

84th MSSA Senate
March 29th, 2017
Minutes

- **Call to Order by 84th Speaker de Ruiter**
- **Roll Call**
- **Presentations**
 - Lexi Bylar – Students United Vice Chair Candidate 2017-2018
 - Former Senate Member
 - Moorhead University
 - 23 years young. Advertising/PR Student, musician, volunteer, Wisconsin born, activist, and adventurer.
 - On-Campus of the Black Student Union.
 - Founder of MSUM Spaces of Solidarity.
 - Main Goals: Diversity, Affordability and Student Wellness.
 - Cristian Perez – SAC Chairman, Student Activities Fee
 - 10 members of SAC, remained unbiased, budget efficiency, kept it under a 4% increase.
 - Overall Budget Impact
 - ✓ FY17 Base: \$2,550,603
 - ✓ FY18 Request: \$2,652,040.33
 - ✓ SAC Recommends: \$2,552,355.33
 - ✓ \$0.26/credit hour increase or \$3.12 to the banded tuition per semester.
 - Campus Recreation requested \$523,908. SAC recommends \$512,137.
 - Intramural Recreation requested \$25,000. SAC recommends \$25,000.
 - Campus Rec (Adventure Ed Program/Climbing Walls) requested \$143,728. SAC recommends \$143,728.
 - Campus Rec Equipment R&R Fund requested \$20,000. SAC recommends \$20,000.
 - Campus Rec Maverick Adventures requested \$17,349. SAC recommends \$0.
 - Forensics requested \$19,612. SAC recommends \$19,612.
 - Gender & Sexuality Programs requested \$55,000. SAC recommends \$55,000.
 - Green Transportation Fee requested \$352,538. SAC recommends \$313,515.
 - International Center Activities requested \$53,400. SAC recommends \$53,400.
 - Multicultural Student Activities requested \$50,500. SAC recommends \$45,500.
 - Music Ensembles requested \$81,000. SAC recommends \$76,950.
 - Non-Budgeted Request Fund (RSO Travel/Program) requested \$40,000. SAC recommends \$40,000.
 - Repertory Dance requested \$5,000. SAC recommends \$5,000.
 - Reporter requested \$67,900. SAC recommends \$58,040.
 - Reporter Equipment R&R Fund requested \$0. SAC recommends \$0.
 - SAF Administration requested \$256,053. SAC recommends \$256,053.

- Student Senate requested \$113,839. SAC recommends \$109,823.
- Theatre requested \$85,616. SAC recommends \$82,000.
- Administration requested \$533,330.33. SAC recommends \$533,330.33.
- Community Engagement requested \$9,797. SAC recommends \$9,797.
- Greek Life requested \$15,000. SAC recommends \$15,000.
- Homecoming requested \$51,000. SAC recommends \$51,000.
- Leadership/Leadership U requested \$5,100. SAC recommends \$5,100.
- Mavericks after Dark requested \$12,500. SAC recommends \$0.
- Non-Traditional Student Center requested \$5,000. SAC recommends \$4,000.
- Recognized Student Organizations requested \$6,200. SAC recommends \$6,200.
- Student Events Team requested \$103,670. SAC recommends \$112,170.

Thao: Homecoming wants approval of that \$7,000 now?

Bulcock: It is carry-forward money from last year.

Constantine: The request is \$51,000. The \$7,000 should be separate.

Rayani: Campus Rec GA's.

Perez: They currently have 2-3 GA's. They are not maximizing funds due to the schedules.

Rayani: Green Transportation Fee. Is there an hourly fee? What does the \$97/hour pay for?

Perez: No. It's broken down.

Cowan: City of Mankato is predicting a 2% increase. The \$97 includes salary, insurance, maintenance, etc.

Rayani: For Theatre, was operations impacted by decrease?

Perez: They did very well last year with the productions they put on. Weren't as successful this year.

Bulcock: Process: The departments that are appealing will be at the meeting next week, or you request them to be at the meeting.

De Ruitter: SAC recommends and we as a Senate make the final decisions next week.

Requests for Departments to attend Budget Hearing: Campus Recreation, Green Transportation Fee, Reporter, Forensics, Student Events Team, Non-Traditional Students, Multicultural Center, Mavericks Adventure, Music Ensemble and Theatre.

- Griffin Goode: Ethics and Standards

- Violations: If a Senator, Coordinator, Specialist, Committee Appointee, the Speaker, the Vice President or the President are in violation of the requirements set forth by this article and all related governing documents, a appointed official be lodged against that elected or appointed official with Commission on Ethics and Standards.
- The Commission shall hear all complaints concerning the ethical behavior and/or fitness of an elected or appointed official of the MSSA. The commission is external to the Senate.
- Meeting Attendance: A Senator or their proxy shall not be absent from two consecutive regular meetings or from more than forty-nine percent of the regular meetings during a semester.
- Senate Reports: Every MSSA Senator is required to give a minimum of three Senator Reports per semester.
- Office Hours: The following MSSA members are required to fulfill a weekly office hour requirement; Senators and Specialists are required

three office hours per week. Coordinators are required five hours, and Executive staff are required ten hours.

○

- **Open Forum**

- Todd Pfingsten
 - MSSA vs. Student Affairs Annual Softball game is in two weeks! Free Food.
- Bryan Schneider
 - 2017 Student Technology Fee Subcommittee Objectives for FY 2018.
 - Why are we requesting an increase?

- **Approval of Consent Agenda**

Appointments:

Ayoola Okuribido – Delegates Assembly

Mitchel Favor – Public Relations

Ryder Wahl – Ethics & Standards

Michael Bluhm – Environmental Committee

Commission on Ethics & Standards:

Callais, Adjidjonu, Kitamura

Recognized Student Organizations:

Student Allocations Committee:

- Recommend allocating up to \$150 to the **Muslim Student Association** to assist 7 students travel to the monthly United MSA Council meeting in St. Paul, MN on March 25, 2017
- Recommend allocating up to \$200 for non-food related travel expenses to **Phi Delta Theta** to assist 10 students travel to the PDT Central Region Recruitment Workshop at Iowa State University, Ames, IA on April 1, 2017.

- **Officer Reports**

- **President Rayani**
 - a. Relay For Life
 - b. ISA Elections are today
 - c. Students United delegates this weekend in Breezy Point. Thursday meeting in the MSSA Office at 6pm.
 - d. Walk to Capital on May 7th.
 - e. MSSA Meet and Confer on April 6, 2017.
- **Vice President Ruiz**
 - a. Relay for Life on April 7, 2017. 6pm in Myers Field House.
- **Speaker de Ruiter**
 - a. We now have a functioning Ethics and Standards Committee.
 - b. There has been a slight glitch with entering office hours. I will fix this issue.
 - c. Big Budget Hearing next week. 3pm in CSU 245.

- **Senator Reports**

- Royce: Homecoming Royalty Transition. The Board voted 10-0 to form committee over the summer and start working on this. They will bring this back to the Homecoming Committee in the fall. I would like to have one or two Senators to be involved. We will establish a timeline and have listening/open sessions. Will make up gender inclusive terms, advance safety, expand program.
- Isniqi & Martin: “When Home Won’t Let You Stay” Event on Monday, April 10th, 2017, CSU Ballroom from 8am-4pm. “Refugees” Join the Discussion on Monday, April 10th, 2017 in the CSU Ballroom from 7-9pm.

Torgeson: Have you talked to any classes about this being extra credit?

Isniqi: Yes, there will be an email going out to Faculty from the Provost.

Podorova: Come talk to RHA at 4pm on Monday.

Martin: We want this to be a yearly thing.

Cowan: Parking will be free in the Visitors Pay lot.

- Dufresne: Procedures and Policies on Student Deaths. Maybe a memorial brick or tree in recognition of the student. We should do something for the parents.

Cremers: Do you know if the University doesn’t do anything?

Isniqi: I have talked with Dr. Zierdt and the family receives the diploma of the student if they were close to graduating.

- Isniqi: Went to the Advising Model event held by Dr. Zierdt at 8am on Tuesday.
- Torgeson: I talked with Dr. Zierdt today. We are narrowing down where the issues are with the Advising Model.
- B. Thao: Asian American Affairs search. We had 12 applicants. We are doing reference checks on 4 of those and then call them in for interviews.

- **Vacancies**

- **New Business**

[MM|84|03|01|01|

Motioned by Senator Lucier

Seconded by Senator Babcock

Whereas, the number of graduate students entering MNSU, Mankato is increasing;

Whereas, the demographics of graduate students vary just as widely as undergraduate students in terms of online-only, international, multiple campus, and nontraditional status, if not more so;

Whereas, graduate students pay higher tuition per credit with no banded tuition, have higher expectations for attending professional development opportunities (including out-of-state conferences and lectures), and have more restricted work opportunities than their undergraduate counterparts, increasing the burden of cost of attendance;

Whereas, graduate students are unable to work more than 14 hours per week during the summer and receive no summer credit waivers;

Whereas, there is a national trend of increased mental health issues for graduate students, and MNSU, Mankato is no different;

Whereas, many newly entering graduate students feel lost and confused, and current students feel a lack of support;

Whereas, the needs of graduate students differ from those of undergraduate students in various ways, and need specific and careful consideration;

Be it resolved: A Graduate Welfare and Education Ad Hoc Committee be formed;

Be it further resolved: the committee shall be comprised mostly of graduate students, from diverse backgrounds and varying undergraduate experiences, as well as faculty and administration directly involved in the College of Graduate Studies and general graduate student welfare;

Be it further resolved: the committee shall discuss issues pertaining directly to improving the education, opportunities, and overall wellbeing of graduate students, including, but not limited to: conference credits, spring orientation, mental health awareness, online presence and accessibility, scholarships, fairness in graduate assistantship hiring, possible unionization, summer work hours and waivers, and counseling services applicable to graduate students.

Lucier: Basically I have a meeting tomorrow with Dean Barry Ries with Senator Babcock. If we pass this motion today it can be rescinded. There is no student representation on the Graduate Student Council.

Babcock: Confirm.

Ruiz: If we knew more about what the GSC is working on we can collaborate with them.

Isniqu: Motion to add a committee through MSSA.

Bulcock: Largely advised. Ad-hoc recognized committee was temporarily formed.

Fred: Amendment to create committee through MSSA. Approved.

Vote: **MOTION PASSED.**

[MM]84|03|29|01|

Motioned by Senator Lucier

Seconded by Senator Isniqu

Whereas, Deaf and Hard of Hearing students pay the same student fees as everyone else;

Whereas, without captions, Deaf and Hard of Hearing students are unable to access video media sources with sounds;

Be it resolved, all video materials produced, broadcast, and/or hosted using student fees must have closed captions either built in or encoded into them.

Be it further resolved, all video materials hosted on the MNSU website for recruitment, retention, and/or informational purposes also be captioned.

Be it further resolved, MSSA encourages faculty to ensure the materials that they broadcast in class be captioned or caption-capable.

Be it further resolved, anyone producing, broadcasting, and/or hosting such videos will be advised to visit the Accessibility Resources and/or IT offices for help.

Lucier: This was on agenda last week but was amended. Julie Snow reached out to me. This is required if people are using student fees. Sexual assault video was also not accessible for closed captioning.

Cremers? Does everyone have this option?

Lucier: Yes.

Ruiz: Amend stating that President Rayani sends letter to CSU Ops, All Deans, Brian Jones, Julie Snow, and Mary Visser about this motion.

VOTE: **MOTION PASSED.**

[MM|84|03|29|02|

Motioned by President Rayani

Seconded by _____

Whereas, MSSA President Rayani is running for the position of State Chair

Whereas elections will be taking place in the March/April delegates assembly

Whereas the board of directors will vote in the State Chair election and is composed of the student body presidents of the 7 Minnesota State School

Whereas President Rayani will have to step down in his role as a director for the duration of the board meeting at which the new State Chair will be elected due to a conflict of interest

Whereas MSSA requires that a change in the individuals serving as Board Director be ratified by senate.

Be it resolved, the 84th MSSA approves Vice President Ruiz to serve as the Mankato board director for the duration of the previously mentioned board meeting.

Be it further resolved, MSSA approves that Vice President Ruiz relieve her duties as Board director back to President Rayani following the previously mentioned meeting.

Rayani: As a board director, you have to be very knowledge about MSU. VP Ruiz is very aware of what is going on. There would be no conflict of interest.

Martin: I think since you both work so closely together there would be a conflict of interest. I amend to add my name instead of VP Ruiz.

Seconded by Callais.

Cremers: It comes down to trust. I think she would remain unbiased.

Lucier: The Role of VP is to step up when the President can't do his duties.

Fred: Vote on Amendment; Amendment Fails.

Vote on Motion: **MOTION PASSED.**

- **Announcements**

- Bodnar: Production showing is "And Baby Makes 7." It's a 3 person show.
- Bryan Schneider: Look through the Objectives handout I passed around. We want your comments and feedback and want this approved next year.
- Constantine: Do not wait until next week. Be prepared for the hearing and work together.
- Bulcock: Binder will be in MSSA. Review the comments. Also Sisters of Notre Dame on Good Council Hill is having an event on Immigration on April 6 at 7:00 p.m. Remember you have 3 meetings left after today. What is your legacy going to be?
- Ruiz: Thank you for reaffirming me.

- Isniqu: For our refugee event. There will be no refugees that aren't US citizens for safety reasons.
- Lucier: American Indian Affairs is having a pancake breakfast. Asia Night is Saturday Night. And Carol Lectures Program is having the founder of Black Lives Matter on April 3, 2017 at 7pm in the Ballroom.
- Hickey: Chipotle 5-9pm donates proceeds to Sigma, Sigma, and Sigma 5k. Go eat there.
- **Roll Call**
- **Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 6:53 pm.