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](https://www.mtech.edu/facultystaff/facultysenate/minutes/index.html))

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

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<th>Action Items</th>
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<td>II. Faculty Senate Officer Elections for Next Academic Year</td>
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<td>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.</td>
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<th>Informational Items</th>
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<td>III. Approval of Candidates for Spring Graduation</td>
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<td>Chair reported that the response to the online voting for approval of candidates for spring graduation was unanimous.</td>
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<th>Discussion Items</th>
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<td>IV. Activities and priorities for the upcoming year</td>
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<td>a. Faculty Satisfaction Survey</td>
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<td>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.</td>
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b. Committee Assignments

Courtney Young reported (see attached): A group consisting of Courtney Young, Matt Donnelly, Chad Okrusch and Miriam Young worked on streaming 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 at 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
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