

Minutes, USG General Body Meeting

April 1, 2020



Undergraduate
Student Government
At Michigan Tech

- I. Roll Call
 - Roll taken
 - 3 Absences
- II. Vote of Consensus
 - Sydney Dankert recommends allowing a vote of consensus.
- III. Approval of Agenda and Minutes
 - Harley Merkaj moves to approve last week's minutes and this week's agenda.
 - i. Second
 - ii. Consensus
 - iii. Motion passes
- IV. Approval of Special Meeting Minutes
 - Harley Merkaj moves to approve last week's special meeting minutes
 - i. Second
 - ii. Consensus
 - iii. Motion passes
- V. Recognition of Visitors – Thanks for coming!
- VI. Officer Reports
 - President (*Melanie Thomas*)
 - i. Statement on Pass/Fail Classes
 1. Official statement approved by advisors and E-Board, passed on to Public Relations
 2. Pass/Fail was presented in email by President Koubek.
 - ii. E-Board Transition Meeting
 1. Meeting with the new E-Board scheduled from 4-5 PM tomorrow.
 2. Old E-Board will work with the new E-Board to transition this week.
 - iii. SCHEF
 1. Formed at United Government Conference at November
 2. Group is ready to begin operations, task forces are being put together.
 - iv. Board of Trustees Meeting Rescheduled
 1. Deadline for submission of materials pushed back to April 27
 2. Meeting is on May 20.
 - Vice President (*Zbigniew Bell*)
 - i. New [Zoom link](#) for 04/08/2020
 - Treasurer (*Leo Stelmaszek*)
 - i. Thanks for a wonderful year!
 - ii. New treasurer will do a great job.
 - Secretary (*Zachary Olson*)
 - i. Thank you to USG!
- VII. Advisor Reports
 - Beka Horsch
 - i. Virtual Magician - Trent James
 1. Friday, April 10 at 9 PM Eastern Time
 2. [Zoom Link](#)
 - ii. April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month

- iii. HuskiesFit Classes offered on Zoom and open to the Public
 - 1. [Go to Facebook for more information](#)
 - iv. Find great resources and ideas on various social media accounts and department websites.
 - 1. Student Leadership and Involvement
 - a. [Facebook](#)
 - b. [Instagram](#) @sliatmtu
 - Stefani Vargas Krause
 - Bonnie Gorman
 - i. Thanks to E-Board for their efforts and accomplishments.
- VIII. Standing Committee Reports
 - Events (*River Leverage*)
 - Judiciary Committee (*Sydney Dankert*)
 - Political Affairs (*Sydney Dankert*)
 - Public Relations (*Natalie Wohlgemuth*)
 - i. Updating website
 - ii. Posting Pass/Fail statement on social media.
 - Student Affairs (*Larkin Hooker-Moericke*)
 - i. Sending out Fall Break survey at the beginning of next Fall semester.
 - ii. Presenting teacher evaluation proposal later.
 - iii. Considering open Zoom meetings to make professors available virtually.
 - Ways and Means (*Leo Stelmaszek*)
 - i. Voting on Dev Ops opportunity fund request this meeting.
- IX. USG Liaison Reports
 - Graduate Student Government
 - Interfraternity Council (*Leif Olson*)
 - i. Piloting Discord server for fraternities
 - ii. IFC dues cancelled
 - iii. Finalizing constitution changes
 - Panhellenic Council (*Sydney Dankert*)
 - i. Developing ways to keep in touch
 - Inter Residence Housing Council (*Tej Bergin and Ellie Sempek*)
 - Houghton City Council (*Melanie Thomas*)
 - Parent's Fund (*Zbigniew Bell*)
 - Senate (*Harley Merkaj*)
 - i. Pass/Fail Senate Resolution 41-20 passed
 - Diversity (*Harley Merkaj*)
 - Student Commission (*Melanie Thomas*)
 - Friends of the Library (*Zofia Freiberg and Emily Mattson*)
 - Library Director Search Committee (*Zofia Freiberg*)
 - i. Recommendations will be sent to the Provost, but will not hire this semester
 - ii. Hiring process will likely resume in Fall 2020
 - JED Campus (*Jordan Craven*)
 - H-Stem (*Colleen Toorongian*)
 - i. Waiting to receive budgetary approval
 - HIDE Voting Booth (*Jordan Craven*)
 - i. RFID Testing will be pushed back to the Fall.
 - ii. Goal to implement halfway through Fall 2020.

- Non-Motorized Transportation Committee (*Melanie Thomas*)
 - Experience Tech Fee (*Melanie Thomas*)
 - Other Liaisons
- X. Unfinished Business
- Teacher Evaluations Resolution
 - i. Harley Merkaj moves to adopt the resolution
 1. Second
 2. 20 in favor
 3. 0 opposed
 4. 1 abstention
 5. Motion passes
 - Dev Ops: Opp Fund Request
 - i. Requested \$1029.40
 1. For computer and networking equipment.
 - ii. Recommend \$1029.40
 - iii. Harley Merkaj moves to approve WAM's recommendation
 1. Second
 2. Consensus
 3. Motion passes
- XI. New Business
- Film Board: Reserve fund Request
 - i. Requested \$4,784.73
 1. Includes losses from COVID-19 and negative account balance, to zero-out bank account.
 - ii. Recommend \$3,500.00
 1. WAM's recommendation is an amount that is estimated to be strictly lost due to COVID-19 without prior negative account balance.
 - Swearing-in of new E-Board
 - i. President: Larkin Hooker-Moericke
 1. President sworn in.
 - ii. Vice-President: Lauren Spahn
 - iii. Treasurer: Harley Merkaj
 - iv. Secretary: Natalie Wohlgemuth
 1. Vice-President, Treasurer, and Secretary sworn in.
- XII. Open Floor
- Melanie Thomas thanks everyone for a productive year.
 - Students wondering if there is any way to bring down tuition.
 - i. Tuition is set by the Board of Trustees
 - ii. Tuition recommendations may be delayed.
 - Zachary Olson entertains a motion to adopt the internal pass/fail USG resolution
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1TwvEP269DjdV14zHYvNNMG4K48nLe8q7nVUuHi8jiGE/edit>
 - i. John Nowosad moves to make the motion
 1. Second
 2. Discussion
 - a. No language in President Koubek's email about pass/fail indicating that pass/fail grading would be changed to accept pass grades for major courses.

- b. More information is forthcoming
 - c. Much of the information is contained in the USG statement which will be posted on social media.
 3. Consensus
 4. Motion passes
 - ii. Idea of Prorating lab fees.
 1. May affect the pay of TAs.
 2. Students with concerns for lab fees should contact the department.
 - a. USG could play a role in encouraging departments to take action on this.
 - iii. USG support of allowing students to retake any class regardless of the grade they receive.
 1. This was an item in the USG resolution on pass/fail.
 2. John Nowosad desires to pass a stand-alone resolution on the subject.
 - a. Zack and Student Affairs offer to help.

XIII. Closed Session

XIV. Announcements/"Remarks for the Good

- Larkin: Thank you to E-Board, excited for next Year.
- Student Affairs will meet after this.
- Zack: Thanks for a fun year, I will be back.

XV. Adjournment

- Harley Merkaj moves to adjourn.
 - i. Second
 - ii. Consensus
 - iii. Motion passes
- Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,
Zachary Olson
Secretary of the Undergraduate Student Government