

## 81<sup>th</sup> MSSA Senate October 23rd, 2013

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

Christian Harris 4-1-3; Jessica Gumbert 7-0-1; Sonja Holmberg 7-1-0; AJ Pitts 6-1-1; Joe Wolf 7-0-1; Katie Bobich 8-0-0; Zak Silker 8-0-0; Brooklyn Vetter 8-0-0; Josh Erhardt 7-0-1; Mariah Haffield 8-0-0; Matt Eberline 8-0-0; Elizabeth Jacobson 7-0-1; Jackson Zemke 1-0-0; Karson Krueger-Grant 3-0-0; Josh Hoekstra 1-0-0; Kenneth Kovac 3-0-0; Tyler Conlon 1-0-0; Becky Wegscheid 1-0-0; Emily Peterson 1-0-0; Brett Spartz 3-0-0

- **Open Forum**

*Presentations:*

--Vice President Rick Straka – Bonding (*handout*)

- a. \$270M bonding request this yr
- b. 2-yr budget period
- c. Capital improvements are made for State of MN
- d. MnSCU financed \$58M
- e. Things like Morris Hall, - all funded by State
- f. We're #9 on the list – or top 1/3.
- g. Last week hosted senate/house committees
- h. We are asking for \$25.8M for clinical sciences bldg. – between Warren St/Ford Hall – housing clinical hygiene program; nursing simulation lab, state of the art.

Shakespeare: Is this the first year of requesting money from the state?

Straka: It is the first year that we've sought construction dollars. Last year we asked for planning dollars. If successful, we'll also ask for funding to fix areas affected by this.

Shakespeare: How do we look for it?

Straka: We are in the top third and in past, they have been very responsive to MnSCU's needs.

Zemke: Will the new building provide any health care services?

Straka: That is not what this is for. There are a number of areas where we are already doing this (dental hygiene, student health services) but not with this.

Holmberg: Will this mean increase in fees where health services are provided?

Straka: No, as we're serving a population that is typically underserved.

Haffield: What is the timeline?

Straka: We would break ground next summer or fall. Classes would begin in fall of 2016.

Kovac: Do you feel it worth the \$30M and will it attract more students?

Straka: Yes, we wouldn't do it otherwise. Healthcare now takes a more holistic and an inter-disciplinary approach. We're better able to control the learning that goes into that environment.

Kovac: Will this allow a bigger nursing program?

Straka: I believe so and it will also free up other space which will mean reconfiguration of things, or a ripple effect.

John B. Would you mind talking about the basics of bonding like what is it, the process, and its' impact?

Straka: The school district is a different process and is a local referendum. Bonding is a State of Mn process done biennially, or every two years. Public entities or agencies put these together for the basic

betterment of the state. One example would be for the expansion of the Verizon Civic Center. These are also being done in Rochester and St. Cloud. The MnSCU process takes an extra year so that is a 2-yr process. Overall bonding is set within the general fund of the legislature. In the past, they have honored MnSCU requests.

Silker: Are these earmarked dollars?

Straka: Absolutely. Dollars are spent as they are assigned.

Conlon: Are there any contingencies in this?

Straka: Just the standard construction contingencies.

Haffield: How are things prioritized?

Straka: We have a very strict scoring process. It is scored by individual representatives of all colleges and campuses. They are then brought to the Board of Trustees and they are ranked.

Haffield: If it isn't rec'd this year, possibly next year?

Straka: We'd go back and evaluate and depending on that look at our plan going forward. However, I'm very optimistic that we will.

--Student Affairs Graduate Assistant Katie Ness

- Working on scholarship process and looking to create a focus group
- I'd like a rep. from each of the six colleges.
- Invite is being sent around.

- **Approval of Consent Agenda**

*Appointments:* Student Health Services Advisory Committee (Omolayo Ogunnowo, Myra Colakovic, Merissa Daily, Emily Peterson, Rebecca Wegscheid), CSU Board (Joe Wolf), Budget Committee (Josh Hoekstra, , Enrollment Management (Brett Spartz, Emily Peterson, Tyler Conlon, Janell Chrobak, Karson Krueger-Grant), Legislative Affairs (Rebecca Wegscheid, Tyler Conlon), Parking Advisory (Rebecca Wegscheid), Environmental Committee (Janell Chrobak, Jackson Zemke)

*Commission on Ethics & Standards:*

*Student Allocations Committee:*

-- SAC recommends to allocate up to \$400 to the Chess Club for travel of 8 students @ \$50 each to attend Collegiate Chess Tournament at Texas Tech University, Lubbock, TX on December 27, 2013.

-- SAC recommends to allocate up to \$300 to the Finance Club to be used exclusively for the rental cost of University vehicles to transport the Finance Club members to attend the educational/networking event in Minneapolis, MN on October 25, 2013.

*Recognized Student Organizations:* Mankato Young Performing Artist Association, Swing Dance Club, OROMIA Student Union, Society of Manufacturing Engineers, Association for Operations Management (APICS), Colleges Against Cancer, Geology Club, MavLankans, Alpha Sigma Alpha, Order of Omega, Philosophy Club, Disability Awareness and Advocacy Group, TEDx MNSU, Cultural Connections, MSU Climbing Club, Chinese Intercultural Association, Scandinavian Club, Women's Rugby, Lambda Sigma, Alpha Chi Omega

*Approval of Minutes:* 10/16/13

- **Vacancies**

*Allied Health & Nursing (2) - Peter J Piotrowski*

- *Looking forward to working with other students and issues on campus; I'm involved with RSos and looking to get more involved in leadership and also looking to participate in Pre-Med Club. I'm currently involved with the Newman Center.*

Haffield: Are you able to make the Wednesday meetings?

PJ: Yes.

Haffield: What do you feel makes you qualified?

PJ: I want to be involved with pre-med and make connections with those students.

AJ: Do you feel confident going up to strangers and making conversation with them?

PJ: Absolutely. I don't know that anyone feels totally comfortable but know I can approach people I don't know and start a conversation. I feel I can bring leadership to senate and new views and points to senate. Look forward to working with you guys.

**Vote: PJ inaugurated.**

*Graduate Studies (1)*

*Undeclared (2)*

*Off Campus (1)*

*Julia Sears (1)*

*McElroy (1)*

- **Officer Reports**

- President Collins**

- a. Michael Hanson/Blake will be StarID pilot- access later this week. StarID committee.
    - b. Delegates list: Will be approved next Weds. JT has been confirming with each person.
    - c. Ethics & Standards Committee: If you want to appoint someone who you feel would be suitable let me know.
    - d. Bank selection: The decision has been made and was sent to Straka. MavCard will stay with just the one strip for now.
    - e. If you are a new senator and not on two committees, please come see me.

- Vice President Shakespear**

- f. If you have any concerns with committees or how they are operating, please come see me.
    - g. Event updates: I encourage you to attend any of the many cultural events on campus. They always have plenty of free food, etc. Women's Center film showing tonight for Violence Week. I'm now part of an RSO, MavsAgainst Violence. I'm the only member so far and we're looking for more men to join. We meet every second Thursday of the month.

- Speaker Madsen**

- If you are part of an RSO and haven't yet been appr'v'd, you need to get that done.
    - Vacancies - Please encourage others to come next week.

- **Senator Reports**

- Katie Bobich, Off Campus

- o Happy to see so few vacancies.
    - o PR Marketing will be tabling in CSU from 10-2 pm on Halloween.
    - o Holiday Roundtable - We want to do some collaborating with religious and int'l organizations and share holiday traditions. We're considering the Lincoln Lounge.
    - o MavGuard: We're meeting this week with Ed Clark to discuss IT's role. We're also meeting tomorrow with Integrated Marketing. We were also on KMSU this morning talking about MavGuard.
    - o MSUSA scholarship deadline.
    - o Pedestrian issue on campus - We want to create an adhoc committee to address this. We're wanting concrete things like flashing signs, etc.

Mariah Haffield:

- CSU Board and taste testing with Dining Serv. next Friday.
  - The Connection opening is scheduled for Nov. 1<sup>st</sup> but will likely be Nov 13<sup>th</sup>
  - We're working with Lenny to come take pictures of senate to be hung in the CSU.
  - MavGuard: We need people and want more to be involved.
  - Silker: Is a pizza contract signed?
  - Jacobson: Papa John's fell thru so they will be going with Sodexo pizza brand. This may also include a total whole remodel. There would be no contract.
- **Old Business**
  - **New Business**

**M#10.23.13 – Pedestrian Safety Adhoc Committee - Bobich/Pitts**

*Whereas:* Both faculty and students have become increasingly aware of and concerned with pedestrian safety on and around campus;  
*Be it Resolved:* We move to create an adhoc committee composed of at least four members (one being a non-senator) with the goal and purpose of addressing pedestrian safety.

Bobich: I have had several students approach me with this concern. We want to get a crosswalk in place in collaboration with the City of Mankato.

Pitts: Are you also thinking of expanding this idea to off-campus? For instance, near Highland and the Quads?

Conlon: I feel we should approve as this would address structural issues.

Erhardt: I feel that Warren/Stadium is the worst. However, a big part of the problem is people simply ignoring the signs already there.

Bobich: Yes, however, there is a sign that is motion-censored which would cost less than \$2,000.

Madsen: May I ask why this isn't something the Student Affairs Committee can handle?

Bobich: Because Senator Wolf and Tim Haas approached me with this project and they are not part of Student Affairs but are passionate about this issue.

Vetter: Some stats would be interesting on accidents, etc. to show that it is needed.

Collins: I was hesitating on creating a committee on this and am concerned with creating another committee. I would like to see Student Affairs take this on as it did in the 79<sup>th</sup>.

Holmberg: Could it be a sub-committee of Student Affairs?

Shakespear: That would be at the discretion of Coordinator Hanson.

Hanson: I have an open door policy and anyone can get involved. I understand why people don't want to sit through a whole meeting and just want to work on one issue. I also worked on this with the 79<sup>th</sup> so have experience with it. We could also set up a special meeting for it.

Silker: Whose responsibility is it for the crossing guards and are they getting paid for it?

Hanson: They are work-study students and being paid by David Cowan's department.

Bobich: My purpose is to be able to get together under a formal umbrella, especially when talking to the City. Also, I only know of three of us who want to be part of it and it would not mean extra work for those us not wanting to do it

**Motion passes.**

11-1-7

**M#10.23.13 Student Shuttle Service - Kovac/Shakespear**

Create an adhoc committee chaired by Senator Kovac tasked with exploring the feasibility of establishing a student shuttle service on campus.

Kovac: A free shuttle program with a 10-15 mi. radius around campus, for students to get from point A to B on Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays. All the students I talked to want this and would be willing to pay for it if need be

Silker: I don't like the idea as this has also come up during our Library Advisory committee and we're working at coming up with other ideas.

Kovac: This isn't just from the library but from other points in town and involves a safety issue. Many universities have this program. We are so behind on student services and are always playing catch-up. This is purely safety and takes away the complications at night. Otherwise, many of us make unwise decisions. I'd like to do this fast and bring it to the Administration before the winter months.

Holmberg: I don't like the idea of a committee as I don't think it is the University's obligation to drive students home that are drunk. To me it seems it is more of a convenience fee. My constituents wouldn't want to pay for taking students from one friends' house to another.

Spartz: I agree with Sonja and feel it is essentially a drunk bus. I don't feel it is the University's responsibility to furnish this to students.

Collins: I'll be the one appointing individuals so keep in mind the process with this.

Shakespear: If you don't like the idea then join the committee. That's the point of being on a committee.

#### **Motion fails.**

7-9-3

- **Announcements**

Collins: I appreciate the extra work to do but think it would be interesting and encourage big ideas when making motions in an effort to broaden our spectrum.

Haffield: MavGuard meeting after senate

Jacobson: Haunted House next Wednesday.

Holmberg: Womens' Night Out for breast cancer awareness.

John: The Housing Fair was a success. The next one will be in January. Rake the Town event has been postponed until Nov 9<sup>th</sup>.

Gumbert: The Career Expo is tomorrow.

Erhardt: Please come to the Choir Concert.

Hanson: We now have two newly appointed members of the Environmental Committee. I'm chair of that committee so ask that you see me after the meeting.

- **Roll Call**

**Senators Present:**

Katie Bobich, Zak Silker, Brooklyn Vetter, Josh Erhardt, Mariah Haffield, Matthew Eberline, Elizabeth Jacobson, AJ Pitts, Taylor Conlon, Janell Chrobak, Josh Hoekstra, Brett Spartz, Jessica Gumbert, Kenneth Kovac, Jackson Zemke, Rebecca Wegscheid; PJ Piotrowski

**Senators Absent:**

Emily Peterson, CJ Harris, Evan Nagel

**Executive Leadership Present:**

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

- **Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned @ 5:20 pm.