

[In these minutes: Reports, Senate attendance, Items for 2010-11, Approval of September 30 Student Senate agenda]

STUDENT SENATE CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE (SSCC) MINUTES

SEPTEMBER 16, 2010

[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: Aaron Carlson (chair), Bree Dalager, Thomas Haarstick, Jonathan Lundberg, Terrance Paape, Mark Privratsky, Evan Symons.

REGRETS: John Worden.

GUESTS: Shawn Friedland.

1. CHAIR'S REPORT

Aaron Carlson said that he has been planning speakers for upcoming SSCC and Student Senate meeting including President Bruininks, Vice President Pfutzenreuter, Chief Hestness, Tom Dohm, Donna Peterson, and each campus's legislative certificate program representative. If anyone has other suggestions, please let him know.

He said that he is watching the student government development at Rochester and looking at the October 8 Regents docket items which include the performance and accountability report and the state budget request.

MSA is considering using an advocacy tool called Group Interactive Network (GIN). 40 students leaders are already using it as a way to pose question and receive responses as an informal survey. He would like to consider using this for the Student Senate by identifying key people on each campus to be involved. Members agreed that it would be useful.

2. STUDENT ASSOCIATION/ASSEMBLY UPDATES

Evan Symons said that MSA held its first meeting and discussed new initiatives and stream-lined communications. No action was taken on the budget.

Terry Paape noted that GAPSA is working on initiatives to bring to the Senate and communications.

Mark Privratsky stated that freshmen elections are today. MCSA is co-sponsoring more campus events this year. A retreat is planned for this Sunday. Work is still being done on the technology fee allocation policy.

Jonathan Lundberg said that UMDSA's first Congress was last week. The taxi program is running again and is bigger than last year. They are partnering with the faculty union, UEA, and MPIRG to get out information on the governor candidates and are trying to arrange a debate in Duluth.

Thomas Haarstick noted that elections were held earlier this week for four open positions. An energy challenge is taking place between the campus residence halls to see which one can save the most energy.

3. REVIEW OF ITEMS ON THE SCC AGENDA

Aaron Carlson presented the Conflict of Interest Policy and Conflict Resolution Policy to SSCC for feedback prior to the SCC meetings. Members agreed that a student stance on either policy was not needed since they do not affect the large majority of students.

4. DISCUSSION OF SENATE ATTENDANCE

Aaron Carlson said that after some of last year's attendance issues he would like to try having SSCC call all senators before a meeting and then follow-up with senators who do not attend the meetings. Using this approach each SSCC member would have five senators to contact and it would be a personal contact within Student Senate for each senator. He would also suggest that all members consider a designated alternate for when they cannot attend a meeting. He would urge more involvement from senators with their student boards/councils.

To help with attendance at University Senate meetings he would like to encourage students to eat lunch together between the meetings and then try to get more student issues on the University Senate agenda.

Members agreed with these approaches.

5. DISCUSSION OF SSCC/STUDENT SENATE ITEMS FOR 2010-11

Members discussed the following issues for this year:

- Student will want to speak at the September 30 Faculty Senate meeting when the legitimate absence amendment for sick dependents is presented
- Legitimate absence for senators was not approved this summer and could be re-visited
- Tuition shortfall will be a huge issues including a proposed tax on students who do not graduate in four years

6. APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 30 STUDENT SENATE AGENDA

Members discussed the introductions and orientation session for the meeting, as well as lunch options, and then approved the agenda.

7. OTHER BUSINESS

With no further business, Aaron Carlson thanked all members for attending and adjourned the meeting.

Becky Hippert
University Senate