

Faculty Senate Minutes

5/1/2020

1-2 pm

Virtual Meeting via Zoom

Present: Charie Faught (Chair), Stella Capoccia, Dan Autenrieth, Tamara Harp, Tony Patrick, Courtney Young, Abhishek Choudhury, Jackie Timmer, Miriam Young, Susan Schrader, Peter Lucon, Phil Curtiss, Chris Gammons, Karen Wesenberg, Richard LaDouceur, Ron White, John Ray, Atish Mitra

Quorum @1:00pm

- I. Welcome and Minutes (<https://www.mtech.edu/facultystaff/facultysenate/minutes/index.html>)

Approvals for April 24, 2020. Motion to approve, and seconded. **PASSED.**

Action Items

- II. Faculty Senate Officer Elections for Next Academic Year

Stella Capoccia presided: Charie Faught unanimously elected as President for the next academic year. Stella Capoccia unanimously elected as Vice President till the end of summer session, when an election for the Vice President for the next academic year will be held. Atish Mitra unanimously elected as Secretary for the next academic year.

Informational Items

- III. Approval of Candidates for Spring Graduation

Chair reported that the response to the online voting for approval of candidates for spring graduation was unanimous.

Discussion Items

- IV. Activities and priorities for the upcoming year

- a. Faculty Satisfaction Survey

Chair reported: The survey was launched on Tuesday the 28th of April and has over 55 responses as of 1:00pm today. Faculty who hasn't responded yet are encouraged to do so. A paper version of the survey is available if desired. On the request of the chancellor, the staff senate president has been contacted to discuss if the staff is interested to use the same survey.

b. Committee Assignments

Courtney Young reported (see attached): A group consisting of Courtney Young, Matt Donnelly, Chad Okrusch and Miriam Young worked on streamlining the various existing committees. The university has over 50 committees. In the first phase 5 committees were eliminated and several were merged. At this stage the group recommends eliminating some committees, merging some and keeping some as they are (for details see attached). There was discussion of some modifications to the scheme presented. Motion to present the modified recommendations to the Chancellor, and seconded. **PASSED.**

c. COVID-19 Preparation for Fall

Chair expressed some notes of concern she has received from faculty on the levels of preparation of the campus for possible face-to-face classes. Senators' comments: There were concerns about the practical aspects of social distancing of students in the classrooms, and about the proper disinfecting before and after classes. There was concern about labs – with sensitive equipment and their proper cleaning. There was a discussion about a possibility of eliminating student fees for computer facilities and encouraging students to buy their own computers. There may be a problem with this, as students may not be able to get computers with proper configurations for all the software they need to use. Moreover, there are specialized software which the university labs have, which will be expensive for students to get individually. There are possible ways to login remotely and use the software.

V. Other Items

a. Meetings for next year

It was proposed that the senate meet once every 2 weeks as it did this semester, with provision to meet more frequently if needed. The Chair mentioned that a curriculum calendar has been planned with the CRC chair (David Hood) for streamlining procedures from the next academic year.

The updated faculty senate roster for 2020-2021 is attached.

Motion to adjourn at 2:00pm, and seconded.

The Committee on Committees (COC) is an ad hoc committee of the Faculty Senate charged with making recommendations to reduce the number of committees on the campus. While this means that some committees may not be affected, others may be eliminated or merged. Phase I of this effort was already reported. Phase II is reported here. The COC felt it was first necessary to provide definitions on the types of committees before delving further into this effort:

BRIEF DEFINITIONS

Standing Committee – permanent committee that collaborates on particular subjects usually in direct support of the campus's mission, vision and strategic plan

Ad hoc Committee – temporary committee that collaborates on various subjects important at a particular time and therefore usually have start and end dates to work within

Shared Committee – standing or ad hoc committee that has at least two stakeholders (usually among administration, faculty, staff and students) such that the members represent the stakeholders and each are afforded a vote unless otherwise specified

The committees were then categorized into the type of committee as well as by who the stakeholders were for each committee. In short, many committees are being recommended to keep as is; however, several are recommended for being eliminated or being combined. All committees are named below in one way or another. If committees are being merged, the parent committee is named (and may be new) and subcommittees are indented afterwards. There are two choices: the parent committee absorbs all charges of the subcommittees OR the subcommittee is the same but its chair sits on the parent committee. The COC recommends the former. There may be a few reasons for recommending this approach but the main reason is to increase communication among all stakeholders.

ELIMINATE THESE COMMITTEES

Bookstore Advisory Board

Faculty Advisory Committee for College Relations and Marketing Office

Financial Education Advisory

Sustainability

Committee on Service (but keep the duplicate version which is called Faculty Service in FSHB)

These committees were identified in Phase I for elimination and that recommendation still stands.

FACULTY STANDING COMMITTEES

Academic Standards

Collegiate Evaluation

Curriculum Review

Faculty Senate

General Education Review

Graduate Council

Instructional Improvement

 e-Learning Advisory

 Leadership Training – currently ad hoc

 Moodle

 Teaching Circles – currently ad hoc

Research Advisory

 Undergraduate Research

These committees were identified in Phase I to keep as is but many are now recommended for merging.

FACULTY AD HOC COMMITTEE

Writing – not in FSHB and needs a charge as well start and end dates

FACULTY/ADMINISTRATION AD HOC COMMITTEE

Space – not in FSHB and needs a charge

FACULTY/ADMINISTRATION/STAFF SHARED COMMITTEES

Academic Freedom & Tenure

Advising, Placement, Marketing, Recruiting and Retention Committee (NEW – Needs a NAME!)

Advising & Retention Efforts (CARE; no longer CORE?)

Athletic

Financial Educational Outreach Advisory

National Student Awards

Scholarship

WEB Guidance

Diversity & Inclusivity – not in FSHB and charge needs redeveloping

Faculty Service – conflict in the FSHB needs to be fixed

Grievance

Library

Student Affairs (NEW)

Student Union & Activities Advisory Board

Cultural Events

Student Wellness

Early Intervention Team (exclude Behavioral from name)

Employee Affairs (NEW)

Benefits (Inter-Unit)

Employee Recognition

Merit Award

Wellness Champions

These committees were identified in Phase I to keep as is but most are now recommended for merging.

ADMINISTRATION STANDING COMMITTEES

Appeals Committee (NEW)

Financial Aid Appeals

Student Disciplinary Appeals

Computer and Telecommunications Advisory

Facilities Committee (NEW)

Campus Access

Campus Landscape

Motor Pool

Parking Appeals

Recycling

Traffic and Parking

Safety & Health (Rename?)

Strategic Planning

Veterans Task Force

These committees were identified in Phase I to keep as is but most are now recommended for merging.

STAFF STANDING COMMITTEES

Staff Senate

If these recommendations are accepted, it is suggested that the charges for each be revised and that new committee names be considered.

Faculty Senators 2020-2021

College of Letters, Sciences, and Professional Studies

Biological Sciences	Ryan Stapley	2020-2022
Business	Charie Faught (chair)	2020-2023
Chemistry	Karen Wesenberg	2020-2022
Cybersecurity and Network Administration	vacant	
Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences	John Ray	2019-2022
Mathematical Science	Atish Mitra (secretary)	2020-2022
Nursing	Miriam Young	2020-2023
Writing Program	Matthew Haynes	2020-2023

Highlands College

Business and Industry	vacant	
Health Programs	Tamara Harp	2020-2023
Trades	Tony Patrick	2018-2021

School of Mines and Engineering

Civil Engineering	Bret Robertson	2020-2022
Computer Science, SE, and Data Science	Phil Curtiss	2019-2021
Electrical Engineering	Matt Donnelly	2020-2022
Environmental Engineering	Katherine Zodrow	2020-2023
Geological Engineering	Chris Gammon	2019-2022
Geophysical	vacant	
Mechanical Engineering	Peter Lucon	2020-2022
Metallurgical and Materials Engineering	Courtney Young	2020-2022
Mining Engineering	Abhishek Choudhury	2020-2022
Petroleum Engineering	Sue Schrader	2020-2022
Safety, Health and Industrial Hygiene	Dan Autenrieth	2020-2022

Research, Library, and Adjunct Faculty

Research Faculty (MBMG)	Jackie Timmer	2020-2021
Research Faculty (CAMP)	Ron White	2018-2021
Library Faculty	Ulana Holtz	2018-2021
Adjunct Faculty	Richard LaDouceur	2020-2023