

**75th MSSA Senate
September 12, 2007**

75th Senate called to order Speaker Ryan Anderson

Roll Call (present-absent-proxy-excused)

Holly Pahl 4-0-0, Nikki Hanna 3-1-0, Brandon Ross 4-0-0, Sharmarke Issa 3-1-0, Matthew Lust 3-1-0, Murtaza Rajabali 4-0-0, Leonard Che Fru 4-0-0, John Busch 4-0-0, Brittany Wiese 4-0-0, Sanju Nepal 2-2-0, Jon Sands 4-0-0, Abbie Hill 4-0-0, Nathan Madden 4-0-0, Kelly Biers 4-0-0, Kristopher Lovstad 4-0-0, President Chris Frederick 4-0-0, Vice President Carmody 4-0-0

Open Forum

Jessica Kallio. I am the senator of Allied Health & Nursing. I am taking 18 credits and I work two jobs. I am President of College against Cancer and I am doing an Open Study with Cardiac Rehab which I will be very involved in as I am going to grad school for that. I have decided that I will not be able to dedicate all my time and energy to you and my constituents so I have decided to resign senate and hopefully someone will take my spot that can represent my constituents in Allied Health & Nursing. I will still be on Academic Affairs. I had a wonderful time on Senate, I enjoyed it and I will miss it. I wish you all the best of luck.

Approval of Agenda Agenda approved without objection

Presentations

Holly Davis- MSUSA Campus Organizer South

I am the Campus Organizer for MSUSA. I work directly with the Southern campuses. I hope to see a lot of you at the conference this weekend in Moorhead. We have been busy working to get ready for that. MSUSA is the state version of what you do here. We work with all the campuses. President Frederick is on the Board of Directors, Jason Schilling is the Treasurer and Murtaza Rajabali is the Diversity Rep, Nikki Hanna is your MSUSA Campus Representative. Next week she will be talking to you about what did happen at the conference.

One thing we have been very involved with lately is the Federal College Cost Reduction Act. This is the largest increase to college aid. The Pell grant was increased to \$5,400, there is a change to the way loans are paid back and they are considered on your income. If you don't make a lot of money, how are you going to pay a huge loan payment?

There were two representatives from Minnesota that did not vote for the act. This was big for higher ed. We do a lot of work at the state legislature for you all. We work on setting tuition with the Board of Trustees.

Senator Ross-What is the weekend looking like?

Holly Davis-We will have some campaign updates. We will discuss financial aid at the state level and getting bonding for building and maintenance projects. We will discuss some MnSCU policy things and a representative will be there so we can ask questions.

President Frederick-Will this weekend be fun and exciting?
Holly Davis-I can't imagine it any other way.

Approval of Minutes 09-05-2007 Minutes stand approved

Officer Reports

President Chris Frederick

We had the opportunity to go to the Student Affairs Convocation and I had the opportunity to present what MSSA is going to be looking for during the year. I will be showing you the presentation and I will show it to the entire delegates assembly at MSUSA this weekend.

I am going to be working with Vice President Swatfager-Haney to show a video on change. It is a great video put together by a high school teacher. It speaks about how fast our world changes and what we are doing about that.

I attended the Learning and Technology Roundtable. There are many different people on this committee including two faculty from each of the colleges, two student reps, administrators and staff. We are looking for two student reps for this committee. The stuff that gets covered is phenomenal. They cover everything to do with ITS. They discussed the computer center power outage, phone issues with the outage, what happened and what will be done in the future. This will be addressed throughout the semester.

They talked about D2L and the service upgrades. The emergency broadcast system was covered. Some of you might remember a little bit about that from last year. All the phones on campus are connected to the internet. If there is an emergency someone will just come on and speak the message. They worked very hard at getting over 200 of these phones in over the summer. They will be testing these Wed. at 12:55. All Mav Print can now print on double side. 6 million sheets of paper were used last year. With duplex printing we can cut down on this. We want student feedback on that on whether we want that to default or if we just want one side. Duplex takes more time but would cut down on paper usage.

Mav Cash can be added through the Mav Cash website and used at food services.

There is a new My MnSU Portal where you can access MavMail, D2L, MavCash, MavDisk and more. It has news speeds on the left hand side for weather updates and it includes MSSA.

They shared all ITS projects. There is a whole new list of updates like Mavmail, Mav Cash. If you are interested in technology or anything dealing with technology get on this committee. They meet once a month, Tuesday from 2:00-4:00.

The SAC Policy, with clerical changes, went out for consultation this week to all the various departments to comment or question. We hope to have feedback by next week so that senate can comment and we can get it to the President for approval. Students are curious about the smoking ban and some other issues dealing with Dr. Davenport's convocation speech. There is a Meet & Confer set up next week

for MSSA to speak directly with Dr. Davenport on various issues.

This is a little housekeeping-last week's motion on diversity stated the Vice President of Diversity it should be the Dean of Institutional Diversity. We are looking forward to a response from the President on that motion..

Senator Hill-Can you clarify the Mav Cash? You can use it at MavAve?

President Frederick-Yes, Barnes and Noble and the vending machines as well. I have used it at all of those.

Senator Rajabali-Did they say how they are publicizing it, the new features?

President Frederick-There was a big update on My Portal.

Senator Hill-Whose idea was it to change Mav Mail?

Senator Nepal-Is it true you get 5% discount when you use your Mav Cash on campus?

President Frederick-I am not sure, I think there are some discounts.

Interim Vice President Schneider-Vending machines are 10% and campus dining is 5%. There is nothing for the bookstore.

Senator Che Fru-Do students know how they can channel problems with technology?

President Frederick-The feedback would be from the students that sit on the committee, from all of us and there is information on the websites.

Senator Che Fru-Do students just go to their college?

President Frederick-The best way would be through you talking to your constituents.

Senator Busch-How do you print both sides?

Interim Vice President Schneider-You now go to the default. We would like to bring this to senate and find out if the default should be printing on both sides.

Senator Sands-Is there any crash course on VISTA? Many students do not understand it.

President Frederick-Through the ACC there are courses you can sign up to take. This is not just VISTA they have other software training too and it is all free.

Senator Lust-Will our printing credits remain the same if we choose to double print because the toner is part of the cost of printing or are we going to be charged?

Vice President Schneider-Toner is about a penny a page.

Senator Hill-Will that affect the College of Business printing? Will we be able to print on both sides?

Vice President Schneider-Yes.

Appointments: Student Affairs Committee- Josh Fahey, Andrea Buecksler, Kira Diner, Brandon Ross , Dean of Graduate Studies and Research Search Committee- Matt Lust, Budget Sub Meet & Confer- Jason Schilling, Elections Committee- Kelly Biers, Student Allocations Committee – Eric Vetter

Vice President Casey Carmody

I have been sitting on the Grade Review Panel the last couple of weeks with Senator Wiese.

Grade Review Panel

- I have just finished up work on the Grade Review Panel. This is the highest level of appeal you can go to in the process.
- Grade Appeals start by the student talking to the professor about the grade, then moving to the chair, then to the dean, and finally the Grade Review Panel.
- This is the first time the review panel has been used in recent memory.

Federal Government Update

(Gustavus did pretty well)

- Congress recently passed legislation in regards to financial aid to students
- Included in the legislation are cuts to interest rates on federally backed loans, a loan-forgiveness program for students going into particular professions, and upping the Pell Grant from \$4,310 a year to \$5,400 a year by 2012.
- While this legislation is much appreciated and is a start to alleviate the problems students face when it comes to financing their college education, it is, as Speaker Anderson so skillfully stated, “Like throwing a 12-foot rope to someone drowning 13 feet away.” We are getting a start but we are not there yet. We need to keep working.

Legislative Affairs

- I am currently overseeing the functions of Legislative Affairs until a chair of the committee is selected
- I would like to meet with the committee soon, so could everyone on that committee stay for a few moments afterwards so we can talk about the direction we are going to go. We have a big year coming up in the bonding process. We need to constantly keep moving. We want the legislators to know who we are. It is particularly import that we get started right away as we do have legislators coming down next Thursday.

MSUSA Trip

- We are leaving Friday for Moorhead
- There will be an early van leaving at 10 AM, and another leaving around noon of 1:00.
- If you are planning on going on the trip, talk to Nikki or myself about what time would work best for you to leave so we leave no one behind.

Speaker Ryan Anderson

Read correspondence from Christopher Kennedy, Attorney regarding clients he met with this past summer.

Read correspondence from Senator Jake Hull-resignation of McElroy Hall. Election will be held Sept 26 for the seat of Allied Health & Nursing and McElroy Hall.

We have vacancies in the following positions: Allied Health & Nursing, College of Education, Social & Behavioral Science, Science Engineering and Tech, Gage A, Gage B, Crawford, McElroy, Undeclared, College of Business and 3 Off-Campus.

Presented Senator schedule for Fall semester. Please email your report before hand.

Read Correspondence sent to Directors for SAC presentations regarding motion passed August 29, 2007. The letter will be sent to all the directors and starting on Halloween we will have 2 or 3 presenters at each meeting. You can ask all the questions you want on how they spend their money.

Senator Hill-Does each RSO have to reapply every year?

Speaker Ryan Anderson-Every RSO does have to be do recognition renewal every year.

Senator Ross-Can you stamp something on the applications that say if you can't meet the requirements for senate that you not apply? I think that 90% of the people that resign do so because they can not attend the meetings.

Speaker Anderson-I think that is unfair because people try but life happens and we want to be fair.

President Frederick-Is it true that when students apply for elections they are being told about the requirements?

Speaker Anderson-That is true.

RSO Recognition Renewal: Students Association of India (SAI), Recondo Club, Maranatha Christian Fellowship, Women in Aviation, Sigma Nu Fraternity, Maverick Jazz Student Organization, MSU Men's Soccer Club, Circle K International, Muslim Student Association, Mankato Swing Dance Club, Lamda Chi Alpha, Dental Hygiene Club, Residence Hall Association, Graduate Student Creative Writing Club, Sudanese Student Union Association, Men's Club Hockey, InterVarsity Club Fellowship, Colleges Against Cancer, Hmong Student Association, MSU Student Ambassadors, Pan African Student Organization, NAACP

Committee Reports

Student Affairs Coordinator- Abbie Hill

Student Affairs had there first meeting on Thursday. We had perfect attendance.

We have decided to meet every other week. We discussed basic concerns for our students. We discussed concerns of a student that needed a physical therapist on campus. She played intramural soccer and had an accident. I met with Health Services Director, Christine Connolly. She showed me 500 surveys of what students want or don't want. One student wanted physical therapy. The majority was optical and x-ray. Basically our decision will be made by the numbers. I will meet with Athletic Director Buisman and Todd Pflingsten before we make our final decision.

Health Services also needs a student to be on a panel for their audit year. Apparently these people come in and they don't want to talk to staff they want to those that use the facilities. If you use Health Services and would like to do this contact me and we will get in contact with her.

A lot of exciting things are going to happen.

Senator Lust-What information has trickled down on the future of Gage and parking ramps?

Senator Sands-I have heard they are going to use Gage for another 5 years.

President Frederick-That will be presented to us when RHA and the Master Plan Committee have made that available. At this time it is speculation.

Announcements

Senator Rajabali-It was a big day downstairs. There was discussion on abortion and the Iraq war and Islam and all that. I was impressed on how well it was handled. Quite a few student groups were out there. It was amazing on how the students spoke out.

Vice President Carmody-Talk to me about Legislative Affairs and if you are going on the MSUSA trip after the meeting. We have 6 spots open for Fantasy Congress.

Senator Hill-Thank you for showing up for committee. Things get done faster when everyone shows up.

Roll Call

Senators Present

Holly Pahl, Brandon Ross, Sharmarke Issa, Matthew Lust, Murtaza Rajabali , Leonard Che Fru, John Busch, Brittany Wiese, Sanju Nepal, Jon Sands, Abbie Hill, Nathan Madden, Kelly Biers, Kristopher Lovstad

Senators Absent

Nikki Hanna

Executive Staff Present

President Frederick, Vice President Carmody

Adjournment Meeting adjourned at 4:45 PM