

Student Allocations Budget Hearing April 18, 2007

Meeting called to order by Speaker Jered Jackson

Roll Call (present-absent-proxy-excused)

Jessica Kallio 27-1-0-1, Casey Carmody 28-0-0-1, Brett Fleck- 28-0-0-1, Nikki Hanna 24-2-0, Brandon Ross 26-3-0, Jenna Ault 28-1-0, Katie Ischkin 22-2-0-1, Kristeen Giese 24-4-0-1, Murtaza Rajabali 10-1-0, Oliver Okoye 25-4-0, Kenneth Willaert 24-1-0, Peter Jennings 26-2-0-1 Ryan Anderson 29-0-0, Brad Kraus 11-2-0, Sanju Nepal 6-2-0, Evan Trosvik 29-0-0, Jennifer Hansen 22-1-0, Jon Sands 23-0-0, Cole Fink 18-0-0, Abbie Hill 11-0-0, Michael Norton 18-0-0, Jon Hurm 25-4-0, Jason Schilling 29-0-0, Caroline Kornowicz 21-8-0
President Gabe Afolayan 29-0-0, Vice President Chris Frederick 29-0-0

Presentation of Appeals

Blue Earth Review-Christina Olson

I appear before you today in order to appeal the recent SAC recommendation that the official campus literary magazine, the *Blue Earth Review*, receive zero dollars in funding for the 2007-2008 academic year.

I became aware of this budget recommendation last Wednesday, at 2 pm. By 2 pm yesterday-six days later-my inbox was flooded with upwards of seventy emails regarding *Blue Earth Review*. Many of these emails are from people I have never met. Two-thirds of these emails come from undergraduate students whose majors' range from English to International Studies to Biology. All of these emails are from people who have read, taught from, submitted to, or been published in, the *Blue Earth Review*. All of these emails ask you to reconsider the SAC budget, particularly its claim that “..*Blue Earth Review* does not serve enough students to warrant student fee dollars.”

In short, these letters ask you, the Senators of MSU Mankato, to save the *Blue Earth Review*.

I have brought you these letters and emails in hopes that you will answer to these student, faculty, alumni, and community members. Also in front of you is a one-page document that gives you *Blue Earth Review* by the numbers. I am sympathetic to your position. I know that funding for student organizations is extremely tight. But to cut this organization entirely hurts more than its six staff members. It affects the twenty-two MSU students whose work is featured in the upcoming issue. It affects the students who submit to the *Blue Earth Review*. It affects the students-current, past, and prospective-who read it. It affects the students who will decide to attend MSU Mankato in part because its campus community features a publication dedicated to publishing the best student work, and it affects those parents who will encourage their children to attend MSU Mankato because the campus supports creativity, writing, and student achievement.

I don't know exactly how many students the *Blue Earth Review* serve, but I know it is far more than any of us realize.

I have managed this organization for two years. In that time my staff and I have done everything we can to promote this organization. We have hosted open readings in the CSU and distributed copies of the *Blue Earth Review* free to all students. We have recruited undergraduates to proofread the issues. We have advertised our undergraduate writing contest, cover photograph contest, and general reading period on flyers posted all over campus, and sent press releases to the MSU homepage regarding our upcoming events. This year we reached a record number of students and made them aware of us. It would be a shame to take this publishing opportunity away from those students in the next year.

I want you to know that *Blue Earth Review* has always considered itself lucky to be a member of this campus. Few literary magazines in the country are supported by student activities committees, and we have always held MSU, Mankato in the highest regard. We appreciate the office space in the CSU you have provided us with, and the financial support. We have tried to repay MSU Mankato in kind; *Blue Earth Review* is proud to use an MSU URL as its official website. We consider it an honor to publish issues with MSU Mankato appearing on the front page, and to have the MSU Mankato banner on our web pages. Because of your funding, we have existed, and we thank you.

Please consider funding *Blue Earth Review* next year. Three thousand dollars from you will permit us to produce another two hundred twenty page issue and distribute it free to MSU Mankato students. Your financial support will give us another year to publish the writers on this campus. In the meantime, we will devise new strategies for generating revenue. We remain grateful for all MSU Mankato has done for us so far, and for what you will choose to do for us next year.

SAC Rebuttal-Chair, Brett Fleck

You have just heard from the Director of the *Blue Earth Review*. Only 600 issues were printed for \$7, 370.00. 22 students were served by those dollars. That is the least amount of students that we fund a line item for. It is not our place to provide a place for them to publish. They were asking for almost \$3,000 more in their budget this year. If they can publish for \$3,000 why were they asking for \$10, 020.00?

Health Services-Wendy Schuh

Psychiatric Services were chosen not to be funded. I feel strongly that this is a student service. We deal with mental health issues day in and day out. We have more and more students on-campus and across the nation dealing with depression, bipolar, with

schizophrenia and they are making it through college. They used to not be able to do that and this is something that we would like to be able to help with. This is about retention and keeping students healthy and in successful in college. This is not a new position. We have had Dr. Farnsworth this past year. We asked for 10 hours this current year which he was not able to give us. He was able to give us five. We have now asked for 10 hours. One half of those hours would be spent doing administrative things working with Res Life, Campus Security, Women's Center, and Sexual Violence Coordinator. The other important piece is to be able to see student patients and that is the portion we are asking for from you. We have secured the \$40,000 from the administrative side. This is on the heels of what happened at Virginia Tech. Having a psychiatrist on campus will not stop any disaster but what it does is affect mental health on campus. I am not just talking about one person. I am talking about all people that witness, friends, family, loved ones. We talked to Dr. Farnsworth about the funding. He told us he has a waiting list to see a psychiatrist. He enjoys working with college students, this is new challenges. He deals with extreme cases and work with departments and students. There are people on campus using prescription ADHD medication as an upper or study drug, it is important to have a psychiatrist on campus to consult on that. One the flip side of that, without a psychiatrist we would have to deal with limited prescribing ability. There are powerful drugs out there that we don't want to deal with in prescribing. The patients he sees are one hour appointments. We have 3 medical doctors and two medical practitioners. One hour appointments compared to 15 minute appointments for 15 weeks times 2 semesters at \$10.00 an hour is 600 hours at about \$6,000 of revenue. If you choose not to fund this I ask you to look at your proposal, \$40,000 was asked for, however, only \$35,000. was asked for from Student Senate. The \$5,000.00 comes from our budget, the Health Services revenue. If you choose not to fund this I ask that you at least add that \$5,000 back into our budget and consider adding \$6,000 that we would lose if the providers have to see those mental health patients. The Dr. has been a very positive experience to our campus.

SAC Rebuttal-Chair, Brett Fleck

This request is to keep the position running. SAC has made a point this year to not continue or have additional funding for positions. We can't afford it. I will not argue the need for a psychiatrist because I think that has been well documented and well stated. That is not the question. If we said we were not going to fund the psychiatrist that is about \$6,000-11,000. This comes from a budget of \$1.3 million. Christine Connolly has said herself the budget can go \$35,000 one way or the other way. To find \$6,000-\$11,000 is not a stretch. We are already funding \$9700. 00 in increases in salaries and rent. Our budget is pretty fair on what we have recommended. Half of this is already funded by M&E. If we can't fund the other half, we can't fund the other half. We have to be fiscally conscious right now. Last year Health Services had a \$93,000 surplus. That is more than

enough to fund this position. Where that money is, I don't know. I guess they already spent it. This budget is as fair as we can make it. It funds things that are absolutely necessary.

International Student Association-Tom Gjersvig

It is an important historical fact that this budget has not grown since 2001. In real dollars this budget has received \$4, 158,00 of over the one million dollars in student fees. If the International Student Office had received in per portion to what it received in 2001-2002 we would have received \$51.159 for this past year. We are being penalized for being so fiscally responsible the last six years. Our budget is only 1% of entire SAF funding. You can also see the growth of the SAF budget going from the \$2,895,941 to the \$3,958,458. We would also like to point out that the title of the account center should read International Center Activities, and that these funds are for global related activities for all students. None of these funds support the immigration service provided by the International Student Office which if funded totally by M&E dollars. This fund is already struggling after last year.

We have been extremely conservative in past performance and we have not requested any new positions. This is a great opportunity to help all MSU students. You can proudly tell your constituents that they deserve this because of previous years underfunding.

Caryn Lindsay-Director of International Programs. We are excited about the combining of our offices into a new international center and what this offers to all MSU students. . The purpose of combining our office was to improve the services of our offices to all students be they from Minnesota, Iowa or Pakistan . This year I have been developing a strategic plan so that you know we are serious about improvements we want to make. The strategic plan is based on a student survey that was conducted and on a faculty survey. We will have new opportunities on campus and overseas. We want to be able to provide low cost study abroad options and also bring more activities to campuses that have an international flavor. We want to work with all the programs on campus, be it history, music, theatre and also student leadership organizations to identify a country we want to focus on. Theater will do a play from a country, films will show a film from that country. I see this as a real collaborative effort. We do not receive any student funding even though it exists to serve you and all students on campus. Consider the new opportunities to increase student global competency and reconsider this request for funding.

Dr. Brenda Flannery-Assistant Vice President of Undergraduate Education and International Education at MSU.

I have here the #1 business book on the market, The World is Flat. There is a chapter in here called "The quiet crisis". It begins with how great our Olympic basketball team was for many years. It was primarily made up of NCAA basketball players. We then sent our NBA stars and then got beat in the Olympics. They got a bronze. This talked about how our power in the international arena is not secure. We are becoming a flat world.

Globalization is the reality and how leaders should look to educating students to a flat world. The reality is we need to have globally competent students. Students need to be comfortable with cultural and diversity. We need support to internationalize the campus so that you don't have to go abroad to have an international experience. We need more programming for domestic students and for all students together to become more globally one.

SAC Rebuttal-Chair, Brett Fleck

This was explained to us as asking for an increase in programming. SAC has taken a position this year to not have increases in programming. Last fall a survey showed that most students do not want an increase in programming and many students want a decrease in funding. This budget allows for an increase of \$2,000. That is to fund necessary graduate assistants. They had an increase last year. We are not shorting anybody but funding what is absolutely necessary in a year of lower revenue. We are not the Federal government. We would love to fund, as was pointed out, the world is going flat and it would be great experience if everyone had global competence. It is not the year to do that. I would support funding in the future. Let's make small increases at a time instead of trying to get it all back at once, especially in a down-turn year in revenue

LGBT-Jessica Flataqual, Program Coordinator.

I am here to appeal to not giving any additional dollars to the LGBT Center. We had asked for an increase of \$9,000 up to \$15,000. I hear and recognize this is that this is not a good year to do that and I sympathize and understand. Right now it is about 3 cents a student that pays for an LGBT Center that was named in the top 100 in the nation. Our increase would be less than 5 cents a student. I think perhaps that a lot of people have the impression that the LGBT Center is a group that is about this one row of students. That is not a fact. Yes, we serve LGBT students. Yes, there are perhaps as many as 2,000 LGBT students, they say we serve 15%. We served about 5,000 students last year that came to our center to check out materials, to interview our students. We went to classrooms for requested teachers. We had programs. We had service learners. I could go on and on. Students come out all the time, or parents, or brothers. We serve the entire campus. We want the campus to be free from homophobia and heterosexism. We want it to be a place

that when you get out in to the work force that you will be able to have the skills to work with an LGBT person. We serve the entire university on \$9,000 a year. I am proud of that. I don't think I have to convince you. I have heard that we are a special interest group for a group of people. I want to address that. I would hope that you that think we are a special interest group, I would hope you would consider every one on your budget as a special interest group in the same way. The word special interest is heard for me to

swallow. Clearly, I am a LGBT person so this is more than just special interest to me. This is my life and it a lot of my students life. This is not about special interests. I respect all forms of diversity and I would never belittle any work that my peers do in other offices. I want you to look at the budget and say, these people are providing services to other departments and they are not maybe where they could be. The LGBT is 30 years old. Last night the LGBT had an awesome celebration. We talked about the last 30 years. It is a cool important legacy. This looks like a giant increase but we are just trying to play catch up after 30 years of being an office. I don't know how else to do this. We want you to try to get us closer to where we should be and think equitable of where we should be. The students that came up here to talk to you were not here about themselves. They are up here because they care about the whole campus. The money does not even really go to them. It goes to the programs that go on for the whole campus. They care so deeply and are so dedicated to that. We need to correct a wrong. We need to look at this in a different eye and try to make it right for us.

SAC Rebuttal-Chair, Brett Fleck

These recommendations are for everyone. There is no personal meaning. We are not questioning any ones merit. It is simply a matter of fiscal responsibility after the students have spoke in surveys and in voting that they want fees held down. That is what we have been told and that is what this budget represents. They are requesting a 5 cent increase. The entire budget increase is 20 cents. They want five cents for one line item. We have stated and stuck to it that we are not doing any new programming this year. That would be irresponsible of us and I would challenge anybody to come up with a good reason for us to go against that. I would also like to bring up that they have not been charging for events. The case has been brought up that they would have lower attendance which I can see but other organizations have dealt with that and continue to. They are only getting \$9,000 from SAC but their real budget is around \$80,000. They are getting funding for personnel from M&E. We are trying to be responsible. Groups are trying to play catch up in a poor year. We are trying to be fiscally responsible and represent the other 13,000 students that are not in this room.

Student Leadership Development & Service Learning-Kelly Meier

11 years ago the Student Association had this very innovative and visionary idea. They created prepaid admissions to build school spirit, school spirit and comprehensive school environment. The best way to do that was to provide access. To provide students a way to go to things without paying for them. They decided that Intercollegiate Athletics and IMPACT were the two areas to target for that agreement. Both organizations were

given a sum of money and asked not to charge. Over the course of years, we have not had an increase in prepaid admissions. We continue to hold events without charging. We are taking a cut each and every year that we do not get an increase in that fee. Our budget continues to decline. We try to be innovative and try to compensate. St. Cloud has over \$300,000 for programming. With this budget, IMPACT is looking at a \$100,000 budget. If we continue to do this we will be left with a shell, not a place that is vibrant and involved. We want to combat apathy. We need to look at sister institutions and the funding situation from that perspective.

Sho Hammond-President of IMPACT. Instead of cutting both of our concerts we ask that you allocate \$20,000 for a major lecture. Lectures like Mo Racca, Mia Angelu. These events were sold out because of they were great names. We turn people away. Speakers bring entertainment, education, diversity. That is what our university is trying to do. We are trying to become diverse and that is what we do with our major speaker.

If we are allocated \$20,000 that is 5 cents per person. I don't know who wouldn't give 5 cents to better this university. Compared to St. Cloud, we have 1/3. We are just asking for what we had before. Flipside provides non-destination events during the day for students to participate in and enjoy college life. We reach so many students. Frost Days, Spring Events weeks. They add to the social atmosphere of campus. We want school spirit all year around, not just at Homecoming. These events add to school spirit. We had 600

students participate just yesterday on the Mall for a Flipside event.

Kelly Meier-Flipside is really critical to us. It reaches a student participation that may not otherwise access programs. Flipside is being cut to fund the RSO/Nontraditional student position. You made an agreement last year to fund that for two years. There was not a caveat that said next year we might take money from IMPACT to fund that. I ask that you give us two years to build that position. That position will take off even more next year. You gave us two years, please don't cut IMPACT in order to fund it.

SAC Rebuttal-Chair, Brett Fleck

They would like \$20,000 for a lecture. We have given them \$30,000 for a lecture specifically a comedian to take place next year. During their budget hearing, these numbers were not available. We are trying to be good students. The Rec vote could have helped our campus image, students did not vote for that. I think we should be known for our academics instead of our programming. They are asking for money for funding of Flipside, which are great events. The Flipside budget was \$12,000 out of a \$514,000 budget. I asked Student Leadership if they could find that \$12,000 in their budget through changing a position or a couple GA's or things like that. We were told we were not funding our allocation in order to fund the RSO position. The face is we are funding the RSO position. We are simply moving money. Would it have looked better if we had

said we don't want to fund Flipside? The \$12,000 could be used better else where in holding down student fees. We are representing all 14,000 students. Yes, this program does reach a lot of students. We are just trying to hold fees in a year we do not have a lot of revenue.

Women's Center

Deidre Rosenfeld

I am interested in providing context for the one time \$15,000 funding request in this proposal and that SAC did not recommend. SAC is a consistent proposal of logic. I want to share my overall enthusiasm for this investment in the process. I have worked on campus since 2000 and I have never seen as consistent and grounded in logic budget. Now, I will tell you why I am about to ask for money that has been consistently denied. LGBT celebrated their 30th year anniversary. In the year 2008 our Women's Center will celebrate our own 30th year anniversary. We are the second oldest Women's Center west of the Mississippi. Campus climate for women matters in real ways. Women still, in the United

States, earn 77 cents for every one dollar men earn in terms of salary. Women tend to do unpaid work in homes, classrooms, offices. Women are expected to contribute different ways. Our 30th year is significant because of all the emotion and news media because things like the massacre at Virginia Tech. It looks like this was a domestic abuse situation

That was neglected because unfortunately violence against women does not seem to be recognized as a crime by law enforcement and institutional settings. When we think of how women experience life in different ways than men often it translates into victimization. When we have an opportunity for celebration in terms of success and pride and growth we should take advantage of that. Our request was for a \$15,000 one time increase, not our intent to double our budget. We want to have a landmark celebration. We want to create programming significant for students. We have roughly \$25,000 each year that the Women's Center spends on students. We have spent \$12,500 this year in programming. When we combine that with co-sponsorships and a tiny bit of ticket sales in revenue we spend about \$40,000. We stretch our bucks and partner in many ways. We would like to double our contribution. We would like to bring significant women to campus, women you have heard of. Of the request the money will be used for printing, marketing, speaker and a couple smaller programs. I will request money from Office of Institutional Diversity. We want to serve students well.

SAC Rebuttal-Chair, Brett Fleck

This falls under new programming. We have been a model for consistency. I don't

doubt the merit of celebrating the Women's Center 30th Anniversary. It falls on a bad year. With lower revenue that we have, it is hard to justify. We are already allowing for contract increases, programming is just something else at the top. It makes sense to stay consistent in lines of our budget. If we were to fund this then we would have to stay in lines of everyone else's budget. We are trying to be responsible with student's money.

Motion

Motion #04.18.07A Senator Anderson/Senator Schilling

Move To: Approve the SAC recommendations for Student Activities FY 08 as a whole, without amendment.

Senator Anderson- I move to approve the SAC Budget Recommendations as a whole because I feel that they are responsive to student demands. This year, more than many others, we have heard the cry from our constituents that we need to fight against the rising costs of college on all fronts while maintaining the utmost quality of education and services. I believe that approving the SAC recommendations as they stand accomplishes this task.

At the state level we, along with our MSUSA, have worked for tuition relief for our students. Although we will not receive a tuition freeze we stand on the cusp of making progress on this issue, potentially receiving a partial tuition relief package from the state for the first time this century. On this level we have done everything we are capable of and seen success.

Earlier in the year we led a successful campaign to keep the free lot complimentary. Despite experiencing resistance from certain committees, the executives along with members of the senate worked diligently to offer alternative plans and make sure administrators knew that students were cost sensitive and cared about keeping the free lot complimentary, thankfully administrators heard us and were responsive. On this level we were advocates for student needs and extremely successful.

Just last week, we approved a student union budget that saw no increases in the per credit rate. Despite the increase of some fixed costs and declining enrollment projections. The Union Board showed tremendous leadership by finding new sources of revenue, and eliminating services that students weren't using. The Union board has succeeded in freezing the student union fee maintaining a high quality facility that we can all be proud of.

We approved another fee last week, I am happy to say the Technology Fee will remain at \$7.00 per credit hour for the next year. The committee charged with this task consisted of MSSA representatives, faculty, administrators and staff faced the same difficulties as the Union board, increased fixed costs and declining enrolled credit hours. However they found a way to keep the fee at seven dollars again. In my opinion, if any committee had to the right to ask for more money, it was technology committee. They were able, through innovative thinking, to maintain an extremely high level of up to date service. The tech fee committee has heard student concerns and come through yet again.

This year's senate also worked to curb the increasing costs of living in the residence halls. Working with the residence hall director, senators and RHA members worked to make recommendations with the goal of either saving student's money, or making sure every dollar they spent is used to its fullest potential. I am proud of the final recommendations that Student Affairs Committee made, and the MSSA passed and hope that once implemented, we will have succeed with this charge.

One of the first issues taken up by the Academic Affairs committee worked on was textbook prices. A decision was made to convene the Textbook Price Containment taskforce, where students, faculty, and bookstore staff would brainstorm ideas to save students money. I am proud to say that we

fought hard, and gained a victory for students. Beginning for Summer session students will be able to go to either Barnes and Noble, or Maverick Bookstore website and find accurate ISBN numbers, so if they wished they could shop and compare prices with on-line resources. This was no small feat, it required a change in corporate policy, however the Textbook Price Workgroup understood students' cost sensitivity and scored them a major victory.

This year's senate has also taken up initiatives in other areas to save students money. We investigated the COB IT fee, discussed the merits of banded tuition, rejected a proposal for Mandatory Health Insurance, adopted reforms for the SAC allocation model among other projects. The central theme of these projects along with others has been to always make sure our constituents tuition and fee dollars are well spent and hold fees down. We must apply these same principals to the SAC Fees and endorse the work of the Student Allocations Committee without amendment

SAC has powered over the budget and found ways to protect programming dollars that students use and has funded all salaries that they are obligated to. This is clearly what students have demanded. A survey of over 1000 students in April of 2006 showed that 55% felt student fee/tuition should be the primary focus of student government. Our own tuition and fees survey conducted in January shows even clearer results. Almost 70% of students agreed that fees need to be allocated to according to student demands and I feel that SAC has accomplished that task.

We need to remember who we are representing when we vote on approving the Activity Fee recommendations. According to the survey these are students who almost two thirds have at least 10,000 dollars of debt. Many of whom have had to take on another job at school, including almost 10% who are working more than 40 hours a week.

It is for the reasons above that I urge we pass the SAC recommendations as a whole. What SAC has done is protecting programming dollars that student use, and eliminated programs that were inefficient. They have centralized homecoming funding in one line item, and still managed to support contract obligations while only raising fees eleven cents per credit hour. I wish to personally thank the Student Allocations Committee and urge the full support of the senate in approving SAC recommendations without amendment.

Senator Schilling-There was a random survey conducted earlier this semester. Only 9% of students said they wanted fees increased for programming. In the same survey 70% of students did not want fees increased. These are percentages I would like everybody to take into consideration as you vote on this motion. Another thing to take into consideration. 56% of students said no to increasing a fee for Campus Rec. This is strong indication that students clearly don't want fees raised. These recommendations are fair to all groups receiving money. That is why I am encouraging everyone to pass this motion and why I am in favor of this motion.

Debate

Senator Giese-To me that we should pass the SAC the budget as recommended. I do understand that students do not want increases, I heard that loud and clear. Yes we should be fiscally responsible and yes, this falls on a bad year. The reality is that we have a responsibility to the students of this campus to make sure that the things that they need are here. We need to have a campus that is preparing for a global world. We need to have opportunities to not only academically succeed but we have had the opportunity to become to leaders on this campus. We did not get that opportunity because there was no money for it. We got that because we did have money for that. We had services. We had money that came from student dollars to make sure we had the opportunity to build leadership skills that

will actually access the education that we receive at this university as well. Without the guidance and opportunities of student leadership my skills would not be what they are. This is about learning but it is also about opportunities and sometimes we don't know what we need.

Senator Norton-In regard to the budget this year and passing it as SAC proposed . If you have the budget in front of you, you will notice that most of the voting that was not unanimous held one or two against the motion. I was on the committee, the votes that were against, wanted less funding. SAC almost without

exception voted to keep funding where it was or cut it because this is not the year to spend money. I can't emphasize the survey enough. The overwhelming majority of students want fees staying where they are or cut at the risk of losing programs. While programming is good and it does serve a certain purpose, the majority of students don't use those programs that all students pay for. It is unfair for all students to pay for programming that they don't use.

Point of Information-Senator Ault-How many people actually took these surveys.

Senator Anderson-It is was over 2,000.

Point of Information-Senator Sands-Wasn't it brought before us that there was a problem with the survey?

Senator Norton-Survey aside, SAC went over this budget at least 5 or 6 hours on Easter night. They went over every line item as much as they could to try to keep as much programming as possible. We did everything we could to be fiscally responsible. Senate needs to look at that today, being fiscally responsible.

Senator Kornowicz-I would like to point out that the surveys don't represent even half of the campus. You can say that 70% of the students but that does even count for the whole population. The results do not represent the majority that we should be reaching out to.

Senator Sands-I respect SAC, but I don't feel we should pass this as a whole because we have organizations and students here showing support. In order to have their voices heard thoroughly we need to hear them out and discuss each line item. We owe it to the student body to sit here and debate this out. In regards to the survey some of my constituents said they were not able to open it up. I brought it up at senate and I was told to copy and paste it. Copy and paste it would not answer my question. I was not allowed to take the survey and I had many friends that were not able to take the survey. Therefore, I don't think the survey we are talking about is legitimate for us to be using. There were problems with it.

Senator Carmody-Students have shown repeatedly that they do not want to pay more for college and things related to college. The reason I know is because of the survey. 2,000 people surveyed is statistically accurate. That is an accurate representation. If you take an analysis class you will see that there are samples and that would be a fair enough one. 70% acknowledging students fees is accurate. Students have seen a 70% increase in tuition in the past six years. Since I have started here, I have seen a thousand dollar increase in tuition. I am frustrated with it and other students are as well. Students were outraged about paying \$20.00 to pay for parking. There were several students at the Parking Advisory Hearing that were upset. I personally spoke at it. Students are tired of having to pay all this money for all these extra things. Campus Rec proposal was turned down 56-44 percent. That is a twelve point difference. That is

huge. Students don't want to pay any more for college than what they have to. They have said time in and time out that this is not something they want increase in. SAC has acknowledged this by their recommendations. Senate should acknowledge this as we represent students and support this motion.

Senator Fleck-I have heard three senators say that because the survey did not represent over 50% of the student body that it was not valid. If that is the case I would like to point out about every survey done in

history because they don't get 50% of any body. The second point I would like to make is that the attitude people are trying to make is that we are approving the 07 budget. It is not, it is a 11 cent increase in student activities fee and 9 cents in the health services fee. This is a 20 cents increase. It is around 2%. We are not just holding this flat. We are allowing for contracted increases. We are not picking anyone over any body else. This is a matter of funding our obligations and being responsible. Senator Hill-I support this motion. If we were to look at all of these appeals, it would be null and void. We would have to give to everyone that asked for increases or it would not be fair. That would be a special interest. We can not support one without supporting it all.

Senator Hansen-A lot of students voted against Campus Rec-that was for a huge increase in tuition. These line items are less than a dollar in increase. Keep that in mind.

Senator Trosvik-Campus Rec was voted down. 80% of the student body utilize Campus Rec more than any of these other programs here today. They have stated that the programs that they don't utilize are not worth it because they don't have the money. They have repeatedly stated that they do not want fee increases that is why I support this motion.

President Afolayan- A lot of the work on senate this year speaks for itself. We have had had information driven decisions, open forums, surveys. Overwhelmingly we are finding a consistent pattern. Students are saying don't increase my fees. SAC has made this decision very simple for us by laying out fiscally responsible recommendations. We have a choice. We could sit here and listen to every one give their two cents and ignore the past 7 months of everyone's feedback. It is not an accident that SAC

made these recommendations. The only thing that should matter is that we are representatives of 14,000 students. We need to support these recommendations as a whole. This is fair and just all across the board. To do otherwise how could you represent the average student and tell them you support their fees going up?

Senator Giese-I again want to say that even though I understand that SAC spent a lot of time and I respect their efforts in making this budget as fair as possible. I want to reiterate that our dedication and our time spent at this university is more than academics. It involves opportunities by the programs offered to give us

a well rounded education and to build on the skills and knowledge we learned in class so that we can implement them in the world. In order to do that we need to support more than a 2% increase in the programming. Costs to provide the programs have increased more than 2%. We need to look at this budget and make it more realistic.

Senator Norton-I want to echo what the President said. It is extremely important to look at how will this affect the entire student body? We can obviously look at what is right for our constituents and friends. We need to look at what is right for every student of the student body. When you place your vote thing of the enormous amount of student that have to work multiple jobs in some cases, just to go to school. I want you to think of raising their fees.

Senator Sands-I understand students don't want fees increased. I still feel that we should be debating each line item. I don't think we should pass this as a whole as there are some line items that people care about and each one of us might want to discuss. It is not fair to pass it as a whole when the students of this campus want us to debate and discuss this. We spend all year to get to this point. We have this set up today for students to come and hear what is going on. We need to discuss this and be fair to the student body and just give up. We would be giving up on the student body if we did not discuss each line item.

Senator Anderson-We are not giving up by passing this as the whole. When I decided to support the SAC motion it was only after a thorough read of the SAC budget books, which were a very exciting read. We need to recognize what is right for all students many of whom graduate with at least an \$18,000 debt. I support this budget to keep costs low.

Senator Fleck-In a budget down turn, do we keep on spending? That is the definition of fiscal responsibility. Do we have the courage to step out and say we are going to be good stewards of student fees or are we just going to increase with the economy? Frankly our student enrollment did not go up with the economy. I don't want to call it giving up. We have been discussing this for a month by having people come in and ask for more money and tell us how they use their money. We have spent many hours looking over this. We have had a lot of input from SAC members and non SAC members and we presented this last week to the senate as well. We are not doing an injustice by not debating this further. There has been ample time and we have been debating it.

Roll Call Vote

Senators Voting Yes

Casey Carmody, Brett Fleck, Nikki Hanna, Brandon Ross, Kenneth Willaert, Ryan Anderson, Peter Jennings, Brad Kraus w/r, Evan Trosvik w/r, Cole Fink, Abbie Hill, Michael Norton w/r, Jason Schilling,

Senator s Voting No

Jessica Kallio, Jenna Ault, Kristeen Giese, Murtaza Rajabali, Oliver Okoye, Sanju Nepal, Jennifer Hansen w/r, Jon Sands-w/r, Caroline Kornowicz

Executive Staff Voting Yes

President Afolayan, Vice President Frederick

Motion #04.18.07A Passes 15 y /9 n

Rights

Senator Kraus-In regards to the passing of the SAC proposal without amendment, I believe the words of our President speak justice for the motion. The reason we have groups like SAC in place is to make fact-based, logical decisions about the budget, as well as the requests given by certain groups. While I myself do not know the entire details of what went on at their meetings for discussion of the budget, I'm sure many undisputed facts that can not be debated. As a student, I pride myself on making decisions based upon sound logic. As studies have shown, the majority of the student body wishes to keep their fees held down, and this fact is further apparent by the 'No' vote that the Rec. proposal received. As a representative of my constituents on the student body, they have echoed to me that this is their exact feeling. In line with that, I do not feel that I would be acting in the best interests of my fellow students if I did not commend their logical work done by the members of SAC. With that, I gave my vote of 'yes' to this motion.

Senator Trosvik- It is my firm belief that money allocated as student fees are ill spent and unnecessary. In a survey done by the 74th MSSA, 70% of students indicated that they wanted fees to stay the same or be reduced. I supported the SAC recommendation knowing that there would be no feasible way to reduce the fee as the majority of the student body desires.

Blue Earth Review

SAC recommends no SAF funding for 2007-08

Campus Recreation

SAC recommends a 2007-08 subsidy of \$332,505

Campus Recreation Equipment Depreciation Fund

SAC recommends a 2007-08 subsidy of \$5,000

Ethnic Student Activities

SAC recommends a 2007-08 subsidy of \$35,574

Forensics

SAC recommends a 2007-08 subsidy of \$25,474

Health Services

SAC recommends a 2007-08 subsidy of \$1,300,835

Health Service Depreciation Fund

No request

Homecoming 2007

SAC recommends a 2007-08 one-time subsidy of \$42,500

Intercollegiate Athletics

SAC recommends a 2007-08 subsidy of \$1,088,540

Represents base funding of \$1,068,040 and one time of \$20,500

International Students

SAC recommends a 2007-08 subsidy of \$43,775

LGBT

SAC recommends a 2007-08 subsidy of \$9,000

Music Ensembles

SAC recommends a 2007-08 subsidy of \$76,500

Music Performance Series

SAC recommends no 2007-08 funding

Non-budgeted Fund Requests

SAC recommends allocating \$39,500

Note: Funds used for Supplemental Program, Homecoming and RSO Travel/Programming requests

Non Traditional Students

SAC recommends a 2007-08 subsidy of \$21,057

Repertory Dance

SAC recommends a 2007-08 subsidy of \$5,000

Reporter

SAC recommends a 2007-08 subsidy of \$75,800

Reporter Depreciation Fund

SAC recommends no 2007-08 funding

SAF Administration

SAC recommends a 2007-08 subsidy of \$197,285

Student Leadership Development & Service-Learning

SAC recommends a 2007-08 subsidy of \$514,543

Represents base funding of \$488,992 and one-time \$25,551 (RSO/Non-Traditional Position 2nd of 2 years)

SOAFC(Student Organizations)

See non-budgeted narrative

Student Senate

SAC recommends a 2007-08 subsidy of \$85,369

Theatre

SAC recommends a 2007-08 subsidy of \$78,000

Women's Center

SAC recommends a 2007-08 subsidy of \$33,114

FY'08 SAF Salary Adjustments

SAC recommends a 2007-08 subsidy of \$48,500

Approval of SAC Budget as a Whole
SAC Budget Approved

Roll Call

Senators Present

Jessica Kallio, Casey Carmody, Brett Fleck, Nikki Hanna, Brandon Ross, Jenna Ault, Kristeen Giese, Murtaza Rajabali, Oliver Okoye, Kenneth Willaert, Ryan Anderson, Peter Jennings, Brad Kraus, Sanju Nepal, Evan Trosvik, Jennifer Hansen, Jon Sands, Cole Fink, Abbie Hill, Michael Norton, Jason Schilling, Caroline Kornowicz

Senators Absent

Katie Ischkin, Jon Hurm

Executive Staff Present

President Gabe Afolayan, Vice President Chris Frederick

Adjournment Meeting adjourned at **4:30**