ASMSU Senate Meeting Minutes for October 18th, 2012

Approved 10/25/2012

Meeting called to order at 6:00pm

Roll Call: excused-none

Review Previous Meeting’s Minutes:

October 11th, 2012

Move to approve the minutes made by French

Seconded by Scafide

Public Comment:

Presentations:

- Abbey Keene- Rec Sports and Fitness: Functional Training Room Update

Keene: Today we are going to talk to you about a new room in our facility.

Larson: One of the racquet ball courts was converted into a functional training room. One of the major pushes for this room was Olympic lifting. You weren’t allowed to drop weights up stairs. We started operating this semester. We are open from 3-7pm Monday to Thursday and Fridays from 3-5pm. We do personal training sessions and workshops down there. They are also used for instructional programs. We have a monitor down there to make sure the policies are being followed. We have a rowing machine, gymnastic rings, a peg board, a climbing rope etc. We did a survey of the room and many people wanted more hours. We asked them how much they were willing to pay, additional hours wanted. The next push would be for an early morning option around 6am or 7am. On average most people were willing to pay 20-30 dollars to use that room.

Keene: This fee would be used to pay the staff that is down there to monitor the room.

Larson: We are doing a lot of instruction and guiding the users in the correct direction. We are in the process of renting the room for private use. Hopefully this will generate a little more revenue for instruction programs in that room.

Keene: This room is very student driven. Our advisory board and the student’s need are what got this up and running.

Lake: Would you have any interest in doing things like CrossFit in there?

Keene: We can’t call it that but yes. That type of training could easily be done in there.

Howard: When would we see the new hours put into place?
Keene: Probably over winter break or during the spring semester. We met with the provost and we are going to be able to expand for the spring. He approved us to expand 5 more one credit classes. This new classes will be two more yoga, two cycling, and a beginning basketball class.

- Jeff Butler- Facilities Services: Motor Pool

Butler: Our job is to analyze if the Motor Pool is working and if it is something we should continue. Our last evaluation of the Motor Pool was done in 1999. We did a new evaluation which we will present to you and we are looking for your input on this matter.

Catlett: We have a handout for you to look at. I am going to talk about the evaluation we did and what our decision is looking like at this point. A business school professor did the evaluation. He said that we should not be in the Motor Pool business. The President of the Executive Council said we had to say in the Motor Pool business for a number of reasons. We had 15 passenger vans that were used for student field trips. In 1999 there were only two small rental businesses in Bozeman that couldn’t meet our demands. Private industry will not rent to 18-21 year olds. These are the factors why we still have the motor service. Motor pool is run like parking. We will never match down town with our rates. After the evaluation we downsized our fleet to match the demand at the time. We did another review this year. We found that the market has changed dramatically. The Board of Regents eliminated 15 passenger vans. We replaced our vans with SUVs. The private industry in Bozeman is now robust. There is now a five state contract with Enterprise which rents to campus at half of what the Motor Pool can. Should we stay in business? Should we keep it as it is or get rid of it? We are now meeting with the deans who do most of the field trips. One has begun to use private industry already. The other says that Motor Pool cannot support all of his field trips. Those two deans are now telling me what they are doing for field trips and how many people will go. I will then go meet with two private businesses and see if they could meet our demands. The Vice President of Admin would prefer that we do away with the Motor Pool. He thought a contract might be better to get the best price on the vehicles.

Butler: The impact of this is the students. What hasn’t changed is the fact that private businesses will not rent to 18-21 year olds. However, the amount of rental that we do to students is very low. The whole idea is to drive the cost down to MSU. You are the ones who are paying for this.

Abeh: The College of Agriculture is the primary user of this service. Have you guys looked into bus options?

Butler: Facility service use to have a bus. The nice thing about the private businesses is that they have trained drivers, it is our safest option. They have a whole fleet of different size buses. If we can show that we have a need for something they will get it for us. Their vehicles are also well maintained.

Abeh: As far as classes go it really limits the number of field trips they can take. There is that need there. I think students may be willing to pay those higher fees because are going to have to pay for that anyways if they drive themselves.
Catlett: What you are hitting on is one of the key reasons to go to a private business. We are trying to work with the professors to not to raise fees and to keep the outdoor experience. Also, the insurance problem becomes their problem because it is their driver and their car when we go to a private business. They have to use log books and keep up the maintenance of the vehicle.

French: I have had the opportunity to use this service twice. What would you recommend for something like Service Saturday?

Catlett: I would say use an outside vendor or a bus depending on the number of people.

Butler: I don’t see things changing too much. Instead of using us you would use someone else, it should be about the same. Once the private business learns what our habits are they can draw from all over the place and they will fill our needs.

French: It would just be cheaper for the students.

Butler: We would hopefully be able to work out a deal to have them keep some cars here for convenience.

Stiles: How does the insurance work for the Motor Pool?

Catlett: The way Motor Pool is insurance covered right now is through the minimum liability insurance required. Staff and faculty are covered by workers comp. Students are covered by their own insurance. We self-insure for vehicle damage. We usually don’t have enough money to replace a whole vehicle. When you go to a private vendor and use a University purchasing card the vehicle is insured at our expense. What we would try to work into a contract is for them to lower their fee for insurance and put that in with our rates. That would still put us 40% lower than our Motor Pool.

Stiles: So we can lower the liability, lower the cost, and provide a larger selection through this?

Catlett: Yes, you will also be driving a newer vehicle which means newer safety features.

Townshend: We will have a recommendation for this situation to you by next week.

Atkins: We have three goals. One is to connect students to community based projects. Research and internships is another. We are going to have a data base of project proposals from the community. Our last goal is to support the students and their projects. This fits in line with a number of goals outlined in the strategic plan of MSU. It is in the interest of making education more worthwhile. Being involved with hands on projects are important. We have some problems right now in terms of doing community based work. There is no lab for if you want to go out into the community and do a project. You have to work a lot harder to make those connections. It is more low profile and harder to find. There is a misconception that you have to go to a disadvantaged country to do that type of social activism. This can also be done here. The other interest is time. Our goal is to take time that students are spending already and to turn it into a real project. One of my projects was working with the food bank. I had to
go through this to setup the project. I am working on one right now about community based health development in the Latino community.

Rogala: This is just to give you an idea of what this means. This is open for all types of studies. One project that I worked on was writing a grant for the Darby School food program. Another project was about water quality.

Thiel: Eric Dietrich and other researchers have been working on Native American reservations. They are looking at trying to get better water quality which often has heavy metal content. There are a whole host of other opportunities throughout Montana and Bozeman. Think about the senior design projects and how more meaningful they would be if they were relatable for someone else to use. Our hope is to expand this opportunity and remove some of the barriers holding students back. There are plenty of opportunities out there. We hope that all of you can have this experience as well.

Rogala: We are speaking to you as representatives not as senators. It is a hard project to do for any one student to do. This prevents many students from doing that. What we are asking from you is to gather interest. You have a huge range of perspectives and contact with students. Let us know if we can help a student out. It feels good to bring back to your own community. If someone would like to be a liaison for this please contact us. We are having two brainstorming workshops and if you are interested please come.

Vanata: I think that this is an excellent idea. Have you thought about presenting to thesis classes?

Rogala: Yes, is anyone interested in being a liaison for us?

Atkins: Our email is scopemontana@gmail.com

- Alex Nusbaum-ASMSU Productions

Nusbaum: I wanted to give you an update. So far we have hired three new employees. Things have been going well. We have worked several tailgates and we worked the homecoming event. So far we have brought in $725 of revenue. That number needs to get to $2,000 by the end of the year. We came up with a new list of rental prices and we now have a better idea of our fixed rates. We also have a new rental form. We have done a massive clean out of old/broken equipment. We are at the stage of having everything in inventory. We are starting to look at if we can sell them to bringing in more revenue. We are looking at several other venues that may be interested in the items. Other items will be recycled. These items could be recycled at the Gallatin Fair Grounds recycle event. Or we could put them in the semi-truck that is kept on campus. This is filled with old electronics and is shipped over to the Oregon Microsoft plant. The items are then picked a part and pieces are reused.

Stiles: Nice work. It is good to see productions doing something. It is good for the community and student body.
• Kiah Abbey- ASMSU Strategic Plan

Abbey: We are going to create a strategic plan similar to the one that MSU just created. I need two senators to work on that committee. Hopefully we will be able to adopt one by early next semester. The committee will be a diverse committee that represents the roles here at ASMSU. Please contact me if you are interested. We will be reviewing the mission statement. Right now, the mission statement is much too long. We are going to write a vision statement for long term goals. We have a turn around every year or two and it is hard to keep big projects going. The strategic plan will help us accomplish this.

Goldstein: How often will this committee meet?

Abbey: Probably about every other week.

Unfinished Business:

New Business:

• Supplemental-Productions: Sound Board

Townshend: The supplemental has been amended to be a reserve request.

McKay: We had a unanimous vote to push this through. He has well researched a ton of different products. The one he would like has an expected life of 10 years. Out of the supplemental fund this is a big amount but not so much out of the reserve fund.

Nusbaum: Currently we have two sound boards and one is broken. The cost of a new one is $3149.95 along with a case. This will come to a total of $3,879.94. It has both digital components and analog components all in one unit. It has USB computer connections and has recording shows and saving show settings. This can cut set up times between shows. It also has Global Mixing on an iPad. We can make adjustments as we are moving. The app comes free with the sound board. It is has built in mixing effects but it still mixes like an analog board. This cuts down the board’s size. We can still use the out-board gear that we already have. It is user friendly digital board and has everything is visible and in front of you. The closest competitor for this board is around $18,000. The advantages are recording and digital mixing and settings storage. It is smaller which makes it easier to travel to shows. It has more modern live show techniques. To get the same board we already have would be about $2,000.

Lake: When did you discover this was an issue?

Nusbaum: I didn’t realize it needed to be fixed. I was not told that it was this bad.

Lake: Is it possible at all and continue with an old board?

Nusbaum: We are almost at the point on not being able to use it. It is missing some of the critical mixing functions. We could look to get it fixed but the price of getting it fixed will probably outweigh the cost of getting a new one.
Stiles: I move to approve the reserve request.

Seconded by Senator Scafide

Thuringer: Can you please give us an idea of how long this piece of equipment will last?

Nusbaum: At least 10 years. The digital aspects might start going out after ten years.

Goldstein: It looks like a good option. What makes this a feasible option compared to the others?

Nusbaum: This is the first board that they made to target smaller groups that couldn’t pay such high prices. It is not of a lesser quality. The quality on these is great.

Stiles: Alex is going to bring us money for some of the equipment that he sells. This will help offset this initial cost. I think this is a good idea.

Stevens: One reason that I really approved this request was the ability to update this system. We have the option to update the software. This would be a great investment.

Nusbaum: The software for this board can be updated every three months.

Lake: Where are we at with our reserve funds?

McKay: Brandy told us that we have over $500,000 in our reserve account. We are required to have around $400,000 in there.

Reid: I move to previous question.

Townshend: We will now vote on the motion to approve the reserve request from ASMSU Productions.

20/0/0

Townshend: Motion approved.

- Resolution-Signage Regarding the MSU Tobacco Ban
  - (Sponsored by Cara Thuringer & Gianna Vanata)

Townshend: Read the resolution.

Lamm: I will only support this if it is in the form of maps in such a way that they are invited to smoke in certain areas. I do not want them to feel like they are being discriminated against.

Goldstein: We need to give smokers a reasonable way to deal with their addiction. I think it is perfectly acceptable to increase signage under those conditions.

Rowe: We need to create other solutions for our constituents that have a physical addiction. Otherwise it may be viewed as discrimination. We don’t want to make smokers feel excluded or unwelcome.
Scafide: I would like to suggest that the signs are more permanent. We do not need to add more litter around campus.

Mains: We need to look into what our boundaries are. Maybe if we had designated but social area for smokers. Most of the current places looked down upon.

Stiles: I can see the discrimination point but the regulation is already in place. This resolution addresses enforcement more in a visual sense. It expresses what our clear intent is.

Vanata: Thank you for your input. I will echo Senator Stiles, the ban is not negotiable. In regards to the discrimination, the designated smoking areas are not only restricting them from smoking on campus but also on property outside of the University. This would restrict them even more.

Admin Reports:

- President- Kiah Abbey

Abbey: Last night we presented at ASUM. We are far more professional than their Senate. This isn’t on topic but you are all doing a great job. I’m not as nervous for budgeting this year. ASUM presentation went well and they look forward to collaborating with us. Michael brought up writing resolutions in support of the legislative agenda. We also talked about grad students and having a more unified policy across the systems. They will continue to talk to me about what they want to collaborate on. This is a really great opportunity for us. I sent in the non-discrimination policy resolution. We passed a resolution that would change the Board of Regents policy to include gender identity and sexual orientation in the non-discrimination policy. It will make more students feel included across the state. Additionally, we have been asked to send a liaison to the graduate ambassadors program. They want to be connected with ASMSU. They will also send a liaison to our group. I would like to request that when that liaison comes to our body that they could have an admin report. This would formally connect our two bodies. There is a tobacco free task force that will work on enforcement of the policy. We will be looking for two students who will serve on the Commission for Substance Abuse Prevention. It will be a large time commitment, about an hour and a half per week. You would be talking to constituents and the Bozeman community about their thoughts on substance abuse. This would be a good opportunity.

- Vice-President- Lindsay Murdock

Murdock: I just sent Michael a ton of things to send out to you guy. One of those things will be the mass minute which is an update from all the campuses within the Montana University system. There is a sign-up sheet for the Rocky Horror set up and clean up. The ASMSU open house is next Wednesday from 5-6pm in the office. This is a good source of outreach and talk with constituents. It will help make you more approachable. MSU Friday is tomorrow, the more the merrier. Over 900 people signed up. There are many potential freshman and their families. It will be in the Ballroom from 1-2pm. There will be listening sessions from Monday-Tuesday 6-7pm. Monday will be at Roskey and Tuesday at the Freshman Apartments. This will also be a good way to outreach to constituents. We are working on a bunch of financial literacy stuff. We were graded on a scale out of 1,000. We got 980 out of 1,000 and
we got 100% of out grant funded. U of M didn’t do so well. They received 397 out of 1,000. If you are interested in the financial literacy please contact me. Quote: “Don’t live in the past because the past can’t tell you what your future will do.”

- Business Manager- Lauren Jackson

Jackson: Our supplemental balance is the same. Our reserve has decreased slightly. The meeting minutes from Finance Board are in your emails.

- Senate President- Michael Townshend

Townshend: Thank you all for perfect attendance two weeks in a row. Senators Thuringer and Goldstein have been working on the social contract. It will be a new business item for the next meeting. Blake, Phyllis and I have been working on the by-laws and there will be a presentation on them next week. I will send info out about that. I appreciated having SCOPE come present here tonight. When asking questions to presenters should you only be allowed to ask one question at a time or a string of them?

Senate Body: All at once.

Lake: I think that questions often develop into others and you should be able to ask them all.

Townshend: Do you think we are squashing the time too much?

Senate Body: No/Yes

Abeh: I think it is a good way to keep us on schedule.

Vanata: We need to make it a habit to contact them outside of Senate. This is not the only place we should be asking them things.

Scafide: Is it only on a motion that every senator is guaranteed a voice if they wish to use it.

Townshend: It is only when there is something on the floor. Who is interested in working on the recommendation to facilities on the Motor Pool? Try to have everyone talk about it this week. The joint meeting with the City Commission is Monday, October 29th. The agenda has been set and we are waiting to hear back on that. Please do your research on the agenda topics. I will probably assign heads to each of the agenda items that way you can be the expert in that item. I will send you more info as it comes out.

- Senate Vice President- Erica McKay

McKay: If you have any questions about the by-laws ask now. If you have any suggestions get it into them right now. Please read those emails about the Finance Board. Most of the things you are interested in have already been covered in Finance Board. You will have an entire week to get a hold of them and can ask if you have any questions. I need an election committee. You will look at some election policies. We have some of the worst senate transitions. MSU Friday is tomorrow. Make
yourself available to them. Right now we are thinking about cutting presenters for the Finance Board in this body. Would you feel comfortable with cutting those out? They would be encouraged to attend both but no presentation. The Finance Board is a part of this body and there is no reason to present to both. You will get the info about the supplemental on our off weeks. Please talk to each other about these resolutions. I want to briefly talk about behavior when we are representing ASMSU. For example, it is not ok to discuss alcohol while being underage. Please represent yourselves and ASMSU well.

**Senate Reports:**

Abeh: Senator Lake and I have discussed a couple of things about transparency within Senate. We are hoping to have some meetings in the future and I encourage you all to come. You should meet with your dean at least once a semester. They are a great resource. If you have any questions about the Foundation please contact me. I think they would be a good partnership with Senate.

Goldstein: I met with KGLT which is a great non-partisan public radio. They are increasing their pledges. I am working on getting an Arabic minor approved. I am also working on the social contract.

Oak: I met with the dean of our college and discussed how to improve student involvement. I would also like to applaud Senator Howard who brought me a pressing concern for music students. Please work the Rocky Horror event. I was able to start a dialog about getting more ASMSU publicity at games. Also I have been told that we need a better tailgate location.

Vanata: I am the Leadership Institute liaison. They are in the process of creating a strategic plan and if you have any ideas or thoughts please contact me.

French: I have a meeting with the Assistant Provost about the classroom sizes and ratios. I have brought up the entire process in the senate office. As a Senate we might be able to discuss the topic of a gate being applied to high demand majors. Please contact me if you have anything you would like me to ask the Assistant Provost.

Thuringer: Please nominate your greenies. If you want to see anything changed to the tobacco ban resolution please contact me. The Code of Ethics is coming soon.

Scafide: I emailed the head of the ITC. Rowe will head that up. If you want more information please contact him. Also, I met with my dean and one of his concerns was faculty advising. Advising is different between the majors. I was wondering if we could gather some thoughts on that.

Mains: I am also doing visibility with ASMSU scavenger hunt. Please sign up to come to a meeting.

Lamm: I met with the Advising Council. There is a new program coming out called Degree Works. Hopefully a presentation will be coming soon. If you have questions please come talk to me.
Announcements:

Vanata: SAA is co-sponsoring and event with ASMSU Spirit for Cat/Griz week. It is going to be a Cat/Griz party in the Procrastinator. We are mainly marketing it to freshman because they don’t always have options to attend the game. Please get it on your radar and attend.

Adjourn Meeting:

Move to adjourn the meeting made by Stiles

Seconded by Mains

Meeting adjourned at 7:45pm