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Faculty Senate Minutes

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2020

## Faculty Senate Minutes, December 9, 2020

Faculty Senate

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**Eastern Michigan University**  
***Faculty Senate Minutes (approved 1/13/21)***

**Session 7**

3.00—5.15 pm December 9, 2020 via Zoom

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Present: Banerji, Barton, Bavery, Brewer, Brock, Cardon, Carpenter, Chou, Corsianos, Curran, El-Sayed, Elton, Evett, Ferdousi, Flowers, Foster, Goodman, Hayworth, Judd, Lee, McCleary, McVey, Millán, Neufeld, Nims, Patrick, Pressley-Sanon, Reedy, Saldanha, Sheerin, Spragg, Trewn, Waltz, Welsh, Zakrajsek.

Non-Voting Present: Blackmer, Gellasch, Gray, Karpiak, Koolage, Kullberg, Kustron, Li, McMahon, Tew.

- I. **Call to Order** 3:02 pm
- II. **Approval of the Agenda** 3:03 pm  
Motion to approve agenda: Pressley-Sanon. Second: Millán. Motion carries unanimously.
- III. **Approval of the Minutes: [11/18/20\\*](#)** 3:05 pm  
Motion to approve minutes: Curran. Second: Millán. Motion carries unanimously.
- IV. **Appointments and Elections** 3:08 pm
  - A. Elections
    - i. Technology Transfer Committee  
Fathi Amsaad (Assistant Professor of Cybersecurity from CET)  
Vijay Mannari (Professor of Engineering)
    - ii. Motion to approve nominees by acclamation: Banerji. Second: Waltz.
  - B. Calls for service opportunities
    - i. Seeking a statistician to assist the Public Health workgroup with the COVID-19 Dashboard
      - 1. Neufeld nominated Grigoris Argeros. Gray to reach out to him.
- V. **Discussions**
  - A. **[Faculty Development Retrospective](#)**, Peggy Liggitt, Director 3:11 pm
    - i. Liggitt has been the director of the Faculty Development Center since 2012. She reviewed the FDC report containing data compiled over her years at the center, including budget, resources, and programs
    - ii. Provost will be putting out a call by next week for an interim director.
  - B. **[General Education Student Learning Outcomes Revisions](#)** 3:28 pm  
Laura McMahon & You Li, Co-Chair, General Education Subcommittee on Assessment  
Stephanie Casey, Head of the GESA Working Group Initiative  
John Koolage, Director, General Education
    - i. The subcommittee organizes and operationalizes assessment in general education.
    - ii. New student learning outcomes have broad support from the four areas that have worked on.
    - iii. Vote to accept the general education learning outcomes as recommended: Yes (97%), Abstain (3%).

## VI. New Business

### A. [Ad Hoc Committee on Police Oversight Report](#)

3:50 pm

Marilyn Corsianos and Kevin Karpiak, Co-Chairs

- i. Reviewed Police Oversight Report.
- ii. Committee reached out to past members of the committee and created a 47 question survey as well as completed focus groups.
- iii. Noted changes including more frequent communication from administration, more public transparency from administration, website creation, and reinstatement of regular meetings.
- iv. Findings and recommendations were based on Michigan law, PSOC bylaws, and national best practices.
- v. Open for Discussion/Questions
  1. Neufeld: Did the PSOC exist in 2015/16 when the issues around the administration's treatment of the student protestors? It did exist, as it is a requirement by Michigan law to have a deputized police force. It only reacted to specific complaints filed against a police officer. The committee averages 1-2 complaints a year.
  2. Senators to provide report to their departments and send feedback to committee.

## VII. Committee Chair Reports

4:12pm

### A. [Winter term mental health days](#) (Elton, Academic Issues)

- i. Committee recommended setting two personal health days on either March 2-3, March 3-4, or March 31-April1.
- ii. Sheerin voiced concern that this eliminates an entire week for classes that only meet once a week.
- iii. Zakrajsek commented that it will be less stressful for students and faculty if the dates are known ahead of time rather than at the last minute like the November days were this semester.
- iv. Barton commented that historically student mental health has suffered in the Winter semester and having days scheduled off mid-semester helps a lot.
- v. Poll to determine support for personal wellness days in the Winter semester: Yes (83%), No(14%), Abstain (3%).
- vi. Poll to recommend set of dates: Beginning of March (83%), End of March (17%)
- vii. Poll to choose days of week: Tuesday/Wednesday (37%), Wednesday/Thursday (63%)

### B. Update on Zoom Policy (Evet, Technology Issues)

- i. Adopting the privacy policy from the University of Michigan. Includes syllabus language.
- ii. Recommended language provided by the Technology Issues committee. This can be used for Winter courses.

### C. EEFC Update (Barton)

- i. University is creating hy-flex classrooms that will be housed in the library. These allow for in-person and online courses simultaneously. The camera follows the motion of the instructor, but there is discussion about the camera following noise so it would go to students who talk as well as the instructor.
- ii. Welsh expressed concerns over recording of lectures and the potential for loss of ownership of the intellectual property as well as

- VIII. **Provost's Update** 4:43 pm
- A. Report provided by Michael Tew. There have been issues with non-EMU people not following precautions (masks, etc) so the library has been changed to swipe card access only.
  - B. Down 11% in enrollment for Winter semester.
  - C. Plan is for summer to be substantially online with the hopes of a return to a more normal schedule for Fall 2021.
  - D. Retention rate steady at 71-72%, first year students have a slightly higher retention rate than in the past. 6 year graduation rate of 47%.

- IX. **Announcements** 4:55 pm
- A. Housing RFQ Update
    - i. [Housing RFQ](#)
    - ii. [Message to Regents/Smith](#)
    - iii. [Smith Response](#)
    - iv. Carpenter reported that the RFQ had substantial work (number of buildings, extensive work on buildings) and a concerning timeline which stated the Board of Regents would be making a decision on the RFQ at their December meeting.
    - v. Faculty were not involved in the writing of the RFQ.
    - vi. Timeline for the RFQ is still unclear as the response from President Smith stated that it was not being discussed at the December Regents meeting, but neither Smith nor Webb responded with an updated timeline.

- X. **Adjourn** 5:02 pm

Documents in [12/9/20](#)  
Next full Senate meeting: 1/09/20

**Topic: Faculty Senate Session 7**

Time: Dec 9, 2020 03:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

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