

74th MSSA Senate February 21, 2007

74th Senate called to order Speaker Jered Jackson

Roll Call (present-absent-proxy-excused)

Jessica Kallio 20-1-0-1, Taitum Thompson 12-9-0-1, Casey Carmody 21-0-0-1, Brett Fleck- 21-0-0-1, Nikki Hanna 18-0-0, Brandon Ross 19-3-0, Jenna Ault 21-1-0, Katie Ischkin 16-1-0-1, Kristeen Giese 19-2-0-1, Murtaza Rajabali 4-0-0, Oliver Okoye 18-4-0, Kenneth Willaert 17-1-0, Peter Jennings 21-1-0, Ryan Anderson 22-0-0, Brad Kraus 5-1-0, Kathryn Pase 20-1-1, Evan Trosvik 22-0-0, Jennifer Hansen 15-1-0, Jon Sands 16-0-0, Cole Fink 11-0-0, Abbie Hill 4-0-0, Michael Norton 11-0-0, Allan Gould 20-2-0, Jon Hurm 20-2-0, Jason Schilling 22-0-0, Caroline Kornowicz 18-4-0
President Gabe Afolayan 22-0-0, Vice President Chris Frederick 22-0-0

Open Forum

Andrew Willmert -Club Baseball. I am here based on the Outdoor Recreation improvements. We are here to talk about the fields and why we need new facilities. For Club Baseball we don't really have any where to practice so we go around to school fields, softball fields, anywhere we can. We even go to a little park by the fire station that says "absolutely no baseball". It is embarrassing to get kicked off a field when we don't have anywhere to practice and we can't make ourselves better. We as students do participate in intramural softball, many teams participate. They run out of times for the teams because of no lights. The fields are close together and the ball goes in the next field. Everyone is running into different fields. This is a safety hazard. Something needs to be done for outdoor recreation.

Ben MacLean-President of Club Lacrosse Team-We are one of the lucky teams that does have a field. A subpar field at best. There are pot holes in it and we have to seed it every year. The entire playing surface is uneven. We get complaints from other teams that come in to play. Parts of the field run on to the outside dirt road. This is a safety hazard. We are next to the softball fields, during games the lacrosse balls go on to the softball fields and the softballs come into our playing field. This causes stoppage in games and this could cause injuries. That is why we would like new fields. During the winter months we don't have any where to practice. We try to get indoor times. In the proposal we are trying to get field turf on the football field and a bubble so that more teams could utilize that space. In doors we practice in Myers fieldhouse. We have numerous rolled ankle injuries. We can't even use regulation Lacrosse balls because of possible damage to the facilities. This makes it difficult to run organized practice.

Graham Johnson-Rugby-We have now been moved to the inside of the outdoor track. This is a sham for a field. When we got moved onto it there were stone, twigs and debris everywhere. The pot holes are 6-10 inches deep. Clearing the field has been a mission in itself. It is basically dangerous for as much of a contact sport as Rugby is. We got moved to a much less field than we had and even that was not great.

Andrew-When we started as a club we had to practice from 11-1 in the morning on Fridays and Saturdays. This is a bad time when you are trying to be competitive with other universities. That is why the bubble is so important for a team like ours. You are going to get a motion today from the Election Committee to throw out our petition for the referendum. This motion was made because 81 of the 324 names had left off their e-mail addresses. Article 10 Section 1 of the MSSA Constitution is to out line the required information and validation for signatures on a petition. I have documentation certified from the Registrar's Office that 347 students are currently enrolled at MSU are in support of this petition. With this information you should not throw out the petition but let the students vote on the proposal. We feel the senate has done a good job of representing the students. We urge you to hear the voices of the students as the petition exceeds the requirements of the MSSA constitution. This is a validation from the Registrar Office. (presented to Speaker Jackson)

Andrew-Next Wed. we have scheduled an Open Forum from 10:00 AM-4:00 PM in the CSU

lover level. We will have up to date information and drawings and maps and students can ask questions. We want more student feedback so we will know what students want or if they just want parts of it so we can firm up the whole proposal.

Lacrosse Player-I coach in the cities, all the high schools have dome and turf facilities. Students play on good fields and come here and play on poor fields.

Andrew-We would like to keep the process moving. We would like to get together and firm up the process and take a vote this spring. We want to firm up the logistics. The students that signed the proposal were presented with this whole proposal. They all wanted a vote to say whether they wanted it or not.

Lacrosse Player-With the girl's soccer fields right next to us, they get upset when our balls go through the fence.

Senator Schilling-How much is the proposal for? How much do the club sport teams contribute?

Andrew-The proposal is a little over \$14,000 million. This would be for the overall student population. As of now the way, President Davenport proposed it, we would pay about \$140.00 a year. If enrollment is increased it would be less.

Ben-This will not just impact club sports, but all intramurals, recreation sports fields in general Every student on campus that is enrolled is eligible to participate, not just the club sports.

Senator Carmody-70% of students surveyed said they did not want to pay any extra in fees.

What is your selling point to other students ? Why should we increase fees?

Andrew-There was a study done last year by the recreation department, 47% did not support all renovation and paying for the entire thing, 68% did think we should upgrade the facilities.

Senator Carmody-How do you justify to other students that this is good for the university, as a student to another student?

Andrew-This is an opportunity for them to get active. With the bubble, the opportunities will be greater to enjoy the university as a whole.

Graham-For perspective students, if we have quality fields, Rugby is a growing sport. The schools that are doing well are the U of M, St. Cloud. They all have better facilities then we do for Rugby. Students are going to these schools to play Rugby. Better facilities will get more people wanting to come to the university. It increases the stature of the school in how we appear to the public.

Ben-On a student to student basis, this is an opportunity for campus rec to increase rec sports that will provide opportunities for more campus involvement. Right now there is just flag football and softball and with the new facilities and fields there will be much opportunities for people to participate in things they are interested in, not just what we have now.

Graham-This will free up the fieldhouse for students that just want to play. Now there is a club there and they have to leave. If we know we have space we will not interfere with other people's space.

Senator Anderson-Was the Rugby team consulted at all when Res Life decided to put the new dorm where you played ?

Graham-We were told we would get a new field. We just got moved.

Senator Giese-You mentioned this as an opportunity for all students, how will this be governed? Who gets to use the fields and when?

Graham-The Rugby Team will have its own field so we will not interfere with anybody on other fields. We will have our own field for practice.

Andrew-I think that Todd does a good job of scheduling. This would allow clubs to go somewhere else and free up space for other students like volleyball or soccer or some other sport.

Senator Giese-If a non-traditional group wanted to have a family rugby day, would the field ever be available?

Graham-Yes, we practice for two hours a day and then the field is open. We have the girls and guys teams and we alternate days. We only have a few home games a year. Weekends those fields would be free. We would have to work together.

Ben-If a non-traditional group came to us and said they wanted to have a lacrosse day, we would be more than happy to accommodate them. We would let them use our field, our equipment. We

are always looking for ways to involve people in our sport. We have helped with high school teams and coached them. We would want to do that for anyone.

Senator Norton-Seeing there is such little support from the student body as a whole for the project, are any of the club teams doing anything to fundraise to help fund this project?

Andrew-Personally for club baseball, we have been fundraising all year at the Metrodome . We have raised about \$4700. It is tough to get people up there because they have classes and jobs but we have raised \$4700.00 for our team, not for this project. But that is not to say we would not want to try but with scheduling I don't see it really happening.

Ben-I don't know if every student was informed fully, maybe they just saw that your tuition is going to be raised and they don't know how much. We are only talking \$65.00 a semester per student. With the proposed increase in enrollment by Dr. Davenport, it would even decrease the amount to fund this renovation. I am not sure the student body was informed. If this was put to a vote we would increase our efforts to inform every student on campus to let them know what we are funding, not just to raise their tuition. As far as getting club sports to raise money and spend time away from whatever else they have going, we have brought almost all of our team to come here to show support and take a few hours out of their day. I don't think it would be out of the question to fundraise. I don't know if the student body was fully informed when the survey took place.

Todd Pfingsten-On the survey last spring the level of student support 53% said no, 47% said yes, 25% of all that responded said they would be willing to pay \$40.00 per semester. Keep in mind 47% said they would be willing to pay something and that was up to \$100.00 per semester, 4% said they would be willing to pay \$90-100.00 for something like this. Almost 1,000 people responded to that survey at that time.

Senator Norton-So a quarter of the students said they would pay for half of what you are asking?

Todd Pfingsten-That would be a breakdown of \$30-40 a semester, \$40-50 a semester – 8%. \$50-60.00 per semester-7% of respondents. \$60-70.00-3%. \$80.00-1% and \$90-100.00 per semester was 4%.

Senator Ross-Do you think it is legitimate to say if we raised intramural prices for every sport and club prices for every sport that it would be feasible to tell them that is something they are doing extra to pay for this project and get it passed?

Graham-The students on the team would be paying more than anyone else?

Andrew-I don't think that is out of the question but how long do you think it would take to raise that kind of money?

Senator Gould-Is it fair to say in your expert opinion that it is a large time commitment to be on a sport team and you are not sponsored or getting one penny or the preferential treatment and funding from the school? Do you think it is fair to say that you want the student body to vote rather than the 25 students in this room?

Andrew-I think the student body should vote and say what they want. I don't see a problem of sending it to the student body and hearing them say what they really want.

Senator Giese-Who will own the fields, will they belong to the rugby club?

Andrew-It will be universal. The dimensions will be set up for an individual sport. But if the general students want to go play on the rugby field and it is open, they could go ahead and do it.

Todd-If we were to bring a team in and we needed extra fields we would go to other fields and line them and do whatever we needed.

Senator Anderson-Where you aware that tuition has gone up 67% in the last six years?

Andrew-Yes.

Senator Anderson-How does that affect you?

Andrew-Obviously, a lot. Anyway you look at it 67% is 67% and more than we paid before. It will affect us and regardless fees are going to go up and we might as well be having it do something that we want or some of us want.

Ben-The new dorm facilities is coming out of tuition and fees. I don't remember anyone asked me how I felt about that. We are not saying we are going to raise fees we are just asking you guys to put this to a vote. We want to say if there is a fee behind this would you support it?

Graham-More students will come here specifically if we have good facilities and it will bring more money in because of the sports available.

Senator Hurm-If someone, say the baseball team wanted to use a field would they come to you about renting it for an hour or get it reserved or would they just be open? Would they be scheduled like the current fields are where they are time slots and you have to come in and ask to get it reserved? Would you be in charge of that or would athletics be?

Todd-Yes, I would do the scheduling so that you could be guaranteed a space for a special day. You would come to me and we would get that facility scheduled. Yes we would have to have priority scheduling. We will have Athletics, sports clubs, intramurals and other sports clubs, and academic classes to work around.

Senator Afolayan-Clearly the project that you are pushing has more to it than you have mentioned like the track, field turf, the bubble. You are advocating for \$4 million for the lacrosse, rugby, baseball, field turf and bubble. How do you advocate for the other \$10 million? Or why aren't you asking for the other two thirds?

Andrew-There are lights on the two softball fields, it has to do with redoing the outdoor track. Other students would benefit from those things but this is what we are lobbying for.

President Afolayan-It seems what you are lobbying for is not central to the proposal.

Why are you not advocating for the rest?

Andrew-We are talking about what benefits us individually.

Graham-I am talking about Rugby, and that is how my interest will be spent because it is good for the school but there are many things that other students could use even if they don't participate in rugby. My selling point are the items that will benefit my club but other selling points will benefit everyone.

Andres-We are just the club teams and how they benefit us individually. There are things that will be used by other athletic teams like the track and women's soccer.

President Afolayan-Would it be fair for me to assume that what you are talking about today would be the highest priority?

Andrew-To us but other students have other priorities and needs.

Todd-We have not talked about slow pitch softball and flag football fields. Upwards of 2,000 students will play softball here in the spring. We have 1200 flag football players. Tennis courts would be good to bring tennis back to campus. We don't have enough tennis courts for the recreational needs of our participants. The track has been condemned for many years. We don't have intramural track meets, We don't have places for students to run around other than sidewalks. The track team practices at Mankato West and can never host a meet at home. Flag football could use Blakslee, the myth is that it is only for athletics. Campus Rec will benefit far more than Athletics because we will have more time and space. Regarding the bubble. We will benefit from not having to play in Myers fieldhouse. At St. Cloud State their open rec in the bubble is running all the time for clubs and fitness. We have two practice football fields but the University is paying to upgrade those. The student body will not be paying for those?

Senator Willaert-If there is priority scheduling-should those groups pay a higher fee for this?

Andrew-I think to pay a higher fee to play our sport is outrageous. I think we are paying an adequate amount.

Graham-As for rugby, no one else would play where we do now. This would benefit everyone. Increasing our fees a little bit would not help that funding that much.

Andrew-If our fees are increased we would have to ask for more from the university to play our sports. We have to pay for uniforms, equipment. We have to pay officials. This all adds up. We already do a good chunk of fundraising.

Todd-Raising dues to support clubs or intramural teams, currently teams pay \$60.00 a team to play intramural flag football, softball, and those kind of things. Clubs also pay dues. Could we generate more dollars? We could but it would go to paying for field improvements, construction costs.

Senator Ischkin-Don't you think it is outrageous to say that students that don't participate should pay student fees for your club?

Andrew-That is why we want to take it to a vote. We want the students to tell us.

Ben-There is a lot of opportunity for students to get active. For people that don't use the fields they can benefit from classes such as tennis or aerobics.. Everyone has the opportunity to play in club sports. We are not the only benefactors. There are no tryouts. Everyone can be on a team.

Senator Kornowitz-What do the individual teams pay for their fees?

Andrew-Baseball pays about \$200.00 a year

Graham-We pay \$65 a semester. We just ask for what we spend. We pay more to go to tournaments.

Ben-We charge \$400.00 per semester. You also have to buy equipment that matches team rules. It is hard to get people to play at that price. If you ask us to pay more, it gets difficult to pay more than that.

Todd-There are over 2500 students playing intramural sports, not counting sand volleyball, tennis, Frisbee, things like that. The reason the institution is paying for the practice fields is because they are a liability. It is just a matter of time before they come to Campus Rec and say those are in worse condition than the other facilities. Then we will have to take other things off line and we won't have facilities for intramural sports and club teams. That is unfair to the general student body.

Senator Schilling-Did you know only students that are the primary user of the dorms are paying for the construction?

President Afolayan-In regards to the Constitutional reference regarding the wording in the petition, how do you interpret the language of the petition? The petition signers are asking the MSSA to finalize the project so if we put in only the tennis courts is that what you are asking for?

Andrew-The people that signed were shown the entire proposal and told that is what would be going on, but any less than that has not been determined. When students signed the petition they signed it having seen the entire proposal. 250 signed the entire thing. Whether or not it is all or some, they did not care. They just wanted it to go to a vote.

President Afolayan-Do you think it would be fair to say those actions should have preceded a Petition that is ambiguous and vague?

Andrew-Possibly but they signed this saying they would like a vote on what is on the board right now. They want it to go to a vote.

Senator Ross-In light of the survey and since you pay so much now do you think some Fundraising would be a legitimate point to get this passed easier by us and the student body?

Andrew-We could look at that, but we are just asking that this goes to the student body for a vote. This is not whether or not we pass this now.

Todd-Student Leadership said last year that we needed to look at funding, state appropriations, private funding. What came back was state appropriations are being used on Trafton and Allied Health. When we met with city officials and the school districts and other colleges they said they were not interested in funding, but they said they would be interested in renting.

Senator Anderson-Do you think a student fee is the fairest way to right these wrongs?

Graham-We were told we would only be there a while until a new field could be built. We were told this was in the works. I think something needs to be done about that.

Todd-We temporarily moved them in hopes that a new field could be built.

Senator Anderson-Why do you think the track has not been taken care of in all the years since you were a student here?

Todd-I can't answer that question. I can tell you today I am not afraid to push for things to be up to par for students.

Senator Sands-Where was the petition done?

Andrew-At the men's and women's basketball games on Thursday Jan. 27. It was also done on a Tuesday, Thursday & Saturday night and at a hockey game.

Senator Sands-Why did you not do this in the CSU?

Andrew-That was an option but for us to go for 700 signatures would be ridiculous when you asked for 250. That is what you wanted and we did that.

Todd-That is a good point but we do get a lot of non participants at basketball and hockey.

Senator Ischkin-Do you think it is fair that Athletics and academics uses the fields without contributing?

Todd-Yes I do. You as students did not pay for the Rec Center and it is used every day.

We said there would not be a user fee attached to that or a debt service. Why do we charge academics to use an outdoor space when we don't charge for an indoor space?

Senator Carmody-As you were saying Rugby was promised a field? What will Rugby do if this is not passed? What will the Rugby team do so they get some type of field?

Graham-I am worried about that. We need a field. I don't know what can be done. So this is what we are pursuing right now to get the field.

Todd-We will have to do work to that field and it will not be a safe space.

Senator Norton-In the petition the words seem vague, would you as the group be satisfied if that was the reason we rejected the referendum?

Andrew-No, not at all. The people were presented with this. They signed the petition saying they wanted to vote whether or not this would be the plan. We did not go through it and say We need this or that. The bottom line is there are 250 signatures saying they want to vote.

Todd-We have had representation from student leadership on the committee. The presented it this way, we don't know if the students are interested in paying for everything and could we pick and chose which pieces ala carte. I presented to Student Senate and did not get any feedback.

We have asked for options, what if we don't fund the bubble or the field turf. What does that mean in reduced student fees? There has been an opportunity for students to provide feedback. We want that. That is why we are going to open forum next week to try and frame that and give a little more detail about what options on the referendum might say. If you are going to pay for the facilities if it goes to referendum. We want you to provide us with options to reduce student fees. Do we want all or none or negotiables.

Vice President Frederick-Obviously the proposals were at the games but was the information given to the students about the breakdown of the costs or were the proposals just thrown out there?

Ben-We answered questions to the best of our ability. Most students did not even ask about break down of costs.

Todd-Our web site does tell all that information and we directed them to that.

Senator Anderson-Point of information-isn't it that the university pays 1/6 of the debt service on all state bonded projects?

Vice President Swatfager-Haney- I honestly don't have that information.

Senator Anderson-That is how it was explained yesterday. So the characterization that we pay nothing on some projects that the state pays for is incorrect.

Senator Kallio-We are talking about unsafe fields and they are not being repaired. We would not allow our football team to play on a field that is unsafe. Who decides what is safe or not safe?

Todd-Facilities Management. The softball fields running together is beyond their control.

President Afolayan-All of you took the time to come here and you are who we represent. You kind of have to see the perspective. We are not looking at it antagonistically. We are talking about 14.6 million. The numbers being thrown around represent all 14,000 students. We have to make decisions and get information and use it in the best interests of 14,000 students. We understand you have special interests in lacrosse, rugby, club baseball. We have to take a lot take of other information in to account. We did a student survey last fall to find out what level of student fees students were interested in. We even tried to find out what students knew about the outdoor facilities Most of them didn't even know what the current conditions were. We just finished a tuition and fees survey. Approximately 70% of our students don't feel tuition or fees should be raised for any reason, even if it is for a legitimate reason. So we have to realize that tuition has increased 67% over the last seven years. It is our mission and values to keep education affordable. We have to look at a broad scope of things. The reason I started asking questions about the petition is because when you are throwing a figure out \$130 could be nothing to some students but it could mean tomorrows meals for students that are struggling to get by here. And so we can not take any figures lightly. It is very incumbent upon this body

to make sure any increase of fee is absolutely need and very well justified. Obviously, many students will be for this and many against it but we have to get all the knowledge out of everybody and get a fair perspective.. I just wanted to make sure you were not feeling antagonized on my behalf. We appreciate you coming out here and voicing your concerns. Hopefully we can get out to more students, it is an important issue and the steps we take from now on will be in the best interests of 14,000 students.

Approval of Agenda Agenda approved

Presentations

Kevin Buisman-Athletic Director

MSU Student-Athlete Drug and Alcohol Education & Testing Program (see written documentation on file) The entire policy is about 25 pages. I gave this to Gabe and Chris and they reviewed it on behalf of MSSA and felt it was something worthy of a student consultation process.

We as an Athletic Department have been working on this since last July kind of at the encouragement of the North Central Conference and the NCAA. We are looking at trying to be proactive in what is becoming somewhat of a national issue with problems with misuse of performance enhancing drugs, illegal drugs, alcohol and those type of things that have clouded the image of both college athletics, professional sport and even at the high school level. There was an issue very close to us at the University of WI-Stout where a steroid issue was uncovered in the last couple weeks. This led to the arrest of several athletes and the dismissal of some coaches in their program. It tarnished the record of not only the Athletic Program but the entire university. We want to head off those kind of things by putting a testing program in place that I explained in the document. I really don't think we have a pervasive problem within the MSU Athletic Department. We are just at the recommendation of the NCAA and the National Center for Drug Free Sports and we are trying to take a proactive stance to begin testing our student athletes. The program is a random testing program that all current 600 athletes will be subject to. We will test on an on-going year around basis. We are at the stage now where our policy has been written and we have had consultation with our student athletic advisory organization and several support services like Counseling on campus. It has been reviewed internally by Administration and externally by the State Attorney General. We are at the point now where we would like to bring forward closure and move forward with the implementation of this policy. Senator Schilling-How much would it cost to implement this?

Director Buisman-There were some fixed cost and some variable start up costs that included drafting . We took that on ourselves. We worked very closely with the University of Minnesota that has a drug testing program in place. We have gotten proposed policies to avoid some costs which would have been about \$800.00. Some funding could come from the National Center for Drug Free Sport. Currently we are trying to keep things in house and defer to professionals on campus. Some estimates of education programming if we went off campus like the NCAA could be about \$800 a session plus travel. We are currently set up to do education with our own university resources. There is a testing panel that is a turn key operation in the Twin Cities that would come and test for performance and enhancing drugs, and street drugs. It is roughly about \$40-65.00 per test and we would be looking at 10-15 athletes to get a random sample per interval.

Senator Fink-Do you think the tobacco policy could be correctly monitored with the Baseball Team?

Director Buisman-That is a sport where obviously there is tobacco use. The NCAA has cracked down. It wouldn't just be specific to our policy. It is an NCAA policy and we are to monitor and enforce the NCAA policy. That calls for no tobacco use during competition. It is enforced by game officials and game management. If coaches and athletes are in violation it is incumbent on the university to enforce that.

Senator Fink-Does that count in travel to games?

Director Buisman-The specific NCAA requirements are specific to practice and competition. There are legal requirements about purchasing and we could look into that. We don't condone it. We make that clear to our coaches and student athletes. I don't think usage on their own time would be illegal. We could become more restrictive but it would obviously be very challenging to regulate.

Senator Trosvik-Would every athlete be tested or randomly at a given point of time?

Director Buisman-It is randomly selected. We would turn over the roster to the testing agency. We don't have the means to have control over the selection. We can randomize it on several different basis and say we want to test fall sports or those going into a championship. We can say we want to randomly drug test the basketball program. No all members would be subject to the testing. The Drug Free Sport would randomly select from the 13 members of the basketball roster.

Senator Giese-My question pertains to the implementation? What types of training for the purpose giving the test?

Director Buisman-That is done by an outside agency. They are licensed and trained by the National Testing of Drug Free Sport. There are an incredible amount of protocols. They have a 32 step protocol. It is very highly organized.

Senator Fleck-How effective can a random drug testing be? Obviously the Women's Bowling Team is not as susceptible as say football. How would that be truly random?

Director Buisman-There are several methods of screening. We can not just have an unsubstantiated coach coming in and saying Bobby is on drugs, he only scored two point last night. They have to fill out reasonable suspension form. It has to be validated. There are protections of students rights. We have to have something substantiated of our reasonable suspension. We can elect to take information and randomize and focus in on a sport team where there may be a problem.

President Afolayan-I noticed there is a policy on team rules, With 23 programs, how can you make sure that is standard for all teams.

Director Buisman-Currently each sport has a team handbook. They can be more but not less restrictive then the Athletic Dept. It does have to be monitored to make sure they are fairly consistent. If someone is arrested for an open container downtown and one team gives a slap on the hand and one suspends play for two games, that creates inconsistencies and we are looking at an overall standardized policy instead of team by team policies.

Senator Trosvik-Are you proposing this be a university policy or is this specific to athletics?

Director Buisman- It is specific for student athletics. It is not being proposed as a university policy or that of all students.

Senator Giese-Is there any substance screening in place right now?

Director Buisman-Only what is mandated by the NCAA. Our student athletes have to sign a consent form that says they would subject themselves to championship drug testing if they qualify for a championship. They sign a consent form at the beginning of the year saying They are subject to drug testing only for performance enhancing drugs, not street drugs. That is the only thing in place. It would encompass only a small fraction of our athletes.

I am on the NCAA Division II football committee, we only test 10 athletes per team on 5 rounds It is only a small portion of athletes that is now being screened for performance enhancing drugs. Through the NCAA drug program.

Senator Giese-How do the athletes feel about the changes?

Director Buisman-The athletes see the virtue of taking a proactive approach and demonstrating their willingness to subject themselves and say we don't have anything to hide. They are seeing this as something positive that can cleanse the perception society is painting of sport. This as going on at other schools and it is our opportunity to protect the reputation and integrity of the university, the athletic department and our student athletes.

Senator Fleck-Can you explain how the Safe Harbor works. I see that if an athlete on drugs comes in discloses they are not subject to sanctions. How does the voluntary disclosure work.?

Director Buisman-We are trying to create an opportunity where somebody is not dissuaded from saying they have a drug problem and will have all the sanctions and maybe forfeiting their

scholarship and losing ability to participate. This offers them opportunity to come forward and get help without all the sanctions and forfeiting their scholarships and those type of things. They are withdrawn from competition and practice while they are in counseling. The advantage is it would not count as a first strike unless they continue to use while in Safe Harbor. If they continue to use then it could count as two strikes. They are only protected to a certain degree. It is in a sense of trying to get them to come forward voluntarily instead of saying the consequences are to dire so I will risk it and hope I don't get tested.

President Afolayan-In regards to student rights and responsibility ,how would that apply?

Director Buisman-In regard to potential discipline-that is written into several parts of the policy. Whatever sanctions they are subject to regarding team policy they are also subject to the university policies specific to drinking and drugs and other disciplinary actions due to their own actions.

Approval of Minutes 02-14-07 Minutes stand approved

Committee Reports

Election Committee – Mike Bruner

The Elections Committee met last night and we elected a chair, myself. Senator Norton is the Secretary. Also on the committee is Senator Ault and Senator Fink and two other members, James Dye and Garret Grace. We discussed election procedures. The Election Committee sets the guidelines for the elections coming up. We will be giving you updates. We discussed the student referendum. The issue is not whether a referendum should or should not take place. It is clear the student body wants a referendum. There are many ways a referendum can take place, you as a student body can say you want a referendum. President Afolayan can say he wants a referendum. If the university president, Dr. Davenport says he want a referendum, we can have a referendum. Also if 250 students sign a petition we can have a referendum. In the petition given to us it is quite clear 250 people gave names, signature and addresses, emails are perfectly cored. But it is quite clear hear that 80 people did not give their addresses. I have been here for the whole time of the Open Forum. I saw a packet of papers given to the Speaker, we never got them. Right here we have a whole sheet of paper with no addresses. So as a petition this is great. It shows clearly that the student body would like a referendum. However, our constitution is clear that it requires 250 addresses and signatures to hold a referendum. This petition has 243 signatures that are valid. Secondly, the Election Committee understand the implications of our goal. After hearing that does any one in this room know what the referendum would say? The answer is no. I ask you who is to decide what the referendum will say. The students that signed it asking for a referendum, student senate or maybe the students from Campus Rec behind closed doors. It is clear to the Elections Committee that is not the route to take. So for all those reasons above is why you have the motion in front of you.

Senator Trosvik-What is the purpose of the constitution asking for the name and address?

Chair Bruner-I don't want to speak for the people that formed the constitution but it seems to me that the purpose was to make sure it is a valid student.

Senator Trosvik-How would you respond that the Registrar's Office did validate that there are over 250 valid students?

Chair Bruner-We were not given that. The Election Committee was given a petition of 243 valid signatures.

Senator Trosvik-So technically could one say the Election Committee did not care for student signatures as information was provided for them to figure out if that person was a student or not?

Chair Bruner-Absolutely no. It is not up to the Election Committee to validate that all the students have an email address. We are talking about a constitutional referendum. The petition did not have the required number.

Senator Hurm-Does the petition have the tech ids?

Chair Brunner-I am not sure. Maybe 5-10 didn't.

Senator Hurm-You could have used the tech ids and verified that they were students, is that correct?

Senator Norton-Would it be a fair assumption that if the referendum had come forward with All the constitutional requirements and had not been vague in the point of the referendum that the Election Committee would have rejected that?

Chair Bruner-Absolutely not. It is up to the Election Committee to put what we want on the ballot. It is not fair to the students that did sign this to put up a proposal that they did not sign on to.

Senator Ross-Does the Election Committee have to abide by the constitution?

Senator Fink-If this were changed so it was clear, it could go to a vote?

Chair Bruner-Absolutely, I want to reiterate that it is only February. If they had proof it could go to a ballot?

Senator Fleck-If the group came back with proof that they had 250 signatures would it go to a vote.

Chair Brunner-If they had 250 valid signatures and proof, absolutely.

Legislative Affairs – Ryan Anderson

Rally Day

I was very happy with how Rally Day went last week. Thanks again to all those who attended. I would like to thank Casey for taking the lead on this project and doing a great job. Rally day received coverage on every major newscast and got good coverage in the written press. Steve Frantz from MNSCU was even in attendance.

IFO Lobbying

Members of the faculty association will be leaving today for their lobbying trip. I met with Clark Johnson, government relations director for our local IFO, and analyzed the political climate relating to higher education. We agreed that public recognition and sympathy for the plight of higher education, specifically MNSCU schools, is more prevalent than anytime in recent memory. However we both share the concern that newly elected legislators will be afraid to raise taxes or shift spending from other programs to get the funding that our groups are requesting. The IFO's main talking point will be requesting the legislature fund the money for inflation that was not included in the Governor's budget request.

Chancellor's Legislative Briefing

I attended the chancellor's legislative briefing yesterday. This was put on by representatives from the MNSCU office and outlined what our system is asking for, what the governor is proposing, and how MNSCU intends to get its requests. The main difference is inflation budgeting, at a 3.25 percent increase, MNSCU asks for 57 million dollars, the Governor's office allocates 0 dollars. On technology improvements, the governor's office allocates 10 million less than the 70 million requested. This sum, the largest part of MNSCU's request, would fund seventy new positions, the majority of which would be located in the Chancellor's office. I was told that students would be able to see results in better registration programs, bill pay, DARS, and upload/downloading capabilities and tighter security.

MNSCU takes a three prong approach when proposing a budget. They plan on revenue for new programs from state appropriations, tuition increases, and the reallocation of existing resources. The presenter reiterated MNSCU's support of the infamous statute 135a supporting the 2/3, 1/3 funding model. I was surprised to learn this because they still project tuition increases in the budget, even after that model has been thrown out the window. The reasoning was they still need to budget for the system. The chancellor's office reported that MSU is now funded 55.1% from Tuition and Fees, 43.7 percent from state appropriation and 1.2% from other revenue sources. As you can see we are far cry from the model mandated by state law.

MNSCU also introduced a grassroots lobbying effort called the Friends Action Network. This is designed to rival the impressive alumni lobbying efforts put forth by the U of M system and Private

College systems. It would be a coordinated effort by alumni, staff, students and others to influence legislators to fund MNSCU projects. This seems like a good idea, one that should have been started a long time ago. I asked what the most effective way of selling higher ed over other requests such as K-12 and Healthcare. I was told that the Friends Action Network would help this effort and we should stress higher ed funding as investment in job growth and the future.

Budget Sub Meet and Confer

The governor's budget was also a topic of discussion at the budget sub meet and confer meeting on Tuesday, specifically how it relates our institution. The university budgets increased operating expenses at 4.9 million dollars, based on a four percent increase in compensation, debt service on Trafton Hall and various other increases. Unfortunately, with full state appropriations and a four percent increase, we stand to receive only an additional 4.1 million dollars. In this scenario we would face a 5% tuition increase. This also means that if we were successful in our lobbying efforts and received the additional 73 million system wide dollars our university would face a 1% increase.

Please don't take my comments as an assault on the Governor, it should be noted that he has allocated and the most money toward MNSCU ever and has shown a willingness to compromise and sympathy to students burdened by debt

Administration supports a tuition freeze as long as the system receives full funding. However it is still possible, though unlikely that the legislature would allocate funds for a tuition freeze and not fund some system requests. I was told this would result in "Draconian" spending decreases and potentially staff reductions, freezing library acquisitions and other cuts. This would be possible because the legislature can fence appropriations, that is, allocate funds for certain projects and not for others, before it even gets to MNSCU to appropriate. This is something that IFO opposes, they feel that more funds should be appropriated directly to campuses and that they should have greater campus autonomy.

All parties involved with Higher Ed funding are waiting on the February forecast, an early projection on what the branches of the legislature may allocate. Until then I would encourage you to stay cautiously optimistic, we may not get a tuition freeze but hopefully our increases will be lower than recent history.

Senator Schilling-What is the appropriation coming from the state and students?

Coordinator Anderson-What I got from the Chancellors briefing yesterday was Minnesota State University is now funded 55 % from tuition and fees. 42.7% from state appropriations and another 1.2% from other revenue sources. I am not sure what other revenue sources mean.

President Afolayan-How do you feel the legislature will react to the lobbying efforts and additional requests for appropriations?

Senator Anderson-They made a lot of promises last November. They are sympathetic. They also have to deal with all day kindergarten and health care. Stay optimistic.

Senator Giese-Was it a lobby day or more of a rally day?

Senator Anderson-I feel it will be more lobbying on behalf of the IFO. They have made campaign contributions. They are more powerful then we are. This will be a lobby day. I don't anticipate them standing out in the cold chanting.

Senator Fleck-Do you think the students would be more effective if they did that as long as we do pay a fee to MSUSA to do something like that?

Senator Anderson-The scary thing is that taking student dollars and giving it to political candidates for issues they may not support is not right. I thought about that but I don't think it is something we could do.

New Business

SAC Motion 2.21.07A Men's Lacrosse

Student Allocations Committee recommends allocating up to \$1,000 to Men's Lacrosse Club to travel to Michigan to compete as part of the Lacrosse league's mandatory out of-conference scheduling.
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Vice Chair Fleck-We recommended \$1,000 for travel. They were asking for \$6,000.00 for a coach bus and we felt this was a little excessive. Budgeting for 8 or 9 cars came out to \$1350 for transportation costs. They had \$900.00 for lodging. That is \$2250. They said they had revenue of \$2900 and then later mentioned that is was less than that they could contribute. Senator Schilling-This should also be noted that this is for regular season travel, not post-season travel.

Senator Norton-The money you said of \$2900, what was that being used for out of the actual total?

Vice Chair Fleck-We never received an actual total of what they have now. We figured around \$2,000 that they could contribute towards this trip from their reserves.

Senator Hurm-Is it true that when they offered to bring in a new budget that you told them to just bring it to the senate?

Senator Fleck-It was the fact that SAC had made their recommendation for \$1,000 to Lacrosse.

Senator Hurm-So you are saying that before you made the recommendation they had not come forward and said they had made a mistake on their request form because they did not consider other expenses such as coaching?

Senator Fleck-We were never given a resubmitted allocation form before our recommendation went through in any formal way.

Senator Norton-Would it be possible for those guys from Lacrosse that are here today to answer any questions?

Speaker-No.

Senator Hurm-Can I make a motion to reconsider based on the fact that they did made a mistake on their form and that they have fund raised more than any other team on campus.

Senator Gould-Second.

Senator Anderson-Wouldn't it be more convenient to table the motion.

Senator Hurm-I would like to make a motion to table for one week because they made a mistake on the form.

Senator Hurm-They made a mistake on the form, the players already paid over \$800.00 to play. They have paid over \$300.00 for equipment. They are well over \$1,000.00. They have to play 3 out of conference games. They did check with No Dak/So Dak and surrounding areas. These were the closest teams they could play. I would say that if you are going to make large cuts it should be from a group that does not pay large dues or fundraise. I think SAC should reconsider this new budget.

Senator Gould-In lieu of the amount of fundraising and the mistakes made they should be able to come back.

Motion Tabled.

SAC Motion 2.21.07B Men's Club Hockey

Student Allocations Committee recommends allocating up to 2,000 to Men's Club Hockey to travel to Orland Park, Il to compete in the regional tournament for the central region of the American Club Hockey Association (ACHA).
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Senator Fleck-The are asking for \$1300 for 5 university vans to go to Ill. We felt that because this was for post-season travel and they were invited to this tournament because of their record, we felt \$2,000.00 would be adequate in funding their trip and they contributed quite a bit.

Senator Schilling-It should be noted that Men's club hockey traveled to Michigan for their regular club season and this was paid for by their club sport dues. Since they were invited we felt this allocation was appropriate.

Senator Norton-I know this will be unpopular but we already have a hockey team representing our school and I don't think we should fund a recreational team.

Senator Gould-In lieu of the previous speakers inexperience in the state of Minnesota. Hockey is a great tradition not only at this school but in the state and I feel it would be out of order to suggest something basically saying that participating in something not sponsored by the school is frowned upon. That is ridiculous.

Motion Passes

Motion 2.21.07A Elections Committee

Whereas: 325 signatures were collected for a referendum, but only 243 of those signatures contained valid addresses

Whereas: The wording of the referendum is undefined and vague, putting the responsibility for determining the referendum in the hands of the Elections Committee and not the students.

Be it Resolved: The MSSA Elections Committee recommends that the MSSA Senate does not validate the signatures for the PETITION OF SUPPORT FOR REFERENDUM PROCESS.

Moved to amend by President Afolayan/Vice President Frederick

Furthermore: The MSSA highly encourages, if desired by the members of the student body, a new petition with 250+ valid names, addresses, and signature with a specific proposal and costs.

President Afolayan-We can take a lot of stress of this situation by putting this back in the hands of those that signed the proposal because if they want something it should be specific before it goes to a vote.

Senator Trosvik-Move to amend by striking the first whereas.

Motion fails due to lack of a second.

Amendment Passes

Senator Ischkin-The amendment is good because I consider this a type of research and you have to be fair and have a credible source and be able to prove that. This is only fair to the student body.

Senator Schilling-It clearly says in the MSSA Constitution Article X, Section I. The petition with the name and address of 250 students will be submitted to the Election Committee.

Clearly the name and address of 250 students was not submitted.

Senator Trosvik-This was to prove that these were students of the university. They have proved that according to the Office of the Registrar. I don't see why we should site a lack of all names and addresses, that was the purpose of striking the first Whereas.

Senator Giese-I have not seen documentation from the registrar's office.

Senator Norton-In regard to these accurate, I refer to the constitution.

Senator Carmody-The constitution is the most important work that we have for this body. We need to follow the constitution at all costs.

Senator Trosvik-Could the speaker read the documentation handed to him from the students?

Speaker-See cover letter from Dave Gjerde.

Senator Ischkin-This has to be credible research, and we have to follow the constitution.

Senator Giese-I believe our oath says we have to uphold our constitution and bylaws.

Motion passes as amended

Motion 02.20.07B Senator Schilling/Vice President Frederick

Whereas: The Minnesota State Student Association recognizes the need to keep an equitable and transparent student allocation system model.

Whereas: The current Student Activity Fee Committee allocation model for fee allocations to student groups is currently unclear.

Whereas: The MSSA recognizes the need for student activity fees to be spent in the most efficient way possible.

Whereas: The MSSA encourages student groups to fundraise and seek out other means of funding other than SAF dollars.

Whereas: The MSSA wishes to facilitate student involvement wherever possible.

Be it resolved: That MSSA adopts the following proposed revisions to the current SAC allocation policy as presented to the MSSA on February 7th, 2007.

Revised SAC Policy Summary

- MSSA FEE
 - Fee will appear under student financial statement
- Amendments to Policy
- Clarification of travel for faculty and administration
- Parking Permits
- Depreciation Funds changed to Repair and Replacement
- Deficits
- Student Organization Funding

VII. Student Organization Travel

A. Competition/Tournament Travel

1. Cannot be an Intercollegiate Athletic Team.
2. Is an organization/team in which has qualified or is invited to participate in a tournament.
3. Each individual/participant may receive up to \$100 per student
4. Up to \$100 for each professional staff. (SAC reserves the right to determine if SAF funds may be used to pay for faculty, staff, or administrators on a case by case basis)
5. An organization/team may be eligible for funding above the \$100 per student limit if the organization/team has raised at least 1/3 of the total trip cost from funds other than SAF funds. Not to exceed \$400 per student. (e.g. If a group requires a travel budget of \$1200 the group must raise at least \$400 in order to be eligible for funding over the \$100 per student)
6. The allocation of SAF funding shall not exceed \$400 per student.

B. Leadership/Conference Travel

Recognized Student Organizations may request funds for travel to events and conferences. Before being considered for funding they must be recognized by MSSA and be classified as Independent Student Organizations; Department Affiliated or Indirectly Affiliated Student Organization receiving less than \$500.00 per year from their respective departments. Department affiliated or indirectly affiliated student organizations must provide written documentation from their respective department showing that they receive less than \$500 per year from that department.

C. RSO Homecoming Event Sponsorship Incentive

The objective of this line item is to further the mission of the university and foster a more engaged campus community during the university's homecoming week. To foster student engagement, funding is set aside for student organizations which strive to contribute to student engagement and school spirit during homecoming week.

RSOs which have sponsored an official homecoming event are eligible to receive a funding allocation. The allocation may be used for on-campus programming or travel funding and must be spent during the fiscal year in which the allocation was granted. The funding limit for this line item shall not exceed \$5000. Funding for this category shall come from the "Non-Budgeted Request Fund." SAF funding guidelines shall apply for allocations. To apply for funding, RSOs must have completed the following:

1. an official university-wide homecoming committee event sponsorship form signed by the Director of the Student Union and Activities
 2. a written report of the sponsored event with details including the number of student participants to be completed after the event
 3. a preliminary funding plan for how the funding allocation will be used during the fiscal year
- SAC shall review the paperwork submitted and may recommend an allocation of up to \$1000.

Senator Schilling-There are 3 keys to division of policy: Accountability, Responsibility and Incentive. Going further into it the first part of the revision would be the MSSA fee. Currently the MSSA does not have its own line item on the break down from the Registrar's Office. This fee would show the breakdown so people would more where their money is going. The second part is very ambiguous as to where SAC requests can be classified. SAC requests can be classified as competition tournament travel or leadership conference travel. This motion would support the new SAC policy clarifying whether it is conference/leadership travel or tournament travel. The RSO Homecoming sponsorship is for RSO's that chose to participate in Homecoming events and sponsor an event would have the possibility of getting up to an extra \$1,000 for travel. This would be a very good thing to implement because it would increase RSO involvement and increase the level of participation in homecoming activities.

Vice President Frederick-I think Senator Schilling mentioned good points. This was in the office for review. I think we should adopt this as proposed.

Senator Fleck-There are inequalities in the system as it exists and this still leaves inequalities so are we willing to go forward and switch one for another or should we come up with something different?.

Senator Anderson-I view the SAC policy as something quite different. There will always be inequalities as it is hard to classify student groups on campus. This policy does the best job.

Senator Schilling-Nothing is necessarily perfect. The current policy does not hold accountability, responsibility or incentive. This policy would encourage all three of the qualities.

Motion passes

Officer Reports

President Gabe Afolayan

My reports are getting briefer and briefer as the year goes on. MSSA Scholarships, the deadline is March 5 for five \$1,000 scholarships; we have a committee made up of faculty and administrators that will select the recipients, that is not decided by the senate. Faculty of the Year Award & Student Friendly Award is just around the corner. We will be getting information out on that very soon. We will have a committee working on the selection for that. We still have one student needed for the Vice President of Information & Technology Services search.

We are looking for a student to serve on the search committee for Vice President of Partnerships.

Senator Fleck-Have the departments been notified about the scholarships?

Senator Ischkin-Why are the scholarships only available to undergraduate students?

Vice President Chris Frederick

Trying to finalize correspondence with the Student Savings Club Card and deciding if we are going to continue or cut that off.

I attended the Chancellor's de-briefing. Our Legislative Affairs Coordinator so eloquently gave you that information.

I was at the Parking Hearing. The Free lot will have a cost of \$20.00 with a .50 bus pass from lot 23. Scooters will be forced to park in the motorcycle lot, with a lesser price permit.

25 gold stalls were eliminated along Maywood, in the paylot it was recommended between

20 and 25 stalls. Those were the main key points.

Senator Trosvik-Is that .50 for a city bus?

Vice President Frederick-Yes, it would have been included in the \$40.00 permit.

Senator Okoye-Are you saying we no longer have a Free lot?

Vice President Frederick-The Parking Advisory made a \$20.00 charge.

Senator Schilling-Is it true that it was also proposed to charge \$3.00 for the first hour and \$2.00 for the second?

Senator Giese-Is it true the Mav Shuttle runs free from 11-8:00 P.M.

Senator Giese-Are there any steps we can take about this.

Vice President Frederick-I don't know, I am

Senator Okoye-When will this go into effect?

Vice President Frederick-If Dr. Davenport signs this it will be in effect next year.

Speaker

Next week Senator Reports: Hanna, Ross, Trosvik, Kornowicz

Senator Giese-Are there any senators that have not been here for multiple times?

Speaker-Some of the senators have had proxy's or excused absences.

Senator Reports

SBS – Ryan Anderson

Academic Affairs-Ryan Anderson

I am still serving on the Academic Affairs Committee. I have been very happy with amount of work this committee has accomplished. I was very interested in the results of the +/- survey. It appears that there is no consensus on this proposal. However I feel that there is a consensus among our students about improving academic standards, so I would support enacting this proposal.

CSB Career Day

I attended all of the career day sessions for the College of Social and Behavioral Science that applied to me, which was on January 31 and spoke to many constituents who attended the other sessions. I attended the Political Science session, facilitated by Gary Zellmer who is an adjunct faculty member and mayor North Mankato, which featured a lawyer, city administrator and a state representative, all of which were MSU alumni. So it is reassuring that people with that major actually get jobs. I also attended the Economics session, where grad school was strongly encouraged. A constituent I rated the Law Enforcement a 7 out of 10, on usefulness and was impressed with the variety of departments that presented. Many of my constituents plan on pursuing graduate level education after MSU and have shared concerns about their undergrad courses not adequately preparing them for this. Specifically they were fewer concerns about courses in their specific areas of study and more concerned that general education courses were not challenging enough.

Student Affairs

I have recently served as a proxy on the student affairs committee. I was very pleased with the level of debate and eventual recommendations on residential life rates. I hope that they will be able to save students money, or at least guarantee that student's money is spent in the most efficient way possible. At the most recent meeting, we began to discuss the proposal for a pilot mandatory health insurance policy. It was the general feeling of the committee that more information was needed before a decision could be made. I feel this will be the most significant issue we face this semester. On both economic scale and as part of a general discussion on social policy this towers over the free lot, campus rec, and any other issue we face. Health care is much more than a local campus concern. Keeping this in mind it is my sincere hope we all do extensive research on the subject and have a lengthy floor debate before any stance is taken.

Budget Meet and Confer

I attended the Budget Sub Meet and Confer meeting on Tuesday, February 20, 2007. The first item of business was report by the chairperson of the Parking Advisory Committee on the recommended changes to current parking policy. He explained to the budget committee, made up of faculty and all different types of staff, the stance the student association took, the testimony the testimony of those

who attended the hearing, and then proceeded to explain why the committee ignored most of it. The chair of the budget committee explained that the final decision on parking will come from the cabinet and that they will consider all input on the matter. I was surprised that some who argued that the University charging for parking was mandated by state statute, almost picking and choosing which statutes were important and which were “out of date”

At this meeting funding for strategic initiatives were discussed. I will let Senator Norton explain the ranking system for those proposals.

Senator Trosvik-How are the current ISBN's disclosed to the other bookstore?

Senator Anderson-It is my understanding that Barnes and Noble gives it's list to the Maverick Bookstore and also any students that are interested in finding out for personal reasons can come into the bookstore and they are readily displayed on the shelves.

Senator Trosvik-Does Barnes and Noble give these free to the Maverick Bookstore?

Senator Anderson-I don't know about the term free, but it is contract that they do that, or at least that is my understanding.

CSET – Ken Willaert

As you all may know, I have been participating in the Dean Search Committee for the College of Science, Engineering and Technology. At this point we have had two out of the three finalists visit and interview here on campus. The last candidate is scheduled to arrive this coming Monday and leave Tuesday evening. During the two day visit, these candidates are subjected to interviews, open discussions session, and meetings with administrators. They are also briefly showed around campus and given have an extremely short tour of Mankato. We expect to finalize the search and perhaps have a new Dean by the beginning of March.

Meanwhile, in other news, the Biology Club is trying to gain acceptance by National Biology Honors Society. Biology Club wants is hoping to start a new chapter here on campus. I talked with the Biology Club president and a few faculty members who explained that the purpose in gaining the chapter will add some prestige to those students involved. The program is very comparable to other collegiate honor societies like Golden Key, and Who's Who. To become a member of this Honor Society one will need to have a sufficient GPA and be involved in Undergraduate Research.

Now, speaking of research, I want to inform everyone that on Sat. March 3rd, and Sat. April 21st, MSU working in conjunction with College of Science, Engineering, and Technology will be hosting the 56th annual regional science and engineering fair. We expect to have over 300 junior and senior high school projects and over 1300 elementary school projects.

Off- Campus – Jon Sands

Item One:

I have had many students complaining about the free lot. They are not happy with the thought of paying for it. They read in The Reporter the cost may go to \$20 and their response was if its going to be that cheap why charge? Many students are frustrated and annoyed by these talks to pave the free lot.

Item Two:

I have had a couple students approach me asking about the stamp machine idea in the CSU. I have not heard anything back, so I will meet with Laurie or Jason Schilling to discuss this addition to the CSU.

Item Three:

I have recently sent students to the lawyer for legal advice and they were very pleased with the service.

Education – Jenna Ault

I have been going to many cultural events on campus, and I encourage you to attend.

I attended our first Elections Committee meeting last night. I think the Chair has extensive knowledge of the constitution.

I was excited to hear Brenda Flannery today in Academic Affairs. She talked about students being on Probation, one in 14 students is currently on probation. They also heard Dean Roca talk about extended Library hours. I am excited to see that the student teaching study abroad program made the reporter...

Off-Campus – Jon Hurm

Mandatory Health Insurance is a major issue for Off-Campus. Student Affairs has just begun discussing the issue.

Graduate Studies – Kristeen Giese

One of my committees I have been appointed to be on is the President's Commission on the Status of Women has been busy the last month as it selected consultants to come to our University to determine if intimidating behavior was present in the workplaces of our campus and if so, to what extent. They met with many different groups, including administration, faculty, staff and student workers as well as meeting with the Commission. They will be returning to the University and will talk with more people at that time. The purpose for them to come this time was to find out how the survey should be implemented and iron out all of the details. This is still in progress. The Commission hopes that by taking time to work out details the data collected will be rich and if needed, we will gain understanding of how to better deal with issues.

I and Senator Ischkin have continued to meet with Dean Blackhurst and Chris Mickle from the College of Graduate Studies. We discussed the Graduate Student Advisory Board, doctoral programs, admissions for graduate studies increase, the admissions initiative and website, etc.

I have attended several events on campus, International Programs Fair, Public Hearing of the Parking Board, and I was very sorry they did not listen to the students. I went to the Vagina Monologues which was awesome and I went to The Mystical Arts of Tibet, which was very moving and for those of you not fortunate to attend, hopefully they will bring something like that back to our campus again. I also attended an International Fair.

Upcoming events that I plan on attending: MSUSA DC Summit in Washington DC, The White House Project Go Run Training in the Metro, Graduate Student Advisory Board meeting.

Announcements

Senator Norton-Al Franken is here tonight.

Senator Ischkin-The Cultural Diversity Conference

Senator Carmody-Fantasy Congress is set up.

Senator Fleck-I do have the results of the +- system and will be giving you those results soon.

Roll Call

Senators Present

Casey Carmody, Brett Fleck, Nikki Hanna, Katie Ischkin, Kristeen Giese, Murtaza Rajabali, Oliver Okoye, Ryan Anderson, Peter Jennings, Sanju Nepal, Evan Trosvik, Cole Fink, Abbie Hill, Michael Norton, Jason Schilling

Senators Absent

Jessica Kallio, Taitum Thompson, Brandon Ross, Jenna Ault, Kenneth Willaert, Brad Kraus, Kathryn Pase, Jennifer Hansen, Jon Sands, Allan Gould, Jon Hurm, Caroline Kornowicz

Executive Staff Present

President Afolayan, Vice President Frederick

Adjournment Meeting adjourned at 6:45 P.M.

