

2008

# Faculty Council Minutes, November 19, 2008

Faculty Council  
*Eastern Michigan University*

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## Recommended Citation

Faculty Council, "Faculty Council Minutes, November 19, 2008" (2008). *Faculty Senate Materials*. Paper 91.  
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UNIVERSITY FACULTY COUNCIL MINUTES – MEETING FOUR

November 19, 2008, 3 – 5 p.m.

310 Student Center

www.emich.edu/facultycouncil

rlarson@emich.edu

487-0196

**I. Call to order**

The meeting was called to order at 3:08 p.m.

**II. Approval of the Agenda**

The agenda was approved unanimously.

**III. Approval of the Minutes of November 5, 2008**

The minutes were approved unanimously.

**IV. Committee Appointments**

**1. Software Selection Committee**

COE: Suzanne Dugger

**2. Program Review**

CAS: Bob Winning, Genevieve Peden

COB: Jean McEnery

COT: Suma Kalaian

CHHS: Sandy Nelson

**3. General Ed**

Library: Lisa Klopfer

COB: Asrat Tessema

COT: Pamela Spelman Alternate: Kelly Welker

CAS: Gisela Ahlbrandt, Jeff Bernstein Alternate: Roger Kernsmith (SAC)

COE: Pat Williams-Boyd Alternate: Linda Lewis-White

CHHS: **Representative still needed**

**4. Facilities Committee**

**Representatives are still needed from COB and COT**

**V. E-fellows – Debi Silverman**

With the charter approved by Faculty Council, representatives need to be chosen, and the representatives have staggered 3-year terms. It is recommended that representatives find alternates and that the alternates are trained to be future representatives if possible.

Debi Silverman will return in March 2009, so that representatives are appointed at the end of the Winter term, and the staggered terms can begin.

COB: Matt Sauber **Alternate still needed**

COE: Michael McVey Alternate: John Palladino

COT: Kelly Welker Alternate: Maria Sipos

Library: Randy Baier Alternate: Julia Nims

CAS: James Perren Alternate: Larry Kolopajilo

CHHS: Marilyn Wedenoja Alternate: Roberta Faust

**VI. President's Report – Russ Larson**

**1. Canceled Searches**

The indication is that 13 faculty searches will be canceled. The cancellation process is lacking in transparency. It is unclear who exactly made the decision, how the number was determined, and how it was decided which searches were to

be canceled. It is anticipated that there will be budget cuts and that fewer people will retire due to the loss of value of their assets.

- 2. Budget Cuts.** It now is anticipated that the state will engage in a midyear cut of 2 to 3% because of the economic situation. Prior expectations had been a 1% cut. It is not clear how the cuts will be absorbed.

## **VII. Faculty Council Motions**

### **1. Motion to Ensure Student Computer Literacy**

*Whereas many faculty are concerned that some students do not have sufficient technology skills to succeed educationally at EMU and*

*Whereas sufficient computer literacy is a factor in student success and retention,*

*The Faculty Council urges the university to have all incoming FTIACs and transfer students take a formal assessment of their computer literacy in Fall 2009.*

*To this end, the Faculty Council requests that a joint, ad hoc committee comprised of faculty and administrators be formed by January 2009. This committee shall issue a report that proposes an assessment process by March 2009.*

The motion passed 25-0-0.

### **2. Motion to Make it Easier for Students to Register Late for Winter term 2009**

*Whereas students need time to register after EMU opens in January for Winter term 2009:*

*No late fees should be assessed for late registration until January 12.  
Online registration should continue through January 11.*

*These policies should be approved by December 1 and publicized no later than December 8.*

The motion passed 25-0-0.

### **3. Motion Regarding the Cancellation of Courses**

*Whereas EMU is trying to maximize student enrollment in Winter Term 2009:*

*Department heads should be reluctant to cancel sections due to low enrollment.*

The motion passed 25-0-0.

### **4. Motion Regarding the Appointment of a New Interim Assistant VP**

*Whereas the Faculty Council passed a resolution on October 15 of this year objecting to the practice of appointing interim administrators without an appropriate internal search:*

*Be it resolved that the Faculty Council expresses its deep regret that Provost Loppnow decided to hire an interim Assistant Vice President for*

*Academic Human Resources with no announcement the position was open, nor appropriate faculty input.*

*The Faculty Council calls upon Provost Loppnow to reopen the search and immediately to hold an internal search to fill this position.*

The motion passed 21-0-4.

**5. Motion Regarding the Number of Administrators**

*Faculty Council recommends that the number of administrators across all divisions be kept to a minimum and that extra resources go to support student learning.*

The motion passed 24-1-0

**6. Motion Concerning URSLC**

*College Councils are encouraged to nominate appropriate college representatives to the URSLC (University Research and Sabbatical Leave Committee). Faculty Council will take the nominations into account in their deliberations in appointing representatives.*

The motion failed, because only 13 representatives supported it, and the support of 17 representatives is needed for a motion to pass. (That is, the majority of the total number of representatives of departments/schools rather than a majority of those present is needed to pass a proposal.)

**VIII. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Alida Westman

**Present:** M. Rahman (ACC); M. Peters (AFS); B. Winning (BIO); L. Kolopajlo (CHEM); S. McCracken (CMTA); D. Chou (CIS); M. Evett (COSC); D. Crary (ECON); M. Kanagy (ENGIN TECH); R. Larson (ENG); V. Howells (Health Sci); M. Higbee (HIS/PHIL); S. Levine (HPHP); J. Nims (Library); D. Barton (MKT); M. Al-Khafaji (MTH); K. Banerji (MGMT); J. R. Smith (MUSIC & DANCE); S. Nelson (NURS); M. Thomsen (PHY/AST); E. Martin (PLS); A. Westman (PSY); R. Orrange (SAC); L. Lee (SPED); P. Becker (TECH STUDIES); P. Williams-Boyd (TED); J. Thomas (WGST); M. Zinggeler (WORLD LANGUAGES)

**Ex-Officio:** Bob Neely (ASSOC PROVOST AND ASSOCIATE VP FOR RESEARCH)

**Guest:** Debi Silverman (ASSISTING IN THE FACULTY DEVELOPMENT CENTER)

**Absent:** ART; GEO/GEOL; L & C; SWK