

Minutes, USG General Body Meeting

April 15, 2020



Undergraduate
Student Government
At Michigan Tech

- I. Roll Call
 - 2 absent
 - Quorum met
- II. Approval of Agenda and Minutes
 - So Moved & Second
 - Vote of Consensus
 - i. Motion Passes
- III. Recognition of Visitors – Thanks for coming!
- IV. Officer Reports
 - President (*Larkin Hooker-Moericke*)
 - i. Low Pass Option
 1. Goes along with Pass/Fail Proposal
 2. CD/D as “Low Pass” & still no effect to GPA
 3. Helps concerns regarding transfer students
 4. Senate is currently discussing and an update will be provided next week
 - ii. Spring Fling Poster
 1. On-line K-Day with a poster competition
 2. Monetary prize to winner
 3. Let Larkin know if you have interest in designing a poster for USG!
 - Vice President (*Lauren Spahn*)
 - i. [Fall 2020 Office Hours](#)
 1. Sign-up for three hours per week
 2. Make sure to pick times that you can make to maintain regular office hours
 3. Complete by next meeting on April 22nd
 - ii. Committee Assignments
 1. Assigned based off of the results from the Body Membership Info. Form
 2. Should have assignments ready by next meeting
 - iii. New Member Orientation
 1. Brief meeting will take place after this meeting ends
 2. Will discuss USG expectations/common concerns/any other questions
 3. Keep note of any questions you may have throughout meeting that can be answered during the orientation session
 - Treasurer (*Harley Merkaj*)
 - i. No report
 - Secretary (*Natalie Wohlgemuth*)
 - i. Entertain a motion to take a five minute recess
 1. So moved & second
 2. Vote of consensus
 - a. Motion passes
 3. [Body Membership Info. Form](#)
 - a. Make sure to fill out if having not done so already
 - ii. Open Positions Social Media Posts
 1. Drafting up a post to go on the USG Instagram, Twitter, and Facebook
 - a. Will go out after meeting or early tomorrow morning

2. Please share the post to help get the word out

V. Advisor Reports

- Beka Horsch
 - i. Trivia Night
 - 1. Wednesdays at 8 PM Eastern Time
 - 2. [Zoom Link](#)
 - ii. HuskeyLead: Getting into the Nitty GRITty”
 - 1. Thursday, April 16 at 4 PM Eastern Time
 - 2. [Zoom Link](#)
 - iii. Virtual Caricatures
 - 1. Thursday, April 16 at 7PM-10PM Eastern Time
 - 2. [Link](#) - Click on it at any time to register in advance
 - iv. ResEd Trivia Night
 - 1. [Zoom Link](#)
 - v. [Counseling Services Blog](#)
 - vi. HuskiesFit Classes offered on Zoom and open to the Public
 - 1. [Go to Facebook for more information](#)
- Stefani Vargas Krause
 - i. No report
- Bonnie Gorman
 - i. John’s Retaking Courses Proposal was mentioned during Senate’s New Business & will be voted on next at their next meeting

VI. Standing Committee Reports

- Events
- Judiciary (*Sydney Dankert*)
 - i. Taking any and all Constitution Revision ideas regardless of interest in joining the Ad-Hoc committee
 - ii. Greatly appreciate everyone’s help!
- Political Affairs (*Zachary Olson*)
 - i. SGA Student Health and Academic Resource Advocacy
 - 1. An Open Letter to Admissions, Postgraduate Opportunities in response to COVID-19
 - a. https://docs.google.com/document/d/1kabaruxenwzicb_OPpbb-JG4YE0wRgEPp7wrHgQM_g8/editHrL-qcBx88/edit
 - b. Academic success is greatly hurt by COVID-19
 - c. Addresses student concerns about being held to standards for admissions that aren’t feasible due to changes made in response to COVID-19
 - 2. An Open Letter to Expand Telehealth Support Access Across State Lines
 - a. <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1y14v3YWIEhZXu7Opbf5g0kc2ZtOaACd4t>
 - b. Addressed to the Federation of State Medical Boards
 - c. Asking for an adaption to interstate medical licensing & service
 - d. Would allow telehealth professionals to work across state lines to help out-of-state students that depend on services provided by their institution
 - 3. Political Affairs meets from 4-5 PM on Fridays
 - a. Meeting date/time can change to work around everyone’s

schedules

4. Proposals Are Time-Sensitive

a. Would like to approve today if deemed appropriate by the body

- Public Relations (*Jordan Craven*)
 - i. Revamping website
 - ii. PR email going out to all interested in joining
 - 1. Planned to be sent out by this Friday, April 17th
 - 2. Send Jordan a quick email to be added to the mailing list
 - 3. Lauren will share committee assignments with the chairs once all info is collected
- Student Affairs (*Zofia Freiberg*)
 - i. SAC "office hours" for students 12pm - 3pm Thursday the 16th and Thursday the 23rd
 - 1. Will make a Social Media Post
 - 2. <https://michigantech.zoom.us/j/741050784>
 - ii. CTL response to teacher evaluation proposal
 - 1. Most ideas are good
 - 2. Mike Meyers has some ideas that he'd like to discuss more
 - iii. SAC meeting after general meeting
 - 1. <https://michigantech.zoom.us/j/470519220h>
- Ways and Means (*Harley Merkaj*)
 - i. Finishing the remaining Reimbursement/Advance of Funds. Requests

VII. USG Liaison Reports

- Graduate Student Government
 - i. Didn't meet this week, will meet next week
- Interfraternity Council
- Panhellenic Council (*Sydney Dankert*)
 - i. Working on Spring Fling/recruitment events
- Inter Residence Housing Council (*Ellie Sempek*)
 - i. Focused on transitioning to new body
- Houghton City Council
- Parent's Fund (*Zbigniew Bell*)
 - i. No report
- Senate (*Harley Merkaj*)
 - i. E-Board Election Results
 - 1. Sam Sweitz - President
 - 2. Jacob Guter - Vice President
 - 3. Carlos Amador - Secretary
 - ii. [Fall Break](#)
 - 1. Instruction would start on Thursday, August 27, 2020. The two days of break would be on October 15 and 16th. An alternate K-Day if COVID-19 continues to cause delays would be on October 23rd.
 - 2. Proposal didn't pass with a majority and will be postponed until their next meeting
 - 3. The Senate wants to hear more student feedback. Let Harley know about wanting to speak on this topic
 - iii. [Low Pass](#)
 - 1. CD/D would be deemed "Low Pass" & still wouldn't affect GPA

2. Will be voted on at their next meeting
- iv. [Retaking Courses](#)

1. Will be voted on at their next meeting
- Diversity (*Harley Merkaj*)
 - i. Still have yet to meet
 - Student Commission (*Larkin Hooker-Moericke*)
 - i. No report
 - Friends of the Library (*Zofia Freiberg*)
 - i. No report
 - JED Campus (*Jordan Craven*)
 - i. No report
 - H-Stem
 - HIDE Voting Booth (*Jordan Craven*)
 - i. No report
 - Non-Motorized Transportation Committee (*Larkin Hooker-Moericke*)
 - i. No report
 - Experience Tech Fee (*Larkin Hooker-Moericke*)
 - i. Meeting tomorrow, April 16th
 - Other Liaisons
 - Let E-Board know about interest in open liaison positions

VIII. Unfinished Business

IX. New Business

- Appointment of Judiciary Committee Member
 - i. In need of one other member
 - ii. Committee's purpose is to ensure that USG is following our Constitution & Bylaws
 1. Separate from the Constitution Review Committee
 2. Would like to see overlap with the individual as it'd be beneficial but not required
 - iii. Nominations
 1. None
 - iv. Please keep in mind to help fill this position ASAP
- Appointment of Personnel Committee Alternate
 - i. Comprised of the VP, Committee Chairs, 1 Alternate
 - ii. Nominations
 1. Zack
 - a. Already on committee as the Political Affairs Chair
 2. Ziggy
 - a. Nomination accepted
 - b. Larkin entertains a motion to approve the appointment of Ziggy as the Personnel Committee Alternate
 - i. So Moved & Second
 1. No discussion
 2. 14 aye, 0 nay, 2 abstain
 - a. Motion passes
- Appointment of Events Chair
 - i. Larkin entertains a motion to approve the appointment of Colin as the Events Committee Chair

1. Nomination accepted
2. So Moved & Second
 - a. No discussion
 - b. 13 aye, 0 nay, 2 abstain
 - i. Motion passes

X. Open Floor

- Zack entertains a motion to approve “An Open Letter to Admissions, Postgraduate Opportunities in response to COVID-19” with USG’s Support
 - i. Ziggy: Would like more time to look over the letter
 - ii. Sydney: Typically need a week to look at items like this to have the appropriate amount of time to form an opinion
 - iii. Tristan: Recommendation for everyone to look into the rationale behind the letter to ensure its strength
 - iv. Motion dies
- Sydney: Low Pass Proposal
 - i. Would like the body to discuss further
 1. Concerned about students potentially being adversely affected by this proposal
 - ii. Bryce: The proposal would be good to help address the concern of having the Pass/Fail resolution be so blanketed
 - iii. Bonnie: Low Pass would still count towards course completion & it would still be excluded from the GPA
 - iv. Larkin calls for a vote of confidence for support of the proposal
 1. 12 voted would be in support
 2. 3 voted would not be in support

XI. Closed Session

XII. Announcements/”Remarks for the Good”

- Lauren: New members should stay after this meeting for the brief orientation meeting

XIII. Adjournment

- Motion & Second
 - i. Motion passes

Respectfully Submitted,
Natalie Wohlgemuth
Secretary of the Undergraduate Student Government