

**77th MSSA Senate
November 4, 2009**

77th Senate called to order by 77th Speaker Tom Williams

Roll Call (present, absent, proxy, excused)

Jennifer Dooley 12-0-0, Brett Anderson 12-0-0, Chris Kaufman 11-0-0-1, Alexi Roskom 6-0-0, Jayme Pretzloff 10-0-0-1, Alyssa Ries 10-1-0, Dan Kromer 5-0-0, Jacob Severson 5-1-0, Sarah Koenen 4-0-0, Meagan Hertzog 10-2-0, Dave Meyers 11-1-0, Luz del Carmen Pimentel-Avila 11-1-0, Jesse Stamm 6-0-0, Jennifer Crane 10-0-0-2, Abdihakim Abdi 9-0-0, Michael Cooper 8-3-0, Matthew Johnson 10-2-0, Abby Knott 12-0-0, Joshua Kilvington 10-1-0, Amanda Lebens 11-0-0, Shankar Reddy 10-2-0, Sarah Revering 7-0-0-1, Martin Olson 5-1-0, Ricardo Lopez 9-0-0, President Rajabali 12-0-0, Vice President Dooley 12-0-0

Open Forum

Xe Yang-I am here on behalf o Dr. Flannery's Principles of Management class. Thanks for helping with the Pie Your Senator and for being good sports and showing enthusiasm to helping the community. Our goal was \$400.00. We made about \$460.00. That is all going to the Greater Mankato United Way. We hope to be doing this again in the future.

Approval of Consent Agenda

Recognized Student Organizations Handball Club, American Indian Student Association, Asian Pacific Student Organization, Middle Eastern Student Association (M.E.S.A.), Vietnamese Student Association
Appointments Alcohol Policy Review Team-Thomas Williams, Allied Health & Nursing Dean Search-Jennifer Dooley, Dept. of Theatre & Dance-Undergrad Student Theatre Representative: Mathias Becker, Graduate Student Representative: Nikki Swoboda, Dance Student Representative: Katie Drietz

Student Allocations Committee Recommendations

M#11.02.09A Making Waves: A Feminist Collective

Student Allocation Committee recommends allocating up to \$400.00 to Making Waves: A Feminist Collective to publish an alternative publication (zine). This zine fosters equality, diversity and inclusiveness on campus.

M#11.02.09B Homecoming Organizational Funding

Student Allocation Committee recommends allocating the following amounts to the Recognized Student Organizations for work performed during homecoming: Sigma Nu Fraternity-\$850.00, PRSSA-\$350.00, Phi Upsilon Omicron-\$400.00, MSU Swing Dance Club-\$850.00, International Student Association-\$300.00, Hmong Student Association-\$250.00, Real Talk-\$850.00, MNSU Veterans Club-\$800.00, Psi Chi-\$450.00

Approval of Minutes 10-28-2009

Remove Crawford Hall Senator from Senator Reports

Add Motion #11.04.09 B Cap Program President Rajabali/Senator Kaufman to New Business

Remove SAC M#11.02.09 B from Consent Agenda

Agenda approved with amendments

Presentation-Dr. Fagin-Vice President Institutional Diversity

Thank you for allowing me to speak to the College Access Program and the Latino Center.

College Access Program-This program is the leading access program in the country. The program started a year before the legislators decided they would support MnSCU to provide \$22 million to provide access and opportunity to underrepresented groups. President Davenport gave us \$100,000 to get the program off the ground. The program is 3 ½ years old. The program has succeeded in taking underrepresented students that did not meet all our criteria for admissions standards but ended up exceeding them. They exceed or are equal to that of other students. ACT is not a magical number that refutes the standard, based on that there are ways to bring students into school and allow them to succeed. Program demonstrates statistically their success. The first year we brought in 14 students. 93% returned. The next year we brought in 48 students. 96% of those students returned. The program in the summer is very structured. We refer to it as academic boot camp. It is very military. We know how to do academic advising. Underrepresented students have set some challenges to the university. This university is set up to serve Mid-America. There are challenges when you bring in low income, first generation and students of color. The program has done that and we can work more effectively to serve all students. If you have it on your mind that this is a program for students of color, get it out of your mind. This

program is for low income, poor white folks, for black people and any kind of people. The program is now going into its fourth year. We anticipate that our first cohort will graduate at the same persistent rate as general students.

Latino Center-3 primary purposes are to serve you. The first purpose is to promote cross cultural interaction and heighten opportunity to learn about the realities of others. It falls in line with the mission of Institutional Diversity. We want to build multi-cultural, multi-ethnic leaders for a global society. We are looking at global solutions at this university. This is an opportunity to advance that. #2- The center will provide a learning space for non-traditional students, parents and potential Mavericks. The center will provide bilingual bicultural education, most of which will be done on a volunteer basis. We anticipate and have signed a letter of intent to host a center of learning for Spanish speakers as well as others that would profit from the center. It will not take away from our generalized student population because most of our work will be done in the evening. It will be a smaller space than what we now have for our non-traditional students. The center will assist in the recruitment and retention of Latino students. We have been identified by the Mexican Consulate. We have been identified by the Governor's Council on Latinos and other major Latino organizations as the school for choice in the state. That means for you –you will have more resources. Unless they change the formula for funding we are going to be dependent on FTEs. Being a school of choice gives us a competent element. Latinos are important to us in this society. It is not a special entity. They are increasing at a much faster ethnic rate than other groups. It is inherent that we educate as many as we can. If you look at the demographics you will see the Latinos will be a major element in higher education. At the National College Fair 17 students were hanging their heads because the admissions requirement for most schools was an ACT of 24. Those students felt they were not going to school until they met with MSU, Mankato. We told them of our specialized program that has produced nothing but success. We provide a meaningful service to this area not only to Latinos but the College Access Program is for all Mavericks. Bringing those students in and having them be successful helps FTEs, the bottom line of this university. There are issues with financial aid and housing. The administration is working on those.

President Rajabali-How was CAP formed? What drove you to that?

Vice President Fagin-It was formulated to provide greater access for underrepresented groups that may not have had access to this university. It follows the same rationale that the state legislature did in putting \$22 million in the MnSCU budget for access and opportunity. It was for access for underrepresented, low income, first generation students of color in our MnSCU System.

Senator Meyers-Where is the money coming from for the Latino Center?

Vice President Fagin-We have not determined the source of funding for that, we are at the discussion level. We thought we might be able to use stimulus money but because this is revenue building, we cannot use that. We are at the drawing board. It is at a cabinet level for discussion. We have not nailed down at this point where the dollars will come from. It will enrich the overall Student Union budget as I am sure we will have to pay rent.

Senator Meyers-Would it be coming from a source of funding that would affect professors as we are preparing for the fiscal year 2012?

Vice President Fagin-No, that would be terrible. We know we will have to cut 60-100 faculty positions. The Latino Center will be a drop in the bucket compared to that. It will not have a big bearing on our major problems coming down the road. The remodeling will not exceed \$100,000.

Vice President Dooley-Summer to fall retention rate is outstanding, far above the university area, how does it look from first year to second year?

Dr. Fagin-That is what I gave you in comparing to generalized student population.

President Rajabali-We have heard numerous complaints about how the College Access Program should not be in the College of Education. Do you feel the CAP should be in the College of Education or placed somewhere else?

Vice President Fagin-I did not create the program for the College of Education. I created the program for the university. It should be housed in Institutional Diversity. It needs care taking in cross cultural realities. It is senseless to have it housed anywhere other than where it was designed to take care of those specialized realities. It was very important for me to request that the College Access Program be

placed in the College of Ed for a brief period of time as I worked through some major concerns. I asked the President to place it there under my friend and colleague Dean Miller.

President Rajabali-Considering that the director of the CAP program is your daughter do you consider that a problem?

Vice President Fagin-I don't think so. I used to be a police officer for 21 years and I took my son to jail. If my daughter messed up I would fire her.

Senator Stamm-Where is the Latino Center going to be?

Vice President Fagin-3 possible places-downstairs by the garage doors-currently the LGBT Center is located there. That area is slotted for the Veterans Program. If the option was acceptable to all the powers to be the Vets Office could then be in the area that encompasses a part of the lounge area, the window and lounge space on the inside of the pillars. The LGBT Center would be across in the office area. There would still be some lounge and computer stations. Six computers would be located in the Latino Center. You don't have to speak Spanish to go in there. This will produce cross cultural interaction. We can change behavior by putting these types of facilities in place and have people interacting with each other. Option 2-move the Counseling Center and expand the current Multi-Cultural space, to me that is a less desirable option and to Director Woodward, according to our conversation. Option 3-I am opposed to because it is less desirable to take off line 284 ABC. I give the largest Pan African Conference in the Western Hemisphere. I don't want to lose any kind of space because that conference serves Mavericks all over this campus. It helps them with cultural diversity and graduation requirement. The most ideal is Option 1. It is not as large as we would like but as the institution grows, because we have been chosen as the institution of choice, I won't have to push for more space, you will be pushing for it because they are bringing in FTE. There will be generalized demand and return on investment.

Senator Olson-You are not in favor of Option 2-you want cross-cultural interaction, wouldn't we get that more if we expanded the Intercultural Center now instead of segregating them to their own room?

Vice President Fagin-We do not do anything in Institutional Diversity that supports any form of segregation. Everything we do supports integration. I don't believe you have the space nor do you have the respect for the cultural dynamics to achieve the same realities of this large growing group within that small area. There would be major construction in the Counseling Center and the only thing that would do would be to create a Latino Center. The space downstairs would promote multiculturalism.

President Rajabali-Ethnic Groups-we have 619 African American- 4.2%, 372-Asian American-2.5%, Hispanic or Latino-1.4%, American Indian 0.5%. Realizing that, how do you think the other groups will feel if you just expand a Latino Center and not any of the other centers? African Americans according to statistics are also growing, not as sharp, but they are also growing.

Vice President Fagin-Cultural nationalism cannot be answered in terms of numeric numbers. African numbers do exceed in numbers but services provided holistically and needs are greater for Latino students. African American students have more pockets to go to. I would say as we move down the road the other groups will want a multicultural multiethnic center. That is probably more in the 20 year plan. We will need a student service building to accommodate and house those dynamics. Will you have friction among ethnic groups? You should anticipate that. You should also anticipate keeping in place the leadership that is able to refute that. We have the skills and ability to work through that. This is not a new discussion-it is the same discussion of 1973 when we created the Black Cultural House and the American Indian House. We had both those facilities. We have worked through issues.

Senator Kaufman-CAP Program-do you have graduation rates from start to finish?

Vice President Fagin-As of now, 12 students will be graduating out of 14 in May and if they do I will be in Dr. Davenport's office the next day saying, please we need more resources. We are successful. We are better than your generalized college student population.

Vice President Dooley-How do you recruit or select students for the program?

Vice President Fagin-An interview, they must be recommended by high school teachers, we partner with different schools and agencies. Admissions Possible tells us students will be college ready. They may not have the highest average or they may not have the highest ACT, but they have had college prep. We partner with various school districts. The program is very structured. Students going through summer boot camp have to maintain a C average after their junior year to be qualified for a spot in the upcoming class. The Athletic Department works with us in terms of some of their recruits.

President Rajabali-Latino Center also being for non-traditional students, are you aware we already have a non-traditional program?

Vice President Fagin-Not only am I aware but I helped get it off the ground. It would not be redundant. The non-traditional student that would be involved is modeled after "parents as faculty". We want to increase the educational capital within these families to help us recruit additional Mavericks. We are going to have this bilingual center place emphasis on bilingual, bicultural structure. The traditional program we have operating now is focused on the reality of non-traditional USA folks. They may be returning students. They understand the language. They may not be first generation. This center will focus on the bilingual, bicultural needs. It will have a heavy emphasis on completion of basic skills. The center you are talking about will not do those types of things. We will develop parents to have to parents as faculty. In the College of Education they have had a program going like this for many years. We want to educate parents to produce a student to seek out the college education.

Senator Knott-CAP Program-I assume that many of the Twin Cities schools know of our program. Do schools that are not considered being diverse know about us?

Vice President Fagin-We try to promote the program as much as possible. We are at capacity. We will be turning away students at the Junior level. We pay for all of that so we will have to cut that number in half to support some of our other programs. We are anticipating a heavy Latino population.

Vice President Dooley-One of the concerns is not about the Latino Center but the amount of programming space being wanted. How much are you looking for?

Vice President Fagin-I envisioned the space having office space for director, academic advisor and outreach and larger space for graduate assistants and space for promoting cross integration and interaction. I understand the dynamics-we need to serve specific elements in order to have a true integrated society. The space in common-we will foster and promote integration. We structured segregation. We want to unstructure the Latino Center. The space would be used for events, lounging, and multicultural space-something to serve 3 offices, computer work space and multicultural activities.

Senator Olson-Wouldn't there be more of a chance for cross cultural interaction if we had the centers together?

Vice President Fagin-We are talking about a center that everyone can come in. We want a center where we can promote cross cultural interaction.

Senator Anderson-You seem to be in favor of the first floor-why is that better than the second floor?

Vice President Fagin-LGBT is multi-cultural. Greek life is multi-cultural. Expanding Latino is multi-cultural. It has two lavatories, parking, and windows. It is desirable space. You should be able to graduate with an understanding of diversity. Your diversity programs allows you to do that. We are producing leaders for global strides. Any other centers that promote diversity only improve your institution. We are structuring integration and we will get rid of the problems of segregation.

Elections- Undeclared

Samia Lokenye-CAP freshman.

President Rajabali-To be a part of MSSA you have a certain amount of requirements. You must have every Wed. at 4:00 free. You must do 2 office hours a week and be on two committees, would you be available to do that?

Ms. Lokenye-Yes

Vice President Dooley-What is a big issue for Undeclared students?

Ms. Lokenye-President Davenport has said a lot of things that are untrue, CAP and diversity.

I hope you really listened to Dr. Fagin, I went through this at my high school. I heard that this school was good about supporting minority students. I cannot support that statement. Dr. Davenport is not my favorite person right now.

No election.

New Business

Recommendation to the Draft of Process for Setting Student Course Fees
Student Affairs Committee

11/4/2009

1. Introduction

- Part b – Include definitions of included mandatory fees “a” through “d,” Senior Citizen Fee, Parking Fee, Payment Plan Fee, Statewide Student Association Fee
- Part c – Include a section explaining what the criteria is for adopting optional fee and add “and student consultation” after “campus discretion.”

2. Consultation Process

- Include a section that reads “All changes, significant or minimal, should go through a student consultation process”

3. Annual Review of Campus Fees

- Include what the definition of “minimal changes” are as listed under the third bullet

4. Notify all students via email of significant changes to fees after it has been approved

M#11.04.09 A Recommendation to draft of Process for Setting Student Fees Student Affairs Committee

Whereas: The student fees impact all students at MSU, therefore MSSA feels it necessary that the students are well informed about where their student fees are distributed.

Whereas: MSSA is writing a recommendation regarding the process for setting student fees.

Whereas: The recommendations are significant revisions which provide clarification for the students of MSU to where their student fees are allocated.

Be it resolved: MSSA supports the recommendation drafted by Student Affairs and will be forwarded to Vice President of Academic Affairs Warren Sandman

Motion carries

M#11.04.09 B CAP Program President Rajabali/Vice President Dooley

Whereas: The Mission Statement of the College Access Program (CAP) is to serve underrepresented students of various ethnic, cultural and economic backgrounds.

Whereas: All potential students regardless of race and ethnicity should have an equal opportunity to participate in CAP

Whereas: It is the duty of the entire University to help ensure that all students have the opportunity to be successful

Whereas: College of Education does not serve as a proper location for which a support service like CAP can thrive

Whereas: The Student Support Services under Student Affairs has similar goals and priorities as CAP

Whereas: Students have been significantly distracted by the current uproar affecting the CAP program and its location.

Whereas: MSSA strives to ensure that all students attending Minnesota State University, Mankato have the opportunity to be successful

Be it resolved: The MSSA request the CAP program be moved from the College of Education.

Be it Further Resolved: The MSSA suggests that the CAP program be moved in to the Department of Academic Affairs preferably under Student Support and Policy.

Be it Further resolved: CAP be asked to work in collaboration with Student Support Services to provide paramount services to students it represents.

President Rajabali-It has taken me weeks to get to this point. I have met with all people involved in the CAP Program. This whole thing came about not because of students but because of staff. There was a conflict in staff. That was the biggest reason it was removed and it was confirmed by every staff and administrator. It was removed to solve problems and the students were affected. We are here for students. This should not be in the College of Education or any College of... When it came to who represents-the national ACT is 23, African American 17.3, for Hispanic 20.3. This is one of the reasons that the Cap program was founded-to get to these particular minorities. Their families will not likely help push these student through college. That is what CAP is doing. That is why we are recommending Academic Affairs, Student Support Services, under Malcolm O'Sullivan. Just like Upward Bound-CAP does similar things. They want students on campus to be successful. Another reason that brought up this investigation is because CAP is kind of in a shell right now. They are protected. I talked to Vice President Straka-they sent out individual letters on financial aid for assistance and they did not get any replies. The staff is not supposed to do the work that is what is happening in the program. If a CAP student has a problem the CAP staff goes and talks about the problem. That does not fix the problem. It is a whole university goal to make students successful. That is why we think working in collaboration with these different entities will be ideal.

Vice President Dooley-I agree this is the best place to be. It would be under Provost Olson. The main priority is that this is for student support.

President Rajabali-I was told by the crowd that none of these places are diverse enough. The CAP staff will still be there, it would still be there. If Student Support Services is not accommodating then maybe they should change.

Senator Luz-The College Access Program is not particular to minority or ethnic students. It is for first generation, low income students. That could be anyone. Diversity is important but it should not be the main focus of CAP.

Senator Anderson-Disability Services, Student Support Services, those things are very diverse-this encompasses all students. Dr. Fagin says diversity is all students.

Senator Kaufman-Thank you for your hard work.

Motion carries unanimously

SACM#11.02.09B Homecoming Organizational Funding

Student Allocation Committee recommends allocating the following amounts to the Recognized Student Organizations for work performed during homecoming: Sigma Nu Fraternity-\$850.00, PRSSA-\$350.00, Phi Upsilon Omicron-\$300.00, MSU Swing Dance Club-\$850.00, International Student Association-\$300.00, Hmong Student Association-\$250.00, Real Talk-\$850.00, MNSU Veterans Club-\$800.00, Psi Chi-\$450.00

Motion carries

Officer Reports

President Murtaza Rajabali

Inspiring story of the week-in West Bengal-most men work on the farms, they are very poor. Kids do not receive proper education but kids would come to this man and after six years he was able to develop a school at his compound. He would teach the children and now he teaches over 800 students. He now has volunteers to help him.

Pie Your Senator went well. Thank you everyone that came and bought pies.

I met with Dean Miller, Walt Wolff, and Paul Hustoles this week. I talked to Paul Hustoles about faculty office hours. Another thing brought up was that the ISA was not happy about losing their space.

Transportation Survey-we have not gotten results.

Senator Report- Repertory Dance-Julie Kerr Berry, Director.

The program started with 7 majors and now are at 44 majors. We subsidize them. We give them \$5,000.00 per year. They have a showcase every year. Those that are not able to get in that concert have a chance to perform in a concert the next day. They charge \$5.00. They have never had their own costumes, they always borrowed from Theatre. They are trying to be able to have their own.

Vice President Bob Dooley

I attended Pie Your Senator. I attended Enrollment Mgmt. Retention Committee-in the past males have had higher retention rates than females. Asian Pacific Islanders have gone down to 67% in retention rates. They usually have one of the highest in the campus.

Thank you to our Union Board Chair and Vice Chair. I was happy about the Union Board resolution regarding the space for LGBT and the Veterans Center and that their plans could begin soon.

I will be working more closely with the web site and Public Affairs.

Speaker Thomas Williams

Senator Reports

Julia Sears-Abdihakin Abdi

I met with Megan Gable from Late Night Programming. Mavericks After Dark-a program that happens once a month. Trying alternative events for students to stay on campus Saturday nights. They are not getting a lot of money for programming. Tailgating for MSU Football team on Saturday.

Senator Knott-Are you enjoying senate so far?

Senator Abdi-I will answer any questions that pertain to Mavericks After Dark.

President Rajabali-How many events have you attended?

Senator Abdi-Maybe one.

Off-Campus-Amanda Lebens

Zine

- New RSO on campus
- Purpose-
 - Place for feminist voice on campus to express creativity and diversity
- Launch party
 - November 19th Jazzman's Café
 - Local music and readings by students and staff
- SAC
 - Asked for around \$600 and received about \$400
- Interested?
 - To present or play music contact Justine Johnson
 - To add to the publication contact Blythe Newburg
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Announcements

President Rajabali-I met with Megan Gable, students don't actually attend Mavericks after Dark and we advocated for it. From now on you will see a list of events that are up for the week. Please try to attend at least one or two events so that when we advocate you know what you are talking about.

Vice President Dooley-Two bands playing downstairs-Quiet Drive and Higher, great bands, free.

Senator Luz-Next Tuesday the MSU Best Dance group will be going on.

Senator Anderson-Thank Chris Kaufman for thanking everyone excisable this week.

Senator Pretzloff-Attend Open Forum on Monday.

President Rajabali-Open Forum-overlooking the Heritage Lounge-please come well prepared and ask questions.

Roll Call

Senators Present

Jennifer Dooley, Brett Anderson, Chris Kaufman, Alexi Roskom, Jayme Pretzloff, Dan Kromer, Jacob Severson, Meagan Hertzog, Dave Meyers, Luz del Carmen Pimentel-Avila, Abby Knott, Amanda Lebens, Shankar Reddy, Sarah Revering, Martin Olson

Senators Absent

Alyssa Ries, Sarah Koenen, Jesse Stamm, Jennifer Crane, Abdihakin Abdi, Michael Cooper, Matthew Johnson,

Joshua Kilvington, Ricardo Lopez

Executive Staff Present

President Rajabali, Vice President Dooley

Adjournment Meeting adjourned at 6:10 PM