

Eastern Michigan University
Faculty Senate Minutes (approved 4/20/22)

Session 14

3.00—5.00 pm April 6, 2022 via Zoom

Attending: Soltani, Banerji, Elizabeth, Brock, Brewer, Gray, Curran, Baron, Gellasch (alternate), Judd, McCleary, Waltz, Saldanha, Longworth (guest), Pressley-Sanon Braun Marks, Neufeld, Reedy, Elias, Foster, Lee, Proulx (guest), Zakrasjek, Lovence, Logwood, El-Sayed, Elton, Welsh, Carpenter, Omar, Tew (guest), Corsianos, Carroll (guest), Lucy, Korkmaz, Ashur, Pawlowski, Millán, Evett, Odarwish, Fabian.

- I. **Call to Order** **3:02 pm**
- II. **Approval of the Agenda** Moved by Barton, seconded by Pressley-Sanon. Passed 23 for, 0 against, 1 abstaining.
- III. **Approval of the Minutes: 3/23/22** Moved by Barton, seconded by Banerji. Passed 22 for, 0 against, 2 abstaining.
- IV. **Appointments and Elections (Corsianos)**
- A. Seeking nominations for:
1. Senate Officers - Descriptions of roles in Senate Bylaws. Election will be in May
 - a) Vice President
 - b) Secretary— Curran self-nominated
 - c) Membership Coordinator
 2. Senate President - Election will be in May
 - a) Faculty Senate Executive Board will serve as nominating committee
 - b) EMU-AAUP will run the election
 3. Seeking nomination of four faculty on behalf of EMU AAUP to participate on joint task force to establish “an electronic evaluation dossier, including all process features and contractual requirements of the faculty.” Quick turn around is required –by Friday!
 - a) Volunteers: Braun Marks, McCleary, Carpenter. Gray will contact Evett and Welsh re possibly serving.
- B. Department Senate Representative Elections (Health Science, Marketing, Music, Physics and Astronomy, Political Science, Psychology, Social Work, Sociology, Special Ed., Technology and Professional Services Management, and Women’s and Gender Studies)
1. Please contact Monica Millan-Serna with department election results before the end of semester.
- V. **Discussions**
- A. **Campus Housing Plan Follow Up Questions/Feedback** Provost and Jim Carroll can take feedback today, and would like the design consultants (Gilbane Development Company & Rieth Jones Advisors)

to return on the 20th or at a later meeting

Q: Who owns land and buildings? Can they be used for collateral?

A: Essentially the State of Michigan owns both; the property cannot be used as collateral. The bonds for the dorms would be revenue bonds, paid only from revenue from housing fees.

Q: Who gets to set the rent levels?

A: The BOR retained the right to set the rates. Any surplus revenue flows back to the university.

Q: How much money are we looking at coming back to the university? What is the financial impact?

A: Would want the CFO to answer some of these more detailed questions. We believe the deal is not finalized.

Q: Could we have the slides from the last meeting's presentation?

A: We are looking for them.

Q: How do we allow access to common rooms for dorm non-residents, e.g. for practice spaces, maker spaces, and the like? What about soundproofing?

A: The design consultants are working with DPS about this issue, and are looking at climate control for things like pianos. Soundproofing shuts down air circulation, so there is a balance that must be struck.

Comment: The provosts interested in living-learning community ideas.

Q: How are we going to address security issues around access?

A: The design group is looking at this.

Q: Will international students be consulted?

A: One focus group included international students. They seem to prefer apartment style setups.

Q: Will there be family apartments?

A: This is part of the mix but we don't know where these will be provided yet. Granted our current options are not particularly good for family housing.

Q: Will the design be LEED certified?

A: In general, we seek this for all projects. The Provost will double check this is part of the plan.

B. Provost's Update

1. Safe return. The provost shared a survey that is going to the entire campus about these issues. Senate feedback is welcome all summer.
2. HLC worksheet (Tew). Notification requirements for HLC (prior HLC approval is not required for changes, just notification) Change of delivery format requires notification. If even one course in a program has online component, the program counts as "distance education." So

any course offered online prior to Winter 2020 is pre-approved for online delivery; also any course approved through input for online teaching is pre-approved.

3. We need to consider how curriculum changes affect interdisciplinarity.
4. Program health. We need to discuss how we measure quality of programs. There is no intent to cancel programs.
5. The strategic planning committees are meeting. No committee is required to meet in the summer.

Q: How do we address a course that is offered in multiple modalities for the HLC?

A: There is no limitation on modalities, but we must identify the courses that sometimes are offered online for the HLC process. For our students, they should know if a course will only be offered online before they register.

Q: Does “online” for HLC include hybrid classes?

A: Online for HLC means “Fully online.” Hybrid courses (with less than 75% of class online) do not need to be declared as distance education (per Tew’s comment in the chat). The HLC’s categories are distinct from the definitions that we use in the course schedule and catalog.

C. Forum on faculty needs/concerns for fall return to campus

1. We will schedule a general faculty forum at a later time.

Q: Is the current plan to continue distancing in the fall?

A: That is how we have been scheduling, but distancing may or may not be in force in the fall.

Q: What work is being done around ventilation, especially in buildings where windows do not open? Also can we have hand driers in the restrooms shut down?

A: We will look into it.

Q: How do we decide which departments get the Hyflex classrooms?

A: There are 10 rooms, and 10 more being built over the summer. Scheduling is centralized through the Deans’ offices; right now not all rooms are full. We also have to balance how the rooms will actually be loaded with students each day.

Q: We used irregular classrooms during COVID, such as ballrooms. Are we going re-run the room schedule if we do not need to distance in the fall?

A: We will reprogram R25.

Q: How will demolition affect ventilation on campus?

A: We will look into it.

Q: Can we look at amplification technology in classrooms for when we are masked, or even if not?

A: We are starting to look at this.

Q: We need clear guidelines for how we would respond if faced with something like this again. Shouldn’t we debrief?

A: We should try to do this. We will need to assess mask, testing and vaccination policies going forward, not just for COVID. COVID funding will be ending soon.

Q: Will the Zoom license continue?

A: Yes.

Q: What is the security plan for return? Will telehealth continue?

A: There is no urgency to eliminate telehealth, but we may need to rethink how to use it. We also need to think about how we support mental health emergencies and crises. We are considering keeping staffing for CAPS at a higher level. It might make sense for DPS to address the senate about the security issues.

Comment: Faculty and staff may need training on dealing with de-escalation, stress, identifying students in crisis, etc.

A: There are limits that we can ask non-professionals to do, but we understand there is a desire to help. We do not want the process here to be strictly top-down. Our student population going forward will show the effects of COVID for some time.

Comment: We also need to consider the impact on parenting and child care, where parents do not have alternatives. Perhaps we can address this at the general forum.

D. We need a meeting May 18, and tentatively for August 10.

1. Poll was conducted. About 85% of us can make both meetings.

VI. **Adjourn**

5:18 pm