

12-11-2019

## **Faculty Senate Minutes, December 11, 2019**

Faculty Senate

**Eastern Michigan University**  
***Faculty Senate Minutes (approved 1/15/20)***

**Session 7**

3.00—5.00 pm December 11, 2019 270 Student Center

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Present: Pressley-Sanon, Reedy, Judd, Edwards, Evett, Hayworth, Neufeld, Welsh, McMahon, Curran, Peavler, Pawlowski, Patrick, Waltz, Corsianos, Staunton, Millan, Spragg, Zakrajsek, Trewen, Saldanha, Rahman, Chung, Banerji, Barton, Leon, Lee, McVey, Ferdousi, Kustron, Becker, Braun Marks.

Non-Voting Present: Carpenter, Tew, Longworth, Kullberg, James Smith

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| I.   | <b>Call to Order</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | 3:04 pm |
| II.  | <b>Approval of the Agenda</b><br>Motion carries.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 3:05 pm |
| III. | <b>Approval of the Minutes: 11-20-2019*</b><br>Abstentions: 2. Motion carries.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | 3:06 pm |
| IV.  | <b>Discussions</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |         |
| A.   | <b>Faculty Advisory Board on Campus Housing Update</b><br>Carpenter, Patrick, Braun Marks                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 3:05 pm |
|      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Created a three level response. 1. Provide preliminary recommendations regarding data from campus. 2. Review other university RFPs. 3. Write white paper on campus housing at EMU and best practices across nationwide universities.</li><li>- Carpenter reviewed the recommendations on housing which were framed around the EMU Mission and Core Values.</li><li>- Currently, only the Honors College has a “themed” living/learning group, and this dorm has the highest occupancy.</li><li>- Suggestion from Senator Neufeld to discuss housing needs with other groups, including students, dining, parking, and student life.</li></ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |         |
| B.   | <b>President Smith Questions and Answers</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 3:20 pm |
|      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- President Smith reported that state level funding remains low.</li><li>- Fiscally for the university, we have a balanced budget. VERIP has helped balance the budget. There is a workforce (6 administrators) that evaluate hiring proposals.</li><li>- Reported on GameAbove gifting circle – additional gift for OzoneHouse was made today. Funding amounts for travel is being communicated to college deans. Plan to fund additional Brickley awards for fall, and a new set of submissions for winter, and a summer research initiative. Funding for 2 social work positions – 1 for assistance to any student through the dean of student office and 1 for Ozone House to facilitate students through Engage.</li><li>- Strategic Investment Fund - \$250k set aside starting in July 2020. Would like ideas for this fund. Enrollment, student success, high performing academic programs,</li><li>- Budget and reorganization – they are looking at all areas, trying to streamline organization, trying to remove silos. Ex – departure of director of university human resources and can this structure be changed before filling this position. RECI, student center, dining will be reporting to Student Affairs. Looking at university marketing and enrollment marketing structure.</li><li>- Enrollment – now part of the Common App. New tool for graduate applicants to track status of application. Launching enrollment strategic advisory group (has faculty representative). Research</li></ul> |         |

data into students who went to other universities and then come to EMU (what makes them choose other universities and what makes them transfer).

- Housing – agrees that students need to be involved in discussions surrounding housing. Concerns over the long-term needs/legacy cost. Reported that the decision about housing has not been made and is not currently going forward.
- Strategic Plan – moving forward, not re-writing, on creating goals and metrics for the current plan. If diversity and inclusion are not robust parts of the committee recommendations, then they will be returns to the committees for continued work. Goal is to have drafts back during Winter 2020 semester and get broad campus wide feedback before institutionalizing the recommendations.
- Athletics – no change in funding allocation (\$12 million donors, \$8 million university). Reported that Chairman Webb believes there will be a \$20 million reduction in general fund allocation for the cost of the Student Athlete Performance Center. Does not have answer on the ROI for developing the building – some things that support are there are about 480 students athletes, graduates become donors. Women’s lacrosse will increase number of athletes without increasing scholarship costs.
- Floor open for questions/comments:
- Discussion regarding West Campus are being discussed as donor driven projects. Some athletic projects may need to be undertaken without donors for example, to make Women’s Lacrosse NCAA compliant we may need to pay for the field.
- Football is the primary beneficiary of the new athletic building. The wellness portion of the building (weight room, training room, auditorium) is for the use of all student athletes.
- University Budget Council – proposed change in bylaws to have co-chairs (administrator and faculty). These will be discussed with Regents, but President Smith
- President Smith agreed to receive, read, and review recommendation/reports from the Faculty Senate Budget and Resource Committee.
- What ideas to improve faculty morale and visibility/interaction with president?: President makes an effort to be at as many campus events as possible, shares this responsibility with Provost Longworth. Welcomes invitation to any event.
- Regarding the construction projects: use contacts of construction management alum. Response: this occurs already
- Regarding the \$250,000 for faculty initiative: disproportionate amount of money spent on athletes compared to faculty. Provost Longworth responded that they are focusing on looking for outside sources of funding rather than redistributing internal funding as taking money from any department is hard because the university is overall under-resourced.
- Are there plans to invite suggestions from faculty members on what to do with the GameAbove? For this year, they will use programs currently in place (ex. Faculty travel) because it is an expendable gift (not an endowment). In future years, ideas will be solicited.
- Regarding reorganization, suggest institutional research team to help direct decisions in changes to the university rather than external consultants.
- Elaborate on efforts to increase funding at a political level: federal level aims for NSF funding and similar. State legislature is focused on community colleges and trades programs – President works to develop support for higher education.
- Regarding meeting with regents, feeling that the regents are insulated from the university and have little regard for faculty input, how do we improve the relationship with the regents: President Smith responded that the regents are open to meeting with faculty, but in small groups. Also, that it is his job and he works hard to communicate with the regents that there are differences and to persuade them of the needs of the university.

- C. **Academic and Student Affairs Strategic Planning - Opportunities and Threats** 4:10 pm  
    Tabled until next meeting
- V. **Committee Chair Reports** 4:44 pm
- A. **Student Issues** – Trewn. Link to : [Student Issues Report](#)
- B. **Academic Issues** - Zakrajsek. Link to: [Academic Issues Report](#)
- Response from Michael Tew: there is no plan for a Center for Teaching and Learning, it is conceptual on how to address topics around teaching that are not specific to faculty development.
- C. **EEFC** – Barton.
- Exploring use of computer labs for teaching.
- VI. **Provost's Update** 4:52 pm
- Organizational Update-Academic and Student Affairs – RECI, dining, housing will be moved under the direction of Student Affairs
  - No further items.
- VII. **Announcements** 4:55 pm
- A. Seeking Chair for Senate Academic Issues Committee for winter term - Serves on Faculty Senate Executive Board
- B. EMU Athletics video: Tour the Student Athlete Performance Center: <https://youtu.be/qkX1xA4YG88>
- VIII. **New Business**
- IX. **Adjourn** 4:57 pm

\*Attachments available in shared drive:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1PGvaxJKRi1uwSrOxGxybz4pkR6LlxaR5>