

**75th MSSA Senate**  
**August 29, 2007**

**75th Senate called to order Speaker Ryan Anderson**

**Roll Call** (present-absent-proxy-excused)

Jessica Kallio 2-0-0, Holly Pahl 2-0-0, Bradley Anderson 0-2-0, Nikki Hanna 2-0-0, Brandon Ross 2-0-0, Sharmarke Issa 1-1-0, Matthew Lust 1-1-0, Murtaza Rajabali 2-0-0, Leonard Che Fru 2-0-0, John Busch 2-0-0, Brittany Wiese 2-0-0, Sanju Nepal 1-1-0, Jake Hull 2-0-0, Jon Sands 2-0-0, Abbie Hill 2-0-0, Nathan Madden 2-0-0, Peter Jennings 1-0-1, Kelly Biers 2-0-0, Kristopher Lovstad 2-0-0, Christopher Yard 1-1-0, President Chris Frederick 2-0-0, Vice President Carmody 2-0-0

**Approval of Agenda** Agenda approved without objection

**Presentations**

**Dr. Patricia Swatfager-Haney- Vice President Student Affairs**

Thank you for serving in your roles. We are excited about the year. We have a record number of incoming students. Currently we are working on students that are living in expanded housing. We want to provide the kind of services we think are important for students. We want all students in regular housing by the end of the semester. We have done a number of renovations and building on campus. We have a number of improvements on campus including this room and the CSU renovations. The Trafton Center is going very well. We are looking forward to the year. The President certainly wants to send his best wishes to you. In his convocation he talked about a number of priorities we have. He discussed enrollment management and how to provide the best for a growing institution. We look forward to a shared governance in working with you.

**Laurie Woodward- Director Centennial Student Union**

This is my favorite time of the year. This building is full of life. This is your building. This is the one building on campus that students own. It is my job to listen to you and to make this the kind of place you want to be. This is your home away from home. I am begging you to join Union Board. We have many things on our plate this year. I want to apologize to you, this room will be the coolest when it is completed. It is named after President Nickerson. A President that was here in the 60's during the riots. He was a pretty cool guy. He worked with the students rather than against the students and he was loved for that. He mediated and did very forward things for the day. I mediated with Chris this summer for you to use this room. The tables did not come but they will be diamond shaped with clickers on for voting. There will be a podium coming out by that wall. There will be smart boards.

President Frederick-What important changes do you see coming that will be important for students to know about?

Director Woodward-A one stop shopping in our Scheduling Office will allow you to go to one place and get all your events taken care of. There are new programs happening in the SID area. We will have food until at least 10:00 PM every night. I see life and enthusiasm. There will be a new entrance coming so students can come in from the Julia Sears Residence Hall. We will have a nice double door entrance. I know for sure we will put a new roof on the ballroom.

President Frederick-Where there any big events happening here over the summer?

Director Woodward-The National Collegiate and High School Billiards Tournament. We were judged to be the best venue in the country. College students from all over the country were here. There were a couple orientations.

**Joel Johnson- MSSA Liaison**

It is a pleasure to be your liaison again this year to the administration. I will be at each of your meetings and I will be here to answer questions. We will have a variety of administrators sitting in as well. I am the Director of the First Year Experience Office. I work in the lower level of Gage. I am easily assessable. Speaking of orientations. We did 13 new student orientations this summer. 2266 freshman came through orientation, our largest number ever. The Student Union was well received. Thank you to all that participated in Welcome Week. We had record attendance at all our events. We are excited about that. I am happy to be here with MSSA.

**Approval of Minutes 05-12-07 Minutes stand approved**

**New Business**

**M# 8.29.07 A President Frederick/ Vice President Carmody**

**Whereas:** The Minnesota State Student Association is responsible for the allocation of Student Activity Fees.

**Whereas:** The MSSA must be accountable for how and where Student Activity Fees are being utilized.

**Whereas:** The lines of accountability for Student Activity Funded line items should be directed to the Minnesota State Student Association.

**Whereas:** MSSA senators, by virtue of their constituency representation, need to be knowledgeable of the various activity fee funded line items' programming throughout the academic calendar.

**Whereas:** The MSSA is required to be adequately informed of Student Activity Fee line items programming and budgets.

**Whereas:** Presentations before the MSSA provide the opportunity for questions and answers for each line item.

**Be It Resolved:** All Student Activity Fee funded line items including technology and facilities are to give a presentation to MSSA, giving a summary of their purpose, objectives, goals, programming plans, and budget for the current fiscal year by January 23, 2008. The presentation must also address where the funding is spent to better student life on and off campus. The presentation shall be given by the director of the line item or appropriate designee. Furthermore, the MSSA Speaker

shall be charged with notifying each line item and scheduling them to come before the MSSA prior to the January 23, 2008 deadline.

President Frederick-This falls in line with our Mission Statement of keeping fees in line. This motion is an echo of last year with a few clerical changes. This motion allows all our senators and the student body an opportunity to hear from each individual line item. Last year we found those presentations to be very valuable when it came time for the budget hearing in April.

Vice President Carmody-One of the biggest meetings we have is the budget meeting. To be best prepared for that everyone should have as much information as possible. This brings in the line item drafters and they give us information about their budget and tell us what direction they are going. We can then be as well informed as possible when making decisions or informing constituents.

Senator Rajabali-When does SAC start looking at line-items for the budget?

President Frederick-They will start presentations early next semester. In this particular motion, line items will come and tell us what they are doing this year with the money they receive. They won't be presenting what they want for the following year but rather what their goals and objectives are for this year.

Senator Lust-The final clause-it does not give a final date clarification. I think it would be best if we had some sense of when the final notification would be as many days are taken up with the winter break.

President Frederick-When this gets approved the line items will be notified and they will be scheduled to present before the deadline. If you want to put a date we can amend this.

## **Motion Passes**

### **Officer Reports**

#### **President Christopher Frederick**

This will be a very exciting year. Updating you on the vision this year-we need to make sure we are fiscally responsible of student fees this year and to make sure we represent our constituents. That is our direction for the year. I will update you on what has been going on over the summer. Vice President Carmody and I attended all 13 Orientations. They were fantastic. We also met with every single Dean on this campus, getting to know them and letting them know who we are. We heard a lot about the colleges. A key thing to keep on your radar has to do with academic issues. One college in particular, the College of Business is looking at possibly imposing an additional \$100 fee to all College of Business students for the new building since it is going to be funded privately. We will have consultation and good conversation on that. We met with many of the Vice President's on campus. We are looking at bringing back the landlord/tenant association. We attended Dr. Davenport's retreat at Gustavus and shared with the entire cabinet about MSSA. We discussed advising and other things to do to help students on campus. Our direction for the year-we have two main goals for Student Affairs and Academic Affairs. For Academic Affairs advising was a huge issue we saw last year. We have left it up to Academic Affairs to look at this and try to bridge the gap between students and colleges. Many students are here for five or six years because

they can not get into correct classes or they leave to go to a different college. Advising will help with retention. We want to take Student Affairs to another level this year. We want to bring back the Tenant Association. This would represent the Off-Campus students. We want students to know what we do and how we represent students. We have free legal advice. We also are tying that in with textbooks. I also want to address a coupe thing that Dr. Davenport addressed in his convocation. There are three in particular that students are going to play a huge role in: Enrollment Management, making sure students are being served with the influx of more students coming to campus, the Outdoor Recreation facilities and going to a smoke free campus. Obviously in Enrollment Management, are we meeting the needs of students, do we have enough faculty and staff to educate the students and more importantly do have the faculty and staff to advise these students. We look to continue discussion on the Outdoor Recreation. We have seen many schools go smoke free already. We are looking forward to a policy consultation on what that policy is going to be. Last and not least I want to touch base on committees-students get represented all across campus. We are looking for students to serve on Parking Appeals, International Student Office Advisory Committee, we also need students for university wide Budget Sub Meet, Planning Sub Meet and Confer and Assessment.

**Appointments:** Academic Affairs Coordinator: Brittany Weise; Student Affairs: Abbie Hill; Public Relations Director: Sarah Erickson; Technology & Website Coordinator: Joe Orchard; Diversity Representative: Murtaza Rajabali; MSUSA Representative: Nikki Hanna; SAC: Tyler Stein, Josh Mann, Danielle Thomas; University's Policy Consultation and Approval Committee: Matt Lust; Parking Appeals Board: Josh Fahey; Student Union Board: Kris Lovestad.

Senator Kallio-How many more new students do we have?

President Frederick-Between 300-400.

### **Vice President Casey Carmody**

It is good to see everybody back. I need to make a correction, I was not at all the Orientations, but I made as many as I could. I sat on a few search committees this summer for the Admissions Office. That was quite a bit of work. They were hiring three new positions. If you get a chance to serve on a search committee do so. I also sat on the Admission Office Program Review Committee. This reviews the program and makes suggestions and gives a final report on the direction they could go. I have attended several meetings with President Frederick. We have been plotting out the direction we want to go this year. That will unfold as we go through out the year.

Senator expectations: You will be held accountable for missed meetings. Find a proxy from your college if you can not be here. You must attend more than 50% of the meetings during the year. MSUSA Conferences-every senator must attend at least one conference. The first conference is Sept. 14-15. You can attend as many as you want. Office hours-Every senator is required to do at least two hours a week. Log in and keep track of your hours. This is a good time to do research and talk to other senators. All senators are required to give 3 reports during the semester. The reports are required to be in written form as well. Committees-everyone is required to sit on two committees. All senators are either on Academic or Student Affairs. Brittany Wiese is our Academic Affairs Coordinator and Abbie Hill is our Student Affairs Coordinator. When you give us your interests we will appoint you to another committee.

Student fees-this is a big thing we look at each year. I created a cheat sheet for you

to understand student fees a little better. If a constituent asks about a fee you will be able to tell them. Communication-our doors are always open. If we have good conversation we will be able to get more done. You know the problems more than we do as you are in touch with your constituents. Vice President Hoffman pointed out to us that the higher you get on the totem pole, the less you matter. Communicate with us so we can move in a positive direction.

Senator Hill-Admissions Committee, are you implementing changes?

Vice President Carmody-We reviewed their program and came up with recommendations after looking through the program.

President Frederick-Is it true that every Student Affairs division gets evaluated?

Vice President Carmody-Yes, every division gets evaluated every five years. This is a tangible way to make things better for students on campus.

Senator Che Fru-Attendance, when does the roll call count?

Speaker-Being present at one of the roll calls. If you miss too much of the meeting to be affective we will have to have a conversation about that. Technically it is at one of the roll call.

Senator Wiese-Do your committee meetings count as your hours?

Vice President Carmody-No. It is two hours in the office.

Senator Hill-Does attendance policy apply to committees as well?

Vice President Carmody-Yes

**Speaker Anderson**-We had a nice Orientation. For those of you that could not make it, our next make up orientation will be Sept. 26. There are 10 vacancies for Sept 18 election. The vacancies are Allied Health & Nursing, Education, Social & Behavioral Science, Science, Engineering Tech, Undeclared, Gage A Hall, Crawford Hall, Mav Hall and Off-Campus.

Committee interest forms, please fill them out so that we have a hard copy. Senator Report schedules will be out next week.

**RSO Initial Recognition:** The Holy Christian Church Campus Ministries

**Academic Affairs Coordinator Brittany Wiese**-Academic Affairs will meet at 11:00 on Tuesday. This week we discussed the +/- grading system. Advising is going to be a huge issue. We want to get the ball rolling on what we can do for our students. We are looking at the problem right now. We also talked about Textbook Price Containment. and only being able to go to Barnes and Noble for financial aid with textbooks.

Senator Busch-Regarding Textbook Price Containment, some schools in Wisconsin rent out text books, I was wondering if you know anything about that?

Senator Hill-There is a fee built into their tuition. They rent the books from the library.

Vice President Carmody-I have been working on this the past two years. WI has been renting books from the very beginning of their bookstore time. It is expensive to start up. There are various other problems. If you are interested in this the Bookstore Advisory Committee is a great committee to join.

Coordinator Wiese-Get to know the advisors in your college so you can come informed to the meetings.

## **Announcements**

Vice President Carmody-Start talking to all the Deans. Get going in your committees. We have a lot of work to do.

**Roll Call****Senators Present**

Jessica Kallio, Holly Pahl, Nikki Hanna, Brandon Ross, Sharmarke Issa, Matthew Lust, Murtaza Rajabali, Leonard Che Fru, John Busch, Brittany Wiese, Sanju Nepal, Jake Hull, Jon Sands, Abbie Hill, Nathan Madden, Peter Jennings-proxy, Kelly Biers, Kristopher Yard, President Frederick, Vice President Carmody

**Adjournment** Meeting adjourned at 5:00 PM