

Detailed ECS Notes from September 6, 2024

Chair's Report

- *On the 12th Annual Teach-In: Power, Privilege, and Difficult Dialogues:* The 12th Annual Teach-In will be held on Wednesday, November 13 on the Pew Campus and Thursday, November 14 on the Allendale Campus. More information on the Teach-In can be found [here](#). All are highly encouraged to participate.
- *On the University Technology Council Foundational Policy on AI:* VP Topić shared the policy, approved unanimously by UTC, with Chair Karasinski seeking UAS's endorsement and feedback in the interest of Shared Governance. This will be placed on the ECS agenda next week and the UAS agenda on 9/27.
- *On New Programs Council:* NPC will meet 9/11/24, Chaired by UAS Vice Chair Sergeant on behalf of UAS Chair Karasinski. Six proposals from the College of Computing will be discussed, a master's and bachelor's degree program in each of the following: Software Engineering, Artificial Intelligence, and Human Centered Design.
- *On the ECS Meeting of 9/13/24:* The agenda for the ECS Meeting of 9/6/24 will include Discussion on Multi-Year Taskforce on Evaluation of Teaching, Discussion on Taskforce on Faculty Support of Student Voting, Changes to BOT Policies Due to PCE and CoC split, Update on Title IX and Pregnancy Policy, UTC Policy on AI, GEC Memos on Digital Literacy Rubric and Digital Learning Skills Objective, OEMC Memos on Faculty Certification for Online/Hybrid Teaching and Multiple-Modality Course Delivery, Updated Charge to the SHGR Taskforce, and Discussion on Benefits for Fertility Treatments.

Provost's Report

- *On Encouraging Voter Turnout:* A website will be posted with information about voting. Shuttles will be available for transportation to voting locations.
- *On Gray DI:* The contract with Gray DI is from August 2024 to August 2025, and the cost is \$399K to set up the systems. To maintain them thereafter would cost \$100K.

Student Senate President's Report

- No report this week

New Business:

- *On the Review and Discussion on FFPAC Memo on Active Learning Spaces:* The working definition of active learning spaces is, "learning spaces (physical and virtual) designed to facilitate active student engagement and collaborative learning, featuring flexible layouts and integrated technologies. Spaces include classrooms, offices, and other physical and virtual locations designed to facilitate active student learning environments." The memo included recommendations for supporting the Academic Technology Advisory Committee (ATAC)'s work and recommendations for colleges and units. The memo expressed appreciation for the collaboration with other groups. The motion to support with recommendation to the UAS consent agenda was unanimously supported.
- *On the Review and Discussion on FFPAC Memo on Relationship with ATAC:* The memo recommended changing the Academic Technology Advisory Committee from a University Governance Committee to a Standing Committee of UAS and included bylaws language changes to reflect this. A motion to support with recommendation to UAS was supported 18 yes, 0 no, 1 abstention.
- *On the Review and Discussion on FFPAC Memo on Wayfinding:* This memo recommended continued use of signage and personnel to direct students, installation of interactive kiosks at building entrances, and development of a mobile app-based wayfinding system. A robust discussion was held on the need for students to learn to use wayfinding skills, the status and usefulness of current apps on Laker Doc versus other map apps. The motion to support with recommendation to UAS was supported with 18 yes, 1 no, and 0 abstentions.
- *On the Review and Discussion on FFPAC Memo on Facilities Needs by College:* The memo recommended that the ALC2M committee, the Academic Space Committee, and Facilities Planning follow-up with College of Engineering and College of Computing faculty regarding their specific needs for flexible teaching spaces. It recommended that the Office of the Provost forward "Classroom Improvements" requests submitted through the FIXIT website directly to the colleges that currently utilize standardized systems for faculty to request facilities updates and changes, or develop a system to coordinate these requests with colleges in a manner that facilitates equitable evaluation and prioritization of requests within the college. The three-year Classroom Issues and Innovations survey was recommended to be the primary

method for gathering input from faculty across the university regarding improvements needed to academic spaces. The motion to support with recommendation to UAS was supported unanimously.

- *On the Review and Discussion on FFPAC Memo on Standing Charges Update:* Updates to the FFPAC standing charges were recommended. A motion to support with recommendation to UAS was unanimously supported.
- *On the Review and Discussion on FFPAC Memo on Optimum Membership Size:* Standing Committees of UAS were charged during the 2023-24 academic year to review their workload and make recommendations about optimal committee size. FFPAC recommended that their committee representation mirror ECS, and add an additional representative from CHP, CECI, and CoC. Christine Rener, Vice Provost for Instructional Development and Innovation, who is ex-officio on FFPAC, shared that the committee would benefit from these additional members due to the weight of its tasks and its use of subcommittees. Others noted that faculty are wanting a voice on committees that have influence. The motion to support with recommendation to UAS was unanimously supported.
- *On the Discussion on Multi-Year Taskforce on the Evaluation of Teaching:* Further discussion will be held at the ECS meeting of 9/13 to create a draft charge.