

2009

## Faculty Council Minutes, May 20, 2009

Faculty Council

UNIVERSITY FACULTY COUNCIL MINUTES – MEETING THIRTEEN  
May 20, 2009, 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 3:10 p.m.

**II. Approval of the Agenda**

The agenda was approved unanimously.

**III. Approval of the Minutes of April 15, 2009**

The minutes were approved unanimously.

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

**A. Provost Search.** The recommendation was sent to President Martin.

**B. Faculty Council Meeting in June.** If a meeting is needed, it will be called.

However, it is recommended that we hold a meeting even if none is called if we can meet with the new provost.

**C. Continuous Improvement of Administrators.** EMU-AAUP and the administration repeatedly report that they do not differ very much, but there is disagreement on some of the language.

**D. Phased Retirement.** EMU-AAUP and the administration are working on an agreement. If agreement is not reached relatively soon, then the administration may postpone this effort, because it would not be possible to implement the plan for the Fall of 2009.

**E. Proactive Faculty Council.** Russ Larson expressed the hope that Faculty Council would continue to be proactive; it has been very effective.

**F. Failed Search for the Dean of Health and Human Services.** Even though the references checked out, the person proposed by the search committee was not accepted, and the search was declared a failed search. As a result, Dr. Deb Delaski-Smith will continue to be the interim dean of both HHS and the Graduate School.

The following resolution was passed unanimously. "In reference to the recent search for the Dean of the College of Health and Human Services, which was failed by the Administration, the University Faculty Council reaffirms our previous resolution stating that administrative officials should not hold two administrative positions at once. Further, we firmly believe that no one should serve as a dean or an interim dean for a college in which the would-be dean or interim dean is ineligible to earn tenure."

**V. Appointments**

**A. Retention Council.** Two representatives were needed. Mark Higbee and Russ Larson were appointed.

**VI. Committee Report on Program Review**

The report was accepted with one abstention.

The discussion pointed out that it would be very helpful if the whole report were done in word software, so that it is possible to cut-and-paste and to search a single write-up when answers to prior questions need to be consulted.

**VII. Bookstore Website and Dropped Book Orders – Steve Schindler and John Mihaly**

They reported that the initial information they received was in Banner format and not helpful. As a result they met with Bob Neely and Mark Byrd, and the subsequent procedure makes available to bookstores up-to-date information on sections, enrollment in

sections, and who is teaching which section. Next summer a federal law (The Higher Education Opportunity Act) will go into effect which demands a website transparent available to all.

**VIII. Facilities Report – David Crary**

An attempt was made to speed up the construction of the science complex, but this was not possible. It is expected that the new addition will be finished a year from now. Planning for Pray-Harrold also is moving ahead, and currently there is a search for a construction manager. In the search for swing spaces, it became clear that there are more than 40 office spaces in King, and thought is being given to having a department move from Pray-Harrold to King permanently to relieve some of the crowding. Some swing spaces will be shared across colleges, and this has not happened before. It is made possible by the Resource 25 Scheduling Software. All spaces will be rekeyed before they are used. Physical plant has been very helpful.

**IX. Budget Report -- John Lumm**

The 2008-2009 budget has a surplus of about 1.6 million dollars. The auxiliary funds are on track to meet budget, and research grants and awards brought in an impressive 20 million dollars. Dexia has been replaced with Chase as credit enhancer, and this has made a huge difference in the interest which EMU is paying on debt (from 3% to 0.2% -- rate is adjusted weekly). EMU's credit rating is unchanged by Moody (A2) but downgraded by Standard and Poors (to A-); both organizations noted that EMU will be taking on a significant amount of debt, has a declining enrollment, and that the state's resources have decreased significantly, but they reached different conclusions from these facts. Fringe benefits in 2008-2009 have cost significantly less due to fewer claims.

The 2009-2010 budget will use last year's budget and not a complete rebasing. Enrollment has dropped since 2004. The timing corresponds to the scandals at EMU and the instability, as well as with the significant efforts which were made to make transferring credits as easy as possible. Both enrollment and retention are significant concerns, and perhaps more resources need to be spent on these. Education is safeguarded against further cuts at the moment due to the requirements that the federal stimulus money can only be received if education is held harmless.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Alida Westman

**Present:** M. Rahman (ACC); J. Eisenbach (BIO); A. Rich (CMTA); D. Chou (CIS); D. Crary (ECON); R. Larson (ENG); J. Stein (ENGIN TECH); M. Higbee (HIS/PHIL); V. Howells (HEALTH SCI); J. Nims (LIBRARY); K. Banerji (MGMT); D. Barton (MKT); E. Behringer (PHY/AST); A. Westman (PSY); R. Orrange (SAC); M. Bombyk (SWK); L. Lee (SPED); Pam Becker (TECH STUDIES); A. Illingworth (WORLD LANGUAGES).

**Ex-Officio:** None

**Quests:** John Lumm (CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER); Steve Schindler, STORE MANAGER OF THE EMU BOOKSTORE; John Mihaly (EMU BOOKSTORE).

**Absent:** AFS; ART; CHEM; COSC; GEO/GEOLOG; HPHP; L & C; MATH; MUSIC & DANCE; NURS; PLS; SWK; TED; WGST