

[In these minutes: Updates, Responsibilities of Student Senators, Guidelines for Committee Chairs and Members, Potential 2006-07 agenda items, September 28 Student Senate agenda]

STUDENT SENATE CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE (SSCC) MINUTES

SEPTEMBER 14, 2006

[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: Joshua Beiningen (chair), Jeni Kiewatt, Anthony Kouba, Daniel Moore, Bree Richards.

ABSENT: Will Kusch, Leslie O'Leary, Trent Senenfelder.

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Joshua Beiningen welcomed members to the first meeting of the year and introductions were made.

2. CHAIR'S REPORT AND UPDATES

Joshua Beiningen stated that he attended a SAC meeting yesterday, which is the Student Advisory Council to the Minnesota Office of Higher Education. Being discussed was recent lobbying in Washington D.C. on the issues of student debt, increasing pell grants, and lowering the student loan interest rate. The lobbyist will be returning in spring, at which time they would like someone from the University to attend.

SAC is also working on a textbook task force, of which Bree Richards is the University member. They are also hoping to organize a debate in October on student debt with broadcasting to all institutions.

Bree Richard said that MSA and GAPSA are already working on a governor's candidate debate. Most details have already been finalized.

Joshua Beiningen then said that he is meeting this Friday with the CAPA and CSC chairs as a way to increase communication and to invite them to attend the first Student Senate meeting.

On the issue of student evaluations, he has been informed that the new student release questions will not be printed until the four mandatory faculty questions have been revised and approved. He needs to talk with the subcommittee about their timeline and then will provide that information to the committee and senators.

3. REVIEW OF RESPONSIBILITIES OF FACULTY SENATORS

Joshua Beiningen distributed a sheet on responsibilities of faculty senators and asked if the same guidelines should be applicable to student senators. The committee then revised the guidelines to reflect student needs and it was approved as amended.

4. REVIEW OF GUIDELINES FOR COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND MEMBERS

Joshua Beiningen distributed a set of guidelines for committee chairs and members. The guidelines were approved.

5. APPROVAL OF MSA MEMBER APPOINTED TO SCC

With no MSA members present, this item was tabled until the next meeting.

6. DISCUSSION OF POTENTIAL 2006-07 AGENDA ITEMS

Members discussed the following list of potential agenda items for this year:

- Relevant campus association/assembly resolutions should be brought to the Student Senate for action as well
- What is next for strategic positioning
- Student evaluation follow-up
- Housing concerns
- Aramark and Coke contracts that expire in 2008 and social justice element in contracts
- Student Conduct Code changes and the timeline
- Joint meetings with CAPA and CSC

Members then discussed the schedule of SSCC meetings and whether some business could be transacted via email instead of meeting. Members noted that while email exchanges can be hard and in-person dialogue is often preferred, the committee should not just meet because there is a scheduled meeting. It was agreed that the current schedule would be maintained. A call for agenda items would be made the week prior to the meeting and meetings would be cancelled the Monday of the meeting week if there was no business.

Members then discussed which items of business go to the Faculty Senate versus University Senate and how reports get made to different groups.

7, APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 28 STUDENT SENATE AGENDA

The agenda was approved as presented.

8. OTHER BUSINESS

With no further business, Joshua Beiningen thanked all members for attending and adjourned the meeting.

Becky Hippert
University Senate