

SUMMARY
Northern Michigan University Board of Trustees
Academic Affairs Committee
December 10, 2015

Members Present: Dr. Thomas Zurbuchen, Chair, Dr. L. Garnet Lewis, Mr. Steve Mitchell

Others Present: Mr. Richard Popp, Mr. Scott Holman, Mr. Robert Mahaney, Ms. Tami Seavoy, Dr. Sook Wilkinson, Dr. Kerri Schuiling, Dr. Fritz Erickson, ex officio

The Academic Affairs Committee meeting was called to order at 1:47 p.m.

Academic Senate Report

Professor Rachel Nye provided an update of Senate activities. Since the last report, they have approved reports from various committees including academic calendars, reassigned time and Spooner awards. Professor Nye also informed the Committee that implementation of the General Education Program was changed from fall 2016 to fall 2017.

Charter School Board Renewals/Appointments

Mr. William Pistulka, Charter Schools Officer, proposed board member appointments for Burton Glen Charter School Academy and Francis Reh Public School Academy.

After motion duly made and seconded the Committee recommends to the Board of Trustees the approval of the board member appointments. This motion is part of the formal recommendations.

Mr. Pistulka also reviewed the updated dashboard information which included key metrics of all the charter schools and a summary and measurement of where each school falls and how they are assessed.

Research and Grants Update

Dr. Brian Cherry, Assistant Provost of Graduate Education & Research, updated the Committee on scholarly activities at NMU. He shared examples of on-going faculty and student research activities and provided an overview of internal and external grant proposals and awards. Dr. Kurt Galbreath, Assistant Professor and Ms. Alex Bott, undergraduate student, Department of Biology discussed their recent trip to Mongolia to study the biodiversity of the region. Their research is being funded by a National Science Foundation Grant.

English Department Presentation

Dr. Lynn Domina, Department Head of English discussed scholarly activities and the many majors and minors offered in the department. Dr. Rachel May, Assistant Professor and undergraduate students Matt Weinkam and Alex Clark discussed their research experiences and the connection between their research and the newly created creative nonfiction course.

Dr. Zurbuchen thanked the Committee and the meeting was adjourned at 2:58 p.m.