

[In these minutes: Updates, Student Evaluation Questions, March 3 Student Senate agenda, Letter from SSCC to SCEP, Future Lobbying, Strategic Planning for Academics, Vice Chair Election]

STUDENT SENATE CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE (SSCC) MINUTES

FEBRUARY 17, 2005

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

PRESENT: Nathan Wanderman (chair), Rubens Feroz, Taquee Khaled, Jamie Larson, Cati Popp, Colin Schwensohn.

ABSENT: Josh Breyfogle, James Kanten, Seyon Nyanwleh.

1. CHAIR UPDATES

Nathan Wanderman updated the committee on several meetings he is having with administrators:

- Mary Koskan to discuss student release questions on the one-stop site
 - Was told that there is no money to make these changes at this time
 - When item was discussed with Craig Swan, he like the idea so the project got a higher priority
 - One-stop advisory committee also supports this effort
 - Schedule is to have the changes in place for Spring 2006 registration
 - Next year's Student Senate will need to monitor
- Susan Heegaard, Minnesota Higher Education Services Office (HESO)
 - Discussed student lobbying thus far, and what else is needed
 - Explained student position on state grants
- Craig Swan
 - Supports revisions to teaching evaluations and the one-stop site
 - Discussed changes to APAS report to have requirements for all majors included
- Emily Hoover, Educational Policy Committee (SCEP) Chair
 - Letter that was sent was the committee's opinion and not her personal opinion
 - She agrees with SSCC
 - Asked that SSCC's questions be forwarded to SCEP

2. APPROVAL OF REVISED STUDENT EVALUATION QUESTIONS

Nathan Wanderman read a revised set of student release questions, after receiving input from SSCC members and Emily Hoover, SCEP Chair. Following revision by the committee, Nathan Wanderman stated that he would email the final draft to SSCC, SCEP, and a survey expert for

feedback. They will then be placed on the March Student Senate agenda for approval before going to the University Senate later this spring.

3. APPROVAL OF MARCH 3 STUDENT SENATE AGENDA

Nathan Wanderman presented the agenda for approval. A member asked about the Mount Graham resolution that the Student Senate discussed in December. The committee discussed the merits of forwarding a resolution on a topic that has been decided versus expressing sentiments from the Student Senate on the issue. Nathan Wanderman asked Taquee Khaled to tailor the resolution to topics following the Summer 2004 audit. Taquee Khaled agreed to work on the resolution and have it ready for distribution the week of the Student Senate meeting.

With no further comments, the agenda was approved as amended.

4. APPROVAL OF LETTER FROM SSCC TO SCEP

Nathan Wanderman distributed a draft letter from SSCC to SCEP on the topic of student release questions. He said in a recent meeting with Emily Hoover, SCEP Chair, it was determined that the letter expressed the committee's sentiment, not just the chair's. Since SSCC has devised a new set of questions, he wondered whether the letter also needed to be sent. A member stated that the letter was a formal response, on the record, to the previous letter and should be sent. Following further discussion, it was decided to revise the SSCC letter to serve as the introduction to the proposed student release questions.

5. DISCUSSION OF FUTURE LOBBYING

Nathan Wanderman asked members if SSCC should focus on any other lobbying at the state this session. After a marginally effective meeting with the Governor's staff member, the next targets would be the chairs of Senate and House Higher Education Committees. Should anyone else be included? Is it worth the effort to contact the chairs if most budget decisions have already been made at the committee level?

A member suggested lobbying members of the joint committees and working on the biennial budget request.

6. DISCUSSION OF STRATEGIC PLANNING FOR ACADEMICS

Nathan Wanderman said that the University is in the second phase of its strategic planning and actual idea plans are being proposed. This process is in two groups, academics and administrative. Both groups will present their recommendations to the President in mid to late March. If members have any ideas for these groups, please email him by Monday.

7. VICE CHAIR ELECTION

With most coordinate campus members not at the meeting, Nathan Wanderman proposed that the election be handle via email. A request for nominees will be sent with a response deadline of

midnight on Sunday. A ballot will be distributed Monday morning, with votes needed by midnight Monday.

8. OTHER BUSINESS

With no further business, Nathan Wanderman thanked all members for attending and adjourned the meeting.

Becky Hippert
University Senate