

**Eastern Michigan University**  
***Faculty Senate Minutes (approved 3/23/22)***

**Session 12**

3.00—5.00 pm March 9, 2022 via Zoom

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Attending: Curran, Gray, Waltz, Elias, Langdon (guest), Spragg, McCleary, Brewer, Lovence, El-Sayed, Carpenter, Elton, Pawlowski, Logwood, Judd, omar, Foster, Millán, Barton, Reedy, Neufeld, Banerji, Corsianos, Lee, Tew (guest), Bavery, Zakrajsek, Braun Marks, Ashur, Welsh, Flowers, Longworth (guest), Lucy, Gellasch (alternate), Pressley-Sanon.

- I. **Call to Order** **3:02 pm**
- II. **Approval of the Agenda** Moved by Carpenter, seconded by Zakrajsek. Passed unanimously (28-0-0).
- III. **Approval of the Minutes: 2/23/22\*** Moved by Millán, seconded by Carpenter. 25 fo, 0 against, 3 abstained.
- IV. **Appointments and Elections (Corsianos)**
- A. Seeking nominations for:
1. Intercollegiate Athletics committee - CET (3 year term)
- V. **Discussions**
- A. **Updates from Campus Life** **3:03 pm**
- Lucas Langdon, Director of Campus Life
1. Responsibilities of the office include student orientation, engagement and activities
  2. We select campus speakers collaborating with faculty now, rather than working independently. We also set up off-campus excursions for students.
  3. Will consult with faculty on planning events, film licensing, etc.
  4. Currently working to update the menu co-curriculum offerings for student engagement. We are collecting data from focus groups on student engagement.
  5. The current number of supported student organizations is about 175, down from 250 pre-Covid.
  6. Faculty who might wish to advise a club should enter potential interests at [tiny.emich.edu/advisorinterest](http://tiny.emich.edu/advisorinterest)

Q: How does your office go about reaching transfer, commuter, and graduate students?

A: Commuters are especially hard to reach with online classes. Our Peer-engagement and -coaching program will hopefully make a difference, providing dedicated outreach for students in those groups. We do get some nontraditional students coming to EMU Connect. Not every nontraditional student wants to be involved in student activities, but we want to find those who do have interest but do not know how to go about getting involved. Graduate students aren't always aware that we can include them too. For us, it is important to find out what graduate students are interested in. Faculty encouragement of students is helpful in this regard. The organization of international students and scholars is one conduit for reaching graduate students.

Q: Did our student organizations decline in a similar amount to as at other institutions? Do we have enough staff compared to peer institutions?

A: MAC schools have seen similar declines. This cycle is unprecedented in its decline. Ten years ago we had 350 organizations, but our student body has declined. The hope is we will sit at 200 active orgs going forward. We would like more staffing, but we do the best we can.

Q: How has not being on campus affected student mood?

A: People just aren't hanging out on campus: it hurts their sense of belonging. It hurts engagement: people are tired of virtual events. It is the same pattern across the MAC. Trying to have smaller, more frequent events to reach as many as we can. With the two-year gap, it feels like we are starting from scratch. We don't have a natural pool of orientation leaders, for example. This does hurt retention.

Q: Should we be partnering with community groups to extend campus life to the broader community?

A: (Provost) We are discussing which office should be responsible for this; we need to reorganize staffing, probably will separate community engagement from the CDO's office. We are working on keeping a more complete event calendar as well.

Q: Nearly 1/3 of our students are 26 years old or older. Surveys show they definitely want a sense of belonging. What are we missing for these students? (asked by Zakrasjek)

A: We would love to look at your data.

Q: Can or do faculty start student organizations? What should the faculty role be?

A: There is a natural flow to orgs starting and ending. Things should be self correcting. We don't always get things right when we set up an organization for them. But for first generation students there could be value for faculty leadership.

## **B. Update on Academic Issues (Tew)**

**3:49 pm**

### **1. Course format definitions**

- a) Provost's office is working on definitions for course delivery formats (ex. hybrid, online synchronous, hy-flex, etc).
- b) Working on a registration format for hy-flex classes so they do not have to have two cross listed courses (one online and one in-person).

### **2. Program Handbooks**

- a) Provost's office is reviewing existing program handbooks to ensure consistency with university policies. A handbook template will be created to provide consistency across programs as well as ensure enforceability of the requirements.

3. HLC Substantive Change update

- a) Dept of Ed issued a waiver to C/U to adapt their curricula however necessary during the pandemic without reporting those changes (covid waiver). Normally, substantial changes require approval or notification to HLC. Distance education is any program that includes one or more online or distance class. Changes more than 25% must be resubmitted to HLC for approval. These include changes in courses, credit hours/contact hours, learning outcomes, mode of delivery. This waiver is ending and all revisions must now be reported to HLC again - this includes classes that are now online.
- b) All new programs, suspended programs, or shelved programs must be reported to HLC through a screening process.
- c) What process to undertake if a course was not taught online prior to covid, but want it to be taught online after the covid waiver ends (Fall 2022)? Go through Curriculog and do a course revision for mode of delivery, including the rationale for the change. <https://www.emich.edu/course-program-development/>
- d) Academic Affairs will provide a list of courses that have been taught online in the last 10 years. If the course is not on the list, then it would need to go through Curriculog.

C. **Provost's Update**

**4:30 pm**

1. Program Health - develop a process for obtaining program diagnostics and assessing sustainability. Assess strengths and challenges of programs. This will not replace college level program review. Consultant (EAB) will be providing information about what data is available and what is being used nationally. EAB will not be conducting the reviews of the programs. EMU will do the program review process internally. Program size, strengths, student organizations, opportunities for growth.
2. Travel Policy - university is returning to normal policy. Still no travel to Level 4 countries. Level 3 countries can be approved for travel by a University Vice President. Provost recommends booking travel through Concur. Travel funding that was awarded to faculty is intended to roll forward unless they were notified otherwise. The Provost will inform those individuals when the deadline for use of the travel funding will be.

D. **Second Reading: Proposed Faculty Senate Bylaws Update**  
[Word version with changes tracked](#)

**4:55 pm**

1. Motion to approve Bylaws as presented: Barton. Second: Carpenter. Discussion: no revisions suggested. Senator Welsh expressed concern about approving them at this meeting and requested additional time to review the bylaws.  
Yes: 20. No: 1. Abstain: 3. Motion carries.

VI. **Committee Reports**

**4:59 pm**

- A. Academic Issues (Elton)
- B. Budget and Resources (Carpenter)

C. Committee for Action on Intersectionality, AntiRacism, and Equity (Neufeld)

1. CAIARE is studying faculty experiences of service work at EMU. As part of our data collection, we are looking at the committee assignments within each academic unit. We ask that faculty senators share the list(s) of faculty assignments to college and university committees below.

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1dYddnPTZ258dLQajN2sROf19TU8B-VnbkiZRLvK-Mc/edit>

2. [Part 3: Creating a Culture of Belonging: Actions Large & Small to Effect Change](#)

D. Faculty Issues (Welsh)

E. Graduate Council (Flowers)

F. Institutional Issues (Barton)

G. Intercollegiate Athletic Advisory Committee (Spragg)

H. Student Issues (Pressley-Sanon)

I. Technology Issues (Evelt)

VII. **Announcements**

VIII. **Adjourn**

**5:00 pm**

Documents in [3/9/22](#)

**Next full Senate Meeting: 3/23/22**

**Topic: Faculty Senate Session 12**

**Time: Mar 9, 2022 03:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)**

**Join Zoom Meeting**

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