

**75th MSSA Senate
February 27, 2008**

75th Senate called to order Speaker Ryan Anderson

Roll Call (present-absent-proxy-excused)

Rachael Quast 18-0-0, Kristy Pottebaum 12-0-0-1, Holly Pahl 21-0-0-1, Jared Grove 18-0-0, Brandon Ross 21-0-0-1, James Varner 6-0-0, Brett Carpenter 13-0-0, Vang Xiong 10-0-0, Matthew Lust 21-1-0, Murtaza Rajabali 21-1-0-1, Harshdeep Bhasin 16-1-0-3, Brian Leonhardi 4-0-0-2, Matthew Schmidt 15-0-0, Thuy Huynh 11-0-0, Ruby Lopez 3-0-0, Jeffrey Long 18-0-0, Noah Olanrewaju, 4-1-0, Andy Wilke 18-0-0, Abbie Hill 22-0-0, Nathan Madden 22-0-0, Brian McMahan 18-0-0, Kelly Biers 22-0-0, Kristopher Lovstad 22-0-0, Ryan Johnson 15-4-0, Dave Meyers 17-0-0, President Chris Frederick 21-0-0-1, Vice President Carmody 21-0-0-1

Open Forum

Elizabeth Lindstrom-President's Commission on the Status of Women, Nekisha Quinney- Program Advisor, Women's Center. We are here to inform you about the Women of Courage and Vision , Reception, March 26, 4:00 in the CSU Ballroom. This recognizes women on campus, faculty, staff and students for any good things they have done on campus, in classes or activities. We want to honor women that have made a difference on campus. We have a nomination process that has begun. Every women that is nominated will receive a certificate of appreciation, a reception, a program and a gift. We would like you all to know because the feedback we get says not a lot of students are recognized. We feel the majority should be students. It is sponsored by student activity fees and we would like to see more students recognized for all the good work they do on our campus. There is more information on the President's Commission on the Status of Women website <http://www.mnsu.edu/csw>.

Senator Xiong-How many people will be able to receive this? What is the process?

Ms. Quinney-Everyone nominated will be recognized.

Approval of Agenda Agenda approved

Approval of Minutes 2-20-2008 Minutes stand approved

Officer Reports

Vice President Carmody

(comments from President Frederick) Meet and Confer is Friday at noon.

Thank you to everyone that attended the alcohol summit. It was a great discussion for young adults and community members. He was the moderator and a key piece in setting up the summit. There was excellent student turnout.

Consultation letters were due today for tuition and campus rec fee and letters were sent off to the Office of the Chancellor.

Policies up for formal review were given to Senator Madden and included Smoking Ban and Resolution of Student Concerns and Emergency University Closing.

Appointments: MSSA Scholarship Committee-Abbie Hill, Matthew Lust

I took part in the discussion on air last Friday at KMSU, also involved was former Reporter Editor Andrew Miller, Panhellenic Council President, Molly Olson, a representative from International Students and a health pro. We talked on a variety of different issues. I made sure to denounce the Social Host and Parental Notification idea. I said that senate passed a motion saying that parental notification was a no go.

Alcohol Summit-This was by no means a problem solved. I hope that some action actually comes out of it. The action is what really matters. I suggested into looking into a public awareness campaign. It was well attended. The only disappointment was that there was not a high school student. We had people from Gustavus, SCC and MSU. I high school perspective would have been nice. This concern is for all young people not just college students.

I attended the Diversity Conference this past weekend. It was a great way to get conversation going on the state of diversity on campus, on what is included in diversity. One thing that does not come to mind as diversity is learning disorders or physical disabilities. Most campuses are not all inclusive. I may be looking into that for the rest of my term. What should be the mission of diversity on campus? Last week I was appointed to the Newspaper Committee. This committee selects the Editor of the Reporter for next year. I will not be taking suggestions or recommendations.

Lobby Day-a week from today. That is exciting. We will have a lobby training tomorrow at 4:00.

Senator Carpenter-Were there any business that expressed concern at the alcohol summit?

Vice President Carmody-Yes, every table had a facilitator, parents, educator, law enforcement, business owner, alcohol counselor, students. It may have lacked a little on business. It was a diverse group.

Senator Long-Can you give a brief synopsis of the "words of hope" from today's summit?

Vice President Carmody-Hope-Congressmen Tim Penny really advocated this as a starting point and we should move forward and take action. I thought "Words of Hope" was ridiculous. The state of this was hopeless that we needed words of hope. It was poorly worded.

Senator Lust-I realized that you denounced but did you actually reject it?

Vice President Carmody-Yes, I did reject.

Speaker Ryan Anderson

I felt the alcohol summit was very interesting. It was interesting what the questions were that they had from me related to alcohol usage. We need to promote a positive image of MSU students to the community. I don't think it helps when our university website has editorials about drinking. We need to celebrate student achievements. Everyone does get fired up and then the next day comes-hopefully out of this will come a community wide task force where they can get things done.

I attended the Diversity Conference. I hope MnSCU shows its commitment to cultural diversity and throws some money to the program to have some two year schools there and paying the presenters. Important topics were discussed, like what diversity means on our campus.

To accommodate those attending lobby day next week, the meeting will start at 5:00 next week.

Attend Lobby Day, contact John Busch. Also, attend the training tomorrow. The techniques you will learn are transferable to any issue you care to lobby about in the future.

Allocations Requests

SAC Motion 02.27.08 A

SAC recommends allocating up to \$700.00 to MSU Paintball to attend the National Collegiate Paintball Association National Championships

Senator Bhasin-Seven students will be attending. They have been invited to the championship. They are eligible for up to \$100.00 per person. They requested \$2,800.00. SAC recommended one third of what they requested. Fundraising was \$2,000.00. Total cost was \$4,500.00.

Each student will pay \$550.00.

Senator Grove-They are a really good team. We should support them.

Senator Carpenter-Any group that can fundraise \$2,000 should be recommended.

Motion carries Unanimously

SAC Motion 02.27.08 B

SAC recommends allocating up to \$500.00 to Student Athletic Training Association to attend an athletic training Conference in Toledo, OH.

Senator Bhasin-There are 10 students attending . They requested \$500.00. \$1,320.00 fundraising. Total expenses \$2286.00.

Motion carries unanimously

SAC Motion 02.27.08C

SAC recommends allocating up to \$100.00 to MSU Mankato Council for Exceptional Children to attend the Annual/National Conference of the Council for Exceptional Children in Boston, MA.

Senator Bhasin-Two student officers are going. They requested \$1,560.00. They have no fundraising efforts. Contributions-\$530.00 per student.

Motion Carries

Senator Reports

Harshdeep Bhasin-Science, Engineering & Technology

SAC

For me, the main role of the SAC, that's the budget meetings, will start this Friday, for which I am excited and looking forward too diligently. So from Friday till the final report from the committee or even after that, if anybody has questions feel free to ask me.

In Student LTR and its sub-committee the Technology Fee committee, I had the opportunity to see some of the prime technologies on-campus and raise some issues like D21.

In Academic Affairs committee we passed couple of polices that have been discussed so I won't go over all that again. The couple issues I would like our committee to work on is Student evaluations. Currently according to the information provided to me from SRC of CSET. Faculty members at MSU are NOT required to request student evaluations of their courses. Student evaluations may be submitted to departments and deans at the time a faculty member applies for tenure (or promotion), but once they have got that there is little student evaluations could change. We have Student Advisory meetings with the SRC and the dean of the college in which I will raise the concern and discuss to see what could be done.

Diversity Conference

This weekend I got the opportunity to attend the Diversity Conference in Marshall. It was a good time; I was not only able to learn more about some of the issues that we as a community are facing but made new friends. The key sessions that stuck with me was the one on disabilities. It was then I realized that we have been over looking disability students in regard to facilities they need in their day-to-day life in MSU. Some of the things I will be investigating or trying to understand are the services provided such as meal attendants for disabled, wheel chair athletics, bus service for disabled and services in residential halls.

On 20th February 2008 I voted yes for the outdoor campus rec proposal. When I talked to students from my constituency, there was a mixed response but after explaining the details of the proposal and how it would help our campus over the years many agreed with me. I understand that it would be hard to justify increase in student dollars and can debate on this issues for hours but we have to be visionary in our decisions so the generation to come will be glad about the services we have and people not just in Minnesota but around the country know about our institution.

Senator Grove-Do you mean evaluations of faculty by students?

Senator Bhasin-Yes

Senator Madden-Is that just in CSET or is that for all departments?

Senator Bhasin-It is for all of them to their respective departments.

Thuy Huynh-Undeclared (see written report)

Since my last senate report I have been so busy with life I do not even know what to start to talk about. My last two weeks were filled with meetings, conferences, and New Year celebrations. The Vietnamese New Years was very successful and I was really happy to see some senators there (and they stayed the whole time). The dance was amazing and it came out even better than I thought. It is real nice to see people there from many backgrounds because it shows they want to learn. If someone wants other people to learn about their culture, they should go and experience others. That is why the Pan-African conference kicked butt.

I was working real hard with the Pan-African conference. There were amazing speakers that took my breathe away and change my view of life. There was a student panel and they mentioned the student senate and how they quit because they felt wrongly mistreated. I understand where they are coming from, but I am not dark skinned so I don't know fully how they were feeling. Pan-African was a wonderful experience for me and I am glad I was a big part of it

For my committee meetings, we are making slow but good progress. For academic affairs we are still working on the advisor campaign. We went over a survey and saw what the students want and we saw that books are a huge issue for student. But we want to keep the campaign on one topics and not make it so broad. For the diversity committee, we just had an RSO meeting and I thought it was successful. A good amount of dedicated students came and Dr. Fagin was there too. We talked about our "embracing skin color" campaign and other issues such as medical insurance for international students. They just went to the diversity conference but I was not able to attend because I was at the Pan-African conference. These past two weeks were very busy but all the work paid off.

Kristy Pottebaum-Allied Health & Nursing

Since my last senator report, I have been doing contacting, continue to do my senator hours, and go to Academic Affairs meetings.

In Academic Affairs we have been discussing advising in depth. I have emailed the Dean of the College of Allied Health and nursing about Advising, and she pointed me to the Pre-nursing advisor, Kelly Krumweide, to better answer my questions. She said that she sees many students that she isn't the advisor for because their advisor doesn't have enough office hours or have office hours when the student is in class.

She thinks that a main advising center including some of the main advisors, graduate students, and student workers would be a very beneficial improvement in advising. This way the students would have a place to go instead of hunting for an advisor.

I also plan on attending Recycled Percussion on March 5th sponsored by Impact.

James Varner-College of Business

I have only been senator for a short time, but already I have done a lot.

Academic affairs, reviewed survey, mixed feeling on results.

Wish there was more of a turnout

Pleased with majority support and the results of campus rec. I feel we are moving in the right direction.

Student tech fee advisory committee

Learned about many different programs offered by ITS

Went on a tour of the tunnels under the school. I was impressed with what they do.

Some thoughts

I like every ones opinion and desire to share it

Campus rec, very much in favor. It is appropriate and relevant.

I am excited to start talking about the budget

I am looking forward to attending a MSUSA conference, I have heard great things

MSSA is much more organized then UND senate. We have much more of an impact.

Recycle percussion

Andy Wilke-Off-Campus

I do not have much news since my last report. Both my committees, Student Affairs and CSU Board, have hit a point where we don't have anything on our agenda. While we would like to continue to address issues that students face, we are having difficulty determining what those issues are.

I enjoyed the spirited debate that we had during the meeting in which we discussed the campus recreation proposal. It is great to see how the thoughts and the ideas of the leaders in this room work for the benefit of this institution.

I am looking forward to the elections coming up on April 8th. It looks as if they will be competitive and hopefully, a lot of fun.

Vang Xiong-College of Graduate Studies

My name is Vang Tou Xiong. I am the Senator for College of Graduate Studies & Research. It's an honor and privilege to be here today to report of couple things that I've done in this past month and upcoming March.

On Friday, February 22, 2008, 32nd Pan African Student Leadership Conference. I was, again, invited by the Black Student Union, African American Affairs Office, Somalia Student Association, and the Office of Institutional Diversity under Vice-President Dr. Fagin to do another presentation about "Black History." Given a great speech to the MSU students, staff, and faculty; Dr. Fagin and few other community leaders came to personally "thank you" me after lunch.

However, the most important thing is that I want to thank a few of my colleagues, friends, and senators: Vice-President Casey Carmody and 3 or 4 other senators, who presented at the conference. Thank you for being there to show your support.

As I mentioned in my last Senator Report: one of the goals from the University's President Davenport is to promote diversity on campus. As a Graduate Senator, I work very hard with MSU faculty and graduate students to promote diversity on campus. On March 5th, 2008; from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 in the CSU Hearth Lounge down the basement. I, myself, the founder of "The Beauty of Cultures" will bring more than 10 different groups of students and dancers from the Asian community and MSU Recognized Student Organizations to perform to the university. We have the following dances: Chinese, Laotian, Hmong, Vietnamese, Latino, Native American, MSU Step-Dance, Nepalese, Indian, and songs by MSU football player & Ethnic Studies student Soloni Taumalolo from Hawaii.

These are the co-sponsors: Women's Center, GLBT Center, Ethnic Studies Department, Asian-American Affairs, Native-American Affairs, Latino-American Affairs, African-American Affairs, Hmong Student Association, Vietnamese Student Association, Ethnic Student Activity Committee, Institutional Diversity Office, International Student Association, Asian American & Pacific Student Association, and Asian MN Community.

Expending:

• Advertisement & Printing	\$100
• Decoration & Background	\$200
• Refreshment (cookies, breads, and drinks)	\$600
• Certificate Awards	\$300
• <u>Community Dancer fee</u>	<u>\$500</u>
Total cost:	\$1,700

Budget:

1. Women's Center:	\$100
2. GLBT Center:	\$100
3. Asian American Affairs	\$100
4. Latino American Affairs	\$50
5. Ethnic Studies Department	\$50
6. Native American Affairs	\$200
7. <u>ESAC</u>	<u>\$400</u>
Total:	\$1,000

We will be having a book sale day. In graduate studies my abstract has been accepted by the committee and I will be presenting about the Life of College Students at Laos University. I will be staying with them. They sleep on the floor. They don't have computers. I will be presenting at the conference.

Announcements

Senator Carpenter-Recycle Percussion is next week.

Senator Wilke-Next Monday from 9-3 in Ostrander will be a presentation by the Kessel Peace Institute teaching about principles of Constitution, Civil liberties, Race relations, Front line Democracy on Civil Liberties and war, terrorism and the ACU -Wire tapping, and the Constitution and Impeachment Process.

Senator Grove-There will be a speaker coming to the ballroom March 4, 7:30 P.M. She was involved in a plane high jacking. Plane landed in Egypt, she was shot and survived. 7:30 in the ballroom.

Senator McMahan-There is a 24 hour fast this weekend. It is a fundraiser for Campus Kitchens. It is in SLD&SL. Check in is 8:00 AM.

Senator Madden-Student Affairs tomorrow. Get your ticket to Japan night on Saturday.

Vice President Carmody-If you are unsure about going to the discussion on the constitution I will most likely be there for every session.

Senator Wilke-I will be participating in the fast this Friday if anyone would like to sponsor me.

Roll Call

Senators Present

Rachael Quast, Kristy Pottebaum, Holly Pahl, Jared Grove, Jim Varner, Brandon Ross, Brett Carpenter, Vang Xiong, Matthew Lust, Murtaza Rajabali, Casey Adkins, Harshdeep Bhasin, Matthew Schmidt, Brian Leonhardi Thuy Huynh, Ruby Lopez, Jeff Long, Andy Wilke, Abbie Hill, Nathan Madden, Brian McMahan, Kelly Biers, Kristopher Lovstad, Jon Hurm, Dave Meyers

Senators Absent

Ryan Johnson, Noah Olanrewaju

Executive Staff Present

Vice President Carmody

Adjournment Meeting adjourned at 5:08 PM

