

**Student Commission Meeting**  
**Thursday, January 23, 2014**

**Present: Chris Cena, Ashley Haren, Lynda Heinonen, Judy Klutts, Steve Knudstrup, Shreya Kumar, Ellen Marks, Zachary Mauerman, Mary Mongeau, Rachel Morrison, Jon Riehl, Brenda Rudiger, Steven Steinhoff**

**Welcome – Shreya and Chris**

**Updates**

**Update on Library Project – Ellen**

Ellen reported a meeting with the graduate students had taken place and they felt strongly about not allowing food at the computers/workstations. The following was decided upon:

- Food will be restricted to the café area and first floor (but not by the computers)
- Covered beverages are allowed anywhere in the Library
- Food is allowed in the study rooms

Ellen asked the students present if this sounded reasonable to them and they were all in agreement that it did.

Another suggestion the graduate students had was to move the computer benches to more quiet spaces. Ellen reported they are going to follow through with this suggestion.

Ellen commented the Library is always looking for input on ways to improve their services so they are going to send an email to undergraduate students asking for their feedback. She will send it the Student Commission and the students on the Commission will forward to various student groups. She will also place information in the Lode.

It was suggested that Matthew Watrous, Director of User Services should be invited to join the Student Commission. Lynda will contact him to discuss.

**Blue Light Phones - Chris**

Chris reported that he received the 2007 blue light study from Brian Cadwell in Public Safety. At that time it was \$53,000 to update the lights but the project did not move forward.

Chris also reported that he had met with Kurt Smith from Telcom to discuss the feasibility updating the blue light phones. Kurt commented that currently the University has a mismatch of phones on campus. The University does repair them and checks to see if they are in working order but they do not have any way of determining if they are functioning properly unless they manually check or if somebody alerts them that phones are not working.

A new system would provide the following:

- A uniform and consistent look, easily identifiable
- Easier to maintain (phones are set to alert if they are not in working order)
- Safe feel to campus

If members are interested in viewing some options here are a few websites.

<http://codeblue.com/> and <http://www.talkaphone.com/>

Jon commented that most universities have a good blue light system in place whereas Michigan Tech's is in poor condition. He also commented that he is on the University Senate and the Student Commission could write a proposal and he could bring it to the Senate.

Chris asked the Student Commission members if they would like to try to move forward with this idea. Shreya commented that the GSG was in favor of this and the members present were also. Chris volunteered to discuss this with Les Cook. He will report back at the next meeting.

*Lynda contacted Kurt Smith, Director, Telecommunications and he is going to attend the February 13 meeting to discuss the blue-light stanchion phones.*

#### **Online Directory – Privacy Indicator**

Shreya commented that graduate students have expressed concern that the default on the Michigan Tech online directory is set to public. This means that a person's home address is visible. She commented that they were told that it is not a FERPA violation so there is not anything illegal about this. After discussion, it was decided that student groups should inform their members about the default setting so students can opt to make changes if they choose to do so.

#### **Student Commencement Speaker – Lynda**

Lynda reported that students who are graduating in May with a 3.0 GPA or above will be receiving an email from the Dean of Students on Monday inviting them to submit an outline for a chance to be the student commencement speaker at the May ceremony. Lynda encouraged student members to watch for the email and if they were interested to forward their outline to her at [lheinone@mtu.edu](mailto:lheinone@mtu.edu).

#### **Next Meeting**

The next Student Commission is scheduled for Thursday, February 13, 2014, at 2:00 p.m. in the MUB Alumni Lounge.