Minnesota State University Moorhead

Student Senate Agenda October 3rd 2013

I. Call To Order (6:03)

II. Roll Call (Mcfarren, Schwartzwalter, Peck, Pham, and Lavelle absent. Proxy Powell and Derheim)

III. Approval of the Agenda (Cunha, Kelly, passes)

IV. Approval of the Minutes
   a. September 26th 2013 (Cunha, Redman, 1 nay, passes)
   b. October 3rd 2013 (Cunha, Holm, 1 nay, 1 abstain, passes)

V. Public Hearing
   a. Heather Phillips (Housing)
      Director of Housing and Residential life. I’m here to talk about proposing a new policy in housing. I’ve been doing some research and what is best practice is to require first year students to live on campus with some exceptions. It gives them a better GPA rating overall and helps with retention. Students who live on our campus have a better GPA. I heard a rumor that senate and other leaders were trying to do the same thing to show him the data. We can all submit a policy together to implement in Fall 2015. I looked at many different policies and worked from there. (discuss handout)
      Danielson: I think this is a great idea and thank you for being so thorough with the policy. I was one of the students who petitioned.
      Phillips: Thank you
      Clay: National or just MSUM data?
      Phillips: Just MSUM, I can give you the national data.
      Struxness: Gallup poll showed consistency across the board.
      Neupane: Students off campus who already look like they will doing well?
      Phillips: Only first year students it’s not supposed to apply for students. If they have already taken PSEO credits or AP Credits?
      Neupane: yes and international students
      Hjelseth: Any other exceptions besides these? I wouldn’t have gone to MSUM if they would have made me live on campus
      Phillips: I wouldn’t want to make exceptions, even if they took PSEO credits they haven’t transitioned from home to college life yet. The data supports that it is the right thing to do for students across the board. I think it’s best practice to do this and most universities have this policy unless in urban institutions. Bemidji just passed this last year.
Cunha: My understanding the purpose of this policy is not just focused on better grades but also to adapt and be more involved with campus. Weekends this place is a ghost town and not a traditional campus. I think it will make MSUM a great community overall.

Phillips: You did a great job of explaining that and grades are not all of retention.

Clay: Second Cunha, grades are only part of it. Empirically that’s all they can measure it. Metro is the only school I know already had this policy. Concerns of Hjelseth and Neupane will happen, but I think they will happen infrequently. I think it will be something they look at in the review process.

Phillips: I have more information with Admissions Director and VP enrollment management support this. Financial Aid will not be affected negatively for students. It will create more work for housing but it’s worth it for me.

Leitner: Under exemptions, financial hardships.

Phillips: If they have no other financial means but they get financial aid...

Neupane: Will this increase housing revenue?

Phillips: Probably, I know how many new freshmen and transfers there are right now. It will increase our occupancy, I am not concerned that we will have enough space. I can’t say to what degree it will increase until it happens. I will continue adding data as time goes on.

Redman: Freshmen priority over upperclassmen if housing becomes limited?

Phillips: Lots of ways to handle, I don't anticipate us being there. I will talk to RHA and Senate if it came to that situation, if we were at capacity. I would have numerous brainstorming sessions if we came to that and come up with a solution from there.

Clay: What is our campus housing capacity percentage right now?

Phillips: I can email you tomorrow, I do know we have capacity available. We do have 1800 beds total.

Neupane: What is the total freshmen right now?

Phillips: I can’t give exact numbers right now, I can email you later.

b. ROTC- Justin Johnson

The assistant secretary of the army came out with a bombshell, 13 universities with ROTC will be closed. NDSU is closing theirs which will stop in MSUM too. We are trying to keep it open. I am a cadet in the program, I wanted to let you know because it will affect to the
student body. They aren’t even letting us piggyback off UND. Some of
the finest have come from MSUM 18th in the nation, we had number 8
in the nation several years ago. This does affect MSUM and NDSU. The
biggest issue we’re asking to rally some support from the student
body. Any opposition to get students to influence local congressmen.
Cunha: Closed Immediately?
Johnson: 2 year window, to give junior and senior cadets a chance to
graduate till May 2015.
Cunha: Freshmen and sophomore have to transfer?
Johnson: Yes that is the standpoint, closest St. Johns, Mankato, or UND.
If they do shut the program down, the military will stop funding them
if they do not want to transfer.
Clay: Background of why the cut is happening and how many cadets in
the program in area?
Johnson: 82 cadets in tri-college, not all in military contract. 9 are
from MSUM and 4 are officially contracted. The decision to close they
are trying to cut different things, and what schools are not producing
15 officers every year. We are right at the 15 right now. What
programs have multiple options in the area. Doing the same thing
with University of SD. By law they need to keep 1 school open in each
state. We have won national competitions. They wanted to shrink
numbers and strive to keep quality officers and NDSU was overlooked.
All 3 president’s agree in the area as well. We would like to get
support outside the cadets. We do a lot in the community. High school
ROTC programs are complaining because they can’t come to schools
in the area.
Fox: 4 out of 9 students that came to see Edna were concerned about
this program. Their suggestion was to get student support. They
aren’t an org so need an office or org to help them.
Kelly: If the money was found would the program be reinstated?
Johnson: I think if they find a reason to keep it they will keep it, they
always find money to keep what they want to keep.
Kelly: Spoken to Veteran’s office right now?
Johnson: Speaking to them right now, emailing Dave. He encouraged
people to write to their congressman.
Danielson: Will help you.

VI. Advisor Fox’s Report
President Edna’s office hours today. ROTC is the biggest Senate could get
behind. Working on goals to go with our strategic plan. Strengths codes,
please remember to take that and send it to me. Complete it before the
retreat. New survey tool, live survey is going away at the end of the month, pull information off there before it goes away. Events coming up:
University working on transformative goals for strategic plan
Remember to send sq codes
Qualtrics is new survey tool
Nepali night is 10/26
Japan night is 11/9
China night is 11/16
Korea night is 11/23
After dark event next Friday is in wellness center
Oct 25 is Halloween dad
Enjoy fall breather

Holm: What portion email to you?
Fox: Strengths in order

VII. Officer Reports
a. Treasurer Neupane
   Meeting with Blackhurst tomorrow, I did tabling a little bit today. I let
   them know about MSUSA scholarships and other stuff. Talked about
   graduation plan by the way classes are offered. I think it is but I am
   looking into it further.

b. Vice President McFarren
   Retreat November 14th, remember that. I’ll send an email showing
   more in detail about the retreat on what to expect and so on. List of
   food items in the office tomorrow. You can have my first child if not.
   We as a senate could help monitor a homeless shelter for a night, it
   would require a night of training and we could have them come to us
   so we don’t have to go anywhere. Pinching people about the advisor of
   the term. Want to be a part of that let me know.
   Leitner: November 14th?
   McFarren: Yes
   Danielson: Want me to put up pot luck sheet?
   McFarren: Yes
   Kelly: November 14th
   McFarren: Yes
   Hjelseth: Lost the code
   McFarren: Will get it for you again

c. President Struxness
   Was sick, don’t have much. Thank you letters for helping out with the
   housing party. Looking for a day or time that is best to fundraise and
   promote bras on broadway and dodgeball.
d. Secretary Danielson
Candy is in the office and I picked up the pictures. I will be working on the board and them this week. We need to figure out what to put on the chalkboard, email me ideas.
(5 minute recess, Danielson, Cunha, 3 nay, 3 abstain, passes)
(Back, Roll Call: Peck and Lavelle absent. Proxy Pham, Powell, and Derheim)

VIII. Committee Reports

a. Campus Affairs Chair Kelly
Goebel to discuss smoking issues, senate gather information on subject and discovering problem areas. Meeting tomorrow and will update you later. 30 day data in for MAT bus VP Mahoney will share the info with us as soon as she has it. I will give it to you if you want it. No new update on market research about student payroll, thinks it will be 3% increase but I’m not sure. If you feel strongly about parking lots I will be in a meeting. Ticketing revenue is down and Lemke has been too busy for me to meet with him and I am stalling the survey until then. No CA meeting tomorrow because I’m going home. Struxness: Furniture time depreciation scale

b. Diversity Chair Cunha
Have nothing, I’ve been too busy with school this week. Still working on everything I’ve been working on the past 2 weeks. Working on the survey with Dr. Pearcey.

c. Leg. and Internal Affairs Chair Schwartzwalter
Apologize for my absence last week. Few things going on. My committee, let me know if you want to join. Voter preparedness is what we’re working on. That should start next week. If you are not registered to vote before the election it ends on Oct. 16, you can register online. If you live on campus you are already registered. I have a sheet for tabling signup. Marketing for the election mainly. Forum before the election. Plans to put up posters and get awareness. Danielson: Are students on campus actually registered to vote?? Schwartzwalter: Yes, told that. Danielson: Might want to double check if that is actually the case Schwartzwalter: Double check Redman: How do you check if you’re registered? Schwartzwalter: MN website. Holm: Can I vote here if perm address different?
d. MSUSA Campus Coordinator Danielson
Scholarship week went okay, need to do some more, thanks to those who helped. Fall Delegates coming up on November 15-17, need representatives to come to Saint Paul and represent the school. Lobby Corp needs participants, you get to take trips to the capital and advocate for students to actual legislators, please let me know if you’re interested. October 24th Office of Diversity and Inclusion is holding an event to inform diverse students about scholarships, everyone is welcome, pizza.
Struxness: Delegates or Board
Danielson: Both
Struxness: How many do we need?
Danielson: At least 5 people beyond campus committee and board member, they want 9 total
Leitner: What is it?
Danielson: Conference where people work together to set plan of action for the association and decide what to work on, along with general reporting about how each school is doing.
e. Public Relations Chair Peck
f. Student Affairs Oversight Chair Pham (Struxness)
Layne Anderson discussed committee membership and looking for COC senator. Preferably a sophomore or freshman. Time is flexible, only meets 1 or 2 times a month. Email Dan if you are interested.
Redman proxy for Neupane in SABC

IX. Old Business
X. New Business
a. Housing Policy Discussion

Motion to Approve Housing Policy Proposal and Cosponsor
Sponsor: Coordinator Danielson  Second: Chair Cunha

Whereas it will be beneficial for the campus community and retention;
Whereas it promotes student success and data backs that up;
Whereas Student Senate promotes plans for student success and improving the campus community;

Be it resolved that Student Senate cosponsor and support the Housing Policy proposal with an addition to add an individual review board under the exemption portion.
Danielson: I think this would be great for our campus and it would really help with retention which we really need to focus on.
Cunha: Don't think students are involved as they could be on campus and I think it will be good for MSUM.

Kelly: Retention is a key factor of this university. If people live on campus it will help in multiple ways. Housing gets money from revenue it will help them get better resident halls and attract more people.
Neupane: Can more research be done?
Danielson: Review Process
Struxness: 5 month review
Schwartzwalter: Agree with all said. Clarify that this is senate’s stance and we can bring this up at the policy committee. Easy then some other campuses. Individual safeguards.
Hjelseth: Like individual review, it’s a great idea and you can meet lots of people.
Danielson: It’s important to know that this is going forward either way, but I think it would be great to be throwing Senate’s support towards it.
Neupane: Does feel like forcing students to give the school more money. Fees increasing in 2 years and that may reduce our selling point. It might be time clashes with their work if they’re not involved. I would like to look at how many students are involved or not by on campus versus off campus.
Holm: Cost of it, competitive with living in the area? Living conditions better? Promotes a sense of community and involvement and friendships. I think it will be hard to look students involved versus not on campus and off
Soderholm: It seems like it’s another way to get university money, many other colleges do require stuff. It teaches financial skills as well. Kelly: Living on campus is a convenience, it won’t be cheap but you don’t have to worry about heat, water, etc. I knew nobody when I came here. It solves problem of having to find a place and living in Moorhead.
Proxy Pham: Got involved more when moved off campus and learned more financially. Think it should be optional or only for one semester.
(Exhaust speaker's list Clay, Redman, passes)
Davis: One of the reason I’m living in the dorms is to research how people react and how the dorms benefit. I think it’s great.

Hjelseth: Free rent versus expense of living in the dorms.

Holm: You can still get involved if you live off campus, promotes more involvement and get school pride. Exemptions definitely. I think the information should be in pamphlet.

Danielson: I don’t think they are trying to get money out of students. I think this is purely for retention purposes and to keep students wanting to come to this campus and stay here. We’re in some trouble at MSUM and this would help it.

Soderholm: People who choose to live off campus will still get involved. I think it promotes students that won’t normally get involved and help them step out of their comfort zone.

(Call to question, Clay, Cunha, passes)

(Motion 3 nay, 2 abstain, 11 yay, passes)

b. Committee Appointments

   Rezac to Alcohol and College life committee
   Danielson to Parking Committee

   (approved)

c. Diversity Movie Bill

   **Bill to approve funding for movie showing**

   **Sponsor: Chair Cunha   Second: Treasurer Neupane**

   Whereas the Diversity Committee has a responsibility to promote the diversity among the student body of Minnesota State University Moorhead, and given the November is Native American Heritage Month, the Diversity Committee has met with AISA (American Indian Student Association) and decided to sponsor a showing of the movie *Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee* free of charge to the student body on Wednesday, the 20th of November at a time and location to be determined. *Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee* is an HBO original movie that clearly depicts the brutality applied to Native American groups in the late 19th century through the experience of the Lakota/Dakota Sioux tribe. The movie is a realistic depiction of the fierceness of the Sioux resistance to oppression as well as portraying their traditional ways of life. The cost to buy the rights to show this movie is $346.00. AISA has committed $150.00 and the Diversity Committee is committing $50.00. I ask that Student Senate commit $150.00 to cover the remaining cost. I think that this would be a great opportunity for Student Senate to showcase its support to promoting diversity as well
as showing support to Native Americans during their heritage month of November.

Cunha: Working on this for awhile. I talked to Neupane about the money available and got more funding elsewhere. Neupane: Did a good job at getting funding elsewhere and I think this is good diversity awareness.


d. ROTC Support Motion

Motion to create a temporary taskforce to gather student support against the dismemberment of the tri-college ROTC

Sponsor: Chair Cunha Second: Chair Kelly
Whereas the ROTC program helps to provide an education to future military officers, as well as helping create future leaders of the defense of the United States and its allies. I hereby suggest that a temporary student senate task-force be created to try to gather support from students to attempt to prevent the dismemberment of the ROTC program from tri-college.

Cunha: I think the ROTC is a great program and we had very good officers come out of the schools. I don’t think it’s fair to get rid of the program. Stand up and say something together.
Kelly: It’s not fair to take away a program that these people put in a lot of work to get into. Taking away from them is not fair and it doesn’t make sense to do to these 3 schools.

Clay: This is an ad hoc committee, this would be good to investigate.
Cunha: It’s important to show that we support their cause. It doesn’t hurt to try. I would like to do that as well.
Kelly: Do you know contact info?
Cunha: Yes.
Danielson: MSUSA will already be working on this and I think it is a great thing to help support students that came to us for help.
(Call to question Danielson, Cunha, passes)
(1 abstain, 14 yay, passes)

e. Senate Appointments
(Move to suspend the rules, Danielson, Schwartzwalter, 1 nay, passes)
(Reinstate rules, Schwartzwalter, McFarren, 2 abstain, passes)

XI. Announcements
Danielson: October 26th World War MUN Zombie Apocalypse in MacLean and Bridges hall, talk to me for more information.
Schwartzwalter: Tabling on voter turnout please look up on candidates. Got job at Best Buy.
Kelly: No CA meeting tomorrow. Smoking on campus opinions talk to me.
Struxness: Keep your stuff together in meeting, act a little more professional.
Neupane: Islam and Hindu there is a big festival on Monday
Redman: Vote Del Rae Williams
Cunha: No school Monday or Tuesday
Danielson: Chairs send me reports and keep whispering to a minimum because it is hard to hear so I can take proper minutes.
Kelly: Redman’s last meeting thank you for service
Schwartzwalter: Policy committee so we can give and get info. Parli Pro session
(Motion to Adjourn Holm, Cunha, passes)

XII. Adjournment

“If you want to make your dreams come true, the first thing you have to do is wake up.”

J.M. Power