



Academic Senate Meeting

April 19th, 2024 at 9:10-11 Admin Board Room

Present: Dustin Abrego, Marvin Argersinger, Brittany Barber, Laura Bishop, Brenda Brown, Rick Caprario, Robyn Corey, Tim Deines, Keshava Demerath-Shanti, Nancy Dietrich, Lisa Dobson, Paige Dunckel, Evan Falk, Bruce Farris, Marc Fennell, Sarah Garcia-Linz, Courtney Geisel, Homa Ghaussi Mujtaba, Gerry Haddad, Susan Hardie, Dawn Hardin, Melinda Hernandez, Jessica Hester, Ed Kabara, Mark Kelland, Eliza Lee, Ian Leighton, Megan Lin, Chris MacKersie, Tamara McDiarmid, Robin McGuire, Ben Mephram, Tracy Nothnagel, Louise Rabidoux, Chris Richards, Joann Silsby, Tedd Sperling, Denise Warner, Nancy Weatherwax, Sally Welch, Richard Williams, Jeff Janowick, Jon Ten Brink,

Absent: Cheryl Chase, Elizabeth Clifford, Amber Denney, Bill Garlick, Aral Gribble, Susan Jepsen, Lorin Honeysett, Heidi Jordan, Tricia McKay, Charles Page, Scott Poe, Steve Simonson,

- I. Call to Order – 9:15AM
- II. Land Acknowledgement
- III. Roll Call
- IV. Approval of Agenda
 - a. Approved without objection.
- V. Approval of Minutes
 - a. Approved without objection.
- VI. President's Report
 - a. Congrats to the newly elected Academic Senators. Thank you to all the outgoing senators.
 - b. Welcome to newly appointed Business Operations Administrative Senator Chris MacKersie.
 - c. Due to our great conversation at the last senate meeting regarding student friendly syllabi, the CTE and Megan Lin are adding a piece about student friendly syllabi language into PD days. Megan is currently looking for two volunteers that have great syllabi.
- VII. Provost's Report
 - a. Thank you to the senators who are leaving. Appreciate your voice. Welcome to the new senators. Excited to have you and hear from you.
 - b. Thank you to Chris MacKersie for adding to the senate.

- c. Went to visiting history scholars' event yesterday. Was exciting to learn about the Civil War area.
- d. Had office hours in Liv Center. Always great there and bring back good ideas and suggestions.
- e. Went to HLC, Will be here Sept 23 and 24th. Will be sessions for faculty to go to and give their opinions on LCC. Will be doing a mock site visit during PA days. Thank Mark for leadership in this, through criteria 4 and on criteria. First 4 criteria are on HLC page. [HLC Reaccreditation webpage](#)
- f. May 8th and May 9th are PA Day. Please [register for breakfast](#) by April 19th. Will be in person on May 8th and virtual may 9th.

VIII. Standing Committee Reports

- a. Budget Committee – Senator Marv Argersinger
 - i. For a student to replace their Star Card according to website, it will cost them \$15.00. The committee decided to find out why it cost this much to replace the card. It seems the Presidents Strategic Enrollment Taskforce also identified this as an issue and a barrier for students. They were beginning to look into creative options the college can develop to ease this burden, and they would follow up with us. We also learned that because of Star Cards not operating correctly along with other errors, Student Affairs has not been charging replacement fees for some time. Other groups around the college have also identified this challenge and are working to alleviate/eliminate this barrier.
 - ii. 2 guests at our budget meeting to discuss Textbook Vouchers and how First Day Inclusive Access charges and processes work. Rebecca Stein-Mindel give us a great understanding about this process. Our student Senator Keshava Demerath-Shanti also gave us his thoughts and experiences using this system. We are in our fact-finding and research stage to become more familiar with the processes of the First Day Inclusive Access program. The goal is to find additional avenues for our students to purchase textbooks at a reduced cost, if Open Source options are not available.
 - iii. Remind everyone about the POPs or your Program Operating Plan for next academic year. If you identified items this academic year that you may not have added to your current Program Operating Plan, send yourself a reminder to add it next year's Program Operating Plan to help move your program forward.
- b. Engagement Committee – Senator Lisa Dobson
 - i. Acknowledgment of all the leaders on the senate, including the outgoing senators.
 - ii. Special acknowledgment to the president and secretary.

- IX. Consent Agenda
 - a. Curriculum Committee Report
 - b. Approved without objection.
- X. Elections Update – Senator Eliza Lee
 - a. Incoming Senators
 - i. Advising – Dustin Abrego
 - ii. Communication, Media, and the Arts (CMA) – Steve Simonson
 - iii. Community Education and Workforce Development (CEWD) – Jennifer Muffet
 - iv. English – Ian Leighton
 - v. Learning Commons – Elizabeth Clifford
 - vi. Math and Computer Science (MCS) – Homa Ghaussi Mujtaba
 - vii. School of Business – Rick Caprario
 - viii. Science – Ed Kabara
 - ix. Social Science and Humanities (SSH) – Mark Kelland
 - x. Technical Careers – Evan Falk, Marc Fennell
 - xi. Member At-Large – Mel Hernandez
 - xii. Member At-Large, Part-Time Faculty – Ben Mepham
 - b. Outgoing Senators
 - i. Advising – Lorin Honeysett
 - ii. Communication, Media, and the Arts (CMA) – Paige Dunckel
 - iii. Community Education and Workforce Development (CEWD) – Rick Williams
 - iv. English – Denise Warner
 - v. Health and Human Services (HHS) – Heidi Jordan, Cheryl Chase
 - vi. Math and Computer Science (MCS) – Dawn Hardin
 - vii. School of Business – Brenda Brown
 - viii. Science – Bruce Farris
 - ix. Technical Careers – Scott Poe
- XI. Student Forum Debrief – Senator Tracy Nothnagel
 - a. See PowerPoint
 - b. Thank you to Sarah and Chelsea for helping with set up.
 - c. Had student forum on Main Campus and West Campus. About 200 students provided feedback. Students were very interactive and had good discussion.
 - d. Main Campus was much more dissatisfied with food than West Campus. Didn't like limited variety, health concerns, price and value, and preference for fresh food. Suggested more food option would promote community and atmosphere.
 - e. Discussed how to foster community on campus. Students suggested sports days, club events, affordable student housing, friendliness and inclusivity, increased

interaction opportunities. Students want supportive staff, diverse activities, accessibility and inclusion, communication, social events, etc.

- f. Students discussed challenges in D2L, scheduling and organization, feedback and communication, and standardization of online courses.
 - i. Big themes. Consistency across courses (especially online) so when they go across courses it is easier. Weekly modules. Hard for them to get into a course when they don't know where to go. Want to see their grades from the start of the class. Gradebook setting of starting from 0 and marking up, students don't like that. Increase use of feedback. Releasing feedback. If going to use discussions, be in it and be an active participant; seems like busy work and students don't want to do it if you're not involved. Efficiency of using D2L. Students seem to enjoy HyFlex classes, especially in winter.
 - g. Not much feedback on ORT cameras. May be the audience, need to survey actual ORT classes. Will continue this conversation.
 - h. Students feel safe on campus. They also appreciate the safety officers, their friendliness and helpfulness. A couple students in wheelchairs came in and mentioned concerns with the ramp between A&S and TLC.
 - i. Students said D2L is their biggest source of information. Many students didn't know about renting laptops or WIFI, being able to call the helpdesk, getting help with D2L. Help students know they have these resources. We are the first contact for our students. [Student Resources webpage](#)
 - j. Think students enjoyed being verbal, better than filling out a survey.
- XII. AI Workgroup – Senator Bill Garlick, Senator Laura Bishop, and Adam Richardson
- a. See Draft AI guidelines
 - b. Try to come up with an AI policy. Feedback and input are very important.
 - c. Idea is to take information from several places and blend the information together for some draft guidelines. Open to feedback. Attempted to merge them together and found some common themes. These are guidelines and not policies. Want top level components that should be persistent. Embrace flexibility while providing helpful guidelines.
 - d. Five guiding principles: human oversight, transparency, fairness, privacy and security, and accountability. These would be stable and stay consistent. The other guidelines would be updated each year. Principals are consistent. Hopefully we can work together over the years and find what is most important. This is a living document.
 - e. Next questions: Who published the document, when was the last revision created, who does one contact to provide feedback?

XIII. Academic Senate Charter – Senator Mark Kelland

- a. Motion to postpone Senator Mark Kelland
- b. Second Keshava Demerath-Shanti
- c. Approved without objection.

XIV. Public Comment for Senators – Senator Tracy Nothnagel

- a. Senator Mark Kelland – Not a new issue. Generally, been of the opinion that senators shouldn't make public comment, should be for the public. Agenda items should be for senators. Hoping we will move towards reserving the public comment for the public but also change the bylaws so a smaller group can compel an agenda item.
- b. Senator Keshava Demerath-Shanti – When a senator comments, it comes off as the view of the senate. There is no way for students or people to know that it is not the representation of the senate and only that person's opinion. We have to balance free speech with not making this a place for misrepresentation. If something that is stated that is egregiously false, we need a fact checker or something that is brought up at the next meetings.
- c. Senator Ben Mepham – Curious of other example where there is governmental meetings where there are other senate bodies and how they handle public comments. Intuitively it seems public comment would be for the public.
- d. Senator Gerry Haddad – How can you prevent someone from making an agenda item during public comment?
- e. Senator Keshava Demerath-Shanti – Could we make public comment from senators pre-approved by the executive committee?
- f. Senator Rick Williams – It's not just my opinion when I make public comment, try to represent underrepresented. Can we discuss what is an announcement and what is an agenda item? Intend to make a public comment next meeting as a normal person.
- g. Senator Gerry Haddad – We need public comment. Cannot silence people who need to speak.
- h. Senator Keshava Demerath-Shanti – First, it only is senators that cannot make public comment. Agree that Rick's public comments do attain to the student body but not in a positive way.
- i. Senator Mark Kelland – Move that senators to be allowed to make public comment until such time as amendments to the bylaws are moved and prepared for the Academic Senate.
 - i. Second Gerry Haddad
 - ii. Approved without objection.

- XV. Public Comments - These public comments reflect the thoughts and opinions of their speaker and are not endorsed by the LCC Academic Senate or LCC.
 - a. Director of Academic Quality Cheryl Garayta – Program Review factors into your POP. Make sure you’re going back to your most recent program review to work on POP for the year. Across program review into professional activities plan.
- XVI. Potential Future Agenda Items
 - a. None
- XVII. Adjourn – 10:54AM

Purpose: The purpose of the Academic Senate will be to provide faculty input and advice to the administration concerning issues of College-wide educational philosophy, College-wide academic policy, and priorities in the College-wide deployment of capital or financial resources, except as covered by the scope of collective bargaining. The Senate will be proactive and collaborative in its approach, seeking consensus whenever possible, and will foster and support effective and transparent communication with the college community. Student learning is the ultimate goal of this body.

LCC Mission Statement: Lansing Community College provides high-quality education ensuring that all students successfully complete their educational goals while developing life skills necessary for them to enrich and support themselves, their families, and their community as engaged global citizens.

Land Acknowledgement: *Lansing Community College occupies the ancestral, traditional and contemporary lands of the Anishnaabeg - Three Fires Confederacy of Ojibwe, Odawa, and Potawatomi peoples. In particular, the City of Lansing and LCC reside on land ceded in the 1819 Treaty of Saginaw.*

Respectfully submitted by Academic Senate Secretary, Eliza Lee.