ASMSU Senate Agenda – November 1st, 2012
SUB 235

ASMSU Senate Meeting Minutes for October 18th, 2012

APPROVED – 11/8/2012

Meeting called to order at 6:00pm

Roll Call: Excused: Scafide, French, Lake

Review Previous Meeting’s Minutes:

October 25th, 2012

Move to approve the minutes made by McKay

Seconded by Mains

Public Comment:

Presentations:

   o  Dean of Libraries – Kenning Arlitsch
Townshend: We will move to the next presentation and come back if he arrives.

   o  VOICE Center – Jake Losinski
Losinski: Hannah Wahlert and I are here representing the VOICE Center today. We want to talk to you about what VOICE Center does and ways we could be more involved in future. We are the campus resource for those affected by rape, sexual assault, and stalking. We have an office in the SUB by KGLT above Avogadro’s and we also have a 24 hour support line. We are a resource center for anyone who has been affected by these issues. We do not staff counselors but we can connect you to those people if need be. We help out with legal and academic advocacy as well. We want to talk about rape and sexual assault here at MSU because it is a very real problem. When we think of rape, often we imagine some stranger at night in a ski mask. However, rape here at MSU almost always involves alcohol and the perpetrator is almost always someone the person knows. We really love that there is a Student Safety Committee whose goal it is to create a safe environment for students. Lots of people say that they would feel more comfortable if we had increased lighting on campus and more of the blue light boxes. While those are both wonderful to have, they sadly to not alleviate the problem of rape here on campus. The best way to approach this issue is through education and we do a lot of presentations here at MSU.

Wahlert: We are trying to be realistic about what is going on at MSU so we can best educate our students. We really do love our jobs and if you have any questions at all please feel free to come to us because it is a real problem and we are passionate on making it less of an issue here at MSU.

Losinski: Something else I’d like to talk about and that people tend to bring up is false rape reporting. Though it does happen, statistically it does not occur more often that false reporting of any other crime. If you have any questions about that, feel free to ask. Our main goal in being here tonight is to let you know that we are here.

Mains: Thank you for coming. Do we have your contact information?
Wahlert: You can always call the office line (5683) and either Jake or I will answer the phone.

Exponent – Derek Brouwer

Brouwer: This is my fifth year here at MSU and my fourth year at the Exponent. I’m mainly here today to answer questions and tell you a little bit about what we’ve been up to at the Exponent. We had a pretty significant restructuring last year and we just published our 10th edition of the year. There are currently 72 students on staff which is the largest we have ever been. We had a special edition last week for the election and over 18,000 words were published with over 50 students and staff involved in the paper. Up until this year we have been a part of ASMSU and it has been hard to budget for the long term. We worked with Senate and last year’s President to make us a dollar committee and that has been a very positive transition thus far. We are now an ASMSU dollar committee and we have a professional advisor to oversee everything we are doing. We get $2.43 per student per semester in fees which makes up about half of our operating costs.

We formed a Publication Board to include ASMSU representatives as well as people from the local media. The first meeting of the year was last week. Lana, Phyllis, Brandi, and Josh were at the meeting. They will be meeting three times a year and we will decide who the next Editor-in-Chief will be at the next meeting. The goal of the Publication Board is to oversee our budget, see how we’re doing, and check up on the achievement of the newspaper. Ad sales are a big sluggish at the moment but we are under budget in expenses so it is not an issue at this point. If the situation becomes worrisome, we do have different options. I will be sure to let you know if something changes there. We started the year with a redesign of the newspaper. We had a six or seven thousand surplus at the end of last year so we used that for some upgrades. We got new computers and spent a thousand dollars to start from scratch and completely redesign our website. It is now more operational than it has ever been. We also formed an Editorial Board which we describe in the Opinion Section. We are now producing better researched and better planned editorials in our paper. We want to be a relevant and effective source, not just a soap box, and we want students to take us more seriously. The Editorial Board is helping us work toward that goal. The Board meets twice a month and the first fifteen minutes is always open to public comment. You can also always email me or write to the editor if you have any feedback or ideas. We have been passing out papers to students to try to have more direct contact with the students. This may be seasonal but we are not yet certain. We are waiting for our Bylaws to be finished up and then we will be working on our Policy Procedure Manual that discusses internal procedures and policies. It is a personal goal of mine to have that in place before the next Editor-in-Chief takes over. We’ve been working more closely with Brandi and Ryan this year. We need better business practices so we have been putting a lot of work into that effort. We are also taking several measures to bring in professional help for our staff. We really value that anyone can join the Exponent and that we will help train them. We have had three media professional comes in so far. Three of our students just went to Chicago for the National Media Convention. We have several more events planned for the rest of the year. Our main concern right now is next year. At least 9 of our 13 stipended positions will be turning over next year because students are graduating. This means we will have to do quite a bit of training which is why we are hiring our new editor-in-chief at the end of January. That will enable the individual to have three months to train.

Stiles: What is the percentage or ratio of online to text readership?

Brouwer: We are working on that. It will take a few more months to get solid data. So far we’ve had about a thousand different people reading the online paper per week. We hope that this number will grow over time as we get more experience with the online format. In terms of paper readership, we’ve had at least 3,000 papers taken per week in the past few weeks.
McKay: Thank you so much for being here. Great job with newsboys out on mall. I saw a guy dressed up as a classic vintage newsboy and that was great. From your position, how has split from ASMSU been? Do you see this as going well?

Brouwer: From an editorial perspective as far as writing, the conflict of interest I described earlier is a very subtle thing. We haven’t had a goal to cover campus differently. The Publication Board is still figuring out its role but they are showing some very encouraging signs. They are a good check on me as well because they are involved and they know what they are talking about. I think this Board will provide a very effective check and perspective but it is still too early to tell. We’re going to have to work on refining their role and their goals over the next two or three years but everything is very encouraging so far.

State Legislative Program – Bryan Vadheim, Dani Clark

Townshend: Unfortunately, Clark and Vadheim were unable to make it tonight. They will be scheduled either next week or the week after that.

ASMSU Latenight – Kasey Welles

Townshend: Welles is also not here. I apologize for this. I had worked with these people and confirmed for them to be here. I am sorry.

Unfinished Business

2012-R-16 - Support for Renovations in Marga Hosaeus Fitness Center Gyms

Sponsors: Luke Howard, Simone Scafide

Second reading of 2012-R-16.

Townshend: Will there be a motion?
McKay move to approve.

Seconded by Stevens.

Townshend: We will now move into discussion on this resolution. Would the sponsors be interested in a quick explanation?

Howard: Last year the roof was being fixed in the fitness center and a hailstorm came through during that process. It ruined the floors. The insurance company is making a very charitable donation and sanding off the wood, which means they have to sand off all of the paint. The lines will get repainted by the insurance company. However, we have to pay for logos and stripes around the walls because they were not there before the storm. The Rec Advisory Board met yesterday and the contracts are all written up, they are just waiting for our approval to put a signature on them.

Townshend: Any more discussion?

Stevens: If we want to get a Bobcat on the gym floor, now would be the time to do it.

Lamm: Point of information. Can we do that with the supplemental or do we have to do that now?

Townshend: The supplemental specifies payment and this is stating what it is that we support.

Stiles: Previous question.

Seconded by Stevens.
Vote: 17/0/0.

Townshend: We will do an immediate vote on this resolution. We will do a roll call vote because it is easier to count votes that way. In the future, major votes will done by roll call.

Passes: 17/0/0.

- 2012-R-17 – Support for Motor Pool Reform
  - Sponsors: Rachel Abbe, Luke Howard

Second reading of 2012-R-17.

Motion to approve by Howard.

Seconded by Thuringer.

McKay: Can we confirm that our contracts would be with Karst Stage and Enterprise?

Abeh: Both Karst Stage and Enterprise have been discussed as options but it is not final.

McKay: Move to amend 2012-R-17 by striking “Karst Stage and Enterprise Rental.”

Seconded by Stevens.

Townshend: Do we have any discussion on the amendment?

Stevens: I agree with this amendment. Let’s leave it up to professionals to decide which company(ies) to work with.

Goldstein: I agree.

Howard: Move to previous question.

Seconded by Horn.

Townshend: All in favor to moving previous question?

Vote 17/0/0.

Townshend: Move to immediate vote on amendment to strike “Karst Stage and Enterprise Rental” from lines 9 and 10.

Vote: 17/0/0 amendment passes.

Townshend: Back on discussion of 2012-R-17 with striking of Karst Stage and Enterprise Rental.

Smith: The only problem I have with this bill is the restrictions it will put on students under 21 because lots of freshman and sophomores are under this age.

Abeh: That’s why originally those two companies were addressed. In the past if there was a school related trip students would often drive. With new system, ideally a bus driver would transport that group and faculty would likely be the ones renting vehicles.

Stiles: I don’t see a huge problem with the age thing. Private companies can reserve cars for minors, they just charge a new drivers fee so it doesn’t bother me too much. Mr. Chairman, thank you.
Thuringer: Will you be working with the gentlemen who will be putting this together?
Abeh: Yes and no. The reason this resolution is before this audience is because I wanted to make sure we are all in support of some change. Ultimately it’s getting to the point where it is out of our input. We’ve had a lot of faculty and student input already and now it’s about making it happen.

Thuringer: Is it possible that through that contract we could stipulate that as long as our drivers are certified and have a good record that age won’t be a big deal?

Howard: To Thuringer’s point. I think the main purpose of this is a recommendation not as us saying this is what needs to happen. As far as age is concerned, I feel like they mentioned something about it a few weeks ago. I think that’s why we were leaning toward Karst Stage in the contract because it has a more lenient policy so freshman and sophomores would still be able to drive.

Townshend: Any further discussion?

Vote on 2012-R-17.

17/0/0. Resolution passes.

- New Business
  - 2012-R-18 - Support for Board of Regents’ Legislative Initiatives
    - Sponsors: Michael Townshend, Erica McKay

First reading of 2012-R-18.

Goldstein: Is there a copy of this?

Townshend: No. This is the first reading of this resolution. We will have printed copies next week when we vote on it.

Smith: Question of privilege.

Townshend: Question of privilege ranted. This is the first reading. We will vote on it next week. if you have questions, contact Erica or I, President Abbey, Joe Thiel, or State Legislative Director Brian Vadheim. Welles is on his way. We will move back to that presentation when he arrives.

- Admin Reports
  - President – Kiah Abbey

Abbey: I had an interesting week this week. An update on a resolution that was passed before you were all in office. We are working to change the nondiscrimination policy for the Board of Regents to include gender identity and sexual orientation or preference. Currently those are not in the policy. Troy Duker and Senator Topher Williams at U of M worded through the summer and the beginning of the school year to write a joint resolution that both bodies passed. It was submitted to the OCHE office which is the Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education. At the planning meeting last week, they decided that they wanted to create an implementation plan before bringing that in front of the board so that they could more thoughtfully vote on it. It sounds like they are also questioning if this should be at the board level or if this should be at the campus level. Currently the way the policies work is that they have a board nondiscrimination policy that complies with federal and state regulations and then each of the campuses have more comprehensive nondiscrimination policies so they only change that has been made outside of the federal and state policies is that they have added Native American to the Montana Board of Regents Nondiscrimination Policy. So after having that conversation I brought up that this is real a safety concern for our students. We have stories all semester long of students coming in and
saying they feel uncomfortable on campus because of this or they feel discriminated against because of this, etc. Often times it’s general infrastructure problems. For example, a transgender student deciding which bathroom to use can be a dilemma. We don’t live in a binary world and I don’t think our campus infrastructure should comply with that when we have a diverse student body. So we are trying to collect these stories and send them to Commissioner Christian so OCHE and the Board of Regents can be more informed as we move forward with this policy change. For any of you who have friends or family members who are a part of the university system that are transgender or are a part of the LGBTQ community, please encourage them to write a letter telling their story and why this policy change is important to them and why it needs to happen at the state level. No campus should be discriminated against, no matter the people that make it up so it’s really important that this happens at the state level. I’ll be making a write up tonight to send to our QSA group as well as other QSA groups across the state and I will make sure to get that out to senators.

Mains: Have you told the presenter from last year?

Abbey: Are you talking about Cassidy Medicine Horse? Yeah. She was the original catalyst of this and she will be writing a letter. Hopefully they’ll also put together an implementation committee at the next board of regents meeting and I’ve asked to Co-Chair that because with the legislative session coming up it’s really easy to lose things and I will not allow this to be forgotten. It’s really really important that these students feel unsafe on our campus and we need to take care of them.

We are still looking for a grad student to serve on the University’s Budget Council. He/she will need to be relatively flexible. There will be a resolution in the next few weeks to add to the ballot to double student organization fees. Ask questions, talk to the Office of Activities and Engagement if you would like more information. The SUB Advisory Board will be meeting in the next couple of weeks to discuss information from the Romney Stakeholders meetings. We need a Senator to serve on that board.

Mains: What time will that be?

Abbey: We haven’t set a time yet. Talk to me if you’re interested in serving on that board. Is anyone interested?

Schaff and Lamm interested.

Goldstein: With the nondiscrimination policy, do we have to wait until the Board of Regents meeting to approve that?

Abbey: We’ve already passed a resolution saying that this body supports it. For a policy change for the Board of Regents to pass it has to happen at a public meeting or a public conference call. Because it is a pretty substantial policy change it needs to happen at an public meeting. The other really big thing and why I am really encouraging Commissioner Christian to include this on the U of M agenda as a reading or an announcement about it coming up is due to the progressive nature of the policy. I want as much media there as possible so that those students and kids who are watching the news and who are questioning their gender or sexual orientation can see that and say “wow, that’s super cool that I feel welcome in my state.” It would be really phenomenal for a state institution in Montana to support this. At the end of the day, these are human rights so it would be really cool to have this changed.
Welles: The big thing I’ve been focusing on lately is hiring new attendants. We have four new hires, one of whom is here (Senator Thuringer). I’m really excited about the group that we have. I know they will be really awesome and if you see them around, please say hello and welcome them to ASMSU. As far as training goes, I am having two training sessions with each attendant, trying to get them into the system without just throwing them to the wolves. A number of people have resigned recently but things are moving right along and I am excited about the training I have set up. I have been working on a few initiatives. I’m working with the residence halls and just met with the Interhall Residence Hall Association at a meeting. I am trying to get the message across that Latenight exists, that it is free, and that it is open to everyone. I want to get people hooked early on in their college careers so they know it is there when they need to use it. It is very important to get in contact with students who will be coming to this university in future years. We want them to hear about Streamline when they arrive at MSU. We want them to get hooked right away. We’re thinking about having some update tables set up in January. When people get back after the holidays, things are different and I want to get out in the residence halls all at once so we can catch everyone. We will give them schedules and tell them about Latenight so they know we exist. We’re also thinking about having a floor party or a scavenger hunt or something of that sort. We want students to associate floor parties and fun with Latenight. We’re thinking about a pizza party, even though you generally cannot eat on the buses but it would be an ASMSU sponsored event so we could potentially make an exception. We just want to get people on the bus. It’s really easy to do it earlier rather than later and get people hooked. We’ve also been looking at marketing options. We want to get sandwich boards downtown. I talked to a nice lady at the Downtown Bozeman Association and she said those boards would require an encroachment permit. The permit is cheap but the insurance is difficult because you have to be a business downtown to have one. We’re trying to find a business downtown that will work with us and allow us to advertise Latenight and their business together. We’re looking at places between bars. We want to have a large poster set up outside some of the bars to remind people there is a bus and that will contain contact information for the bus. We’re trying to make it super easy to catch the bus. It doesn’t seem like it would be a big deal but people miss it often because they don’t know when it will be there. We want people to constantly recognize that the bus is there. We’re willing to create posters in conjunction with any establishment that is open to it. It will help us develop relationships with business owners and employees and remind them about the service so they know where to go to get information about us. The last thing I am working on is a coaster project. I gave out all of the coasters I had already made. I applied for another grant with the DUI Task Force. If everything goes as planned and things are going well, I should have a positive response on that grant in the next month or so. The coasters I am hoping to make say: “DUI: You Can’t Afford It.” On the other side, it offers the alternative of using Latenight and has a QR code for the live Streamline Tracking page. I am trying to get it right in front of people’s faces. There is a bus, this is how you get on, you can even call the bus driver and he will tell you where he is and what he’s doing.

Mains: Thank you for coming. I have two questions for you. With the residence halls, could you guys possibly give presentations or have Champ hand out coasters throughout the dining halls?

Welles: We are trying to get tables out there during lunch or dinner to get the information out there. I do like my soap box but I know I can get a little obnoxious. If this is something you think would be a good idea, I would be happy to explore this option.

Mains: Is there any way you could leave them at places downtown? Have bartenders use them at the bars, in Pita Pit, etc.?
Welles: That is exactly what I want to do. I know it’s not ideal because it’s wasteful but I want people to see the Streamline logo every time they pick up their beer.

Jackson: Thanks for coming in. Do you have schedules printed on actually bus stop poles?

Welles: Sadly, we can’t. It’s a city thing and the city gets mad at us if we touch their signs. There are some stop signs with schedules but it’s tough to get them updated regularly. We try very hard to have some of the stops marked. What I’m pushing for right now is a phone number or a QR code on the signs because there is always a delay with changing out the posters and getting updates. There are only a places with a holder for the schedules anyway. Streamline is working directly with the city on this.

Rowe: I want to congratulate you with your tremendous success throughout your campaign. You’ve been doing lots of good work to prevent drunk driving.

Welles: Thank you! Ridership has gone up a lot. Next time I present to you guys I’ll bring the numbers in because it’s really cool to see. We’re constantly growing.

McKay: Thanks so much for being here and for everything you’re doing. I know we get help from city with funding. Are you seeing money come more out of ASMSU or the city side of things? Are the bars helping at al to fund the coasters?

Welles: If I get the grant, we wouldn’t have to pay anything. We’d have your logo on it as well. It will be beneficial for everyone. Hopefully it will be approved this month. I’ve received lots of good responses for it so far. I have been printing posters out of my budget. The city funds the daytime service and another large portion comes from MSU and some from the federal government. Latenight is funded by ASMSU and somewhat by the federal government. The Streamline does reimburse us for some attendance. Money comes from all over the place and I do my best to use it as well as I can.

Schaff: Thank you for being here. The city of Bozeman has a website. Have you considered advertising on their website? That way visiting skiers can see they have options with traveling if they want to come here and go downtown at night.

Welles: The Streamline Board usually connects with the city and Latenight is my baby. We could probably figure something out, though, to get us advertised on the website.

Townshend: Thank you, Kasey.

Welles: Thank you.

Townshend: We’ll go back to admin reports now.

Abbey: I forgot two things. The Dean’s Council will be meeting on Tuesday, Election Day, at 10am in SUB 168 to meet and discuss many things. At 10am is public comment and $2 million just got allocated to Academic Affairs and you should go give input on how that should be spent. A lot of people are suggesting it be spent on tenured professors which I think is a great thing. However, there may be other things you think that money should go to as well so I encourage you to attend the meeting if you can.

Secondly, club lockers have been ordered. For those constituents of yours who have been concerned about where to store their organization’s stuff, they do now have lockers. The allocation process will begin Monday or Tuesday. Those are in place if you’d like to look at them they are on the landing of the stairs. The club lost their space. The lockers were not owned by the Office of Activities and Engagement
and they lost those lockers and so clubs have had no space to store their things. Unfortunately OAE did not have enough money to buy lockers and the SUB did not feel comfortable paying for lockers on their own so ASMSU said we’d look into paying for half of them. There is a supplemental coming out next week that I will present in more detail and you will be voting on it then.

- **Vice-President – Lindsay Murdock**

In the program world, Cure for the Common will be here November 9th. Campus Entertainment is bringing them and it will be in the ballrooms. So far we have been lacking a lot of Senate Representation at their events. Come and support programs and also get a feel for the quality of programs and the kinds of events that are being put on so you can be aware of that for budgeting season.

Lots of senators signed up to help out at *Rocky Horror Picture Show* and no one showed up which was pretty frustrating. Some of the Procrastinator employees had to stay a lot later than they needed to. It makes this body look unreliable. It also shows an overall lack of support for some of our programs. I know you are busy and we ask a lot from you but just make sure that when you sign up for something, you follow through. We have our last tailgate next weekend. This is another one of those things. We had some really great energy at the last one and it helps to get people excited about us and what we’re doing. Please come. It’s the last one at spot A12. We’ll be there 2 hours before the game so come, talk to your constituents, hang out, and get people stoked on ASMSU.

Romney Student Stakeholder Identification will have a meeting Wednesday November 14th from 8-9am. And they really want student input. More that you can come and either bring your constituents or their feedback, the better off we’ll be because we’ll have much more valid student input in that process. We have bids out for the Exit Gallery renovation. We will keep you posted as that starts to move forward and that will take place over winter break. I forgot a quote. I’ll have one at the end. Give me a second.

- **Senate Vice President – Erica McKay**

Townshend: Order please.

- **Business Manager – Lauren Jackson**

Everyone, please talk to your liaisons and program people. They have really great ideas. We reviewed four supplementals this week and we will have five for your next week. Make sure you’re looking at those. Keep up to date on that and ask questions before meeting so we can make meetings faster.

- **Senate President – Michael Townshend**

I’d like to echo what Vice President Murdock said about showing up to events. The City Commission Meeting was Monday and we have seven senators there including Erica and I. that would be fine if the other 14 had all let me know they couldn’t be there. I only received 7 No RSVPs. Please make sure you are reading your emails and responding when necessary. It was kind of a letdown because it shows we’re apathetic to the whole purpose of the meeting. In the future, please read emails and RSVP yes or no. A reminder to ask for question of privilege if you need to leave because it keeps us in better order. Food at meetings is fine but please don’t bring a full meal and eat before if possible. Also, please make sure we are all dressing in business professional. If you are not going be here for spring semester, please let me know sooner rather than later. As you all heard, the Writing Center had its Grand Opening. That’s something ASMSU is a driving force behind so make sure you go check it out. Also the computer on the right in the Senate office is not printing right now but it will be tomorrow.

Please no slow clapping for me.
This has been a good meeting. We’re going well with thanking our guests and thanking our chair so please keep it up. We’ve been having Funding Board every Monday and the results have been very positive. I call it Fun Board because everyone has been doing such a great job. With Finance Board, there is not a lot of supplementals coming through so a lot of the requests you’ll be seeing are reserve requests. If you have any questions on how those monies are allocated, please don’t hesitate to ask Business Manager Jackson, myself, or Operations Manager Higgins. Is there anyone who is not getting Lauren’s emails? I’m not either. In the future, when those things are happening and all of us are sitting here please let us know. These are extremely important things that we’re sending out and the hope is that when you get those you have an entire week to read over them so we don’t have to spend a lot of time in this body going over things that have already been discussed. On the topic of Lauren’s emails, hopefully you’ll get an email in a few minutes. Let her know if you’re not receiving them Wednesday nights or Thursday because that’s when they should be getting to you. The social contract will be coming to you soon. In the meantime, I’ve had a few complaints about things that some of us are putting on our Facebook pages and other mediums like that. Please keep in mind that you have a lot of eyes on you all the time when you are in this capacity. Please be conscious of that. I respect our right to free speech and I know none of you have bad intentions. We want to make sure that students and faculty feel like they can come to us and want to make sure we are not offending students.

Goldstein: Are you talking about personal sites? I tend to post news articles and things I come across.

McKay: I think there is some discretion that must be used. News articles and such are fine as long as they are not blatantly disrespectful or offensive. We need to make sure we are not offending students.

Vanata: Where would we draw the line? Will we draw the line in the contract itself?

McKay: Yes. Are you asking me in particular?

Vanata: I am suggesting that we make the boundaries very clear in social contract.

McKay: These things are innately difficult to define but what I’m asking you to do is think about the things you are posting and sharing before you do.

Abbey: This is essentially about awareness. Don’t post something that might bother you or someone else. Be aware of your impact on people. Intent and impact are different. Whether you’re in a suit in the office or downtown at a bar, you are still an ASMSU Senator and your actions do get back to your Constituents. The Exponent is holding us accountable as we all saw in the paper today and they should be. We just need to be aware of our behavior and how it affects our constituents.

Stiles: I want to talk a bit about the social contract. What you’re saying is that it is discretionary. If I want to post something that might ruffle some feathers, quite frankly, I’m going to do it. A social contract is a social contract but I also have Constitutional rights.

Townshend: The social contract is a way to have a dialogue around this. We are not saying this is the law. Just be mindful of what you’re posting. I do not believe we will be infringing on any constitutional rights.

Schaff: Just a reminder that Facebook has privacy settings.

McKay: This is a great conversation to have outside of this body as well.

Rowe: Are we going be able to read and approve contract?
Townshend: Yes. It is not a resolution. It’s a contract between the Senate and you will be able to read over it and proof it before you sign. We will make sure we come to an agreement on what we want this contract to look like.

Stiles: I think the executive board needs to be very careful on what we’re committing ourselves to financially or putting us in the position to approve things after we’ve purchased things. It’s an awkward spot to put us in.

McKay: I appreciate you bringing that up. We will talk more on that next week and why that happened. IT had a town meeting today and they are working on getting everything down to one username and one password. We also have a new cool login system for the wifi. If you see Dewitt around thank him and let your constituents know that it was IT that did that. The next IT Town Hall meeting will be January 17th at 3:30pm in the Procrastinator. I’d love to see all of you there. Thank you to Senator Rowe who came today, we were the only two students there unfortunately and IT affects us in a giant way so let’s make sure we get there. I saw a lot of you at Open MSU last week which was awesome. I know it’s close to end of the semester and things aren’t all new and exciting anymore but look for those opportunities that excite you because it should never be boring and there are always new ways to put your best food forward.

- Senate Reports

Rowe: More on the IT Committee. They are looking to set a universal emailing system. They will also be continuing with the new and improved wifi. Unfortunately they do not have funds to increase the wifi at this point. They are getting an increase in the technology funds and discussing using it to give all students one free hour of computer repair to every student on campus.

Howard: The Rec Advisory board met yesterday and we talked about the expansion of lockers. That brand new fitness center that we’ve had for a few years now is already well over capacity. We are short a thousand lockers per gender. If you have any ideas on how to expand the Fitness Center in other ways please let Stevens or I know, particularly the rock climbing wall and expansion of it but we’re lacking money and it’s been lost in the transition of Senate so it’s a project you should think about.

Abbey: The Senate did financially support the rock climbing wall in spring. We put up $2500.

Howard: At this point, funding is the big issue. A rock climbing wall is not cheap so we’re working on that.

Lamm: I went to a Year of Engaged Leadership Discussion meeting today. It’s President Cruzado’s new initiative. There will be another workshop and they invited senators to come. It will be tomorrow from 10-11:30am. You need to email me tonight before 9pm to get a spot. We talked about quite a few things today. There have been some concerns with young parents who are students here and we’ve been thinking about adding on to the Rec Center and maybe adding a day care center there. If you have any opinions let me know. Please email me if you have any input for the listening session on November 13th from noon to 1pm. Another thing: presentations to students. I would love for us to give presentations to the one hundred most populous classes on campus. Because you have been giving me so many good ideas I was thinking a survey would be a good idea but I’d still like to face to face contact with students saying “we’re going to send out a survey and we really value your input.” Each senator would get about five classes and I would really love to do this by the end of the year. If you have questions or feedback on anything let me know.
Vanata: I went to the Leadership Networking Workshop and the two other Senators who signed up did not attend. It was a great opportunity for Senators and it looked really poorly on us. The Leadership Institute did notice so please make sure to hold yourselves accountable. The University Athletics Committee met today and is looking into a policy involving staff an DUls. The intention is to make sure that the consequences for staff are more extreme for staff than for students. Trying to make playing field more even. Just so you know this is not because there have been issues. This is more proactive than reactive. They’re looking at logistics and legalities right now. The LI is continuing with future planning. Come talk to me if you have any ideas about how the LI can serve us as students and within MSU as a whole. I’m also working in collaboration with student fee increase for student activities. We are working to send out a survey to clubs in regards to the potential fee increase. The office also being considered as a potential resident for the Romney Renovation so that will be going into the survey. If you have any input about things that should be going in there let me know.

Abeh: MSU is hopefully about to embark on something pretty exciting. There’s been talk around MSU about starting a first year veterinary program. This would enable students to take their first year of veterinary school here at MSU before having to go to another school to study Veterinary Medicine. This initiative is highly supported by President Cruzado, highly supported by the College of Agriculture. It’s made it through all of the hoops necessary so it’s now going on to legislation to get funding. Dani will be lobbying about that to get this coming session. I want to write a resolution stating that MSU supports this initiative. I’ve talked with one of my professors who has done a lot of work on that as well as with President Cruzado about it so if you have any questions about what it means let me know. Basically I want to show our support because it’s a great opportunity for our students to stay in the state for another year.

Townshend: Point of information. That was a part of 2012-R-18 that I just read. In passing R-18, you support this program. Any further Senate reports?

- Senate Announcements
  Vanata: Thank you, Chair. The LI will be hosting a state election discussion at noon on Monday. It will be an opportunity for students to inform themselves about the issues in this election. The will have representatives of both parties present from both the local and state levels. Please attend. I think it would be great to have Senators there supporting our students in becoming knowledgeable about this year’s election.

Mains: From 11-noon in the ASMSU office tomorrow there will be a Scavenger Hunt meeting. Be there.

Goldstein: Don’t forget to vote! If you need a way to get down we will be driving people to the poles tomorrow we’ll be doing that on the mall.

Howard: If you vote absentee I hope you remembered to send it in today. Otherwise overnight it tomorrow.

Adjourn Meeting:

Move to adjourn the meeting made by Vanata

Seconded by Thuringer.

Meeting adjourned at 7:41pm.