

**75th MSSA Senate  
February 13, 2008**

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

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

Rachael Quast 16-0-0, Kristy Pottebaum 10-0-0-1, Holly Pahl 19-0-0-1, Jared Grove 16-0-0, Brandon Ross 19-0-0-1, James Varner 4-0-0, Brett Carpenter 11-0-0, Vang Xiong 8-0-0, Matthew Lust 19-1-0, Murtaza Rajabali 18-1-0-1, Harshdeep Bhasin 14-1-0-3, Brian Leonhardi 3-0-0-1, Matthew Schmidt 13-0-0, Thuy Huynh 9-0-0, Jeffrey Long 16-0-0, Noah Olanrewaju, 3-0-0, Andy Wilke 16-0-0, Abbie Hill 20-0-0, Nathan Madden 20-0-0, Brian McMahan 16-0-0, Kelly Biers 20-0-0, Kristopher Lovstad 20-0-0, Ryan Johnson 14-3-0, Dave Meyers 15-0-0, President Chris Frederick 20-0-0, Vice President Carmody 19-0-0-1

**Presentations**

**Student Health Services- Christine Connolly**

Student Health Services mission is to provide quality and affordable medical care and health education to MSU students to support their academic success. (see handout) Goals and Objectives: To provide the services most needed and requested by students. To provide medical and education services that are affordable to every student. To integrate services with other campus programs to maximally utilize resources.

To ensure that all services provided are offered by the most competent staff and are offered in the most customer friendly way.

The student is: The most important person on this campus. Without students there would be no need for the institution. Not a cold enrollment statistic but a flesh and blood human being with feelings and emotions like our own. Not someone to be tolerated so that we can do our thing. They are our thing. Not dependent on us. Rather, we are dependent on them. Not an interruption of our work, but the purpose of it. We are not doing them a favor by seeing them. They are doing us a favor by giving us the opportunity to do so.

Student Health Services/Health Education-Medical/Nursing Services, Laboratory and Pharmacy, Health Education/Research, Office Management

How services affect students-Directly impact retention, directly impact health/wellness, keep students well and in class-academic performance, make healthcare affordable for students

Integration with Campus

AAAHC Accreditation (this year)

Medical records and charting, patient care, diagnosis and treatment issues, policies that govern the clinic, lab, pharmacy and health education, our budget-revenues and expenses/fiscal responsibility, value of services to students, customer satisfaction and problem resolution, continuous improvement initiatives, risk management/liability issues, appropriate credentialing of staff

Funding: Total Budget for FY 08 \$2,308,031.00. Student Fees-\$1,300,853,00. In 2002 we were 80% funded by student fees. We are now 56% dependent on student fees. That funding has gone down every year and we are really proud of that. We will continue to challenge ourselves in that way. Lab revenue \$95,000, Pharmacy revenue \$295,000,000, Other (supplies, procedures)

Reason for Surplus-We are generating more revenue than anticipated. We are cost conscious! This is the final year for the grant we received so some positions that you have not had to fund in the past will revert back to the SAF-there has been salary savings and advertising savings, basically anything

related we were able to shift to the grant. That grant comes off the table this year. You will not see the surplus after this year. Proposed Spending of Surplus: Put majority of money back into FY 09 budget to reduce the amount we need to ask students for. It is your money. It should be your cost savings. This is one way health services can say thank you for supporting our growth initiatives and grant initiatives over the last few years.

Request for FY 08-Psychiatrist and RN. RN is a 3<sup>rd</sup> party billable service. We can bill more patients. She could generate funds for the position. Last year we were able to get one year of Strategic Initiative money for the psychiatrist position. The truth is I don't know what we will do at the end of the year if we lose that position. The Psychiatrist is seeing a 95% increase in a six week period. That is a scary scary statistic. We can not play around on how we are going to cover him. These are the two things we will be asking for this year. We hope this is something we can put into the base.

Senator Bhasin-How many students use the service?

Director Connolly-This year we had 16,607 office visits. That is up from 14,000 last year.

Senator Bhasin-How many students have insurance?

Director Connolly-About 2 years ago, in our last survey, about 15% of students were uninsured. 15% of a campus of 14,000 is a significant number. There is a big pool of people out there that need services and don't have money or insurance. An estimated 50% of people sent to the psychiatrist are uninsured.

Vice President Carmody-What is the biggest contribution you give to MSU, Mankato students?

Director Connolly-We help students stay well and stay in class, and perform in class and be academically successful. We are seeing way more students with psych issues. We try to help them identify issues early on and get them well as quickly as we can. We work with students to help them be academically successful.

Senator Hill-What percentage of the students you see live on campus?

Director Connolly- I would guess 30-35%. We see a significant number of off campus students as well. We like seeing the on-campus student because if we see students as a freshman they keep coming and stay with us.

Senator Ross-How do our services compare to other campuses in what we offer?

Director Connolly-Compared to St. Cloud we do very well. University of MN is four times our size and they have 17 times the Health Service budget. At the University of Minnesota the health fee is \$350 dollars a year. Here it is \$80.00. If you give me \$350.00 a year, we would give you a \$20.00 flu shot. When you look at the bigger institutions, we don't compare. When you look at institutions our size we provide a huge array of services with the funding we have. We are doing a really good job.

Senator Ross-Do you see needing more room in the current location you are in?

Director Connolly-We usually use all of the rooms, we juggle doctors on days we are filled. We have a big lab and pharmacy. We could shorten those areas to give us a few more offices. We will need to look at that in the long run.

Senator Madden-Do you feel Health Services is sufficiently visible throughout campus so that the average student knows we have these services ?

Director Connolly-We do what we can but the answer is no. In terms of spending money for marketing, do we market or provide services? We try to put information in orientation packets, every residence hall, etc. We could spend thousands of dollars marketing. We can always do better.

Senator Wilke-In regards to the Psychiatrist, what is the best and worst case scenario in regard to getting the funding or not getting the funding ?

Director Connolly-The year before we got a psychiatrist we had two suicides on campus. That does not mean that would not happen but clearly now we have a contact that can respond if someone is in crisis. We have a resource that is a phone call away. He can assess if someone needs to be

hospitalized, if they need medication. He is a great resource for students. I would hate for a student to go through six trials before he gets the advice he needs. I have never come here and asked you for things I don't think are important. To me this is a campus priority.

Senator Xiong-How many staff do you have?

Director Connolly-With the Clinic and Health Education, about 20 positions, 13 are full time. None of my staff except mine and the Assistant Director are full time positions. We have people that are .5.

Senator Xiong-What are their degrees?

Director Connolly-We have 3 doctors, LPN's, Pharmacist, Master and bachelor degrees in Health Ed.

Senator McMahan-What can you do to make it more affordable? How can you drive down the costs?

Director Connolly-The only way is mandatory insurance. We have been before the senate several times to ask for that. An insurance company will not give you a reasonable plan if it is not mandatory. On a mandatory plan, only the sick people are using the plan.

Senator Rajabali-What exactly do we pay fees for? What services do you provide?

Director Connolly-The services are severally reduced. An office visit-\$15.00. (Now Care-\$40-150).

You get your money worth in one visit. Pharmacy, most of the time, if they have insurance, is just the co-pay. Over the counter is just about at cost. We are not interested in making a profit on those, you pay for only the costs. Lab costs \$5 or \$10.00, on the outside that same cost might be \$70.00.

Senator Wilke-Health Services is probably the one department on campus that can do a lot about alcohol awareness. What are you doing to provide education and service?

Director Connolly-We have been afforded the luxury over the last three years of having the grant. When the grant runs out we will not have a pool of money for alcohol. We have a half time alcohol coordinator that works with people that get an alcohol citation. She does workshops and programming, education in classrooms, treatment facilities and the community. She is required by the institution to send out information to students, faculty, and staff on alcohol awareness. That is a federally required project that is unfunded. More and more of those things happen every year and it prevents you from doing the types of things you would like to do. All of the programs in the last few years have been funded through the grant, like the skiing. I don't know what will happen when the grant is gone.

Senator Xiong-Sometimes I hear students get two different opinions from when they go to you and to the Mankato Clinic. Do you have a suggestion box?

Director Connolly-Yes, we do. Two Drs. can give you two different opinions, that happens all the time in the real world. But let us know your concerns and we will filter them to the proper area. Go to our website. Give us your name and phone number, we can not violate privacy by responding to emails.

Senator Lust-You seem to be asserting that the psychiatrist position is the most advantageous to campus yet at the same time our Counseling Center is in process. In requesting funds wouldn't it be best to request some funds from Student Affairs, at least a portion, rather than come to us and request full funding?

Director Connolly-This request is not for full funding. The request is for \$40,000. We requested \$40,000 from the Strategic Initiative. We only got half his time last year as we could not get full funding. A PhD Counselor can not prescribe medication. There still needs to be a dr. involved in the process and with a clinic. They need to be able to write prescriptions and patients need to be able to fill them. From the perspective of providing a comprehensive service a psychiatrist fits better with medical services. We did look at M&E last year and we looked at Strategic Initiative funding. I need someone to say this is an important position and take it to base. We will do whatever we can to try and generate money and subsidize it. We spend more time trying to chase the money every year. The bottom line is if it comes out of M&E it is your tuition. If it comes out of here, it is your fee. Either way you are paying, but at some point, we need to get it to base.

Senator Ross-Continuous improvement-what do you feel is a big issue, is marketing an issue?

Can we market or promote a campaign so that we can be an active voice on campus?

Director Connolly-We do some of that, we put ads in the newspaper all the time. We maybe need to put together a brochure of services or posters that will advertise those pockets and will get the information out there, obviously with limited resources.

Senator Biers-The Diversity Committee recently met to discuss the international plan and one of the suggestions to lower the cost might be combing the international plan and the domestic plan so that you would have more people on it and it would drive down the costs. Do you think that could be a possibility?

Director Connolly-We would have to present that to the insurance company. I think it would not drive the cost down but I think it would drive the costs up. The international plan is way better than the plan the domestic students have. The domestic plan is voluntary. The only people buying it are people that need it at that point. If you throw that population into the international plan they will get a bigger bang for their buck but it will drive every bodies costs up because now the insurance company is going to have to pay more claims per thousand than before because the international population may have only 60% using it where now they would have 100% using it so they would have more claims and they would raise the price. I wish they would say yes, but I doubt it. If you are interested in the international issue our voting delegate on MnSCU is Ishrat in the International Center. You would want to share your issues with her.

### **Tuition- Vice President Rick Straka**

We do have a tentative agreement with the faculty association. We are still in bargaining with another unit. For us to project our costs will be difficult. I don't bring more information than when we talked in the fall and that was that the Board of Trustees has said they will cap tuition at 3%. They have taken that out of the institutions hands and made that at a system wide level. The institution will be made whole like it was 4% like we had talked about last year. We will end up with just about a 4% increase in our enrollment. Given what we are projecting with bargaining, we are projecting 2.6 in appropriation, just under 4% increase in tuition. Average that out and it is about 3.2%. We know are first bargaining has settled at over 4%. We are projecting that is where other people are going to settle. That is a problem. We are spending more than we are getting in revenue. Our projections right now, if we did not grow enrollment at all, and were just level, we are looking at just under a \$3 million dollar deficit in the general fund that we will have to address. If we increase our enrollment by about 300 FYE, which we think is realistic and is the scenario we are looking at, we will look at a million half dollars in deficit. There is still one wild card that we have to look at and that is that we have a State forecast coming out the end of February that will tell us what the State of Minnesota thinks their financial situation will be. Last June the forecast was over a \$2 million dollar surplus through June 30 of 2009. That forecast was revised and there is now a \$370 million dollar deficit forecast at the end of the biennium. I have never seen the state economist give so many hints that we are in a recession. There will be a significant deficit for next year. This won't affect 08 budget. It is yet to be determined what impact that could have in the overall budget. There is talk or rumor of state de-allocations for next year. We have not heard anything official and we have not heard anything from MnSCU that it will be the case. I have not seen as much gloom and doom in forecast in twenty years. On tuition, unless there is a major change, we will try to come in at 3%. We will look at the level of economic forecast and what the level of deficit is going to be and how the legislature going to react to that in how they balance the budget. Will MnSCU play a part in balancing that state budget? I think we are safe in saying 3% in the tuition impact.

Senator Carpenter-If we have a deficit, where will spending be cut from?

Vice President Straka-Every division will be looking at things the farthest away from the strategist plans and initiatives and see where they can be more efficient. It is a centralized process.

Senator Ross-Do you feel this will hinder implication of any new buildings or renovation?

Vice President Straka-I would hope that we would not hit those, if you take those kinds of cuts it just multiplies and it takes years to recover from one year of not investing.

No I don't see that. As far as bonding I don't think this will have an issue on anything currently in the plan. The legislature may decide they want a big bonding package so they can provide a stimulus to employ contractors and contractors can spend that money and so forth. The government may look at this as an opportunity of providing a stimulus for a bigger bonding package.

Senator Ross-When will they release the forecast?

Vice President Strata-February 29, that sets the check book for the next couple years. This may affect what will happen the rest of the year. Generally, unless the economy takes a sharp turn, they have enough things in place that they don't have to come back to agencies and ask for changes.

Senator Lust-Would the changes be made up of faculty or of staff?

Vice President Straka-You can cut people and you can cut stuff. You can cut stuff to the point that it does not affect the overall quality of the experience. We are a people institution. We are heavily invested in people. We would like to not look at people. We would not want to take faculty over staff. We will try to find ways to do things as efficient as we can so that we would not have to go and tell people they did not have employment. That would be our last priority.

## **SAC Allocation Requests**

### **SAC Motion 02.13.08A**

**SAC recommends allocating \$640 to cover Club Baseball fees to enter the Tampa Spring Training beginning on March 9<sup>th</sup>**

Senator Bhasin-They are going over spring break. They requested \$2,000.00. SAC recommended \$640.00 to off set registration. 20 students are going.

Senator Wilke-Did they indicate how many games they will be playing?

Senator Bhasin-They will be playing about 8 games.

Another point of information-the total amount we have in our non-budgeted fund is \$80,968, SOAFC \$2,206. That is the balance.

Senator Carpenter-Do they do any fundraising?

Senator Bhasin-They did about \$1,000.00. They worked security at some men's and women's basketball games and they worked some volleyball games.

Senator Wilke-Did they indicate how much each member would contribute?

Senator Bhasin-If we were funding the whole amount of \$2,000 it would be \$280.00 per person. The total expense of the trip is \$12,900.

Senator Hill-Why were they not given the full amount?

Senator Bhasin-They only were playing 8-10 games. Wednesday they would not be having any games. SAC figured that this was for 20 people in Tampa for spring break and that baseball is not that tough of a game.

Vice Presidency Carmody-I would feel very poorly about my Vice Presidency if I did not defend Baseball.

Senator Wilke-It looks like we do have plenty of money.

Senator Hill-I would have liked to see them get the full amount.

**22y 0 n 0 abstentions motion carries**

### **SAC Motion 02.13.08B**

**SAC recommends allocating \$600 to MSU Habitat for Humanity to travel to Beaumont, Texas to build homes for low income persons beginning on March 8<sup>th</sup>**

Senator Bhasin-They have received \$815.00. Expenses paid by students \$194.00. \$3350.00 total expenses. This is the 13<sup>th</sup> year the club has requested funding for this trip.

Senator Wilke-How many students are going?

Senator Bhasin-12 students, they asked for \$600.00.

**22 y 0n 0 abstentions motion carries**

**SAC Motion 02.13.08C**

**SAC recommends allocating \$500 to the Muslim Student Association of SOAFC funds for the Islamic Awareness Week from March 31- April 4**

Senator Bhasin-The number of students that will be attending is 200-300. This is for on-campus programming. The total cost of the event is \$6,500. That includes speakers, refreshments and gifts. They did not have much fundraising efforts.

Senator Carpenter-They did not raise any funds?

Senator Bhasin-No, this is for SOAFC funding.

Senator McMahan- Don't they have to fundraise for SOAFC?

Senator Bhasin-No

Mr. Hodapp-They mentioned that they are going to collaborate with various departments, including Cultural Diversity.

**23 Y 0N 0 Abstentions Motion carries**

**SAC Motion 02.13.08D**

**SAC recommends allocating \$310 to Mankato Student Nurse Association to attend the National Student Nurse Association Convention in Grapevine, Texas from March 25 to March 29**

Senator Bhasin- They did \$2,710 in fundraising efforts. Total expenses would be around \$4,000. That would come to around \$3,500. There are 8 students going to the conference. Personal contribution would be around \$39.00.

Senator Carpenter-Did they do any fundraising?

Senator Bhasin-\$2,710 for a barbeque in the fall.

**23 y 0 no 0 abstentions Motion carries**

**Approval of Agenda** Amend agenda to amend by addition Officer Reports to add Kira Steiner to Academic Affairs and Tyler Stein to Elections Committee. Change in Elections Committee to New Business first position

**Approval of Minutes 02-06-2008** Approved without objection

**Elections- Undeclared Students, Off Campus, CSET, Social and Behavioral Sciences** (Last Vacancy Elections for the semester are Next Week !)

**Undeclared-Ruby Lopez-** I feel I could help undeclared first year students find their way around campus because I have experienced being an undeclared first year student. It is hard without the right guidance. I want to help make things around MSU better for undeclared students.

Vice President Carmody-What do you feel is the most important issue facing undeclared students?

Ms. Lopez-Majors and minors, no proper guidance with advising, and maybe career fairs for first year students.

Senator Ross-Are you aware of the resources that you can go to for undeclared students?

Ms. Lopez-I took a FYE class and they told ways of help and for advising.

Senator Carpenter-What is your greatest accomplishment?

Ms. Lopez-I was in leadership positions in high school.

Senator Varner-What conditions do you see as unfit for undeclared students right now?

Ms. Lopez-They do not have a lot of help in advising, they are not informed about majors.

Senator Schmidt-Being a senator you have time commitments of Senate and Academic Affairs, as well as another committee and two hours in the senate office. Can you work around those?

Ms. Lopez-Yes

Senator McMahan-What is your greatest strength?

Ms. Lopez-Helping, I am experienced being an undeclared student so I know the struggles.

### **Elected Undeclared Senator Ruby Lopez**

#### **Off-Campus**

**Jon Hurm**-I have been here before. I would love to answer any new questions.

Vice President Carmody-What do see as the biggest issue facing off-campus students?

Jon Hurm-Marketing to off-campus students about programs that we have on drinking or athletic events or campus rec or other things we have. If students don't know about them, it is hard to get involved.

Senator McMahan-What is your strongest skill?

Mr. Hurm-Communication skills. The ability to talk to others and meet on a middle ground, being able to listen and my experience.

### **Elected Off-Campus Senator Jon Hurm**

#### **Science Engineering & Technology**

**Casey Adkins**-I am working on a degree in Automotive and Mechanical Engineering Technology.

I feel I would bring communication and team work and leadership skills to the senate. After talking to the students in my college the re-occurring issue that has been coming up is tutoring. I would like to create more tutoring sessions for those in my college.

Senator Carpenter-What is your greatest accomplishment?

Mr. Adkins-My greatest accomplishment would be standing up here and taking this opportunity to help my constituents.

Senator Schmidt-Senate requires 2 hours in the senator office and 2 other meetings, would that work for you?

Mr. Adkins-yes

Mr. McMahan-Engineering requires a heavy class load, would you be able to do this?

Mr. Adkins-Yes, this semester. Engineering is by far the hardest school work thing I have ever done.

Senator Ross-Being on Senate you are a resource and a leader, what type of leadership skills do you have?

Mr. Adkins-I work well with others and I can come to a common ground.

Senator Rajabali-What other issues have you heard in the college of CSET?

Mr. Adkins-Along with Campus Rec they would like to see a race track.

I welcome this opportunity.

### **Elected Science, Engineering and Technology Senator Casey Adkins**

#### **Officer Reports**

**President Chris Frederick**

I want to express thanks to ITS for putting things together and getting our survey sent out. We have heard a lot of positive responses. The questions were formed by you in your committees. Campus Rec Forum today, overall it was a positive response seeing as it is a more palatable proposal this year.

The Community Wide Alcohol Forum Feb. 27 8:00 AM-11:30 at the Alltel Center.

Senator Quast-I took the survey. Why did we not use Zoomerang?

President Frederick-This survey was put together for us by ITS and has a less likely chance for repeats.

Senator McMahan-Was the survey called the Rec Proposal survey?

President Frederick.-It was called the MSSA survey. It took the top half, it was not specifically Campus Rec.

Senator Carpenter-What is the format for the alcohol forum?

President Frederick-Former Senator Tim Penny will be the M.C. The keynote speaker will be Susanne Williams, Assistant to the President at MSU, Moorhead, talking about other universities and alcohol issues in the state. There will be community wide discussion at the tables. Each table will have one or two youth, some business leaders, some parents, faculty. There will be a student panel and a community wide panel followed by discussion.

Appointments: Academic Affairs-Kira Diner, Elections Committee-Tyler Stein

### **Vice President Casey Carmody**

I attended Tet New Year. This is a great way to meet constituents. I attended the Campus Rec Forum, it was generally favorable. Talk to your constituents and get as informed as possible. I talked to a member of the Tennis Team and he suggested a bubble over the tennis courts. I attended the SLD open house.

Academic Appeals process or Student Grievance policy-update yourself on those and refresh yourself. I have met with several students about appeals or grievances. It is a great tool to help constituents. Diversity Conference, MSUSA Feb. 22-24. This is an awareness conference.

### **Speaker Ryan Anderson**

Initial Recognition: Law Enforcement Club

### **Committee Reports**

#### **Elections Committee- Matt Lust**

Elections Committee is a group of impartial students not running in the campaign this spring. This Committee establishes guidelines and makes sure the elections are run in a fair and just manner.

Vice President Carmody-In the motion you are striking one week following for submitting financial reports to reporting on March 21, 28, April 4 and April 11. Is that one each week?

Senator Lust-Yes, four times, basically at the end of each week.

Senator Ross-Working off that point-do you submit something saying "I spent 0 dollars"?

Senator Lust-This also includes any fundraised or other services provided or donated or services rendered. The answer is yes unless you had nothing, anything to do with financial obligation you have to report.

Senator Carpenter-Is MavPrint a contribution?

Senator Lust-No, that is a personal contribution, a self donation.

Senator Wilke-Amended Article III. How can you get posters made?

Senator Lust-No activity should be done like post dating.

Senator Hill-Why are we taking it from one report to four?

Senator Lust-Just to create more accountability.

President Frederick-In the past when you had a receipt you brought it in, this actually creates a level of accountability. Students can see where you are getting your money and what you are spending your money on.

Senator Lovstad-What was the reasoning of the recruitment part?

Senator Lust-It goes to reinforce that recruitment does not blur into campaigning.

Senator Wilke-Is email considered word of mouth?

Senator Lust-Face book could be campaigning-you can not mass mail but you can mail to individual people.

Senator Ross-So they can not be on-site?

Senator Lust-They can be on-site, but we would rather it be private not at a public meeting.

## **New Business**

### **Elections Committee Motion 02.13.08A Senator Lust/Senator Quast**

Whereas: the Elections Committee as stated in the Minnesota State Student Association Constitution Article III section 1; shall have the sole authority to develop and enforce any and all rules and regulations regarding the April and September vacancy elections, as well as any special election; however, all recommendations must be forwarded to the Senate for approval, modification, or disapproval, prior to their implementation

Whereas: the Elections Committee has had the opportunity to review the 2007 General Elections Rules

Whereas: the Elections Committee has done its due diligence in reviewing the General Elections Rules on an annual basis

Whereas: the MSSA general election as stated in the MSSA Constitution is the second Tuesday in April, April 8<sup>th</sup>

Be it resolved: the Elections Committee recommends the following changes to the General Elections Rules as stated below:

#### **Move by addition creating:**

Article III Campaign Recruitment

Recruitment shall be defined as:

- a) Seeking support for campaign work
- b) Shall be done in a private manner
- c) There is no limit to the number of people that can take part in recruitment event
- d) Recruitment event cannot be publicized; except by word of mouth
- e) Recruitment can take place prior to applications being filled with the Elections Committee

#### **Move by amendment:**

**Amend current Article III Campaigning section 1 to state:**

Campaigning may begin anytime after March 17<sup>th</sup>, providing the proper applications have been filed with the Elections Committee. However, no poster hanging will be allowed or campaign funds shall be spent prior to 8am March 24<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Move by striking and addition:**

**Strike Current Article IV section 2 stating:**

A financial report may be requested by the Elections Committee by 4:30 p.m. one week following Election Day.

**Replacing with:**

A financial report must be submitted to the Elections Committee by 4:30 p.m. on March 21<sup>st</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup>, April 4<sup>th</sup>, and 11<sup>th</sup>.

Be it further resolved: the elections committee recommends the adoption of the following dates for the spring MSSA general elections:

Applications be made available for hand out and submission on March 3<sup>rd</sup>

Informational rules meeting: March 17<sup>th</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup>, 31<sup>st</sup> and April 1<sup>st</sup>

Applications Due for Presidential & Vice Presidential: Tuesday, March 25<sup>th</sup>

Applications Due for Senator & Boards: Tuesday, April 1<sup>st</sup>

Senator Lust-I feel this is best for an open and just election.

Senator Lovstad-What was the reason behind the recruitment?

Senator Lust-We don't want recruitment done to become campaigning.

Senator Wilke-Can you explain the word of mouth?

Senator Lust-If you individually address someone it is by word of mouth not sending out mass emails.

Senator Ross-If a candidate wants to meet before March 24 they can?

Senator Lust-They can technically meet anywhere on campus.

**Motion 20 Y 2 abstentions Motion carries**

**Academic Affairs Motion 02.13.08B**

Whereas: the Academic Affairs committee as outlined in the MSSA By-laws Article V Section 9 is responsible for representing the student position in academic areas; where these duties shall include but not be limited to, grade appeals, general education, grading policies and the academic calendar

Whereas: the Minnesota State Student Association passed resolution 10.31.07A stating that the Academic Affairs Committee reviews the Mathematics Placement Policy.

Whereas: the Academic Affairs committee presented preliminary feedback to the MSSA regarding this policy at the December 5<sup>th</sup>, 2007 meeting as outlined in resolution 10.31.07A

Whereas: the Academic Affairs committee has had the opportunity to read, review and speak with constituents regarding the Mathematics Placement policy

Be it resolved: the Academic Affairs Committee makes the following recommendation on policy: to approve the policy as it stands.

Coordinator Hill-You get graded in three areas in the Math portion, everyone has been through it. Basically there were not many questions everyone knew what it was about. We did not see any problems with it.

**20 Y 0 N 1 Abstention Motion Carries**

**Academic Affairs Motion 02.13.08C**

Whereas: the Academic Affairs Committee as outlined in the MSSA By-laws Article V Section 9 is responsible for representing the student position in academic areas; where these duties shall include but not be limited to, grade appeals, general education, grading policies and the academic calendar

Whereas: the Minnesota State Student Association passed resolution 10.31.07A stating that the Academic Affairs committee review Transfer of Technical Credits

Whereas: the Academic Affairs Committee presented preliminary feedback to the MSSA regarding this policy at the December 5<sup>th</sup>, 2007 meeting as outlined in resolution 10.31.07A

Whereas: the Academic Affairs Committee has had the opportunity to read, review and speak with constituents regarding the Transfer of Technical Credits policy

Be it resolved: the Academic Affairs Committee makes the following recommendation on policy: to approve the policy as it stands.

Vice Chair Grove-We are taking this from 16 to 32 credits. This increases the cap. It is a good thing.  
**21 Y 0 N 1 Abstention motion carries**

### **Academic Affairs Motion 02.13.08D**

Whereas: the Academic Affairs committee as outlined in the MSSA By-laws Article V Section 9 is responsible for representing the student position in academic areas; where these duties shall include but not be limited to, grade appeals, general education, grading policies and the academic calendar

Whereas: the Minnesota State Student Association passed resolution 10.31.07A stating that the Academic Affairs committee review Undergraduate Extended Learning Student Admission to the University

Whereas: the Academic Affairs committee presented preliminary feedback to the MSSA regarding this policy at the December 5<sup>th</sup>, 2007 meeting as outlined in resolution 10.31.07A

Whereas: the Academic Affairs committee has had the opportunity to read, review and speak with constituents regarding the Undergraduate Extended Learning Student Admission to the University policy

Be it resolved: the Academic Affairs committee makes the following recommendation on policy: to approve the policy as it stands.

Vice President Carmody-This just gives a more realistic load.  
**21 Y 0 No 0 Abstentions motion carries**

### **Senator Reports**

#### **Holly Pahl- College of Arts and Humanities (submitted)**

Since my last report, I have enjoyed winter break and am very excited to start back up with senate. I have talked with art and humanities students. I have also talked to some teachers to see how they think the year is going. A few students have recently come up to me and asked why Arts and Humanities don't have more apple computers on campus, and also why the college only have a little study space. A student shared their concerns asking why some colleges have more room and we were stuck with 6 little tables. So I know that is a concern with the current students in Arts and Humanities.

I have also attended the Academic Affairs committee. In this committee we have been talking about the academic advising and grading system. I am on the Leg. Affairs committee, but due to class obligations I am unable to attend the meeting.

I am very excited to go to our next MSUSA conference in March. That will be my second conference while being a senator.

I hope everyone is having a great week!

#### **Brandon Ross- College of Business (submitted)**

In my senator report I will be addressing three topics this report. The first topic I will address is the \$125 laptop fee, second I will discuss the College of Business building and lastly I will discuss the

disposal of D2L and the integration of Moodle. I have been very busy this semester and look forward, especially to the progress of the Campus Rec proposal.

As of just recent I have had a general idea of what the \$125 laptop initiative fee represented, however I have found even more insight into what the fee is constructed of. I have found a complete breakdown of everything encompassing in the initiative. The breakdown consists of 15 different areas and highlights ITS services, Business sources and laptop loaner computers.

New light of the College of Business building was just brought to my attention, with location, cost and styling broken down for me. The location has been selected in the sunken lot by the CSU and is finalized as of late. Cost has been all been taken care of by private donation and MNSCU bonds. Styling is the hot topic of the building, with only preliminary ideas being thrown around. However, I was reassured that students would have input on what the styling would be and an interest group would be constructed to help with the process.

Lastly, I have been brought up to date with the changes to D2L, specifically its removal in future years. D2L has been experiencing many problems as of late, bringing faculty and students to question its integrity. Moodle is the new application being thought to replace D2L and is being discussed with applications and software comparable to what our university would need.

Overall, I have been very busy and look forward to the rest of the semester and working on new and important issues.

### **Ryan Johnson- McElroy Complex**

It has been a great and honorable road ever since my election in September. I have served on the student affairs committee and worked on such issues as the smoking ban, landlord issues and leading the campus into a bright a honorable future. I love to serve my people and they love that I serve them. They all congratulate the recent Campus Rec proposal and honor the senate for passing it. That is all.

### **Abbie Hill- Off Campus**

Since my last senator report I have been quite a busy bee. Everything from being yelled at by the registrar's office because they didn't email me a graduation acceptance – this was early this semester when I was checking my status – to switching boats on coordinating positions to becoming an intern for no pay, yes you heard me correctly, no pay.

You all have heard about the move to Academic Affairs coordinator for me. I definitely was thrown into the deep end without my floatees. Everything we have done this semester is piggybacked off of what was discussed last semester. Obviously I was not there. I thoroughly enjoy ac affairs and those who chose to participate. I thank you. Don't see this as any sort of derogatory words toward StAff. I still love staff and miss all the members, including Brian the McMan who often helped both myself and the vice chair when we needed.

I also want to express some of my proud moments about all the new senators. Some have talked to me personally and others have proved their worth when it comes time to asking the difficult questions. I commend you.

Now, enough of the thankful jargon, I digress.

I attended the MSUSA conference at Metro a few weeks ago. For those of you who know how I feel about MSUSA you would know how I would summarize the weekend. However, I am going to take a different approach to my weekend. First, I had the most amazing car ride up with Casey, Lust and Harshdeep. Harshdeep made me laugh so hard I thought I was going to pee in my pants. Ask him about the facebook applications he thoroughly enjoys. My favorite one he told us about would be the "slap me" request. Another thing I learned that weekend is Grove spends more time in the bathroom in the morning than any girl I know. I can't explain why so don't ask me when I stand for questions. The best part of MSUSA for me was seeing my MSUSA crush Taylor from Southwest. He even crossed enemy lines and came to dinner with the Mankato delegation. He also told me how he recently tried to pass a motion to have their coordinators receive a \$100 stipend each semester. This coming from someone who is so against using student fees for anything I really think the delegation should have not voted it down. Sometimes motions are more than just the wording on the paper. His delegation should have thought about who it was coming and how he personally feels in situations like that.

I was going to mention a light in McElroy being out and then on and then out again but feel no one would get the inside joke. Again, don't ask me about this when I stand for questions.

I also have decided not to discuss what motions we passed in ac affairs since I think it takes away from those who have it in their report. I wouldn't want to steal their limelight!

The last thing I wanted to share with everyone is my new quote for the semester and that is, "that's going in my senator report." And for those of you who I had promised this to – here it is. I received a text message one night that said, "I love you my angel my blackbird," and was taken back when I noticed it was from Lust and not Casey. (sad face)

I apologize for the others I promised this to since I cannot think of the other great comments. This is why I need to write things down.

### **Kris Lovstad- Off Campus**

#### Student Affairs

- Took stand against the tobacco policy
- Looking at new ways to distribute hockey tickets

#### CSU Board

- Myers field house coffee stand will be turned into a market place grab and go style headed up by Brandon Ross
- Picked out new chairs for conference rooms in CSU
- Bands will be playing in the CSU every weekend
- Hall of Fame next to pizza place is up

#### Personal

- I cannot accept the current rec proposal it is definitely a lot better than the last couple, but I would prefer to have it go referendum.
- Tobacco Policy- we voted that we could not endorse it in its current form. I will never endorse a policy such as this that regulates individual's civil liberties. I'm sorry for the bleeding heart liberals that get overly offended when they just happen to walk by a person smoking and just happen to catch a whiff of smoke. I dislike smelling the busses exhaust, but I'm not going to propose a policy to ban motor vehicles on campus.
- Alcohol policy- It is a violation of our constitution and a violation of our privacy rights as legal adults.

### **Nathan Madden- Off Campus**

This is my first Senate report of the new year and I feel as though we have covered a lot of great ground, but we will have a lot to tackle in the upcoming few months. On a more personal note, I was greatly honored by being offered the Chairperson position for the Student Affairs Committee, and as I am still learning the ropes, I would appreciate any advice you would like to throw my way. The Student Affairs Committee has been going pretty good, and our membership has suffered from the resignation of some senators but we will remain a productive body of the Student Senate willing to take on any task, or rectify any concern forwarded to us.

Three Issues That I would like to address:

Campus Recreation Proposal: I would like to make public my endorsement of the proposal as it stands right now.

Parking-taking away Lot 7 for ice rink. Many students do use this Gold Lot. I do not see any money in the proposal for the Parking Ramp. Parking does not have money in their budget for a ramp. I think we need to resolve this before I support the proposal. While I do not like to preclude any students from being included in the process of ratifying the proposal, I must say that with our results from the survey, and the transparency that we have maintained with the open forum today, I believe that this will be met with little opposition. We must add value to our education for those students that will be coming here in the future. We must be forward looking, and realize that our outdoor rec facilities are deficient, and we lack an outdoor track (unless you would like to include the one that my parents and I drove over when I moved into Gage as a freshman). I would implore all senators to seek out student opinion on this subject and to render the right decision for the betterment of our campus and the quality of life.

Tobacco Policy: This is my 3<sup>rd</sup> senate report in which I bring up the campus tobacco free policy, so I will be brief but firm. I am fervently opposed to such a policy that not only infringes on our rights as students, but also the tattletale method of enforcement that would foster a sense of distrust and further stunt any sense of community that we are trying to establish here at Minnesota State University Mankato. This policy needs to be re-reviewed and there needs to be a serious consideration as to what exactly we are trying to accomplish with a tobacco free policy.

Student Ticket Distribution for Hockey: Concerns have been raised about the current hockey ticket distribution system. While I believe that it is necessary to have a distribution system, I feel that we may be excluding people who have class or work at noon or Thursdays, like myself. I have heard suggestions of a student ticket lottery via a sign up on the internet. The Student Affairs Committee will investigate this to the fullest extent so stay tune

President Frederick-Parking Lot taken away. You mentioned that is one students have Access to, elaborate?

Senator Madden-I thought that was one for the lottery.

President Frederick-Don't students have equal dibs on all the Gold Lots

Senator Hill-Do you know a percentage of students that get parking permits?

Senator Madden-You have to put up the money for the drawing so students don't have the up front cash. annual Parking Meeting tomorrow CSU

Senator Wilke-It was said that faculty and staff have a lottery before the students do.

It was also stated that eliminating the lot would reduce the stalls by 111.

**Adjournment 6:45**