

74th MSSA Senate January 31, 2007

74th Senate called to order Speaker Jered Jackson

Roll Call (present-absent-proxy-excused)

Jessica Kallio 18-0-0-1, Taitum Thompson 11-7-0-1, Casey Carmody 18-0-0-1, Brett Fleck- 18-0-0-1, Nikki Hanna 15-0-0, Brandon Ross 16-3-0, Jenna Ault 18-1-0, Katie Ischkin 13-1-0-1, Kristeen Giese 17-1-0-1, Oliver Okoye 16-3-0, Kenneth Willaert 14-1-0, Peter Jennings 19-0-0, Ryan Anderson 19-0-0, Brad Kraus 3-0-0, Kathryn Pase 19-0-0, Evan Trosvik 19-0-0, Jennifer Hansen 12-1-0, Jon Sands 13-0-0, Cole Fink 8-0-0, Michael Norton 8-0-0, Allan Gould 17-2-0, Jon Hurm 17-2-0, Jason Schilling 19-0-0, Caroline Kornowicz 15-4-0

President Gabe Afolayan 19-0-0, Vice President Chris Frederick 19-0-0

Approval of Agenda Agenda approved after addition to Presentations-Tuition Survey

Presentations

Outdoor Campus Recreation Proposal – Todd Pffingsten

This proposal has been talked about for a year or more. Today we are going to go through an updated proposal. Your student body President and Vice President have been involved in this process since last spring and summer when we hired an architect, the university paid for this, student fees did not. We have had eight different layouts, even this week our layout changed. We have addressed other students that have said, have you thought about this or this? We have plugged things in here that has potentially increased the overall price. Today you will see the entire thing. Obviously we will go through a lot of student consultation on this whole process. Our goal would be to take this to student referendum sometime after spring break. The students will have to come forward with a petition of 250 signatures in order to take this to referendum. The students are now working on that. I am not involved in that at all, I am just the administrator and they are running with it. We hope that will be in your hands next week. One of the University Strategic Initiatives is Health & Wellness, not only on the Campus Rec side but on the academic and athletic side as well. Action Plan-Outdoor Recreation & Fitness Facilities Proposal addresses five core issues, field conditions, locations, recreation program growth & expansion, modernization and safety. When I came here in 1999 we had 21 flag football teams. This year we had 50. In 1999 we had 20 softball teams, this year we had over 80. We are growing out of our space. Students want to play under the lights as they are involved in classes and things during the day. Modernization is an issue. Safety is the key issue. The softball fields run together. There are a lot of dips and it is unsafe. Strategy-The proposal is \$14M in facility and field improvements. This is really another phase or continuation of what we have started like the Taylor Center and the fieldhouse. We are fortunate so far in not having to have paid a penny in construction costs. I think that is something that is not real clear. The Taylor Center was privately funded and Phase I-II and III were funded by the State of Minnesota. Students fees have not paid for any of that and you need to know that. Millions of dollars have been spent over the past years in improvements and not using student fees is a precedent. At St. Cloud and Duluth they passed student referendums to build student facilities.

Benefits to MSU students-The proposal aligns with key strategic university initiatives to benefit, health, wellness & safety, improved recruitment and retention. We want you to do better in the classroom and those involved outside of the classroom do better academically, we know that. If you are healthy and happy you will do better in the classroom. Increased community partnerships, improved campus beautification are other things we want to bring on-line. The scope of the proposal consists of 4 initiatives: Improve campus recreation fields & tennis courts, construct a new outdoor track/multi-purpose stadium, replace the old track, convert practice field 3 to a multi-purpose field/soccer pitch with synthetic turf and a seasonal bubble. This would give another indoor facility where from Nov-March rugby, lacrosse, soccer, ultimate frisbee, these outdoor sports clubs would move into a bubble rather than into the fieldhouse or gym court.

Improve campus recreations fields-construct 4 new softball fields with flag football fields in the outfields, backstops, dugouts, 300 foot fences, lights on 2 fields, centralized bathrooms and storage near the softball and the flag football fields, soccer fields. Improve Campus Recreations Fields-Rugby/multipurpose field, soccer field, lacrosse/multi-purpose, paved fitness trail for roller blading, walking, biking along the tree line. It comes at a cost, obviously. Lighted fields central to growth of campus recreation program-lighting of fields expands window of opportunity for organized play. This is a necessary step to accommodate

current demands and future growth. The Astronomy faculty have reviewed the updated layout and have found the proposal a workable solution. There is not any light pollution. When I was an undergraduate here we had 12 tennis courts. 6 of them were so bad we turned them into a parking lot. We would like to have all 12 tennis courts and light them. That would not only benefit campus rec but it would also bring the tennis team back to campus. They currently practice at Gustavus. We also have a lot of tennis classes, that are usually maxed out. We want to construct a new outdoor track very multi-purpose to allow for club soccer, frisbee, academic classes, varsity track. We would hope that potentially this could house national

Women's club soccer. Currently the track and field team practices at Mankato West. They do not have any home meets. This would be a lighted so that we could have track and field meets here. Construct a new outdoor rec-multi-purpose field-This would be used for club & intramural soccer, ultimate frisbee and open recreation activities. Lighted 9 lane all-weather track, seating for 1500, centralized restrooms, storage, concession area to serve entire outdoor facility area. Convert football practice field 3 to a multi-purpose field/soccer pitch. Install synthetic turf at multi-purpose field and Blakeslee to allow for shared use for academics, Campus Recreation and Athletics-The University has recently committed \$300,000 to safety improvements on fields 1 & 2. We are required to fix those fields. Bubble at Multi-purpose field-inflated by air, heated @60 degrees, extends playability to year around. This pushes baseball, softball, football out of the fieldhouse to allow for campus rec., academic classes and athletics. This would be very multi-purpose.

Estimated Construction costs: \$14,652 million.

Estimated Student Costs per semester-15 years, \$5.42 per credit hour banded at 12 credits, cost per student \$65.04 for the entire plan per semester. This does not include summer student fees. Sources of funding for all indoor and outdoor facilities: 47% state funded, 30% private funded, 23% student fees.

Overall Campus Master Plan future phase-Phase V-Recreational Ice Center, Phase VI Improvements to Blakeslee-this is down the road and we are not talking about this, it is a dream and we would look for private funding and state support to fund. We are the 4th lowest in tuition and fees in the state.

Senator Carmody-If some fields were deemed unsafe, why were there not sponsorships or appropriations asked for that?

Director Pflugsten-Those fields have been like that for 20 years. We have just always dealt with it because we were told there was no money and because no one has really pushed it. Until 1999 Campus Rec was really just an after thought. I started pushing the outdoor rec because of safety and that we were behind the times. We want students to have access to quality facilities along with the academic buildings. Senator Ischkin-Why are lacrosse and rugby receiving their own field? Could they not share?

Director Pflugsten-Our fields are not lit so it limits us. It is tough for students to come out and practice at one or two in the afternoon. Four clubs on one field would be difficult to schedule.

Senator Fleck-I like the fitness trail, what does that cost?

Director Pflugsten-About \$200,000 to pave that. It is about a mile and a half. The initial plan called for that to be grass, a nice grass surface.

Senator Anderson-If this student referendum does not pass is there another contingency plan?

Director Pflugsten-It would probably remain status quo. A lot of you know that the dirt we are removing from the old rugby pitch for the new residential hall is going to the golf driving range to level that off.

This is a free source of fill for that location and it is also an inexpensive way to move that dirt. There is work being done for down the road if we were to build the softball fields and flag football fields. At least a lot of the dirt is free. Hopefully nothing catastrophic happens like a serious injury. MnSCU has mentioned to us that the practice football fields do need to be repaired.

Senator Anderson-If it were voted on would it be ala cart or all or nothing?

Director Pflugsten-We need your feedback as to needs, wants, costs, if it comes to referendum. It would be easier if we had proposal A,B,C. A consensus would be nice through student consultation. It would be nice if we could have a base plus negotiables. It might be based on what you the students would be willing to pay. That is the conclusion we want to come to in the next few months.

Senator Jennings-About the fields in the back area-that area is frequently used by ROTC, can they be accommodating to that?

Director Pflugsten-We talked about that. The proposal was to fence in the areas. We would have to look at accommodating ROTC. We will work with them on that and we will talk about size.

Senator Jennings-Generally they have 6-8 teams working at a time, they require quite a bit of space.

Senator Kallio-Have we thought of charging a membership to community or alumni for using this facility to bring in revenue?

Director Pflugsten-We have not gone in the direction yet, especially this time of the year. The rec center is a zoo, it would be hard to accommodate your needs if we did that. I am here to tell you that our job is to

take care of your needs first, as far as access. During down times like winter break or summer that is something we could definitely entertain. That would be a revenue stream.

Senator Schilling-In regards to the amortization schedule, is there a reason there would be 16 payments?

Director Pflugsten-It would be 12 payments.

Senator Schilling-So is this a 20 or 15 year amortization?

Vice President Straka-This is fifteen.

Senator Hurm-I love the idea, how much money would be saved by having the soccer and football field turfed?

Vice President Straka-Maintenance on artificial surface is at least as much as now. You still have to go out and rake or drag the field. If you have hot days you have to have irrigation to cool the field down. The fields do require quite a bit of maintenance. Will there be savings on maintenance, no I don't think there will be in fact there may be an increase in costs. It is a common perception that it will save money.

Director Pflugsten-The benefit is you can play all year around.

Senator Hurm-What is the life expectancy on the turf?

Director Pflugsten-10 years and up to 12-15 years.

Senator Kraus-On the original plan the track was north/south why was it changed to east/west?

Director Pflugsten-There is a So road issue going on campus that the city and county would like to see. This would allow for a road to go through.

Senator Pace-What kind of time frame are you looking at?

Director Pflugsten-With the field turf in Blakeslee, it could be rather quickly. The other fields would have to sit a while, about 1 year in we seed the fields. In my opinion you get a better grass if you seed. It is not as long to construct facilities outdoor as indoor.

Vice President Straka-We also have to go through a bonding process. I would guess it would be next year to begin construction. Money will not be available right away. That process will take a while.

Senator Gould-How does this proposal compare to other MnSCU facilities and around the Midwest?

Director Pflugsten-Within MnSCU, it would be right at the top. A lot of places have better facilities.

UMD has field turf. UNO has astro turf. We would be at the top. This would be a great recruiting and retention tool. St. Cloud has Huskie Stadium.

Senator Norton-It seems to me there is funding for Athletics, club teams, and there is money used for recreation, why is it that all the funding is coming from students?

Director Pflugsten-Campus Rec would benefit from all of the facilities including Blakeslee. Outdoor track, same thing, the sports bubble would obviously give us a huge benefit in freeing up the fieldhouse, number one. Our sports clubs could play on field turf just like grass. The perception might be it is an athletic facility but it would truly be working together with athletics more than we ever have in the past.

Senator Norton-While the majority would be for campus rec, the soccer and football and lighting the baseball field would still be for increases to students and not athletics?

Director Pflugsten-I suppose that is accurate.

Vice President Straka-One could argue that all the other facilities, Highland Center, Taylor Center were constructed with not a cost to students at all. We need to look to the future. As we look out to the next phases, even future athletic facilities such as the ice rink, with that we could look at collaboration and funding as we did with the rec center. Those could be done with state or private funding. This project is just one in a timeline. We would not come back to the students.

Senator Giese-You mentioned that there would be maintenance of turfs, would you have to have additional staff or training -to care for these new facilities?

Director Pflugsten-It may be more time consuming, maybe more student hourly wage helping with weed wacking and mowing and those things. We have not put dollars and cents to that. It shouldn't be full time staff added to that.

Senator Giese-Would they need special training to deal with the bubble and things like that?

Director Pflugsten-I would be getting the training with the bubble.

Vice President Straka-The construction company would provide the training as it is with the majority of equipment we purchase now.

Director Pflugsten-Taking it up and down would be done by volunteers. St. Cloud brings in sports clubs and athletic teams to help take that down each year.

Senator Trosvik-If the So Road does not go through is there a proposal for the large space?

Director Pflugsten-There is space that might be used by Track and Field. Track would like a north/ south orientation because of wind and things like that.

Senator Anderson-What percentage are the Vikings and other non student fee dollars supporting this?

Director Pfingsten-We have known the condition of the flag football and soccer fields are not good. The Viking issue came separately and then it was brought to MnSCU and the university. The university has said they will fix those fields.

Senator Anderson-Would 0 % be safe to say the Vikings are kicking in?

Vice President Straka-The Vikings? We do not have a written agreement but the Vikings are in partnership with us. It would not be safe to say 0 but I can not release that as we are negotiating. It would be unfair to say nothing. All of the maintenance is funded by state M&E funds. That will continue to be university funds.

Senator Schilling-Would MSU then be seeking to move to Division I?

Vice President Straka-Absolutely, totally completely separate ideas. This would have no consideration of that. This is a recreation up grade. We have made a definite commitment to Division II and we are moving forward in that respect.

Senator Giese-With taking into the consideration the concern of students with education costs, can you give me some advice to say to them about adding another \$65 per semester to their costs?

Vice President Straka-Something you could say is that the taxpayers of Minnesota already pay 40% of your education. You only pay 60%. Throw in the federal taxpayers, for those of you that get Stafford subsidized loans, grants, Pell's, those are all things you get. Within Minnesota we are the 3rd least expensive in the state. We are significantly lower than the U of M system. Yes, there is consideration anytime we raise tuition and fees. Does that bring additional pain and debt? I can tell you from the financial aid that we have processed this past semester, absolutely we are aware of those things but I do believe this is part of an overall facility and first class experience that you want at Minnesota State. The President is bringing a vision to all of our facilities. As you can tell by the investment made in the Taylor Center, the fieldhouse the rec center, in addition to Trafton and the new residence hall. Plans are in place for an Allied Health and Nursing building, a privately funded College of Business, there is a significant effort to upgrade all of the facilities and this is just one piece in the President's plan. He would like premier facilities and still try to maintain affordable costs.

Director Pfingsten-When we met this summer the student leaders said we needed to look at other options for funding before we just come forward and ask for student fees. We did that. We met with other colleges, the city, the school district. What we heard from them was no we do not want to fund it but we are interested in using spaces and renting them. So we did go out and look at other sources of funding as well before we came back to student fees for the most funding source. We are sensitive to that. This investment into your future and to the health and wellness of thousands of students is important.

Vice President Straka-This is the first phase of the President's project. They are just looking at the ice rink and that seems to be where there are sources of regional partnering.

Senator Anderson-Do you have anything on recreation fees at other schools?

Director Pfingsten-Last year we found that for four year institutions our size, not just regionally but nationally, we were about the middle of the pack. About \$350.00. U of M and other schools are about \$700.00, I think we have even more, they have a good rec program, but I think ours is pretty good.

Senator Schilling-In regards to \$65.04 per student per semester, how many students is that based on?

Director Pfingsten-13,000

Senator Giese-What is the status of the petition?

Director Pfingsten-It was started last week at the Taylor Center. There were over 220 signatures in a couple days.

Senator Giese-Will the students be bringing that to MSSA or will the administration?

Director Pfingsten-I am thinking it will be the students. I will talk to my Vice President. There has to be 250 signatures in order for it to go to referendum.

President Afolayan-I think what might be useful in the consultation process is the results of the survey on what students felt were the costs and how much they were willing to pay.

Director Pfingsten-Last spring we took a survey, the two that came out and gave us a lot of quality information were: How do you feel about the current state of the outdoor facilities? That included campus rec softball, flag football, rugby, soccer, lacrosse, outdoor track, tennis courts, Blakeslee Stadium. Outdoor track came in the highest under needs improvements and unsafe.

Another category-Which components of the proposed outdoor rec fitness proposal would you find most appealing? The highest percentage was to field improvements to campus rec outdoor soccer, rugby, softball, tennis courts and outdoor track. Second was the lighting improvements to extend play ability for students at night. Third was the outdoor track. They were the three most important.

There were questions on sharing costs which was about 50/50. They did want to give out prime time hours to the community to help pay for things. Level of student fee support-25% of students said they would pay

\$30-40 per semester. Then \$40-50 per semester the percentage was lower. 68% of students said they would favor a referendum process. We received 930 completed surveys.

President Afolayan-What % of students were not interested in funding all of the outdoor facilities?

Director Pfingsten-53%, 47% said they would give some level of support.

Gabe Afolayan-Tuition and Fee Survey

30% of people did leave comments on the survey. The survey went out last Friday. We got just under 2,000 responses. As far as how students pay, 71% said loans and financial aid, 22% scholarships, 57% personal /parents, 26% grants and 6% assistantships.

In response to how many jobs they worked during the academic year-55% said 1, 24% said 2, 3.9 said 3 and 16.23 said 0.

How many hours worked per week during academic year 15% said they do not work, 39% said 0-20, 36% said 20-40 and 8.0% said 40+-

46% of students said they had to obtain additional jobs to pay for education,

How much school related debt will you have when you graduate? 12% said none, 14% said less than \$10,000. 24% said \$10-20,000, 22% said \$20-30,000, 14% said \$30-40,000 and 11% said more than \$40,000.

How much do you pay for rent? 16% said they live on campus, 7.5 said they live with their parents, 2.4 said 0-\$200.00, 35% said \$200-400.00, 23% said \$400-600 and 13% said more than \$600.00.

Rate your level of agreement on tuition increase- 36% strongly disagree, 34% disagree, 16% neutral, 10% agree, 1.69 strongly agree.

Tuition remaining the same-6% strongly disagree

Technology Fee-Trend 70% disagree with increasing

Student Activity Fees-70% strongly disagree with increasing

Health Services-How many times have you used Health Services? 63% said 0, 13% said 1, 6% said 2, 2.45% said 3 and 3.4 said 4+.

Rate your level of agreement on the Parking Lot remaining free. 27% strongly agree

Parking Lot paved and charged a fee of \$40.00-49% strongly disagree

(see complete percentages on line or hard copy in office)

Senator Anderson-In your opinion would you say that this survey screams that our students are price sensitive?

President Afolayan-In my opinion after reading the comments a lot of people don't know where their money is going. A lot of people have confusion as to what they pay for and what they don't pay for. A lot of people have strong opinions as to how tuition is increasing. Yes, I would say they are price sensitive.

Approval of Minutes 01-24-07 Minutes stand approved

Elections

CSET Murtaza Rajabali

I would like to be a part of senate. I have leadership qualities. I am a CA in the Res Halls, I am the president of Alpha Phi Omega, a service fraternity. I am a apart of the Muslim Student Association and the International Student Association. I think I know what students want and what goes around. You keep talking about keeping fees down. What can students do to lower costs? A lot students drive from Gage to Crawford, that would keep fuel costs down. A lot of campuses have building access. We don't have that. We don't have to walk outside in the cold.

Senator Fleck-With your rigorous academic courses and as much as you are involved outside, will you have time to give senate your all on Wed and other time frames?

Mr. Rajabali-I have learned this from being a CA. I see Senate as a priority, if I don't have time, I will drop others. I have long term goals. When I am on senate I will pull back and organize my activities.

Senator Trosvik-What kind of engineering student are you?

Mr.Rajabali- Computer engineering but I want to do electrical as well.

Senator Pace-As a CA, what do you see as a major issue?

Mr. Rajabali- It does not come out a lot but racism is a big issue. When you get personal with individuals it does come out and is an issue.

Senator Kruse-One of the things the President wants to address is more diversity populations on campus. What attracted you to come here and what can be done to increase the international diversity?

Mr. Rajabali People are really friendly. Also, tuition is fairly low and I was able to get a scholarship.

President Afolayan-How do you feel you can represent students on the issue of tuition and fees?

Mr. Rajabali- This is a concern and I know this is a concern of students. I would do my best.

Mr. Rajabali -MSSA has done a better job than ever before. I see a lot of publicity that is really good and I would love to be a part of it.

Elected Murtaza Rajabali

Off-Campus Abie Hill, Tim Green, Sam Hanson, Kelly Biers, Nick Wooten, Jr.

Ms. Hill-I am a double major Marketing/Mass Comm. My major concern would be the free lot. I don't understand why they want to pave it and charge for it. If the administration wants to spend money why don't they build a parking ramp and charge that way? Obviously tuition, I did fill out the survey, and I was a little relentless on the tuition part. One of my questions would be, when are they going to stop punishing us for wanting higher education and a better education? I am Vice President of Marketing and Vice President of COSBO and I am also currently the only student representative on the College of Business building committee, which with high hopes I hope they have up by the year 2010. I want to be here but I want College of Business students to have a better education, not that mine was not. I want other students to have a better experience, a wonderful experience. Have you seen the NDSU or SDSU commercials? Why aren't we advertising to get more people to come to our school? I would say we are better than they are. I am all about campus beautification and a better reputation

Mr. Green-I decided to get involved because I want a voice in things like this presentation. I feel I could offer my time. I am an events coordinator for PSSA. You ran a wonderful ad campaign with the Did you Know. I know textbooks is an issue as well as the state of rec leagues and athletics. I know there is another level of marketing for athletics but I don't think there is a Maverick passion or pride in being an alum or a student. The updating of facilities will bring a pride, I don't think there is that now. It starts with students and what you contribute. I want to be the one to take that initiative and here I am.

Mr. Hanson-I am a senior law enforcement major. I have been a part of Phi Kappa Psi, Law Enforcement Club, currently I am PR chair for my fraternity. Last year I was on interfraternity council, I worked on getting events started and taking ideas and putting them together. I work Parking and Security. I am aware of the concerns from both the administration and students. I hear good and bad. I want to become part of the Student Association and I want to put my time into something productive and something I can do for the university.

Mr. Biers-I am a double French/English major. I am here because I feel that I could bring something to MSSA. I am the President of a writing group. I just got back from a leadership training seminar in Washington D.C. sponsored by the People for the American Way Foundation. I was inspired by that and want to bring my self back into the political process. I think senate is important to our campus and I think senate has done a good job of getting the issues out there and letting students know what is being brought to the table. I would love to be a part of this and do what I can to help.

Mr. Wooten-I am an Alcohol and Drug studies major. I am interested in how the political process works. One of my concerns is that you meet up here, it should be where a lot of people would come, like the auditorium, unfortunately know one seems to care for some reason. That is why I am here. As far as a technology fee-there should be a one time technology fee and students should get a computer provided. Students would have what they need from the start. We could then just charge for service like wireless and internet.

Q&A

Senator Carmody-Other than the Parking Lot what is the biggest problem facing off-campus students?

Mr. Green-I don't like how expensive the food court is. I think it should be something you can get affordably.

Mr. Hanson-The biggest concern would be textbook prices. I bought mine on-line and then sold them for more than what I paid for them. That is a way to beat the system.

Mr. Biers-Parking in general is a huge issue. Tuition is always huge. Tuition freeze needs to be talked about as an option.

Mr. Wooten-I am a non-traditional student. \$80.00 added on for parking is a lot.

Mr. Hill-Involvement, knowledge. How many students did not know we had Health Services?

The Do You Care campaign has helped. Besides free lot, it is knowledge, people don't know what they are paying for. What do the services include, can you get into the rec center?

Senator Ross-What word or phrase best describes an attribute you can bring to student senate?

Mr. Hansen-Make it Happen
Mr. Biers-Leadership
Mr. Wooten-Openness for ideas
Ms. Hill-Honesty
Mr. Green-Tenacity.

Senator Fleck-How would you look to get involved if you were not elected?

Mr. Biers-I have seen committees that I am interested in. I would love to help out how ever possible. Committees would be a great way to do that and just get more people involved.

Mr. Wooten-Just talking to people. I have time for things I deem important.

Ms. Hill-College organizations, I would put my emphasis into the College of Business but I don't want to limit myself to the College of Business. I would like to get involved with IMPACT.

Mr. Green-Intramural sports and contribute to clubs that I am already in.

Mr. Hanson-I go to sporting events. The Homecoming Committee would be good to get involved in. I would like to see a constant theme for homecoming.

Senator Norton-If a situation arises where your personal opinion differs from that of your constituents, would you vote in favor of your own personal opinions or that of the student body?

Mr. Wooten-That would depend on the issue and how strongly I felt against something. As far as representing the off campus population I would try to get a general consensus of what is going on.

Ms. Hill-If I disagreed I would want to discuss the reasons, but if the general populations says yes and I say no-then I am only one person and I would vote for them as I represent them.

Mr. Green-Depending on the issue, most students are not as educated as the MSSA members and depending on the issue, I would vote for what I feel is best for the school or the direction of campus.

Mr. Hanson-I would put out my ideas and then listen to ideas to improve any given program.

Mr. Biers-That depends for each situation but for everything each side needs to be heard. I would not just vote for the majority because the majority might not know something. I would want to make sure it was what is best for the school.

Senator Ischkin-What is your biggest weakness?

Ms. Hill-I love to talk and I also love to listen so I think that evens out when you are in a conversation with someone. I would get out what I had to say and then debate and get other peoples views. Sometimes I end up changing my views. I do love to talk but sometimes it helps.

Mr. Green-I am rather transparent, you can tell what I feel about things. This can be good and bad.

Mr. Hanson-I am strong willed, I like to get things done. Sometimes if people don't agree, I might share my opinion.

Mr. Biers-I love voicing my opinion but as you can tell sometimes I get nervous so I might come off as not prone to leadership, I am working on speaking in front of people.

Mr. Wooten-I don't like to talk a lot.

Senator Schilling-What do your Wednesday nights look like?

Mr. Green-Open as of now.

(All candidates are free on Wednesday)

Senator Fleck-How many years do you have left?

Mr. Biers-I am a Sophomore-two years

Mr. Wooten-Roughly three years.

Ms. Hill-I hopefully will graduate in May 2008

Mr. Green-One year left.

Mr. Hanson-I graduate in May.

Closing Statements:

Mr. Wooten-I have to say that as far as if I am moveable or not, I am always open to suggestions.

Ms. Hill-Hopefully you know I like to lead but I also like to follow. That is why being Vice President in my other organizations is perfect for me. I like to take initiative and get things done but I can follow someone else where they may lead me. I can speak up if I have an issue, I like to think I do it in a mature fashion.

Mr. Green-I want to make sure my voice is heard. MSSA is a great way to get that done and make an impact on the university and that will impact me.

Mr. Hanson-I graduate in May, I would like to be on MSSA. I have always lived Off-Campus all four years so I know about issues like land lord troubles etc. I look forward to working for students.

Mr. Biers-I would like to have a voice and bring the leadership skills that I have to the senate

Elected: Off-Campus Senator Abbie Hill

New Business

Motion 01.31.07A Students Rights Senator Anderson/

Whereas: The MSSA takes very seriously its responsibility for protecting students' rights

Whereas: The MSSA recognizes that the students of this university assume many of the rights and responsibilities of adulthood once they reach the age of eighteen

Whereas: The MSSA supports any prudent measures taken to eliminate underage drinking, or drug use, by this university or the community at-large. Recognizing the damaging effects these behaviors have on both the individual and institution as a whole

Whereas: The MSSA feels that infringing on the privacy rights of students does not constitute a "prudent measure" in this case

Whereas: The MSSA recognizes the need for legal guardians to be notified in the case of emergency and feels that the current laws satisfy this need

Whereas: The MSSA feels that the proposed MNSCU changes to the Minnesota Government Data Practice Act infringe on the rights of students

Whereas: The MSSA also shares concern about the liabilities passed onto the university by these proposed changes

Be It Resolved: The MSSA fully opposes any changes allowing parents, legal guardians, or any other party be allowed to view the Data currently protected by both the Federal Privacy laws and the Minnesota Government Data Privacy Act without consent of the student. This would include the MNSCU proposed changes allowing parents be notified of drug and alcohol violations without the students consent

Senator Anderson-The proposed law allows the university to contact parents of people who are 18-20 who have underage drinking or drug use penalties without consent or knowledge. I feel this is a gross infringement of our civil liberties. Right now the law allows the university to contact parents for health emergency which we feel is very important. We also recognize that many 18-20 year olds are essentially independent and are able to handle the consequences of their action. We understand MnSCU's concerns with the underage drinking and the damaging effects and where I would love to see discussion on this, I feel it is important that we pass this unanimously.

Senator Norton-Does this only pertain to underage or students 18-20? If there were a student under 18 would the parents still be notified?

Senator Anderson-Yes, per state and federal law they would. They would qualify as a minor.

Motion passes unanimously

M#01.31-2007 B Lap Top Changes Senator Hannah/Anderson

Whereas: The MSSA takes very seriously it's responsibility to inform ourselves on current and future fees and requirements.

Whereas: Proposed changes in the College of Business laptop program would have significant impact on students affected

Be it Resolved: The MSSA requests a presentation on the proposed changes in the College of Business Laptop program from representatives from Technology Services and the College of Business.

Senator Hannah-We have heard about some changes so we would like them to come explain this to us.

Senator Anderson-We are charged with getting student input on changes like these and I feel this is appropriate.

Amendment President Afolayan/Frederick

Amend-furthermore the MSSA requests current information regarding the laptop fee and expenditures.

President Afolayan-We might as well find out where the fee goes now.

Senator Fleck-I have that information and I will be giving the information I received from the Dean in my report.

Mr. Trosvik-I would like to see a time frame attached to the motion.

President Afolayan-Amend amendment to include a time frame of three weeks.

Motion amended.

Senator Schilling-This is the first time I have heard this, I think this would be a good thing.

M#01.31-2007 B Lap Top Changes Senator Hannah/Anderson

Whereas:	The MSSA takes very seriously it's responsibility to inform ourselves on current and future fees and requirements.
Whereas:	Proposed changes in the College of Business laptop program would have significant impact on students affected
Be it Resolved:	The MSSA requests a presentation on the proposed changes in the College of Business. Furthermore, the MSSA requests information regarding current laptop fee budget expenditures and line items. The MSSA requests this information to be presented to the Senate no later than February 21, 2007.

Officer Reports

President Gabe Afolayan

A student homecoming meeting will be tomorrow night at 6:30 pm.

Tuition and Fees Open Forum Monday at 11:30-1:00 PM.

The Got a Gripe Campaign is up and running in the CSU. Most posters pertain to student services. They will stay up into next week.

The MSU Men's basketball team has won 18 games in a row and are now 5th in the nation. Saturday

games are at 2:00 and 4:00 P.M. They play St. Cloud State.

Bowling against Student Affairs-Thursday at 4:30-6:30 PM.

Rally Day-February 14. Steps of the State Capitol. We would like to see a lot of senators
Cynthia Abrams of Alumni Relations has explained a graduation issue, you have to apply on-line, and the fee will be put on your account. The vendor that orders the caps and gowns had not updated their data base so it was as if people were trying to register for winter commencement. So they just stopped it and will refund everyone their money and then you have to sign up again. So if you run into anyone that had that issue you can tell them.

MSSA Leadership Scholarship applications are now available. Recipients receive \$1,000. We will be marketing that to the student body.

I received some complaints on diversity and cultural acceptance on campus. Particularly a couple students in the last month approached me about their experiences regarding discrimination. This is quite tragic to hear. One of the university's initiatives is Cultural Diversity and the fact is that there is obviously a lot of racial intolerance within our community, faculty and our university. One student was profiled in the bookstore. A graduate student in Sociology felt they received a poor grade because of racial discrimination. The department did rectify the situation by allowing the student to retake the course without charging them tuition and fees. In my opinion, it is not acceptable to brush it under the table. Diversity is supposed to be one of our main issues.

Appointments: Elections Committee- Garrick Grace, Dining Advisory Board- Andrew Pyzyk

Senator Trosvik-Would rally day be a good place to bring a date?

President Afolayan-If you have enough money for the difference that tuition has increased between now and 1999, I think you could coheres anyone to be your date. Otherwise I don't think it will be that cheery of an event as people are not happy with what they are paying for tuition. Senator Giese-Have there been any grievances filed?

President Afolayan-Students are allowed to appeal a grade. The appeal must be filed within 2 weeks of posting the grade. It is outside of that period.

Senator Fink-What time do we return from lobbying?

President Afolayan-Around 4:00.

President Afolayan-I am also looking for students to serve on the search for the Vice President for Regional Partnership, Elections Committee and Campus Dining.

Vice President Chris Frederick

MSUSA-major issue was federal legislative agenda. MSUSA recommended Pell Grant increase, student loan rates and the Federal Dream Act legislation.

I will be serving on the Enrollment Management Task Force. We are looking at boosting enrollment by 2400 students, this is first year students. This is to project the goal of 20,000 in next ten to fifteen years. We are talking about recruitment and retention.

Student Leadership forum-we discussed Outdoor Campus Rec and Homecoming.

Thank you to the students that showed up to lunch with Dr. Davenport and the dinner at Gage. Senator Giese-Concerning increase in enrollment, with space being such a high commodity, how will they deal with that?

Vice President Frederick-They are not talking details at this time, they did have a consultant report. I will hear more about that and give you information very soon on the concerns on all the issues.

Speaker

Recognized Student Organization Initial Recognition: MIS Club, Ethnic Graduate Organization, National Society of Black Engineers, Sudanese Student Association, and Management Club.

We now have a Maverick Hall Senator opening as well as two Undeclared seats.

Senator Reports next week: Thompson, Fleck, Jennings, Carmody, Gould, Hansen

Get your reports in by Tuesday.

Senator Reports

College of Business – Nikki Hannah

First and foremost I'd like to thank everybody that dedicated their last weekend to the January Conference in Winona.

There are three things I wanted to mention about the Conference:

♥ FIRST...

- I was disappointed that we couldn't fill all 10 of our seats...
- I'm hoping that you will all reconsider for the next conference
- It's hard to get things done there if we don't have our full voting rights
- It doesn't take a lot of commitment, it's only for 1 weekend and the dates are all listed on the MSUSA site so you can plan accordingly.

♥ SECOND...

- I also wanted to go over a couple things we accomplished at the conference.
- First was the Lobbying Game
The whole point of it was to get a glimpse at some hands-on experience with lobbying and campaigning in a group of students from every school within MSUSA.
I learned a lot – I've never been exposed to lobbying before this conference, so it was a good experience for me to try it.
- Second was the Student Platform
These are the objectives that will be lobbied in DC
We discussed new and old objectives for this platform

♥ THIRD AND LAST...

- I know I'm probably going to sound like a broken record, but...
- The next Conference is the Cultural Diversity Conference in St. Cloud
- it's from February 16th-18th – and I encourage each of you to go
- Especially those of you that haven't attending one yet, since it's required.

As far as Academic Affairs goes, we're currently implementing the +/- Survey...
 The survey should be complete by...
 And the results should be tabulated by...

Last, but not least, the College of Business's COSBO is doing a fundraiser. COSBO stands for Council of Student Business Organizations. The fundraiser will entail COSBO designing and selling COB sweatshirts. These sweatshirts will be sold to all COB students and faculty. More information about design and price will be known at a later time. The profits will go to each COB RSO who attends COSBO meetings.

College of Business – Brandon Ross (proxy Brett Fleck)

I have been working with the Internship Coordinator helping with internships. Attended MSUSA Conference in Winona. FASA

CSET – Oliver Okoye

I was at Winona this past weekend. The College of SET had been working on getting candidates on campus for interviews for positions in CSET.

Gage A – Evan Trosvik

I had lunch and dinner with Dr. Davenport. Before break I was finishing up with the Res Life Student Success Coordinator position search. We did hire someone and they started their position yesterday. I have been on the Res Life Dining services. I came back four days early to attend these meetings and I got a lot of information that will really impact students. I will be attending a meeting with Charter and we will be talking about the internet with dorms and we will be getting a voice-over IP demo that Vice President Schneider talked about.

Committee Reports

Planning Sub Meet and Confer – Mike Norton

Essentially what the group does is they have been allotted between \$500,000 and 1.3 million dollars of funding. There are around 30 groups that have applied for funding. Specifically, Kevin Buisman came in and asked for \$50,000 to support diversity in the Athletic Department to increase Athletic retention. A representative from IMPACT asked for about \$50,000 for a concert or comedian and things for homecoming. Currently we are going through those proposals and requests. I assume we will talk about each proposal. We are now half way through and we will look at the funding and decide by ranking what is essential and what is not.

Senator Fink-Where does the money come from?

President Afolayan-President Davenport has a line item called Strategic Initiative base funding and it has room for allocating requests. Last year President Davenport wanted to increase that, and of course we recommended not doing that but it went through any way.

Jason Schilling – Student Union Board

- The Results are back from the trial of keeping the CSU open 24 hours for finals week. The data shows support for keeping the CSU open during these peak times. The cost for Workers and Utilities came to about \$750 for the test run. The proposal the Union Board will propose, is to close the CSU on Friday and Saturday night at Midnight. This move should offset the cost of opening at 10am on Sunday and being open for 24 hours during finals week for spring '07. There were a few "bugs" to work out from the first trial such as computer synchronizing.
- Scott Hagebak attended last week's meeting and had a very interesting proposal for the flexible programming space (for those who don't know that is the area between the pizza place and the game room). His idea was to implement a "wall of fame" where we could have pictures of famous people that

have been at or graduated from MSU, and things like pictures from past homecomings and things of that nature.

- Scott Anderson attended this weeks meeting in regards to his budget information. He has proposed increasing the game room rates for bowling and billiards. Bowling currently is \$1.50 a game, and \$0.75 for shoe rental and \$3.50 for an hour of billiards, and the increase would bring the prices to \$2.00 a game, \$1.00 for shoe rental, and \$4.00 for an hour of billiards. Class rates for students would remain at a \$40 fee per semester.
- Shirley Piepho presented the university scheduling service today as well. New proposals would bring extra revenue to the Student Union. Currently academic organizations rent space out in the CSU for no charge, if they were charged it could potentially lower student fees.
- The RSO Office Space Recommendations were presented to the Union board today by Stacy Stoldorf for the 3 office spaces. The Professional staff recommended the space to be utilized as follows
 - 1st Space) Graduate Student Association, Public Relation Student Association of America, and the Society of Professional Journalist
 - 2nd Space) SAGE, Women's Studies Club, Feminists in Action
 - 3rd Space) International Business Organization, Foreign Language Initiative, Somali Student Association

Vice President Frederick-Why the increase in the game room rates?

Senator Schilling-There was no real reason, just a proposal.

Senator Anderson-Was there student consultation on this process for office space?

Senator Schilling-I asked that question also. There was none.

Senator Anderson-Is it true the Student Union is funded by students?

Senator Schilling-Yes

Senator Gould-Is there research of switching this to the library?

Senator Schilling-There has been talk about this.

President Afolayan-I talked to Dean Roca about that. He mentioned briefly library hours across MnSCU. With extra probing, they might be willing to move hours around.

Senator Ischkin-Was there agenda on how they chose?

Senator Schilling-Yes, they did have guidelines.

Kristeen Giese – Academic Affairs

Plus minus Grading System

We have created and started implementing the Plus minus Survey to random students on campus. We are hoping that this survey will give us a real idea of how the student body feels about a plus minus grading system.

After talking with Steve Bohnenblust from the faculty association and Dr. Scott Olson (Provost) and Vice President of Academic Affairs we have learned that the administration and faculty don't have a clear stand either for or against the plus minus grading system.

Review of Policies

We have received the newly revised Undergraduate Admissions Policy. Malcolm O'Sullivan has given us a nice spread sheet that highlighted the changes from the old version to the revised version. (See motion)

Course Availability

I have met with Social Behavioral Sciences- Sociology Department administrative assistant regarding the Course Availability process. From this meeting I learned that when faculty have more students who wish to take a course than the room allows, the faculty member documents how many excess students each semester, then they can present to the department that there is a need for an additional section. The department then will try to find the space and \$\$ to hire an adjunct (if there is a qualified adjunct who can teach the course). Many times the department will shift dollars from one course to another (an example would be if Dr. Adams is on sabbatical and teaches a course that is a specialty course and there is not adjunct available to teach in his place, the money will be diverted for an adjunct to teach an additional section of Dr. Eve's course as she has put in a request for an additional course to meet the needs of the student).

We then also invited Faculty Association President Steven Bohnenblust to talk with the whole Academic Affairs Committee as a whole. Steve reported that when a faculty has more request for a course than what is allotted for that course there are a few things to consider when a professor contemplates blue carding additional students. Space (fire code sets the number of persons that can be allowed in a room) Special

needs for that Course (if the course requires the use of a computer and there are only a certain number of computers available).

During a question and answer period, one of the senators asks Dr Bohnenblust how the Faculty Association would react if the students would want a high profile guest faculty to the campus. He said that most faculty members would welcome an endowed or visiting faculty. There currently is some endowed or visiting faculty in process.

Senator Gould-Basically there is a fire code thing but really no standard or requirement for the professor.

Senator Giese-Yes

President Afolayan-Is Academic Affairs looking at graduation rates, four year for students?

Senator Giese-We will look at that if the committee decides to.

Kristeen Giese – Committee on the Status of Women

The Presidents Commission on the Status of Women was given a \$20,000 grant to research if our campus has an issue with “intimidation,” “coercion,” “threatening behavior,” “antagonistic behavior,” “combative behavior,” or “abusive behavior” in the work place.

The \$20,000 will help students. as antagonistic behavior in the workplace not only affects staff and faculty members, but students, too, and the study is intended to make Minnesota State Mankato a better place for faculty to teach and for students to learn.

The commission has hired the consultants, Loreleigh Keashly and Joel Neuman

Dr. Loreleigh Keashly (Ph.D. University of Saskatchewan) is an Associate Professor and the Director of the Master of Arts in Dispute Resolution. Dr. Keashly has developed and taught both undergraduate and graduate courses at the Universities of Saskatchewan, New Brunswick, Guelph, Victoria, and Wayne State University. At the undergraduate level, she has taught introductory psychology, human relations, statistics, applied social psychology, social psychology of conflict, and inter-group relations. At the graduate level, she has taught university and multivariate statistics, research methodology, organizational conflict, organizational psychology, international conflict, and challenging issues in dispute resolution.

Primary Research Interest

- International, intergroup and interpersonal conflict resolution,
- Human resource development
- Diversity in organizations
- Women's studies
- Interpersonal relations in the workplace
- Program development and evaluation
- Statistics and research methodology

Joel Neuman, Associate Professor of Management & Organizational Behavior

Dr. Neuman earned his B.A. in Psychology (1984) and M.A. in Industrial and Organizational Psychology from SUNY New Paltz (1986). His Ph.D. in Applied Social Psychology was granted by the University at Albany, SUNY (1990). He is the director of the Center for Applied Management and Associate Professor of Management and Organizational Behavior and has been a faculty member of the School of Business since 1989.

Dr. Neuman’s research interests involve the application of the principles and findings of psychology to behaviors in work settings. This includes a focus on workplace violence and aggression, interpersonal relations and group processes, collaborative action inquiry, action research, organizational learning, the effects of organizational and technological change on worker productivity, and time management and personal productivity. His writings include “The Implications of Attr Research for Organizational Issues” in K. Kelley (Ed.) Issues, Theory, and Research in Industrial-Organizational Psychology (Amsterdam: North-Holland, 1992), “Aggression in the Workplace” in R. Giacalone and J. Greenberg (Eds.) Antisocial Behavior in Organizations (Sage Publishing, 1997), “Workplace violence and Workplace Aggression:

Evidence concerning Specific Forms, Potential Causes, and Preferred Targets” in the Journal of Management, Vol. 24 (1998), “Workplace Aggression—The Iceberg Beneath the Tip of Workplace Violence” in Public Administration Quarterly, Vol. 21 (1998), and “Social and Personal Determinants of Workplace Aggression: Evidence for the Impact of Perceived Injustice and the Type A Behavior Pattern” in Aggressive Behavior, Vol. 25 (1999).

The Commission on the Status of Women is in the process of selecting applications to attend the Bryn Mawr/HERS Summer Institute, to be held at Bryn Mawr College from June 23-July 18, 2007. The final selection of the campus representative for the Institute will be made by President Davenport no later than February 15, 2007.

2006-2007 Professional Development and Research Grants

Stipends of up to \$500 are available to students and employees to attend professional conferences concerned with the status of women and/or gender related issues, or conduct research in this area. Please submit proposals to The Commission on the Status of Women Funding Subcommittee, CSU 173. Fall semester applications must be received by November 22. Funds received must be spent by June 30, 2007. Incomplete or late proposals will not be accepted. Individuals submitting fall proposals will be notified of their grant status by November 29. First time applicants are encouraged to apply. All faculty and staff expecting to be employed through the full grant period of the award are eligible to apply.

In the fall there was a large number of persons who applied for these grants and the commission was able to partially or fully grant moneys to 9 recipients. They are now accepting applications for spring semester.
Senator Anderson-What opportunity will students have to speak
Senator Norton-Why is this not spread out among the groups that are having concerns?
Senator Giese-Because it is the President's Commission on the Status of Women.

Announcements

Senator Carmody-I need the names of some home towns for people for the lobby core. We can set up appointments and you can talk to your legislature.

Senator Ischkin-Cultural Diversity Committee will meet next week.

Cultural Diversity Conference, Feb 16-18. Conference starts Friday-Sunday.

Senator Giese-Ethnic Graduate Organization is rebuilding and will be having a dinner/auction where students/faculty auction off dinners or I could pay for someone to have a buy a dinner. This would be a cool way for the senate to get involved.

Senator Schilling-Bowling at 4:30 tomorrow.

Roll Call

Senators Present

Jessica Kallio, Casey Carmody, Brett Fleck, Nikki Hanna, Katie Ischkin, Kristeen Giese, Oliver Okoye, Murtaza Rajabali, Ryan Anderson, Peter Jennings, Brad Kraus, Kathryn Pase, Evan Trosvik, Jennifer Hansen, Cole Fink, Abbie Hill, Michael Norton, Jason Schilling

Senators Absent

Taitum Thompson, Brandon Ross, Jenna Ault, Kenneth Willaert, Jon Sands, Jon Hurm, Caroline Kornowicz

Executive Staff Present

President Afolayan, Vice President Frederick

Adjournment Meeting adjourned at 7:24 PM

