

**77th MSSA Senate
December 2, 2009**

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

Roll Call (present, absent, proxy, excused)

Jennifer Dooley 15-0-0, Brett Anderson 15-0-0, Chris Kaufman 14-0-0-1, Alexi Roskom 9-0-0, Jayme Pretzloff 13-0-0-1, Alyssa Ries 12-2-0, Dan Kromer 8-0-0, Connie Johnson 3-0-0, Jacob Severson 8-1-0, Sarah Koenen 7-0-0, Meagan Hertzog 12-3-0, Dave Meyers 14-1-0, Luz del Carmen Pimentel-Avila 14-1-0, Jesse Stamm 8-1-0, Jennifer Crane 13-0-0-2, Abdihakim Abdi 12-0-0, Michael Cooper 11-3-0, Matthew Johnson 13-2-0, Abby Knott 14-1-0, Amanda Lebens 14-0-0, Shankar Reddy 12-3-0, Sarah Revering 10-0-0-1, Martin Olson 8-1-0, Ricardo Lopez 11-1-0, President Rajabali 15-0-0, Vice President Dooley 15-0-0

Approval of Consent Agenda

Recognized Student Organizations

Appointments Quality & Excellence Strategic Priority Taskforce-Jacob Severson, Global Strategic Priority Taskforce- Marchell Magxaka, Grade Appeals Board-Dan Kromer, Brett Anderson, Strategic Priority Doctoral Taskforce-Brett Anderson, Campus of the future-Bob Dooley, Extended Learning-Chris Kaufman, CSU Scheduling Committee-Murtaza Rajabali, Associate Director Latino Affairs Search Committee-Michael Cooper, Parking Advisory-Sarah Koenen

Student Allocations Committee Recommendations

M#11.30.09A Interfraternity Council of Minnesota State University Mankato

Student Allocation Committee recommends allocating up to \$100.00 to Interfraternity Council of Minnesota State University Mankato to attend the Interfraternity Academy in Indianapolis, IN.

M#11.20.09B Real Talk

Student Allocation Committee recommends allocating up to \$250.00 to Real Talk to attend a Winter Ramp Conference in Hamilton, AL.

M#11.30.09 C University Repertory Dance Theatre

Student Allocation Committee recommends allocating up to \$5,000.00 to University Repertory Dance Theatre (20 students) to attend The American College Dance Festival's North Central Regional Conference in Stevens Point, WI.

Approval of Minutes 11.18.2009

Student Allocations Requests moved to New Business

Presentation

Adam Bartz/Cindy Janney, Director Residential Life

Adam Bartz-results of RHA ballot. (see file copy)

2010-2011 Proposed Room and Board Rates - Approved into base rate, Maverick 14, RHA promotional item, Upgrade desk equipment for check out, End land-lines and use money

President Rajabali-What argument did they give for approving the Flex Dollars?

Director Janney-We looked at how much they spent for a week versus the semester per each meal plan.

The point being if you are going to spend the money you save 7% if you use the flex dollars vs. cash.

Laurie Woodward-CSU Renovation Consultation

This is a topic we have been talking about in Union Board. The ballroom needs renovation, it is the last place that has not been touched in the Union. The roof is about 5 years past due but we found out the ceiling will need to be replaced. If we due the project next year we will have about \$2 million saved up and then we will have to do bonding. We would like to start the project in

March of 2011. The revenue funds have a cap enforced of \$2 million dollars. We would like

President Rajabali to write a litter in support of this project.

President Rajabali-If this is improved when will we see the start of this?

Director Woodward-I said the project would be between 3 and 4 million dollars. When we see the design We will see when we can start.

ITS-Bryan Schneider/Jerry Jeffries, MavMail

Jerry Jeffries-in charge of voice system and email changes happening over winter break.

Biggest change is using email in Firefox and Internet Explorer. There will be a list of emails shown of your entire inbox. Another change is your conversational view. Mail tip is another change.

If you use Firefox or Safari-change in calendar, look at more than one at a time. Also share calendars through calendars and verify permission. Text messaging-appointments set in calendar and phone. Contacts-instant messaging from campus.

Senator Pretzloff-Is this just for MavMail or other accounts as well?

Senator Kaufman-This works for Internet Explorer and Firefox correct? Will this work for Google Chrome?

Mr. Jeffries-No

Mr. Schneider-What is missing in 2007 is the ability to set up some voice mail.

Mr. Schneider-It can also be set for individuals.

Senator Severson-Will there be a list of new features?

Mr. Jeffries-Yes we will post the new features.

Mr. Schneider-We will send the students a heads up they can try.

Elections- CSET, Off-Campus

CSET Senator Candidates

Sam Adams-I was involved in student leadership for the past 4 years. I have had course complications. I have noticed problems in Construction Management-registration pin code and course permissions. Seniors are losing their positions due to not getting their pin on time. I don't see the reasons for course permissions, it seems like an extra step. I feel some professors are not fulfilling their duties.

President Rajabali-If you join senate how long would you stay?

Mr. Adams-All next semester and fall.

President Rajabali-Being on senate requires you to be on two committees and would you be able to do that?

Mr. Adams-No problem

Mr. Cooper-Would you be able to do 2 hours of office hours a week?

President Rajabali-How do you plan to reach out to other groups?

Mr. Adams-I would have to work on that.

Elected Samuel Adams-Science Engineering & Technology Senator

Off-Campus Senator candidates

Ama Anne-Off-Campus, I am trying to find a voice for campus, I can spend all the time you want.

Juan Munoz-International Relations major. I know a lot of off-campus students. Off-campus students commute and I know several of them that feel parking is always an issue and participating on campus is another issue.

Shafi Qanyare-I have been here about 2 years. I know one of the issues is parking. I have been going to the MSSA office and working on textbook and parking. I did four years of high school senate.

Senator Cooper-What is the biggest issue facing off-campus students?

Mr. Qanyare-Parking, I looked at the 20 year plan and I don't know if the needs are going to be met.

Mr. Munoz-Financial needs

Ms. Anne-I don't think parking is an issue; most of us don't have cars. There are some other issues.

President Rajabali-In the past the university as well as MSSA have had a problem reaching out to off-campus students, how would you do that?

Mr. Munoz-Advertising-the *Reporter*, emails, KMSU. IMPACT is doing a good job of advertising their events. I have attended many of their events.

Ms. Anne-Advertising about things happening, signs around, schedule events when the students are here.

Mr. Qanyare-Free food makes everybody come.

Senator Olson-What kind of previous experience do you have?

Ms. Anne-I have worked with IMPACT. I like to be involved.

Mr. Qanyare-I know a lot of people because I am from the area. Get on facebook and ask people to help out.

Mr. Munoz-I have become very involved. I am the President of the Latino Center. I am a rational person. I have the ability to be involved and get other people involved.

President Rajabali-If you were a fruit-what fruit would you be and why?

Mr. Qanyare-An apple.
Mr. Munoz-Fruit from my home in Mexico
Ms. Anne-Strawberry.
Senator Kaufman-Will you have class between 4 and 7 on Wed. spring semester?
Mr. Munoz-No
Ms. Anne-No
Mr. Qanyare-Absolutely not
Senator Abdi-What are 2 issues facing all MSU students?
Ms. Anne-Affecting a lot of people is diversity.
Mr. Qanyare-Cost of school.
Mr. Munoz-Financial, finding a reason to be involved on campus.

New Business

M#12.02.09 A Alcohol Awareness Program Student Affairs Committee

Whereas:	1,825 college students die a year related to alcohol
Whereas:	5,000 alcohol-related accidents occur every year
Whereas:	There is a strong need for alcohol education and awareness for college students at Minnesota State University, Mankato
Whereas:	Red Watch Band is one example of an alcohol awareness training program that helps educate students on alcohol poisoning and the risks of binge drinking so they have the necessary tools to call for help if needed
Be it resolved: MSSA support Red Watch Band or a similar alcohol awareness program that fits the needs of our University	

Senator Crane-There is a strong need and we don't think there is an awareness. This program has had an impact on other campuses.

Senator Abdi-How much will this program cost?

Senator Crane-The Red Watch Band program cost is very minimal. We are looking into grant money. It is volunteer based.

Senator Adam-How does it differ from echug programs?

Senator Crane-This would be completely different. This would be a training to create awareness, not a sanction.

Senator Adams-How would you get awareness out?

Senator Crane-I have the curriculum, you could work with Res Life starting with the Provost and getting everyone involved and on-board.

Senator Kaufman-How many students would actually participate since it is voluntary?

Senator Crane-The program is in Stoney Brook University. They have more students that want to come than they can offer it to. Those students want to have that knowledge. The audience is out there. The Health Education Office says there are people that want this program.

Senator Anderson-Do you know how big Stoney Brook is?

Senator Crane-About 12,000 students.

Senator Olson-Could freshmen get credit for taking this?

Senator Crane-I met with Roy Kamer from Alcohol and Drug and he said they do give 1 credit at other universities.

Senator Dooley-How long is the program?

Senator Crane-It is currently a four hour session unless the CPR is involved. Roy Kamer did it one night for Greek Life. It varies on how they want to do it.

Senator Olson-They would have CPR certification in four hours?

Senator Crane-There are two programs. We need to find the model that fits our university.

Senator Cooper-Space for students?

Senator Crane-The CPR program would only do 20 at a time.

Senator Dooley-I fully support this motion.

Motion passes

M#12.02.09 B Students Consulting on Teaching Program Senator Anderson/ Vice President Dooley

Whereas: MSU strives to be a leader in excellent education at the state and federal level

Whereas: The Minnesota State University, Mankato Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning promotes excellence in teaching and learning by providing resources, communication and strategies to support, strengthen and recognize high quality and innovative teaching.

Whereas: Student consulting can provide innovative perspectives to the teaching process, and offer practical instruction advice from a new generation of student learners.

Whereas: The Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning has an ideal program called "Students Consulting on Teaching" (SCOT) that can assist in providing constructive feedback on our educator's teaching methods.

Whereas: The entire University has the opportunity be a national leader by adopting the SCOT program by being the 3rd university in the country to have such a system for faculty development; furthermore, we will set ourselves apart and demonstrate leadership in developing 21st century concepts for excellence in education and learning that will not only impact our campus faculty and students but a broader population as well.

Whereas: All student s have a chance to benefit from our educators becoming more learner centered is

Whereas: The students that participate in the program will receive an invaluable educational benefit
Therefore be it Resolved: The MSSA support the launching of the SCOT program to pilot during the Spring 2010 semester.

Be it Further Resolved: The MSSA work closely with the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning to implement and develop the program.

Senator Anderson-We talked about this program last week. Today we talked to Dr. Ross in Academic Affairs-this gives us a chance to set us apart.

Vice President Dooley-We need to get the ball rolling on this right now. We need to get the pilot up next semester and next fall we will have a good program up and running.

Senator Anderson-There is an article coming out in the *Reporter* tomorrow with an application. If you know good critical thinkers tell them to apply.

Senator Munoz-How many students will be involved?

Senator Anderson-5-8 students. They are getting more faculty interest.

Senator Cooper-This is an interesting program.

Senator Adams-This might be a good recommendation to put on the bottom of the faculty evaluations.

Vice President Dooley-It is volunteer based. It will help teachers applying for tenure. It will encourage younger professors. That would be a great thing for us and them.

Senator Crane-Is there a process of selecting students?

Vice President Dooley-We will meet with Dr. Ross and help select the applicants.

Senator Anderson-We want to get people trained by the end of January. We want a group of students to weed out the pile, we want to be able to give him the applications at that time.

Motion carries

Student Allocations Recommendations

M#11.30.09A Interfraternity Council of Minnesota State University Mankato

Student Allocation Committee recommends allocating up \$100.00 to Interfraternity Council of Minnesota State University Mankato to attend the Interfraternity Academy in Indianapolis, IN.

Senator Johnson-This is just a general travel fund request.

President Rajabali-SAC reviews the requests and gives up to \$50.00 per person for travel.

Vice President Dooley-This is an intense conference.

Motion carries

M#11.20.09B Real Talk

Student Allocation Committee recommends allocating up to \$250.00 to Real Talk to attend a Winter Ramp Conference in Hamilton, AL.

Senator Johnson-This again is for travel. There are a fair amount of people going but we only funded the students.

Vice President Dooley-I brought this up because it is a men's Christian group and I don't think they talked about what they are bringing back to campus. I will vote yes as we have no policy for this.

Senator Cooper-I feel they will bring back personal growth so it is no different than the first request.

President Rajabali-We are an equal opportunity campus. Every group that gets recognized should go through the same standard. We all come for some type of growth. A religious group would probably say the same about a sports group. That is why we have the SAC guidelines.

Motion carries

M#11.30.09 C University Repertory Dance Theatre

Student Allocation Committee recommends allocating up to \$5,000.00 to University Repertory Dance Theatre (20 students) to attend The American College Dance Festival's North Central Regional Conference in Stevens Point, WI.

Senator Johnson-This is a line item where they can come back for additional funding. This year we are asking them to pitch in a little. This is not the highest amount we have given them.

Vice President Dooley-Is this different than the \$5,000 line item given them in April or is this additional?

Mr. Hodapp-This has become an annual request. When they do the spring budget for the academic year they do not know where the conference is going to be or how many students will participate so SAC has asked that rather than build it into their base budget that they come back and request when they know where it will be and how many are going. Other years they have requested anywhere from \$3,000-\$6,000. The difference between this group and other groups that you fund is that other groups know where they are going and how many they are going to send. This is a request other groups do not have access to.

SAC has never felt comfortable giving them the money up front and not knowing how they are going to spend it. Their request was for \$6,156.00 SAC took out meal money. This money is for transportation and lodging and registration fees. If this is approved we will have spent around \$13,000 of the \$25,000.

President Rajabali-This is an annual thing. We always know they will come back and ask for more.

Forensics will do the same.

Motion carries

Officer Reports

President Murtaza Rajabali

I would like to commend senators and coordinators that are doing a very good job.

Congratulations to all the people graduating. I remind you all that is why you are here –to graduate.

There was an issue brought up concerning using a state vehicle. When I went to the conference there was an accident and I used a state vehicle to go to impound and I realized that was not the right thing to do. I apologize for that. I will take care of that by paying for the additional amount of mileage and I will pay for the extra use. I remind everyone that state vehicles are not for personal use.

I received two letters one from the House of Representatives Carlos Rosa and the other from Francisco Gonzalez from the Dept. of Labor and Industry commending MSU on the initiatives regarding the creation of a Latino Center and the Plaza Comunitaria to reach out to the Latino community. These letters will not affect any decisions we are making. The letters will be available in the office.

If you are around this winter let us know as we have work to do to prepare for next semester. We need to finish what we have been working on and not leave for the next administration to fix. We need your help as much as possible. Meet & Confer is tomorrow. The agenda is not extensive.

Vice President Bob Dooley

Two main things: Newspaper Board met and added some things about the process which I feel is good. I feel the issues from last year will not happen again. Thank you for passing the SCOT motion. I feel this is a good opportunity for us. If you are eligible, please apply.

Speaker Thomas Williams

No office hours next week.

This is the last meeting for four esteemed senators. Meagan Hertzog, Martin Olson, Luz del Carmen Pimentel-Avila and Jayme Pretzloff.

I will be meeting on the final drafting of the Alcohol Policy with Roy Kamer, Torin Akey, and Wendy Schuh. We will be talking about the amnesty policy. They are not opposed to it but they wanted more discussion to be had. We decided it is a big enough issue to be talked about all by itself. It might not be in this Alcohol Policy. Nothing is definite, it is still being talked about. Resident sanctioning is a big issue they want to discuss. They want to break down the logistics of it and see how it will work if you get a violation in the dorms and no police are called and then you get a minor off-campus. Will that be your second violation? It is just logistical stuff. Social hosting was a side item. That is more of a case by case basis as there might not be any minors. Policy and Procedure-they want this to be a measure on how groups want to sanction. This will be a guideline on what the Res Halls can sanction and the Student Conduct Board on how they sanction. A yearly student consultation will be held on what can be sanctioned by the Student Conduct Board concerning off-campus violations. This is developing the procedures on what gets sanctioned not just the policy. The policy is a broad over reaching one and then there are procedures that follow.

Senator Reports

Jennifer Crane-McElroy Hall

I met with the College of Graduate Studies and Research Director Chris Mickle

Available for Current Graduate Students:

- Travel Funding – Funds allow students to travel to regional and national conferences to present their research.
- Thesis Funding - \$250 for students writing a thesis to support their research expenses for supplies, tools, special instruments for data collection

Task Forces:

- Graduate Education Task Force – evaluating the day to day operations and vision and strategic priorities of graduate education (~4th year)
- Doctoral Institution of President's strategic plans – this fits their goals and task force initiative. The task force information will continue to have an influence on this priority

New Initiatives:

- Writing Workshop (2nd year) – workshops to help graduate students achieve the writing level necessary for a thesis and expectations at the graduate level.
 - In its second year and has been very successful
 - Kirsti Cole is leading the initiative and looking into expanding it to 7700 France and online
 - Shared Funding between Department of English and College of Graduate Studies and Research
- Graduate Research Conference (2nd year)– allows graduate students to showcase their research in a similar format to the Undergraduate Research Conference that has gone on for 7 or 8 years

Interesting information

- Graduate enrollment has increased steadily over the last 4 years. 1911 students.
 - University has enhanced its recruitment efforts and the marketing strategies and highlighted the quality of the graduate programs
- University does a great job of publishing data under Institutional Research – not all comparable institutions do this

Julia Sears-Abdihakin Abdi

Last Monday I attended the Diversity gathering. I also attended the Diversity dinner. I am going to

meet with Provost Olson on a project I am going to be working on. It is for the entire student body next spring semester.

President Rajabali-Can you give us a sneak peak at what the project is about?

Senator Abdi-I can't tell you now.

Off-Campus-Amanda Lebens (written report) Department Chair- Barbara Keating

Five-year program review last year

- The program reviewers gave the department positive review.
- We do assessment every year including exit surveys of our graduating seniors and get positive reviews from our students.
- Barbara Keating reviews faculty Professional Development Reports
 - She is proud to report that they routinely get excellent teaching evaluation

Faculty received Awards this semester:

- Dr. Kim Greer received the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences Advisory Board Distinguished Professor Award in October.
- Dr. Catarina Fritz received the President's Diversity Award in November.

Budget crisis

- From last fiscal year to next the Sociology department will lose two and a third faculty positions.
- The department is not being allowed to replace a retirement or a fixed-term faculty member at the end of his contract.
- Another faculty member is starting one-third phased retirement.
- The department has lost all of their Graduate Assistantship money and all of our money for adjunct faculty. They may get some GA and adjunct money but they don't know when or how much so it is impossible to plan.
- The department schedules classes a year in advance. Because of these losses, they cannot teach as many classes and will have difficulty delivering the curriculum to students. Fewer sections will mean larger classes but they don't have large enough classrooms to meet the need.

College of Education-Dan Kromer

For my assignment this week I met with Ryan Yunkers, spelled with a "u," of the Non-traditional Student Center. It is a center set up for non-traditional students (non-trads for short). He answered many of my own personal questions concerning the center as well as speaking about what sorts of things have been going on for them, and gave me the results of the study he compiled during last school year.

For those who are unaware the Non-trad Student Center is an area that is predominantly set up as a place for non-traditional students to go to support each other, seeing as being a non-traditional student can be a very difficult thing.

In addition to offering each other support they offer resources such as computers, storage, and a fridge because the majority of non-trads are commuters.

In my personal opinion the most impressive thing that the center offers is its vast amount of programming. As you can see they put on a number of events this semester, not to mention they were all free and open to the public. Mr. Yunkers was able to secure every speaker at zero cost. He explained that because funding isn't large for the university, he tends to be a little more frugal to start the year and as budgets are closer to the end he will use more to support the students.

For example he acquired a very large meeting table for no cost because the university was removing it. He has also taken in many older computers that were being discarded, but admitted that perhaps part of his end of the year spending will be for two new computers because of the lack of functionality of the older versions.

Mr. Yunkers also explained to me that directing the Non-trad Center is only ¼ of his job and although it currently is not a problem, he could see making the position a full time position with salary. All this based on his study showing anywhere from 2500-over 8000 students being defined as non-traditional (the large margin is due to whether you count just undergrads or add in commuters).

Off-Campus-Sarah Revering

Diversity Gathering. The gathering was held on 11-23-09 @ 4:00 pm

RSO and Organizations that were invited was everyone that fell under the multicultural and international category within the recognized RSO webpage and anyone else the diversity committee felt should attend the reason for the small amount of invitations extended was it was a trail to see how the gathering would go over.

The Gathering procedure: Five detailed diversity question such as, “Do you ever feel discriminated against at MSU? Do you think this discrimination was based on misperception and was that misperception corrected? Do you know the services or general resources to turn to when being discriminated against?” and “What areas of cultural sensitivity do you think MSU lacks in acknowledging?” were set up around the room and attendees were asked to go around the room answer the question with any comments or concerns that they had. The five questions were assigned to one or two members of the Diversity committee to lead discussion on the question then we all sat down as a group and talked about the question.

Goals of the Gathering:

The Diversity gathering was put on for RSO and Organizations to meet and gain a better understanding of one another and the issues of the diversity in which our campus represent well and the areas in which we lack at addressing. As well as to see in what ways we can help each other succeed to the best of our abilities.

The turnout of the Gathering was minimal but the production of the gathering was amazing. The Diversity committee did a great job in leading discussion at the gathering and the feedback we received from RSO and Organizations very responsive.

Some of the ideas brought up:

- Making the CSU more Diverse by promoting cultures not just on the weeks in which are celebrated for special occasions but every day.
 - Adding art of different cultures all over the CSU (a world map with information of cultures, The different faces of MSU mavericks displayed, a Giant Logo)
 - Having different languages of Hello greet you in as you enter the CSU voice over
- Address Disability Awareness and Advocacy Group (DAAG)
- Faculty being more sensitive to students from a diverse background
- More diversity in fraternities and sororities (reasons for not joining: not comfortable and money issue)
- More collaboration with all RSO and Organizations(First day of spring outside party)
- Diversity training mandatory students and faculty
- Hold certain expectations within the university for faculty and students to meet (stress responsibility of culture sensitivity)
- Class Panels of Diversity (better understand each other)
- Better resources to connect with other organizations

Things to Focus to Improve Gathering for next time:

Better Attendance (adding more RSO and Organization to the invitation list or opening it too all)

Better time (not a Monday towards the end of the semester)

Better advertisement(utilizing the reporter)

MSUSA

As Diversity Liaison for MSUSA we are putting together I Diversity Conference which will be held March 5 through the 7th and we will be allowed to take 15 people.

The Diversity Conference involves:

Friday: Opening ceremony, Keynote presenter, skit, snacks

Saturday: Workshops, Service learning out base projection work shop, dinner, and social

Sunday: Wrap up

Student Affairs

Magnets: Jen and I have been working to come up with a prototype for Alcohol poisoning Awareness that will be placed in the dorm rooms. To help prevent unwanted incidents that may resulting from binge drinking. Jen is currently looking into grants for these magnets.

Talked with Highland

We decided to have frequent meetings so we can talk about students concerns that live in Highland.

Gage A-Jesse Stamm (written report)

Announcements

Senator Pretzloff-The MSU Union Board has made a sustainability survey. It is open until Thursday.

Senator Anderson-Jayne Pretzloff is awesome.

Roll Call

Senators Present

Jennifer Dooley, Chris Kaufman, Jayme Pretzloff, Dan Kromer, Jacob Severson, Dave Meyers, Luz del Carmen Pimentel-Avila, Abdihakim Abdi, Michael Cooper, Sarah Revering, Martin Olson,

Senators Absent

Brett Anderson, Alexi Roskom, Alyssa Ries, Connie Johnson, Sarah Koenen, Meagan Hertzog, Jesse Stamm, Jennifer Crane, Matthew Johnson, Abby Knott, Amanda Lebens, Shankar Reddy, Ricardo Lopez

Executive Staff Present

President Rajabali, Vice President Dooley

Adjournment Meeting adjourned at 6:06 PM