

**78<sup>th</sup> MSSA Senate**  
**February 2, 2011**

**Senate called to order by 78<sup>th</sup> Speaker Matthew Schmidt**

**Roll Call(present-absent-excused-proxy)**

Jennifer Dooley 17-1-1, Matthew O'Flaherty 3-0-0, Matthew Lexcen 12-2-1, Shay Ademola-Sadipe 3-0-0, Spencer Johnson 3-0-0, Dan Kromer 19-0-0, Nathan Gustafson 16-3-0, Scott Boyd 3-0-0, Cody Ingenthron 12-4-1-2, Sarah Koenen 19-0-0, Micheal Do 18-1-0, Moriah Miles 2-0-0, Stephen Johnson 6-0-0, Amanda Blomgren 3-0-0, Rachel Sargent 13-3-0, Ted Gibbons 12-2-0, Michael Paul 13-2-0, Braeden Hogie 14-2-3, Kelvin Borchardt 11-1-0, Lela Magxaka 17-1-0-1, Nansy Pradhan 17-1-1, Tyler Ulferts 3-0-0, Sarah Revering 2-0-0, Taylor Pederson 19-0-0, President Williams 19-0-0, Vice President Anderson 19-0-0

**Open Forum**

**IMPACT-** Deep Fried Mavericks on a Stick was a huge success. We had between 600 and 800 people show up, which was our largest event of the year. Tons of pictures on Facebook.

Stomper Cinema showing Due Date. Sign up for Battle of the Bands is going on right now. Week from tonight-Speed Dating, 7 PM, Mav Ave. Elections for IMPACT coming soon.

Feb. schedule of events in tomorrow's Reporter.

Greg Wilkins-Exciting opportunity in March. Mavericks after Dark Cardboard Regatta in the swimming pool. We would love to see you get together a team or two. We will also be having laser tag. Feb 7-11<sup>th</sup> we will be doing a large snow sculpture, 8x8x12. Need volunteers to pack snow. It will be a large operation. Monday morning will be the first part starting at 9:00 AM outside of Armstrong Hall. The second part will need some muscle moving it out on Tuesday morning. This is a great way for International students to get your service learning hours. We are bringing some fabulous burlesque to campus. We are bringing a film to Stompers Cinema-Burlesque. We are doing a live burlesque show, also an educational show called Arts ala carte; this is the history of vaudeville. A 13 member troupe will be coming in. We only have 329 seats so you will have to get there early. You have to be 18 to see the show with your Mav ID.

**Cheri Bowyer 1993-2011**

*"As I go in a different direction I want you all to know how much I care and how deeply I thank you for the joy of working for each and every one of you. I am so proud of the MSSA. Your desire and tenacity to make MSU a better place for future generations and your willingness to serve others is nothing but remarkable. Please carry it with you wherever your journey may lead you. For me this journey has been monumental and I thank you from the bottom of my heart."*

**Approval of Consent Agenda**

**Appointments-Bookstore Advisory**-Micheal Do, Shay Ademola-Sadipe, **Elections Committee**-Jennifer Dooley, Nate Gustafson, Tyler Ulferts, Dan Kromer

**Recognized Student Organizations-**

**Student Allocation Committee Recommendations**

**SAC M#01.31.11A SAF Reserve**

Student Allocation Committee recommends that \$20,000 be allocated from SAF Reserve to the Non-Budgeted Request Fund.

**SAC M#01.31.11B Ultimate Frisbee Club**

Student Allocation Committee recommends allocating \$1,431.00 to Ultimate Frisbee Club to attend the yearly Sections Tournament in Maple Plains, MN.

**SAC M#01.31.11C United Nations International Relations Club**

Student Allocation Committee recommends allocating \$3,800.00 to the United Nations International Relations Club to attend the Model United Nations competition at Lake Superior State University Sault Ste. Marie, MI

**SAC M#01.31.11D Rugby Club Team**

Student Allocation Committee recommends allocating \$1,000.00 to MSU Rugby Club Team to attend a tournament in Savannah, GA.

**SAC M#01.31.11E Society of Women Engineers**

Student Allocation Committee recommends allocating \$300.00 to Society of Women Engineers to attend the 2011 Society of Women Engineers Region H Conference at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, MI.

**SAC M#01.31.11F Delta Sigma Pi**

Student Allocation Committee recommends allocating \$200.00 to Delta Sigma Pi to attend the Leadership and Excellence Academies for Deltasigs (LEAD) in Madison, WI.

**Approval of Minutes 1-26-11**

Appointments- Elections Committee-Amber Schramm, Matt Reger, Mohamed Ahmed

**Elections- Off-Campus (4)**

## **Off Campus Senator Elections- Luke VanBeek, Ritesh Singh Maharjan.**

Luke VanBeek- I am a third year Law Enforcement major. I would like to run for this position. I served once before as a Gage B senator. If elected I would like to be on committees and I would like to help students in the school. My Wednesdays are completely open.

R- I'm from Nepal. I am a Jr. majoring in Computer Science. I work in the ACC. My Wednesdays are pretty open. I have been involved in the 2011 Tech fee subcommittee.

Senator Kromer- What do you think is the biggest issue facing off campus students?

Luke VanBeek- Most people don't know the issues. We need to get the word out.

R- I had a problem finding off campus housing.

Senator Borchardt- How would you go about advocating for off campus students?

R- I am involved in ISA. I know a lot of my friends live off campus and they are facing the same problems I am facing.

Luke VanBeek- I would ask people that I know if they have any issues and I would try the best I could to address them.

Luke VanBeek- Thank you, I guess.

R- After seeing you all talk about Cheri, I can see how connected you guys are and how you are working to get things accomplished and make a difference on campus. I would also like to be a part of that.

## **Elected Off-Campus Senators-Luke VanBeek and R**

## **Officer Reports**

### **President Williams**

I was writing a speech for Cheri all day today, so I don't have anything written. The city committee has two dates set. There will be two positions for students. Myself and anyone else who is interested will be able to serve as well as interim Dean, Mary Dowd. I do feel the relationship with the city is the most pressing issue that we can now establish. We have a large off-campus student population. Their issues are often hard to solve. It starts with forming a relationship with the city. Otherwise, MSUSA is this weekend. I do have the allotted \$15 for those who are going. For those who are not going, we have the President's box at the hockey game. This is a chance to meet and interact with the administrators. Your administrators are a great time. Don't be afraid to show your Maverick pride. I wore my purple and gold bibs and Vice President Straka said "Tom, you are Mavelicious"! For those who are not going to Africa Night and MSUSA come and let me know if you are interested in going to the hockey game. For those who aren't aware, Lela and I will be dancing in Africa Night. Also, It has been five years since we won the MSSA/Student Affairs bowling. We beat them by six pins. They even had the bowling coach on their side. Softball is next.

### **Vice President Anderson**

We've been known as the 78<sup>th</sup> MSSA. I think after today we should be known as the 1<sup>st</sup> MSSA A.C. If you are going to MSUSA there will be a lovely conference contract prepared by Cheri. Sign this and you can get your \$15. I met with a member of the swimming team who has a petition to increase the athletic fee to support the four sports that are up for cuts. They are going to bring us a petition for a referendum. It would increase fees by \$.75 per credit fee that would be accessed on top of our \$3.33 per credit for athletics. That would again go to support those four programs. It would be on the ballot for the spring election. Athletics is currently funded at \$1.089 million, which is \$3.33 per credit. It is currently 39% of the student life fee. If you take that fee up to 12 credits that is \$39.96 per semester or \$79.92 per semester. The last referendum was passed in 1993 and allowed us to attend the athletic events for free. This petition for \$.75 per credit would increase the fee by 23% to allow us to sustain those four sports. Please come out for softball.

### **Speaker Schmidt**

I find it funny that Student Affairs mocked the use of math. I will be going to MSUSA. I expect all of you who are going to obey the contract you are signing. For those of you who are not going to MSUSA the hockey games are a blast.

Senator Revering- Can you please inform us what time we are leaving for MSUSA?

Speaker- I will be driving so I will let you all know.

## **Senator Reports**

### **Gage A-Ted Gibbons**

I met with Todd Pfingsten, the director of the campus rec office. We had a relatively short but substantive discussion about the where Campus Rec is right now, how it's doing and where Todd wants to take it in the

near future. For those of you who aren't familiar with what Campus Rec is, they're responsible for organizing and overseeing things like Open Rec (Otto rec center, etc.), intramural sports leagues, sports clubs (20 different ones on campus), fitness activities (aerobics classes, personal training), as well as overseeing the process for students getting their personal training certifications. They do quite a bit.

As far as their current situation, Todd mentioned that they had their state funding (totaling about \$93,000) cut which led them to cut back on hours and staff positions within Campus Rec, which included having to let two GA's go. Despite this, he seemed very optimistic with working with what they have and thanked MSSA for our support of their operations in light of this fact. The basic message he wanted to convey was that there's no fat in the Campus Rec budget but they're doing a good job of making do with what they have. As far as self-generated revenues go, they do bring in some income through fees (intramurals, etc.), fitness memberships, and personal training dues and canoe/camping equipment rentals. Most of this income comes from intramural fees though.

As far as future plans for the department, Todd said he was trying to push hard for expanded outdoor activities being run by Campus Rec. Specific activities he mentioned were doing climbing walls (which he eluded to having thought about getting installed on campus), rock climbing, trekking, snow-shoeing, canoeing/rafting, etc. His focus was really on any outdoor activity, on or off campus, that would work to develop team-building and leadership skills. All in all he said that because student involvement in Campus Recreation continues to increase at a steady pace, he's trying to keep his department keeping pace. He mentioned the fact that the second half of the outdoor fields being constructed out behind the Gage dorms are scheduled to be open for use in August.

To finish off I asked him if he had any specific ideas in mind that MSSA could work more closely to help out and support Campus Rec and his primary point of concern was being able to get attention from the Reporter. He stated that he finds it almost impossible to get stories run on any of the intramural teams, which he used last year's women's rugby team (which came in 15<sup>th</sup> or 16<sup>th</sup> place in the nation) as an example. He also wished he could get more attention for a sort of "What's going on with Campus Rec?" billboard as well.

Other than that he said he's always available for open communication with anyone from MSSA. In my opinion he was a great guy in general and I was really relieved to see someone like him running a department like campus rec, which is so vital in helping to make students lives better.

### **College of Business-Oluwaseyi Ademola-Sadipe (Shay)**

Today Senator Johnson and I were able to meet with the Dean of the College of Business, Marilyn Fox. We discussed size of classes. She addressed all the rumors regarding the College of Business. The class sizes are not bad at all. I mentioned that the problems we are hearing are with the 300/400 level classes. The College of Business is working hard to prove that the size of the classes are appropriate. We are also in the process of searching for a Dean. The interviews started today. We should know our new Dean by the end of the month.

1/20/2011 I attended the Intercultural Meeting. Dr. Fagin expresses the importance of this event to MSU as a whole. He encourages everyone to attend this event. He also expresses that he will transport for the students so that they can visit other colleges to promote the event that is coming up. Students that participate will be paid.

1/21/2011 I attended the African Student Association Meeting. African Night is Feb. 5<sup>th</sup>, 2011. African Week is January 31<sup>st</sup>- February 4, 2011. There was \$2,575,000 raised for the children of "Help Me Walk" in Senegal, Africa. All money was accounted for.

1/21/2011 I attended the Sudanese Student Association meeting with Dr. Fagin. The meeting was based on Sudanese students getting involved in school and the community as a whole. Dr. Fagin encourages all Sudanese students to help fight against corruption in Sudan and pave the way to a better economy.

### **Lela Magxaka-Off-Campus (written report)**

#### **7700 France**

Just started communicating with Ann Goebel from 7700 France Campus Brett talked about Increasing communications with the MSU students studying at that campus and insuring that the students at that campus also benefit from the their student government, so me and Amanda Bloomgren our current undecided Student Government Senator will hopefully drive up to the cities this coming week or so and start meeting with the students up there and hopefully set up a monthly or every 2 weeks meet with the students up there. International Students Housing

Sarah, Nancy and I met with Tom Gjersvig this week Monday we discussed what possible issues international students run into when entering the United States and how better we could smoothen the international students travels. We also discussed issues related to renting of apartments for those who cannot afford living on campus. He mentioned that for the first few days the International Office has set up that the different

**Recognized Student Organizations** (international) presidents host the incoming students for that weekend if they arriving on a Friday night.

Another important topic we talked about was how important of a role the landlords would play in accommodating these students and understanding that for most countries these students don't have a credit history nor Social security cards. Tom suggested a letter be sent out to all the landlords in the area and just thanking them for working so well with the incoming international students and that they could contact us for any further information etc.

## **Social & Behavioral Science-Moriah Miles**

Met with Matt and Brett

- Set goals with Brett working on reaching them

Meeting with Clark Johnson

- Rules for Financial Aid Probation and Academic Probation
- Problems with rules set up students to fail?
- Students with means may have advantage
- Liked survey for advising
- Need more "Tom" like students – adventurous
- SBS Goals
- SBS Mission
- What SBS has to offer
- Perception and quality (at the U of M how many professors talk to you personally on a weekly basis?). We have a quality education and we need to make that more obvious.
- Goals of SBS have not been revised since 1997.

Going to MSUSA this coming weekend

- I have many questions... for example why hasn't MSUSA, since it is there to promote the interests of students, ever authored a bill?
- What exactly does our lobbyist do?
- What students are there as puppets and what students are actually representing their constituents (you play puppet master very well Brett) Brett does give us great direction.

Academic Affairs

- Looking at old policy and checking the new for changes from Dan Kromer

Going to be...

- Setting up a meeting with the Dean and asking him questions about goals and how he thinks his college has reached the – Advising – what he hopes for SBS when he's gone – any concerns – what does he think a senator should do for their college – in his experience how has the university administration treated the colleges, reached their goals and have the university goals helped SBS in any way?
- Working on issues for A.A.

## **Undeclared-Stephen Johnson (written report)**

Today 2/2/11 I spoke to Nikki Does about what services are offered to undeclared majors and people trying to figure out what major they want. Some of the programs available are: Academic advising appointments, Target your major, Major Fair, Slice and advice programs and many more. This year the FYE office just bought some new software. They are still working it out but they hope to be able to communicate more with people through an email data base of students. One way they know who to email is at events they scan mav cards and their name goes into the system and puts them on the list so they can email them later on. They hope to send some surveys out and they currently have surveys at the major fair and they also have surveys about experiences in the office but currently have no survey asking what students would like help on deciding their major. We talked about how to get students to get the resources and reason why students don't come in. One main reason is that people just plainly don't want to put the effort into doing it and students don't want to go to the individual college to officially declare.

The percent of undeclared or undecided people as of this Fall is 475-500 approximately.

One way that they get people to come in and talk to them is they have students who are undecided get an access code from them in order to registered

## **Science, Engineering & Technology-Sarah Koenen**

### **Advising:**

- Advisor survey has been launched.
- Advisee survey results are being looked at through Institutional research.
- Looking into what the other institutions are doing: 14 institutions (IPEDS comparison group) have been contacted and figured out who they should contact to figure out the overall system of advising at that institution.
- We have gotten the 3 questions on graduation survey through the CDC.
- Would like to use some of the one-time money into improving advising. I.e. Website, better reach out to advisors about advising information, etc
- Report: will be created during spring break with all of the combined info and our recommendations as a taskforce. We will most likely be working with MSSA to get some of the recommendations passed toward the end of the semester.

### **Technology:**

The Residence Hall Internet contract is up for renewal and I am serving on the committee to help find the new contractor for that. I am also working to gain RHA's input about current internet issues.

### **LTR:**

Telepresence – We will be getting 5 units. Will be here in March around Spring Break. Looking into piloting in COB, & 7700 France.

Skype phones will be up this month

Had a representative who works with ADA to speak about working to make sure classes, websites, etc, especially those using the latest and greatest technology, are created so that students with disabilities are able to use the same technology, an issue that sometimes is forgotten about or overlooked.

I'll be serving on the Tech Fee Advisory Committee, so look for updates with that.

Looking at getting clickers so that professors can poll their students on different question etc. possible uses I see we can work with include: professor evals, MSSA voting at meetings?

Bryan Hoffman & Wayne Sharp have been working hard on a new project called MavAPPS. It links you into a system so that students can use programs available in the ACC from home. When you log in, your computer will appear as it would if you would log into a computer from the ACC. There are currently programs incorporated into MavAPPS (such as ADOBE, SPSS, some math programs) and they are working hard to get more up and running. Students have been asking for a system like this for quite some time so it is very exciting that it is working. To log in go to <http://my.mnsu.edu/mavapps/>. Soon it will be incorporated into the MSU search engine as well.

### **CSET:**

I have a meeting scheduled with the CSET dean for this Friday.

CSET Undergraduate board meeting next week.

### **RSOs**

1/29/11 Visit to NSBE (National Society of Black Engineers): They are just resuming for the semester. They are working on putting something together in the CSU for Engineering Day which is February 22<sup>nd</sup> as well as some other events to promote their organization and engineering in general. Currently just a few members show up to the meetings so they are going to be working to increase their active involvement as well.

1/29/11 Visit to ISSO (Information Security Student Organization). Just getting started. Their first meeting had about 30 students attend. (may have been because of the free pizza). They will be bringing speakers on campus to speak about security systems and other aspects of information security. Last semester there was a speaker from the FBI. Events are open to all students and community members. They will be bringing a team of students to attend a competition where the students try to secure their systems best so that skilled hackers cannot break their systems.

## **Off-Campus-Sarah Revering**

I am going to start by talking about our safety campaign. Students are really responding to the questions we asked. Students mentioned there has been a lot of slipping on campus. We also had suggestions on snow removal and more security during the day time. Tomorrow we are also tabling. I would like to thank all of the senators who are helping with it.

On Feb. 10<sup>th</sup> Mary Dowd was wondering if we could attend their Student Affairs meeting.

The Women's Center is putting on a training program for women in leadership positions and they were wondering if MSSA women senators would be on a panel with them and tell them about our experiences.

I wanted to share one more thing about Cheri. She does ignore a lot of things we say... This is her day.

### **Announcements**

Vice President Anderson- Those line item senator reports are super important so that way everyone can hear about what we fund before the budget hearing. Take those seriously. Way to go Senator Gibbons. Please come to the office and serve your office hours as we experience life after Cheri day 2 tomorrow.

Senator Do- Polar Plunge

Senator Revering- Please sign Cheri's board.

Senator Miles-Making t-shirts tonight for A Child in Need. Bring a plain white t-shirt.

### **Roll Call**

#### **Senators Present**

Jennifer Dooley, Matthew O'Flaherty, Matthew Lexcen, Shay Ademola-Sadipe, Spencer Johnson, Scott Boyd, Sarah Koenen, Micheal Do, Moriah Miles, Amanda Blomgren, Ted Gibbons, Braeden Hogie, Kelvin Borchardt, Nansy Pradhan, Tyler Ulferts, Sarah Revering

#### **Senators Absent**

Dan Kromer, Nathan Gustafson, Cody Ingenthron, Stephen Johnson, Rachel Sargent, Michael Paul, Nansy Pradhan, Taylor Pederson

#### **Executive Staff Present**

Vice President Anderson

#### **Executive Staff Absent**

President Williams

**Adjournment** Meeting adjourned at 6:01

The end-after typing approximately 275 MSSA Minutes © What a way to go! Love ya everybody! Thanks again.