian, and Deanna Mihaly. The provost is considering appointing his two faculty members from the group which volunteered also.

B. Parking Committee. Kate Pittsley's term is coming to an end and a replacement has to be found. Matt Evett will announce this opportunity in September.

VIII. Provost Remarks – Provost Jack Kay

- A. Academic Bankruptcy.** Many universities forgive a bad academic record for one term to two years if the person shows promise thereafter. This policy would be very important for veterans. How is such a policy to be created at EMU? Faculty Senate's Academic Affairs committee will take up this issue.
- B. Searches.** There are four searches scheduled for interviews in April. These are for a dean of CHHS, Assistant VP for AHR, Academic Programming, and a University Librarian. There will be a search for an interim director for the Faculty Development Center. The full search will begin in the Fall. Also in the Fall there will be a search for a dean of the COE and of the Graduate School, a VP for Research, and some of the details of the other searches still need to be worked out.
- C. FRFs.** These will be announced soon.
- D. Course Management System.** There will be more information soon.
- E. Fall Classroom Assignments.** Julia Myers raised concerns about class assignments for the Fall. Her class is scheduled in a room which does not meet the equipment needs of the class she is scheduled to teach. The provost indicated that the department head should forward these concerns to the person responsible in his/her college, in this case Wade Tornquist. There are concerns that administrators may not be responsive to some of the objections raised.

IX. Announcements – Matt Evett

- A. Departmental Elections for Representatives.** Matt Evett has e-mailed the department representatives and department heads that they should hold elections.
- B. The Faculty Senate Ad Hoc Gen Ed Review Committee** has been disbanded.
- C. Survey for Continuous Improvement of Administrators.** Please remind faculty to do the surveys.
- D. Bargaining Council Input Committee.** Input is being defined further.
- E. New Faculty Senate GA, Sri Swathi Nimmagadda.** She will update the website and work in the Faculty Senate office.

X. Dates of the Next Meetings

The dates for the next Faculty Senate meetings are 5/19 and 6/16 (tentative). The first meeting in the Fall term will be on September 15.

The Faculty Senate Executive Board will meet on 5/12 and 9/8.

Respectfully submitted,
Alida Westman

Present: M. Rahman (ACC); J. Myers (ART); J. Eisenbach (BIO); L. Kolopaji (CHEM); D. Chou (CIS); S. McCracken (CMTA); M. Evett (COSC); D. Crary (ECON); S. Norton (ENG); J. Texter (ENGIN TECH); C. Mayda (GEO/GEOLOG); M. Higbee (HIS/PHIL); S. Levine (HPPH); P. Francis (L & C); R. Baier (LIBRARY); J. Jones (MATH); K. Banerji (MGMT); D. Barton (MKT); W. Zirk (MUSIC & DANCE); E. Martin (PLS); A. Westman (PSY); R. Orrange (SAC); V. Howells (SHS); L. Lee (SPED); C. Haddad (STS); M. Bombyk (SWK); E. Lowenstein (TED); M. Zinggeler (WORLD LANGUAGES)

Ex-Officio: J. Kay (PROVOST & EXECUTIVE VICE-PRESIDENT)

Guests: S. Martin (EMU PRESIDENT); L. McGill (SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT); J. Dieterle (CHAIR OF CAC OF CAS); T. Brewer (CHAIR OF GRAD COUNCIL); G. Larcom (COMMUNICATIONS & MEDIA RELATIONS).

Absent: AAS; NURSING; PHY/AST; WGST