

2010-11 UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

SEPTEMBER 30, 2010

STUDENT SENATE MINUTES: No. 1

The first meeting of the Student Senate for 2010-11 was convened in 25 Mondale Hall on Thursday, September 30, 2010, at 11:35 a.m. Coordinate campuses were linked by ITV. Checking or signing the roll as present were 29 student members. Chair Aaron Carlson presided.

1. STUDENT SENATE NOMINATING SUBCOMMITTEE
Approval of Appointed Senators
Action

MOTION:

That the Student Senate approve the appointment of the following Twin Cities student senators:

That the Student Senate approve the appointment of the following Twin Cities student senators:

Jade Beauclair – College of Education and Human Development

Maud Boateng – College of Pharmacy

Catherine Brumm – School of Dentistry

Elizabeth Collins – College of Liberal Arts

Tracy Dalluge – College of Design

Max Davenport – Carlson School of Management

Leah Dorschner – College of Liberal Arts

Dasha Grayson – School of Nursing

Takayuki Inukai – College of Liberal Arts

Adam Matula – College of Science and Engineering

Jessica Proskin – College of Liberal Arts

Stephanie Ritenour, College of Continuing Education

Phil Roban – Medical School

Wesley Sellner – College of Science and Engineering

Ashley Terrell – School of Public Health

TERRANCE PAAPE, CHAIR
STUDENT SENATE NOMINATING SUBCOMMITTEE

DISCUSSION:

With no discussion a vote was taken and the motion was approved.

APPROVED

2. INTRODUCTIONS

2010-11 student senators introduced themselves.

3. STUDENT SENATE ORIENTATION

Aaron Carlson, Student Senate and Student Senate Consultative Committee (SSCC) Chair, presented an orientation for senators. He walked them through a PowerPoint which detailed the history of the Senate, its committees, what to expect at meetings, Robert's Rules, issues from last year, and priorities for this year.

4. PRESIDENTIAL SEARCH PROCESS

Discussion

Ryan Kennedy, GAPSAs President and only student member of the Presidential Search Advisory Committee, stated that many aspects of the Presidential search process is confidential so he cannot say much besides the fact that the process is going well. While he is the sole student member, he serves to represent all view points. He realizes that what is good for students is also good for the University. The process will wrap-up this winter. Until it is finished anyone can submit comments through the website or send emails directly to him. He would like to hear comments from more students and ask senators to express them now.

Q: Are applications still being accepted?

A: He cannot answer that question.

A senator asked that the next president be relatable and able to walk among the students.

Another senator stated that the new president have strong values on environmental sustainability.

A senator said that advising improvements, faculty training, and a student handbook should be considered by the next president.

Another senator asked that the search advisory committee members remember that the president will lead a system and needs to put effort towards the coordinate campuses by building on the strength of each campus.

A senator said that the next president has to see the needs for all the schools.

Another senator stated that the new president needs to protect the research interests and grow the research interests.

A senator noted that the next president needs to bring unity to the campuses and align the goals of each campus with those of the University.

Another senator asked that the new president be reminded that this institution has five campuses but there is also a campus in St. Paul.

A senator asked that research regulations for graduate students be looked at since these students now feel rushed in trying to complete their research.

5. COUNCIL OF ACADEMIC PROFESSIONALS AND ADMINISTRATORS UPDATE

For Information:

Council of Academic Professionals and Administrators (CAPA) represents the professional class of 5200 non-unionized employees at the University. This class was started in 1980 and CAPA was formed as an advisory committee to the President. Academic professionals (P&A) have skills between civil service employees and faculty in jobs such as teachers, researchers, advisors, counselors, and extension service workers. Most people stay in this classification or move to a faculty position. P&A employees have some of the same benefits as faculty, but work on annually renewable contracts.

CAPA meets from 9:00-11:30 am the third Friday of each month and meetings are open to the public. CAPA consists of 40 representatives from campus units and colleges and has four committees: Benefits and Compensation, Representation and Governance, Professional Development and Recognition, and Communications.

Discussion:

Frank Douma, member of the Council of Academic Professionals and Administrators (CAPA), said that CAPA is transitioning to a P&A Senate. P&A employees will not receive the three-day furlough. Instead, while campus is closed, they will be expected to work from home. A focus this year has been to increase participation from all representative units. At the start of the year 25 percent of P&A were unrepresented but this has been decreased to 13 percent. Guests at the last meeting included Vice President for Research Tim Mulcahy and Ety Deveau, a P&A member on the Presidential Search Advisory Committee.

6. CIVIL SERVICE COMMITTEE UPDATE

For Information:

The Civil Service Committee (CSC) represents the approximately 5000 employees in this category which includes accountants, scientists, executive assistants, and administrators. The classification was started in 1945 with the passage of the civil service rules by the Regents. In 1984 PELRA was passed which allowed for the creation of a bargaining unit separate from civil service employees.

CSC is composed of fifteen members and several alternates. The committee elects a chair, vice chair, and treasurer each year, with the vice chair becoming next year's chair. Members are selected by a committee and appointed by the President to three-year terms. CSC meets the fourth Thursday of each month from 9:00 am-12:00 pm.

Discussion:

Frank Strahan, Chair of the Civil Service Committee (CSC), said that last spring the committee voted to become a Civil Service Senate so work is being done to achieve this transition by July 1, 2011. Another area of focus is the upcoming three-day system-wide furlough and making sure that employees know that this is happening. Other topics include advocacy, benefits, and compensation.

**7. STUDENT SENATE/ STUDENT SENATE
CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORT**

Aaron Carlson, Student Senate and Student Senate Consultative Committee (SSCC) Chair, said that he is arranging speakers for future SSCC and Student Senate meetings. The President is already scheduled to attend SSCC on October 21 and the Student Senate on March 31. He reminded senators that all meetings are open.

The Regents are meeting on October 8 to finalize the 2012-13 budget request to the state. He noted that senators can attend the meeting or review the tuition and fees being proposed for next year. The Student Senate can then coordinate its efforts based on this information.

He noted that attendance has been an issue. The Student Senate will continue to work on the excused absence policy for senators. In the meantime a calling tree is being set-up to remind senators of meetings as a way to increase attendance and retention.

Lastly, senators were asked to meet for lunch following this meeting.

8. ASSEMBLY/ASSOCIATION UPDATES

Crookston – Thomas Haarstick said that CSA finished its senator elections and they are excited to serve. Right now an all-campus forum is being held on strategic positioning and budget issues. A residence hall energy challenge is starting tomorrow through the end of the semester with the goal of reducing energy consumption by 10 percent.

Duluth – no report.

Morris – Mark Privratsky stated that MCSA has finished appointing students to committees. A retreat was held for new members. There is still an SSCC seat to be filled. They are looking to get student input on the advising process which is done by faculty. MCSA wants to evaluate how they are trained and how the system works. Student fees will be a future topic.

Rochester – Evan Doyle stated that a constitution is being written and the student activities board will hold its first meeting this week.

Graduate and Professional Student Assembly – Terrance Paape reported GAPSA had its first assembly meeting. The budget was not ratified but decisions were made on several coalitions. They are hoping to fund a Student Senate lunch sometime during the year. Bree Dalager then stated that there are two upcoming meetings for the Fees Request Review Committee which has been charged with review of the entire fees process including reserve balances, caps on amounts designated for staff, and how resolutions can be passed. An initial report was presented to Vice Provost Rinehart and is on the web. Feedback is being sought before the final report is due Monday.

Minnesota Student Association - Evan Symons noted that MSA's forum met Tuesday and the committees and budget were approved. He reminded Twin Cities undergraduate senators that they are also members of MSA and need to attend MSA forum and committee meetings. Two resolutions were approved, one on the delay with the Troubled Waters film and a second regarding the attack on the University of Michigan student association president for being gay by the state's assistant attorney general.

9. MINUTES FOR MAY 6, 2010

Action

MOTION:

To approve the Student Senate minutes, which are available on the Web at the following URL:

<http://www1.umn.edu/usenate/ssen/100506stu.html>

**STUART GOLDSTEIN, CLERK
UNIVERSITY SENATE**

DISCUSSION:

With no discussion a vote was taken and the motion was approved.

APPROVED

10. 2010-11 COMMITTEES OF THE STUDENT SENATE

Action

Student Senate committee memberships for 2010-11:

STUDENT AFFAIRS - Students: Silvia Canelon (co-chair), Adam Arling, Thomas Rozeske, Elizabeth Vose, 5 to be named. **Faculty/PA:** Joyce Holl (co-chair), Anthony Albecker, Christiane Bartels, Elena Machkasova, Thomas Reynolds, Carlos Torelli. **Alumni:** Nathan Pelzer. **Civil Service:** Thomas Bilder. **Ex Officio:** Kendre Turonie, Amelious Whyte.

FOR INFORMATION:

ACADEMIC HEALTH CENTER STUDENT CONSULTATIVE - Students: To be named (chair), Samantha Berget, Brandon Burk, Sean Corvin, Mark DeRocher, Grant Hennington, Erin Kasper, Megan Meyer, Eden Sonn, Daniel Stein, 8 to be named.

STUDENT COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEES - Students: To be named (chair), Silvia Canelon, Terrance Paape, Danny Spors, Evan Symons, 3 to be named

STUDENT SENATE CONSULTATIVE - Students: Aaron Carlson (chair), Bree Dalager, Thomas Haarstick, Jonathan Lundberg, Terrance Paape, Mark Privratsky, Evan Symons, John Worden, 2 to be named.

**JOANNA O'CONNELL, CHAIR
COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEES**

DISCUSSION:

With no discussion a vote was taken and the motion was approved.

APPROVED

11. 2010-11 SENATE AGENDA ITEMS

Discussion

Senators mentioned the following possible agenda items for this year:

- Work on legitimate absences for senators as well as increasing attendance
- Speakers at meetings should be relevant and informational
- Resolving MSA time conflicts and issues with participating in both bodies
- Increase events to advertise Senate positions and election participation
- More outreach and transparency in the election process
- Leadership development
- Increase interest in student governance
- Timing of meetings
- Conflict of interest policy not addressing students who are doing research

12. OLD BUSINESS

NONE

13. NEW BUSINESS

NONE

14. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 1:05 pm.

**Rebecca Hippert
Abstractor**