

**Congress Agenda**  
**April 22th, 2019 | 6:00 pm**  
**LSBE 118**

- 1. Call to Order 6:03**
- 2. Roll Call**
  - a. We have quorum.
- 3. Approval of the Agenda**
  - a. Sam moved, Ayah seconded.
  - b. Unanimously approved.
- 4. Approval of the Minutes**
  - a. 4/15/2019
  - b. Marissa moved, Abdi seconded.
  - c. Approved: almost all, abstention: one
- 5. Introduction of Guests**
- 6. Dr. Erwin**
  - a. Corbin: Update on Academic Records Fee
    - i. The fee amounts are set and will be submitted to the Board of Regents for approval at their June meeting. Non-degree students will be charged a \$75 dollar fee. All full-time students will see a \$75 dollars and new students will have a \$100 fee.
    - ii. Jonathan: How would that work if a student transferred?
    - iii. Corbin: It works throughout the University of Minnesota system. It's portable.
    - iv. Spencer: Does this still cover the diplomas?
    - v. Corbin: It's supposed to yes.
    - vi. Noah: How much does it cost the office to maintain these records?
    - vii. Corbin: I don't know but we had minutes from last time and you should be able to go back and check. In september!!!!
- 7. Speaker's Spotlight**
  - a. Thomas: Any comment on the reporting form that I sent out?
  - b. Ayah: I would want more options for clicking both report and discussion item.
- 8. Old Business**
  - a. Election of Associate Speaker of Congress
    - i. Suzanne: I nominate Jonathan, Ayah seconded. Jonathan accepted.
    - ii. Thomas: Tell us about yourself Jonathan!

- iii. Jonathan: I'm a sophomore looking forward to my second year at UMD. I am a transfer student from Winona. I will be only a part time student next spring but would like to fill this position.
- iv. Annie: What do you see the position as?
- v. Jonathan: This position leads COC but mainly supports Thomas. If Thomas ever gets sick I can lead SA. I would write things on the board if Thomas gets sick.
- vi. Griffin: What makes you qualified?
- vii. Jonathan: I've been in SA for four, no three full months. I have seen what Ayah has done in this position. I have been to a University Senate Meeting.
- viii. Sam: Do you feel comfortable holding people accountable?
- ix. Jonathan: I have an older sister so yes.
- x. Teddy: Do you believe yourself to have legible handwriting?
- xi. Jonathan: \*writes on the board.
- xii. Eli: What do you see as your greatest weakness? What is a weakness you have in this position and how do you see yourself overcoming that -ness?
- xiii. Jonathan: Public speaking is my biggest weakness and I want to get to know all of you to better that skill.
- xiv. Discussion

b. [Senator Reform Resolution](#)

- i. Sam moves to bring to floor, Griffin seconds.
- ii. Sam: \*Read Whereas
- iii. Sully: Now that you're cutting C then D should become C under Article IX.
- iv. Spencer: Is removing the Senate director committee reducing the role of director? What I mean is what is the senate director supposed to do that's important? Why does that position exist?
- v. Sam: They sit on SSCC and other university committees as well.
- vi. Vote: In favor: 15, opposed: 0, abstention: 2

c. Open Positions

**9. New Business**

a. [Academic Affairs Committee Membership Resolution](#)

- i. Sam moves to bring to the floor, Sully seconds.
- ii. Sam: Thomas recommends that I bring people together for committees. This creates section C.
- iii. Sam: \*Read whereases.
- iv. Annie: I'm worried that this would be putting a big burden on the committee members.
- v. Spencer: I don't think we have to put this in the bylaws because you would highly recommend this and we pick who are on committees. It already gets complicated who sits on committees.
- vi. Sam moved to table, Sully seconded.

1. Unanimously in favor.

b. [Bylaw Amendment Resolution](#)

- i. Ayah moved to bring to the floor, Marissa seconded.
- ii. Ayah: I want to remove unnecessary events regarding External Affairs. If you look at Article XII there is a list of the events we want to do and lists who has to do them. We should add events that are required to different people under their headings.
- iii. Ayah: \*read whereases.
- iv. Annie: I'm concerned if you cross these off what will they be replaced with? Second, I'm concerned that these events would be beneficial? Third, I think handing out pizza is "getting in the community"! What will we do to replace these?
- v. Ayah: The beauty with not having that specificity in the bylaws will give me more freedom to do what I specifically envision my position as. This will allow flexibility for the leaders after me to do what they are passionate about.
- vi. Suzanne: You said that the life after the dorms event we weren't successful at, so why don't we use that as an opportunity to be better and build on our weaknesses. I think night walk is really important for UMD and we should be involved. Why don't you add your initiatives and I think there is plenty of time to do these events and add more.
- vii. Ayah: KPB already does life after the dorms and I don't see it as befitting to my role.
- viii. Annie: I think when you say I want to change the bylaws because that is how you interpret them that's a slippery slope.
- ix. Neal: A lot of your complaints are that these events weren't beneficial but we can do better if we try.
- x. Sam: I worry about getting rid of these events.
- xi. Jon: I know that t
- xii. Abdi: Life after the dorms was one of the bigger things and so I'm really worried about getting rid of them. I think we can turn it into anything we want and improve on it.
- xiii. Spencer: I would recommend that we get rid of this section entirely if we wanted to really go over this part of the bylaws. This section gives people a roadmap but not a good one. We either need to get rid of this section entirely and have a separate binder or just crossing out specific instances which is not helpful.
- xiv. Noah: Since your job is about lobbying then these events seem like they fit better under Student Life. I think that giving each officer more freedom it would be beneficial:

- xv. Alex: I think a constitution and bylaws shouldn't have very specific details like this and we should have separate binders. Maybe require a certain number of events per semester and giving more freedom to the officers.
- xvi. Jordan: I agree with Alex in setting a minimum number of events.
- xvii. Jonathan moved to table, Suzanne seconded.
  - 1. Unanimously tabled

## 10. Discussion

- a. Freshman Elections - Eli Sailer-Haugland
  - i. Eli: I saw that students who have less than 30 credits are able to vote/run in freshman elections and I think this is not fair to students that took a lot of credits in high school etc. One solution that I think would work would be to allow everyone to apply for freshman representative position and during the freshman elections if there is a freshman student with over 30 credits allow them to cast a paper vote.
  - ii. Griffin: I believe you talked about this last semester and I think one of the things we ran into was that we don't have the information access. I wonder how many people it affects overall.
  - iii. Eli: I think that we would need to advertise this to people running for freshman representative.
  - iv. Corbin: This is a philosophical question? Who do we want in Congress to be representing as "freshman representatives"?
  - v. Jon: I don't think that students who took PSEO credits should be able to vote as a freshman representative.
  - vi. Eli: My main concern is not letting students with less than 30 credits to vote.
  - vii. Courtney: I had to be a PSEO student and come here to graduate and I think it's unfair not to let them vote.
  - viii. Hollin: People with PSEO and AP classes are not allowed to vote because they have 30 credits already?
  - ix. Eli: According to the University a freshman is a student with 29 or less credits.
  - x. Hollin: Basically you're looking at students who want to get involved but can't because of students would be able to now vote.
  - xi. Annie: I think the credits stops transfer students from running for first year representative.
  - xii. Marissa: I think that we will be circling the drain if we focus on the credit thing. We should look at their graduation date.
  - xiii. Spencer: We don't have access to all of that data.
  - xiv. Jordan: Could we contact ITSS and see what information we could get?
  - xv. Eli: I would like us to investigate what we can get but this could take a lot of time as well.

- xvi. Dakota: I think that we need to draw a big venn diagram and see what freshman have in common.
- xvii. Smyth: We can not pull high school graduation but we can pull entry term and see when they started UMD but UMD PSEO would have technically already entered and that would be troublesome.
- xviii. Eli: Based on our limited information our only possible solution is credit wise. Is anyone interested in investigating with me?
  - 1. Marissa, Sully, Alex, Jon, Dakota, Courtney, and Shane.
- xix. Jordan: I think there should be an appeals process where you could apply to vote/run.
- xx. Spencer: How many credits did you have when you finished PSEO?
- xxi. Courtney: Some of my friends graduated with 40 credits after they were done with high school.
- xxii. Spencer: When I was Rules & Elections person only three people reached out to me saying they couldn't vote. I think that having a true freshman to college is important for the experience.
- xxiii. Nate: If you're coming into college with 30+ credits you have put your time into that.

## 11. Governance Reports

- a. Strategic Enrollment Management (SEM)
- b. Assessment
- c. Facilities
  - i. Jon: Waiting on an email.
- d. Liberal Education
- e. Athletics
- f. Strategic Planning and Budget
- g. Student Experiences (SE)
- h. Teaching and Learning (TLC)
  - i. Library Course page in Canvas (Matt Rosendahl)
    - 1. An opportunity to deliver library materials directly into your course
    - 2. Implemented in every Canvas course starting Fall semester
    - 3. Automates access to Course Reserves and Research Guides
    - 4. Puts a library presence into every online course
      - a. Drop-down menu in the left-hand navigation when on Canvas Library Course page
    - 5. Can be e-books, links, scanned books
    - 6. [z.umn.edu/librarycoursepages](http://z.umn.edu/librarycoursepages) for more questions
  - ii. Campus objectives and Key Performance Indicators Discussion
    - 1. Approved the Instructor and Student Responsibilities Policy
  - iii. Academic Writing and Learning Center

1. Exploring 5-week study skills and classes

i. University Coordinating Council (UCC)

**12. Executive Reports**

a. Chief Student Life Officer - Annie Counihan

i. Community Cleanup:

1. If anyone wants to come to the Kirby Garage at 10 to help plan out routes for the Community Cleanup, please come see me after Congress or email me: couni017@umn.edu.
2. Please don't forget that Community Cleanup (11 in Kirby Garage) is MANDATORY for everyone!!!! If you can't attend, please email Stine and me. The only people I have excused are Griffin, Josh, Nate, Ayah, Sully, and Jade.

ii. Thank you to everyone who came out to DAMH, we had a really great conversation regarding the future of Band Together; if you are interested in furthering this campaign, please contact me about future ideas and events for Band Together.

b. Chief Academic Affairs Officer - Sam Shepherd

- i. Late Night Library Sunday May 5th and Monday May 6th, everyone is required for one night, cabinet is required both nights. Set up starts at 8:00, event starts at 9:00. Planning to do fruit/donuts/muffins like last semester.
- ii. Met with Thomas Wednesday to discuss position in depth along with Corbin this morning.
- iii. HUGE plans for Academic Affairs next year
- iv. Sam: LNL will be required for both nights for my committee and one night for everyone else. Set up at 8 and starting by 9.

c. Chief External Affairs Officer - Ayah Abuserrieh

d. Chief Financial Officer- Griffin Bryan

e. Freshman President- Dakota Schmaling

- i. Dakota: I hit the bottom of the W curve and I wanted to renew my commitment to SA and let everyone know I am sorry for letting everyone down.
- ii. Eli: I don't think there is any need to apologize.
- iii. Dakota: I don't like to make excuses and I just wanted to be here to admit my failure of doing my duties. These are not excuses, it was my fault and I should have reached out.
- iv. Spencer: It is very honorable for you to stand up and admit your fault and moments of weakness. I appreciate your honesty and I want to let you know that we are all here standing behind you to hold you up instead of hunt you down to punish you.

f. Rep. to the Board of Regents- Allie Ulland

- i. [Shadowing Proposal](#)

- ii. Allie: Now Spencer will be doing the reports so I would like to yield my time to Spencer.
  - iii. Spencer: Some of you remember this from previous years and as this soft transition I agreed to help Allie to deliver this report in order to learn about my knowledge and still give you access to Allie's knowledge. \*explains board of regents.
  - iv. Allie: \*draws on board. This has been happening on the TC campus but we'd like it to happen on other campuses as well.
- g. President- Neal Bhakta
- i. Orientation Leaders
  - ii. Bulldog Beginnings
  - iii. Lyft and Uber Update
    - 1. Neal: Alec Kemp has been helping out and he will be here next week with an update.
  - iv. Lobby Days are set:
    - 1. Neal: Duluth and St. Louis County Days - March 18th and 19th, 2020.
  - v. Article
    - 1. Neal: There has been an article that has been posted complaining about rioting students in canal. Even though you might be done with your schoolwork on Friday nights it is important that we all remember that we are advocates for UMD.
    - 2. Spencer: Do you think that you could use this as an opportunity to send out a campus wide email?
    - 3. Neal: I'm currently trying to figure out the best way to address this.
    - 4. [Link for article from NEAL.](#)
    - 5. Discussion
  - vi. They "Why":
    - 1. Neal: Why do we do what we do? I think that we need to keep this in mind for future initiatives. We need to get back to the basics and think about why we do events.

### **13. Director and Student Personnel Reports**

- a. Public Relations - Jade Hipp
- b. Bulldog Taxi -
- c. Senate Director -
  - i. Sam: We need one.
- d. Diversity & Inclusion - Marissa Sievert
  - i. Marissa: ODI is trying to get feedback on how well they did in different categories.
- e. Rules and Elections - Sully Pearson

- i. Sully: With people changing positions in office please reach out and talk to other students that would like to run for these. If anyone would like to talk about moving to different positions I would love to talk about that.
- f. Systems Administrator - Eli Sailer-Haugland
  - i. Eli: I am not yet trained so if you need to send any edits please email Jefrina. I will be trained next Monday.
- g. Sustainability -
  - i. Neal: We received two new applications and will review tomorrow.
- h. Chief of Staff- Stine Myrah
  - i. Stine: Don't forget to read the minutes and things sent out by the speaker because they are really important. Please fill out the form I sent out last week with the minutes on which "big four" committee you would like to be on. A couple people still have to fill out the contact sheet (Gunnar, Noah, Jordan, Courtney, Hollin, and Cole) but I would recommend you all go back to it and add people's phone numbers into your phones because it is a great resource and then when you need to get ahold of someone it is already on your phone.

#### **14. Advisor's Minute**

- a. Jon: What's up with the penguin?
- b. Corbin: Sigmin is the Gamma Sigma Sigma version of the Balla.

#### **15. Open Announcements**

- a. Neal: Any birthdays?
- b. Sam: The guidelines that Mike and I were working on are now posted to the chancellor's guidelines.
- c. Nate: I found the document about the document fees. It says cost per document.
- d. Neal: Tav at 9?
- e. Abdi: CLA got a new Dean. Jeremy Ude (spelling?).

#### **16. Balla Award**

- a. Nate: Thank you Neal, very honored to receive this award from the President. This Balla goes to Thomas who has held lots of positions and is such a friendly face in Congress.
- b. Spencer: Will the Balla be making an appearance at the midnight shift at Kwik Trip?

#### **17. Adjourn**

- a. Ayah moved, Suzanne seconded.
- b. Unanimously Adjourned