

5-13-2020

Faculty Senate Minutes, May 13, 2020 (Draft)

Faculty Senate

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Eastern Michigan University
Faculty Senate Draft Minutes

Session 14

3.00—5.00 pm May 13, 2020 ** Via Zoom

Present: Spragg, Braun Marks, Mistry, Welsh, Ferdousi, Winning, Patrick, Neufeld, Pawlowski, Chou, McAllen, Curran, Staunton, Carter, Saldanha, Kustron, Banerji, McMahon, Lee, Evett, McVey, Reedy, Millan, Rahman, Trewn, Cardon, Leon, Peavler, Waltz, Pressley-Sanon, El-Sayed.

Non-Voting Present: Gray, Smith, Cunningham, Scazzero, Kullberg, Tew, Valdes, Francis, Longworth, Carpenter, Fabian, Mcclary, Mannari.

- I. **Call to Order** 3:00 pm
- II. **Approval of the Agenda** 3:02 pm
Motion to approve: Carter. Second: Barton. Abstentions: 1. Motion carries.
- III. **Approval of the Minutes: 4-8-2020 & 4-15-2020*** 3:05 pm
Motion to approve minutes for 4-8-2020: Barton. Second: Banerji. Vote to approve: 27. Abstentions: 5
Motion to approve minutes for 4-15-2020: Carpenter. Second: Curran. Vote to approve: 26. Abstentions: 6
- IV. **Elections** 3:08pm
Faculty Senate Executive Board voted unanimously to delay officer elections until a later summer meeting, if approved, or to the first meeting in fall. Currently elected members agreed to serve until elections are completed.
- V. **Discussions**
- A. Discussion on University Budget - President Smith and Mike Valdes, CFO 3:09 pm
- President Smith provided overview of campus changes since the move to off-campus activity, auxiliary revenues are down, state appropriations are being cut, freezing most (not all) capital spending (will finish Sill Hall and REC/IM), freezing travel, reducing discretionary spending. Personnel is the largest load for the budget.
 - A steering committee has been created to create plan for Fall 2020. Requested faculty member to be appointed by Senate to the committee.
 - Valdes reported on budgets. FY19 and FY20 were stable until the unanticipated changes. Lost auxiliary revenue from concerts/retail/etc and refunds for housing/dining. Estimating 20-30% reduction in state appropriations. Anticipating decreased enrollment for Fall 2020 – unsure if normal metrics for timing of student decisions will be the same in the current situation – anticipate no new international students.
 - Floor open for discussion:
 - o Pressley-Sanon asked about the cost of online vs in person for summer. CARES grant was used to offset the increased cost of registering for an online course for Summer A.
 - o Francis asked about an “EMU Gap year program”. This is under discussion to create a way to connect student’s to EMU during their gap year such as service learning, working with EngageEMU.
 - o McMahon asked about changes to the athletics budget in light of competition not occurring. All athletics staff are on 40% furlough and will continue to be through summer. Wetherbee and the top 3 paid coaches took the 7% pay cut and are continuing to work full time. Athletics has reduced their annual spending by \$2mil.

- Curran asked about policy on reserves. Some negative spending will be needed, but use of the reserves to cover all losses in revenue will not be possible while meeting HLC requirements.
- Carpenter asked for clarification on lost revenues and increased expenses. This includes lost auxiliary revenues and the anticipated decrease of 20% from the state. Increased expenses include additional cleaning requirements, overtime/comp time, technology requirements/upgrades.
- Barton asked about the plan for faculty returning to campus if they do not feel safe, particularly those who are high risk. Discussions are happening with human resources to determine how to handle issues such as these, including a process to evaluate conditions/situations requiring changes to work status.
- Banerji asked about the plan for Fall 2020 and the College of Business move to main campus. The renovation of Boone Hall is continuing.
- Kullberg asked how the decision came about to return to campus in the fall when the Planning/Steering committees haven't met yet. President Smith clarified that it is his hope that we will be on campus, but is aware that this may not be possible when the public health team meets and starts planning. The goal will be to do so safely.
- El-Sayed asked if the current cuts in budget were sufficient. Valdes reported that no. Instruction costs are the largest part of the budget and some of those costs are yet to be determined. Longworth reports that a full instructional budget is still in the works, including changes to the current fiscal year and the upcoming year. The budgets are being rebuilt to accommodate for necessary changes in instructional methods, but there continues to be a lot of uncertainty about the future.
- Leon addressed the differences between schools/programs needs and enrollments, rather than an "across the board" model.
- Neufeld commented that a deadline for informing faculty of when they will know what to expect for the Fall.

B. Discussion of draft planning scenarios for fall* - Provost Longworth

4:25 pm

<https://www.insidehighered.com/digital-learning/blogs/learning-innovation/15-fall-scenarios>

- Longworth reviewed Planning Scenarios for Summer B and Fall.
- Link to draft scenarios:
https://drive.google.com/drive/u/0/folders/1zZdDAsFm_1WdMDh1XNvPUA8Jtcu17MhW
- Currently considering exception requests only for courses that need to be in-person to be successful for Summer B.
- Longworth acknowledged that the required emergency pivot from on-campus to remote operations was necessary but that we can not operate in
- Longworth reviewed the cleaning protocols. Physical plant went through each building and completed "hypercleaning" which uses ionized bleach and hydrogen peroxide. Currently, when someone is authorized to return to campus, the space they occupied is hypercleaned upon their departure.
- Floor open for questions/discussion:
 - El-Sayed asked if the university has considered investing in UV lights for cleaning. Longworth said from public health experts, the current hypercleaning was recommended over UV light for deep cleaning. There are still issues with the supply chain for cleaning supplies, including hand sanitizer and other equipment and supplies.
 - Carter commented on the scenario for "flex" classes where some students are in-person while others are not

- Mannari asked if there is a timeline for faculty research labs to return to campus. Longworth responded that this is an area under consideration and still in planning, but may happen in June.
- Kullberg asked about compensation for input bodies, including Senate and other faculty groups/committees. Longworth responded that the Senate will be paid from the Academic as per past practice. However, due to budgetary limitations there isn't money to cover all committee meetings.
- Kustron asked about cleaning of buildings and social distancing. This is still in planning, and may include single use restrooms, up only and down only staircases, using classrooms every other period, cleaning between classes or every night, etc.
- Francis addressed students who may not be comfortable returning to campus and the need to continue teaching them. Response that while this was the case for mid-semester changes to courses, the expectations can be different when they are set before the course begins. There would still need to be exceptions/accommodations for students with disabilities.
- Mannari asked about the requirements for international students and restrictions for online courses. The university has been using waivers and work-arounds to maintain the international students.

VI. Approval of additional summer Senate meetings 4:40 pm

- A. June 10, 2020. Approved
- B. July 15, 2020. Approved

VII. Committee Chair Reports 5:22 pm
End of year reports to be shared in Senate shared drive folder [19-20 End of Year Reports](#)

VIII. Provost's Update 5:24 pm

- First round of additional summer courses was approved and sent to individuals. There is an additional group that is going to be communicated as not approved tomorrow. There is a third set that Longworth is hoping can be re-worked to get approval and those will be communicated as well by the end of day tomorrow.
- Currently about 20 sections have been approved.

IX. Announcements

- A. FSEB unanimously approved joint resolution with EMU AAUP on The Formation of a Coronavirus Crisis Planning Committee*
- B. FSEB unanimously approved a memo to EMU AAUP on temporary summer input*

X. Adjourn 5:25 pm

*Attachments available in shared drive: [5/13/20](#)

Topic: Faculty Senate Session 14
Time: May 13, 2020 03:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

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