

81st MSSA Senate
March 19, 2014

- **Call to Order by Madam Speaker**
- **Roll Call**

Jessica Gumbert 19-1-1; Sonja Holmberg 19-2-0; Joe Wolf 19-1-1; Katie Bobich 21-0-0; Zak Silker 18-1-1; Brooklyn Vetter 21-0-0; Mariah Haffield 21-0-0; Matt Eberline 20-0-1; Elizabeth Jacobson 20-0-2; Karson Krueger-Grant 15-0-1; Tyler Conlon 14-0-0; Becky Wegscheid 14-0-0; Brett Spartz 15-0-1; PJ Piotrowski 13-0-0, Margaret Neeck 12-0-0, Emma Deppa 8-3-0; Mychael Ihnat 10-0-0, James Stanford 6-1-0; Ryan Berndt 7-0-0

- **Presentations**

- Elections Commission

- Katie Bobich – Chair
 - Election rules changes/ update:
 - Poster guidelines – To follow University guidelines.
 - No campaigning in senate office *OR* while senate business is being conducted.
 - New candidate application process – only available on MavSync and MSSA website.
 - Easier to use from administrative standpoint
 - Creating a voter profile guide – great way to familiarize with candidate.

Shakespeare: We'll then need to change wording in our Constitution, Art. III (*applications available in senate office*).

Bobich: Will change that and post the update on MavSync.

Haffield: Is it okay if a candidate chooses not to use a photo?

Bobich: If not marked, their picture won't be used.

Bobich: We will also have a widget on the MSU website to direct to MSSA website. This will include using the term "student government" along with the MSSA logo.

Wolf: Will applications be accepted online as well?

Bobich: Yes. And if there is a disability involved, we'll work with that person.

- **Open Forum**
- **Approval of Consent Agenda**

- Appointments:*

- Commission on Ethics & Standards:*

- Student Allocations Committee:*

<p>--SAC recommends allocating up to \$450 (\$50/student x 9 students) for non-food related travel expenses to MNSU Public Relations Student Society of America to travel to PRSSA region conference April 25-27, 2014 at San Jose State University in San Jose, CA.</p> <p>--SAC recommends allocating up to \$837 for non-food related travel expenses to the MNSU Finance Club to assist 20 students travel to Chicago, IL to attend a networking/educational event April 3-6, 2014.</p> <p>--SAC recommends allocating up to \$950 (\$50/student x 19 students) for non-food related travel expenses to Psi Chi International Honor Society to travel to MW Psychological Association Conference May 1-3, 2014 in Chicago, IL.</p>
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--If funding from the organization's affiliated department or college is less than \$500 for this event, SAC recommends allocating up to \$2,000 (\$50/student x 40 students) for non-food related travel expenses to United Nations/International Relations Club to compete in a mock UN completion April 3-6, 2014 at the University of River Falls, WI.

Recognized Student Organizations: Sport Management Association, Malaysian Student Council

Approval of Minutes: 3/5/14

- **Vacancies**

Allied Health & Nursing (2)

College of Education (1)

College of Science, Engineering, and Technology (3)

Undeclared (1)

Julia Sears (1)

McElroy (1)

Stadium Heights (1)

Arts & Humanities (1) - Michael Hanson

This is currently my fifth and final year at MSU. During the past three years, I have had extensive involvement with MSSA. With the by-laws now changed, this allows me to run for this position. My goal is to also run for a student advisory board position.

Haffield: How would you benefit the student body for the rest of this semester?

Hanson: I have a lot of experience with elections and also SAC and therefore, ready to participate today.

Wegschied: We just approved this in our by-laws so see no reason to not approve. Feel he would be beneficial to this group.

Hand vote. Vote passes. -- Michael Hanson sworn in.

- **Officer Reports**

President Collins - *Absent*

Vice President Shakespear

- Hertz pulling operations from our campus. In our constitution we provide this service, therefore, it's likely we'll be enlisting Zipcar. Apparently, Hertz corporate is doing some restructuring and moving away from college campuses. Zipcar is much larger and provides a lot of opportunities. (i.e. scholarships, free awards) Memberships are larger with Hertz, however, Zipcar retention is much better. Zipcar is offering to move all existing Hertz members over with no fees.
- Charting The Future: Creating nine research teams - MSUSA is allowed one rep. on each committee, and one on CSUSA for a total of two students. If you are interested, meetings will start in May -Fall. Attendance is very important at these meetings. This will also include a \$1500 stipend, gas reimbursement.
- Search Committee for Dean of Ext. Education, looking for MSSA reps. Important to commit to attending.

Berndt: Many people are interested in electrical vehicle so suggest keeping that in mind.

Speaker Madsen

No report.

- **Senator Reports**

Brett Spartz/Jessica Gumbert, College of Business

- a. COB Action Team –COBACT – Will be group to encourage and motivate students within cob. Will be a group of 14 executives and also committees which students can join. Will implement next year. Received a donation from Bremer Bank to help us get it going. If you know of good applicants to help get this going, please send our way.

Mychael Ihnat, Graduate Studies

- b. President’s Commission on Diversity – The commission is currently looking to add an additional credit to the undergraduate level. This would include adding a Purple & Gold event. This proposal will be presented to President Davenport.

Holmberg: Which events are they proposing?

Ihnat: I’m not quite certain, however, there will be a list of them that I’ll be able to share with you.

Conlon: How are they planning on tracking this?

Ihnat: That’s a question that we’re currently looking into.

Shakespeare: If it becomes a student-requirement, it is no longer an event and won’t be subsidized by the college.

Jacobson: Do you know how many other schools currently do this?

Ihnat: I do not.

Tyler Conlon, Preska

- c. Constituent feedback on heating/cooling was given to area staff for review.
- d. I’ve been appointed to the University Dining Committee. One area they will be focusing on is food quality.
- e. Also been spending time talking with constituents about MSSA.

Margaret Neeck, Undeclared

- Survey sent out regarding “stigma” of Undeclared.

- a. Comments shared from a few constituents.
- b. Offered to create a group to work with this.

Shakespeare: How do you feel about senate’s discussion about removing undeclared senators and replacing them with academic affairs senators?

Meeck: I’m against this as I feel that students who aren’t in that situation don’t understand. They can’t relate.

Holmberg: What ideas do you have to remove negative stigma?

Meeck: That’s why I brought this to you guys as I’m looking for ideas.

Bobich: If you create a group, what happens when they declare a major?

Meeck: Those would be filled with new people coming in or changing directions.

Hanson: Given the university’s push towards academic planning, have you considered setting up any type of guidelines to get students on more of a timeline.

Meeck: I don’t believe that it is a matter of pushing but is more about the time needed to decide what your direction is.

Conlon: What colleges have you connected with to come up with ideas?

Meeck: I haven’t but I think you give a good idea.

Shakespeare: This is not my view, however, given the University’s focus to graduate with a major, is this perhaps encouraging people not to?

Meeck: I don’t think so. When I started I had a major but changed my mind and took a step back and really thought it important to give thought as to what I want to do.

- **Old Business**

- Motion to adopt bylaw changes as proposed by the Constitution Commission.

- *Motion passed.*

- Motion to approve the CSU budget proposal for FY 14-15.

- *-Motion passed.*

Wegscheid: Since it is staying the same and they aren't asking for an increase, I agree.

Conlon: It doesn't go above the 3% so I approve.

- **New Business**

- **Announcements**

Shakespear: I will be hosting a social gathering this Friday so all of you are invited. This is in thanks for all of the work you did this year.

Jacobson: Cupcake Wars next week.

Wolf: Saturday is African Night.

Haffield: This Thursday's MavGuard event is, Man in the Middle.

Hanson: Thank you for your vote today.

Wolf: Mike Posner will be the Spring Concert. Tickets go on sale the 25th.

Bulcock: Greek event update; International Festival, April 15th; April 27th is the Big Event

Shakespear: Sigma Nu Tricycle event, includes alum, Mike Posner. Money goes to Habitat for Humanity.

Haffield: Sigma Sigma Sigma, Three-ring Circus, tickets are \$5 in advance.

Dodgeball event, April 17th. Money goes to Gillette Children's Hospital.

- **Roll Call**

- Senators Present:

Katie Bobich, Brooklyn Vetter, Mariah Haffield, Matthew Eberline, Elizabeth Jacobson, Taylor Conlon, Brett Spartz, Jessica Gumbert, Rebecca Wegscheid, PJ Piotrowski, Joe Wolf, Margaret Neeck; Emma Deppa; Mychael Ihnat, Ryan Berndt; Zak Silker; James Stanford, Emma Deppa, Brett Spartz; Karson Krueger-Grant, Emily Peterson

- Senators Absent:

- Executive Leadership Present:

Ben Shakespear, VP; Beth Madsen, Speaker

- Executive Leadership Absent:

Chris Collins, President

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned @ 5:05 pm.

Upcoming MSSA events:

March 24th, Campaigning Begins

April 2nd – President/VP Debates

April 8th – Spring Elections

April 9th – MSSA Budget Hearings

April 16th – MSSA Inauguration

April 27th – Student Affairs Banquet