

**75th MSSA Senate
October 3, 2007**

75th Senate called to order Speaker Ryan Anderson

Roll Call (present-absent-proxy-excused)

Rachael Quast 3-0-0, Holly Pahl 6-0-0-1, Jared Grove 3-0-0, Nikki Hanna 6-1-0, Brandon Ross 7-0-0, Sharmarke Issa 5-2-0, Matthew Lust 6-1-0, Murtaza Rajabali 6-0-0-1, Leonard Che Fru 7-0-0, Harshdeep Bhasin 3-0-0, John Busch 7-0-0, Ojoye Akane 2-1-0, Sanju Nepal 5-2-0, Sharmarke Hurreh 3-0-0, Jeffrey Long 230-0, Jon Sands 670-0, Andy Wilke 3-0-0, Abbie Hill 7-0-0, Nathan Madden 7-0-0, Brian McMahan 3-0-0, Kelly Biers 7-0-0, Kristopher Lovstad 670-0, Mary Nelson 3-0-0, Dave Meyers 3-0-0, President Chris Frederick 7-0-0, Vice President Carmody 7-0-0

Approval of Agenda Agenda approved without objections

Approval of Minutes 9-26-07 Minutes stand approved

Elections

Elections Gage A, College of Allied Health and Nursing

Gage A-Naomi Stauffer

I feel MSSA would be a very good way to get involved in campus by helping out and making campus a better place to be.

Vice President Carmody-What do you see as the biggest issue facing Gage students currently?

Ms. Stauffer-I know that right now they are upset because the internet is not working in Gage A. It will go off and then come back on. That is a big problem right now. We are frustrated because we have to go to the computer lab and then that gets really busy.

Senator Nelson-Where are you from and what did you do in high school?

Ms. Stauffer-I am from Princeton Minnesota. I was in theater productions. I also did Speech and Drama Club, and SADD.

Senator Busch-Are you involved in any other activities on campus?

Ms. Stauffer-I am involved in Circle K, LGBT and SAGE. I am also working as the assistant stage manager for the Rainbow Fish production.

Senator Hill-Senate meets at 4:00 and runs until whenever. Do you have a night class and could you make Student Affairs at 4:45 on Thursday?

Ms. Stauffer- I do not have any night classes. Thursday I do work at 6:00. I would try to make it.

Ms. Stauffer- Hopefully I could be apart of this it seems like a friendly place to be and I would like to help make the campus a better place to enjoy and have fun.

Elected Gage A Senator Naomi

Allied Health & Nursing will remain open.

New Business

Motion 10.03.07A Vice President Carmody/ President Frederick

Whereas: Information and Technology Services initiatives directly affect the students of MSU, Mankato.

Whereas: Part of the ITS budget is funded by student fees.

Whereas: The effective representation of MSU, Mankato students requires an informed MSSA.

Whereas: More information about ITS initiatives and student fees will help the MSSA represent its constituents better.

Be it Resolved: The MSSA requests the University's Vice President for Information & Technology and Chief Information Officer give a presentation to the Senate outlining the ITS initiatives, goals and objectives for the 2007-2008 academic year.

Be it Further Resolved: The presentation will be given on or before the October 24th Senate meeting.

Vice President Carmody-Basically we are going to have Vice President Delmont come in and present on what ITS is doing, what direction they are going and what plans they have next year so we can be informed as much as possible with our constituents. As I said in our awesome student fees budget that I went over, this is something big that always comes up and it is important we are knowledgeable about what goes on with student fees and student dollars.

Senator Lust-What is the context of effective in this motion?

President-Speaking to the previous speaker's comments, that was put in there just for that individual to fall in line with the rest of what effectiveness is as in past discussions.

Senator Lust-In terms of information, how is this different than information already being given to us in terms that have been presented or in terms of line item budgets? What is the purpose of having them show up?

Vice President Carmody-This is different than the presentations we have had before. The tech fee is separate from any other fee, like the Student Union fee. The tech fee is assessed to all students individually from other fees. So it is important that the person that is creating the budget and taking the initiative with ITS come in and explain what the money is being used for.

Also, as for effective, we can look at what ineffective representation would be and that would be being not knowledgeable. So when you flip it around effective representation would be being knowledgeable.

Motion passes unanimously

Officer Reports

President Chris Frederick

It was a busy week on campus. Vice President Carmody and I met with Res Hall Director, Cindy Janney on the upcoming Res Hall consultation rate process. This is a large part of our constitution. When any fee gets determined it comes through this body. We represent all students on campus. We laid out what the consultation process is going to be. We are going to be looking for four students from MSSA, 2 on campus and 2 off campus to go to RHA meetings and to be going to some work groups on changes in the res halls. Senate will get a formal presentation on November 14. The rates have to be determined by December 5. We want 2 off-campus students on the committee to have a voice and be able to throw a different perspective on to the table. Sometimes everyone thinks the same way. It does not hurt to have fresh ideas.

We met with the new CIO Delmont, and talked about ITS and where it is going next year.

We heard at MSUSA from the Chancellor's office about the ITS initiative. Of the 5 million dollars that gets divvied up to all the campuses, Mankato got \$497,000. Our request on what we want to do with that money had to go to the Chancellor's Office on Friday. We were not able to see what Mankato is going to do. We need to be informed about where the money is going to be spent.

Jared Grove will be sitting on the Learning Tech Roundtable. If you hear concerns about the clickers in classes, they are going to bring back a sub work group to look at what is going on with the clickers in the classrooms. It is new technology but not all faculty have taken that on. We need to see if we can expand that user group or if there is some type of buy back program as well as address the prices.

Another key thing in LTR is extended learning. This is a big direction of President Davenport's initiatives. On-line courses have really grown in the last couple of years.

Homecoming Event-BJ Novak, Saturday after the game. MSSA will be having a float in the parade. If you would like to be in the parade contact Senator Ross or Senator Hanna.

Coordinator and Senator Wiese has resigned from senate. Don't forget Pancakes with the President.

Appointments: Student Tech Roundtable: Toluwalope Ajibewa, Jared Grove, Harshdeep Bhasin, Leonard Che Fru, Brian McMahan, Amin Mohamed, Learning Tech Roundtable: Jared Grove, Parking Advisory Committee: Nathan Madden, Student Allocations Committee: Harshdeep Bhasin, Legislative Affairs: David Meyers

Vice President Casey Carmody

I will take over the Academic Affairs committee for the time being. Those priorities are high on my list. We will be moving the committee meetings to Wed. at 3:00 PM.

A great thing happened last week after we talked about the MSUSA Conference. Many people signed up for the MSUSA Conference and unfortunately we can only bring 15 people and we had about 20 sign up. We would like everyone that wants to go to write a paragraph on why you want to go to this conference. Have that to me Friday by noon.

Bookstore Advisory and Textbook Price Containment Committee, we need people to sit on these committees and get them up and running.

Speaker Anderson and I attended the Nickerson dedication today. We met Dr. Nickerson. He talked about the climate on campus in the 70s. It was an exciting event. Speaker Anderson had the opportunity to say a few words and he did an excellent job.

Representative Rukavina will be coming to campus tomorrow. We will talk to him about things our campus is facing and maybe some solutions.

Senator Hurreh-Can you just come to MSUSA and not stay in the hotel?

Vice President Carmody-Yes, that can work. You could stay in St. Paul and join us.

Senator Busch- Senator Rukavina-what is his title?

Vice President Carmody-He is the chair of the House Higher Ed Committee.

Senator Busch-What are the main issues you will be talking to him about?

Vice President Carmody-The budget, tuition, things we are facing on campus. He has been very friendly to students. I testified in front of his committee last year. He tries to talk to students rather than hear it from those that are not students.

Speaker Ryan Anderson

It was a great honor to speak at the dedication. If you would like to read more about that era I encourage you to read his book, it will be for sale or in the library. Dr. Nickerson believed very strongly in student activism and shared governance. He provided a model we should strive for and think about when we do business in that room for the students.

The election for the Social & Behavioral Science seat will be next week. Senator reports next week:

Senator Quast, Long, Bhasin and Wilke. There will be a new senator list.

Correspondence from Attorney-He had 24 landlord tenant cases last month so that still seems to be an issue on this campus.

RSO Initial Recognition: Maverick Outdoor Expeditions, East European Student Organization, Students for Alcohol and Drug Education, Minnesota State University Mankato Council for Exceptional Children, MSU Hip Hop, Students for Affordable Child Care

RSO Rerecognition: German Club, Women's Club Volleyball, Lutheran Campus Ministry- The Crossroads, Kappa Delta Pi- Lambda Lambda, Food and Nutrition Club, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Global Health and Peace Club, MSU Mavericks for Life, Women's Rugby, MNSU Mankato Mens Rugby Club, MEISA, Campus

Bible Fellowship, RPSIG (Role Playing Special Interest Group), Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers, Campus Crusade for Christ, Men's Club Volleyball, St. Thomas More Newman Center, Maverick Water Polo, Korean Student Association, Spanish Club, Psychology Graduate Student Association, MSU Accounting Club, Women's Studies Club, Philosophy Club, Society of Professional Journalists, Speech Communication Graduate Club, Society of Manufacturing Engineers, Management Club, Honors, Sport Management Club, Feminism in Action, United Nations- International Relations, Badminton Club, Delta Chi Fraternity, ASHRAE, Aikido Club, Foreign Language Initiative, Minnesota Rehabilitation- Student Division, Campus Lutheran Chapel, Association for Computing Machinery, SURSI, International Student Association, Phi Kappa Psi, Unitarian Universalist Campus Ministry, Golden Key International Honor Society, Sigma Tau Delta- English Honors Society, Prepare Ministries, Chi Alpha Campus Ministry/Chi Alpha Christian Fellowship, Ski & Snowboard Club, MSU Men's Lacrosse Team, Urban Culture Club, Pre Med Club, History Club

Senator Reports

Off Campus Senator- Abbie Hill

I have been quite busy since my last senator report. Obviously my last report was quite some time ago and my first report ever. Needless to say, I was quite nervous. Anyway, I am sure you are all dying to know what I have been up to lately since I am so shy and quiet.

At our last staff meeting, yes I called Student Affairs, Staff; we elected a new vice chair and secretaries. Nate Madden, who I like to call Football, is the new vice chair which he stated in his report last week, and Kira Diner and Annie Buecksler are the new secretaries. I would like to take the opportunity to tell my committee how nice it is to work with them and how productive we have been as a team.

I also wanted to plug the so new and so cool Public Affairs Committee. If you are interested please see me. We do cool stuff!

I have also met with Vice President Swatfager-Haney. We discussed the problem with students living in extended housing and they are hoping to have everything taken care of by the end of the semester.

Student Affairs had also been very vocal on the J-Hall possibility.

Last month I attended the MSUSA conference in Moorhead. I have never been involved in such a hot topic debate. Yes, at night the topic was who would win in a fight between Daffy Duck and Donald Duck. My vote went to and still goes to Daffy Duck. On to something that relates to senate. At the beginning of the conference each school was allowed to give an update on what was going on at their campus. Our presentation, by far, was the best! You will all be happy to know that my MSUSA crush, Taylor, will be taking our idea of the commercial to his incoming freshmen next year.

As for now, that is all I have except to announce the Staff meeting tomorrow at 4:45 to 5:45 and the dorm tour afterward. Anyone interested is welcome to attend. I also wanted to mention that if you have been appointed to Staff since you couldn't make the Academic Affairs meetings, we will see you tomorrow!

President Frederick-You mentioned that you met with Vice President Swatfager-Haney about the expanded living. Did she say what the reduced rates are for those students living in the expanded housing?

Senator Hill-She said after a month they were paying the same rate and then it would go on an individual basis.

President Frederick-From our discussions we felt that the students living in expanded housing would be given a reduced rate. We have been trying to get that rate for the last five weeks and have not gotten a response so we are still in discussion with Director Janney to figure out what that rate is going to be for the rest of the semester.

Vice President Carmody-Is it ok that students on Academic Affairs still come to your meeting even though they are now able to attend Academic Affairs?

Senator Hill-Yes, they can attend. Anyone can attend the dorm tour.

Off Campus Senator- Kelly Biers

Since it's homecoming week, and that's what is on many people's minds, I'll start there. I've started talking to members of IMPACT, and will continue to do so as the week progresses, to see where they're at, how they're feeling, where they're going, etc. So far, things have been going well, and I think it's fairly obvious that there have been some major improvements since last year. There are quite a few new events to participate in, and having the parade on Saturday, weather permitting, is expected to boost school spirit that day and make Saturday the true "main event." The canned food drive, which ended yesterday, was very successful. About 2700 cans of food were donated, and if you were by the SLD&SL yesterday around noon, you probably saw all the coolers, carts, and bags full of cans.

It's still too early, though, to make a good judgment on how homecoming is doing. As I continue my conversations with IMPACT and various students who are participating in the events, I hope to get more numbers as well as qualitative feedback after the week has passed. For example, I'd like to see how many organizations participated this year compared to earlier years. One thing we do know is that Residence Hall participation is down, seeing as there is only one participating this year. There are seven Greek organizations and 13 RSOs, but I've not yet found out what those numbers were like in previous years. I found these numbers from another new addition to homecoming, which is a scoreboard in the CSU next to the Hub. It shows which organizations are participating in what events, as well as what they are scoring in each event. Again, there's much more to come, so it's hard to tell what participation will be like by the end of the week.

Be sure to check out some of the events. I've seen a few senators and officers at a couple of the events already, and as many of you know, Leonard Che-Fru is in the running for homecoming king, and I believe there is still time to vote, so be sure to do so.

I am, of course, on the student affairs committee, and one of the issues we are looking into is the Landlord-Tenant's Association, which has not been active for some years now. If it were to reconvene, we're not yet sure what format it would take, how effective it would be, or even if there would be any interest in it. I hope to get a better idea of this after talking more with friends, neighbors, and other students about this possibility.

I'm also on the diversity committee, though I haven't yet been able to attend a meeting. I will be there this Friday, and I am excited to be a part in the discussions. I think it is wonderful that the committee plans to advertise, as with many other things in the senate and the university, few people know about it. I'm concerned with the idea of "color-blindness" being promoted, but of course that is something that will be worked out. The important thing is that we'll be getting the word out, and people will know that there is a committee designed to address diversity on campus. President Frederick-You mentioned the Canned Food Drive, was it true that an RSO had to bring in 350 cans? Senator Biers-That was the maximum you could bring in. You did not have to compete to donate.

Undeclared- Sanju Nepal

This afternoon I visited the Student Union Office, Room 220, and I met with Susan Olson. The reason I was interested in meeting her was because of what I had noticed while walking around the CSU and other college departments. I asked her why some posters are not removed from the bulletin boards when they have passed the event date. She was skeptical about what I asked so we actually went to check out 6 bulletin boards in the CSU. She told me that they sometimes might miss a day or so. She explained that the reason for missing a day was because they don't have any designated worker to change the posters and it takes about 45 minutes for them to change all the posters. I got my answers and she assured me that they would try their best not to forget to take down the posters after the event day, which is a good thing for our students and staff.

I attended Nepal night and actively participated in the event. I was very happy to see people from all cultural backgrounds. The best part of the event was it turned out to be a very diverse event and I am thankful to some of the members of MSSA who attended the event.

I am also looking forward to working effectively with MSSA and with my fellow senators for the entire semester. I encourage everyone to vote for Senator Leonard.

Senator Biers-When you met with Mrs. Olson about the posters, does she do just the CSU?

Senator Nepal-She stamps them for other buildings but she just does the CSU.

Vice President Carmody-Did you talk about anything for the academic buildings or just the CSU?

Senator Nepal-She said she only looks after the CSU and for the departments, the departments handle them.

Senator Sands-Could the RSO or the department that puts the poster up take them down that they do not have a charge to a department for taking down the posters?

Senator Lovstad-The workers do the best they can in the CSU with the posters. If you want to get more involved or know about this you can come to CSU Board

Off Campus Senator- Kris Lovstad

I want to start off by thanking everyone for their hard work so far and it should be a fun year for student senate. I have attended both of the Student Affairs meetings this year. We have discussed a wide range of topics. The new residence J-hall being planned and the effects on parking that it will have on campus for freshmen and the rest of us. We also discussed whether or not there is a need for a physical therapist on campus and if so who would pay for it and what other options there could be.

The Centennial Student Union Board is scheduled to meet this Friday at 2:00 in the Senate Office. We have a lot of work to do this year on the CSU Board. The budget is due very early this year, I believe it is due in November. Last year we were able to balance the CSU budget so that it did not go up, thus in effect the Student Fees for the CSU stayed the same. This semester it is my goal to do the same. I also want to bring back the idea for refillable cups in the food service area of the CSU. We also need to discuss a new entrance in the back of the CSU for the future residence of the Julia A. Sears Dormitories.

I look forward to the MSUSA conference in a couple of weekends; it should be a fun and interesting time for all of us. Thank you all and I will yield for questions.

Senator Che Fru-You talked about a south entrance-this entrance is not open on Sundays.

Senator Busch-I don't see why we have to spend money on a new entrance.

Senator Lovstad-It has not been decided where the door will be. It is just all in the works right now.

Senator Bhasin-Last year the CSU was open until 2:00 AM, now it is only open until 12:00. Is there a reason for that?

Senator Lovstad-Last year there were only 10 students in the building from 12:00 A.M. until 2:00 on computers. So Union Board voted to close at 12:00 and have the library open until 2:00 to save money in operating costs.

President Frederick-Is it true that the possible entrance remodel could make the space downstairs more inviting to new students and friendly.

Senator Lovstad-Yes, it would be a place to hang out and be more inviting, kind of like your own personal living room. The students own this building. We pay for it and students work in it.

Senator Che Fru-On Fridays and Saturdays the CSU closes at midnight, the library closes at 6:00, could that be extended?

Senator Lovstad-The numbers just did not add up for so few people.

Senator Lovstad-You can get food until 10.00. There are just not enough students to keep food service open longer.

Senator Quast-Have they thought about extending hours during finals week?

Senator Lovstad-Yes, during finals week we are open 24 hours.

President Frederick-What do you think about all students paying fees for a few students to use the CSU when the library is open?

Senator Lovstad-We have to have at least two people working in the CSU at all times. With heating, electricity and other costs, it does save a lot of money to close earlier and is most cost effective in saving student fees.

Senator Nepal-I have noticed students working that are not students. Do we get money from them?

Senator Lovstad-Sodexo food service hires them. We get a royalty from them but not much.

College of Business- Brandon Ross

Through the first month or so of school I have been very busy and active in finding out how the College of Business is progressing. I have been privileged enough to talk with students, faculty and a rare discussion with the Dean for the College of Business, Scott Johnson. I feel our campus is progressing, yet still needs more improvement.

Topics discussed with Dean Johnson

Enrollment- We are continuing to have quality enrollment. 462 students graduated in spring of 2007, most in 5 years.

Heating and Cooling- Poor. It is extremely inconsistent. Some of the rooms are not ventilated properly. Some of the buildings are old. Renovation would be a good idea but the cost would be high. Ultimately that will happen when we get the new building.

New Building- New ventilation and better environment

Hiring More Staff-All Business students have trouble getting their classes. If the President allows for more money for staffing then they could alleviate that. Ways of working around that might be for faculty to teach more classes, or they could admit more numbers.

Offering more classes

Students could be admitted by a number say 200 each year in the College of Business and not have this based on the 2.5 GPA.

Teacher Performance-

Majority of teachers are not meeting the standards, they teach the same thing they have done the last 20 years. This is not progressive or meeting the needs of students. They are not using the technology in the classrooms. Refining teacher practices-Dean Johnson pointed me in the direction of (Stuart Ross) (CETL) He holds seminars for teachers so that they can become up to date. Hopefully they can keep working on that.

Overall we are progressing, a lot of new things are happening.

Senator Hill-Did you talk about a mandatory evaluation given out by professors at the end of a class?

Senator Ross-I did not talk to him directly about that. I don't know if that is helpful. If so, they may change their tactics.

Senator Nelson-Heating and cooling issue-did you talk about the new building?

Senator Ross-Yes, but they don't have concrete data on the new building, it is still in development.

Senator Nelson-Did you talk about the schools he attended last year, like China?

Senator Ross-He said they are going to work on traveling and learning different cultures.

Senator Nelson-Did he mention the 200 mark or was that yours?

Senator Ross-I threw that out there. He said if we had 400 students getting over the GPA requirement of 2.7 and we only have classrooms and teacher availability we need to refine tactics so that we can maintain quality and the classroom environment as much as possible. So it all depends on classrooms and availability of teachers.

Arts and Humanities- Holly Pahl

I made an appointment to visit with Jane Earley (Dean of Arts and Humanities)

- To discuss the \$7.5 million donated to MSU
- And to talk about issues or problems in the college

The biggest issue we have is space. I am talking with students in the Arts and Humanities College to discuss concerns within the college, and possible ways of improving.

Upcoming events: There is a lot going on this weekend during homecoming. A swing Chicago style blues band will perform on October 4, at 7:30 here at MSU. *Cats* will be performed on Thursday, Friday and Saturday. The Ellis Street Singer Reunion with the MSU Jazz Singers will also perform on Saturday at 1:30.

Announcements

Vice President Carmody-If you want to go to the MSUSA Conference have your paragraph by Friday at noon. Academic Affairs will meet next Wed. 3:00

Senator Ross-Homecoming, we will decorate our car Friday at noon. The parade is at 11:00 on Sat.

Senator Sands-Oct. breast cancer awareness month. College Against Cancer will be doing some Fundraising on the mall. They will be selling t-shirts.

Senator Bhasin-I am concerned about the Library and CSU hours. When we work on the budget can we talk about the Library hours or extending hours in the CSU?

Senator Biers-Next week is Coming Out Week. There will be a speaker.

Senator Wilke-Next week the Mankato City Council will be holding meetings on the liquor moratorium.

President Frederick-The City of Mankato is working on a liquor moratorium-be mindful of who you represent and keep your thoughts clear and concise if you go to the City Council meeting.

Senator Nelson-Coronation and Lip Sync Contest tomorrow night.

Roll Call

Senators Present

Rachael Quast, Holly Pahl, Jared Grove, Nikki Hanna, Brandon Ross, Beth Larson, Matthew Lust, Leonard Che Fru, Harshdeep Bhasin, John Busch, Sanju Nepal, Sharmarke Hurreh, Jeffrey Long, Naomi Stauffer, Ryan Johnson, Jon Sands, Andy Wilke, Abbie Hill, Nathan Madden, Brian McMahan, Kelly Biers, Kristopher Lovstad, Mary Nelson

Senators Absent

Sharmarke Issa, Ojoye Akane

Executive Staff President

President Frederick, Vice President Carmody

Adjournment Meeting adjourned at 5:40 P.M.