

# *Faculty Senate Minutes (approved 1/11/2023)*

## **Session 7**

3:15—5:15 pm December 7, 2022 via Zoom

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**Attendance:** Corsianos, Smith (guest), Longworth (guest), Barton, Braun Marks, Pressley-Sanon, Isenhour, Brewer, Nation, Ramsey (guest), Soltani, Banerji, McVey, McCleary, Ferdousi, Beilfuss, Winning, Simoes, Lee, Putzu, Baker (guest), Waltz, Elton, Gray, Welsh, Reedy, Foster, Millán, Spragg, Walsh, Neufeld, Barragan, Pawlowski, Ashur, Brock, El-Sayed (guest), McAllen, Carpenter, Evett, Flowers.

- I. Call to Order 3:17pm
- II. Approval of the Agenda Moved by Barton, seconded by Pressley-Sanon. Passed 20 for, 0 against, 1 abstaining Approval of the Minutes from 11/16/2022. Moved by Barton, seconded by Banerji. Passed 19 for, 0 against, 2 abstaining.
- III. Guest: President Smith

**Questions for President Smith.** The President chose to consolidate the questions under broad headings.

### A. Bright Future

i. Have been working to stabilize the budget and build reserves. We have a stable, predictable financial model and properly-modeled enrollment trends. We are no longer on the HLC watch list for financial reasons.

ii. We are working on our enrollment challenges. We are tuition dependent. We are searching for a new VP for enrollment management; using search firm Whit Kiefer. Cannot depend only on FTIAC enrollment.

### B. Academic Programs

i. We need to align undergraduate programs with student demand. Looking for areas of growth.

ii. We are the most diverse campus in the state. Characteristics for a good program: it should be distinctive, and provide value as a degree.

iii. Graduate programs. We have an enrollment issue. The GA-assignment formula was developed through the input process. We need to overhaul our admissions, notably to make our responses quicker; we need distinctive programs that are in demand.

iv. Summer enrollment must be based on course demand. Summer B is the best place to add more courses. We piloted more in 2020, and would like to extend this. We do not want to compete with fall; we need to pay attention to how this affects financial aid and the new Michigan scholarship. Looking to make strategic investments. Not opposed to more summer offerings.

v. Advising. Online advising seems to be an area to emphasize; the appointment show

rate is better. We have one less professional advisor than usual, and we plan to replace them and add two more. The career closet has been popular.

#### C. Buildings

i. College of Business building. Boone Hall was the original plan, but the committee did not like it. We explored other options. McKenny's utilities are too expensive to update. Roosevelt Hall funding will receive capital outlay in the next year; then COB becomes the priority for state appropriation. But it will probably take a few years to implement..

ii. Parking garage is closed. There were \$3 million in repairs to make when it was purchased, but LAZ has not made this full investment yet. LAZ is concerned with safety. EMU has hired an independent engineering firm to look at it. LAZ should be on the hook for the repairs. We are in mediation.

#### D. CDO Role

i. Diversity is only part of this. Equity, inclusion and training. Working to make sure this work is spread throughout the university. The CDO should not be doing human resources work (w.r.t hiring).

ii. Should have results of Field's listening tour at the end of semester.

#### E. Search Firms

i. Search firms have specialized expertise, which is why they are being used here. We failed to find a Title IX director when searching on our own. We are judicious in choosing when to use them.

#### F. Open Questions from FS Attendees

Q: Where is the COB in the strategic plan for the university; what is its standing? There are those who feel like the College is going to be closed.

A: I had optimism about using Boone, and am open to other ideas and input. \$30 million from the state would help a lot. We do have a couple of donors who may help. The COB should continue, no one thinks it should not continue.

Q: Concerning recruitment and retention. We have a large commuter base, say 50%. How do we compete with online options? What about hyflex-classroom investment?

A: Note that people who live next to WCC self-report as commuters, but would not count as such at many other universities. Investment in Hyflex is important, but we want to hear how they are working.

### IV. Appointments and Elections

#### A. Appointments

i. -Associate Provost and Associate Vice President for Academic Programs Search:

FSEB nominee: Jessica Elton (need one more faculty - see Elections below)

ii.-Associate Provost and Associate Vice President for Graduate Studies and Research

FSEB nominee: Michael McVey (need one more faculty - see Elections below)

Motion to affirm these appointments. Moved by Barton, seconded by Curran. Passed 30 for, 0 against, 0 abstaining.

## B. Elections

### i. Search Committees:

a. Associate Provost and Associate Vice President for Academic Programs Search, one faculty member from any college

Kunal Banerji, Management/Business (COB)

Winner by acclamation: Banerji

b. Associate Provost and Associate Vice President for Graduate Studies and Research, one faculty member from any college

Alexis Braun Marks, University Archives (Library)

Raed Jarrah, School of Visual & Built Environments (CET)

Jenny Kindred, CMTA (CAS)

Winner: Braun Marks

### ii. Other University Committees:

a. -Gen Ed Subcommittee on Assessment (GESA) – one faculty member with Gen Ed Knowledge of Discipline in Natural Sciences (one nominee)

Kelly Getz, Library

b. -Educational Environment and Facilities Committee (EEFC) – one faculty member from COE (one nominee)

Quentin Hunter (Leadership & Counseling, COE)

Motion to appoint both candidates from (a) and (b). Moved by Barton, seconded by Carpenter. Passed unanimously.

c.-The University Assessment [Committee](#) -one faculty member from any college - [Nominee Information](#)

Omar Darwish, Information Security & Applied Computing (CET)

John Koolage, History & Philosophy (CAS)

Winner: Koolage

### C. Vacancies

- Strategic Enrollment Advisory Committee – This committee still needs one faculty member from **CET** - [Nomination Form](#)
- Gen Ed Subcommittee on Assessment (GESA) - one faculty member with Gen Ed Knowledge of the Discipline in **Natural Sciences** - [Nomination Form](#)
- Intercollegiate Athletics Advisory Committee - one faculty from **COB**, one At-Large (**any college**) - [Nomination Form](#)

## VI. Discussion

### A. Provost's Update

#### i. Strategic Planning Committees.

a. Extending deadline for reports into next semester. Will ask the groups to review their initial charges. Mary Ramsey will also be involved with following up.

b. This is still the early stages. There will be more opportunity for input from faculty. There are not adequate resources to meet all concerns that were raised during the president's discussion.

ii. Distinguished faculty awards committee will be meeting soon, but it is not clear whether before the end of the semester. Encourage people to nominate.

iii. Committee on protest policy. Still need to schedule the meeting, but it is coming soon.

iv. Pushing out information to scooter users. Working on a messaging campaign for start of next semester. Also surveying where to provide signage.

Q: What happens when scooters are left far from campus?

A: City of Ypsilanti has a scooter contract as well. So a scooter far from campus might not be one of ours. The scooters are geographically limited via geocaching.

v. Interim Associate Provost & Associate VP Academic Programs - Doug Baker

vi. Expect a national scope for the searches for Associate Provost - Academic Programs and VP - Graduate Studies and Research.

B. Responsible Research Conduct Policy

i. Summary of previous discussions

a. Documents - [Responsible Conduct of Research Policy](#) and [Chart](#);

-[Input Request and Rationale](#)

-[Summary of main concerns by faculty](#)

-[Research Compliance Officer's Responses to faculty concerns re: Responsible Research Conduct Training](#)

b. There were no additional questions and feedback during the current meeting.

ii. Motion to support responsible research conduct training, with conditions outlined in the responses to faculty concerns above: Moved by Elton, seconded by Putzu. Passed 25 for, 2 against, 4 abstaining.

C. Proposal to Remove question on Criminal and/or Disciplinary history on EMU admissions Applications - [link here](#)

Q: How do we roll this out without affecting public concerns about safety on campus?

A: (Longworth) This is just a first step. We would need to discuss the best way to maintain safety, and we will need to have a discussion with the regents about this. It is important to start the conversation.

Motion to support the proposal moved by Neufeld, seconded by Welsh. Passed 26 for, 0 against, 3 abstaining.

VII. Committee Reports

A. Academic Issues (Gray) –Presented revised/final [Course Program Modality Definitions](#)

i. Discussion: Fees do affect hyflex since it locks a person into one modality. This is noted in the document.

ii. Vote to forward to the Provost's office as formal input. Passed 24 for, 0 against, 1 abstaining.

B. Budget and Resources (Carpenter) - update on meeting with the BOR

i. We had a short follow up meeting. There is interest in follow up meetings and working more with faculty.

C. Graduate Council (McVey) - - [Graduate Council Update](#)

Would like to discuss three items from above report.

i. Changes to admission requirements: only need final degree's transcript to. GC

supports this to enable faster application processing. This policy is already in effect but the Provost would like formal FS approval.

Motion to approve by moved by Barton, seconded by Brewer. Passed 25 for, 0 against, 0 abstaining.

ii. Reduction in hours for Doctor of Nursing Practice.

Approval vote requested by graduate council. Passed 25 for, 0 against, 0 abstaining.

iii. Waiving fees for graduate application – departments will need to bear the cost

The discussion of this item was tabled for lack of time.

IX. Adjourned 5:22 pm