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STUDENT SENATE CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE (SSCC) MINUTES

SEPTEMBER 20 2012

[These minutes reflect discussion and debate at a committee of the University of Minnesota Senate; none of the comments, conclusions, or actions reported in these minutes represent the views of, nor are they binding on, the Senate, the Administration, or the Board of Regents.]

PRESENT: Adam Matula (chair), Nicole Conti, Gyaltsso Gurung, Joe Inhofer, Vivek Nagaraj, Nate Schwab, and Moshe Volovik.

ABSENT: Brandon Breuer and Evan Vogel.

1. INTRODUCTIONS

Members introduced themselves.

2. CHAIR'S REPORT

Adam Matula said that he will be following up on the gender neutral housing item from last year as a possible topic again this year. He reminder members about the Senate Consultative Committee meeting later today and the Senate Centennial events planned for October 4.

3. STUDENT ASSOCIATION/ASSEMBLY UPDATES

Joe Inhofer said that RSA has met once but has no issues yet for the year.

Nate Schwab said that the first MSA Forum was held on September 18 and it had a record turnout due to the new MSA rules that allow more non-members to participate in meetings. Updates were provided on MSA programs, get out the vote and the Voter ID amendment were discussed, the World Fair is being planned for November this year, and Coffman is adding more charging stations.

Nicole Conti reported that all GAPSA positions are filled. A retreat was held last week in Duluth and restructuring continues for this year.

4. DISCUSSION OF SSCC/STUDENT SENATE ITEMS FOR 2012-13

- Voter ID Ballot measure
 - Student Senate should take a position as students will be disenfranchised and inconvenienced if it is approved
 - Students will need to do more to be able to vote
 - Graduate students are more settled in the community so it is less of an issue for them, but they would still support a statement
 - Racial minorities will also be affected
- Medical Amnesty for Students
 - There is no policy at the University so it may or may not be offered depending on who is involved
 - Policy should make this explicit to create a safe environment for reporting
- Support the U Day
 - Student Senate should be more involved and senators should be encouraged to attend
 - Better communication is needed

- Central knowledge base for graduate students to provide information on housing, food, insurance, funding, etc.
- Advisor relationships
- Advocacy
- Three period academic calendar
- Increase release of student evaluations
- Marriage amendment

5. APPROVAL OF OCTOBER 4 STUDENT SENATE AGENDA (ATTACHED)

The agenda was approved as amended.

6. ELECTION OF TWO SSCC MEMBERS TO THE STUDENT COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEES

Joe Inhofer was elected to one position.

7. OTHER BUSINESS

With no further business, Adam Matula thanked all members for attending and adjourned the meeting.

Becky Hippert
University Senate