

MINUTES OF THE FORMAL SESSION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF MICHIGAN TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY held pursuant to due call in Ballroom B of the Memorial Union Building on the campus of Michigan Technological University in the City of Houghton, Michigan at nine o'clock on the morning of April 28, 2023.

The Board of Trustees of Michigan Technological University met in formal session at the University's campus at Michigan Technological University in the City of Houghton, State of Michigan, at 9:00 a.m., on the 28th day of April, in Ballroom B of the Memorial Union Building. The place, hour, and date are duly established and duly published for the holding of such a meeting.

The meeting was called to order by Chair, J. C. Littmann, and a quorum was declared present. The following members of the Board of Trustees were present:

J. U. Bacon
A.R. Dickson
J. E. Jipping
M. D. Johnson
J. C. Littmann, Chair
D. D. Sanders (by telephone)
S. M. Tomaszewski, Vice Chair
M. Q. Wells
R. J. Koubek, ex officio
S.H. Schulte, Secretary
J. H. Seppala, Treasurer

Also present during part or all the session were: Wayne Gersie, Andrew Storer, John Lehman, William Kordenbrock, David D. Reed, William Roberts, and various members of the faculty, administrative staff, student body, press, and public.

Where item numbers are used, they refer to corresponding item numbers in the agenda, in the hands of the Board members.

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. ROLL CALL

III. CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

It was moved by J. Bacon, supported by J. Jipping, and passed by voice vote without dissent, that the agenda of the formal session of April 28, 2023, as distributed to the Board, be approved.

IV. OPENING REMARKS

A. Chair's Comments

Good morning. For the next couple of days, we'll be basking in the warm glow emanating from our graduates and their families. It looks like Wednesday before we bask in any other warm glow.

Our April Board meeting is always a time for celebration, and today is no different.

We are incredibly excited for all our graduates and offer our heartfelt congratulations to you! We are looking forward to honoring the Graduate students this afternoon and the Undergraduate students tomorrow. It is only fitting that at Michigan Tech, we hold our graduation ceremonies on the ice rink. Graduates: It's not easy to get where you are. You didn't just earn your degree - you did it at Michigan Tech, where everything is a bit harder. You've made it through the snow and ice, you've made it through the rigorous courses, and you've done it together - as Huskies. We know that your next round of achievements will be equally inspiring, and we're just waiting to welcome you back as alumni and maybe future Board members.

To our Air Force and Army ROTC graduates, the Joint Commissioning Ceremony is always a highlight of graduation weekend. We applaud your hard work over the last several years, and we thank you for your service going forward.

April is also the time for faculty tenure decisions. Achieving tenure is an important step in a faculty's career - denoting strong contributions in teaching, research, and service to the university. Our review of tenure recommendations reminds us each year of the excellence within our faculty ranks. To those who achieve tenure today, we congratulate you and look forward to your next accomplishments.

We also congratulate this year's University and Distinguished Professors, who were announced yesterday. Dr. Raymond Shaw, a Professor in the Department of Physics, has been named this year's University Professor. Three faculty members have been reappointed as Distinguished Professors - Jarek Drelich, Professor in the Department of Materials Science and Engineering; Nancy Langston, Professor in the Department of Social Sciences; and David Watkins, Professor in the Department of Civil, Environmental, and Geospatial Engineering. We congratulate these faculty on their awards and thank them for their continued exceptional contributions.

Speaking of remarkable faculty, we are excited to have Dr. Ana Dyreson, Assistant Professor of Mechanical Engineering-Engineering Mechanics and leader of the Great Lakes Energy Group, here with us today to attempt to teach us about the challenges and opportunities related to Electrification and Decarbonization in the North.

The Mechanical Engineering-Engineering Mechanics department is having a strong year, with a total of over \$9.5 million in sponsored awards, representing an increase of over 32% from last fiscal year. Dr. Dyreson is part of the reason for that increase, having received a new award of \$499,445 from the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation for the project titled "Electrification and Climate Resilience in the Rural North: Challenges and Opportunities." Other notable awards include Dr. Hassan Masoud's National Science Foundation CAREER award in the amount of \$409,777 for the project titled "CAREER: Collective Hydrodynamics of Robotic Swimmers and Surfers at High Reynolds Numbers," and Dr. Greg Odegard's increment of funding of \$1,738,156 for his award with NASA titled "Institute for Ultra-Strong Composites by Computational Design (US-COMP)." Congratulations to Mechanical Engineering-Engineering Mechanics on such a strong year and thank you to Dr. Dyerson for sharing your work with us today.

Finally, I want to take a moment to express our excitement about the vote we are taking today to approve the Nursing degree program. While we are saddened by the loss of Finlandia University, we are pleased to be able to support the local community and our local hospitals by returning a nursing program to Michigan Tech. There is a shortage of nurses in the state and in our local community, and we are excited to be able to contribute to the improvement of those figures. We also know that Michigan Tech nurses will join our other health sciences graduates in bringing excellence, innovation, and leadership to their field.

B. President's Comments

Chair, Members of the Board, and audience members, welcome and thank you for joining us this morning. I am also pleased to welcome the many special guests on campus this weekend, particularly the family and friends of our graduates who are in town for Michigan Tech's spring commencement exercises.

As our graduates bid farewell to Michigan Tech, I would like to recognize a few key leaders who have left an indelible mark during their time here and thank them for their service, especially our Undergraduate Student Government president, Cheyenne Scott, our Graduate Student Government President, Ranit Karmakar, and a special thanks to Mike Mullins, our University Senate President, who will complete his term this summer. We hope you know how much we appreciate your willingness to take up the mantle of leadership for the University Senate during that time last year. It meant a lot to me personally and to the Board members. Our appreciation is not alone; the faculty themselves announced yesterday that Mike is to receive the faculty distinguished service award on behalf of the university. Many congratulations to you, Mike, and very well deserved.

The campus owes you a debt of gratitude for your leadership. It has been my pleasure to serve alongside you.

Congratulations are also in order for our Men's Hockey Head Coach, Joe Shawhan, who was named the CCHA Coach of the Year, and to our Nordic ski head coach Tom Monahan Smith for

being named the CCSA Men's Coach of the Year along with the CCSA Co-Women's Coach of the Year.

As Jeff mentioned in his comments, this recognition reflects well on our institution. This pervades not only in athletics but on the academic and research missions as well.

The fall 2022 incoming first-year student class was the second largest in school history and is the most academically proficient on record as measured by high school GPA and SAT.

Research expenditures are up by about 8 percent over 2022's all-time historic high.

And last year, the Michigan Tech Fund recorded its 2nd largest fundraising total in MTU's history.

Looking ahead, we are pleased to report that Michigan Tech's financial forecast remains healthy. Our budget planning scenarios for FY 2024 include continuing the faculty hiring initiative, increasing the deferred maintenance budget, instituting selected unit budget enhancements, and implementing salary increases.

Enrollment is well-positioned for the coming academic year. The H-STEM Complex is on schedule with an anticipated opening in early 2024, and the planning phase of the Campus Master Plan's East Residence Hall project is well underway.

And finally, we will soon launch a capital campaign to strengthen Michigan Tech's unique and exceptional educational experience.

We've had an exceptional year, no doubt, because of the exceptional talent at Michigan Tech. To the Michigan Tech community, our students, faculty, and staff, thank you for your hard work.

Congratulations again to our class of 2023 and you all for another successful year.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

None

VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS

VI-A. Academic Affairs Committee

The Committee has met once since the last Board meeting. The evaluation program is now in its second semester without a single incident. The faculty and chairs are hearing the students' voices, as they should be.

Next, the Committee proposed eighteen (18) tenure promotions, which is good news and going in the right direction, states Chair Bacon. The Committee is also looking at the role of adjunct professors with help from the University senate.

The revisions to general education program is a long process and coming along well, with a few items still to determine; with minor adjustments, the program should be finalized soon.

Additionally, the Committee is working with the Graduate Student Government to address the GTA and GTI health insurance and compensation concerns.

Lastly, in Traverse City, we are promoting the Two Plus Two Program, where a student can go to Northwestern Michigan College for two years and transfer to Michigan Tech in the final two years.

Chair Bacon thanks President Koubek for his help in bringing this initiative to fruition. Chair Bacon also thanks GSG President Karmakar, Senate President Mike Mullins, and the new Provost Andrew Storer.

VI-B. Audit and Finance Committee

The Committee met twice since the last Board meeting, including a special meeting to review the East Residence Hall proposal.

The Committee reviewed the current budget, and we are on target with no surprises. In addition, the Committee set the parameters based on historical numbers and enrollment, which will be voted on during this meeting. Our institution is defying the trends that other universities are experiencing. This has to do with multiple factors, including our faculty doing a great job, students wanting to attend Michigan Tech, our strong research apparatus, and alumni continuing to support our efforts.

Lastly, as an institution, we select auditors annually to ensure we do everything right. Today, we will vote to approve this year's external auditor.

VI-C. Leadership Committee Report

The Committee met once since the last Board meeting. The Committee received updates on the presidential initiatives. Committee Chair Jipping is happy to report that many of the initiatives are complete, and by the end of the fiscal year, all the remaining initiatives will be completed.

Next, President provided an update on the current open positions within the leadership team, as well as the current searches being conducted.

Next, the Committee reviewed upcoming tasks for August, including the President's review, as well as the implementation of the President's new contract, which was approved last year.

Lastly, the Committee discussed long-term planning items, including succession planning and possible initiatives for next year.

VII. CONSENT AGENDA

It was moved by S. Tomaszewski, supported by J. Jipping, and passed by voice vote without dissent, that the Board of Trustees approve and adopt the items contained in the Consent Agenda.

VII-A. Approval of Minutes

It was moved by S. Tomaszewski, supported by J. Jipping, and passed by voice vote without dissent, that the minutes of the formal session of February 24, 2023, as distributed to the Board, be approved.

VII-B. Resignations, Retirements, and Off Payroll

It was moved by S. Tomaszewski, supported by J. Jipping, and passed by voice vote without dissent, that the Board of Trustees accepts the resignations and confirms the off-payroll determinations.

VII-C. Funding Productivity Report

It was moved by S. Tomaszewski, supported by J. Jipping, and passed by voice vote without dissent, that the Board of Trustees acknowledges the gifts to Michigan Technological University.

VII-D. Exclusion Resolution

It was moved by S. Tomaszewski, supported by J. Jipping, and passed by voice vote without dissent, that the Board of Trustees approves the exclusion Resolution.

VII-E. Approval of External Auditor

It was moved by S. Tomaszewski, supported by J. Jipping, and passed by voice vote without dissent, that the Board of Trustees approves appointment of Plante & Moran, PLLC, as external auditor.

VIII. ACTION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

VIII-A. Tenure-Track Appointments Not Involving Tenure and/or Promotion

It was moved by J. Jipping, supported by J. Bacon, and passed by voice vote without dissent, that the Board of Trustees approves the appointments listed herein. The appointments do not include tenure or promotion.

Appointment without Tenure for Two Years Effective August 14, 2023

Jenny Apriesnig	Assistant Professor	College of Business
Elham Asgari	Assistant Professor	College of Business
Laura Connolly	Assistant Professor	College of Business
Xiaoyong "Brian" Yuan	Assistant Professor	Applied Computing
Weihua Zhou	Assistant Professor	Applied Computing
Xinyu Lei	Assistant Professor	Computer Science
Jianhui Yue	Assistant Professor	Computer Science
Roger Guillory	Assistant Professor	Biomedical Engineering
Sangyoon Han	Assistant Professor	Biomedical Engineering
Chunxiu Yu	Assistant Professor	Biomedical Engineering
Yixin Liu	Assistant Professor	Chemical Engineering
Ricardo Eiris Pereira	Assistant Professor	Civil, Environmental & Geospatial Eng.

Hongyu An	Assistant Professor	Electrical & Computer Engineering
Lan Zhang	Assistant Professor	Electrical & Computer Engineering
Xin Xi	Assistant Professor	Geological & Mining Eng. & Sciences
Jung Yun Bae	Assistant Professor	Mechanical Eng. – Eng. Mechanics
Ana Dyreson	Assistant Professor	Mechanical Eng. – Eng. Mechanics
Susanta Ghosh	Assistant Professor	Mechanical Eng. – Eng. Mechanics
Vijaya Venkata Malladi	Assistant Professor	Mechanical Eng. – Eng. Mechanics
Julia Burton	Assistant Professor	College of Forest Resources & Env. Sci.
Valoree Gagnon	Assistant Professor	College of Forest Resources & Env. Sci.
Steven Voelker	Assistant Professor	College of Forest Resources & Env. Sci.
Paul Goetsch	Assistant Professor	Biological Sciences
Robert Larson	Assistant Professor	Biological Sciences
Jill Olin	Assistant Professor	Biological Sciences
Oren Abeles	Assistant Professor	Humanities
Carolyn Duncan	Assistant Professor	Kinesiology & Integrative Physiology
Byung-Jun Kim	Assistant Professor	Mathematical Sciences
Qian Zhang	Assistant Professor	Mathematical Sciences
Sara Gosses	Assistant Professor	Visual & Performing Arts

Appointment without Tenure for One Year Effective August 14, 2023

Jun Dai	Assistant Professor	College of Business
Xin Li	Assistant Professor	College of Business
Hoda Hatoum	Assistant Professor	Biomedical Engineering
Zequn Wang	Assistant Professor	Mechanical Eng. – Eng. Mechanics
Sarah Bell	Assistant Professor	Humanities

VIII-B. Appointments Involving Tenure and/or Promotion

It was moved by A. Dickson, supported by J. Bacon, and passed by voice vote without dissent, that the Board of Trustees approves the appointments involving tenure and/or promotion listed herein.

Promotion from Assistant Professor without Tenure to Associate Professor with Tenure

Smitha Rao Hatti	Biomedical Engineering
Hassan Masoud	Mechanical Engineering – Engineering Mechanics
Trisha Sain	Mechanical Engineering – Engineering Mechanics
Xiaohu "Mark" Tang	Biological Sciences
Kathryn Perrine	Chemistry
Shan Zhou	Social Sciences
Adam Meckler	Visual and Performing Arts

Promotion from Associate Professor without Tenure to Associate Professor with Tenure

Iakov "Yakov" Nekritch	Computer Science
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VIII-C. Promotions

It was moved by J. Jipping, supported by A. Dickson, and passed by voice vote without dissent, that the Board of Trustees approves the promotions listed herein.

Promotion from Associate Professor with Tenure to Professor with Tenure

Dukka KC	Computer Science
Pasi Lautala	Civil, Environmental, & Geospatial Engineering
Pengfei Xue	Civil, Environmental, & Geospatial Engineering
Evan Kane	College of Forest Resources & Env. Sci.
Thomas Werner	Biological Sciences
Christo Christov	Chemistry
Ashutosh Tiwari	Chemistry
Zhiying Shan	Kinesiology & Integrative Physiology
Donald Lafreniere	Social Sciences
Chelsea Schelly	Social Sciences

VIII-D. Emeritus Rank

It was moved A. Dickson, supported by S. Tomaszewski, and passed by voice vote without dissent, that the Board of Trustees approves the following emeritus/emerita appointments:

Dr. Brian Fick, Professor Emeritus
Department of Physics

Dr. Sarah Green, Professor Emerita
Department of Chemistry

Dr. Chandrashekhar Joshi, Professor Emeritus
Department of Biological Sciences

Dr. Thomas Merz, Professor Emeritus
College of Business

Dr. Jennifer Slack, Professor Emerita
Department of Humanities

Dr. Bryan Suits, Professor Emeritus
Department of Physics

VIII-E. Proposal for a Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing

It was moved by A. Dickson, supported by S. Tomaszewski, and passed by voice vote without dissent, that the Board of Trustees approves the Bachelor of Science in Nursing.

President Koubek provided comments.

I wanted to take a moment to express our gratitude to the University Senate for rapidly moving the Nursing degree through its process. I would also like to thank Finlandia University - especially its President and its Nursing department and students, who have been wonderful to work with on this transition during what is an exceptionally difficult time for them. Michigan Tech is pleased to be able to bring nursing back as a degree program - especially during this time of exceptional need in the healthcare industry. Pairing science-focused degrees with industry needs is what Michigan Tech does best and we're very pleased to be able to support our local healthcare providers by providing graduating classes of skilled nurses going forward.

VIII-F. Honorary Doctorate Degree for Julie Fream

It was moved by A. Dickson, supported by M. Johnson, and passed by voice vote without dissent, that the Board of Trustees approves the awarding of an Honorary Doctorate of Philosophy degree to Ms. Julie Fream.

VIII-G. Revisions to Board Policy 6.8 - Faculty Emeritus

It was moved by J. Bacon, supported by A. Dickson, and passed by voice vote without dissent, that the Board of Trustees approves the revisions to Board Policy 6.8 Faculty Emeritus.

VIII-H. Approval of FY24 General Fund Operating Budget

It was moved by A. Dickson, supported by S. Tomaszewski, and passed by voice vote without dissent, that the Board of Trustees approves the FY24 General Fund Operating Budget.

VIII-I. Resolution for Approval of Pre-Development Agreement

It was moved by M. Johnson, supported by S. Tomaszewski, and passed by voice vote without dissent, that the Board of Trustees approves the pre-development agreement.

Board Chair Littmann provided a special thank you to those involved with of this new residence building project.

IX. REPORTS (presentations provided in agenda)

IX-A. Electrification and decarbonization in the north: challenges and opportunities

Ana Dyreson, Assistant Professor, Mechanical Engineering-Engineering Mechanics

IX-B. Provost Report

Andrew Storer, Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

IX-C. Undergraduate Student Government

Mason Krause, President and Cheyenne Scott, President Emerita

IX-D. Graduate Student Government

Ranit Karmakar, President

IX-E. University Senate

Mike Mullins, President

X. INFORMATIUNAL ITEMS (documents provided in agenda)

X-A. Analysis of Investments

X-B. Research & Sponsored Programs

X-C. Advancement & Alumni Relations

X-D. Media Coverage

X-E. Employee Safety Statistics

X-F. Disposal of Surplus Property

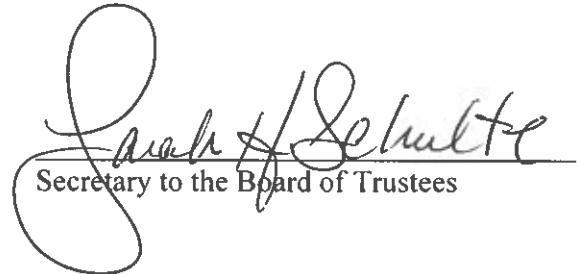
X-G. Summary of Scholarships, Awards, and Grants (Board Policy 9.3)


XI. Other Business

XII. Date for Next Formal Meeting: August 3, 2023

XIII. Adjourn

It was moved by S. Tomaszewski, supported by M. Johnson, and passed by voice vote without dissent, that the Board of Trustees adjourn the meeting.


Secretary to the Board of Trustees


Chair, Board of Trustees