

MINUTES OF THE FORMAL SESSION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF MICHIGAN TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY held pursuant to due call in Ballroom B of the Memorial Union Building on the campus of Michigan Technological University in the City of Houghton, Michigan at nine o'clock on the morning of April 26, 2024.

The Board of Trustees of Michigan Technological University met in formal session at the University's campus at Michigan Technological University in the City of Houghton, State of Michigan, at 9:00 a.m., on the 26th day of April, in Ballroom B of the Memorial Union Building. The place, hour, and date are duly established and duly published for the holding of such a meeting.

The meeting was called to order by Chair, S. M. Tomaszewski, and a quorum was declared present. The following members of the Board of Trustees were present:

J. U. Bacon
A.R. Dickson
J. E. Jipping, Vice Chair (remote)
J. C. Littmann
D. D. Sanders (remote)
S. M. Tomaszewski, Chair
R. J. Koubek, ex officio
S.H. Schulte, Secretary
N.W. Stevens, Treasurer

Also present during part or all the session were: Laura Bulleit, Wayne Gersie, John Lehman, William Kordenbrock, David D. Reed, William Roberts, Suzanne Sanregret, Andrew Storer and various members of the faculty, administrative staff, student body, press, and public.

Where item numbers are used, they refer to corresponding item numbers in the agenda, in the hands of the Board members.

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. ROLL CALL

III. CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

It was moved by J. Littmann supported by M. Johnson, and passed by voice vote without dissent, that the agenda of the formal session of April 26, 2024, as distributed to the Board of Trustees, be approved.

IV. OPENING REMARKS

A. Chair's Comments

Good morning. What a beautiful day here in Houghton! No snow, it's sunny and it's warm and that will set us up for the great weekend.

We are thrilled to be celebrating the graduation of so many successful Huskies today with 773 undergrads, 282 Masters, 31 PhD, the numbers are impressive. The world will be brighter and smarter because of those who cross the stage tonight and tomorrow. The path is not easy, but that makes the reward all the sweeter. This weekend, we celebrate hard-fought victories and new beginnings. Your accomplishments here as students both humbled and motivated us. We have every expectation you will continue to do the same as you take your next journeys in life. Congratulations graduates!

To our 11 Air Force and 5 Army ROTC graduates, the Joint Commissioning Ceremony is always a highlight of graduation weekend. We applaud your hard work over the last several years, and we thank you for your service going forward.

There were three strategic positions at the University that were recently filled. They include the Dean of the College of Engineering, the Dean of the College of Science and Arts, and the Dean of the College Forest Resources and Environmental Science, with a very diverse and talented set of professionals.

The numbers continue. Think about the summer of 2023 with the \$4.5 million in construction projects compared to the current projects totaling over \$100 million and another \$11 million forecasted for this summer. The investment for our future is well on its way.

Topping that off, the hockey team made the NCAA playoffs for the sixteenth (16th) time in program history and the third (3rd) year in a row.

Overall, the numbers are impressive and demonstrate the range of success from academia to athletics, to construction and recruiting the top talent in the nation. Thank you, President, the executive team and all the faculty for this great work. But what is more impressive is the reputation that accompanies the Husky Nation. Please bear with me as I read a letter, sent to President Koubek, because it speaks for itself. The numbers don't always tell the whole story:

Dr. Koubek.

We recently had an encounter with the representatives of your school. We thought we should share a few brief thoughts. My wife and I attended the NCAA hockey regionals in Providence on Friday. For context, let me share that we are not hockey fanatics or affiliated with any of the qualifying schools – we're just a couple of sixty-something people who like to try new events, and we thought it would be a fun atmosphere to be a part of.

The event did not disappoint but the true highlight of the day was the spirit, joy and enthusiasm exhibited by the students, parents, and supporters of your university. The Michigan Tech band outplayed the Boston College band, the fans outcheered the opponents and the Michigan Tech people there clearly were having a much better time than the other attendees. It was very inspiring to see the way all of the Michigan Tech representatives conducted themselves. Despite the result on the ice, the only place you were bettered even in the waning minute of what was a forgone result, your fans were singing, chanting, and cheering with delight.

We do not know what you are putting in the food out in Houghton but whatever it is, please keep it up. Because of our experience, we will now be honorary Huskies from afar!! We could not have been more impressed with everyone connected to your school; you should be immensely proud.

President Koubek, I think this speaks volumes to what you and leadership team, and entire institution are doing, thank you.

April is also the time for faculty tenure decisions. Achieving tenure is an important step in a faculty's career - denoting strong contributions in teaching, research, and service to the university. Our review of tenure recommendations reminds us each year of the excellence within our faculty ranks. To those who achieve tenure today, we congratulate you and look forward to your next accomplishments.

We also congratulate this year's University and Distinguished Professors: Dr. Yun Hang Hu, Professor in Materials Science and Engineering, Dr. Greg Odegard, Professor in Mechanical Engineering-Engineering Mechanics, and Dr. Kathy Halvorsen, Professor with a joint appointment in Social Sciences and the College of Forest Resources and Environmental Science are this year's University Professors. Dr. Simon Carn, Professor in Geological and Mining Engineering and Sciences, Dr. Adrienne Minerick, Professor in Chemical Engineering, Dr. Qiuying Sha, Professor in Mathematical Sciences, and Dr. Zhanping You, Professor in Civil, Environmental, and Geospatial Engineering are this year's Distinguished Professors. We congratulate these faculty on their awards and thank them for their continued exceptional contributions.

Finally, I want to take just a moment to note the growth on campus. There are three (3) ribbon cuttings today! H-STEM, the Alumni Gateway, and a new space in the Chemical Engineering Department. Two of these were made possible by the remarkable generosity of our donors. We also have steady progress being made on East Hall, improvements to the ice rink underway, and more projects scheduled for the summer. We are excited to see these efforts coming to fruition - they are a credit to the hard work of the entire campus community and will benefit the students and researchers for years to come.

President Koubek, your opening remarks.

B. President's Comments

Chair, Members of the Board and audience members, thank you for joining us today.

As is customary, I would first like to begin my comments by congratulating our graduates. Today and tomorrow, we will celebrate 1,064 students who will earn their degrees from Michigan Tech.

As I think back four years ago to 2020 -- which is the year that many of our undergraduate students graduating this weekend entered as first year students, I am reminded of the tremendous obstacles they overcame. Coined the COVID Class -- The class of 2024 navigated remote learning, quarantines, and the many other challenges brought on by the pandemic. Their journey is quite remarkable, and it makes the class of 2024's commencement exercises all that more special.

Tenacity is often used to describe Michigan Tech students. I would say that is a more than fitting descriptor for the Class of 2024.

Every April, university leadership prepares the upcoming fiscal year budget for presentation and approval at the Board meeting. This year, I am pleased to report that we have submitted a balanced budget that provides for the continuation of our faculty hiring initiative; greater institutional investment in our health and wellness benefits; and an increase in the University's general salary pool, from which merit pay raises will be made.

It goes without saying that the successes of the past few years have provided us with the ability to present a budget that prioritizes investments in our people and place.

For example, we will cut the ribbon on the new HSTEM complex and the Alumni Gateway later today. Additionally, you will soon see renovations begin in the McNair dining hall, the EERC classrooms and Daniel Heights.

This is in addition to the ongoing construction projects already happening around campus.

In this spirit, I'd like to also recognize the people who truly make Michigan Tech extraordinary. Later in the meeting we will recognize MASU's distinguished professor of the year, Dr. Charles Wallace. We will also award the professor emeritus to several faculty members including Dave Reed after 41 years of service to Michigan Tech. Thank you, Dave, for your tremendous efforts. You have touched nearly every facet of this University, and your imprint will be felt for many years.

On April 12, we celebrated several students at the student leadership awards banquet. In particular, I'd like to recognize Marielle Raasio who received the President's Award for Leadership. As one nominator put it, Marielle has created a community whose well-being and internal confidence encourages the desire to work, study, and build relationships.

These examples are just a few of the many ways our faculty, staff and students reflect the incredible community we call Michigan Tech. I am delighted to be a part of it and thank you all for your continued support.

Congratulations, again to the Class of 2024. You truly earned your diplomas and deserve all that a degree from Michigan Tech can offer.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

- 1) Lexi Tater spoke about safety of minority students on campus.

VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS

VI-A. Academic Affairs Committee

The Committee met once since the last Board meeting. First, the Provost Storer provided an update on the General Education program, which is on track, thank you to Provost Storer.

Secondly, the Committee discussed the finalization of spring break 2025-2026. The Committee Chair expressed appreciation for the leadership of the University senate, USG, and GSG.

Finally, as Chair Tomaszewski mentioned, the Committee welcomes the three new Deans.

VI-B. Audit and Finance Committee

The full committee has met once since the last board meeting. They have had a couple meetings with staff in between to plan out the agenda and dig into several special topics.

Financial performance continues to be positive and on track with budget. The normalization of post COVID enrollment and the growth in the ratio of upper to lower division students continues to support our faculty hiring initiative and provide resources for equitable, inflation adjusted compensation increases, as well as all the investments into the physical spaces, on campus.

Next, the Committee reviewed the FY25 budget parameters, including tuition, and the recommendation of an external auditor and the annual audit firm engagement.

Finally, they spent extra time looking closely at our compensation structures across campus. In August we will devote extra time to a review of our property, plant & equipment, our bonded construction projects, and our deferred maintenance program.

VI-C. Leadership Committee

The Committee met once since the last meeting. President Koubek provided the Committee with an update on the goals and objectives, relative to target. Things are all on pace which is fantastic. They continue to look ahead at opportunities and challenges, adapting the goals to be prepared for what is coming next.

The Committee discussed succession and progression of the executive team, the makeup of the Board, including what Board members bring which talents, off boarding Board members (Chair Tomaszewski and Trustees Sanders) including succession planning, as the Governor appoints the next Board members.

VII. CONSENT AGENDA

It was moved by J. Bacon, supported by M. Johnson, and passed by voice vote without dissent, that the Board of Trustees approve and adopt the items contained in the Consent Agenda.

- A. Approval of Minutes**
- B. Resignations, Retirements, and Off-Payroll**

- C. **Funding Productivity Report**
- D. **Michigan Council for the Arts and Cultural Affairs**
- E. **Contracts - Board Policy 11.13**

VIII. ACTION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Tenure-Track Appointments Not Involving Tenure and/or Promotion

It was moved by A. Dickson, supported by J. Bacon, and passed by voice vote without dissent, that the Board of Trustees approves the appointments listed herein. The appointments do not include tenure or promotion.

Appointment without Tenure for Two Years Effective August 12, 2024

| | | |
|------------------------|---------------------|---|
| Seulchan Lee | Assistant Professor | College of Business |
| Xin Li | Assistant Professor | College of Business |
| Ashraf Saleem | Assistant Professor | Applied Computing |
| Briana Bettin | Assistant Professor | Computer Science |
| Leo Ureel | Assistant Professor | Computer Science |
| Hoda Hatoum | Assistant Professor | Biomedical Engineering |
| Muhammad Rizwan | Assistant Professor | Biomedical Engineering |
| Yousef Darestani | Assistant Professor | Civil, Environmental & Geospatial Eng. |
| Jae Sung Kim | Assistant Professor | Civil, Environmental & Geospatial Eng. |
| Mohammad Sadeghi | Assistant Professor | Civil, Environmental & Geospatial Eng. |
| Flavio Bezerra Costa | Assistant Professor | Electrical & Computer Engineering |
| Tan Chen | Assistant Professor | Electrical & Computer Engineering |
| Kaichen Yang | Assistant Professor | Electrical & Computer Engineering |
| Michelle Jarvie-Eggart | Assistant Professor | Engineering Fundamentals |
| David Labyak | Assistant Professor | Manufacturing & Mechanical Eng. Tech. |
| Vinh Nguyen | Assistant Professor | Mechanical Eng. – Eng. Mechanics |
| Paulus van Susante | Assistant Professor | Mechanical Eng. – Eng. Mechanics |
| Shangyan Zou | Assistant Professor | Mechanical Eng. – Eng. Mechanics |
| Tara Bal | Assistant Professor | College of Forest Resources & Env. Sci. |
| Tao Liu | Assistant Professor | College of Forest Resources & Env. Sci. |
| Jared Wolfe | Assistant Professor | College of Forest Resources & Env. Sci. |
| Yinan Yuan | Assistant Professor | College of Forest Resources & Env. Sci. |
| Erich Petushek | Assistant Professor | Cognitive & Learning Sciences |
| Jason Archer | Assistant Professor | Humanities |
| Stephanie Carpenter | Assistant Professor | Humanities |
| Kelly Kamm | Assistant Professor | Kinesiology & Integrative Physiology |
| Fan Dai | Assistant Professor | Mathematical Sciences |
| Robert Schneider | Assistant Professor | Mathematical Sciences |
| Elena Giusarma | Assistant Professor | Physics |
| Kartik Iyer Keshava | Assistant Professor | Physics |
| Mark Rhodes | Assistant Professor | Social Sciences |
| Jeffrey Sherwood | Assistant Professor | Visual & Performing Arts |

**Appointment without Tenure for One Year – Extension to Tenure Clock
Effective August 12, 2024**

| | | |
|--------------------|---------------------|--|
| Nathir Rawashdeh | Assistant Professor | Applied Computing |
| Daniel Dowden | Assistant Professor | Civil, Environmental & Geospatial Eng. |
| Gordon Paterson | Assistant Professor | Biological Sciences |
| Trista Vick-Majors | Assistant Professor | Biological Sciences |
| Carolyn Duncan | Assistant Professor | Kinesiology & Integrative Physiology |

**Appointment without Tenure for One Year
Effective August 12, 2024**

| | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Josue Reynoso Vallejo | Assistant Professor | College of Business |
|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|

B. Appointments Involving Tenure and/or Promotion

It was moved by J. Bacon, supported by A. Dickson, and passed by voice vote without dissent, that the Board of Trustees approves the appointments involving tenure and/or promotion listed herein.

Promotion from Assistant Professor without Tenure to Associate Professor with Tenure

| | |
|------------------|--|
| Ulrich Schmelzle | College of Business |
| Sangyoon Han | Biomedical Engineering |
| Kristin Brzeski | College of Forest Resources & Environmental Sci. |
| Sarah Bell | Humanities |
| John Gruver | Mathematical Sciences |
| Xiao Zhang | Mathematical Sciences |

C. Promotions

It was moved by J. Littmann, supported by M. Johnson, and passed by voice vote without dissent, that the Board of Trustees approves the promotions listed herein.

Promotion from Associate Professor with Tenure to Professor with Tenure

| | |
|-----------------|---------------------|
| Charles Wallace | Computer Science |
| Xiaoqing Tang | Biological Sciences |
| Marina Tanasova | Chemistry |

D. Emeritus Rank

It was moved J. Littmann, supported by M Johnson, and passed by voice vote without dissent, that the Board of Trustees approves the following emeritus/emerita appointments:

1. Dr. William Breffle, Professor Emeritus, College of Business
2. Dr. Ibrahim Miskioglu, Professor Emeritus, Department of Mechanical Engineering – Engineering Mechanics

3. Mr. Douglas Oppliger, Teaching Professor Emeritus, Department of Engineering Fundamentals
4. Dr. David Reed, Professor Emeritus, College of Forest Resources & Environmental Science

Comments for Board Chair, Steve Tomaszewski:

Dave Reed is himself an institution here at Michigan Tech. We as a Board had the privilege of spending some time with Dave last night at dinner to reminisce with him and thank him for his many contributions to Michigan Tech over the years. His teaching and research careers are remarkable in their own right; the guidance he's provided to Michigan Tech is invaluable.

We made an effort to list the leadership positions he's held - but soon realized that it would be less work to list those he hasn't held (from what we can tell, the only job he hasn't done is Athletic Director). Suzanne, is that correct? In his 41 years, 6 months, 30 days and counting at Michigan Tech, lets say 42 (we're not keeping track), Dave has not only taken our research to new levels as the Vice President of Research for the past 24 years, he's also been Dean of the Graduate School, Provost, and CFO.

Under Dave's watch, we've seen the launch of the Michigan Tech Research Institute, the Great Lakes Research Center, the Health Research Institute, the Institute of Computing and Cyber Systems, and the Advanced Power Systems Research Center - to name a few. We've seen research expenditures grow from \$27 M to over \$100 M. And we're cutting the ribbon today on H-STEM, thanks to you.

Dave, this meeting is not long enough to recite your accomplishments, or to thank you sufficiently for all you've done for Michigan Tech. However, as a small token of our appreciation, a tree will be planted in your honor on campus and marked with this plaque (which you can see, but you can't take with you) in honor of your dedication and service to the University. And here is your Emeritus plaque, which you can take with you. Thank you, Dave.

E. MS in Wildlife Ecology & Conservation

It was moved by J. Bacon, supported by M. Johnson and passed by voice vote without dissent, that the Board of Trustees approves the MS in Wildlife Ecology & Conservation.

F. Silver Medal - Chang Park

The Administration recommends that Mr. Chang K. Park be awarded Michigan Technological University's Board of Trustees Silver Medal.

As the recommendation from ECE indicates, "Chang's story is inspiring and one that perfectly illustrates the explosion along the socio-economic continuum that Michigan Tech is well known

for.” Following his high school graduation from the Brooklyn Academy and receiving the New York State Regent Award in math, Chang chose Michigan Tech where he completed dual degrees in electrical engineering and engineering administration in 1973. Following the completion of his degrees from Michigan Tech, Chang worked in the engineering/transportation industry for a short time before deciding to obtain an MBA from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania.

After a short stint in international finance, Chang took what he learned from his time at Michigan Tech and created a successful global business, Universal Remote Control, Inc. (URC) where he currently serves as the President and CEO. URC develops, produces, and distributes remote controls and home automation products.

Chang is a true humanitarian, donating both time and money to several causes. Some of these include: serving as a member of the national governing board of Common Cause; creating The Chang K. Park Foundation, which supports human rights, the elimination of poverty and hunger, and assists with the implementation of political reform and economic justice; as well as supporting Michigan Tech’s LeaderShape program and Graduate School Emergency Fund.

Once again, quoted from the nomination, “Through his life, actions, leadership, philanthropy, and social activism, Chang K. Park is the embodiment of this award.”

RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that the Board of Trustees approves the awarding of the Board of Trustees Silver Medal to Mr. Chang K. Park.

It was moved by J. Littmann, supported by M. Johnson, and passed by voice vote without dissent, that the Board of Trustees award the Silver Metal to Mr. Chang K. Park.

G. Silver Medal - Anthony "Tony" Esposito

The Administration recommends that Mr. Anthony “Tony O” Esposito be awarded Michigan Technological University’s Board of Trustees Silver Medal.

Arguably ranking as one of the most accomplished student athlete graduates from Michigan Tech, Tony earned First Team All-American honors throughout all three of his varsity seasons and lead the Huskies to an NCAA title in 1965, at the same time taking his studies seriously and never missing class. All this success led to a career in the NHL, both on the ice and in administrative roles.

During his tenure in the NHL, Tony played one season with the Montreal Canadiens (winning the Stanley Cup) before being traded to the Chicago Blackhawks, where he played 15 seasons. To this day, Tony is the Blackhawks’ all-time leader for career games played and shutouts; his 15 shutouts

are the most of any goalie in modern hockey. Tony's playing success also landed him invitations to play in All-Star games, as well as with the inaugural Team Canada. As a goalie, Tony perfected the "butterfly" stance, which reinvented this position. He called it "aggressive goaltending."

Tony's degree in Business Administration was also vital in his career. He began negotiating his own contracts, and after being voted president of the NHL Players Association, he assisted in negotiating the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the players and owners. After retiring from playing in the NHL, the Pittsburgh Penguins named in him their General Manager, where he served 1988-1991. Following this, he and his brother, Phil, became founding members of the Tampa Bay Lightning. Tony also served as Vice President for the Lightning.

Though Tony passed way to early, in 2021, his accomplishments both as an athlete and in the business sector show that he is more than deserving of this award.

RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that the Board of Trustees approves the awarding of the Board of Trustees Silver Medal to Mr. Anthony "Tony O" Esposito.

It was moved by J. Bacon, supported by J. Littmann, and passed by voice vote without dissent, that the Board of Trustees award the Silver Metal to Mr. Anthony "Tony O" Esposito.

H. Revisions to Board Policy 9.24 Enrollment of Senior Citizens

It was moved by J. Bacon, supported by M. Johnson, and passed by voice vote without dissent, that the Board of Trustees approves the revisions to Board policy 9.24 Enrollment of Senior Citizens.

I. Approval of FY25 General Fund Operating Budget

It was moved by A. Dickson, supported by J. Littmann, and passed by voice vote without dissent, that the Board of Trustees approves the FY25 General Fund Operating Budget.

J. Resolution for Approval of External Auditor

It was moved by J. Littmann, supported by M. Johnson, and passed by voice vote without dissent, that the Board of Trustees approves appointment of Plante & Moran, PLLC, as external auditor.

K. Revisions to Board Policy 8.9 Experience Tech Fee

It was moved by M. Johnson, supported by J. Littmann, and passed by voice vote without dissent, that the Board of Trustees approves the revisions to Board Policy 8.9 Experience Tech Fee.

IX. REPORTS (presentations provided in agenda)

- A. Provost Report**
Andrew Storer, Provost
- B. University Research and Sponsored Programs Report**
David Reed, Vice President for Research
- C. Undergraduate Student Government**
Ben Conlin, President
- D. Graduate Student Government**
Karlee Westrem, President
- E. University Senate**
Robert Hutchinson, President

X. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS (documents provided in agenda)

- A. Analysis of Investments**
- B. Research & Sponsored Programs**
- C. Advancement & Alumni Relations**
- D. Media Coverage**
- E. Employee Safety Statistics**
- F. Disposal of Surplus property**
- G. Contracts 500K**
- H. Summary of Scholarships, Awards, and Grants (Board Policy 9.3)**

XI. Other Business

XII. Date for Next Formal Meeting: August 1, 2024

XIII. Adjourn

It was moved by J. Bacon, supported by D. Sanders, and passed by voice vote without dissent, that the Board of Trustees adjourn the meeting.


Secretary to the Board of Trustees


Acting Chair, Board of Trustees

