



Academic Senate Meeting

October 17th, 2025 at 9:10-11 via WebEx

Present: Dustin Abrego, Marvin Argersinger, Brittany Barber, Laura Bishop, Chelsea Brandon, Mary Clisch, Robyn Corey, Annescia Dillard, Zahra Djibrine, Lisa Dobson, Evan Falk, Joshua Galat, Lee Gardner, Bill Garlick, Courtney Geisel, Homa Ghaussi Mujtaba, Susan Hardie, Gerry Haddad, Melinda Hernandez, Jessica Hester, Mark Kelland, Eliza Lee, Ian Leighton, Chris MacKersie, Tanya McClain, Tamara McDiarmid, Tricia McKay, Wade Merrill, Dan Mulligan, Tracy Nothnagel, Jim Owens, Charles Page, Chris Richards, Adam Richardson, Diane Roose, Joann Silsby, Amy Simons, Steve Simonson, Sally Welch, Jeff Janowick

Absent: Rick Caprario, Elizabeth Clifford, Robert Halgren, Ed Kabara, Diane Snyder, Tedd Sperling, Cheyenne Wallace,

- I. Call to Order – 9:10AM
- II. Roll Call
- III. Approval of Agenda
 - a. Approved without objection.
- IV. Approval of Minutes
 - a. Approved without objection.
- V. President's Report
 - a. Cancel October 31st. Next meeting will be November 14th on West Campus. Breakfast included.
 - b. CEWD senator has resigned. Election is coming soon. Call for nominations will start Monday.
 - c. Top three priorities
 - i. Student mental wellness
 - ii. Faculty support and mental wellness
 - iii. AI
 - iv. Student
- VI. Provost's Report
 - a. Next provost lunch with new faculty on West Campus Monday. Fun event for Provost.
 - b. Mayor has asked for students to "donate" art to their offices.

- c. 2025-2027 Strategic plan objectives are coming out. Trying to align with projects already happening.
 - d. Windows 11 on computers ASAP.
 - e. Been a weird semester, different and interesting. People are tired and its midterms. Take care of yourself and your students.
- VII. Consent Agenda
 - a. Curriculum Committee Report
 - b. Approved without objection.
- VIII. Standing Committee Reports
 - a. Student Advisory Committee (SAC) – Senator Wade Merrill
 - i. See PowerPoint.
 - ii. Supporting Academic Senate Priorities
 - 1. Student Clubs and Events
 - 2. Support Parenting Students
 - 3. Student Mental Health and Wellness.
 - iii. SAC Subcommittee on E-Resources
 - 1. [Student Resources](#)
 - 2. One stop shop for many student resources. Thousands of students use the website. Please share with your students!
- IX. Adjunct Advisory Committee (AAC) – Senator Ian Leighton
 - i. Talked about the importance of e-learning for new instructors.
 - ii. New Adjunct list serv to reach out to constituents! Will be reaching out soon.
- X. Incomplete Grades - Provost Sally Welch
 - a. An "I" (incomplete) will not be counted toward the establishment of an earned grade point average (GPA) or toward graduation from LCC. An instructor may approve a student-initiated request for an incomplete if only a small portion of the work remains (for example, only 20% of the work remains) and a compelling reason for the request exists. This incomplete language is very generic and is not being applied equally. Are there ways that we can modify the criteria to make it easier for faculty to know when they should issue an incomplete or not?
- XI. Constituents Time
 - a. Senators spent 20 min talk to their constituents.
 - 1. How can the Senate ensure that conversations about mental health include both students and employees in meaningful ways?

2. Should the Senate bring more agenda items focusing on AI? If so, what topic(s) would you like to address?
3. Incomplete Grades (Feedback Requested by the Provost)
 Official incomplete language:
 An "I" (incomplete) will not be counted toward the establishment of an earned grade point average (GPA) or toward graduation from LCC. An instructor may approve a student-initiated request for an incomplete if only a small portion of the work remains (for example, only 20% of the work remains) and a compelling reason for the request exists.
 This incomplete language is very generic and is not being applied equally. Are there ways that we can modify the criteria to make it easier for faculty to know when they should issue an incomplete or not?
4. How would you like to engage with your Senator(s)? (e.g., email updates, open office hours, short surveys, drop-in meetings, discussion boards, or in-person check-ins)
5. Are there any issues or concerns from your area that you would like the senate to tackle?

XII. LCC Connect Podcasting – Chief of Staff Layne Ingram and GM of LCC Connect Daedalian Lowry

- a. LCC Connect is the voices, vibes and vision of Lansing Community College. Offering hours of exciting, original programming and hosted by faculty, staff and community members, LCC Connect explores our college's work in the community, important topics in higher education, and our vision for the future.
- b. Finished 2022 with 10 shows and 2 student shows starting.
- c. Saw exponential growth in 2023. Ended with 20+ podcasts.
- d. 2024 with continued growth. Lilly Patterson (frog) is the mascot.
 Lccconnect.com Leap into 20+podcasts. Birthday is Feb 29 (leap year).
- e. Active daily audience is 50-90 a day! LCC Connect has built a substantial audience.
- f. Ways to Get involved:
 - i. Faculty podcasts
 - ii. Student project integration
 - iii. Guest appearance
 - iv. Course embedded podcasting
 - v. Collaborative shows
- g. No broadcast experience is needed. Most don't have it. Provide technical support and training.
 - i. Time commitment include planning, show planning, booking guests, recording, and social media promotion.

XIII. Vote on Purpose Statement – Senator Mark Kelland

- a. Appendix I
- b. Approved as voted.

XIV. 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 Mel Hernandez – “Although I feel woefully unworthy of the task, I want to express my deep gratitude for the opportunity I have had to learn from Eva Menefee. I would like to honor her—but I don’t know how to do so, as she does not value the trivial, nor does she seek praise, recognition, nor awards. During my time at LCC, I’ve had many mentors—often coinciding with each administration—but that’s not Eva’s style. Because she does not define others—I lean-in to listen, because she does not position herself above others—I study her achievements. Because she leads by example, she is a trusted guide, colleague, and friend. Without her asking, I would walk into battle with her, and I am one of many! If we were to take account: Her contributions to the betterment of students, colleagues, and Michigan’s Native American community are stunning. She is the model of leadership, service and friendship. While “retiring,” from LCC, she will, no doubt, continue to educate all those who care to lean in, watch, and listen because she walks the talk—she is the real deal. Her courage, tenacity, conviction, and wisdom are irreplacable. Eva Menefee is a warrior. When I interviewed at LCC, many decades ago, Dr. Knippenberg, the former Dean of Arts and Sciences, asked what was my most important virtue; I don’t know why, but without skipping a beat, I said “courage, and have been perplexed by that response ever since. Why would it take courage to teach? As an Army brat, if this were the military, I would know how to honor Eva. In her service to students, faculty and community, she would have been honored with the Bronze Star for demanding academic excellence and access for all students. We would award her the Silver Star for gallantry, in the pursuit of justice and equity, in the face inertia and self-interest. And she would deserve the Mental of Honor—the highest recognition for valor—for her quiet acts of courage: Listening while others talk, acting while others supervise, and checking-in on those forgotten in the name “prestige.” This is not the military—and even if it were, Eva would likely decline such symbols. But her legacy raises an important question for us in higher Education: How do we honor warriors like Eva Menefee? Why is courage one of the most important virtues of higher education. My greatest fear is not living up to the courage of my own convictions. I once attended a lecture, at prestigious university, overlooking Lake Michigan. Afterward, I overheard two senior philosophers discussing a young scholar’s presentation. One said, “the problem with her, is that she lacks the courage of her convictions.” A chill and

ran down my spine. Eva Menefee does not lack that courage. She embodies it. I am grateful for her example—for her tenacity, her conviction and unwavering leadership. In her honor, I strive each day to live by the values she so effortlessly models.”

XV. Potential Future Agenda Items

- a. None

XVI. Adjourn – 10:50AM

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.

Appendix I

Proposed Academic Senate Purpose Statement

The Academic Senate is dedicated to enhancing student success at Lansing Community College (LCC). It provides input and advice across the College on matters related to collegewide educational philosophy, academic policy and procedure, strategic initiative priorities, and the deployment of capital or financial resources – except where such matters fall under the scope of collective bargaining. The Academic Senate will take a proactive and collaborative approach, seeking consensus whenever possible, respecting diverse perspectives and striving for inclusivity. It will foster and support effective, transparent communication with the LCC community.