I. Call to Order (5:03)

II. Roll Call

III. Approval of the Agenda (Beneke, Danielson)

IV. Approval of the Minutes (tabled)

V. Public Hearing
   a. Meet and Confer
      1. MATBus pre-discussion
         Blackhurst: What do you want to know when we have this discussion later?
         Ferguson: We don’t really know the value of it for our students- if lots use it little, or if little use it lots.
         Schwartzwalter: The options for where it goes. There’s not much visibility of we don’t know very easily.
         Awosika: If it won’t be free, what the other options will be?
         Tomko: Interested to hear about the people who do use it- the satisfaction of their experience, timeliness, whether they still use it?
         Ferguson: We might be able to provide that.
         Beneke: I’m wondering instead of a full free ride, an opt-in system?
         Where you get a discounted rate. Cause the faculty do something similar don’t they?
         Mehnert-Meland: No. Not through us.
         Beneke: I’m curious about a group discount rate or middle ground.
         Anderson: Is there a way we can maybe like the health insurance add it on to their bill. I know there are students that do rely on the bus, but if we could get a discounted rate, when you go through the payment options, you can opt-in.
         Ferguson: We’ll look into student satisfaction which I think PR can do.
      2. Strategic Planning/Academic Realignment
         Blackhurst: Want to thank those who have participated so far. It’s been a really interesting process. It’s unfortunate that the last meeting we had, we weren’t able to have students participate. People kind of got stuck after the one Thom and Jessica went to. We’ll becoming back to the results of that visioning process. What I'm passing now is the results of a SWOT analysis. (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, threats). Over 400 people responded to the survey we sent out and it was a very simple survey. The grid is a synthesis of the themes that emerged. The pie charts give a visual sense of this. As part of the process, we’ve been thinking of our history and heritage and what we need to let go of but what we really want to carry with us. Looking at our current state and where we are now so we can envision where we’ll be five years from now. Last two meetings next Thursday and Friday.
Schwartzwalter: DO you think bringing all of this to the larger community will happen after Christmas break or before.
Blackhurst: Right away when we come back. We have to meet certain deadlines that require us to have these conversations at least in January.
Savaugeau: We have three going to the next two.
Anderson: The survey results- they seem inconsistent. There are some things in two places that contradict. How do we address this?
Blackhurst: Those results say two things. We don’t really have consensus about the kind of university we want to be/are. It’s also a sigh that our experience is probably really variable depending on your program and such. We have some work to do to make sure that everyone has a consistently good experience.
Pope: When you address inconsistencies, are you going to go dept. by dept. or what?
Blackhurst: I think ultimately we’ll get to that level. We’ll set goals and we’ll have to measure how we’re doing to accomplish those goals.
Schwartzwalter: After this is brought to the body at large, what would be the next step?
Blackhurst: The step we’re in right now is trying to envision what we want to be and the steps to get us there, and the goals to reach those steps. Once we have that flushed out, we’ll bring it back and then make a decision about what we’re going to do.
Tomko: Is there a possibility of getting an electronic copy of this data? I want to encourage other campuses to do the same so we can all collaborate and get mutual feedback.
Danielson: Under opportunities, the “innovate”, if you could define that a bit more.
Blackhurst: It’s not really what I mean, but what people who took the survey meant. I think people have the sense that if we could become more innovative, we have the opportunity to do so than we have historically been. We could be more interesting, engaging, attractive.
Peck: Weaknesses- 43%...,does that have to do with having a poor quality of professors? What are you willing to do about that?
Blackhurst: First sheet of what that includes. But I think that Communicating expectations, rewarding people, training those that need it, saying to those who are not fitting that perhaps this isn’t the right place for you. Academic Realignment- open forums, mostly faculty and staff. Asking every dept to give feedback and from you as a senate. Beneke: First difference I notice is the examples of centers. What does that mean?
Blackhurst: Centers could be part of either. We’d like a way to formally organize departments, but also in ways that cut across like a matrix and think of interesting question and issues we could be known for as a university without messing around with where departments report. Danielson: Career services not listed
Blackhurst: Realignment discussion going on in student affairs and enrollment management. The issue is that if we do it right, there should be lots of partnership between student affairs, academic affairs, enrollment management. Right now there are things that overlap. It’s on one but not the other not because it goes away but because it could go somewhere else.
Ferguson: I like the Centers. You should include the sustainability. I think it’d be interested if we had different emphases in each major. I think that would be great if more majors had that.

Blackhurst: We do too.

Edna: And so do employers.

Blackhurst: Because your students and have lots of interaction with faculty, some feel really angry, anxious and distressed by these models, because they are not usually within a university. Our position is that those distinctions make sense to us because we are academics. But employers want that variety and so do students. From a student perspective, I think these make much more sense.

Ferguson: I feel the same. If the universities job is to simulate the real world, we should be integrating these things.

Peck: When would one of these be implemented? Are these the options?

Blackhurst: We’ll keep plugging between the committees but we don’t know how long for sure it will take. It’s not going to take years, but it will take longer than we originally thought. Certainly we’ll be on our way this year, but unsure when it will be finished.

Peck: I also think the models where we get all these people working together with different majors, this matters, it will simulate the real world.

Ferguson: I can’t tell a distinct difference between the two. What’s the strategy/biggest difference?

Blackhurst: We’re trying to cluster majors that in the work world will interact. In one model the health professions are with the college of business. There’s a rational behind putting different things together. There is a growing sense that we could further develop our niche in our art media.

Anderson: These models with the way the colleges are set up now, you’ll be moving things around. So what is the situation as far as the deans? Will we need to hire new ones; will some be upset by combining different programs?

Blackhurst: The deans are very excited about this process. In each model, we’d probably have to hire at least one new dean, but there’s also space for the current deans should they want to remain.

Danielson: Center- Model 2-Public policy. Why does it fit there?

Blackhurst: One of the points of the centers is to bring people together across colleges. Also, not necessarily what would be.

Tomko: This wouldn’t impact anyone’s current progress or major?

No

Tomko: What kind of impact could it have to have a major relocated to a different college?

Blackhurst: I do think this is more than just moving people around. But that’s not enough; we have to change other things to. It won’t penalize students in anyway.

3. Health 122: Alcohol and College Life

Blackhurst: We understand that students are interested in moving away from this requirement and to a requirement where all students take a freshmen seminar. There’s a task force forming that will have senators. The charge will be to figure out what it should be, look like, who will teach it, logistics.

Johnson: Would it be the same for credits?
Blackhurst: That’s something the task force would figure out.
Ehrlich: So are we set on a seminar now, or that just an idea? Is there still an option of keeping it an online course but changing that?
Blackhurst: Well,... I feel set on a seminar. I personally would need lots of strong persuasion that what we’re trying to accomplish could be done that way. I feel like face-to-face is kind of an important part.
Schwartzwalter: I like the seminar idea. My first year at UofM it was required in each college that provided a unique experience for freshman.
Danielson: I like the face-to-face too. The online thing is easy to forget about.
Pope: How are you going to decide who’s on the task-force?
Blackhurst: Flo will do it.

4. Budget Update
Blackhurst: I have hand-outs. I’ll tell you what’s in them. Keep them and Jean Holler will go over it with you next week.
University Budget- tell you what’s here, give time to look, and then questions next week. Budget gap- $2.5 million. Third column- FY14, FY15, trying to show what happens if we don’t solve it this year. Basically we’re asking universities, legislature, etc. to carry the bulk of the financial increase in our budget, but student tuition will have a share (3% tuition increase).
Ferguson: MSUSA supports the proposal from MnSCU. I have question about budget, with student fees we get to see a break down. Will we get a similar chart for tuition?
Edna: 80% of this is salaries. The majority of the cuts are by reducing salaries. We’re not hiring in some areas. No plan to lay off, but some things will not start happening. For example, no adjuncts to offer certain classes, or not filling retired faculty openings.
Schwartzwalter: Are we expecting a surplus for FY14/15?
Edna: It’s the system revenue on that one.
Peck: Is there any way we could generate more revenue? Even from just the community?
Blackhurst: I think there probably are and that’s something we’re thinking about in the strategic planning process. There’s the possibility, but we also have to cut our expenses. We won’t want to raise our tuition, nor will we be able to, it’s going to require innovating so we can do what we’re doing better in a less costly way. Fundraising is a piece of it too. The more we’re known for, the more people will want to invest in us.
Tomko: Is there a backup plan if we don’t get as much funds?
Edna: There is. We’re very fiscally conservative. Honestly, we don’t expect much from the legislature.
Schwartzwalter: When does the legislature consider requests?
Edna: We’re in the process of individually meeting with local legislatures to talk about our requests. This whole thing should be over by May.

5. Policy Review Process
Blackhurst: We are no officially in the informal process for the policies on the sheet I just passed around. Policy website is on the handout. You can review the drafts of these policies. Send your feedback and it will be incorporated in the review process. We’ll be back to two meetings in the spring to go over these policies. And this will be an annual thing now.

b. Mark Altenburg
Altenburg: I’m your representative on the City Council. Voting- thank you so much for a successful first year of our sub-precincts on the campuses. A word of warning: you are a sub-precinct, which is easily eliminated by the city. That’s not a threat, but it is the reality. We fought for a precinct, we didn’t get one. I already heard comment from city council that they expect participation to see a big drop-off. If that happens, sub-precincts can be eliminated. We need to keep participation high as much as possible. There is little desire to want you guys to participate. We have a very conservative city council. Parking- I want to get on campus and do a town hall. We wanted to go one full year and then do individual residential passes. If I give your landlord 2-3 passes for cars, we don’t think that you would get them. We have to figure out a way and we need your help with that. Another problem is that landlords were not providing enough parking. What’s coming next, we will begin towing cars. And those of you from the cities know the scramble that it will take. And when people start getting their cars towed, I’ll be here to take the abuse for that. We have to inform students. This area is a huge area. It’s gonna take us a year. MSP does it. We have to start doing it. Rental housing- the city is going to spend a $100,000 on a date base of every registered rental and violations. We’ll begin to identify everything. We are working to put up 75-100 student apts. With main floor commercial across the street from burger time. If we can get that done, that will get at least 400+ students living downtown and reinvigorate that to be a student area. City council has now embraced the idea that we are a college town. Multi-family housing south in town, turned to student housing. We talked last year about getting posters up for some way for students to know that we represent you and to call us.

Ferguson: If you sent them to us, we can put them up.
Anderson: I’ll throw something together.
Altenburg: Parking not up on our website.
Anderson: Is that up yet, because we can send out that link.
Ferguson: It’ll be more than an email, we’ll do flyers and such.
Ehrlich: Before we get the info on towing and stuff, we can right away start warning that you shouldn’t leave your car out over break.
Struxness: I think as long as we’re able to let the students be aware asap, it’s fair for the community.
Pope: I’m confused why people will be mad. Is it because we’ve never had towing before?
Everyone: Yeah.
Peck: From what I’m hearing, the city is lacking on their side to be clear with implementation.
Bernier: What about getting public safety to have an on campus lot over break that’s free over break?
Schwartzwalter: This might not be something really controllable by city council, but how is the policy of salting the seats?
Altenburg: I don’t know.
Awosika: What exactly should we tell people about towing?
Altenburg: I’ll get it to Tyler and he’ll get it to you guys.
Tomko: Wanted to talk about polling place on campus. When would it be evaluated if it would go?
Altenburg: I would guess after elections (mayoral elections) next year. I don’t think the mayor would risk that. I don’t think it would happen until probably MSUM is turning out a very small percent of people. I would say the real risk is
after 2014. 2015-more city council elections. If we start seeing 5, 6, 7% turnout on off year elections, that’s when questions will come. I would be concerned about off year elections. It needs to be something you pass on to senators. Don’t assume that this will continue. After that, 2020 with redistricting.

Beneke: Looked at the city website and it is very unspecific.

Anderson: 5th person on the lease thing has been kind of a big thing. It always affects that person who unknowingly got on the lease without realizing it. I wonder if the city can issue an ordinance that puts that responsibility on the landlord.

Altenburg: The only thing we could do is strip the license and that evicts all tenants. I’m concerned about how we make the landlords responsible- 34% of this community rents.

Anderson: For the pass thing, you should talk to public safety about how they do it here.

Altenburg: Well let’s get Lemke in front of the city and talk about it.

Anderson: There’s that K lot that doesn’t get ticketed. If we could use that lot.

Schwartzwalter: When is the next city council meeting?

Altenburg: Email Redlinger, CC Heidi and I, Mike Hulet and Brenda, asking specifically for info on the snow removal policy because students are going on break in three weeks. Next call Eric Burgess(Forum) and Mike Feely(radio?) and Rob something (unkown). Ask: Who can tow, when, how much is it, where will it be?

Ferguson: Recap of convo.

VI. Advisor’s Report
a. Advisor Boschee- not present

VII. Officer’s Reports
a. Secretary Bernier
   Tyler will be coordinating secret Santa.

b. Treasurer Danielson
   Danielson: SABC We’re down in requests so we have more money right now which is nice.
   Peck: Compared to years past, have Senates dished out as much?
   Danielson: I don’t have data from other years.
   Anderson: Anecdotally, no we’re spending more now than in the past.

c. Vice President Beneke
   Chairs look forward to an email with a doodle because exec will be meeting with each individually. To those that responded about alumni event, we will have a meeting next semester. For those that filed, good job. All that didn’t file, you have a new job and that is tabling. Everyone not running, you are going to be expected to table because we want to make sure students are voting.
   Awosika: Elections for what?
   Beneke: This body.
   Peck: Can we be more specific on who can table and who cannot?
   Beneke: If you can be voted on, you cannot table.
   Ehrlich: Thing, sign it.

d. President Ferguson
   Most of my work this last couple of weeks has been preparing for this meeting. I received an email from Jordan Saturday and she won’t be returning until the end of the semester. Getting people on Senate committees and having conversations
about where they see us going and what they like about what we’re doing. There
are two quotes.

VIII. Committee Reports

a. Academic Affairs Chair Newhouse
   It’s been a little slow cause of break and Model UN. Going to focus on working on
   our partnership with ASC and getting more attention for spring for those that
   need tutoring and such.
   Danielson: Survey results?
   Newhouse: No, I’ve been busy. I’m sorry.
   Danielson: Blackhurst wants to see them too.
   Anderson: Last year when they dissolved APAC, appointing student members to
   the curricular committees was AAs responsibility.
   Schwartzwalter: Still working with tri-College. Talked to Conteh and got a list of
   names of people to talk to. Trying to get more info on tri-college and figure out
   why it’s been disappearing.
   Peck: I asked my advisor about tri-college and she didn’t have much to say.

b. Campus Affairs Chair Pinneke-

c. Diversity Chair Ibrahim
   Meeting with MSUSA about event on study day. There was a speaker today but
   we apparently already missed it. Going to Power in Diversity Conference with
   ODI. Helping with set-up and taking things down.

e. Leg IA Chair Anderson
   Altenburg was here. Just a heads up. If you have questions about what he said,
   ask me or I’ll get you his email address. Bikeshare is going on, nobody really
   pays attention though. Feasibility study presentation study done today and I also
   have opinions.
   Peck: When do you see tabling for bikeshare.
   Anderson: We’ll sit down and talk.
   Awosika: I’ll help too!
   Schwartzwalter: What came of convo with Joe Herbst?
   Anderson: Well there were already a lot of wrenches in the program. Between
   the cost per dock, and how we’re going to pay for it efficiently, we’d need to find a
   consistent cost per year to pay for student subscriptions per year. I’ve kind of put
   it on the backburner since I’m applying for grad schools than monkey with this
   right now.

e. MSUSA Coordinator Bernier

f. Public Relations Chair Schaunaman
   Peck: Richa and I are reporting. Some results from campaign survey. 158
   responses. 97% who voted said they knew where to vote. 96% said they did.
   71% said they knew what was on the ballot. 89% want more info on the
   candidates. 41% want a practice ballot. 21% want more tabling.
   Nepuane: Been trying to update website and facebook page and pens are on
   their way.

g. Student Affairs Chair Savageau
   Appointments this week because of the change we’ve done on focusing with
   specific committees. Calendar committee is full. We might be taking on the
   listserv.
   Beneke: Discussion in future about senate taking on DragonNews listserv and
   being responsible for content and publishing the info each day. Will probably
   happen midway through Spring semester.
h. Election Chair Ehrlich
Elections are Monday through Thursday, CMU and Maclean. CMU- three computers. Getting computer for Maclean. You were all awesome with sign-up. We have all times filled. Will send an email so you don’t forget. You have to be there and tell people to vote. Will have posters to put around.
Beneke: Talk to IT for Maclean computer. Boschee will be gone so we may have to rethink idea for popcorn and such.
Schwartzwalter: I just like how you spelled it “MClean”

IX. Old Business

X. New Business
  a. Appointments
  b. Budget Report
     See budget
  c. Planning Workshop- tabled
  d. Student Payroll Check Discussion
     Ferguson: Basically business office wants to change student payroll to strictly direct deposits. They believe it will be more efficient, cost less, and be safer. The downside is that students will have to open a bank account.
     Struxness: The email makes it sound like a small number. It’d be interesting to know how many students are actually working on campus at this point.
     Ehrlich: I think that there should be an exception for international students and others who need to appeal it.
     Tomko: I think that paper checks are fine as it is. Having an opt-in would be ideal. A lot of people had to set up a different bank account in Moorhead because the one from back home doesn’t work anymore.
     Valdez-Delgado: I think it’s better the way it is right now. I want the check because then I have the paper record of it.
     Anderson: Lots of places will give the choice of direct deposit or putting it on a rechargeable debit card.
     Struxness: There was a big debate at Footlocker on whether we should do that. It wasn’t proven either way whether it would save money.
     Schwartzwalter: Can we know the amount of savings from it?
     Ibrahim: I think we should stick with the checks. For me, I’d have to open a whole new bank account to do stuff.
     Beneke: I’m opposed because it limits choice. Even if it is a small portion of students, there are still students with no bank accounts. Forcing them to use Affinity is not fair. And with international students, you’re forcing them to open an account here. It creates more problems than it solves.
     Savageau: Do we know how this affects international students?
     Neupane: I got it pretty easily. You can open it anywhere and it doesn’t matter. If you have a job you have a social security number. With pay stubs, you might get the checks too with direct deposit so they might still have to do it. At Sodexo, I have both, but at school I have a no paper system.
     Danielson: My pay stubs are online. You check them through e-services.
     Peck: International students: I was a SOC last year and I had to run students to Wells Fargo. They can access banks so will it solve problems by having everyone do it, maybe, but it causes inconvenience.
     McFarren: I’m curious if there’s any workshop type things for students to understand how certain banks work so they can shop.
Pope: If they don't have direct deposit, how are they cashing their checks? Don't they have to travel anyway, then?
Beneke: To me, regardless, if you say 15% don't have bank accounts, I think it disproportionately affects those that live on campus. The issue isn't this, but that you're forcing them to set up the direct deposit. You can cash a check just going to the grocery store.
Ferguson: We wouldn't be the first entity to do this. The state of MN requires it. But those are state employees.
Savageau: There are some students that can't open bank accounts. I don't think that to eliminate anybody and say they don't have a choice I don't think is right.
Danielson: We took a stance on Voter ID earlier this year. If you don't want an ID you shouldn't have to go get one. On the other side of it, I don't think it's a good thing to support unless they had a card opt-in.
Beneke: I'm scared about the debit card. I'm afraid we'd have to use Higher One and it depends on if they're gonna find a service. It would be a big fight for what service they use. We'd have to be careful with how we'd approach that.
Schwartzwalter: Are we looking to take a stance on this issue?
Ferguson: If we want to, we can. Jean Holler is coming in. I'll send her our questions and that a lot of us are against it.
Neupane: I think we could also look into why people are using paper checks.

f. Election Advertising bill
   Danielson: How'd you get $50?
   Anderson: She wants 50 posters. There about $1 each.
   (call to question: Schwarzwalter, Struxness) pass

g. Ballot Approval Motion
   Beneke: It's for the betterment of America
   (call to question: Danielson, Bernier) pass

h. Budget Approval Motion (call to question: Bernier, Valdez-Delgado) pass

XI. Points for the Good of the Order
   Anderson: Secret Santa e-vite.
   Ibrahim: Raul, Sheridan I need to see you.

XII. Announcements

XIII. Adjournment