

78th MSSA Senate
February 9, 2011

Senate called to order by 78th Speaker Matthew Schmidt

Roll Call(present-absent-excused-proxy)

Jennifer Dooley 19-1-1, Matthew O'Flaherty 5-0-0, Matthew Senator Lexcen 14-2-1, Shay Ademola-Sadipe 4-1-0, Spencer Johnson 4-0-0-1, Dan Kromer 21-0-0, Nathan Gustafson 17-4-0, Scott Boyd 5-0-0, Cody Ingenthron 14-1-2, Sarah Koenen 21-0-0, Micheal Do 18-2-0-1, Moriah Miles 4-0-0, Stephen Johnson 6-2-0, Amanda Blomgren 5-0-0, Rachel Sargent 14-4-0, Ted Gibbons 14-2-0, Braeden Hogie 16-2-3, Kelvin Borchardt 12-2-0, Lela Magxaka 19-1-0-1, Luke Van Beek 3-0-0, Nansy Pradhan 19-1-1, Ritesh Mahargan 3-0-0, Sarah Revering 4-0-0, Tyler Ulferts 5-0-0, Michael Hanson 1-0-0, Taylor Pederson 21-0-0, President Williams 20-0-1, Vice President Anderson 20-0-1

Open Forum

John Bulcock- Student Activities-

Thank you to those of you who were at the Atmosphere concert last night.
Tonight- Burlesque week. 8pm and 1pm in ostrandere there will be a live show.
Spring Break U Mavericks After Dark- There will be laser tag and the boat race.
Price is Right- Hopefully folks will want to come on down.
Senator Revering- Will
Senator Lexcen-

Greg Wilkins-

March 28th, there will be an education seminar. Monday Feb. 28th CSU 284 Leadership of the Future. It is open and free to the public. The presenter is coming from... Student scholarship awards. If you know anyone. Do apply, and apply often.

Approval of Consent Agenda

Recognized Student Organizations- Maverick Off-Road, Alpha Phi Omega, Voice&Vision, Circle of Compassion Network

Student Allocation Committee Recommendations

SAC M#02.14.11A Sociology Club

Student Allocations Committee recommends allocating \$500 to Sociology Club to attend the Midwest Sociology Society Conference in St Louis Missouri.

SAC M#02.14.11B Student Nurses Association

Student Allocations Committee recommends allocating \$450 to the Student Nurses Association to attend the National Student Nurses Association Annual Convention in Salt Lake City, Utah.

SAC M#02.14.11C Alpine Ski Team

Student Allocations Committee recommends allocating \$478 to the Alpine Ski Team to attend the 2011 MCSA Regional Championship Alpine Ski Race in Marquette, Michigan.

Approval of Minutes 2-09-11

Replace Thomas Williams report with Dan Kromer's. Strike Braeden Hogie's report from agenda.

Alexi Roscom/ Laurie Woodward- Union Board

Senator Boyd- I have a question about the first page...

Laurie Woodward- Hopefully you approve this soon. We have a deadline to go to MNSCU April...

Ballroom Renovation Presentation-

The thing that is going to impact you the most is that the ballroom will be closed. After you come back from spring break you will... The ballroom won't open up until September. The rest of it will be open by the time school starts. Everything in the ballroom is going to be brand new, except for the floor. We will be re-staining that. The lighting is going to be...you can have the room any way that you want it. The lobby is going to get changed. The ceiling will be changed. A couple student governments ago, your president was looking for a way to show off what students do. Touch screens... We are excited its starting

Senator Hansen- You mentioned that some offices will re-locate during the summer. Will they be moving back?

Senator Miles- What are the tiny blue areas be used for?

Lela-

Senator Borchardt- Right now we have a high ceiling. Does the new plan have a low ceiling?

Laurie Woodward- It's not really going to be low. It will be 18ft.

Elections-Allied Health & Nursing (1), College of Graduate Studies (1), McElroy (1)

Allied Health and Nursing- Vanessa Revera

Revera- I am a freshman here at MSU. I would like to get involved in MSSA. I would really like to join.

Miles- Are you involved in any other activities?

Revera- I am in CLASSA, I work with the wellness program.

Miles- How do you feel about your college right now?

Revera-I like it so far, but I don't like the classes

Senator Borchardt- What are some of the things in the Allied Health that you could help..

Revera- There is a nursing program. In it they go to different places. I could help that way. I could let people know more about health.

Koenen- What are your past experiences in leadership?

Revera- I was a sheriff helper... We recently just had Latino Night. I was food coordinator. I talked with Sudexo.

Hogie- Being a sentor, you have specific requirements...

Revera- I think I would have time.

Kromer- What do you hope to accomplish or learn in the last eight weeks.

Revera- I just learned about this recently. I would like to learn more so I could be better next year.

Vanessa Revera Elected Senator.

Graduate Studies- Kofi Abaidoo

Mr. I am a graduate assistant. I think I have a lot of past experiences that I would be able to contribute. I was involved in the Student Association in Montana. I currently provide 150 graduate students with. I am very student oriented.

Lela- What type of needs do you think you would be able to attend to within the last few weeks of school?

Mr.- fi I am elected, this is not something I could change right away, but it's the intention of getting involved and moving forward with it.

Senator Kromer- Given that there are so few graduate students spread out over campus, hwo would you...

Mr.- We all get e-mails pertainging to different things. You would get the information from Mav Mail. My main way of communication would be...

Mr.- You guys have been doing great. We appreciate everything you do. You are held to the highest standards possible. Thank you for your time.

Kofi Abaidoo Elected Senator.

Officer Reports

President Williams(Dan Kormer)-

Vice President Anderson

I have never missed a senate meeting in over 2 years. I feel bad for not being there. Since we didn't have a meeting last week. I am at Mankato Day in... We are going to be talking about... I commend all of you who were able to go. I loved watching the videos and seeing you on the news. A few things of interest that we talked about. The one time funding money. We are looking at finding projects that help benefit students. Student satisfaction... Look for a few big ticket items. The deadline for

those proposals is March... If we have anything, we have to bring it to Mary Dowd. The other thing we talked about is the adventure ed program. We talked about trying to get the administrative... We'll see what that survey says. The other thing that was brought up... Priorities are the street. We are looking at overtime budgets. We have people who are living out of town that can't get into town to drive the plows. It was nice to sit down and hash out why we were excited about the committee. Our homework for next meeting is to figure out a structure. Elections are coming up. Please go out and recruit people who you think would be good. I thin kits good to go out there and get any good qualified perons. The more competition, the better. Election rules should be presented next week. We have several awards. Student friendly administrator of the year. We also have the leadership scholarship. I think its great when we have people of the MSSA apply. Search for the new Cheri is moving along. We are at the point now where we have to interview because of some HR. We have to intereview them soon possibly right away next week. Amber has been hired on as the Office Manager. She is now the Interim Office Manager. She has put in a lot of hours that she is not being compensated for. Cheri did a lot for us that maybe we should start doing for ourselves.

Speaker Schmidt

Office cleanliness go by the wayside. I encourage all of you to find a steady balance between the two. I hope that our etiquette rules. Lets clean up after ourselves. Next week will be the last week for elections for senator elections. Reports should be given to Amber. Speak up during meeting.

Old Business (See back of agenda)

A. M#02.09.11A Voter Registration Bills Senator Do/ Vice President Anderson

Senator Kromer- I would like to hear what MSUSA has to say.

Senator Lexcen- We are looking to oppose this.

Hogie-

Lexcen- I worked the GOTV. It was the general consensus. Some didn't take the bill. We had to call the secretary of state and let them know that the local pole office wasn't abiding by the rules. This is trying to take away from the items of the vouch. Getting a utility bill is tough in this town.

Hogie- I find voting important. I think getting an ID isn't that bad of an idea.

Koenen- I don't think we should be taking a stance on this. I think its important for us to get out the vote. Minnesota is one of the few states that allows same day registration. As long as you register early enough... I believe I am in opposition of this motion.

Senator Borchardt- I am in support of this motion. This bill's intention is to protect students.

Putting aside hometown stuff. It will affect students. It will allow them more accessability.

Senator Miles- I think its important that we take a stanceon this issue. If you look at what half of us did. I think its is unfair to...

Lexcen- I am totally in support. By limiting the amount of things you... Try getting people to preregister. We were really good this last year. I think it was because of the hard work of the students.

Kromer- I am in support of this because in my own experience, I had a roommate ... It's impossible to vote without the vouch system.

Johnson-It coems down to the responsibility.. If you don't care, I think the vouching thing can be dangerous.

Hogie- I am also in opposition of this motion because Minnesota isn't the first state to do this. We are following suit. The bill HF89 just got passed in...

Kromer- Voter fraud has been thrown out. They are all just acusations. There has never been any proof.

Sargent- The fraud compared to the increased level of. The more open it is

Hogie- We would be the 25th state in the US to follow suit. I think that us taking a stance on this, even though there aren't confirmed cases of voter fraud. You have probably read stories. I am a little leery of the vouch system. I thin kwe may want to consider getting rid of that.

Gibbons- We are here representing the students. Is this going to make it harder for students. There is a bubble over what we care about.

Motion Passes.

New Business

M#2.23.11A Accept the CSU Board's Budget as Presented Senator Kromer/ Senator Dooley

Kromer-
Laurie-

Motion Passes.

Senator Reports

Jennifer Dooley- College of Allied Health and Nursing

New

All programs finalized their 120 credits for next fall

Family life and child studies changed to Child development and family studies, because the new name is more reflective to the curriculum.

Fax to the max- Had it this October. Invited the high school and middle school teachers from the state of Minnesota to come and get knowledge on new topics. Every full time and adjunct faculty presented on a topic. Had over 80 teachers attend.

Becoming an annual conference

Cost is low=just to cover the department costs.

Students might present next year= network

Hiring a new faculty for the CDFS

200 students in the FCS department

Food science day= Professor from FCS and CSET get host food science day for the neighboring high school students

Things to look forward too

Waiting for university approval to charge students are \$25 for the foods classes

Remodeling the kitchen in the foods lab- hasn't been remodeled since 1982

Accreditation for dietetics starts next fall

Smart board

Few more classes

Other things

University still trying to check the pulse of the job markets

Still trying to get the entire university to recognize all the different areas of FCS

Scholarships are out

Sent out the news letter to all the alum of FCS last semester.

Minors are very big for all programs

Dan Kromer- College of Education

Nansy Pradhan- Off-Campus (Written Report)

Budget Line Item – International Center Activities

The Kearney International Center is located in Centennial Student Union 250.

The Center is made up of two distinct services areas: International Student and Scholar Services (ISSS) and International Programs Office.

The ISSS serves nearly 650 international students from over 72 countries.

As listed in their website, ISSS provides support services designed to assist international students with their academic, personal, financial, and immigration needs while offering educational and student life opportunities to students from other countries.

ISSS is committed to promoting global awareness, international understanding and personal sensitivity to variations of life, culture and scholarship throughout the world.

The International Center also contains the International Programs Office where they help students with the Study Abroad Programs.

The Study Abroad Program helps student to find the right place for their international experience and also helps them make their transition easier.

Met with Tom Gjersvig, the Director of International Student & Scholar Services

Their yearly budget is \$47,645 which has been same for the past 3 years.

Budget for the International Student Association for 2010-2011 was \$19,450.

Graduate Assistant salary and tuition was an estimated \$26,000.

The tuition fees have been increasing every year but when the budget remains the same, more funds have to be transferred from the ISA activities to the fixed expenditures as the GA's tuition fees.

So far, the ISA have had major events such as Nepal Night, Indian Night, African Night, and a lot of small events throughout last and this semester.

As for the events directly through IC, International Festival, International Women's Day, International Stole Ceremony, Diversity-International Week are a few to name.

There are also other events carried out with the collaboration with different Mankato Clubs, Organizations, and Churches such as Mankato Canoe Club and Bethel Baptist Church.

The staffs at the IC are trying to organize as much workshops as possible such as the In-State Tuition Scholarship Workshop, Career & Visa Options Workshops, and Learning in International Environment Workshops. (I have been to all 3 of them and learned something new from each of them)

Tom's main concern was the cut that has been occurring in the ISA activity fees due to the increase in the GA tuition fees.

International Festival is coming up on April 17th, with a theme of "Global Groove". The budget set for this is \$3800 but last year the IC also got help from the MSSA Diversity Committee which was an extra benefit for the IC.

The IC will be coming up with proposal to the SAF committee for the increment of their budget so that no more cuts have to be made in the ISA budgets.

Matthew Lexcen- College of Arts and Humanities

MSUSA Update

-Lobby Core has been activated (explain Lobby Core--Volunteer Recruitment--Application Process)

-April Conference is April 8-10 (start planning now if you want to attend)

-Tim Walz on campus (volunteer recruitment)

-JPS and Penny Program (scholarship and applications due soon)

Senator Borchardt- Lobby Core- is training available for everyone?

Senator Lexcen- I will explore this idea. We are looking for 3-6 people. As of right now I don't think its in the works.

Senator Miles-

Senator Borchardt- Tim Walls Event

Kelvin Borchardt- Off-Campus

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 arise 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.

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.

Senator Miles- Did you talk to him at all about the referendum?

Senator Borchardt- He said it might, but we hope that it doesn't. Since we approved one, they we aren't going to look at the other one.

Senator Dooley- Do all of the intercollegiate sports team go into that or do only some of them count?

Borchardt-

Dooley-

Borchardt- The more sports you have, the better the point.

Micheal Do- College of Social and Behavioral Sciences (Written)

Nathan Gustafson- College of Graduate Studies

On the Nature of Higher Education

Throughout the course of human history, many great thinkers have often proclaimed that education is the most optimal path to a more successful career, fulfilling life, and perhaps even as a variable to future generation's success. Yet, as our state, nation, and international economies have and continue to contract, the very essence of higher education – more specifically, public institutes of higher learning – is fast becoming a social phenomena that may require a new, fundamental definition.

What does it mean, as a student, to enter a four-year, public university in 2011? Will the hopes and dreams of that student be partially fulfilled when (if all goes accordingly) the student leaves our halls with a BA or BS (or some variation) and enters a workforce with an oversupply of labor, and an undersupply of demand for said labor? What is the optimal balance between student's academic and social lives during their tenure at a four-year public institution? How can faculty members, who have been trained in a specific school of thought, bridge the departmental ramparts of a university, to work collaboratively with their fellow scholars and administrators to provide the type of education that will prove to be most beneficial to the student body?

These questions and many more, underscore the importance of critically examining what it means to be a public institute of higher learning. Is the mere presence of a university the final product? In other words, does the notion of our very existence, that is, to provide students with the opportunity to learn about our social and natural worlds, an outcome that state legislators, students, and the public at large will find acceptable? Many have argued, yes, and many in the future will argue strongly that the fundamental outcome of learning should be an enhanced capacity to critically examine our surroundings so we may better understand our own subjective reality. On the other hand, many have argued vehemently that higher education should be focused on providing marketable skill sets to students as dictated by the oft discussed, and little understood, external marketplace.

In today's complex, global economy, specific skill sets may or may not be the variable that maximizes student's potential future utility. The economy that houses are very being is dominated and controlled by powerful and immensely complex organizations. Human society, in its quest to 'simplify life' has inadvertently made our world more complex than ever before. External market demands may signal the need for enormous amounts of highly specialized labor to solve many of our technological dilemmas. Yet, our technological dilemmas are not merely ours to claim. For the very nature of human society has become as wide as our imaginations allow. The proverbial butterfly effect of chaos theory is indeed applicable to many day-to-day operations of today's organizational world. A slight shift in a local economy halfway around the world can and, in all probability, will have a profound effect upon our local economies. But, how then, will specialized technical experts, with little cultural, social, political, economic, business, international relations experience, be able to adequately address our so-called technical dilemmas?

Institutes of higher education (primarily public enterprises) are continually under pressure to redefine their missions to accommodate the demands of society-at-large and the external, world marketplace. Yet, in order for that conversation to even gain stable footing, public colleges and universities must first address their own internal quandaries of how they define themselves. In order to bridge the divide that separates endogenous from exogenous forces, organizations must critically examine what their fundamental benefit is to all campus stakeholders. The questions I

have raised, are by no means novel thoughts, however, they often seem to be left behind for more immediate concerns. Yet, a broad vision is what will be needed by public higher education institutes to confront the myriad complexities that define our very existence.

Rachel Sargent- Crawford Hall

Cindy Janney: Director of Residential Life

Here's an overview of the meeting I had with Cindy Janney and some of the things I brought up:
Background check on residents that live in the Residential Halls –

There are a lot of extra things to check on with this idea before it can actually be enacted. Such things as legal questions, how they would go about doing it, the cost, and time needed to make this happen. They already do a background check on staff and it takes 6 weeks to get the results back. In this instance, not all students apply for residential housing that early so that in itself hosts a problem. Although, residential life is currently working on this issue to see if they can do background checks on residents it might take awhile to get this change enacted. For instance, MSU used to have open shower areas (no door to the bathrooms) and that took 10 years to change.

Opinions on a smoke-free campus –

The university has made great strides in the past on limiting smoking on campus. A couple years ago, they banned smoking in buildings which was allowed before and was even allowed in the residential hall rooms. Concerning a smoke-free campus, Cindy Janney felt that we could take more of a middle path in that we could create smoking stations that are heated and that would direct the smokers farther away from the residential hall buildings. She also brought up that there would be enforcement questions that would need to be looked over for a smoke-free campus considering it's hard to enforce the 15 ft. policy that we have now.

Safety Issues –

There's a lot of information on safety already together although they can't really incorporate all the information since it's sometimes hard to get students to pay attention to the information they send out or to pay attention to the bulletins they post around campus. Although, once a crime has happened, Cindy Janney noted, the students tend to get more interested and want to increase their awareness of good safety habits. Cindy has an idea that once a specific crime has happened, i.e. robbery, rape, Residential Life will send out information pertaining to that certain crime and to inform the students how to be safe. This should decrease the risk systematically by informing students how to protect themselves. As we all know, crime is not preventable but we can increase our awareness of it and prepare ourselves for when something does happen.

Camera System: We do in fact have an outdoor camera system although they do not record. Cindy had explained that things need to be developed in order for our camera system to be developed such as better hardware, software, a way to archive all of the recordings, and staff to not only watch the camera system but to maintain it as well.

Plans for Summer 2011 –

McElroy Halls E and F will undergo a "light" renovation. This means that there will be a public area upgrade that includes hallway ceilings, lighting, new flooring, new kitchens, secure entry, automatically locking doors, clean radiators, and rip out the built in desks in E hall. Although these halls will not get new wardrobes, heaters, or air conditioners. The reason for this is there are not enough funds to do a complete renovation and they still want to offer students a nice room with a basic rate. C and G halls will follow this summer renovation.

There will also be upgrades to the Carkoski kitchen. This will include an expanded dishroom (that will go into Chet's Place) and expanded seating that will go into Chet's Place. They're basically renovating the back because they need more room to store more food. To make room for this renovation of Carkoski, they're moving some of the offices behind Carkoski into the basement. This move will be made by the end of the semester.

Announcements

Senator Lexcen- Cardboard boat regatta

Senator Koenen- If you have ever taken a CSET course, get in the teacher/advisor form so you can recognize them.

Senator Revering-

Roll Call

Senators Present

Jennifer Dooley, Matthew O'Flaherty, Vanessa Rivera, Matthew Lexcen, Spencer Johnson, Nathan Gustafson, Kofi Abaidoo, Scott Boyd, Cody Ingenthron, Sarah Koenen, Moriah Miles, Amanda Blomgren, Rachel Sargent, Ted Gibbons, Braeden Hogie, Kelvin Borchardt, Luke Van Beek, Nansy Pradhan, Ritesh Mahargan, Sarah Revering, Tyler Ulferts, Michael Hanson

Senators Absent

Shay Ademola-Sadipe, Dan Kromer, Micheal Do, Stephan Johnson, Lela Magxaka, Luke VanBeek, Taylor Pederson

Executive Staff Present

Executive Staff Absent

President Williams, Vice President Anderson

Adjournment Meeting adjourned at 5:50pm