Montana State University  
Associated Students of MSU Senate  
SUB Conference Room 235  
October 22nd, 2015

Meeting called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Senate Speaker, Joshua Soares.

Minutes recorded by Senate Secretary, Mackenzie Johnson, and Director of Operations, Marianne Brough.

Roll call - Campbell, Dove, Dufner, Glose, Howell, Jones, Lacy, Leach, Lynn, Manley, Marts, Miller, Murdoch, O’Keefe, O’Leary, Oswald, Sanders, Soares, Stimac, Windham, Zoltek

Absent - Chapman

Approval of Minutes

Howell - Move to approve (seconded)

Minutes Approved

Public Comment – None

Presentations – Ryan Diehl Director of Outdoor Recreation

I am here to provide an informative presentation on the outdoor boulder. You had the first reading last week. I am here to notify you of the process. Currently we are undergoing program expansion under our plan. We conducted student research in the fall of 2013 and at that time we decided we wanted to be an educational center for outdoor enjoyment. Dr. Jordy Hendrix, director of the MSU snow and avalanche laboratory brought forward to me the loss of an MSU student, Olivia Buchanan, who was an avid climber and skier and from this we decided to expand the outdoor recreation program in her honor. A lot of programs on campus have expressed interest in funding this project. A large amount of students stated in the survey that they came to MSU because of the easy access to the mountains and outdoor activities. A vast majority of people were avidly participating in outdoor activities. This plays into our identity and culture as well as our branding scheme. Bozeman is getting this sort of press and MSU is capitalizing on this press. My role as director is to drill a little bit deeper and ask tougher questions like how much do we as an institution value outdoor activities and adventure. In spring of 2013, I found that we were not very invested in our outdoor equipment expenditures as compared to other institutions near us. Our peer institutions were offering a lot more. I looked at our current facility and compared it to other institutions climbing walls. An outdoor climbing boulder at CSU was installed outside their new rec center. They value outdoor adventure enough to have one in their swimming facility and a 55 foot high climbing simulation. The outdoor boulder is classified as playground equipment to CSU so it falls under parks and rec insurance. It is open 24 hours a day and supervised during special events only. University of Idaho has a 55 foot high climbing simulation, University of Nebraska has a two thousand square foot outdoor climbing wall, and university of Montana has a 55 foot high climbing wall, bouldering area, and a roped and lead building. Bozeman has undertaken a bouldering initiative. There are six around town. I was asked to compile why an outdoor boulder would be a low cost addition to our
climbing facilities and I think this will bring the outdoor spirit we are trying to capture in a physical way and engages and inspires more students. It will help facilitate classes and workshops and be the 7th boulder in the city limits of Bozeman. With the new residence hall Roskie beach has the potential to be a really great place. It will bring many different user groups together. We have the boulder placed at the corner of outdoor rec and in my opinion that is not the best location but we are trying to work through it. We have dreams in phase two to implement a Nordic trail around the boulder and the field behind outdoor recreation. We are deciding between option one and two for location due to the high density housing coming soon. Also close proximity to intramural fields. The design currently includes two architecture students. Stronghold manufacturing is in the plan to build it. The projected costs are estimated at $35,000 for a medium boulder and $45,000 for a large boulder. Size is project dependent but surface area is key rather than height. Where it stands right now is this project needs help. I hope to procure senate, residence life, and general student population support. We are still searching for funding for this project because the current amount is zero. Outdoor recreation plans to put money down for this but we will need to get more support rallied in order to move forward with finding forms of payment. I appreciate your time.

Campbell – About the location, will the spirit of the west marching band still be able to rehearse in that area?

Diehl – Yes

Manley – Will there be groundwork done and what is the price for that included

Diehl – They are landscaping this area already so hopefully the groundwork dollar amount will be minimal. I’d like them to prep for this while they are already out there.

Cowles – I think those costs are negligible compared to the actual price of the boulder

O’Leary – Will the boulder have interchangeable hand holds?

Diehl – CSU has those and they say bees are making nests in them so to keep down on cost and maintenance probably just regular natural handholds

Glose – Does Bozeman bouldering initiative have plans to fund some?

Diehl – They reached their goal of five in Bozeman and have been disintegrated since

Dufner – What are the two spots?

Diehl – Roskie beach and by the new residence hall

Dufner – I didn’t know if it was going to be space saving to make room for volleyball courts

Diehl – Oh definitely space saving and near other sporting venues

Cowles – They are taking into factors such as sound pollution. The time for this with the nearing completion of the new residence hall is soon since the landscaping will be done in the spring and summer. We want to get on it if we want to consider it as a part of that project.

Dufner – I thought they removed the plans?
Cowles – Last week one existing court was eliminated but I believe they added another elsewhere.

Rebecca LaSalle – Campus Entertainment Director

Hi everybody this year started off with a couple hiccups and we are moving forward strongly. Just so you know next week is a local folk rock band performing in ballroom A from 8 – 11 pm and games for more introverted people so we are trying to gather a wide variety of people. It’s the same night of the Shinedown concert but this will be a free alternative. Hunger games is coming up soon so keep that in mind. Students can test out the rec center for the night with Ron djing. We are working on a concert with the innocents post skiing with hot chocolate. February 15th is the highest suicide day so February 14th we have the bent bones coming in as a safe and fun alternative. The battle of the bands is April 16th and not everything is planned out but it is on the calendar. If you have questions or concerns please come talk to me I don’t want a communication gap and I’d be happy to work out any issues.

Diane Donnelly – Director of University Studies

Thank you for having us we are happy to be here. I will give you an overview of what we do and as you know, advising starts now for spring semester. Emily Edwards, my college will also be joining us. We are in Gaines hall room 130 for freshman and sophomores. This is our 5th floor in this location and our student traffic doubled as soon as we moved here. We are a program that helps students explore options for the first 30-45 credits. We also help students who are in degree transition. We offer courses such as university studies 101. Emily directed that for a number of years and I did that before her. We have special advising for advisors, orientation leaders, and students. Students in university studies are at all levels such as honors students and small school students without a lot of access coming in. our number of students has remained constant at 1200 and the freshman number has dropped a lot from fall of 2004 at 30% to fall of 2014 at 17%. We know 2/3 of all graduates do not graduate in the major they started with. It is not realistic to know what you want to do at 18 or 19.

Edwards – What we try to do with our students is work with them one on one. We want the students to find the curriculum that fits them. This helps them balance their life outside of school and find their passion in the world. We want them to carefully pick every course and enjoy them or use them to find something they do love. We don’t want them to take something too easy or too rigorous. We want to connect them to resources beyond advisors. We value when students become involved on campus. Often times through these activities students discover who they are and who they want to be. Ideally, we want students to declare at 30 credits. At 45 we bring them in to hopefully declare. 93% declare 2nd or 3rd semester. A lot of our students find that they want to help others and work with people. It is common to see a lot of business and health and human development.

Donnelly – For a long time about 15 years people declared engineering and that held constant. Students have found they have a lot of experience with people and tend to lean more that way with a degree later on. It serves a need for certain types of people. This will shift slightly over the years but it remains pretty constant. Our retention rate is below the MSU one for graduates. I wouldn’t say our students are at risk but they are looking to explore their options. Open M-F 8-5. About 50% of those are not our majors, for the reasons that students are considering many majors, or faculty may not understand their core, minors or other experiences. 670 hours of advising provided by 9 advisors in the spring registration week. Advising services include general advising include majors, minors, CORE, training and support for all advisors. Specialized advising services include: students in transition, premed intake majors, prelaw,
COE-X Engineering exploration for students below pre-calculus math levels, summer start and non-degree, national student exchange. High numbers of advising visits in nursing, mechanical engineering, business, and cell biology and neuroscience. Many of these students come for advising because they are considering changing majors. 2/3 of students at MSU change their major. Peer Leader classes are very rewarding and a great leadership opportunity. They are the home of the public speaking course, and conduct supporting courses like Intro to Law, Career Connection, etc. classes that are one credit supplemental options. Outreach to campus includes workshops and trainings, host a workshop luncheon training, sit on the curriculum approval committee and emphasize having enough places for everyone to have chemistry, writing, and math core classrooms. All the background work that it takes to teach classes, it is a giant puzzle.

Soares - Can you elaborate more on COE-X?

Donnelly - What to help students within the college, don’t want to try to talk them out of that college but our goal is to help them understand the right fit through initial classes that work towards their major. And want to offer an advisor who can help them find another fit if it is needed. Similar process for premed students who are struggling with developmental math. We carefully advise them to take classes that will give them the experience of what is required to succeed in those classes and sometimes students adjust their majors.

Dufner - Is Core 2.0 here to stay? Or are they revising.

Edwards - Dr. Walker is reviewing it but he is on sabbatical at Harvard so it is on hold.

Cowles - It is clear that you are helping student who really need you to develop their plan. Are there pitfalls in terms of funding or administrative services that you need to fulfill you role?

Donnelly - Some of my answer is personal, and some is my experience from national issues on campuses. At MSU often feel like we need departmental advising to help build relationships, but MSU is growing so rapidly that departments do not have enough advisors. During the heavy advising months we are bringing back retired advisors or bringing in part time. At Georgia State they have 60+ advisors in their advising center and students shift to department only their senior year. There is a movement on campus to provide for professional advisors, who can be experts, but there is no departmental funds to support. We have found that student want to talk to an advisor and explore, and in departments where there are such huge numbers of students, they often only get 5 minutes to talk. We would like to see the creation of more professional advisors.

Campbell - Civil engineer, we have faculty advisors who fill the gap. One thing we have been pushing is peer advising. Could that help fill the void?

Edwards - We have our peer advisors meet with students before they meet with an advisor to help with things like technology options degree works, add/drop classes, etc. We use our peer advisors to give advice and feedback and to help with processes, but we want everyone to have access to a professional advisor too.

Donnelly - Faculty advisors are helpful and wonderful. The best model is first few years student should have professional advisors and then once they are into their major for their junior and senior years they would have an appropriate faculty advisor.
Zoltek - Next semester we are working on doing an event in the ballrooms with the target audience of freshmen and sophomores, inviting them to talk to upperclassmen, in an activity like speed dating. They can talk to other students and see what majors they like and get advice about making that decision. Maybe do it with a Valentine’s Day theme “falling in love with your major”.

Cowles - Your vision for ideal advising sounds like a positive way to approach student’s choices and development, fits with my experience of quality advising. What obstacles are we facing now with moving towards that model? What do we need to make that shift?

Donnelly - It’s going to take a culture change on campus, it will take buy in from the university community, and it will take financial resources. If student support were behind it that would help. There are really strong pockets of advising across the campus, we are trying to share those best practices out. The progress moves slowly though, we still have another decade to catch up.

Cowles - Would your department lead the charge to help change the way we do advising? People are falling through the cracks, many freshman and sophomore students.

Zoltek - One of the things that we could do is share more information about the advising center.

Cowles - I would love to meet with you after this meeting.

Dufner - Is there a plan to move to Romney?

Donnelly - That is not currently the plan. Gaines has been effective for us, but from what we hear there is no room for us in the building.

Edwards - We are trying to do more outreach to help students know that advising and registrations happening. We will have an info table by ask us, one in dining room and miller.

Donnelly - We would love to work with you and looking forward to working with you in the future.

Stimac - Move to advance unfinished business before admin reports.

    Vote 17-1, motion passes.

2015-R-10 Second Reading - Support or the Construction of the ASMSU Outdoor Recreation Climbing Boulder

Glose – Move to approve (Seconded)

Howell - Friendly amendment to correct Erin Murdoch’s name to the correct spelling of “Murdock”. Accepted.

Glose - Friendly amendment, line 18. Add Dean Aytes to the list of people to include.

Stimac - Accepted.

Manley - Shouldn’t we get the support of the students before we offer our support?

Windham - We are the voice of the students, so when we support something we demonstrate that approval. That is our job.
Soares - Referendums are great but we are the voice of the students.

Howell - Talk to your constituents as we are reviewing and considering these issues. Talk between first and second readings to your people to take that time to gather information.

Lacey - Question for sponsors, is Outdoor Rec the final entity that heads the collaboration. Are they in charge of the construction and final version of the project?

Jones - It is my understanding that Outdoor Rec is spearheading the effort and they will be the point organization for time.

Motion passes, resolution approved.

Admin Reports

Birky - EWB Jubilee is tomorrow. Need to follow up with people who are attending. Have 2 spots left at the table tomorrow, $60. Lynn will come with a plus one. Taskforce meetings happened this week, impressed with the leadership and vision of the groups. There is an admin member on each team, please report updates until they are concluded. Please work to accomplish tasks. Working on a rapid action team for student retention and graduation. We are within 8% of our 2019 goal for graduate rates. If you have any ideas, advice, or suggestions please share with me. MOR board meeting today, bringing exhibits from Pompeii and will try to get tickets. Faculty Senate voted down the Hospitality Degree 16-12.

Zoltek - They are offering coursework in many majors that correspond to this exhibit. We are one of only 3 universities that get to see this exhibit.

O’Keefe - I am working with the foundation director for the MOR fundraiser, so if you are interested in getting involved please contact me.

Manley - I had students approach me about the implementation of a traditional dead week. What is happening on that?

Birky - Looked at the option with the Registrar’s office, one of the options is reading days, instead of a whole week.

Brough - Cat/Griz viewing party

Capp - 15 people are attending MAS from UofM. Please show up to 6pm Nov 18th so that we have positive turnout. Please keep in mind that we ought to dress up during that week, a good idea is no jeans. We will be filming a promotional video to challenge UM for Can the Griz. With emails, please remember to respond. It is too difficult to track you down individually, please respond professionally in writing. Met with most of our program directors and liaisons this week, please check in with them this week. Everyone seems to be doing well, we are handling concerns. Passing out the bar cards for the Latenight Streamline. Met with Steering Committee and Sub Safety Advisory Committee. Had a campus climate presentation, asked that Ariel Donahue come present to Senate. MSU made Bloomberg news this week to address student debt and the response rate was positive, taking out $1300 less than other
students. University of Tokyo is visiting this week, please be welcoming. They are professional administrators who are learning about new careers and are interested in how we work here.

Cowles - Trying to put a point of sales system at the front desk for credit card and debit cards system and improve the accountability of our program payments. IT guy is taking a leave of absence, now looking to accomplish it in February. Making a new project to help improve the spreadsheets for budgeting, it is time for updating it. We talked about paying our new chief justice position, there will be a funding request to pay that position in November for your approval. Finance board will meet next week, have students at large, but have no faculty representatives because they are degenerates and have not stepped up to help despite our efforts. New accounting reports will be available to periodically review finances every several months. Kudos to Maria for getting those done several weeks early. We have been talking for the past several years about hiring a consultant to help us revise our metrics and improve the quality of our practices. We need to evaluate and improve our programs to provide the best for students. Our student body has significantly grown since we last evaluated our programs, if you are interested in being involved, please come talk to me. This is in just the idea phase. Outdoor Recreation boulder could use rapid response from us

Soares - We appreciate your extensive knowledge on this topic. Please speak with the liaisons about the details of this issue.

Cowles - This is a big deal that will require a large amount of money. Please come talk to me about it.

Kirby - First meeting, likely next Tuesday. Birky will do the oath of office for us on our first meeting, rather than have everyone attend again. Appreciate Derick for attending our meeting today. We are working on integrating all of our bills passed over the years into the bylaws.

Soares - Tokyo students will be in for lunch times and coffee hours, please speak with them. I am seeking volunteers for 8th graders. Please be respectful of our student furniture and take care of our offices.

Dove - Ethics taskforce met and we decided on co-chairs Glose and Jones. Funding board applications approved, including the purchase of goats for slaughter for the Nepali group.

Taskforce Reports

Jones - Met on Tuesday, Ethics Taskforce met and plan to organize the code into different stages including preamble and organization. Assigned group members to research other codes of ethics. Would like to turn the taskforce into a committee eventually.

Leach - Alcohol wanted to focus on reviewing the draft report and hoping to have draft positions on the report, university council is scheduled to vote on this Nov 4th, seems too early, trying to move it back. Reviewing AlcoholEdu evaluations. We are also working on moving forward with the Sub Pub plan, maybe with some pilot events.

Zoltek - Speakers forum taskforce for funds $1000 from a donor to feature student co-curricular engagement. Assigned members to research and brainstorm for more concrete ideas.
Campbell - Co-chairing with O’Leary. Put a big board on campus with a question for student’s opinions and respond to the students in some way with feedback.

Senate Reports

Howell - We all went and saw Repeat Offenders exhibit at Exit Gallery. New name for Upheaval is the MSU Art Market Nov 3rd 10am-5pm student art for sale and a good way to meet constituents. Next show at Exit Gallery is Happy Place, Happy Waist. Reception Nov 29th lets go as a group.

Lynn - Sat in on the Not in Our House task force. Nov 17 at Gains 101 and there is a movie screening on Oct 25th.

Campbell - Regarding student outreach, if you have ideas, please email me or O’Leary. I am sitting on the library spaces and tech committee. If you have any ideas for the library please share with me. I am very excited for the EWB Jubilee.

Windham - Had lunch with Chapman at the Daycare. We had fun and enjoyed eating lunch with them and it was a cool experience to talk with Mary. One of their teacher’s husband is very sick, they have been struggling to keep everything together. They are busy at the Daycare, but doing well.

Glose - UFPB meet with an update on the parking garage, set to be complete Jan 2017. Construction of the building to begin October 2016. Construction will continue, we will keep you updated. Expressed support for the name of the new residence hall as “Yellowstone Hall”. UFPB improving their system for how they could gather feedback from students and stakeholders about improvements.

Marts - Zoltek and I are working with the Exponent to make reference list of contacts for the Exponent. It will offer names and contact information on topics that may come up in the news, to help them get the best information for their reporting. If you have ideas or information that we ought to have we would like your input.

Lacy - A possible quick win for us could be renter’s rights and renter’s literacy. We have many ideas and I would like to help move it to fruition. Next Thursday, we are planning to meet with the Cromwell’s to talk about ideas that we could develop. Looked into UM’s website and they have many resources we could model. Can the Griz is going on Nov 7th-21st, we will be making videos to challenge people to join the cause. We would like you to consider helping. Make a video, show your support like the ALS challenge videos. Invite your Deans to make a video before Nov 6th. Make a clip yourself, there are scripts and props available to help. You can sign up to volunteer to host a table, sign up on the spreadsheet for times that you can sign up.

New Business

Leach - Move to add 2015-R-11. We are going to the Presidents executive council on Monday and they would like to know how we feel about it.

Campbell - Do you intend to vote tonight?

Windham - Why wasn’t this on the agenda? This isn’t enough time
Capp - We only heard about this issue this week. We took the time to get this on today, just hoping to take a small moment of your time to approve it. We got this information on Monday afternoon from Pres Cruzado’s office.

Kirby - Things like this that are in the public interest, we should have these items on the agenda so that students and the public have opportunities to talk about it and vote on it.

Dufner - Can we add it to the agenda? Is that still a valid thing that we can do?

Windham - We owe it to the public to give them an opportunity to let them discuss it

Kirby - Montana code public participation policy 2-3-01. Participate in university positions, we are the last one listed in section H. We have rules we must follow.

Birky - We have precedence of doing this, it is perfectly within the norms. This is still an open meeting so it fine.

Manley - Do we have copies of this bill?

Zoltek - Is this so rapid because we are going to the president with this?

Leach - We are going to the president next week.

Capp - It is important enough, that we need to have a discussion about it.

    Motion to add to the agenda. 9-3-4 motion fails, 11 votes required.

Funding board at large approval

Dove - Move to approve (seconded)

O’Leary - Wondering about the history of this event?

Dove - 3 senate reps and 3 at large reps, this would just complete the funding board.

    Motion passes, member is approved.

2015-R-11

Glose - Move to add to agenda (seconded)

Campbell - Frustrated that we are just hearing about his now, we didn’t get this information until Monday. An email to share this information would have been appreciated. I would like to at least read it in so that we can discuss and amend it as needed.

Lacy - Are the sponsors of the resolution interested in finding another way to get student support for this even though we are not voting on it today?

Leach - We have not discussed that but we are open to ideas
Glose - Agree with the disappointment of the timeliness of this issue. This is time sensitive. It is important to have a first reading of this bill.

Howell - This is an issue for our constituents and our community. Encourage you to vote for

Windham - Don’t appreciate that our president and vice president leaving at this point, it seems unprofessional like a temper tantrum. We wish we would have had some forewarning, even if the resolution is not ready we could have received communication. Administration team is not acting professionally, please our whole group needs to act professionally as adults. Just because they left I don’t even want to consider reading this.

Jones - Roberts’s rules indicates that a majority is that the blanks are not counted as votes against.

Soares - This vote requires 2/3 vote, not majority

Kirby - 2/3 of the quorum, abstain counts as negatives in this case

Vote on motion to add 2015-R-11 to agenda - 12-3-1.

Motion passes, added to new business.

**First reading 2015-R-11**

Dufner - Move to suspend the rules for a second reading.

Leach - Second

Campbell - No. You guys didn’t even number the lines or catch the errors.

Windham - President and Vice Presient left. I do not want to dignify them leaving by letting them get their way. I urge everyone to not let this become a second reading. We read it, that is a first step. Let’s get out of here, its late.

Murdoch - I understand that you got this information late. I want to say that we have the duties to represent the laws of the Montana Code Annotated. We need to uphold those laws, the conduct tonight has been disappointing.

Glose - I understand that many senators are frustrated that this is a surprise. I would urge us to not consider petty quarrels affect our decision making. Having our voice available in time for the meeting is important. It is important that student voices and votes get the consideration that they deserve. I encourage you not to let your emotions cloud your judgement.

Dufner - I don’t think our votes are about other people’s behavior, I think this is about what is best for student and us representing them. I think that we agree with the content of this resolution but we are making it an issue

Jones - The president’s office could take this as the Senate being split on the issue and we don’t agree with the concept of this resolution.

Murdoch - When do we need to have this?
Leach - Monday

Manley - We are voting on this document not how we feel about the Executive team. We need to vote based on this topic, not emotions.

Campbell - What is the Monday meeting vote?

Leach - President’s office is making plans to move forward or not. Need as much lead time as possible.

Dufner - The primary and election polling location is far away and inaccessible, this action is needed now.

Campbell - How often does this group meet?

Leach - It is on the agenda for the meeting, and PEC doesn’t always meet every week as administrators get busy.

Campbell - Sounds to me like there is a lot of working that needs to be done but it doesn’t sound like it must be done this week.

Dufner - We are seeking a written resolution from the Senate to express our clear support

Manley - I think we know how we feel about this. Move to previous question. Seconded by Campbell.

   Vote for previous question - motion passes

   Move to second reading. 7-5-4

Soares - Read a portion of the bylaws – I was incorrect in the prior calculation of votes. Abstentions are ignored our Bylaws, Voting section 5-3. Would like to apologize for miscounting the votes. Brad Jones was right.

   Motion passes, move to a second reading.

Howell - Friendly amendment to fix line numbers

Jones - Grammar

Soares - Please get me those changes in writing

Sanders - Friendly amendment to change the font to Times New Roman. Lines 20, 24, 29 include “that” further resolved. Un-bold sponsors. Accepted.

Marts - Blanket friendly amendment. Accepted.

Leach - Friendly amendment move to amend the resolution by removing paragraph 3.

Lacy - Do the authors intend to replace that clause with new information?

Leach - No, I think we have sufficient information.

Sanders - Friendly amendment, dash for date. Accepted.

O’Leary - Where are the current locations?
Leach - Just one, at the Lutheran church

Motion passes, 2015-R-11.

Senate Announcements

Windham - Express my deep disappointment in our executives tonight, including the ones who left and came back. I encourage you to meet and talk this out. We need to figure this out so that we are not fighting on public record. This is not okay, I agree that Senate needs to act and dress professionally. We need to act professionally as adults.

Birky - Valid concerns and we would like to look at these things more closely. There has been friction within administration, we are working to fix it. We don’t want to affect this meeting. Personal issues, Holly’s grandpa in critical condition. I went to look at Montana code. Apologies. We are sorry that we needed to rush it.

Windham - In future cases, please send us an email. None of us knew what this was about, let’s err on the side of overly communicative. Thank you to our administration.

Murdoch - Banner to sign to support the Oregon university victims of the shooting.

Campbell - Disappointed by the circumstances how this was passed. I wasn’t too happy with this process. Express appreciation to Carsten for helping with the minutes and Marianne for helping with the minutes.

Jones - While it may have seemed unorthodox, this is something that occasionally happens. This has been discussed in the community for some time and we ought to expect to have an opinion on issues that are broadly discussed in the public.

Windham moved to adjourned (Seconded)

Motion passes

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.