

The University Senate of Michigan Technological University

To: Senators, Alternates, and Liaisons
From: Robert Hutchinson, Senate President
Date: April 10, 2025
Subject: Agenda for University Senate Meeting #719
Copies: President, Provost, Board of Trustees Secretary, Vice Presidents, Library, Staff Council Chair, *Tech Today*, Michigan Tech Lode

Meeting #719 of the University Senate of Michigan Technological University will convene at 12:30 p.m. on **Thursday, April 10, 2025 in ChemSci room 102.**

Senators are responsible for making their constituents aware of the agenda for this meeting. Senators who are unable to attend should arrange for their alternates to attend in their place.

Agenda	Time
Call to Order	
Roll Call of Senators and Recognition of Visitors	5
Quorum is met.	
Approval of Agenda	2
Approved unanimously.	
Approval of Minutes from Meeting 718	5
Minutes were not yet submitted for meeting 718. Minutes will be presented at next week's meeting for both Meeting #718 and #719.	
President's Report	5
Nothing to report today.	15
Presentation: Husky Folio with Nancy Barr	
Husky Folio is a key component of the Essential Education program. "Folio Thinking" is related to the regular incorporation of student reflection on academic activities within and across courses to engage and make connections in the scope of overall learning linked to their individual programs. Active reflection aids in deep thinking about a student's academic career to build linkages and depth for the student. The Husky Folio framework will link to the 12 essential abilities within the Essential Education program and throughout the student's degree program. The folio links integrative learning and metacognitive learning in the progress of the student's education. The software platform integrated for this function is known as PebblePad. This platform is already active and available through Canvas resources for faculty and students. Students may also be able to access PebblePad materials after graduation if so chosen. This is currently a free service. Faculty have two options for engagement with PebblePad: Option 1: Work within Canvas; Option 2: Work directly within PebblePad external to Canvas. The working group is integrating this now, with full implementation for AY27-28. Many options for training were outlined in the presentation. Several questions were raised regarding engagement and its potential use regarding Design Expo and other capstone opportunities. Dr. Barr encouraged engagement along these avenues.	
Committee Reports	10
The Elections committee gave a reminder about completing the Senate Officer Ballot due by Friday at midnight.	
Unfinished Business	20

- a. [Proposal 18-25](#): “Minor in Sustainability Studies” Presented by: Curricular Policy Committee (Voting Units: Academic)
Dr. Shannon presented the proposal. No discussion. Proposal approved unanimously.
- b. [Proposal 19-25](#): “Minor in Economics and Society” Presented by: Curricular Policy Committee (Voting Units: Academic)
Dr. Shannon presented the proposal. No discussion. Proposal approved unanimously.
- c. [Proposal 21-25](#): “Minor in Population Health” Presented by: Curricular Policy Committee (Voting Units: Academic)
Dr. Shannon presented the proposal. No discussion. Proposal approved unanimously.
- d. [Proposal 25-25](#): “Minor in Human-Centered Design” Presented by: Curricular Policy Committee (Voting Units: Academic)
Dr. Shannon presented the proposal. No discussion. Proposal approved unanimously.

New Business

30

- a. [Proposal 23-25](#): “Minor in Entrepreneurship” Presented by: Curricular Policy Committee (Voting Units: Academic)
Dr. Shannon presented the proposal. Essential Education proposal of a minor in entrepreneurship. Some discussion.
- b. [Proposal 24-25](#): “Minor in AI Ethics” Presented by: Curricular Policy Committee (Voting Units: Academic)
Dr. Shannon presented the proposal. Essential Education proposal of a minor on AI ethics. No discussion.
- c. [Proposal 26-25](#): “Proposed Changes to Policy 109.1” Presented by: Academic and Instructional Policy Committee (Voting Units: All)
Dr. Hazaveh presented the proposal. This proposal is to adjust the policy regarding academic integrity on AI use. A comment regarding overlap or connection to Policy 120.1. There is a point of conversation regarding the linkage of academic policy with academic AI misconduct policy regarding disclosure of use of AI in assignment content.
- d. [Proposal 27-25](#): “Proposed Changes to Procedure 109.1.1” Presented by: Academic and Instructional Policy Committee (Voting Units: All)
Dr. Hazaveh presented the proposal. This proposal will adjust the procedure regarding academic integrity on AI use. Office of Academic Integrity changes to the Student Handbook are reflected in this proposal. The changes relate to changes in language and titles regarding terminology associated with the Student Handbook.
- e. [Proposal 28-25](#): “Proposal for shelving minor in Sustainability Science and Society” Presented by: Curricular Policy Committee (Voting Units: Academic)
Dr. Shannon presented the proposal. This is a shelving proposal recognizing that it has been replaced with an Essential Education minor.
- f. [Proposal 29-25](#): “Proposal to Shelve the Minor in Naval Systems Engineering” Presented by: Curricular Policy Committee (Voting Units: Academic)
Dr. Shannon presented the proposal. This is a shelving proposal related to low enrollment and challenges for instructional resourcing.
- g. [Proposal 32-25](#): “Proposal to Establish the MTU Retirement - Retaining Expertise Plan” Presented by: Fringe Benefits Committee (Voting Units: All)

This proposal is established reflecting the phase out of the RSVP program to recognize motivations regarding retaining expertise and providing a pathway to transition into retirement. A question was asked regarding whether the eight years must be consecutive or not. The discussion indicated that consecutive years of service was not intended. This is meant to recognize the Medicare gap impact on valued employees in units with the need for the expertise. Clarification was encouraged regarding the minimum age and eligibility for benefits does not require consecutive eight years of service, and identifying which employees (categories) are benefit eligible. Adjustments are likely before the vote next week.

- h. [Proposal 33-25](#): “Proposal to Update the Senate Bylaws” Presented by: Elections, Bylaws, and Constitution Committee (Voting Units: All)
Dr. Laura Fiss presented the proposal. The intent is to broaden the scope of senator roles who may serve as senate officers. Also, clarifications regarding the staff position roles that are allowed. A comment regarding whether an officer must be a senator resulted in a conversation whether that is required. Senators and alternates are in practice those who would run. Please provide feedback to EBCC for potential adjustments to the proposal.
- i. [Proposal 34-25](#): “Half Semester Course Policy 305.1” Presented by: Academic and Instructional Policy (Voting Units: Academic)
Dr. Hazaveh presented the proposal. The proposal is to change policy to adjust what courses might be allowed to offer half semester courses. The specifics are detailed. Please read the proposal for the details and compare to previous policy as necessary. The policy primarily adjusts academic year changes as opposed to summer course scheduling.

Public Comments

5

Dr. Scarlett asked whether the administration would provide guidance to the campus community regarding concerns for international students on campus. Comments were made from the administrative representation encouraging direct interactions with appropriate administrative offices regarding these concerns to schedule a conversation.

Adjournment

Adjourned at 1:30pm.