

76th MSSA Senate
April 30, 2008

76th Senate called to order by

Roll Call (present-absent-proxy-excused)

Robert Dooley 1-0-0, P Panoulia Vang 0-0-0-1, Kelly Biers 2-0-0, Ryan Johnson 1-0-0, Brian Leonhardi 1-0-0, Nolan Chenevert 1-0-0, Ahmet Dursun 1-0-0, Sarah Roelli 0-1-0, Casey Adkins 0-0-1 proxy Harshdeep Bhasin, Susan Fohrenkamm 0-0-0-1, Udeeb Shankhadev 1-0-0, John Busch 0-0-0-1, Dave Meyers 1-0-0, Yonis Gabow 1-0-0, Thuy Huynh 1-0-0-1, Joshua Gladis 1-0-0, Brandon Quam 1-0-0, Jack Mershon 0-0-0-1, David Buckley 1-0-0, Andrea Buecksler 1-0-0, Abby Knott 1-0-0, Brian McMahan 1-0-0, Ashley Minshall 1-0-0, Hassan Mohamed 1-0-0, Holly Pahl 1-0-0, Andy Wilke 1-0-0
President Ryan Anderson 1-0-0, Vice President Murtaza Rajabali 1-0-0

Approval of Agenda

Election of Speaker

Brett Carpenter, Noah Olanrewaju

Mr. Olanrewaju-I was an off-campus senator. I am a psychology major and I am a junior.

Mr. Carpenter-I was a College of Education senator. I am chair of the Constitution Commission.

I have looked up to our former Speaker. I like to lead. I would like to be your next Speaker.

Proxy Bhasin-What do you think is the major role of the Speaker?

Mr. Carpenter-The Speaker is a non-voting member. They must be unbiased.

Mr. Olanrewaju-One of the major requirements is that they contact and work with the President, do the correspondence and roll call.

Senator Biers-The Speaker position has responsibility, do you have time to fulfill your duties?

Mr. Olanrewaju-I plan all my time very well. My schedule next semester allows me to not be busy.

Mr. Carpenter-This past year I kept my senate hours. I have time to do that. I work at the hospital but mostly on weekends.

Vice President Rajabali-Are you familiar with Robert Rules?

Mr. Carpenter-I used Roberts Rules in 4H and from being on Senate and learning policies. I think I am well versed

Mr. Olanrewaju-I know you must be familiar with the rules

Senator McMahan-What characteristic best describes you?

Mr. Olanrewaju-Easy going, I have learned a lot from the former Speaker. I can give my time to the office and explain and make sure everything is clear. I am responsible and I am a leader.

Mr. Carpenter-I like communicating on policies to the administration. I like to work on how things are operating. I like to ask questions that are non threatening.

President Anderson-If a student wanted to put something to a referendum what would be the procedure?

Mr. Carpenter-I think the President can and also a petition from 200 students. The university President also has that ability.

Mr. Olanrewaju-I agree with Mr. Carpenter.

President Anderson-What are the requirements of being a senator?

Mr. Olanrewaju-You must know what you are doing and talking to your constituents and attend a MSUSA conference. It is a top office and you should bring things to the table.

Mr. Carpenter-2 hours a week off time, a member of your constituency, attend one MSUSA Conference, maintain attendance with only one absence.

President Anderson-In what instances are proxies allowed to vote?

Mr. Carpenter-Proxies can not vote during the budget meeting. They can vote if they are in the constituency.

Mr. Olanrewaju-They are not allowed to vote.

President Anderson-What would you look for in approving an RSO?

Mr. Olanrewaju-Their constitution, their advisor.

Mr. Carpenter-A mission statement that defines the goals of the organization and the means of

selecting their officers and general policies.

Senator Meyers-If elected will you keep your office clean?

Mr. Olanrewaju-Yes

Mr. Carpenter-Yes

Mr. Carpenter-Thank you for your time. I will be at the softball game tonight to show them how we do things. I would like to be your Speaker.

Mr. Olanrewaju-Thank you for the opportunity. If elected I would like to bring good leadership.

Elected 76th Speaker-Brett Carpenter

Officer Reports

President Ryan Anderson

We attended the MSUSA Conference this past weekend. At MSUSA we meet and come together on MnSCU policies. Through out the semester MSUSA has been working with the voting rights coalition. They are working on voting law changes, making it easier for students to vote. They have made process. The military overseas voting was passed and it was not vetoed by the governor. This makes it easier for our folks overseas to vote. After the ballot is finalized by primary results the ballot will be emailed out to those living abroad and they can print it out and send it back. This will be easier for military personnel and students studying abroad. A bill was passed in the House and the Senate allowing change of address, mailing address is automatically updated if you move. There was progress on allowing more non-partisan election judges. The average age is now very old. The older you are the more likely you are to be a party identifier. We need equal numbers of election judges for both parties at each precinct or non-partisan election judges. It will be easier for young people who are less likely to identify with a political party. There will be some administration law changes. Cell Phone bills will be allowed as proof of residence along with itemized rent statements. I don't think it has been approved yet but they are working on a provision to give the university permission to give out lists of off-campus housing to precincts. They currently do that with on campus. They can vote with their Mav card, it would be exciting if it could be done for off-campus.

D2L will be down June 5-8 for upgrades.

Last week a group of MSU parents came and talked about how they are being disserved. They brought up very legitimate concerns. We have made some progress but this will be on our radar for the summer. It will also be on our Meet & Confer Agenda. We will talk to administrators and see where we can make improvements. I am on the Asst. VP for Student Affairs search; this person will be our MSSA liaison and work with us in a very close manner.

Senator Wilke-That was a very emotional day for the senate. Will there be a committee working on this?

President Anderson-This will cut across a variety of things, I think assigning it to one committee would not be the best way to go. They brought up many issues in the way of housing, academics, and the library. We need to figure out what the concrete issues are and then distribute from there.

Senator McMahan-Were you able to talk to anyone at MSUSA regarding parents?

President Anderson-Yes, Bemidji subsidizes childcare. They partner with their early childhood program. I have also been doing research on what it takes to apply and get the Minnesota Childcare Grant. The folks that came in left a packet we can work on over the summer.

Proxy Bhasin-At the MSUSA Conference we discussed issues on carrying guns on campus, can you elaborate on that?

President Anderson-Yes, Rep. Tony Cornish is supporting a bill to allow for a conceal and carry permit related to campuses. MSUSA reaffirmed supporting the stance opposed to allowing conceal and carry on campus but they do support looking into how affective our policy is. Right now students are not allowed to have guns on campus but a non student person could come on campus and they would be allowed. This bill would be very unlikely to pass.

Senator Wilke-Has there been outreach to contact the student that has been working on this issue and has gotten quite a bit of press and have him speak to our leadership?

President Anderson-No, there has not. I was thinking we would have a survey and see what the big issues are on campus and see if this would make students seem more safe. This is a philosophical debate on gun control.

Appointments: Master Plan Committee-Sam Hansen

Vice President Murtaza Rajabali

I would like to congratulate all of you on what I hope will be an exciting year. We are looking forward to you bringing up motions and looking into issues. . I also attended the MSUSA conference this weekend. Many issues were brought up. One issue brought up was the position of MSUSA Campus Rep and all the coordinators. We want to restructure this and give them a larger role. We will also give the Diversity Rep more responsibilities. We discussed international student health care insurance and we received unanimous support on giving international students more options on what their health insurance will be. Senator Meyers-Are there descriptions for the coordinator positions? President Anderson-They will be available in the office. I hope to interview before the school year ends.

Speaker Brett Carpenter

New senator orientation will be in the fall.

Recognized Student Organization-Initial Recognition-MNSU Vets Club

New Business/SAC Motion

M#04.30.08 Public Relations Student Society of America

Student Allocations Committee recommends allocating up to \$50.00 to Public Relations Student Society of America (PRSSA) to travel to Scottsdale, AZ for the Presidents Rally
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SAC Member Bhasin-There is only one person going to the conference. Personal contribution is over \$250.00.

Motion Passes

M#04.30.08 A Dean Bowyer

Whereas: The MSSA would like to recognize May 3 as Dean Bowyer Day at Minnesota State University.

President Anderson-Coach Bowyer has been at MSU for 32 years and has been very successful.

Senator Wilke-I whole heartedly agree, why May 3?

President Anderson-That is the day of his last home baseball game.

Motion Passes unanimously

Announcements

President Anderson-Coordinator Positions are available

Join us for Softball and food

Senator Meyers-If you are a finance major, or accounting major, we are looking for help on a City Council campaign

President Anderson-Our liaison

Roll Call

Senators Present

Robert Dooley, Panoulia, Kelly Biers, Ryan Johnson, Brian Leonhardi, Nolan Chenevert, Ahmet Dursun, Udeeb Shankhadev, Dave Meyers, Yonis Gabow, Joshua Gladis, Brandon Quam, David Buckley, Andrea Buecksler, Abby Knott, Brian McMahan, Ashley Minshall, Hassan Mohamed, Holly Pahl, Andy Wilke

Senators Absent

Sarah Roelli, Susan Fohrenkamm

Executive Staff Present

President Anderson, Vice President Rajabali

Adjournment Meeting adjourned at 5:15 P.M.