

2021

## Faculty Senate Minutes, April 14, 2021

Faculty Senate

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**Eastern Michigan University**  
***Faculty Senate Agenda (approved 5/12/21)***

**Session 14**

3.00—5.15 pm April 14, 2021 via Zoom

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Present: Banerji, Barton Brewer Brock Carpenter Corsianos Curran Elton Evett Flowers Foster Judd Kustron Lee McCleary McVey Millan Mohamed Neufeld Nims Pressley-Sanon Sheerin Saldanha Spragg Trewn Waltz Welsh Zakrajsek.

Non-Voting Present: Gray, Longworth, Tew, Altman, Gellasch, Colton, Rema, Munther, Kauffman, Speelman, Higbee.

- I. **Call to Order** 3:02 pm
  
- II. **Approval of the Agenda**  

Motion to approve the agenda: Pressley-Sanon. Second: Curran. Yes: 23. No: 0. Abstain: 0. Motion carries.
  
- III. **Approval of the Minutes: [3/24/21](#)\***  

Motion to approve the minutes: Pressley-Sanon. Second: Lee. Yes: 23. No: 0. Abstain: 0. Motion carries.
  
- IV. **Appointments and Elections** 3:05 pm
  - A. [Writing Intensive Subcommittee – Call for Representatives from the College of Education, the College of Engineering and Technology, and the College of Arts and Sciences](#)
  
- V. **Provost’s Update** 3:06 pm
  - A. Faculty Development Center Search Committee – will be reissuing the call for members of the search committee, will clarify interest in applying for the interim position and applying for the permanent position. FDC will need to help faculty with the transition to returning to campus.
  - B. Summer Course Initiative – 13 course proposals were funded; in addition supplementing sections of multi-section courses.
  - C. Summer/Fall Enrollment Update – summer enrollment is looking good. Fall enrollment is behind due to delay in registration.
  - D. Faculty award nominations – plan to have a ceremony in early May. Award winners were notified and will be recognized in the April board of regents meeting. Collective bargaining leaders for the units will also be included.
  - E. Ad Hoc Police Oversight Response – a response will be received before the May Senate meeting.
  - F. COB relocation – short term location is Hill Hall. No long term decision. COB representatives report that the proposal was to put them in two buildings, and they are not in favor of being in separate buildings, despite the fact that 3 of the 5 colleges do not have all faculty in the same building. This will be discussed further at the COB building committee meeting tomorrow.
  - G. Summer Pay – May and June meetings, proposal to have the funds transferred to the Senate budget for distribution by the Senate rather than processed individually through the Provost’s office.

- H. Question from Lee about the summer online fees and the increased cost to students for courses that would normally be face to face. Response from the Provost that the CFO makes budget/fee schedule recommendations that are then approved by the Board of Regents. Any suggestions for how to manage the fees can go through the Faculty Senate Budget and Resource Committee to see where funds could be reallocated to cover the online costs. The reduced costs for software licenses etc are ending so the university would still need to cover these costs.

## VI. Discussions

- A. **Higher Learning Commission Assurance Argument (Draft)** 3:25 pm  
Dr. Michael Tew, Associate Provost and Associate Vice President for Academic Programming and Services
- Seeking feedback from faculty. Senate members will compile department/school feedback and submit through the following forms below. Google Form links should not be shared with faculty members, they should only be used by Senators.
- Gray to send the criterion out to all faculty with a message to contact their department Senator
- Criterion 1 Google Form (<https://forms.gle/4NJfEY1iizaeA92VA>)
- Criterion 2 Google Form (<https://forms.gle/ZtwijMqEDYjhrstp8>)
- Criterion 3 Google Form (<https://forms.gle/msc2yfeW46CDmM4Q7>)
- Criterion 4 Google Form (<https://forms.gle/Wr1huxtGT4y13p8Z6>)
- Criterion 5 Google Form (<https://forms.gle/6Nuvi9nXCu1gNkUs8>)
- B. **Academic and Student Affairs Strategic Planning Focus Groups** 3:53 pm  
Dr. Rema Reynolds, Associate Professor, Leadership and Counseling  
Provost Rhonda Longworth
1. Focus groups will be led over the summer from other community stakeholders to get input on the themes and goals to develop initiatives. Alums, community members and other groups will be included. Dr Reynolds is helping develop the focus groups. External (non-contract) groups will be met with over the summer and then focus groups for faculty and students will be held in the fall.
- C. **Senate Response to Doe vs EMU Sexual Assault Lawsuit (Gray, Corsianos)** 4:02 pm  
[Documents from Dr. Paul Leighton, Professor of Criminology](#)
1. Neufeld requested a letter to student government to let them know what actions faculty have taken in support of them, despite no further action being taken in response to the faculty.
  2. Executive Board to discuss reaffirming the recommendations of the Police Oversight Committee.
  3. Corsianos stated the need for clarity and transparency in the processes of the Title IX office when a complaint is made.

D. **Campus Housing Update (Carpenter, Gray)** 4:20 pm  
[Faculty Statement on Campus Housing and the Proposed RFP \(4.14.2021\)](#)

1. Valdes went to UBC in March for recommendations on whether EMU should go forward with an RFP from vendors. UBC will be voting on their recommendation (yes or no) next week.
2. Primary concern of UBC is making this type of decision in the current time. Attached document reviews reasons to not support the RFP.
3. Motion to support the statement as presented: Barton. Second: Welsh. Comment from Flowers that in addition to point number 3, privatization can have a significant impact and reduction on residence life activities and programming. The committee did not study this potential effect. Yes: 26. No: 1. Abstain: 0. Motion carries.

E. **Consider final revised [University Strategic Plan](#)** 4:45 pm

1. Decision to have faculty review the proposal and vote at May meeting.

VII. **Committee Chair Reports** 4:53 pm

A. Academic Issues (Elton)

1. [Report on Test-Optional/Test-Blind Admissions](#)
2. [120 SCH Degree Recommendation](#)
  - a) Proposal from AI committee is in support of the move from a minimum of 124 to a minimum of 120 credit hours.
  - b) Motion to approve recommendation: Barton. Second: Welsh.  
Yes: 25. No: 1. Abstain: 1.
3. [Report on Pass/Fail Deadline Policy](#)

VIII. **Announcements**

- A. Potential June meeting: June 9 or 23, poll indicated preference for June 9.
- B. If you are unable to continue on Senate for the 21-22 academic year, please make sure your department holds elections in April, per the Senate Bylaws
- C. Officer Elections for Secretary (John Curran), Membership Coordinator (Monica Millan, Toni Pressley Sanon), and Vice President (Marilyn Corsianos) will be held at the May meeting. Please send an email to [faculty\\_senate@emich.edu](mailto:faculty_senate@emich.edu). Must be a senate representative or alternate in 21-22 to serve.
- D. Committee Chair Elections will be held in the fall. The following positions are available: Faculty Issues, Student Issues, Graduate Council, Task Force on Campus Climate, Race and Diversity Issues
- E. Housing RFQ Update
  1. [Housing RFQ](#)
  2. [Message to Regents/Smith](#)
  3. [Smith Response](#)
  4. [Smith 12/22/20 Response](#)

F. Campus Billboard Outsourcing Documents

1. [Provost's message](#)
2. [Operating agreement](#)
3. [Key points document](#)

IX. Adjourn

5:04 pm

Documents in [4/14/21](#)

**Next full Senate Meeting: 5/12/21**

**Topic: Faculty Senate Session 14**

**Time: Apr 14, 2021 03:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)**

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