

78th MSSA Senate
January 26, 2011

Senate called to order by 78th Speaker Matthew Schmidt

Roll Call(present-absent-excused-proxy)

Jennifer Dooley15-1-1, Matthew O'Flaherty 1-0-0, Matthew Lexcen 10-2-1, Shay Ademola-Sadipe 1-0-0, Spencer Johnson 1-0-0, Dan Kromer 17-0-0, Nathan Gustafson 14-3-0, Scott Boyd 1-0-0, Cody Ingenthron 11-3-1-2, Sarah Koenen 17-0-0, Micheal Do 16-1-0, Steven Johnson 4-0-0, Amanda Blomgren 1-0-0, Rachel Sargent 12-2-0, Ted Gibbons 11-2-0, Michael Paul 13-0-0, Braeden Hogue 12-2-3, Kelvin Borchardt 9-1-0, Lela Magxaka 15-1-0-1, Nansy Pradhan 15-1-1, Tyler Ulferts 1-0-0, Taylor Pederson 17-0-0, President Williams 17-0-0, Vice President Anderson 17-0-0

Open Forum

Dr. Paul Hustoles-Chair, Theatre and Dance

I was summonsed this morning to come and talk to the senate. I want to say thank you to MSSA and SAC. We spent a whole week in Ames, Iowa. 2000 students participating. This time we entered a full production. Five were selected and we were one of them. We performed the show. Out of 400 competitors one of our seniors placed third. I thank you for your support. The next show opens tomorrow night. Tickets are on sale.

Ryan Yunkers-Assistant Director Student Activities (Nontraditional Student Presentation)

Mavericks After Dark- Saturday Feb. 26 Cardboard boat races. We have been focusing on promotion. We want more people to know about nontraditional students.

Stomper's Cinema- Overall average cost this semester for students is \$2.54. Total attendance was 4331. This semester we have changed our times... How can we make Stomper's Cinema better than it already is?

John Bulcock- Dance Marathon

Raises money for Gillette Children's Specialty. 153 people attended, huge success. Money donated at the door \$8700.

Senator Lexcen- I am your new MSUSA campus coordinator. I need people to come to the conference. We have rally day on Feb 15th. I will be setting up Tim Walz visit.

Approval of Consent Agenda

Appointments- Tami Klenke- Student Health Services Director Search, Garrett Wellman- The new Mike Hodapp position search, Tyler Ulferts- Student Allocations Committee, Matthew O'Flaherty- Parking Appeals Board, Nikki Sabby- Student Allocations Committee, Matt Lexcen- MSUSA Campus Coordinator, Sarah Koenen- V.P. ITS Search Committee & Dean of CSET Search Committee

Recognized Student Organizations- Lutheran Campus Ministry - The Crossroads

Student Allocation Committee Recommendations

SAC M#01.24.11A School Psychology Society

Student Allocation Committee recommends allocating \$250.00 to School Psychology Society to attend the Minnesota School Psychology Association Conference in Minneapolis, MN.

SAC M#01.24.11B Industrial/Organizational Psychology

Student Allocation Committee recommends allocating \$650.00 to Industrial/Organizational Psychology to attend the Industrial/Organizational Psychology Organizational Behavior Graduate Student Conference in San Diego, CA.

Approval of Minutes 1-19-11

Additional Appointments; LTR-

Strike Senator Do from Senator Reports

Agenda approved with corrections

Presentation-Mankato City Councilman-Mark Frost (see file handout)

Ward 3 encompasses university. Trying to put together a town and gown. These are things we though effect student life the most. Rental property licensing and regulations- I don't know what you have experiences with. This is the first and most obvious. Not just students. Crime free multi-housing initiative is next. This is something to make sure everyone is safe. Neighborhood associations- They are wonderful. They want input from students. They want their neighborhood to be a great place for everyone. They have meetings once per month. Spring Cleanup- this is when we have a lot of people leaving the city at the same time. It keeps Mankato a clean place to live. Social Host Ordinance- We want to make sure we don't have another year where we loose students from

intoxication. Directed patrols- Late Night Bus Service- Stomper Express. This is to make sure you stay safe. It seems to be fairly successful. High Risk Drinking Coalition- this is generated from the alcohol related deaths.

Elections-Off-Campus: Sarah Revering

I attend the meetings all the time. I am the coordinator of student affairs so I already know what is going on. I hope you vote for me. Thank you

Elected Off Campus Senator Sarah Revering

New Business

M#01.26.2011 A MSUSA Board of Directors Decision Vice President Anderson/Senator Kromer

Whereas: Recent MSUSA Board of Directors decisions were made during a January meeting and conference call.

Be it Resolved: The MSSA approve the MSUSA actions by Director Williams

Vice President Anderson- Its just a formality we have to go through to decide what we are doing in MSUSA. All students should be happy we saved some money.

Motion Approved

M#1.26.2011B MSUSA Conference Contract Senator Lexcen/Vice President Anderson

Whereas: The MSSA is part of the Minnesota State University Student Association (MSUSA)

Whereas: Students at all 7 state universities, pay a fee to be part of MSUSA

Whereas: MSUSA functions are business conferences and meetings representing the interest of over 70,000 students

Be it Resolved: In order to be good stewards towards student fee dollars and to effectively represent all students, the MSSA adopt an MSSA-MSUSA Conference Contract

Senator Lexcen- Pretty self explanatory. We use student fees to get to these places. I think it's irresponsible to not attend.

Vice President Anderson- You can do whatever you want to do, as long as you are ready to take care of business at 9:00AM.

Senator Gustafson- What happens if you don't attend?

Vice President Anderson- Basiucally the possible penalties ... it would be refered to our ethics and standards committee.

President Williams- Once a room reservation is made, you are financially responsible. If you are not able to attend is that you are responsible to find someone to fill the room.I think you should be financially responsible as well.

Vice President Anderson- In that scenario, it usually works itself out.

Motion Passes.

Officer Reports

President Williams

We have plenty of search committees and other committees: associate registrar, dean of extended learning, elections committee. Elections begin in March. You can't be on that committee if you are intending to run. Learning Technology roundtable, Great place to work taskforce.

Senator Kromer: I went and met with them yesterday afternoon. They have a great thing going.

President Williams- For anyone who is interested it would be great if you could serve on it. They meet when needed. With any luck it would be done with this semester. They want to create change and leave when they finish their goal. COB Dean Search...

Online differential tution is different. Right now there is no boundaries set. Why does online class cost so much? We voted on setting those requirements. MSUSA wanted us to end 10 people and 3 staff members there. I moved to send 2 people. The effectiveness of that money would be better on our campus. We felt it would be better for them to come on our campus and see the effect higher education is facing.

Senator of the week: Kelvin Borchardt. He has been outstanding by reaching out to RSO's. He's gone above and beyond what is typical. You are seen as a role model for MSSA.

Vice President Anderson

Dr. Blackhurst sent out a notification to the MSSA to let us know that she has decided to transfer the Women's Center and LGBT to Office of Institutional Diversity. The bus schedule will now be published in the newspaper with Hertz information. Proud to pass that along. The cars were gone

all weekend. We don't always follow up when we allocate money and it was interesting to see where our \$5,000 went. That was money well spent. After the meeting Cheri has made walking tacos with us. We then have bowling downstairs in preparation of our meet against Student Affairs Office. We got killed last year. We will need people on the Constitution Commission. If you have picked up a reporter recently, they have a sticker about snow removal... We have some opening so please recruit some people. As the year has started to wrap up there are 75 days until elections. Senate is what you make it. If you want a change, change starts at your individual level. I want to be there as a resource. There is nothing too big or too small for us... Cheri speech... We honestly would get nothing done without Cheri. Please thank her for her time.

President Williams- When is the official bowling and how long have we lost against them?

VP Anderson- Feb. 1st.

Senator Kromer- would you like newly elected senators to set up a meeting with you?

Senator Lela- ...

Vice President Anderson- 7700 Francis... enrollment has exploded. Think about what can we do?

Hopefully Senator Lela will be taking charge.

Speaker Schmidt

For the rules during this transition period. Anything involving the agenda. Motions should be turned into me 24 hours in advance. Tuesday's at 4pm so we can get it put on the agenda. All reports must be in writing. They are already pretty much in writing form. Please try to be in the office as much as possible and see if you can help with anything.

Vice President Anderson- Reports should still be given orally, correct?

Speaker- Yes.

Coordinator Reports

Academic Affairs-Dan Kromer

I am also the chair of Bookstore advisory. We have to look at Barnes and Nobles contract. If you have any opinions come to the meetings... We have decided to keep Barnes and Noble for the next two years. We have a new rental program. The commission is knocked down two percent because some students use credit cards or don't return books.

Student Affairs-Sarah Revering

Campaign student affairs is doing. We are going to come up with questions by Friday. We are going to take that and do poster boards where people can write down suggestions. We want to know student opinions. We are doing flyers. They are going to have safety things that we are supposed to do. We will have the security website on there. I need your help because we are going to be tabeling next week from 9am to 2pm.

VP Anderson- Hypothetically, if I was an academic senator, could I still help out?

Senator Revering- Of course.

Senator Reports

Allied Health & Nursing-Jennifer Dooley (written report)

Meet with Jessica from the LGBT

The LGBT center received 16,300 from SAC.

LGBT center receives \$1000-2000 revenue from the drag shows.

LGBT receives \$1,182 from M & E (student affairs). Student affair also pays for Jessica salary and 1 grad assistant salary.

LGBT gets the Jim Chalgren endowment. Endowment total was \$4000 this past year. Jessica raised \$100,000 and put it into an endowment. They raise the interest it earns every year. The amount will vary depending on the market.

Total money: 16,300 + 1,500 + 1,182 + 4,000 = 22,482-23,482 and a director's salary and grad assistant salary.

A couple of years ago, the LGBT center had high pressure to creating their own revenue.

Center has the title like any other office, but Jessica and the grad assistant are the only workers who are employed.

They spent a little over \$7,000 first semester. Most of budget goes to spring, because all the marketing for the summer is purchased in the spring.

Jessica was the first full time LGBT director has since 2004. She started off with a budget of \$5000. The center has grown, there has been a huge increase in awareness of LGBT individual, and they have been recognized as one of the top 100 LGBT centers in the nation.

On average they directly affect 5,000 students and like to think they have an impact on all 14,000. They help 50 LGBT students per week and even more alliances.

They Answer questions, have conversation, and have a tight connection with the counseling center (many referrals between the two). The LGBT center feels it has a good balance between work and fun.

Jessica feels that it is unfair for the money that is given to the LGBT from SAC goes towards administrative cost. She does not feel that I should have to pay for the office's tape.

Biggest concern is the fact that her grad assistant position has been cut. That is huge loss and feels the program will suffer, if the grad assistance position is not replaced. This will have a huge impact on the center, because there is only 1.5 FTE's in the office and with the cut, the additional 20 hours will be Jessica's responsibility.

Just found out they moved under institutional diversity. Will have a meeting in the near future and hope they have a solution for the grad assistant problem.

College of Education-Dan Kromer (written report)

Julia Sears-Braeden Hogie (written report)

I attended the RHA meeting on Monday, and it is set up differently to cater to Residential Hall Senators. We have 30 minutes at the beginning of every meeting to meet with our constituents. I got to talk with all of the RHA representatives present from the Julia Sears area. I told them about what we have been doing in Senate, and I talked with them about issues that Student Affairs is bringing up. These issues included: "being a good neighbor", safety, and smoking around the residence halls, and potentially putting up heated lamps, and smoking shelters around each of the residence halls.

Also, if anyone reads this tonight, we have human checkers going on in the Julia Sears Lobby tonight. You could win a new Ipod Touch!

Nansy Pradhan-Off-Campus

This week I met with Tom Gjersvig, the director of the International Student and Scholar Services; and Rob Quanbeck, the newly hired International Recruitment/Retention Specialist. I basically talked to them about providing more off-campus housing information to the freshmen international students who are newly entering the United States. Tom said that the International Center sends the Letter of Admissions, I20, on-campus housing materials and a sheet of paper with the important websites. When I asked about the information about off-campus living, he said that a link is given in the paper that they send out. They also told me that the incoming international students were emailed with information about housing but when I looked at the email, it only talked about dorms. So, Tom decided to incorporate off-campus living information along with that email. We also talked about sending out a hard copy of the apartment complex information provided by the Student Activities along with the Admission Letter. And, before we do that we also plan to meet with John Bulcock, the Assistant Director of the Greek Life & Off-Campus Housing, and also with Cindy Janney, the Director of the Res Life.

Arts & Humanities-Matthew Lexcen

Senators, faculty, coordinators, and other distinguished guests. This past week I had yet another opportunity to sit down with Walter Zakahi, Dean of the College of Arts and Humanities. Now, when you go into the A&H dean's office you get to set up an appointment with Ms. Evans. She is a sweet, caring woman, who asks you to "please sit down, he'll be right out." So I did, like usual. Got to overhear two work-study office assistants banter about how expensive textbooks are and what seemed to be an inter-friend-book-sharing system. 5 minutes later and I'm walking into Walter's office, still sparsely decorated, which reminds me that he's been here less than a year. Yet his insights time and time again leave me no reason to believe why he is where he is. His style seems to fit perfectly with his surrounding directors and department chairs. He speaks with passion. And even better, he realizes his team knows what they're doing. I view him mostly as a medium through which my college can grow. Though, right now, we've been forced to do the opposite. I went in actually wanting to talk about something completely different. But it seemed like he had an agenda, that he wanted to tell me something. He explained that this summer we lose our Orchestra Director to retrenchment--a process that I feel more students should know about, one I barely understand. Retrenchment is a noun. The dictionary states that retrenchment is as follows:

-noun

1.

the act of retrenching; a cutting down or off, as by the reduction of expenses.

In other words, and to a more definite understanding, we cut costs to ensure future financial stability. And even though this man, beloved by his students, a true asset to our institution, is forced to walk do to "budget problems". Walter spoke about this with heart--something I value deeply in leadership. Walter noted that

hiring part-time faculty with the one-time money we are allotted is a strong possibility. But he also noted that part-time faculty can in no way replace this man. And this reminds me that even when our University enrollment is the second highest it's ever been, we still cannot afford to pay all our professors. We still cannot afford to pay the people that could get a job elsewhere yet decided to stay here because, well, they loved it here. So it saddens me to report that I'm sad. We lose, as of now, two other professors to this same process this year. That's the sad part.

On to the happy part--and I'll keep this much more brief--but we're working to set up a multi-focus task-force within A&H. That will begin this semester. So whoever gets the pleasure of taking over this position in the future will, in all hopes, have some more work to do. Thank you all for your time.

I am doing MSUSA campus coordinating. It's something where I want to leave a mark. I need all the help I can get. Any of you who have interest I strongly encourage you to contact me. You are the leaders on this campus, and I know we are busy, but I would like to get things done.

Off-Campus-Kelvin Borchardt

Fellow Senators,

This semester has been a great one so far. I am really glad to see all energetic faces in the room, especially the new ones from the newly elected Senators. I am excited to see the fruits of your labors this semester in your advocating efforts, so keep up the great work that was established last semester.

My current projects include the following.

Student Affairs:

Better neighbor's pamphlet: We felt the need for an informational pamphlet to address some of the issues of living off campus in Mankato, and provide information related to common issues that arise during the course of the year. These include how to interact with your new neighbors and why to do so. Information on police, living, parking and snow removal issues that rise with in the year.

Sexual assault/alcohol abuse Speaker: I am currently in the process of finding the funding and the time table of getting a speaker that's topic is one that mirrors that of what we have identified that is an issue on this campus. I would live to get your feedback.

Off Campus Senator: Instead of focusing on tabling efforts I have been attending random RSO meetings to find out issues that they may have individually and together. These include the following.

Veterans Club/ Nontraditional student: Daag seems to be an issue with the relaying of information discussed and working with Disability services. I plan to follow up on this and will collect letters of issues related from students affected. Also the possibility of losing a resource of a Veterans Resource Advisor is troubling. The position might be removed if funding from the state is not continued.

After meeting with the Honors Director and the executive committee of the Honors program, I have set a meeting date of Feb 17th at 8pm to promote the benefits of being a senator and advocating for students in conjunction of how it builds upon personal development. Also a suggestion was made to revisit the possibility of presenting at first year experience classes. We need to tell these students that they need to be student leaders at this university.

Announcements

Dental Heigene- Looking for students. Costs five dollars. They are desperately looking for people.

Lela- India night this weekend and African Night. Tom Williams will be performing and waering tights.

VP Anderson- Lets use this time to use as our family time. Its our last night with Cheri. Please help out Senator Lexcen. The rally day is huge. Help Matt with the rally day. We have our own bill.

Do- Polar Plunge. Jump in some lakes

Lexcen- There is a sign up sheet in the office. I need three or four more names on the list. I'd like to have it filled in today. Please talk to me after.

Shay- Feb 23-26th pan African student leadership coming up. Learn about diversity.

Gustafson- I work in the office of Institutional planning. Many of you have experiences course evals. You have all filled them out. We have organized to update our system. The machine is dying. The results aren't giving the faculty what they need. If you have suggestions please let me know.

Revering- Please spread the word about the campaign.

Meeting adjourned at 5:41

Roll Call

Senators Present

Senators Absent

Executive Staff Present

Executive Staff Absent

Adjournment Meeting adjourned at