

**FORMAL RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
NORTHERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY – Marquette, Michigan
May 1, 2026**

A. Minutes:

1. That the minutes of the December 12, 2025 and February 6, 2026 meetings of the Board be approved.

B. Personnel Actions:

Appointments:

1. Blemberg, Nicole A., Chief Advancement Officer, NMU Foundation, effective retroactively to January 5, 2026.
2. Chesler, Aaron, Assistant Professor, Earth, Environmental, and Geographical Sciences Department, a tenure-track appointment, effective August 17, 2026. (New Appointment)
3. Suhr, Meredith, Assistant Professor, Speech/Language/Hearing Sciences Department, a tenure-track appointment, effective August 17, 2026. (New Appointment)
4. Ziegler, Susy S., Dean, College of Graduate Studies and Research, a continuing appointment, effective April 16, 2026. (Transfer)

Promotion and Tenure:

5. Based upon the recommendation of the President, the Board takes formal action to confer tenure to the following faculty effective June 30, 2026:

Dr. Majid Asadi
Walker L. Cisler College of Business

Dr. Danny C. LeBert
Department of Biology

Dr. Theresa C. Camilli
Department of Music

Dr. Adam T. Naito
Department of Earth, Environmental, and
Geographical Sciences

Dr. Steven A. Edelson
Walker L. Cisler College of Business

Dr. Seth A. Norberg
Department of Engineering Technology

Dr. Lin Fang
Department of Psychological Sciences

Dr. Heejung Park
Walker L. Cisler College of Business

Dr. Ryan K. Hines
School of Health and Human Performance

Dr. Evan P. Pratt
Department of Chemistry

Dr. Laura M. Kennedy
School of Education

Dr. Emily C. Romeo
Department of History

Dr. Lukus A. Klawitter
School of Health and Human Performance

Dr. Kel Sassi
Department of English

Dr. Vikash Kumar
Department of Social Work

Dr. Ryan J. Stock
Department of Earth, Environmental, and
Geographical Sciences

Dr. Amber L. LaCrosse
Department of Psychological Sciences

Dr. Katie A. Taylor
School of Nursing

6. The following faculty members be promoted to the rank of Professor effective June 30, 2026:

Dr. Yan Z. Ciupak
Department of Sociology

Professor Gabrielle L. McNally
School of Art and Design

Professor Taimur Cleary
School of Art and Design

Dr. Patrick “Rick” Mengyan
Department of Physics

Professor Ann M. Crandell-Williams
Department of Social Work

Dr. Seth A. Norberg
Department of Engineering and Technology

Professor Randy Klitzke
College of Technology and Occupational Sciences

Professor David M. Pierce
Department of Theatre and Dance

Dr. Weronika A. Kusek
Department of Earth, Environmental, and
Geographical Sciences

Dr. Joshua S. Sharp
Department of Biology

Dr. Jim Marquardson
Walker L. Cisler College of Business

Dr. Joshua J. Thompson
Department of Mathematics and Computer Sci

Dr. Monica McFawn
Department of English

Dr. Anna E. Zimmer
Department of Languages, Literature, and
International Studies

7. The following faculty member be promoted to the rank of Associate Professor effective June 30, 2026:

Dr. Majid Asadi
Walker L. Cisler College of Business

Dr. Amber L. LaCrosse
Department of Psychological Sciences

Dr. Jaeseung Baek
Walker L. Cisler College of Business

Dr. Lynne M. Lambdin
Lydia M. Olson Library

Dr. Robin J. Bond
Department of Chemistry

Dr. Murong Miao
Walker L. Cisler College of Business

Dr. Theresa C. Camilli
Department of Music

Dr. Adam T. Naito
Department of Earth, Environmental, and
Geographical Sciences

Dr. Steven A. Edelson
Walker L. Cisler College of Business

Dr. Heejung Park
Walker L. Cisler College of Business

Dr. Casey J. Hopper
School of Nursing

Dr. Evan P. Pratt
Department of Chemistry

Dr. Kaycee J. Jacobson
School of Nursing

Dr. Ryan J. Stock
Department of Earth, Environmental, and
Geographical Sciences

Dr. Kathryn Johnson
Department of History

Dr. Katie A. Taylor
School of Nursing

Dr. Laura M. Kennedy
School of Education

Dr. Forrest J. Toegel
Department of Psychological Sciences

Emeritus:

1. That Professor Marcus C. Robyns be granted the status of University Archivist Emeritus, effective immediately.

C. Degrees

2. That Mr. Mark Ruge, NMU alum, author, public policy expert, attorney and partner at K&L Gates LLP, receive, receive an Honorary Degree, Doctorate of Political Science, and be the Commencement Speaker at the May 2, 2026 Commencement Ceremony.
3. The December 2025 final list of graduates and the May 2026 preliminary list of graduates be approved. A copy of the lists is on file with the Secretary of the Board of Trustees.

D. Property and Finance:

1. That the Room and Board Rates for Fiscal Year 2027 be approved. A copy of the proposed room and board rate schedule is on file with the Secretary of the Board of Trustees.
2. That University operations be authorized to continue in 2026-2027 at a budget level no greater than the 2025-2026 budget until the new Auxiliary Operations Budget is approved, except for increases required by existing or newly negotiated union contracts.
3. That University operations be authorized to continue in 2026-2027 at a budget level no greater than the 2025-2026 budget until the new Housing and Residence Life Budget is approved, except for increases required by existing or newly negotiated union contracts.
4. That University operations be authorized to continue in 2026-2027 at a budget level no greater than the 2025-2026 budget until the new General Fund Budget is approved, except for increases required by existing or newly negotiated union contracts.
5. That University operations be authorized to continue in 2026-2027 at a budget level no greater than the 2025-2026 budget until the new Designated Fund Budget is approved, except for increases required by existing or newly negotiated union contracts.

6. That the continuation of the rental agreement between Northern Michigan University and The State of Michigan, Department of Technology, Management, and Budget, for the Department of Attorney General, from June 1, 2026 through May 31, 2027, located in Suites 1201 and 1202 of the Northern Center, be approved. A copy of the resolution is on file with the Secretary of the Board of Trustees.
7. That the resolution of the Board of Trustees of Northern Michigan University authorizing one-day event liquor license be approved:

August 27 – 29, 2026	Wildcat Theatre Follies Theatre and Dance Department	TFA Blackbox Theatre	7:00 – 10:00
September 19, 2026	Homecoming Tailgate NMU Foundation	Superior Dome Parking Lot	11:00 a.m. –
December 11, 2026	Senior Show Reception School of Art & Design	DeVos Art Center	7:00 – 9:00 p

8. That the Board of Trustees of Northern Michigan University confirm approval for the upcoming academic year’s Technology, Learning, and Communication (TLC) notebook program’s annual purchase of Lenovo ThinkPad T14, Gen6 (to include warranty, engineering services, software imaging, and shipping costs) with a quantity based on enrollment data for Fall 2026. Additionally, Apple MacBook Pro units will be ordered.
9. That the resolution of the Public Media Bridge Fund Grant Agreement between Northern Michigan University WNMU-TV and Public Media Company, in the amount of \$576,532 to sustain critical local public media services during the transition period following the elimination of Corporation for Public Broadcasting funding, be approved. A copy of the Resolution is on file with the Secretary of the Board of Trustees.

E. Special Items:

1. That the following students receive the 2026 Board of Trustees Student Achievement Award:
 - Halle Johnson – Outstanding Graduating Senior
 - Delany Frank – Outstanding Graduating Senior
 - Summer Morrison – Outstanding Student – Any Class Standing
 - Dan Atkins – Outstanding Non-Traditional Student
 - Laura Clarkston – Outstanding Global Campus
 - Adam Nesbit – Outstanding Graduate Student
2. That the Board of Trustees approve the following department name change: from Career Services to “Career Services and High Impact Learning,” effective immediately.
3. That the Academic Calendars for 2028-2029, 2029-2030, and 2030-2031 be approved. A copy of the calendars is on file with the Secretary of the Board of Trustees.
4. That the following new programs be approved:
 - Applied Exercise Physiology & Kinesiology, Bachelor of Science, effective Fall 2026

