

8-5-2020

Faculty Senate Minutes, August 05, 2020

Faculty Senate

Eastern Michigan University
Faculty Senate Minutes (approved 9/9/2020)

Session 17

3.00—5.00pm August 5, 2020 ** Via Zoom

Attended: Banerji, McVey, Mistry, McAllen, Peavler, Francis, Lee, Carter, Evett, Reedy, Cardon, Saldana, Edwards, Judd, Waltz, Pressley-Sanon, McMahon, Millán, Neufeld, Zonder, Ferdousi, Trewn, Braun Marks, Chou, El-Sayed, Goodman, McCleary, Barton, Welsh, Kustron, Patrick, Curran, Corsianos, Scazzero

Non-voting: Karpiak, Maher, Carroll, Tew, Egge, Carpenter, Storrar, Mier, Kullberg, Zylstra, Kullberg, Gray

I. Call to Order

Called to order at 3:05

II. Approval of the Agenda

Approved 23-0-1

III. Approval of the Minutes: [7-15-2020*](#)

Approved 23-0-1

IV. Elections

A. Seeking 5 candidates for ongoing public health committee

Because of COVID situation continuing to change there is a desire to create an ongoing committee to take over for the ad hoc public health committee that was created in the spring. Charge: ongoing implementation/oversight ("fine tuning") of policies informed by the June report from the original committee. Provost indicates that the actual composition of the new committee will be decided by the Steering Committee and will probably be around 8 members, including 3 from faculty with 2 faculty alternates. [Much discussion as to what kind of expertise we would prefer on the committee. Provost would also like the committee, once it is created, to reach out to the campus community for feedback.]

B. Seeking two new members of Senate Task Force on Campus Climate, Race & Diversity

Barb Patrick indicates we were a committee of five, but we are losing two [Jon Stauton and Rob Peevler], so we need replacements. Suzanne asks that any interested senators or alternates contact her via the Senate email address.

V. Discussions

A. Consider initiation of [Public Safety Oversight Ad Hoc Committee](#) (Karpiak, Corsianos)

Kevin Karpiak brings forward a resolution [see shared Google drive]. The existing Public Safety Oversight Commission (PSOC) is state mandated but is in violation of its by-laws in that it has not met in more than a year. The proposed ad hoc committee will review whether the PSOC should broaden its charge. As well, there is no posted mechanism for contacting the PSOC. The provost indicates that the PSOC will be meeting in the fall. The Senate votes to create this ad hoc committee in the Fall and request a report in a timely fashion. Vote: 24-0-2

B. Planning for fall 2020 (Longworth)

[Planning for Fall Semester- Academic and Student Affairs 06.05.2020.pdf](#)

- i. Update on Academic and Student Affairs and unit plans
- ii. Facilities: Application of Standards and Cleaning Protocols (Storer and Otto)
- iii. Update on and enforcement of public health protocols
- iv. Office and clinic reopenings, general visitor issues

- *General updates from the provost. We are reopening resident halls with modified capacities. All resident students will be tested. Move-in will be over more days and be scheduled to maintain social distancing.*
- *The modified course schedule (with their new teaching modality modifications) will be live soon. About 25% of classes will be at least partially face-to-face (f2f). By next week students should be able to see their "final" schedule, including whether their class is at least partially f2f and, if so, in which room.*
- *Working with the governor to see how the existing limit of 10 persons per public meeting will affect student gatherings.*
- *All folks on campus (including outdoors) will be required to have a face covering and maintain 6' distance. ReclM is not scheduled to reopen until at least one month after start of semester.*
- *Will continue the policy of no visitors to campus, except for those needed to maintain the university (e.g. deliveries).*
- *Still in process of developing policies for how to enforce public health requirements (face coverings and social distancing) in classrooms. If, by chance, a student becomes confrontational, we will use the classroom disruption policy as laid out in the Contract. So far, there have been no such incidences and students in Summer B have been supportive of these efforts.*
- *Student Center will have modified hours to support additional cleaning time.*
- *Working with departments to ensure there is sufficient/appropriate PPE (plexiglass, etc.)*
- *Provost will publish, online, a "guidebook" that will summarize these university policies. This will be updated as needed and especially directed at faculty, staff, and students.*
- *COVID testing: anyone on campus in a CDC high risk category (music, athletics, etc.) will be tested. Positive results will result in prohibition from campus until quarantined (excepting students who cannot return home--they use quarantine quarters in specified resident hall).*
- *While we are currently planning to have some classes, it is still possible we will not start the semester f2f. We are monitoring the COVID situation.*
- *Provost: the deans have cancelled some low enrollment courses in order to avoid situations in which an online class might be cancelled thereby potentially forcing the students in a cancelled class to transfer to a remaining f2f section of the class. [There was discussion about the downside of cancelling classes that are required for graduation and the provost said she will look into it.]*
- *Jim Carroll: in order to provide sufficiently large rooms to accommodate 30 students we will use spaces that have never been used as classrooms: Halle G07, SC310A/B, McKinney (Ballroom, basement classrooms, etc.), Welch Hall board room and 205, Warner Gym A.*
- *Furniture is being removed from classrooms so that the number of people/students in a room does not exceed public health recommendation.*
- *Scott Storrar: there is a prototype in Strong Hall of a mobile teaching station that includes plexiglass. MJ has a prototype of the building entry point stations (including plexiglass). There are other points on campus where plexiglass has already been installed (e.g., Halle). We are increasing the overall operation of HVAC (not shutting down at night) so as to maximize air exchange, more frequent filter replacement. However, systems are limited in our older buildings.*
- *Provost: Cleaning protocols are being finalized for each building. We should be able to provide one hour idle time between classes in each room to allow for cleaning.*

- *Bringing international students to campus. ICE currently allows overseas students to take their classes online from their home countries. Not clear whether such students will be able to maintain their visas. We will support students who want to remain here to study. Challenge is to get new students into the US. However, Canadian/US students moving across border are being treated as "essential workers". A large number of our programs have been allowed the ability to provide I-17 visas.*

C. [UBC Recommendations to President Smith](#) (Carpenter)

Rob Carpenter overviews the document, "UBC Recommendations to President Smith", in shared drive. This primarily concerns prioritizing budget actions to deal with expected COVID budget impacts. Reviews the actions taken by the UBC during its summer meetings, to date. Some of these recommendations have already been enacted (e.g. VERIP).

D. Update on EMU-AAUP Negotiations (Kullberg)

The admin replied to demand to bargain. They have met four times regarding the reopening process. First agreement was to finalize the process of determining teaching modality. All faculty should let AAUP know if there are problems with the newly defined teaching modality of their courses. (Though requests to move from online to f2f are not likely to be met.) Second set of issues being negotiated is the health and safety protocols for returning to campus. We are pushing for testing for all folks on campus, not just "high risk" groups. Including group screening (in which multiple spit tests are combined into a single test sample). Asking for temperature checks at doors, plexiglass in classrooms. Would like the administration to provide an online portal (such as at Central Michigan University) showing how many folks are being tested, and what the positive rate and numbers are, along with other data. Another meeting is scheduled for tomorrow, which will include a campus tour to view classroom setups.

Topics still to be resolved: How will promotion/tenure reviews be conducted? How will dossiers be handled (we need a fully online system)? What is the responsibility of the faculty in the classroom [in terms of managing the classroom]?

VI. **Committee Chair Reports**

A. Task Force on Campus Climate, Race & Diversity Race Matters Workshop (Patrick)

Barbara Patrick mentioned report, "Race Matters" and discussed the workshop. 130 faculty attended the two-day workshop. The presenters were excellent. If you were not able to attend, the task force will post material. Will have a second listening session for faculty and students on 9/9.

B. Educational Environment and Facilities Committee Update (Evet)

Referenced Carroll and Storrar's earlier comments. High speed WIFI will be available at several parking lots on campus.

End of year reports in Senate shared drive folder [19-20 End of Year Reports](#)

VII. **Announcements**

4:55 pm

A. Update on [Grievance on lack of input on recent financial decisions and areas of joint responsibility](#)*

Suzanne has provided a signed copy of the senate's most recent by-laws, as requested.

B. Suzanne: Thank you to senate representatives whose terms end in September!

VIII. **Adjourn**

5:00 pm

*Attachments available in shared drive: [8/5/20](#)

Respectfully submitted by Matt Evett, secretary pro tem

