

**75th MSSA Senate
January 16, 2008**

75th Senate called to order Speaker Ryan Anderson

Roll Call (present-absent-proxy-excused)

Rachael Quast 12-0-0, Kristy Pottebaum 7-0-0, Holly Pahl 15-0-0-1, Jared Grove 12-0-0, Nikki Hanna 14-2-0, Brandon Ross 15-0-0-1, Brett Carpenter 7-0-0, Vang Xiong 4-0-0, Matthew Lust 15-1-0, Murtaza Rajabali 15-1-0-1, Samir Bhattarai 6-1-0-1, Harshdeep Bhasin 10-1-0-3, John Busch 14-1-0-1, Matthew Schmidt 9-0-0, Abdihakim Abdi 3-0-0, Thuy Huynh 5-0-0, Jeffrey Long 12-0-0, Andy Wilke 12-0-0, Abbie Hill 16-0-0, Nathan Madden 16-0-0, Brian McMahan 12-0-0, Kelly Biers 16-0-0, Kristopher Lovstad 16-0-0, Mary Nelson 11-0-0-1, Ryan Johnson 8-2-0, Dave Meyers 11-0-0, President Chris Frederick 16-0-0, Vice President Carmody 15-0-0-1

Open Forum

Ashley Gullikson, Public Affairs Coordinator
Get to Know Your Senator Week-January 28-30

Presentations

Entrepreneurship Club-Vice President Ashton Pankonin, President Noah Balow, Secretary Kevin Lake

Vice President Pankonin- We came here today because we want you to know about the business you got your shirts through. Our Entrepreneurship Club is starting a business, Maverick Solutions. We will be focusing on three aspects. A retail store/T-shirt selling. We will not only be selling club shirts but we will have a few generic MSU shirts on hand. We would like to get many clubs to order from us. We are also going to be business consulting. We are going to use what we learn in the classroom to help other businesses do market research. The third part is a business camp. We will be putting on a summer camp for interested high school students to teach them about business and also introduce them to MSU. Hopefully, that will retain them and they will come to college here.

We are located in University Square. Our Grand Opening will be January 28. Some other things are club is involved in and events we have coming up is; our club is going to UMD to visit their entrepreneurial link as it is ranked in the top in the nation.

Senator Hill-Are you going to be selling the COSBO shirts?

President Balow-No, we had not started the business until this system. We received some financial support through a grant and with that grant they want us to start working on building entrepreneurs on campus. So our club decided to start this business.

Senator Ross-With direct competition downstairs how well do you see yourselves doing?
Vice President Pankonin-We will have to start with smaller numbers. We are hoping to have shirts they do not have. When we get more funding we will go for larger varieties. We are targeting the clubs and custom made shirts.

President Balow-We are trying to get our feet wet with generic shirts. We are not trying to compete with the bookstores. We want to set ourselves apart. We are looking for designs by going to the Art Department and get trendy shirts that are popular with

MSU in mind. We are also looking at our own designs. We are having a contest that anyone can enter for design and we will reward with gift certificates. It is not competing but more trying to set our selves apart.

Senator Ross-Will this be like your overhead costs will be a lot lower.

President Balow-We do have a retail space. We are located in the Old Tune Town space. We are not using the whole space. We are also working on building a website. We are hoping we can sell some of our stuff through the website.

Mr. Lake-We will also be adding classroom space to that area. Entrepreneurship class and some others will be using that space for teaching.

Senator Lovstad- What are you doing with the profits that you will be making? How do you get involved and do you pay employees?

Vice President Pankonin-Right now our time is donated but we are looking at a profit sharing. A certain percentage will go back to the club and a percentage will go towards rent. Right now our grant is covering that. We are thinking of diving up hours. If the club made \$200 that for each hour someone would get paid \$10.00. To get involved you could join the club. We are also involving other clubs like the PR club is doing some PR for our grand opening.

President Barlow-We are doing our best to try and get as many people involved as possible. We have about 20 people that come regularly to the club but you can imagine having 20 partners or people to work things out with, it would be kind of tough. We have looked at setting Maverick Solutions apart from the club and having two separate entities.

Senator Schmidt-How do students get a hold of Maverick Solutions?

Mr. Lake-Our grand opening and everyone is invited on Jan. 28, other than that we have email mnsu.entrepreneurs@hotmail.com

Senator Xiong-I love your idea. Will your club discount the shirts if we purchased a lot of shirts?

Noah-Yes, we don't make the shirts but we are working on doing that. We work with Creative Ad Solutions. We out source these. We are not looking at high profits. Student discounts is not unreasonable. We don't mark up prices on things, anything to get business going and allow us to negotiate things to start a business.

Senator Ross-Are you looking at being an intermediary between the customer and the actual production of the shirt or are you looking at actually making the shirt?

Vice President Pankonin-The owner of Creative Ad Solutions has been very helpful. She just got a new printing press and she said we could come in and use it for cost. We would supply our own workers there after business hours.

Mr. Lake-We want to keep the prices as low as possible. By out sourcing it is a little higher, if we can come in there we can keep the prices lower. We are going to get trained in on that very soon.

President Barlow-We are trying to go from concept to idea in 6 months. We are trying to find our nitch right now. A year from now we hope to be doing all of our own shirts, maybe out sourcing some of the real complicated things. We are just trying to learn how to start a business.

Senator Ross-With being part of the club can you receive any financial money because you are a club of the university?

President Barlow-As part of the university we do get some tax benefits. As far as paying people out I am not sure if we were really successful the school would be getting a cut. We are still talking with the Accountants.

President Frederick-I love the shirts. Have you talked to Integrated Marketing or anyone on the naming rights?

President Barlow-We are trying to involve as many people as possible and getting guidance on all that.

Technology Fee- Bryan Schneider, Director of Technical Services/Wayne Sharp, Director of the Academic Computer Center

Information and Technology Services encompasses web programming, video production, customer support, network infrastructure and academic classrooms and labs.

The IT budget is \$6.3 million dollars a year. 48% is staff. The General Fund equipment, is 4%, Institutional Equipment 2% and NAI Tech-Fee is 36%. This does not include the MnSCU IT Initiative funding.

The Tech Fee Distribution \$2.3M. ACC& Satellite Labs \$940,000 or 41%

Classroom/Instructional \$640,000 or 28%, Tech Services/Infrastructure \$595,000 or 26% and Projects-New Technology is \$1000,000 or 5%. Student Help is a critical part of the ACC & Satellite labs. They employ over 30 students and 3 full time staff. This is completely funded by student tech fees.

Technical services funds free internet dial-up, maintenance contract, software, printing. Classroom Presentation funds new classrooms, & support, classroom projection, equipment, student salary 9%, and supplies. Technology Facts of Life-computers wear out, outdated, end of life/support, slows down, costly to maintain and support. That is why continual support is important.

Students at MSU pay \$7.00 a credit for technology fees. Student Tech Fee Comparison-State Colleges charge \$2-\$10.00. State Universities \$8.00-4.28. Winona State is \$7.48 and they have mandatory laptops. Students pay an extra \$500.00 per semester for that laptop. That does not tell the whole story. Our fee is capped at \$84.00. Most schools are pretty much in the same range.

Every spring we meet with students. Student Technology Fee Advisory Committee-we are asking for student participation in the process, this is the way we get feedback from students each year. We examine technology from end to end. The committee visits the server room, various computer labs, student study areas, look at what is behind web application development and how new technology is implemented. Students play a part in deciding what new technology initiatives will be funded and find out about student technology fees and how they are spent. We have a great story to tell and a lot of technology to learn about. We will have 5 meetings on a different area of campus. We will look at all the budget numbers and see where the money goes. We then put together a list of priorities. What comes out of that is the recommendation for tech fees. That goes to you for a vote and the Technology Roundtable to be voted on. That recommendation to the Vice President and President for approval.

What are tech fees used for? New Technology Initiative Grant-this is \$100,000 that we offer to faculty that they could put in a grant proposal for.

Mr. Wayne Sharp-We don't have all the great ideas, you do, faculty do even the janitors do. We want anything that will help with technology. We have always tried to do new things on campus, something cutting edge. A previous example is Tech Rec in Otto Arena. No one else has that. We have it here for you students. In Trafton we will have a GEO wall in 3 D. This is the initiative and they are based on making a new learning environment for you.

Mr. Sharp-We also have group collaboration study rooms, student kiosks-new in Wiecking, Performing Arts and by the computer center. You can check your email quickly.

Mr. Schneider-Upcoming Projects-Network Redundancy, fault tolerance continuity of operations-computer resources, MavMail

<http://cio.mnsu.edu/techfee>

Senator Hill-There are about 4 or 5 Macs in the ACC. Are students using those or do they go to the lab?

Mr. Sharp-Those machines were being tested and they should be up and running. We have about 130 Macs on campus. Geography uses Mac, Music, Mass Comm., and Art

Senator Ross-How much progress have you had with VISTA and getting it equipped on student laptops?

Mr. Sharp-We installed this on 1200 of our machines starting last summer. We were the first university to have Office 07 wide spread throughout their machines. We found we did not get any trouble except one, Auto Cad is the one that is still XP. College of Business is upgrading student laptops to VISTA. They have not completed it. All new laptops will come with VISTA. ITS will be reimaging all laptops capable.

Senator Nelson-What do you do with the replacement of computers?

Mr. Sharp-We pass things on from classrooms to non-instructional. After 5 years we offer to the administration, after that it goes to auction.

Senator Ross-We have been getting mixed signals, we have been told we are not going to be getting VISTA because of problems in the classroom.

Mr. Sharp-We have been successful in loading on 1200 computers and using them for the whole semester.

Senator Wilke-I have noticed the dial service and because that is becoming such an inferior service are their plans for cutting that?

Mr. Sharp-We would love to hear your input in the technology process.

Senator Rajabali-Are you trying to upgrade software in engineering?

Mr. Sharp-We are trying to work with engineering but there are no negotiations at this point.

Mr. Schneider-IT budget does not include the MnSCU Initiative funding.

Approval of Agenda Agenda stands approved

Approval of Minutes 12-5-08 Minutes stand approved

Officer Reports

President Chris Frederick

I am going to go over things that happened over the break. Two executive motions were passed. There was some miscommunication in information and I did not think it was fair to those organizations to wait for this to be passed. I am under the impression that everyone agrees with these.

SAC motions are in the office for a minimum of 10 days. Senators are to do two office hours a week, that is a good time to look at those SAC requests. The Res Hall rates were passed last week. I also attached my consultation letter. After direct consultation with the Student Affairs Committee over break I developed the long term

financial recommendations for the Res Hall. It is looking at a 5% cap across the board and to reevaluate the future financial planning. The way it sits right now one of the reasons for some of these increases is to put money aside for future renovations of halls. They have back to back renovations like Crawford and McElroy. The committee recommended maybe doing one renovation and waiting a couple years to regain some of the funding for the second renovation. This would minimize the increases that campus living would have.

Appointments: Academic Affairs-Abbie Hill, Student Affairs-Nathan Madden
Brett Fleck-SAC

A newsletter will go out this week. It addresses Get To Know Your Senator Week. I attended the on-campus alcohol summit and will be attending the community event on January 23. Vice President Carmody has attended this as well.

Poster Campaign-Technology and Student Life Fees. We need dialogue on where funding is going. This is to create an awareness with students.

We are looking at a possible 3% tuition increase instead of 4%. Campuses were getting additional funding for that 1% buy down from the MnSCU system.

Campus Rec is very much on our radar. I want to give the MSSA a heads up before they read about it. Administration over the break put forth a request for an \$80.00 facility fee. This is very much still in consultation. We have not been side stepped. They put forth this request for the first reading of the Board of Trustees. Final recommendation will be in March. This is not set but they do want it brought back. We look forward to a presentation on this in the next few weeks.

Yesterday I spoke before the Board of Trustees in St. Paul. I provided testimony about how tuition is looking on our campus. I basically highlighted that if certain costs materialized and without support we could be looking at going in the red. We could be looking at over a million dollars in shortfall if the costs materialize and we don't get support from the Office of the Chancellor.

MSUSA DC Summit is coming up. March 15-18. Submit a paper of 500 words on why you think you should go to DC. We are allowed two students.

If you are interested in Tech Fee let me know. Pay for your polo's.

Senator Nelson-Do you have students contact you on feedback on the posters?

President Frederick-Absolutely. The point of these campaigns is to get feedback and get some sort of reaction from the students.

Senator Wilke-Have you had response on the Res Hall motion rates?

President Frederick-I have not. In the last Be it Resolved- if continued costs of on campus living continue to rise then new students and families of students be made aware of other living opportunities and what those costs might be.

Senator Wilke-What sort of response do you anticipate?

President Frederick-A warm, welcome response because we do diligence in representing students as always.

President Madden-Health & Wellness fee, is this something that will be tacked on when you pay for classes?

President Frederick-This would be a continuous ongoing fee enacted into the Student Activity fee.

Senator Wilke-Is MSU going to the Board to get their permission to force this on the students as opposed to them accepting the fee themselves that they turned down last spring?

President Frederick-I would say there is preliminary concern because of the overwhelming turnout we had last year. The administration has reassured us we will be in consultation of a final fee.

Senator Wilke-Can the Board of Trustees do this?

President Frederick-With any consultation process we send a letter and we do have opportunity to voice concerns.

Vice President Casey Carmody

The Campus Alcohol Summit was conducted after finals, we did get quite a few students to attend. We discussed ideas, there was a student panel with various members of the university. There was a student plan to discuss direction we are going to take and the community summit. The big key now is turning talks into doing something, actual action. The Community Alcohol Summit will be in Feb. This will be a larger conversation. That is the next big step in solving the issues we are facing.

Feb 1-3 we are having our next MSUSA Conference. If you can attend, it will be a great conference. We will be planning the state legislative lobby platform, also on the federal level. We will be discussing some caucus things that we would like put on the platform. We will be attending lobby day March 5. We will be taking other trips to lobby as well.

Meet Your Senator Week-There will be several different events during the week so people know who their senators are. Events-Hot Chocolate In the Taylor Center. A rock band Competition in the dorm. We will be serving lunch in the CSU. We will be having an Open House in our office so that students can get to know where we are. We will be having a medallion hunt, this is not open to senators. We want to get all of our faces out there. The week is January 28-31.

I attended a Leg Affairs meeting the other night. There will be caucus training going on. They need people to help out. This is an exciting year for politics.

Senator Hill-Are senators required to attend events?

Vice President Carmody-Try to make it to all the events and help out. The idea is to get the senators known.

Speaker Ryan Anderson

Senator schedules have gone out. Future meetings will be running longer with presentations. Please keep your nights as open as possible.

3 vacancies: Gage A, Off-Campus, Undeclared

Precinct caucus, February 5, super duper Tuesday, a great thing about the city of Mankato is that both Republican and Democrats are at East High School. We can get

together and do a little bi-partisan carpooling. Independents are at West. The Green Party said to contact them. The Constitution Party will be at New Ulm High School. Initial Recognition: Beta Mu- Sigma Phi Omega, Secondary Education Club, Society of Women Engineers

Announcements

Senator Hill-I am sitting next to a celebrity, Casey is on Al Franken on YouTube

Roll Call

Senators Present

Biers, Carpenter, Grove, Hanna, Hill, Huynh, Long, Lovstad, Lust, Madden, McMahan Brian, Meyers, Nelson, Pottebaum, Quast, Rajabali, Ross, Schmidt, Wilke, Xiong

Executive Staff Present

President Frederick, Vice President Carmody

Adjournment 5:16 PM