

## 74th MSSA Senate December 6, 2006

### 74th Senate called to order by Speaker Jered Jackson

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

Jessica Kallio 15-0-0-1, Taitum Thompson 9-6-0-1, Casey Carmody 15-0-0-1, Brett Fleck-proxy Ashley Arment 15-0-0-1, Nikki Hanna 12-0-0, Brandon Ross 13-3-0, Jenna Ault 15-1-0, Katie Ischkin 11-0-0-1, Kristeen Giese 15-0-0-1, Oliver Okoye 13-3-0, Kenneth Willaert 12-0-0, Peter Jennings 16-0-0, Ryan Anderson 16-0-0, Kathryn Pase 16-0-0, Evan Trosvik 16-0-0, Jennifer Hansen 11-0-0, Ryan Christensen 13-3-0, Allan Gould 15-1-0, Jon Hurm 14-2-0, Jason Schilling 16-0-0, Caroline Kornowicz 13-3-0, Aaron Lorenzen 12-0-0

President Gabe Afolayan 16-0-0, Vice President Chris Frederick 16-0-0

### Open Forum

**Approval of Agenda** Agenda approved

**SAF Presentations: Blue Earth Review-Christina Olson, Women's Center-Director Deidre Rosenfeld, Ethnic Students Activities-Jayne Larsen, MSSA-President Gabe Afolayan**

#### **Blue Earth Review-Christina Olson**

The *Blue Earth Review* is a literary magazine. It exists for two reasons. It is a high quality literary magazine published for students of MSU. It is for students to publish their prose. We like to publish only the best works we find nationally and on this campus. We exist to publish our own students. We publish one annual issue which is distributed issue free of charge to MSU students. Budget is used for printing and office supplies, placing advertisements in national publications, listing *Blue Earth Review* in national listing of literary magazines, promoting *Blue Earth Review* in local community through events free and open to public, maintaining website, awarding prize money to a couple contests and if money left over we pay editors. Most people are MSU creative writing students. We hold an undergrad writing contest open only to students of MSU. We run a flash fiction contest nationally. This includes submission from Italy, Israel, Japan, UK, and Costa Rica. We have received 500 entries this year for the contest. This gets the magazine and MSU out there.

Senator Anderson-Have you ever explored advertising for money?

Ms. Olson-No, this is completely non-profit. We don't want to charge people to buy this book.

Senator Anderson-Have you ever tried to get sponsorship so that you don't use all student fees?

Ms. Olson-No, and I think we would not want to do that. This is an annual edition. I don't know if we could attract advertisers. It is mailed here. We distribute it solely through Barnes & Noble on campus. Everything we mail out has an MSU logo on it.

Senator Schilling-Do you have a breakdown of things in your budget?

Ms. Olson-Our budget is \$7,3000.00

Senator Fleck-Who are your editors?

Ms. Olson-We have six graduate students and two undergrad students.

President Afolayan-To what extent do you receive money from the English Dept.?

Ms. Olson-We don't receive any funding.

President Afolayan-Has there been discussion on incorporating this into the English Dept.?

Ms. Olson-There has been talk but they do not have the funds at this time.

#### **Women's Center-Deidre Rosenfeld**

I appreciate that you want to know about our departments, not only our budget.

(See Women's Center flyer) In a nutshell, this is our center Programming is where student activity fees come in. \$6,000 pays student salaries. About \$25,000 funds the programs; the rest of the budget is funded through the central university source. Student Activity Fees are used for between five and ten major program objectives: 1) to provide the Minnesota State University, Mankato student community with a safe and equitable living and learning environment. 2) To offer the MSU student population access to gender-positive co-curricular learning by providing guest speakers, films and activities. 3) To decrease sexual violence within the student community as well as offer support services and resources to student survivors and secondary survivors. 4) To cultivate a healthier student community by providing programming education surrounding eating issues, body image, assertiveness

and self esteem. 5) To reach as many students as possible with our programs and services, as well as communicate more effectively with the MSU community via website and email. 6) To develop leadership and other life skills in the students who participate in our programs and services. 8) To better serve student seeking passive support by maintaining our Women's Center resource library.

The bulk of our dollars are delivered directly to human beings that come to our campus.

Senator Giese-Regarding outreach, how has that been changed?

Director Rosenfeld-This brochure is our new marketing resource. We have created a new logo, redesigned our web site. We work with every orientation and do classroom visits. We have worked really hard to do this outreach.

Senator Gould-Under budget summary II, why did you ask for \$5,000 additional dollars?

Director Rosenfeld-This was not in our initial request. We have about 80 smaller programs. They are super cheap grass roots programs, the 7 larger events start at 500-1600 students. It costs money to bring people to campus. All costs of programming have increased. Over the past years our numbers have increased to over 16,000 people. When you look at what it costs to engage an event, it now costs more.

Senator Schilling-Are you adequately funded for next year?

Director Rosenfeld-It all depends on what you expect us to deliver. We appreciated the gift of the Sexual Violence coordinator from university funding. It is hard to answer what will be adequate for next year.

Senator Fleck-Has there been a consideration for charging?

Director Rosenfeld-We try to make events free or at a significantly low fee.

Senator Anderson-What is the extent of funding from M&E dollars or grants?

Director Rosenfeld-The student activity fee allocation is for less than 1/2 of our programming.

Senator Giese-How are you trying to keep students involved?

Director Rosenfeld-We have a student advisory board. We do every program with and by students

President Afolayan-How are men involved with the program?

Director Rosenfeld-We will always target women with what we do, but we will always have men involved and participate at any level. Men against Rape, sexual violence events these things make things better for men as well.

### **Ethnic Student Activities-Jayne Larsen**

Ethnic Student Activities started about 35 years ago to give students a voice on campus. This program is under the Office of Institutional Diversity. Many of the events have co-sponsorship. We stretch our funds in many areas.

Some of the main events sponsored are the Pan African Conference, Asian Pacific American Conference, Chicano-Latino Conference, Cinco de Mayo Celebration, Lao New Year, Eliminate Hate Week.

We promote the Martin Luther King Birthday Celebration activities to the community. This year we received \$35,000. We do what ever we can to bring back revenue by charging nominal fees. The conferences have been bigger than we thought. Last year was the first year we sponsored some of the African Immigrant Conferences. Conferences will probably increase in the amount of requests. Ethnic speakers don't always charge to speak when a program is new.

President Afolayan-What room is there for collaboration with the International Student Office?

Ms. Larsen-We collaborate with almost every department on this campus. We collaborate with the Women's Center, Office of Multicultural Affairs, First Year Experience

Senator Trosvik-Which Activities are Ethnic Student Activities?

Ms. Larsen-We help promote statewide events, we provide transportation to the pow-wow. Asian Pacific Conference, Diversity Expo, Multi-Cultural Day, African American History Month, Pan African Conference. Latino Conference

Senator Ischkin-How does your office try to involve more domestic students?

Ms. Larsen-Major purpose is to bring non-minority students to socialize and understand groups.

Anyone can take some of the conferences for a one credit course.

President Afolayan-What proportion of non-minority students are involved?

Ms. Larsen-90% is usually minority. The minority of the attendance is Caucasian.

### **MSSA-President Afolayan**

(presentation)

The MSSA total budget is \$85,736.00. Most of our money for is salaries, stipends and the student attorney, the rest is used for operating materials and travel to MSUSA conferences.

Strategic Vision- Advocate at university and state levels for an affordable cost of education. Keep student fees at the cost of inflation or less. Ensure ethical, lawful, and student friendly business practices among all off-campus housing facilities catering to Minnesota State Mankato students with help from city

administration, Minnesota State Mankato administration, landlords, and Minnesota State Mankato students. Ensure student consultation on decisions regarding any proposals affecting academic or student affairs. Consistently solicit student input through viable means of communication and feedback to ensure valid representation of Minnesota State Mankato students at university, local, state, and federal levels. Support the advancement of institutional diversity. Assist in making improvements and advancements in academic programming. Function as a conduit to student involvement opportunities on campus.

Objectives- Increase Student involvement on campus and through civic engagement, facilitate communication throughout campus, improve accessibility and visibility of student government, enhance academic programs and student services.

Student Involvement-Solicit more student input, promote senate involvement opportunities, plan events which promote awareness and improvement.

Civic Engagement-Increase participation with Minnesota State University Student Association, lobby at state and federal levels

Promotional/Marketing Materials-Logo, Commercial, Website, Blog, Office Decor, Brochures, Apparel, Classroom visits, attend campus events.

Senator Trosvik-Can you give me a breakdown on student salaries:

President Afolayan-President-\$6,000, Vice President \$5,000, Speaker \$3,000. Coordinators \$1500-\$500.00, depending on responsibilities.

Senator Giese-How are you trying to engage students other than as senators?

President Afolayan-To a certain limit, we have made a lot of strides to increase accessibility, we have presented at every orientation. Filmed the commercial, newsletter, apparel.

Senator Giese-How many non-senators are involved in committees?

President Afolayan-Probably 15-20. Getting on committees is important because we want committees to be involved so we want students that really want to be there.

Senator Anderson-Who oversees the finances of MSSA?

President Afolayan-Cheri and myself.

**Presentations: Residence Hall-Cindy Janney, Director, Katie Halloran-RHA President  
Cindy Janney, Director, Katie Halloran-RHA President (see handout)**

Residence Hall Room & Board Rates. The following is the student Consultation Process. September 18, we met with MSSA and RHA leadership to discuss & agree upon process. Oct.12, the Residential Life budget was reviewed with reps from RHA and Senate. October 17, Residential Life budget was reviewed with reps from RHA and Senate, October 31, the Residential Life budget was reviewed with reps from RHA and Senate. November 13, a presentation of the rates proposal was given to RHA. A report was given on the completed projects, the assumptions used in building new rates and the items raised by RHA for voting. November 27 a presentation of rates proposal was given to RHA. December 4 a presentation of rates proposal was given to RHA and they voted on the proposal.

Director Janney-Explanation of room types, meal plans. explanation of Room & Board Base rates (see handout)

Katie Halloran-The Newspaper Program adds \$12.00 to base rate. RHA Promotional Item is one item provided to each residence hall student and it gets added to the base rate: \$3.00 per student.

The Video library in each complex-one portable DVD player, 70-100 titles at each desk adds \$1.00 per student.

The students voted to provide cappuccino machines in each dining hall and remove Starbucks brand.

GFI Outlets in Gage rooms-residential life agreed to do this project in summer 2007 at no addition to the base rate.

Items not recommended-laundry detergent dispensers in laundry rooms, first lock-out free, flex dollar add-ons to meal plans in increments of \$25.00 per semester. Hand drying: clothe towels, paper towels, replace all existing dryers with "turbo" hand dryers.

Choose not to extend dining hours Sun-Thursday to close at 8 pm instead of 7 pm. or extend dining hours Fri-Sat. Voice over Internet Protocol phone not recommended.

Senator Anderson-Do you think the nature of your meetings provided enough debate for all residence hall students to be included?

Katie-Yes, we were given ballots and then the RHA reps could pass them around to everyone on their floors.

Senator Trosvik-How does the impact of the mealtime affect the base?

Director Janney-The increase is 5% overall. The meal plan is 3% of that. I told Dining Services 3% is as high as we will go.

Senator Carmody-Do you think this is competitive to off-campus housing?

Director Janney-Yes, if you look at what we are including; cable, meal plan, cleaning, leadership opportunities. The whole package is cheaper.

President Afolayan-How do students view the laundry service?

Director Janney-The Satisfaction survey this Fall showed it is a good service. The students said they like it and use it.

Senator Schilling-Will these rates be for the 2007-2008 year?

Director Janney-Yes

Senator Norton-What constitutes an actual year?

Director Janney-August 23-May, it includes Thanksgiving break but not Christmas, and then we only charge what it costs.

Vice President Frederick-Do you think these rates will drive student's off-campus?

Director Janney-No, I think that for first year students they want the connection of other students, they understand this is how they get connected to college. We get a lot of requests for single rooms which we can not provide. The new residence hall and renovations will address issues students have had concerns with. We are in competition with the off-campus market, but I don't think the halls will be empty.

Senator Trosvik-What research was done with other schools on the key lock out?

Director Janney-We did not do research. We just put it on the ballot.

Senator Trosvik-How do flex dollars transfer?

Director Janney-Flex dollars transfer dollar for dollar within the academic semester. Flex dollars do not transfer from semester to semester.

Senator Trosvik-Is the first lock out free?

Director Janney-Students voted that the first is not free.

Senator Trosvik-Was there discussion on just making that free?

Director Janney-Staff advised that not be on the ballot. Students did not want that.

Senator Hurm-Do you have plans or will you unlock a door for someone?

Director Janney-No, that is the \$5.00 lock out fee. Some level of accountability is important for all of us.

Senator Norton-How does the cable package in the dorm compare to off-campus?

Director Janney-The package students get is a negotiated package. It is much lower than off-campus.

President Afolayan-In regards to the satisfaction survey on the telephone service, do you see that changing in the future?

Director Janney-We don't offer the packages we used to, we don't offer long distance. I have been reluctant to eliminate the service for students that do rely on that or in case of an emergency.

President Afolayan-If the service is provided does that mean all students have a phone?

Director Janney-There is a jack in every room. You provide your own phone.

President Afolayan-What is the point if students don't use the phone?

Director Janney-In case of emergency, we have to offer the service.

Senator Trosvik-Does the phone service have to be for everyone?

Director Janney-Yes.

### **MSUSA At Large Board Member/State Vice Chair Candidate-Adam Weigold**

Basically we have seen that people want change. It does not matter where your political affiliation is. They want to see that things are getting done. At every campus I have been to they are saying that they want to see that our organization is getting things done. I believe that we need strong communication. I believe communication needs to be proactive. It does not mean calling people right before something has to be done. Communication needs to be from the ground up. You need to go out of your way. It takes hard work, strong voice, dedication. I am dedicated to my work. I have a strong voice. I have stood with your president on issues this year. I have been the strongest voice. I would be required to do that as Vice Chair. I think you have to have a serving attitude. I am doing this because I have the most experience to bring to the table and I feel I will follow what the delegates stand for. I appreciate your support in the run for Vice Chair.

Senator Anderson-What do you think of the MSUSA platform?

Adam Weigold-The platform is thick. We need to focus at MSUSA. We have not always done that. We need to focus on a couple issues.

**Approval of Minutes 11-29-06** Minutes stand approved.

## **Officer Reports**

### **President Gabe Afolayan**

In regard to last weeks SLD& SL presentation, the total allocation for SLD&SL is \$585,126.53.

Friday the Homecoming Task Force will be having their last meeting. This will be finalized over winter break and will be submitted.

We have two policies entering the formal review policy. The undergraduate admissions and course repeat (Brett Fleck ) policy. We have a minimum window of 45 days to give input.

Senator Giese-When do they go into formal review?

Senator Trosvik-December 7.

**Appointments:** Senate Handbook Committee-Michelle Dodge, Health & Wellness Task Force.

Jason Djuren, MSUSA Internal Affairs-Ryan Anderson, Kristeen Giese, Casey Carmody

### **Vice President Chris Frederick**

MSUSA Conference meetings start at 8:00 AM on Saturday. There will be a luncheon on Saturday with state legislators in attendance. All senators are required to go to at least one conference. This is a good opportunity as it is right here.

### **Speaker**

I have assigned Senator Reports for next semester, a proxy can read your report. The MSSA Handbook Committee will meet next semester at 1:00 on Tuesdays. We would like a senator from the colleges to be on this.

Vacancies-2 Social & Behavioral Science, 1 SET, 1 Undeclared. Elections will be next semester.

## **Committee Reports**

### **SAC-Brett Fleck**

#### **SAC M#11.27.06 A Anthropology Club**

**Student Allocations Committee recommends allocating up to \$450.00 to MSU Anthropology Club to travel to Eagle Butte, South Dakota to deliver donations to the North Central South Dakota Indian Reservation.**

Senator Fleck-They are taking two vans from MSU to travel with. This money was all allocated for travel costs.

Senator Afolayan-What kind of fundraising did they do?

Senator Fleck-The fundraising is the toys that they get.

**Motion passes unanimously**

#### **SAC M#11.27.06B InterVarsity Christian Fellowship**

**Student Allocations Committee recommends allocating up to \$800.00 to Intervarsity Christian Fellowship to travel to Brainerd, MN to attend a university student Conference.**

**Motion passes unanimously**

#### **SAC M#11.27.06C Chi Alpha Christian Fellowship**

**Student Allocations Committee recommends allocating up to \$1,000.00 to Chi Alpha Christian Fellowship to attend the SALT (Student Leadership Training) Conference in Rochester, MN.**

Senator Fleck-We gave them a reduction in meals. The fee covers registration and lodging.

President Afolayan-What kind of fundraising did they do?

Senator Fleck-About \$200.00 They rent themselves out for service work.

**Motion passes**

#### **SAC M#11.27.06D University Repertory Dance Theater**

**Student Allocations Committee recommends allocating up to \$5,160.00 to University Repertory Dance Theatre to attend The American College Dance Festival at the University of Wisconsin at Milwaukee, WI.**

Senator Fleck-This includes a request for two faculty and a room.  
Senator Hurm/Trosvik-Strike \$5,160.00 to \$4,365.20. They have 12 students going. They have six rooms.  
**Amended motion passes**

**Student Affairs-Jon Hurm, Chair**

We have gone over the Rollerblading Policy.  
Senator Giese-Is there any inclusion for motorized scooters?  
Senator Hurm-Anything motorized is not allowed in the building.

**Student Union Board-Jason Schilling, Chair**

The plan today was to talk to Bill Harvey but he was not able to be there.  
The IPO/ISO room decision was made.  
Today the CSU will launch the 24 hour opening.  
Senator Okoye-Are students allowed to park by the CSU?  
Senator Schilling-Parking will be the same as before.  
President Afolayan-In regards to \$250,000 renovation, did the Student Union make a recommendation?  
Senator Schilling-This was made by a task force of Dr. Davenport.  
President Afolayan-Is this part of M&E?  
Senator Schilling-I was told it was M&E.  
President Afolayan-What is the point of Union Board if these issues do not come before you?

**Policy Approval Committee-Evan Trosvik**

Currently in formal review, Rollerblade, Course Repeat, and Undergrad Admissions.  
We need to come up with our recommendations on policy. We talked about what is and is not a policy.  
One thing that came up is from the Office of the Chancellor, they are going to introduce a policy stating that parents be notified of underage drinking violations. We are supposed to come up with a stance on this. We are looking at turning this into a wiki format.  
President Afolayan-Elaborate on the Chancellor's amendment to policy.  
Senator Trosvik-I don't have the policy or the exact information.  
President Afolayan-Can you find that information and get that to senators?

**New Business**

**M#12.06.06 A Athletic Conference President Afolayan/Vice President Frederick**

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| Whereas: | The North Central Conference (NCC) will be disbanding at the conclusion of the 2007-08 academic year.  |
| Whereas: | The disbandment of the NCC requires MSU, Mankato to assess and make a decision on future athletic affiliation.   |
| Whereas: | MSU, Mankato administrators have indicated that options include Division I, Division I Non-Scholarship, Division II Independent, and affiliation with the Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference.                                 |
| Whereas: | A potential decision could cost up to an additional \$2 million in operation costs each year to be shouldered primarily by students.   |
| Whereas: | There has not been a formal presentation with empirical data provided to government representatives to include specific logistical costs and specific operational considerations associated with a change in athletic affiliation. |
| Whereas: | MnSCU Board policy 2.3.1 Subpart B requires that university administration seek student input and use that input in the decision making process.   |
| Move:    | The MSSA shall receive a formal presentation and/or report from appropriate administrators on the athletic affiliation issue prior to a decision being made. Furthermore, the MSSA recommends that a formal                        |

email be sent to all students by administration informing them of the implications of a decision on the athletic affiliation.

President Afolayan-This is about process-the nature earlier this semester was more casual, this is speculation, it appears this process is going to be accelerated. The decision to move to the Northern Sun needs to be done by early January. This could be a disastrous event if it does not include students. In at best MSSA should be able to have a formal presentation with figures and in the least information of the status.

Senator Hurm-Is there enough time to get this?

President Afolayan-This motion specifies we receive consultation prior to the decision.

Senator Giese-I think it is our responsibility to our constituents that we are making informed decisions, especially when it involves the possibility of an increase in funds to students.

Senator Pace-When would the administration fit that in?

President Afolayan-That is unknown-we have no idea, which is part of the issue as well.

Senator Fleck-Would it be wise to include financial implications?

Senator Hurm-From what I have heard, they are not sure how they are going to finance it.

Senator Anderson-Amend the motion to include financial implications. Withdraw motion

Senator Trosvik-This would be a great way of showing financial burden on students.

Senator Trosvik/Senator Schilling-Move to add financial implications of a decision on the athletic affiliation.

Senator Schilling-As proof with the budget reports, adding financial implications is the right way to go.

**Amendment passes**

**M#12.06.06 A Athletic Conference President Afolayan/Vice President Frederick**

- Whereas: The North Central Conference (NCC) will be disbanding at the conclusion of the 2007-08 academic year.
- Whereas: The disbandment of the NCC requires MSU, Mankato to assess and make a decision on future athletic affiliation.
- Whereas: MSU, Mankato administrators have indicated that options include Division I, Division I Non-Scholarship, Division II Independent, and affiliation with the Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference.
- Whereas: A potential decision could cost up to an additional \$2 million in operation costs each year to be shouldered primarily by students.
- Whereas: There has not been a formal presentation with empirical data provided to government representatives to include specific logistical costs and specific operational considerations associated with a change in athletic affiliation.
- Whereas: MnSCU Board policy 2.3.1 Subpart B requires that university administration seek student input and use that input in the decision making process.
- Move: The MSSA shall receive a formal presentation and/or report from appropriate administrators on the athletic affiliation issue prior to a decision being made. Furthermore, the MSSA recommends that a formal email be sent to all students by administration informing them of the financial implications of a decision on the athletic affiliation.

**Motion passes unanimously**

**M#12.06.06B Course Repeat Policy Coordinator Giese/Senator Anderson**

Whereas:	MSSA Academic Affairs Committee has had time to investigate the implications of limiting the number of time students should be allowed to repeat a course.
Whereas:	MSSA Academic Affairs Committee has had ample time to confer with the student population, our constituents
Be it Resolved	We move to fully support the changes and revisions to the undergraduate course repeat policy.

Senator Giese-We had this introduced to us early this fall, we have talked to constituents and discussed this. Now that this starts formal review we felt we are ready to give a formal stance.

Senator Anderson-We also had the opportunity to discuss this in the Open Forum. This now also allows for special circumstances.

Senator Schilling-What happens when a students opportunities to retake a class are exhausted?

President Afolayan-Students can appeal.

**Motion passes**

**Senator Reports M#12.06.06C Rollerblade/Skateboard/Bicycle Policy Senator Hurm/Fink**

Senator Trosvik-This policy is lacking and further discussion needs to be made.

Senator Norton-The policy does seem to be lacking. I would like to see a policy that

Senator Giese-I think this policy lacks as well. It should include more coverage over specific items.

Senator Schilling-One week has not been enough time as it is very lacking.

President Afolayan/Vice President Frederick-Move to refer the motion to MSSA Student Affairs Committee for review tonight. This seems like the way to get this done

**Motion to refer to committee passes**

**College of Business-Nikki Hanna**

Academic Affairs

- Attending all meetings
- +/- Surveys ready to be distributed
- Hand out the surveys to MSSA to fill out

Enrollment Management Committee

- Consultants seem to have very good input as to how MSU can retain and recruit students
- More information to come as I have requested information from the committee's secretary since I was unable to attend the meeting this week.

College of Business Building Committee

- Meeting has been rescheduled for this Friday; more information to come!

MSUSA Conferences

- Have attended all MSUSA conferences offered thus far.
- Plan to attend the December conference this weekend!
- Encourage as many people to go as possible!
- Make time for it, even though a lot of us have to study for finals.

President Afolayan-What is the objective of the College of Business Building Committee-what is their objective?

Senator Hanna-I will get that information for you.

**Gage A-Evan Trosvik**

Technology Roundtable is now meeting. I have been talking with Bryan Schneider about problems with ongoing internet in the dorms. I have been invited to meetings with Charter about dorm internet. I am on the Policy Review Committee and I plan to go the MSUSA Conference.

**Off-Campus-Jon Sands**

Last week I sat in on the Homecoming Task Force, I thought it was one of the more productive meetings we have had. We talked about involving RSO's and structure that we could make for a recommendation. I have also had students come talk to me about cross walks, the students say they are slippery and they fell. I have referred many off-campus students to the attorney on rental issues. I talked to a student about a school wide discount for downloading music.

#### **Allied Health & Nursing-Jessica Kallio**

We just finished the collecting the student debt surveys last Friday. Holly and I last Thursday walked around the CSU handing out surveys for an hour. We collected eighty that day. Many students were very interested about the tuition and debt campaign. I got positive feedback and lots of support. There were students I ran into that could care less about increasing tuition, which was frustrating for me because people always complain about tuition and the fact that it may increase 4% bothers me. I don't understand why some students could care less. I will be working on putting the individual surveys in a database, which we can share with you, when we are sharing the stories. I am also looking for a student or students that want to speak about their student debt. If the news station wants to do a piece or the city newspaper wanted to do another story we would like to have someone that could speak their mind and get more awareness on this issue.

President Afolayan-How many have you collected?

Senator Kallio-Just under 200.

#### **Allied Health & Nursing-Taitum Thompson**

In Union Board we discussed the stamp machine, the CSU administration did talk to the post office and they said then they would have to come collect the money etc. We are going to talk to them again about that. On the Nickerson relocation, it will house 50 people. It will be an open roundtable. The CSU Office relocation will allow for more personal office space.

#### **College of Business-Brandon Ross**

I have had discussion on class expansion for The College of Business. I have been talking to Miles Smayling. He is going to help maybe work on getting more classes open. I will keep working on that with him next semester. In a meeting with my management teacher, Queen Booker, we discussed internship options for underclass students. Many students want more experience. We are working to try to find things for underclass students to get more experience. I also have talked to her about a list of graduate schools.

Senator Trosvik-Would you be interested in sending out an email for Student Affairs?

#### **Undeclared-Ryan Anderson**

##### **Noel Levitz Recruitment and Retention Focus Group and Exit Report**

I had the privilege of attending the focus group on recruitment and retention led by a consultant from Noel Levitz consultation. He asked for concerns on what can be done to make students more successful at MSU. The main concern brought up was a lack of front end advising and interaction upon arrival at MSU for all groups of students. Another concern brought up was the bureaucratic run-around that can occur with many of our student friendly services including those provided by the Campus Hub.

During the exit briefing the next day, the consultant placed a heavy emphasis on advising. He stressed a simplified process for students when choosing a major and getting an advisor and advocated for a centralization of the advising process. He also acknowledged the concerns over poor customer service by many student services and would like to see improvement made in that area.

I followed this up with a meeting with Joel Johnson, director of the First Year Experience office. He agreed with many of the recommendations put forth by the consultant and said that they validated many concerns that had been previously discussed. He stressed that many advising improvements could be made without increased costs or staff. He would also like to see data on major changes be consolidated so the FYE office would have an easier time of red flagging students who make multiple changes in their first or second year on campus. He also expressed interest in expanding learning communities and exploring the desire for a second year experience class.

I also followed up on previous discussions on the new policy requiring students without majors who have less than 24 credits. This has led to 436 new students visiting for advising between October 16<sup>th</sup> and December 1<sup>st</sup>. He reported minimal wait times for the students. During the second half of the year the office will focus on helping these students find majors, with follow-up surveys and other methods. Other

focuses of the office will be on improved parent outreach and orientation planning for which they have already held student focus groups.

I would agree with many of the recommendations put forward by Joel and by the Noel Levitz consultant. It is my firm belief that advising should be the second focus of those in academics, behind of course improving program quality. I also believe that improved front end advising would lead to students graduating sooner, saving them money. This money saving measure combined with the opportunity cost benefit of getting into the workforce earlier would outweigh any start up costs that would exist.

President Afolayan-How many students have  
Senator

### **STUDENT FEES**

The Noel Levitz group had conducted surveys on student satisfaction with a variety of subjects. One thing they were dissatisfied with was with the manner in which student fee dollars are spent. This falls directly on us. It is important to remember that we are the stewards of how are fellow students money is spent. I view the dissatisfaction on student fees much like dissatisfaction with taxes, rarely it is because they too low. It is crucial we carefully listen to presentations and ask the tough questions on how money is spent and revenue is created. This data combined with other surveys given in the fall and last spring that show the price sensitivity of our students will make it difficult for me to be an advocate of increasing appropriations for most groups unless they can provide hard empirical data showing student needs are not being met. Another solution to this is to better inform students on how there money is being spent, we must demand that organizations we a lot money too have transparent finances, this would eliminate the frustrations many students have. When dealing with any student organization, or entity on this campus, it is important to remember we are the customers, this gives us the right and demands that we actively voice concerns when we see waste and inefficiency, the current high levels of dissatisfaction would never be tolerated by a professional organization. Never should members of the MSSA feel that they don't have the right to demand improved customer service and answers from any administrator or employee of this university. Hopefully these actions will ensure that come budget time we will be properly armed to spend student money in a manner representative of there needs.

### **RHA recommendations**

I attended the recent residence hall association meeting where they voted on the rate recommendation. I was shown pretty much the same info given today. I was disappointed with the lack of discussion among delegates about these issues before voting.

President Afolayan-Improvement made to advising, what were suggestions?

Senator Anderson-Effective planning, general efficiency.

President Afolayan-Noel Levitz dissatisfaction with student fees, what can MSSA do?

Senator Anderson-Thorough examination of how money is spent on all fees. Maybe change name of Student Activity Fees to better reflect what we do.

Senator Giese-Is it safe to say we do not know what true meaning of dissatisfaction is?

Senator Anderson-Student Fees are a big concern, people think they are not getting out of it what they pay in to it. These things are my personal stance but we should be more specific before we take any definitive action.

### **College of Education-Jenna Ault**

I have been talking to my constituents about the paving of the free lot, since they are all upset about it. I am encouraging them to come to the open forum and voice their opinions. I know that some of my reports are not as detailed as wanted, but I have had a busy semester and next semester will be better.

President Afolayan-Can you elaborate on the Parking Lot?

Senator Ault-They all want the free lot even though I told them we are one of the only schools that has a free lot.

### **Science, Engineering & Technology-Kenneth Willaert**

I have attended the two meetings put on by the College of Science, Engineering, and Technology Student Advisory Board. During these meetings a number of students representing each department in CSET sat down with the dean of the college and discussed a variety of topics ranging from the new addition on Trafton South and Enrollment Maintenance to Program changes and student issues.

I am sure most of you have seen the work being performed on the foundation of the new Trafton addition. Well, Dean Frey wanted to reassured students that tuition dollars are not designated for the construction funding.

Dean Frey also discussed some program changes to take place very soon in CSET.

A) Computer and Information Sciences will be split into two majors Computer Sciences and Information Technology.

B) A statistics major will be added to the Mathematics Department.

C) Also, a Geology Option will be available as a part of programs studying earth sciences.

Lastly, we compared MSU's enrollment maintenance programs to other schools. For instance, schools in Reno, Nevada, are able to provide scholarships to all incoming freshmen through a rigorous reallocation of funds. The amount of the scholarships given was determined computer calculation involving variables like high school performance, need of financial aid, family contribution, and so on. It is through scholarships programs like this that administrators at MSU believe the students will return for the following years. Now, the fine details were not discussed, but the plan to financially help underclassmen is getting some serious thought here at MSU. So, this Student Advisory Board has plans to administer surveys throughout CSET soon to get a basic idea of what students think of programs similar to that of the university in Reno.

### **McElroy Hall-Jennifer Hansen**

I have been going to the Homecoming Task Force and I agree with Jon that the last one was more productive. I talked to Cindy Janney about the doors between Crawford and McElroy being locked-she did not know why the doors were locked at 7:00 P.M. but she said that next semester the Mav Card for Crawford and McElroy will work for both complexes because students in Crawford have to go through the parking lots.

### **Off-Campus-Allan Gould/ Proxy Senator Fink**

We discussed in Parking Advisory Committee the proposed infamous "moped policy". There was some confusion, in that whether or not mopeds or motorized licensed vehicles up to 125 CC be banned all together or classified as a motorcycle and held accountable for purchasing a permit and parking in designated motor cycle parking. I received a call from "Max" from the *Reporter* regarding whether or not the moped policy will be a hot button issue in the weeks to come. I referred that person to Bill Brozak for further discussions.

President Afolayan-Moped policy has not been formalized. Right now they are just talking about language and the classification of the 125 CC. I think they just want the language to just be any motorized bike and then the parking stalls so they would not be in the bike rack.

Senator Trosvik-What is the legality according to MN state policy?

### **College of Business Brett Fleck**

#### 1. Committee's

A. SAC-We got off to a poor start. Many of our recommendations have been rather weakly founded and in some cases gone against SAC policies; I apologize for that failure. We hope to do better in the future so the senate can rely on our recommendations more as it should be. I was chosen as interim SOAFC representative until the end of the semester.

B. Academic Affairs-We've been working toward getting the +/- grading policy survey out to the students. Right now we are rapping up the logistics of how we are going to pull this off and the survey should be conducted shortly. I am looking forward to what the survey will tell us, if anything at all. We are also in the process of setting goals for next semester so if anyone has any ideas they would to share, please bring them to myself or another member of Academic Affairs.

C. Learning and Technology Roundtable-I attended the first meeting yesterday. It was very informative. We discussed the future move to Microsoft Vista and Office 2007, how to get more students to use their university email address, the future of the MSU portal and it's capabilities among other things.

#### 2. Other

A. I have begun a personal campaign to try and get the College of Business to switch to or try double-sided printers to decrease the paper volume being that usage of the unlimited printing continues to increase.

B. I am still working on finding concrete number on the \$125 laptop fee goes exactly, a search that is proving to be harder than it should. When I find out where the money goes, I would like to put together a proposal to try and get the College of Business to switch to a different system of assessing the fee. If that is not possible, I would at least like to post where the money goes online so students are able to be more informed.

C. I will be attending my second MSUSA conference this weekend. I look forward to representing our constituents well.

Vice President Frederick-Have there been any SOAFC meetings? Have funds been approved?

Senator Fleck-There was an on-line vote for \$230.

Vice President Frederick-So it is your understanding that no RSO's have asked for funding?

Senator Fleck-I was never contacted about any. I would say definitely.

Senator Anderson-Would the double sided printer usage fee save money?

Senator Fleck-Definitely, it would be a huge savings.

Senator Schilling-Is it true that non-students can be funded?

Senator Fleck-We were told that SAC money could go to coaches or faculty members. We were quoted the wrong policy.

Senator Trosvik-Did you know that the Freedom of Information Act lets you get information from various organizations?

Senator Fleck-Definitely, it is just hard to get a hold of the person that is responsible for the money.

Senator Trosvik-Have you asked the head of the department?

Senator Fleck-I asked the Dean and he gave me a name and that name did not help me at all. I am still looking for the right person.

### **Announcements**

Senator Hurm-We will be having Student Affairs tonight after the meeting.

Senator Ross-If you are signed up for the conference, you are there.

Speaker Jackson-Everyone have a good holiday break. The next meeting will be January 17.

### **Roll Call**

#### Senators Present

Taitum Thompson, Casey Carmody, Brett Fleck, Brandon Ross, Jena Ault, Kristeen Giese, Oliver Okoye, Ryan Anderson, Kathryn Pase, Evan Trosvik, Jennifer Hansen, Jon Sands, Cole Fink, Michael Norton, Jon Hurm, Jason Schilling

#### Senators Absent

Jessica Kallio, Nikki Hanna, Katie Ischkin, Kenneth Willaert, Peter Jennings, Ryan Christensen, Allan Gould, Caroline Kornowicz, Aaron Lorenzen

#### Executive Staff Present

President Afolayan, Vice President Frederick

**Adjournment** Meeting adjourned at 7:15 PM