The University Senate
of Michigan Technological University

Minutes of Meeting 577
6 April 2016

Synopsis:
The Senate
• Results of 2015-16 President's Evaluation" presented by Shane Mueller, Administrative Policy Committee
• President's Response presented by University President Glenn Mroz
• Proposal 19-16: Proposal for a Minor in Writing passed.
• Proposal 20-16: Proposal for a Minor in Media Production passed.
• Proposal 21-16: Proposal for a Minor in Global Community Development Partnership passed.
• Proposal 22-16: Proposal to Amend Senate Policy 505.1 Policy on Early Term Surveys passed.
• Proposal 23-16: Proposal to Move to a University Parental Leave Policy passed.

1. Call to order and roll call. [00:00 – 01:51]
President Brian Barkdoll called the University Senate Meeting 577 to order at 5:30 pm on Wednesday, April 6, 2016. The Senate Secretary Marty Thompson called roll. Absent were senators Cai and Stancher and representatives of Army/Air Force ROTC, Engineering Fundamentals, Geological and Mining Engineering and Sciences, Materials Science and Engineering, Social Sciences, Technology, Graduate Faculty Council, Staff Council and Undergraduate Student Government.

2. Recognition of visitors. Guests included Ellen Horsch (Administration), Theresa Coleman-Kaiser (Administration), Ginger Sleeman (Human Resources), Bonnie Gorman (Dean of Students Office), Glenn Mroz (President), Min Song (Computer Science), Bruce Seely (College of Sciences and Arts) and Jackie Huntoon (Provosts Office).

3. Approval of agenda. [01:52 – 03:27]
DeWinter requested the removal of Proposal 38-16 from New Business. Schmierer moved to approve the amended agenda. Guter seconded. No discussion.

The amended agenda passed unanimously on a voice vote.

4. Approval of minutes from Meeting 576. [03:28 – 03:59]
Velat moved to approve. Schmierer seconded. The minutes passed unanimously on a voice vote.

5. Presentations [04:00 – 49:54]
a. "Results of 2015-16 President's Evaluation" [04:01 – 29:06]
Shane Mueller, Administrative Policy Committee, presented the results of the president's evaluation. [link to slides] Discussion.

b. "President's Response" [29:07 – 48:00]
Glenn Mroz, University President, noted the improved quality of the survey and responded to results. He sought more details into specific concerns about healthcare – whether the concerns were about Tech's health plan or the availability and quality of healthcare in our area in general. He noted the charges to the Benefits Liaison Group to perform a global review of benefits and the rejuvenation of the Compensation Task Force. Discussion.

c. Report of the President's Survey [48:00 – 49:54]
Nooshabadi presented a report on the President’s survey. Nooshabadi moved to submit a single report of the Evaluation of the [University] President to the Senate with no verbatim comments. The same report will be sent to the University President and the Board of Trustees with verbatim comments. Furthermore, next year’s committee will continue the practice of sending verbatim comments only to the University President and the Board of Trustees. Patchin seconded. The motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

6. President’s Report [49:55 – 1:03:20]
a. Administrative responses to senate approved proposals:
Proposals 18-16, 19-16, 20-16, 21-16 and 22-16 were approved by administration.

Froese raised a point of order. Barkdoll ended discussion. Motion withdrawn.

Proposal 10-16: Rationalization of Senate Procedures on the Selection/Election of Membership of Various Committees was rejected by
Administration on 03-28-16. Nooshabadi moved to refer the proposal to the Administrative Policy Committee. Motion withdrawn.

Proposal 8-16: Amending Senate Procedure 507.1.1, Procedure to Enhance Confidentiality and Anonymity in Department Chairs/School Deans Review Surveys and Balloting. The administration provided a Revised Response.

Nooshabadi moved to accept administrative changes to Proposal 7-16 and 8-16.

Guter moved to table. Froese seconded. No discussion. Motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

7. Reports from Senate Standing Committees [1:03:20 – 1:09:54]

Academic and Instructional Policy Committee. None

Administrative Policy Committee. See Items 5.c. and 6.a., above. Proposal 7-16 will be discussed.

Curricular Policy Committee. None

Elections Committee. Clancy noted three open Senate Faculty-at-large positions, one Staff at-large position and the Senate Secretary. Discussion.

Finance & Institutional Planning Committee. DeWinter is working with the provost to restructure Proposal 38-16.

Fringe Benefits Committee. Waddell will provide a report based on the fringe benefits forum and activities performed by the committee this year.

General Education and Assessment Committee. None.

Information Technology Committee. None.

Professional Staff Policy Committee. None.

Research Policy Committee. None.

Ad hoc committee to examine the Senate Constitution and Bylaws. Froese reminded everyone about the survey and the committee will be evaluating survey responses at the upcoming meeting. The survey will remain open and be available to receive comments.


a. Proposal 8-16 Motion. Withdrawn.


c. Proposal 33-15: Academic Calendar 2016-17 and Provisional Calendar 2017-18 Plummer moved to approve. Discussion. The proposal passed by unanimous vote.


e. Proposal 28-16: Amending Senate Procedure 507.1.1, Procedure to Enhance Confidentiality and Anonymity in Department Chairs/School Deans Review Surveys and Balloting Barkdoll moved to approve. Discussion. The proposal passed by unanimous vote.


a. Proposal 29-16: Proposal to Formally Establish Assessment Liaisons in all Units Mandated to Participate in the Assessment Process Hungwe, General Education and Assessment Committee, proposes that assessment liaisons be appointed in all academic units that are obligated to participate in the Gen Ed and Assessment process. Discussion.

b-f. Proposal 30-16: Minor in Rail Transportation, Proposal 31-16: New Concentration in Game Development within the Bachelor’s Degree in Computer Science, Proposal 32-16: Minor in

g. Proposal 35-16: Amending Senate Policy 102.1: Policy on Class Attendance
Plummer, Academic and Instructional Policy Committee, said this proposal aligns policy with current practice. Students missing class for student organization travel work with the student activities office, which provides a verification that the student will be missing class for the stated reason. This is not a university excused absence but is a situation where the University would like to be supportive of student travel and thus helps by handling materials related to proof of travel.

h. Proposal 36-16: Academic Calendar 2017-2018 and Provisional Calendar 2018-2019
Plummer, Academic and Instructional Policy Committee, proposed two calendars.

i. Proposal 37-16: Amendments to Final Exam Policy 602.1
Plummer, Academic and Instructional Policy Committee, said this proposal aligns policy with strategic goals. To emphasize action-based learning this proposal changes the final exam policy to refer to final evaluations instead of exams or tests. The policy also changes wording that emphasized knowledge accumulation to wording that emphasizes student development and growth. Discussion.

j. Proposal 38-16: Restructuring the Senate Budget
Withdrawn.

Guter commented on the recycling presentation on March 2, 2016 (Meeting 575). He provided some additional information about cost structures.

Tewari commented on senate procedures regarding voting on proposals in the same meeting in which changes are made to the proposal.

11. Adjournment
President Barkdoll adjourned the meeting at 7:07 pm.

Respectfully submitted

by Marty Thompson
Secretary of the University Senate