

Administrative Policy Committee (APC)

Report to the Academic Senate

From: L.J. Oberto, M.K. Haapapuro, H.S. Chen, S.C. Pollins

Date: 6 November 2001

CC: C.J. Tompkins, W.K. Wray, R.O. Warrington

RE: Recommended elimination of Men's and Women's Nordic Ski Teams.

The APC met with the ski team in an open forum held at the Memorial Union. The forum was well attended by both members of the community as well as several Michigan Tech students. The entire ski team was present.

The APC has tried to understand the implications of this closure and offer the following insights.

1. The ski team is well supported by both alumni and community members as evidenced by the many letters of support offered on their behalf.
2. Eleven of the twelve students on the Nordic Ski Team are out of state residents that made their decision to come to Michigan Tech based upon the existence of the team.
3. There is a strong connection with the State of Minnesota secondary school system. This system currently has 3666 of its students involved in Nordic Skiing as an extracurricular activity. This involves some 102 separate high schools. It would appear that there is a natural and unexploited recruitment opportunity here.
4. It has been pointed out to this committee that upgrading the current facilities could yield national attention for MTU as host of world class caliber competition in Nordic Skiing. There are also opportunities to establish greater contact with Michigan high schools through hosting competition and offering ski clinics. It would appear that these options merit further evaluation, as they serve to enhance the quality of life for our students and increase the likelihood of attracting new students to the university.