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 October 6, 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 6th day of October, 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:

A.R. Dickson
J. E. Jipping
M. D. Johnson
J. C. Littmann, Chair
D. D. Sanders
S. M. Tomaszewski, Vice Chair
M. Q. Wells
R. J. Koubek, ex officio
S.H. Schulte, Secretary
N.W. Stevens, Treasurer

Also present during part or all the session were: Laura Bulleit, Andrew Storer, John Lehman, William Kordenbrock, David D. Reed, William Roberts, and Michael Blanco 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 D. Sanders, supported by J. Jipping, and passed by voice vote without dissent, that the agenda of the formal session of October 6, 2023, as distributed to the Board of Trustees, be approved.

IV.   OPENING REMARKS

A. Chair's Comments

Good morning. I would like to start by remembering two individuals who were impactful here at Michigan Tech.

First, I would like to remember Bill Johnson, who passed away on September 21st. Bill was a former member of the Board of Trustees and was an integral part of the last Presidential search. Bill maintained a solid foundation in his faith, had collected the wisdom of years in business, and selflessly shared his expertise for the betterment of Michigan Tech. May he rest in peace.

Next, I want to say a few words about Joel Tuoriniemi, Professor of Practice in Accounting, who passed away in an automobile accident on September 19. Professor Tuoriniemi was an exceptional teacher - a prior recipient of the University's Distinguished Teaching Award as well as the College of Business Teaching Award and was a member of the University's Academy of Teaching Excellence. He loved teaching and deeply cared about his students' education. Joel and I were both graduates of Detroit's College of Law/Michigan State College of Law, and I had the privilege of being a guest in his class. He will be greatly missed.

It feels like fall may finally be here to stay as we see the temperature drop 30 degrees from a couple days ago. The students at breakfast told me that this is welcome news because they can now concentrate better on their studies than when the sun was out. The tree colors are spectacular. The news out of Michigan Tech is even better:
- To the west, the Trewhella Gateway on Alumni Way is well underway;
- To the south, the walls are up on the new ambulance bay, and a new parking lot is under construction;
- To the north, a new elevator is being added to Dow. I heard from the students this morning about the importance of elevators working all the time;
- In the middle of campus, H-STEM is nearing completion;
- And to the east, site work is commencing on the new residence hall;
- Members of the Board took a tour of the newly renovated classrooms, and they look fantastic.

There are exciting developments in all directions right now. Moreover, the need for this growth is backed by the campus' continued upward trajectory:
- Michigan Tech ranked 2nd in the nation for Salary Impact among public universities in the Wall Street Journal's 2024 College Rankings.

- Michigan Tech ranked as the second-best Michigan college for ROI (behind only U of M-Ann Arbor) by Smart Asset in its listing of Best Value Colleges, with a starting salary the survey described as "near the top of all schools on the list."
- Michigan Tech, as we'll hear later in this meeting, has its highest overall enrollment in 40 years.
- This year's incoming class also had the highest average high school GPA in Tech's history at 3.83. That is another thing I heard from the students this morning, they are aware of this statistic and that's why the come here. This is who they want to study with.
- And Michigan Tech ranked 1st in the nation for free speech on campus in a report by the Foundation for Individual Rights and Expression.

All great news, all earned accomplishments. We are mindful that our ranking for our facilities weren't quite in this category, and we're hard at work to improve that. That means change, which takes time but we're on it. For these accomplishments, we recognize and congratulate our exceptional faculty and students. Those results are the payoff for a great deal of consistent, hard work. They also lay the groundwork to continue the path toward the university's strategic goals. It is a pleasure for your Board to serve in such a positive, dynamic environment. Keep up the good work!

B. President's Comments

Chair, Members of the Board and audience members. As Jeff said, certainly it's a change of seasons. Someone described the change of seasons in the Upper Peninsula as "always vigorous,"as evidenced today. It is a bit of a metaphor for our institution which is used to change and certainly, as the chair mentioned, there are changes happening across campus.

As a campus we are delighted to celebrate record enrollment, which reflects the tremendous effort put forth by our faculty and staff. This is on top of breaking $100M in research expenditures, the highest student retention rates in history and the largest number of employers at career fair since we began keeping records. These are truly impressive feats for a public university of 7,000 students located about 200 miles from the nearest interstate.

But we are aware that with this change and growth, comes growing pains. No doubt that the parking is in flux due to the numerous construction projects on going. We are onboarding Chartwells, and working with the team as they adapt and adjust to better serve the needs of our students, faculty and staff. It won't be long before the general education curriculum becomes integrated, and you may feel growing pains on that. And Human Resources is transitioning from a traditional point of service model to a partnership approach, and I think you'll see positive changes as well.

There is no doubt that we have growing pains, and I want to express my appreciation for your perseverance, although there are minor disruptions in the short-term, they will be beneficial to Michigan Tech overall.

To our campus, thank you for your patience and support as we work to improve the Michigan Tech experience. I always welcome your feedback and encourage open communication. We have a strong shared governance structure and many channels for you to use your voice to make Michigan Tech a better place for us all.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

None

VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS

VI-A. Academic Affairs Committee

The Committee met once since the last meeting. They reviewed items from Provost Storer which will come before the Board later in the meeting. They also heard from Provost Storer on the initiatives for the year including an update on the General Education activities.

Next, the Committee received a research update from VP for Research, Dave Reed, as well as a report from Dean of Students, Laura Bulleit. In addition, they heard from Senate, USG, and GSG, who will be presenting later in the meeting.

Lastly, one new, reoccurring item on the Committee's agenda is to meet with a College Dean. At this meeting the Dean of the Graduate School, Will Cantrell come to talk about the Graduate School. He mentioned the significant increase in the number of applications submitted that must be evaluated by the Graduate School team. Because of the increase, the team is making improvements to the process which will help the department and potential incoming students.

VI-B. Audit and Finance Committee

The Committee met once since the last meeting. During the meeting, the final numbers for last fiscal year performance were reviewed. The committee also met with the external auditors who will provide their final report later in this meeting. The Committee Chair is happy to announce that we received a clean audit report.

Lastly, the Committee conducted a high-level strategic review the upcoming fiscal year budget. Due to the complexity of the budget process, it's important to start early with discussions. The Committee also reviewed state level information related to capital outlay for public universities, and Michigan Tech priorities, if given the opportunity to submit requests to the State.

VI-C. Leadership Committee Report

The Committee met once since the last meeting. President Koubek presented the new initiatives outlined for this fiscal year, as well as provided updates on open leadership positions.

Next, the Committee discussed the upcoming December election of Board of Trustees Chair and Vice Chair as well as the need for additional Trustees who will have the Department of Defense Security Clearance.

Lastly, the Committee discussed possible candidates for future Board members. The candidates' names would be submitted to the Governor. The Governor's Office will appoint two new Board members for 2025.

VII.   CONSENT AGENDA

It was moved by M. Wells, supported by M. Johnson, 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 M. Wells, supported by M. Johnson, and passed by voice vote without dissent, that the Board of Trustees approves the awarding of the degrees as specified, to each of the candidate listed and offered congratulations.

VII-B. Degrees in Course

It was moved by M. Wells, supported by M. Johnson, and passed by voice vote without dissent, that the Board of Trustees accepts the resignations and confirms the off-payroll determinations.

VII-C. Resignations, Retirements, and Off Payroll

It was moved by M. Wells, supported by M. Johnson, and passed by voice vote without dissent, that the Board of Trustees accepts the resignations and confirms the off-payroll determinations.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OFF-PAYROLL REPORT

(July 1, 2023 – September 16, 2023)

RETIRED					
Name	**Class**	**Department**	**Title**	**Most Recent Hire Date**	**Term Date**
Pattie Luokkanen	PF	Van Pelt & Opie Library	Assistant Director	10/01/1990	09/15/2023
Peter Moran	FF	Materials Science & Engineering	Professor	08/19/2001	09/02/2023

OFF-PAYROLL					
Name	**Class**	**Department**	**Title**	**Most Recent Hire Date**	**Term Date**
Bonnie Graham	AF	Wadsworth Hall Food Service	Food Service Helper	08/27/2018	07/12/2023
Michael Serio	PF	Information Technology Operations	Windows System Administrator	12/12/2022	07/05/2023
Ashley Curie	PF	Center for Diversity & Inclusion	Multicultural Student Success Coordinator	02/07/2022	07/07/2023
Jessica Hill	AF	Facilities Management	Custodian	12/12/2022	07/14/2023
Michael Miller	AF	Facilities Management	Custodian	01/10/2022	07/14/2023
Ahammad Basha Dudekula	PF	Advanced Power Systems Research Center	Research Engineer	07/12/2021	07/14/2023
Charles Snelson	PF	General Athletics	Director of Athletic Communication	09/21/2020	07/14/2023
Ben Wiegand	PF	Mechanical Engineering-Engineering Mechanics	Research Engineer	11/28/2021	07/14/2023
Trevor Mills	PF	Wadsworth Hall Food Service	Dining Services Manager	11/28/2022	07/14/2023
Clarence Hardwick	AP	Residential Dining	Food Service Helper	05/07/2010	07/17/2023
Nathaniel Gonzalez	PF	Chief Information Officer	Chief Information Security Officer	06/19/2023	07/23/2023
Patrick Mikesch	PF	Office of Advancement	Director of Charitable Giving	12/12/2022	07/22/2023
Bryce Tuttle	PF	Information Technology Operations	System Administrator	10/29/2012	07/27/2023
Ye Duan	FD	Computer Science	Department Chair	08/01/2022	07/31/2023

Name	Class	Department	Title	Most Recent Hire Date	Term Date
Zhen Liu	FF	Civil, Environmental & Geospatial Engineering	Associate Professor	08/19/2013	07/31/2023
Ali Zolghadr	RF	Chemical Engineering	Research Assistant Professor	01/01/2021	07/31/2023
Thomas Oommen	FF	Geological & Mining Engineering & Sciences	Professor	08/08/2010	08/20/2023
Kai Zhou	RF	Mechanical Engineering-Engineering Mechanics	Research Assistant Professor	12/28/2020	07/31/2023
Dany Jacob	FC	Humanities	Associate Teaching Professor	08/26/2016	08/04/2023
Carlos Amador	FF	Humanities	Associate Professor	08/18/2014	08/04/2023
Lisa Watrous	FR	Humanities	Assistant Teaching Professor	08/15/2022	08/04/2023
Joseph Geisz	PF	Great Lakes Research Center	Research Engineer	09/06/2022	08/04/2023
Anthony Botto	PF	Wadsworth Hall Food Service	Assistant Manager	09/24/2018	08/06/2023
Thomas Adolphs	FR	Humanities	Assistant Teaching Professor	08/09/2021	08/11/2023
Zequn Wang	FF	Mechanical Engineering-Engineering Mechanics	Assistant Professor	08/15/2016	08/06/2023
Roger Guillory	FF	Biomedical Engineering	Assistant Professor	09/30/2019	08/07/2023
Karalee Defoe	AF	Wadsworth Hall Food Service	Food Service Helper	09/06/2022	08/09/2023
Katie Knapp	PF	Admissions	Associate Director of Admissions Visitor Engagement	09/07/2021	08/11/2023
Patricia Leopold	PF	College of Forest Resources & Environmental Science	Climate Adaptation Specialist	10/05/2009	08/11/2023
Charlene Page	UP	Chemistry	Office Assistant	01/28/2013	08/11/2023
Sidike Paheding	FF	Applied Computing	Assistant Professor	08/17/2020	08/12/2023
Wenbin Zhang	FF	Computer Science	Assistant Professor	08/08/2022	08/12/2023
Andrea McMahon	AF	Facilities Management	Custodian	09/16/2022	08/12/2023
Sara Gosses	FF	Visual & Performing Arts	Assistant Professor	08/09/2021	08/13/2023
Shan Zhou	FF	Social Sciences	Assistant Professor	08/20/2018	08/13/2023
Zackary Mudick	AF	Athletic/Recreation Complex Operations	Custodian	05/15/2023	08/14/2023
Ricardo Eiris Pereira	FF	Civil, Environmental & Geospatial Engineering	Assistant Professor	08/17/2020	08/15/2023
Nicole Kelly	PF	University Marketing & Communications	Creative Director	10/05/2015	08/16/2023
Charler Schaerer	NF	Chemistry	Laboratory Associate	05/20/2019	08/18/2023
Hallie Leatherman	UF	Human Resources	Administrative Aide	09/07/2021	08/18/2023
Jordan Rabitory	AF	Facilities Management	Building Mechanic	07/25/2022	08/21/2023
David Robb	AF	Wadsworth Hall Food Service	Cook	11/26/2012	08/25/2023

Name	Class	Department	Title	Most Recent Hire Date	Term Date
Wayne Gersie	EX	Office of Diversity & Inclusion	Vice President for Diversity & Inclusion	11/02/2020	08/25/2023
Hyeun Joong Yoon	FR	Biomedical Engineering	Assistant Teaching Professor	08/17/2020	08/25/2023
Anthony Harris	PF	Athletic/Recreation Complex Operations	Event Operations Manager/Athletic Equipment Manager	03/07/2022	08/25/2023
Amanda Hagerl	PF	Alumni Engagement	Assistant Director of Alumni Engagement	08/09/2021	08/28/2023
Shannon Rinkinen	PF	College of Business	Director of Marketing & Outreach	05/11/2015	09/01/2023
Robert Stromer	AF	Wadsworth Hall Food Service	Food Service Helper	11/28/2022	09/02/2023
Elizabeth Fujita	PF	Office of Advancement	Director for Foundation Relations	07/25/2022	09/08/2023
Kelly Vizanko	PF	Registrar's Office	Associate Registrar for Technology	09/19/2011	09/08/2023
Mackenzie Mentel	NF	Provost & Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs	ADVANCE & Faculty Development Program Coordinator	04/17/2023	09/09/2023
Andrew Gross	PF	Electrical & Computer Engineering	Managing Director of Microfabrication Facility	07/12/2021	09/16/2023

VII-D. 2024 Meeting Dates

It was moved by M. Wells, supported by M. Johnson, and passed by voice vote without dissent, that the Board of Trustees that the Board of Trustees approve the meeting dates for 2024.

Retreat

Wednesday, February 21, 2024 (half day)

Thursday, February 22, 2024

Formal Session

Friday, February 23, 2024

Friday, April 26, 2024

Thursday, August 1, 2024

Friday, October 11, 2024

Friday, December 13, 2024

VIII. ACTION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

VIII-A. Emeritus Rank

It was moved by D. Sanders, supported by J. Jipping, and passed by voice vote without dissent, that the Board of Trustees approves the following emeritus/emerita appointments:

1. Peter D. Moran, Professor, Material Science and Engineering

VIII-B. Proposal for a Bachelor of Science Degree in Environmental Data Science

The faculty in the College of Forest Resources and Environmental Science seek to establish a Bachelor of Science (BS) degree in Environmental Data Science. The proposal has included input from other academic units across campus that will contribute courses to the program.
The BS in Environmental Data Science will provide students with a broad understanding of environmental data science and prepare them for careers in this fast-growing field. Students will be trained to understand the fundamentals of ecological science and will learn computational and analytical tools to enable them to manage and visualize data to apply to inform decisions about environmental issues. This program will be distinctive in its science-based curriculum in that it integrates an understanding of environmental and ecological data with new analytical and visualization approaches and tools to summarize and draw inference from data. This degree program is designed to produce the next generation of environmental data scientists to work in the private sector, for government agencies, and to promote entrepreneurship in addressing environmental issues.

The proposal has been approved by the University Senate and University administration. The University is seeking Board of Trustees approval to advance the proposal to the State Academic Affairs Officers.

It was moved by S. Tomaszewski, supported by D. Sanders, and passed by voice vote without dissent, that the Board of Trustees approves the creation of a Bachelor of Science Degree in Environmental Data Science.

VIII-C. Resolution to Accept the FY23 Audited Financial Statements

Plante & Moran, PLLC has provided audit services and presented their opinion regarding the 2023 Financial Report for Michigan Technological University.

External Auditor, Brian Greko, Plante Moran:

Plante Moran has issued a clean, unmodified opinion, which is the highest level of assurance they offer as part of the audit process. There were no issues with procedures, processes, or internal controls and full cooperation was given during the audit process.

Chair Littmann offers his thanks to the financial team for their assistance during the audit process.

It was moved by D. Sanders, supported by A. Dickson, and passed by voice vote without dissent, that the Board of Trustees approves the audited financial statements.

VIII-D. Five-Year State Capital Outlay Plan and Request

It was moved by S. Tomaszewski, supported by J. Jipping, and passed by voice vote without dissent, that the Board of Trustees approves the creation of a Master of Science Degree in Applied Computer Science.

FY25 FIVE-YEAR STATE CAPITAL OUTLAY PLAN AND REQUEST
The FY25 Five-Year State Capital Outlay Plan and Request is required to be submitted to the State of Michigan this fall with Board of Trustees approval and is included herein.

RECOMMENDATION: That the Board of Trustees approves the FY25 Five-Year State Capital Outlay Plan and FY25 Capital Project Request to be submitted to the State of Michigan.

FY25 Five-Year State Capital Outlay Plan							
Rank	Project Name	Gross Sq. Ft. New	Gross Sq. Ft. Renovated	Total Project Costs (000's)	StateFunds (000's)	Est. Const. Univ. Funds (000's)	FY Start/ FY End
1	Center for Convergence and Innovation (CCI)	110,000	0	87,000	30,000	57,000	2024/2028

Description

1. Center for Convergence and Innovation (CCI): The Center for Convergence Innovation (CCI) will help position Michigan's economy as a leader in digital transformation through cutting edge research, workforce development, and strategic partnerships. According to the Michigan Bureau of Labor, the state expects a 8.5 percent increase in workforce demand for business and financial operations, a 9.1 percent increase for management, and a 11.9 percent increase for computer and mathematical operations -cumulatively generating over 58,000 projected new jobs by 2030. Michigan Tech's College of Computing has grown greater than 10% in each of the past three years and remains on track to double in size by the end of the decade. Michigan Tech's College of Business grew by over 20% this year. Taken together, the two colleges account for more than 95% of MTU's growth this year and almost 25% of MTU's total graduate enrollment. In addition, both colleges have the highest enrollment in their history. The CCI also aligns with Michigan's "60x30" and economic prosperity goals by supporting innovations in computing, connectivity, sensorization, and business in this new age of digital transformation.

Congruent with the state's long-term economic transformation, the project will provide a place for existing business, data science, and computing programs to converge to spur new degree programs,

entrepreneurial projects, outreach to businesses and communities, increased industry and government funding for research, and the development of a highly agile workforce prepared to implement digital transformation solutions throughout Michigan. Students and employees from the College of Business and College of Computing will be commingled to promote cross-disciplinary collaboration, innovation, and entrepreneurship. The design of the building will intentionally promote connections among faculty and students across colleges. Reconfigurable spaces and theme-based shared digital lab facilities will be spread throughout. Additional features of the building will include convergence centers of excellence (fintech, cybersecurity, data science and business analytics, health informatics, and tech-based entrepreneurship), active-learning, computer-learning and online learning classrooms, flexible collaboration spaces open to all, student learning centers, open access conference rooms, a reconfigurable digital maker space, entrepreneurship training hall, and large, mid- and small-sized lecture halls. In addition to meeting Michigan Tech's convergence needs, this building will facilitate continued aggressive growth in areas that will help Michigan reach its goal of Talent Retention/Attraction. The estimated investment of $87,000,000 will allow Michigan Tech's Colleges of Business and Computing to realize their combined potential and ensure Michigan's future economic prosperity.

IX. REPORTS (presentations provided in agenda)

A. **Nano@MTU Presentation**
Yoke Khin Yap, University Professor, Professor of Physics

B. **Enrollment Report**
Kyle Rubin, Assistant Vice President for Enrollment Management

C. **Undergraduate Student Government**
Mason Krause, President

D. **Graduate Student Government**
Karlee Westrem, President

E. **University Senate**
Robert Hutchinson, President

Chair Littmann presented the Senate President with a game ball, as a thank you for the Senate contributions to the student enrollment success.

X. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS (documents provided in agenda)

A. **Analysis of Investments**
B. **Research & Sponsored Programs**
C. **Advancement & Alumni Relations**
D. **Media Coverage**
E. **Employee Safety Statistics**
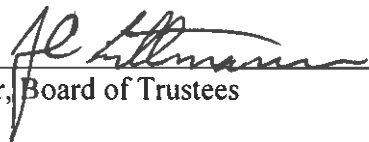F. **Disposal of Surplus property**

XI. **Other Business**
XII. **Date for Next Formal Meeting: December 15, 2023**
XIII. **Adjourn**

It was moved by M. Wells, 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