



Academic Senate Meeting

July 18th, 2025 at 9:10-11 via WebEx

Present: Dustin Abrego, Marvin Argersinger, Brittany Barber, Laura Bishop, Autumn Brown, Rick Caprario, Elizabeth Clifford, Mary Clisch, Annesia Dillard, Lisa Dobson, Evan Falk, Joshua Galat, Lee Gardner, Bill Garlick, Courtney Geisel, Homa Ghaussi Mujtaba, Susan Hardie, Gerry Haddad, Melinda Hernandez, Jessica Hester, Ed Kabara, Mark Kelland, Eliza Lee, Ian Leighton, Chris MacKersie, Tanya McClain, Tricia McKay, Wade Merrill, Tracy Nothnagel, Jim Owens, Chris Richards, Adam Richardson, Joann Silsby, Steve Simonson, Diane Snyder, Sally Welch,

Absent: Chelsea Brandon, Robyn Corey, Robert Halgren, Tamara McDiarmid, Jennifer Muffet, Dan Mulligan, Charles Page, Diane Roose, Tedd Sperling, Jeff Janowick

- I. Call to Order – 9:10
- II. Roll Call
- III. Approval of Agenda
 - a. Item XII moved to item VIII.
 - b. Approved as amended.
- IV. Approval of Minutes
 - a. Approved without objection.
- V. President's Report
 - a. This year, we made strong progress on our Academic Master Plan, strengthened faculty engagement, and supported initiatives that will continue to shape teaching and learning at our college.
 - b. I also want to give a big shout-out to our committee chairs for keeping our work moving forward and for serving as champions of collaboration and shared governance.
- VI. Provost's Report
 - a. Apologize to faculty. Enrollment verification fell on Juneteenth. Registrar is making sure it doesn't happen next year.
 - b. Moving forward with piloting 15 week starting in Fall of 2026. If it goes well, will officially move to 15 weeks in Fall of 2028.
 - c. Adjunct pay process is still being looked into. Trying to get a form that all divisions will use. Will work with payroll to talk about paycheck.
 - d. A couple years ago had a speaker talk about the difference between office hours and student hours. Looking for feedback on changing the concourse syllabus to

say “student hours.” Feedback from senators support the change to “student hours.”

VII. Consent Agenda

- a. Curriculum Committee Report
 - i. Approved without objection.

VIII. Faculty Only Meetings – Senator Tracy Nothnagel

- a. Senator Steve Simonson – Like the idea of having an open meeting where faculty can speak safely.
- b. Senator Mark Kelland – If something substantive came about in the meetings, how would that come forward in the Academic Senate meetings? Could create an opposition between the faculty members of senate and admin senators. Could create an unnecessary conflict.
- c. Senator Autumn Brown – As probationary faculty, gives relief on conversations. Not going behind administration, but able to ask questions. Could also have administrative senators leave at some point in a meeting.
- d. Senator Dustin Abrego – Feels like this is a good idea. A little atypical depending on the school to have a mixed senate like this. If there is supposed to be discussion, would advocate for this.
- e. Senator Laurie Bishop – Need to be able to respectfully disagree. Need to be curious about the other point of view. Gives an opportunity to learn about the other persons position. Want to push for a climate that about the idea its okay to disagree to solve problems.
- f. Senator Tanya McClain – Agree to having some sort of separate place for faculty to come together. Want to make sure we are hearing every voice. Give individuals a way to solidify their voice.
- g. Counselor Louise Rabidoux -If one of the challenges is some faculty feeling more comfortable to share, perhaps including some Senate "break out group" discussions being divided into categories may make sense (at times).
 - i. Multiple people agreed with this sentiment.
- h. Senator Chris MacKersie – As an admin senator want to say that I want to be on Academic Senate because the ideas and topics that come out of Senate help inform our work. If this is a way to get more ideas and topics then thinks it's a good idea.
- i. Conversation will continue at the next meeting.

IX. Email Changes in D2L – Senator Chris Richards

- a. See PowerPoint.
- b. Changes come May 13th, 2026.

- c. Dual email accounts are a key barrier to effective communication causing a lot of missed messages over the years.
 - d. Will only have one email to check. D2L email will be a send only system. Once an email is sent from D2L, all further conversation will take place solely in outlook. Will need to check emails more frequently since D2L will no longer send alerts.
 - e. Faculty should prepare now.
 - i. Set up email forwarding so you have emails changed.
 - ii. Manually save important emails. (Emails in D2L will go away)
 - iii. Send emails from the Classlist to automatically populate the course title and CRN into the mail subject line. Encourage students to send email from the Classlist as well.
 - f. Neither e-learning nor ITS will be able to retrieve any deleted email.
 - g. E-learning will be at division kick offs, welcome week, and department meetings.
- X. Academic Alerts for Athletes – Dean Rhonda Miller
- a. See PowerPoint
 - b. Transition from high school to college can be challenging.
 - c. Academic Alerts matter for students. Help connect students to resources. Student athletes' eligibility depends on their academic performance.
 - d. Proactive supports notify support staff early and help maintain eligibility compliance.
 - e. Consider moving toward a midterm assessment to conduct midway through the semester to gauge student understand of material covered.
 - i. Coaches and staff can intervene to connect student athletes to the support they need to address any issues.
 - ii. International students can lose their visa status if they are dropped from courses. An alert would help identify international students who are not attending.
 - f. Athletic Director Greg Lattig – Have 200 plus students who have done well and passed. Most teams have study hall. Most teams working in Learning Commons. Encouraging students to go to office hours. Working with CDS on running reports on how student athletes do on certain days and times. Trying to gather information to help students. Most of us aren't good at asking for help. Early alerts will be help students. Need a more solid indicator before the end of the semester. Monitor student athletes during study hall. Have them bring up grades and keep in contact with success coaches. Trying to get a more solid indicator when students are struggling.
 - g. Provost Sally Welch – Faculty don't know who are athletes. Is there a way for faculty to know? Or is there a different process that could be done for student athletes?

- h. Senator Mark Kelland – Have a lot of flexibility in my classes. Seen that a fair number of students get off to bad start but end up doing okay at the end when the pressure is on. So, a midterm assessment could be misleading.
- i. Senator Ian Leighton – Need a way to identify our student athletes to help them.
 - i. Dean Ronda Miller – All students should be getting academic alerts.
- j. Senator Mark Kelland – Caution when identifying a student into a group, even if it's a preferential group. We should be doing academic alerts for all students regardless of who they are.
- k. Senator Autumn Brown – Wanted to ask Greg if there is a tutor or support person to send people to. Is there specific people to send the athletes to?
 - i. Athletic Director Greg Lattig – We have three success coaches designated to athletes but the tutors are the tutors.

XI. Accessing Active Syllabi – Senator Mark Kelland

- a. Syllabi are something that we talk about with regularity at the Academic Senate. Syllabi are a contract between faculty and students. We are finding errors and omissions in many syllabi. Divisions conduct syllabi audits. Source of errors is faculty copying syllabi and not updating into the new semester.
- b. At the end of each academic semester, the concourse syllabus system will be switched to a view only mode. Can look at syllabi from previous semester, can cut and paste into the new syllabus but cannot copy into the new semester. Will start Summer 2025. Will occur day after final grades are due.
- c. Provost has said if there are valid concerns, she is willing to listen.

XII. Hybrid Meetings 2025-2026 – Senator Eliza Lee

- a. Motion to amend the previously adopted motion on the Academic Senate hybrid meeting schedule by substituting, in whole, the following: The Academic Senate will hold one hybrid meeting in the fall semester and one hybrid meetings in the spring semester
 - i. Senator Mark Kelland – Second
 - ii. Approved without objection.

XIII. 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. Senator Elizabeth Clifford – If you get health insurance through the college, you got a survey due July 27th. Send additional comments to your unions. Healthcare. Changes in learning commons, we had an unexpected retirement in lead tutor for economics. Elizabeth has moved into this position. There is now a position for lead tutor in SSH. Posting will be soon. Please, encourage adjuncts. Finally, Elizabeth will be on sabbatical this Fall.

- b. Academic Advisor Angela Kuhlman – Trying to make a more engaging structure with MAHE union. Want to build a union community. There is a link to a survey.
[Link to Feedback Survey](#)
- c. There is also 3 social events run by MAHE. Really want to hear your voice and create that space.

XIV. Potential Future Agenda Items

- a. None

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 accessible, high-quality education through relevant and innovative instructional methods to equip and empower a diverse community of learners to complete their educational goals while becoming 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.