

81th MSSA Senate
April 24, 2013

Senate called to order by 80th President Soyal Shrestha

I. Roll Call

Christian Harris 1-0-0; Na Chum 1-0-0; Pa Chia Vang 0-0-1; Ashton Bird 0-0-1; Katelyn Dick 1-0-0; Matt Lindquist 0-0-1; Jessica Gumbert 1-0-0; Eric Ellanson 1-0-0; Sonja Holmberg 1-0-0; Cody Ingenthron 0-0-1; AJ Pitts 1-0-0; Eric Clark 0-1-0; Jerica Thompson 1-0-0; Joe Wolf 1-0-0; Paige Sparkman 0-0-1; Katie Bobich 1-0-0; Zak Silker 1-0-0; Brooklyn Vetter 1-0-0; Josh Erhardt 1-0-0; Mariah Haffield 1-0-0; Wil Bernstrom 1-0-0; Matthew Eberline 1-0-0; Elizabeth Jacobson 1-0-0

II. Open Forum

- **David Cowan** –
 - The word from the Administration is that the free lot will remain free for a year.
 - 3% cost increase on permits was approved.
 - Gold permit is in full swing – expect about 1000 people will participate. New student leaders are generally asked to draw the first numbers.
 - Bookstore contract expiring – rec'd 3 vendor RFPs. Evaluation Team met and has reviewed. Will be submitting scoring sheets to Meet & Confer in next couple wks.
 - M & C will either endorse or ask us to go back to drawing bds.
- John B. – Overview of responsibilities. Mon. May 6th, Midnight Breakfast.

III. Approval of Consent Agenda

Student Organizations

Appointments: Academic Affairs Coordinator (Blake Grotewold) **Steering Committee** (Matt Lindquist, Blake Grotewold, Cody Ingenthron) **Student Affairs** (Katie Bobich, Zak Silker, Elizabeth Jacobson, Brooklyn Vetter, Mariah Haffield, David Bernstrom, Matt Eberline) **Academic Affairs** (Christian Harris, Ashton Bird, Katelyn Dick, Matt Lindquist, Jessica Gumbert, Eric Ellanson, Cody Ingenthron, Sonja Holmberg, Paige Sparkman, Joe Wolf, Anthony Pitts, Eric Clark, Jerica Thompson)

Student Allocation Requests:

- SAC recommends funding ROTC \$700 for travel to the Kansas Army ROTC Challenge event
- SAC Recommends funding School Psychology Society \$300 to assist with Graduation Reception event, including food expense.

Approval of Minutes: 4-17-13

Approved.

IV. Election of Speaker

- Michael Hanson –
 - Want to publicly release my position on Constitution Commission as I'm now running for Speaker position.
 - Been on senate for both 79th & 80th so have a lot of experience.
 - Strong parly pro experience.
 - Big fan of following rules.
 - Have reviewed Operating policy and ready to put into place.
- Beth Madsen
 - Am a Senior nursing major.
 - Elected in fall as Off-campus senator.
 - Feel I've grown a lot and have kept running the entire year.
 - Went to delegates' conf. advocating for our school and also learned a lot.
 - Served on SAC, PR committee.
 - Speaker would be more fitting for me and would match my skill set. Know parliamentarian and Robert rules. That is just part of the role but I feel it is more important to lead people and be part of a team.

Collins: (Explanation of speaker's role.)

Shakespeare: You have to play an impartial role as speaker. Both of you are very passionate about issues, therefore, how would you handle this?

Madsen: For the greater good of senate you have to put it aside. Ultimately, it is the job of senate to make the decision. As a parliamentarian of my sorority, I already do this.

Hanson: I feel that I can effectively be objective running a meeting. The most important thing is remaining neutral and unbiased. You guys are the voice of the students. Speaker facilitates this process. I am also very familiar with parly pro.

Jacobson: How do you plan on keeping communication strong?

Hanson: I believe in an open door policy. I respond to emails almost immediately, face-to-face communication and I am also very approachable.

Madsen: I would like set office hours when you can come in and see me with questions or concerns. I'm also a user of FB and Twitter. Also check email several times a day. I'm very approachable as well.

Collins: If sitting here a year from now, what would you say we achieved together?

Madsen: The 80th did a lot, but I want to take at least one substantial project and tackle and will want your ideas as to what that is. We'll help guide you along with the administration to do that together.

Hanson: Get rid of apathy, more voter turnout, improved outreach to our campus; active meetings with constituents; continue to do big projects like the free lot.

Pitts: How do each of you feel you could do better?

Hanson: I'm sure Beth is well-qualified for it so would also be willing to sit down and help her with it. I just really want to stay involved and help out.

Madsen: Think I could bring a little more diversity to our executive leadership. I have a different pathway of thinking and could balance Chris and Ben's personalities to help bring senate together. I really want to stay involved with MSSA.

Eberline: How would you handle senator rpts?

Madsen: I would lay it out on a schedule or give the option of what works best for senators. I feel the sign in sheet is often forgotten so maybe weekly or biweekly email updates.

Hanson: Big point with office hours is they can be created anytime with constituents. If not meeting office hours, would be willing to send a senator to Ethics & Standards. However, I would be flexible.

Chum: What do you feel the most challenging part of this role would be and how would you overcome?

Hanson: Well, I haven't been speaker yet so it would be getting senators transitioned in.

Madsen: Most difficult things is not to lead a meeting but to lead people and help you find what you are passionate about.

Erhardt: Give an example of a time you had to mediate?

Madsen: I'm in a sorority and also the standards chair which enforces rules and mediates. Situations like this have happened many times and we sit and talk it out until resolved.

Hanson: I'd be approachable and hear both sides. Prefer to do so on a 1:1 basis. There will be drama but it has to be about students attending this campus.

Collins: When speaking, who are the gallery members supposed to talk to?

Hanson: Directly to the speaker

Madsen: They should address the speaker to avoid things that may arise on a personal level.

Haffield: What is your greatest personal strength and how will you apply?

Madsen: I can take on a lot and balance and organize things well.

Hanson: I am pretty empathetic and get a gauge from that. I dive in full steam. It's my desire to help represent students fairly.

Madsen: Greatest weakness?

Hanson: Trying to balance out academics and the Speaker responsibilities.

Madsen: I don't like interviews like this. Speaker position would help me with this. As former speakers, I know I would learn a lot from both Chris and Scott. I know meeting with faculty and administration would also help me with this.

Madsen: Thanks for letting me speak and asking me hard questions. I like how you delved into it.

Hanson: Thank you and I'm looking forward to the work you are going to do in the 81st. I want to be part of it. I have a lot of experience and have done my homework. Hope you all consider me for this.

Discussion:

Collins: Neither started addressing the presiding officer when asked. But think both would do an excellent job.

Pitts: Both are very hardworking but I'm impressed with how Madsen balances everything she does.

Shakespear: Chris and I need balancing so keep that in mind. They are here to help you get your job done.

Haffield: Beth feels very approachable and goes above and beyond to help. She obviously does.

Hanson is obviously is very knowledgeable. I was disappointed that he didn't know his weakness when asked as we all have weaknesses. I sounded rather arrogant.

Jacobson: Beth would be very good as she has dealt with conflict before and is very good at it.

Erhardt: Hanson is incredibly involved on committees and I don't think that he would want to give that up. I think he does better work on committees.

Dick: I agree that senate does get heated. My concern with Beth is that she wouldn't be as assertive as Hanson.

Shakespear: Believe me. Beth is more than willing to push back when she needs to.

Vote:

Beth Madsen sworn in.

- Officer reports:

Collins: Camping trip being planned as our leadership training this summer. Sending out a Doodle to get the date set. Thought it a good idea for team building. It will also be super cost-effective.

- Library Advisory Committee meeting today. Talking future plans of the tunnel. Joan Roca, Dean is also talking coffee shop in library.
- Have a list of committees for all of you so see me.

Shakespear: Welcome everyone. Let's get some stuff done. Would like to meet with all of you and see what you all want to do.

- My responsibility to see that everything gets done.
- Free lot remains free another year.
- Bookstore Advisory Meeting update.
- Last year's retreat inside but boring so looking forward to camping.
- Hertz – frustrated as still no vehicles working

Madsen: Thanks for electing me and your vote of confidence.

- Let's talk. I will be here over summer too. I want to get to know all of you.
- Wiffle ball game in a few minutes. Free food. Encourage all to go and kick Student Affairs butt.

Announcements:

- Laurie Woodward's student appreciation, May 1st. Cake and punch.
- Wiffle ball in Schellberg Gym @ 5:00 pm

V. Roll Call

Senators Present:

Christian Harris, Na Chum, Katelyn Dick, Jessica Gumbert, Eric Ellanson, Sonja Holmberg, AJ Pitts, Jerica Thompson, Joe Wolf, Katie Bobich, Zak Silker, Brooklyn Vetter, Josh Erhardt, Mariah Haffield, Wil Bernstrom, Matthew Eberline, Elizabeth Jacobson

Senators Absent:

Matt Lindquist, Pa Chia Vang, Ashton Bird, Cody Ingenthron, Eric Clark, Paige Sparkman

Executive Staff Present:

President, Chris Collins; VP Ben Shakespear; Speaker, Beth Madsen

VI. Adjournment

Adjourned @ 5:00 p.m.