

**84th MSSA Senate  
November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2016  
Minutes**

- **Call to Order by 84<sup>th</sup> Speaker de Ruiter**
- **Roll Call**
- **Presentations**
  - President Davenport
    - Campus letter regarding support and what the University stands for. A welcoming feel. I am working on a second letter that focuses on issues that are coming to my attention.
    - How we can assure the safety and well-being and respect of all our students, no matter your background.
    - 17,500 new applicants this year. We graduate around 4,000 students per year. Says a lot about the climate of our University. Students want to come here.
    - Want to thank you for hosting an open forum.
    - Working on getting private funding for a walkway from the Clinical Sciences building to Ford Hall.
    - Academic Ranking Sports Team. Best athletic teams.
  - Cindy Janney - Room and Board Rates
    - Outcome of the Res Hall Association Voting on the board rates.
    - Improvement options will cost \$16.00/student.
  - Sam Steiger - Maverick Adventures
    - Rental Services: water sporting equipment, bikes, lawn games, skiing, hiking and camping equipment.
    - Strong demand for a bike rental program at MSU.
    - Renting to the community would also be available.
    - Trips and Travels would be provided through Maverick Adventures.
    - Benefits: credits for some trips; academically better, self-confidence; cheaper way to explore.
- **Open Forum**
  - Brenda Flannery - Dean of College of Business
    - Big Ideas Challenge: Launching this again. \$10,000 to be available to students. Flyers will be passed around.
    - MN Cup: Our Big Ideas winner will automatically be a semi-finalist for the MN Cup.

- **Approval of Consent Agenda**

*Appointments:*

Bryan Beltran: Director of Financial Aid Search Committee;

Yulia Podorova: University's Priority Registration Request Review Committee;

Madison Jellum: Library Advisory Committee, President's Commission on the Status of Women, Re-imagining the first year project - Belonging/Grown Mindset;

Abi Saha: Re-imagining the first year project -Micro Grants, Joint Budget Planning & Assessment Evaluation, Planning Sub meet & Confer;

Ana Leyva: Expanding Regional & Global Impact Task force;  
Kole Kleinshmidt: Advancing a Culture of Evidence and Innovative Organizational Designs Task force;  
Liesel Theusch: Elevating Faculty Distinction and Academic Achievement Task force

Commission on Ethics & Standards:

Connor Martin, Mike Dufresne; Narukazu Kitamura; Kaoshoa Thao;

Recognized Student Organizations:

Student Allocations Committee:

- Recommend allocating up to \$200 ( $\$50/student \times 4 students$ ) for non-food related travel expenses to the **Tau Kappa Epsilon** to travel and attend the TKE Regional Conference in Las Vegas, NV, February 24-26 2017.
- Recommend allocating up to \$120 for non-food related travel expenses to the **Muslim Student Association** to assist 10 students travel and attend the United Muslim Student Association Minnesota Meeting in Minneapolis, MN, November 19, 2016.
  
- **Officer Reports**
  - **President Rayani**
    - a. Thank you for an awesome semester and for serving on the Senate.
    - b. Students United: passed a gender neutral bathroom issue last year. Will be changing this year. Trigger Warnings passes and a Prayer Room. All student Email regarding election also went out.
    - c. Helped with Student Pay with help of Rick Straka and Steve Smith.
    - d. Survey regarding the prayer room will also be sent out to all students.
    - e. Will be electing the Elections Commission that will be in charge of the upcoming elections. You cannot serve if you plan on running.
    - f. Graduating Senators get cords.
  - **Vice President Ruiz**
    - a. Thank you all for everything this semester.
    - b. Met with Cyrenthia Jordan last week. We talked on how what we can do as a senate next semester. Title 9 includes so many other things besides sexual assault.
    - c. MILO event coming up.
    - d. International and Diversity week is happening. Many events that are planned. Highly encourage to participate.
    - e. Diversity Dinner is tomorrow. We have 8 tickets/table available. If you are able to attend from 5-8 pm please let us know.
  - **Speaker de Ruiter**
    - a. Free pass on office hours this week! No excuses for next semester.
    - b. Your duty to do three senator reports per semester.
    - c. Thank you very much for a great semester.
  
- **Senator Reports**
  - **Senator Martin, Podorova, Ututalum, Isniqui, Aziz, Torgeson, Lucier, and Dufresne:** Delegates and Motions. Advocate for Election Day to be a national holiday. This motion

was turned down. Address and promoting optional communications before we go to delegates. This motion was also turned down; Campus intern is to do this job. The senate has power to send people to delegates.

- **Senator Hassan:** Follow up on the Science Program. Had a meeting with the Dean of CSET. Testing on the water. Men's bathroom water is cleaner than the fountain. Will continue to follow up on this next semester.
- **Senator Kitamura and Hamsa:** Been joining a lot of on-campus events lately. In contact with a lot of new international students that I can relay MSSA information to them. We should do some tabling to talk to people about issues off of campus. What kind of problems are we having? Willing to work on the following: talk to other departments about putting recycling boxes next to their department; Apartment management having issues with leasing.
- **Senator D'Silva and Aziz:** Mav Cash is not allowed to be used in the res life dining centers. We are trying to make it so students can use it as flex dollars, etc. to make it more convenient for them.
- **Senator Ben Thao:** Met with management about leasing agents coming to campus and offering different amenities. Management and workers going into apartments with no notice. Working on the search committee for the Asian American Affairs Director.
- **Senator Thao:** People have talked to me regarding tutors in general. Will look more into it next semester on how to get qualified, etc.
- **Senator Cremers:**
- **Senator Martinez:** I talked to math department and different departments within math about students not passing 098 course.
- **Senator Utalum, Thao and Peterson:** We met with Dean Retherford today regarding a follow-up on the progress on the building. We were sadly disappointed that we couldn't tour it again until next month. Follow-up on School of Nursing with students cheating on final exam. IT legal got involved. Turns out that the accused came clean and admitted to doing it.
- **Senator Cremers and Hickey:** Feminine Hygiene dispensers seem to be broken in academic buildings and in the CSU. Emailed the head of the GMW. There should be a schedule so they can constantly be maintained.
- **Senator Sekkat:** Never stopped meeting with students this semester. More students know they can reach out to me. More ideas to meet with Dean Flannery. Will attend the winter orientation of the COB.
- **Senator Royce:** I had a couple students and a professor reach out to me regarding the bias incident following the elections. Concerned that it could be a hate crime on our campus. Didn't understand why the email said "biased" and felt administration was under washing what was really happening.
- **Senator Hickey and Lyng:** Talked with the person in charge of outdoor areas and looking at different spots where we could put different shrubbery and/or flowers that be useful for bees.
- **Senator Podorova:** Met with Jean regarding learning communities since most of you do know that I don't like the way they are run. It is hard to get people to come. Most of the time there is no outcome of these meetings. I proposed that they need to be a part of at least one RSO.
- **Senator Cronin:** Asking residents in the Res Halls just things like what they are confused about or concerned about. One main answer I have received back is there is a lack of

diversity among CA's and Exec Board Members. Implemented advertisement across campus.

- **Senator Isniqui:** Academic Affairs Committee has been very busy this semester. Had Ginger Zierdt as a quest speaker and finalized our goals along with the senators on the committee.
- **Senator Dufresne:** Had a meeting with Marilyn Wells about 2 weeks ago to go over her roles for the University which include the following: Faculty Leadership, Runs academic programs, and deals with budget spaces and contracts. Marilyn pointed out that professors have complete jurisdiction on how they run their own class and not required to use the textbook that is reserved for that class.

- **Vacancies**

- Graduate Studies (1)

- **New Business**

- **Announcements**

- Dance Concert this weekend!

- Come pick up your tee-shirts and ties. Also submit your contracts to Amber before Friday.

- Late Night Breakfast on Monday night is coming up!

- **Roll Call**

- **Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 6:57 pm.