

**Academic Senate
September 9, 2025
Cowan Hall # 310
Meeting Minutes**

Membership: Valerie Guyant, Mark Seiffert, Laura Gomez, Karyn Billmayer, Kasthuri Udayakumar, Joyce Mphande-Finn, Grant Olson, Randy Bachmeier, Anna Bowker, Aaron Riffin

Members Present: Valerie Guyant, Mark Seiffert, Laura Gomez, Kasthuri Udayakumar, Grant Olson, Randy Bachmeier, Anna Bowker, Karyn Billmayer, and Joyce Mphande-Finn

Guests: Mary Ward

Recorder: Jodi Kueffler

Call to Order:

- The meeting was called to order by Valerie Guyant at 4:01 p.m.

Agenda:

- Motion was made by Laura Gomez to approve the agenda as presented.
- The second was made by Mark Seiffert.
- Question
- Approved

Minutes:

- Motion was made by Laura Gomez to approve the minutes from April 8, 2025.
- The second was made by Mark Seiffert.
- Question
- Approved

Chancellor/Provost Updates:

- Provost was unable to attend due to a prior meeting commitment.
- Valerie Guyant shared she will be meeting with the Provost later this week to discuss the status of Academic Senate Proposals still under review by the Provost.

External Committee Reports:

- **NWCCU**
 - The Spring 2025 Ad Hoc Report was submitted with the recommendation to provide transparency in financial planning still needing improvement.
- **UAC**

- UAC met in August and several policies were voted on and approved. A conflict of interest policy was tabled to give everyone a chance to review the proposed changes.

Senate Committee Reports:

- Admissions and Standards
 - There are no new updates at this time.
- Curriculum
 - The committee plans to meet in the next couple weeks.
- Financial Aid
 - The committee has met twice in August and approved twelve appeals and declined three.
- General Education
 - The committee recently met and are back to Critical Thinking. They had a few submissions in May to review.
- Graduate Council
 - The committee plans to meet next Thursday.
- Instruction, Research, Faculty Development & Cultural Programming
 - There are no new updates at this time.
- Library & Instructional Technology
 - There are no new updates at this time.

Proposals:

- No new proposals at this time.

Old Business:

- A motion to batch proposals 24-06; 24-07; 24-08; and 24-09 was made by Grant Olson.
- The second was made by Mark Seiffert.
- Question
- Approved
- 24-06; New Course Proposal ARTZ 2XX Foundations of Mural Design
- 24-07; New Course Proposal ARTZ 271 Printmaking I.
- 24-08; New Course Proposal ARTZ 331 Ceramics II
- 24-09; New Course Proposal ARTZ 2XX Introduction to Motion Graphics
 - Proposals tabled earlier to review course fees. Course fee information provided for 24-06; 24-07; and 24-08. Proposal 24-09 does not have course fees.

- A motion was made by Mark Seiffert to approve proposals 24-06; 24-07; 24-08; and 24-09.
- The second was made by Grant Olson.
- Question
- Approved

New Business:

- Grant Olson, MSU-Northern's MUSFAR representative, provided updates regarding discussions at Board of Regents' meetings.
 - At the May meeting, the discussion focused on how academic advising is structured on other campuses.
 - Northern is the only campus where all the advising is conducted by faculty.
 - Most other campuses use professional advisors for new students, transitioning to faculty advisors as students advance in their programs.
 - The main topic for the September meeting will be artificial intelligence (AI).
 - The discussion will explore how students are using AI.
 - At this time there are no formal policies in place regarding AI.
 - Anyone with ideas or feedback is encouraged to contact Grant before next week.

Adjournment:

- A motion to adjourn was made by Laura Gomez.
- The second was made by Mark Seiffert.
- Question
- Approved

Respectfully Submitted by,
Jodi Kueffler