

Student Senate Consultative Committee (SSCC)
March 23, 2018
Minutes of the Meeting

These minutes reflect discussion and debate at a meeting of a committee of the University of Minnesota Senate; none of the comments, conclusions, or actions reported in these minutes reflect the views of, nor are they binding on, the senate, the administration, or the Board of Regents.

[In these minutes: Discussion of Student-Police Interactions and the Philosophy of the UMPD; Approval of the Docket for April 5, 2018 Student Senate Meeting; Endorsement of Two Organics Resolutions; Discussion of Student Code of Conduct Expungement Process]

PRESENT: Shantal Pai (chair), Aleksander Holleran (vice chair), Adi Penugonda (ranking student representative), Nick Ames, Matthew Berg, Ruby Debellis, Austin Evenson, Taylor Cronen, Brianna Hanson,

REGRETS: Sydney Elliott

ABSENT: Ethan Johnson, Allie Ulland

GUESTS: Matt Clark, chief of police, University of Minnesota Police Department (UMPD); Katie Jackson, director, Office of Student Conduct & Conflict Resolution, Division of Student Life, University of Minnesota Duluth

OTHERS: Vickie Courtney

Chair Shantal Pai welcomed the committee, and members introduced themselves.

1. Discussion of student-police interactions and the philosophy of the UMPD - Pai introduced Matt Clark, chief of police, University of Minnesota Police Department (UMPD). Clark gave an overview of some of the activities the UMPD does each semester including coordination efforts with system campuses. They conducted a public safety check-in last week with all of the system campuses, said Clark. This included reporting in on various initiatives occurring at each campus, shared events, protests or demonstrations, and the various tactics used to keep these events safe. They also have a public safety partners group that meets each semester which includes individuals from the Aurora Center, University Relations, and Traffic, Transportation and Parking Services.

Currently, said Clark, UMPD is holding several events on campus including an annual spring NERF football game for students and officers as a fun way to get to know each other. Police Week is the week of May 7th where they will have an open house and tours. Self defense classes will begin again this spring as well as active shooter courses for faculty, staff, and students. UMPD puts on about 30 of those courses per year on the Twin Cities campus alone.

This spring, they are not experiencing a lot of changes in security issues. UMPD plans to team up once again with the Aurora Center for Sexual Harassment and Assault Awareness month. This includes a “Cops and Coffee” event that is held on the bridgehead of the Washington Avenue pedestrian bridge. Along with that, they are holding a “watch where you are going” awareness event so that new students are especially aware of bikes, skateboards, and other traffic related hazards they may not be used to.

The Super Bowl LII week was very busy for the UMPD. During that time, a hostage situation occurred at the Graduate Hotel on campus that lasted for about 40 hours. During that event, UMPD did not want to shut down the campus as a whole. The individual was eventually apprehended with no injuries to anyone and he was charged with kidnapping. This involved a lot of tactical logistics from neighboring jurisdictions. As for Super Bowl related activities themselves, the University hosted the NFL Honors award program. UMPD also partnered with state and federal authorities to offer military escorts for the Philadelphia Eagles football team who were practicing at the Bierman sports complex. Clark stated that he felt UMPD did a good job of handling the extra traffic load around campus. These events did not cost the University anything other than the time of officers, the NFL covered all costs. Clark continued that with Minneapolis hosting the NCAA Final Four next spring, he will be traveling to San Antonio, Texas to assess what they are doing for this year’s Final Four and see what tactics can be applied to security for next year.

Clark also spoke about the efforts that went on with UMPD and the event featuring a presentation by speaker Ben Shapiro. He stated that if a student group sponsors a speaker, the University has a policy in place that they must be allowed to present and speak on campus. The UMPD allows the event to take place and the University absorbs those charges associated with staffing the event. There was a perception that the University and UMPD were defending the views and opinions of the presenter. The fact is that the University and UMPD have to allow any presentation to occur. UMPD has no position on the message, their job is to make sure it is safe and everyone is allowed to speak. They are bound legally to allow these presentations to occur and make sure that anyone protesting the event do so in a safe manner. This sometimes involves adding other officers from other law enforcement agencies. The UMPD has a mutual aid agreement to not charge for extra officers from other agencies. The University can pick the location, date, and number of people allowed to attend, based on their security assessment.

Finally, Clark said that there have been no huge spikes in crime around campus. He said that there are about 4000 violent crimes committed per year in the city of Minneapolis. About 10-15 of those crimes occur on campus. He felt those numbers are pretty good when you consider the proportional size of the campus related to the city as a whole. When there is an incident on campus, the UMPD has an alert system in place to text or call University individuals to let them know about the situation. This system was used for the hostage situation and it came to light that many people had some problems with the system, notably the phone calls at about 4:00 a.m. Clark said that the phone call option was added for ADA reasons and that individuals could opt out of that option if they wish.

Pai asked how UMPD works with other local jurisdictions as well as system campus police departments. Clark said he doesn't specifically work with system campuses, but does meet with them at conferences. UMPD goes to the system campuses to help them when requested but they typically work with local police departments. Pai asked what UMPD does when asked for assistance by system campuses. Clark said that they offer resources, usually technology such as speakers, cameras, and card readers. Sometimes specialized personnel are loaned to these agencies as well.

Brianna Hanson said that some students have issues when seeing a uniformed police officer and that it can trigger panic attacks when they see officers around camps in uniform. She asked if there was anything the UMPD could do about this, perhaps have officers in plain clothes at engagement events, such as "Cops and Coffee." Clark said that the community engagement team wears polos and khakis, however, officers must wear the uniforms. Many of these officers are on active duty and there are several legal and liability issues requiring those officers to wear a specific uniform. These requirements stem from Supreme Court rulings regarding officers not identifying themselves well enough. He understands that people have reactions to the uniforms but the liability is too great to not wear them due to these laws. Some investigators will wear "soft clothes" or civilian attire when speaking to witnesses and in order to better relate to victims, otherwise officers are in their industry standard blue uniform with a badge and other markings clearly visible.

Matthew Berg asked if Clark thought that student apprehension about police was more about the fact that they are identified as police personnel or by the actual uniform itself. Clark said there are standards that must be in place like having a visible badge, display of names and agency, and the typeset of the word, "POLICE," that are all set by state statute and the Police Officer Standards and Training (POST) board. Essentially, an officer needs to be a walking billboard for who they are and who they represent. Pai asked if the officers at the "Cops and Coffee" event are on duty. Clark indicated that they are. Holleran suggested that perhaps at events like that, an officer could perhaps change for the event only to make it seem more welcoming. He continued that the point of community engagement is to try and make those personal connections. Perhaps that change would be more beneficial for these events specifically.

Pai asked how students at Morris, Crookston, and Rochester can engage with their local police departments effectively. Clark suggested that students talk to the campus administration to find out who the liaison person is to those departments. Every campus has someone in that position. The local departments will routinely hold a series of meetings to discuss events around campus.

Holleran asked if the UMPD enforces the University's Student Conduct Code. Clark said no, however, if a student is arrested, they will report it to the Office for Student Affairs. So the UMPD might generate a report, but they don't enforce the code. Pai asked a similar question but in regards to sexual assault. Clark stated that they only investigate the criminal side of a sexual assault. But they do provide victims of sexual or relationship assault information on resources that the campus provides for dealing with such a traumatic event.

Berg asked if UMPD will be using military type security for the Final Four like it was used for the Super Bowl. Clark said they will probably not need that type of assistance. Governor Dayton offered the use of the National Guard for the Super Bowl but that will unlikely be needed for the Final Four.

2. Approval of docket for April 5, 2018 Student Senate meeting - Pai introduced a draft docket for the April 5, 2018 meeting of the Student Senate. The items were as follows:

1. Administrative Response to Senate Actions (Information)

● **Resolution on revisions to the parental leave policy for graduate students**

Approved by the Student Senate: November 3, 2016

Administrative Response: PENDING

● **Resolution on expanding on-campus childcare**

Approved by the Student Senate: November 9, 2017

Administrative Response: PENDING

● **Resolution on measuring and maintaining adequate campus mental health services**

Approved by the Student Senate: March 1, 2018

Administrative Response: PENDING

2. Student Senate Nominating Subcommittee - Approval of Appointed Senators (Action) (11:30-11:32 a.m.)

Shantal Pai, chair, Student Senate Consultative Committee and Student Senate

Motion: *That the Student Senate approves the appointment of the following Twin Cities student senators, as selected by the Student Senate Nominating Subcommittee:*

OPEN, CEHD (DeMers)

OPEN, CLA (Yarina)

OPEN, Pharmacy (NA)

OPEN, Humphrey (Garrett Smith)

3. Minutes for November 9, 2017 (Action) (11:32 a.m. - 11:34 p.m.)

Shantal Pai, chair, Student Senate Consultative Committee and Student Senate

Motion: *To approve the Student Senate [minutes from March 1, 2018](#). Please send any suggested edits to kwap0003@umn.edu no later than noon on April 3, 2018.*

4. Assembly/Association Updates (11:34-11:47 a.m.)

5. Student Senate/Student Senate Consultative Committee Chair Report (11:47 - noon)

Shantal Pai, chair, Student Senate Consultative Committee and Student Senate

6. Senate Committee on Student Affairs Chair Report (12:00 - 12:10 p.m.)

Brianne Keeney, chair, Senate Committee on Student Affairs (SCSA)

7. Academic Health Center Student Consultative Committee Chair Report (12:10 - 12:20 p.m.)

Ari Lederman, chair, Academic Health Center Student Consultative Committee (AHC SCC)

8. Letter in Support of “New Expectations: The 2017-18 Student Representatives to the Board of Regents Report” (12:20 - 12:50 p.m.) (Action)

Aleksander Holleran, vice chair, Student Senate Consultative Committee and Student Senate

Ruby Debellis suggested adding some wording to the letter in order to make sure that it is clear that marginalized communities are important and because they have been underserved in the past. These populations should have facilities that are accommodating to them in every way.

Debellis and Aleksander Holleran approved of the wording mentioning the Morris campus and its service to Native American populations. Holleran stated that some members of the Social Concerns committee are thinking about expanding that program so that Native Americans could have the same privileges at all campuses in order to better fulfill the University’s land grant mission.

Committee member suggestions were incorporated into the letter as follows:

April 5, 2018

*President Eric Kaler
Office of the President
University of Minnesota
220 Morrill Hall
100 Church St. SE
Minneapolis, MN 55455*

Dear President Kaler,

As part of our continued commitment to system-wide governance, we, the Student Senate, write to you today to express our support for “New Expectations: 2017-2018 Report of the

Student Representatives to the Board of Regents” (henceforth referred to as the report). The report aligns with the Student Senate’s vision for our campus. This year we have advocated for routinely-evaluated, data-based allocations of child care and mental health funding. A prescribed system that integrates funding for these critical services into the fabric of the University’s administrative and governance processes is essential, not only because it makes a better university for our students, but also because the student vision for our university is bigger than basic services. The report captures the greater vision in its discussion of improving diversity and inclusion efforts, evaluating student data-privacy policies, improving the process for credit-transfer within the system, and encouraging socially responsible contracting. In short, we envision a university that is a global leader through forward-thinking policies that enhance learning and encourage student success.

Considering the strong academic programs and student services offered through our system, we know our vision can be realized. Each of our five campuses offers unique educational opportunities which benefit our state and students. We believe that strategically supporting individual campus excellence while developing policies and systems that promote collaboration is the best way to build a strong University of Minnesota system. The report is consistent with this vision and emphasizes critical areas for policy change and investment to support excellence.

While the University of Minnesota has strong academic programs on all five campuses, it is exceptionally difficult to transfer credits from one program to another. In some cases, even introductory classes or liberal arts courses do not transfer within the system. This barrier makes it difficult for students to take advantage of system-wide course offerings which could strengthen their program of study. As senators, we have heard this concern repeatedly. Students at the Twin Cities want an agronomy program with a strong biology component, but are unable to take advantage of the strong biology program at the Twin Cities and the agronomy program at Crookston. Duluth has a strong water resources program which Morris struggles to offer to their environmental science students because of their location; a program of study between the two campuses would be better for student success and result in future state leaders with a breadth of understanding of statewide ecosystems. Students want to be able to capitalize on the many exceptional programs in the University of Minnesota system, and credit transfers between programs as discussed in the report are one way to meet student interest in several academic disciplines or topic areas.

As we work to develop strong academic programs, it is important to support diversity in the University. The University of Minnesota student body and faculty are consistently non-representative of the state. This does a disservice to our state, which benefits from a highly educated workforce in all communities, and a disservice to our graduates who will

seek jobs in a global market that values diversity and cultural understanding. We must commit to serving marginalized communities in accessible ways as part of our educational and land-grant mission. Morris can serve as an example here, with their strong programming in Native American Studies and commitment to engaging the Native American community. To serve these marginalized communities well, departments and programs will need spaces to thrive and academic programs that celebrate and support an understanding of the community. Our facilities must be accessible as possible regardless of ability, and serve students of all gender identities and ethnicities. As the report says, additional funding allocations to support existing programs will be critical to future growth in this area.

This evolution in academic programming must be joined by a parallel improvement in data privacy policies that address the changing technology students use. While students care about data privacy, they often trust that the University will protect their data. In many ways, the University does an effective job of preserving privacy. Student academic data, visits to the Aurora Center, and meetings with academic advisors are all protected in a way that truly supports student success. However, because the university typically does an excellent job of protecting data, students often fail to realize the way their personal data is used. Things like addresses, phone numbers, and student status are all publicly available unless a student chooses to opt out. While this brings benefits for collaboration, it also leaves students unprotected. In fact, in addition to publishing such personal data, the university website that houses personal data is not even protected from bots that automatically collect data. As senators, we have started discussing the personal data privacy policies with students, and consistently find that students are unpleasantly surprised by how little the University does to protect their data. We strongly support the recommendations made in the report surrounding data privacy, and believe the relatively small changes suggested will be a significant improvement on the current system.

Finally, the report discusses the growing student concern about socially responsible contracting. Students care deeply about the ways the University contracts on our behalf. We regularly hear from students who are concerned about being forced to spend their money with companies who are known for human rights violations, environmentally unsustainable practices, or discriminatory treatment of employees. Just last year, we discussed and passed a resolution requesting that Aramark either change their unethical business practices or that the University contract with different food vendors. Students were excited by this resolution, and we had an astounding turn out from students who are not involved in student governance at the senate meeting where the topic was discussed. While socially responsible contracting is certainly an ambitious goal, the reports suggestion for including it as part of the review process is an elegant way to include the importance of ethics, while also allowing for necessary flexibility in contracting. The University is can be a leader by integrating

ethics, along with other important considerations, in contract decision-making.

We, the Student Senate, offer our complete support of the report. The topics were chosen in consultation with student senate leaders and student senators, and are based on an ambitious vision for the University. We want to emphasize that, while student services funding for mental health, child care, and sexual assault resources were not included in the report, this is not evidentiary of a lack of student concern on the topic. Rather, the omission comes because of a commitment for change from University administration and the Board of Regents and student advocacy for integrating resource allocation for these services directly into the administrative process. While we continue to develop a sustainable program for effectively providing these resources to our students, we also yearn to dream big. The report does just that by painting a picture of what students envision for our University.

Sincerely,

Shantal Pai

Chair, Student Senate

On behalf of the Student Senate

cc: Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota

Julie Christensen, deputy chief of staff, Office of the President

Vickie Courtney, director, University Senate Office

Jason Langworthy, board associate, policy & committees, Board of Regents

Lyle Peterson, policy coordinator, Office of the President

Brian Steeves, executive director and corporate secretary, Board of Regents

9. Old Business

10. New Business

11. Announcements of Senate Interest

12. Adjournment

Pai made a motion to approve the docket for the April 5, 2018 Student Senate meeting. **A vote was taken and the motion was approved unanimously by the committee.**

4. Endorsement of Two Organics Resolutions - Pai introduced the following resolutions and spoke about some of the changes that have been made since the last time the committee discussed the topic:

An Act in Support of Compostable Food Serviceware for the Campus

The University Senate Social Concerns Committee urges the University of Minnesota to require all food vendors, caterers, and food services working on campus to use compostable or reusable, instead of disposable, food serviceware.

COMMENTS:

It has been determined that between 25 and 30% of the University's Municipal Solid Waste consists of organic material capable of being composted, translating to between 2300 to 2700 tons annually. The University has an existing organics collection program that is currently recovering 1200 tons of organic material from 17 food service locations and 11 Research Animal Facilities. This tonnage represents roughly half of the total potential. The other 1200 tons is spread through the remaining buildings on campus from food related activities ranging from individuals' lunches to events on campus.

Aramark, the University contracted food service vendor, has made the conversion from disposable food serviceware (plates, cups, utensils, etc.) to compostable serviceware, but many of the food service items currently used by caterers and national brands and contracted vendors on campus are disposable and aren't acceptable for composting. Distinguishing between compostable and disposable food serviceware by appearance is not easy for most people to do. This makes it difficult to collect organic material compatible with the standards of local composting facilities, which require "clean" organics (i.e. only certified compostable materials accepted).

Having all compostable food serviceware on campus would greatly simplify the educational and promotional message to the campus community and help get the University of Minnesota closer to a zero waste campus (>90% recovery).

Furthermore, the University saves \$47 for each ton composted (\$25 per ton) instead of disposed as trash (\$72 per ton).

The committee recognizes that ideally, all serviceware would be reusable. However, this is not realistic in terms of cost or operations.

This resolution is proposed in conjunction with the resolution of An Act in Support Organics Recycling for the Campus. The two resolutions work together to move the University in the direction of sustainable waste management.

Approved by the Social Concerns Committee, 3.27.2017

Endorsed by the P&A Consultative Committee, 12.7.17

Endorsed by the Senate Committee on Faculty Affairs, 12.12.17

Endorsed by the Civil Service Consultative Committee, 2.15.18

Endorsed by the Senate Committee on Finance and Planning, 3.18.18

An Act in Support Organics Recycling for the Campus

The University Senate Social Concerns Committee urges the University of Minnesota to promote organics recycling across the system through the intentional adoption of methods that support increased diversion of compostable material from the waste stream.

Recycling collection methods have increasingly evolved to support a more sustainable environment. At the University of Minnesota, centralized collection through the “Quad System” is perhaps the most recognizable method whereby individuals are responsible for disposing of their waste in the appropriate container, rather than relying on deskside collection. This resolution is promoting the expansion of the Quad System to include an additional container for Organics to allow individuals to dispose of their organics waste. In addition to centralized collection, this resolution urges the promotion and implementation of additional methods across the University system that are appropriate to the space and consuming community that promote the diversion of contaminated matter from the recycling stream.

COMMENTS:

The current recycling rate has been stagnant on the Twin Cities campus at 42% and a recycling rate of greater than 50% is achievable. However, the current custodial collection process of collecting deskside trash, but not deskside recyclables, makes waste collection more convenient than recycling, and as a result, favors disposal over recycling. Centralized collection puts the responsibility of handling waste/recycling into the hands of the generator at the University.

The recent pilot studies from Donhowe and the Food Ops Building using the centralized collection model yielded recovery rates greater than 65%, and a survey of pilot building participants found that 85 out of 90 respondents said that they were now recycling organics at work. The same number believe it is extremely or moderately important that the University has a comprehensive organics recycling program.

Since the development of centralized collection on the Twin Cities campus, other institutions and universities throughout the country have adopted similar approaches (University of Vermont, West Virginia University, University of North Carolina at Greensboro, Western Michigan University, Duke University and many others), and the State Capitol Complex has recently implemented a new recycling system in which centralized collection is a component.

This resolution is proposed in conjunction with the resolution of An Act in Support of Compostable Food Serviceware for the Campus. The two resolutions work together to move the University in the direction of sustainable waste management.

Approved by the Social Concerns Committee, 3.27.2017

Endorsed by the P&A Consultative Committee, 12.7.17

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Pai opened the floor for discussion and questions about the two resolutions. Austin Evenson asked if the resolutions would be applied system wide. Pai stated that it would apply system wide. Debellis said that Morris is already using these sorts of materials and there are barely any garbage cans used in dining spaces. Evenson said UMD is basically in the same situation. Hanson echoed those facts for the Twin Cities as well.

Hanson had concerns that not all caterers that are used by the University provide this sort of serviceware. Also, even though the University uses compostable materials, it does not have an adequate composting program. Pai said that she would forward those concerns on to the author of the resolutions. Vickie Courtney, director, University Senate Office, informed the committee that this resolution would not be going to the University Senate for a vote until the May 3, 2018 meeting. The reason for the delay is to give system campuses time for more input.

Holleran asked if there would be further opportunities to amend the language. Pai and Debellis suggested that they hold off on voting on endorsement of the resolution until the next meeting to see any recommended changes from the system campuses. The resolutions were tabled and no vote was taken.

5. Discussion of Student Code of Conduct Expungement Process - Holleran introduced Katie Jackson, director, Office of Student Conduct & Conflict Resolution, Division of Student Life, University of Minnesota Duluth, to discuss the new process of expunging violations of the Student Code of Conduct from their University records. Jackson stated that this change was in response to many concerns from students and alumni. Many were upset that these records were getting in the way of their overarching goals. The process is meant to be educational in nature and encourages students to learn from mistakes. It is not meant to hold them back later in life or as they enter the workforce. In the legal system, individuals can sometimes go to court and have some of those records expunged, but the University had no process for doing something similar.

Jackson said that she reached out to other universities across the country. She also included many individuals from across campus who were engaged in matters regarding student life, as well as many of the deans of the colleges. This collaboration took place over the summer of 2017. She then put together an application for students to use to get a record expunged. Record expungements would not apply to more serious sanctions such as suspensions or expulsions. Once a student fills out an application, her office looks at the types and frequency of violations on that student's record. They take into account actions the student may have taken to remedy the situation and demonstrate what they have learned and how their actions may have changed since the incident. They also look at if the student has had any involvement or made any contributions to the campus and community as a whole. A student must wait at least 18 months or three academic semesters after the incident occurs (whichever is longer) to file for an expungement. Jackson then takes the matter under consideration and makes her determination. If

the expungement is denied, the student may file an appeal. Currently, she is planning to launch the program at the end of this academic semester.

Pai asked about the possibility of expanding this program to the rest of the system. Jackson said that she has talked about the program with Sharon Dzik, director, Office for Community Standards, and said that they already do expungements and have some processes currently in place in the Twin Cities. For example, for students that engage in academic dishonesty, they can have their records expunged by participating in the Academic Integrity Matters (AIM) program. She opined that in order to expand her particular process to system campuses, it would require the buy in and adoption from each campus's conduct staff. It can really depend on the size of the campus and having the capacity to process these requests. Pai asked if this was a formal policy change. Jackson said it was not a policy change, but a process change. Hanson asked if violations of housing conduct are separate from violations of student conduct. Jackson stated that at UMD, those violations are recorded the same way.

Holleran said the reason he wanted to bring this process to the committee's attention was to see if this could be applied system wide. Several members of the committee thought that it was a great idea and came to the conclusion that it would be most appropriate for members to reach out to their campus's conduct staff and provide information about Jackson's process. If it required a system wide policy change, members of the committee could work with Jackson to bring that forward to the administration.

Hearing no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Chris Kwapick
University Senate Office