

Eastern Michigan University
Faculty Senate Minutes
(approved 10/4/2023)

Session 2

3:15-5:15 pm Wed September 20, 2023 (zoom)

Attending: Corsianos, Curran, Elton, Longworth (guest), Brock, Nelson, Neufeld, Carpenter, Barton, El-Sayed (guest), Jefferson, Brewer, Foster, Ferdousi, Putzu, Welsh, Marino, Pawlowski, Lee, McCleary, Fields (guest), Soltani, Proulx, Bernstein (guest), Judd, Narayanan, Mehuron, Ramsey, Millán, Spragg, Jefferson, Walsh, Flowers (guest), Bushinski, Gray, McCleary, Pressley-Sanon, Neufeld, McIntyre, Conard (guest), Kindred (guest), Koolage (guest)

- I. Call to Order 3:15pm
- II. Approval of the Agenda 09/20/2023 Moved by Neufeld, seconded by Pressley-Sanon; Passed 25 for, 0 against, 1 abstention
- III. Approval of the Minutes: [09/06/2023](#) Moved by Pressley-Sanon, seconded by Putzu; Passed 24 for, 0 against, 2 abstentions

IV. Appointments and Elections

Elton shared current service openings and asked reps to consider nominating themselves or encouraging colleagues to self-nominate for these committees.

A. Office of the President/Provost/Faculty Senate joint task force on Student Mental Health and Wellness - Deadline is Thursday September 21 (noon) - see [nomination form](#)

B. Honors College Advisory Council -one vacancy for 2023-2024 - At large position (from any college) - Deadline is September 28 (noon) - see [nomination form](#)

C. Intercollegiate Athletics Advisory Committee (IAAC) has two vacancies: College of Business (1 faculty member) and College of Engineering and Technology (1 faculty member). Deadline is September 28 (noon) - See [nomination form](#)

V. Discussion

A. Provost's Update

1. Enrollment looks somewhat better than anticipated. Now that the lecturer contract has been resolved (a tentative agreement has been reached), the admin can focus more directly on the university budget. Jim Carroll will attend a future FS meeting to discuss the 2023-2024 AY budget.

2. Final enrollment down 3.2%; retention tracked just under 70%
22 new hires

3. EMU budget for 2023-3024 University is down \$1 million in revenue overall, but academic affairs has no deficit and needs no cuts.

4. Have approved 22 new faculty positions. Cluster hire request are due Sept. 29th.

Q: What was the final enrollment number?

A: 149993 SCH now vs 155030 last fall

5. Faculty Development Center discussion (Jeff Bernstein)

Programs this fall include

a. Culture of care/student discussion group. Mini-grants are available.

Apply by Monday to join.

b. Academic leadership community of practice.

c. Flipping the script teaching conference (end of September); please encourage students to participate.

d. More info: see Learning Communities and Events at [About the B. K.](#)

[Nelson Faculty Development Center \(emich.edu\)](#).

6. Update on LAZ/parking ticket disputes. Provost's office is looking at the tickets from the first week, and how many were due to purchase problems. Please do not drop your challenges via LAZ and the courts. Working on a resolution.

Q: What about the news article about dining services' poor health inspection? The article It did not emphasize the private contractor was at fault, not EMU directly.

A: We have had two good inspections since that article was published.

B. Questions for upcoming CFO Valdes' visit to FS (3:50-4:05pm)

1. Re: Utility Services Agreement with CenTrio - **see draft questions [here](#)**

[Excess Electric Capacity Assessment](#)

[Harbert - EMU Utility Concession](#)

[Centrio](#)

[Engie](#)

Please review and add questions you have.

VI. Guests

A. Elizabeth K. Conard, Associate Athletic Director for Student-Athlete Support Services (SASS) - [SASS presentation slides](#)

1. If faculty have concerns about a student athlete, there is a list of contacts by team, or you can contact Conard directly.

2. Whether student athletes are required to attend academic meetings and study halls depends on their grades and academic standing. Academic progress rate is relevant for post-season play.

3. It is possible to have a student's exam proctored during travel study hall if a student is traveling for sports.

4. Travel letters should be given to faculty on the first day of class.

5. Students athletes are encouraged to use EMU tutoring services. SASS provides secondary advising, more of a counseling role.

Q: Do you encourage your students to read the syllabus?

A: We do. We understand the student is responsible, and we will remind them to put in the time.

Q: KNACK contract – do athletes use it?

A: We use the resources available to the general population of students, so this includes KNACK.

VII. New Business

A. Proposed revisions on Gen Ed LBC requirements -
Jenny Kindred, LBC Revision Committee Chair and John Koolage, Director of Gen Ed
[Presentation for feedback - LBC](#)

1. Need for revision is mainly administrative – the program is cumbersome, with many categories, and has never been formally assessed.

2. Proposing 3 categories

- a. Exploratory approved activities --- a student would need 4 approved events,
- b. Community engagement -- still need to define the time requirement for this
- c. High impact experience mentored by a faculty member.

3. We want to enhance student reflection on their LBC. The Converge app should make record keeping less onerous for faculty, update student status in LBC more quickly and encourage student reflection. Uploaded reflections will facilitate sampling for assessment of the program.

4. Please share information with colleagues. Will not seek formal approval until next term.

Q: Will there be feedback to students on their reflections?

A: Generally no; currently there are no requirements for reflection at all.

Q: What is generating these prompts? How do we prevent AI submissions?

A: Faculty have developed these. We do not have a way of filtering submissions yet.

Comment: serious reflection requires detailed instructions. How can you measure that?

A: The app can flag reflections that are deficient.

Q: If a course satisfies LBC, could faculty submit the reflection questions?

A: Separate reflection would not be required if there is a course. You could build an LBC structure into your course, and have the app handle the earning of LBC credit.

Q: What will the artificial intelligence do? I am skeptical about their use.

A: Mainly checking for completion: length and check for flagged words. Still working on it.

- B. Open forum at the beginning of meetings– There is a 10-15 minute allocation. Please let us know of what you would like to address in advance so that we can allocate time appropriately.

VIII. Committee Reports:

- A. Committee for Action on Intersectionality, AntiRacism, and Equity - (Neufeld)
 - 1. Please review the [White Paper on the Needs of Disabled Faculty](#) and [Faculty Senate Resolution](#) and provide your feedback. Will vote on the resolution 2 weeks from now.

IX. Announcements:

- A. Next Faculty Senate meeting scheduled for Wed. October 4 (3:15 to 5:15pm zoom)
- B. In-person Faculty Senate meeting scheduled for Wed. October 18

- X. Adjournment 5:14 pm