Minutes November 9th, 2023

Montana State University
Associated Students of MSU Senate
SUB Room 235
Date: November 9th, 2023

Minutes called to order at 6:00pm by Senate Speaker, Lorelei Michael-Owens
Minutes recorded by Senate Secretary, Hazel Rex

Roll Call
Absent:
LePard: Unexcused
Bookwalter: Excused
Richards: Excused
Pattison: Excused
Cordero: Excused
Rijfkogel: Excused
Delker: Excused
Harrison: Excused

Approval of Minutes
Move to approve, seconded.
Motion Passed.

Public Comment

1. Katie Delker
   a. Country Dance club has a dance tonight, starting at 7, and going on until 10. Have a good meeting!

2. Marguerite Kibodeaux
   a. For those of you not aware, I have been working as a front desk worker since 2021 for ASMSU. I am giving you a brief update after our staff meeting. Many of you interact with us as a printing source, which is still available to you. We also do poster runs around campus, outdoor program requests, and equipment checkout forms. On
top of this, we do legal services coordination. The significance of that is that we all signed legal contracts for confidentiality. And that is something unfortunately this body does not do. It is important that you do not come behind the front desk and respect the boundaries of the staff that are working. We also work with all incoming payments to ASMSU: selling homecoming tickets, TEDX tickets, and club check/mail distribution. I wanted to take this opportunity to talk about the ways that we can support you as senators. This includes poster runs, marketing, advertising events or office hours, etc. Those posters are due Tuesdays at 5pm. Those outdoor program requests are also things we can help you with. The other thing worth mentioning is the ways you can support our team. Please pick up the tables and let us do our jobs when people come into the office. Give us the opportunity to answer questions first. We will gladly come over to the table if we need help, but we are experts trained for this, and have most of the knowledge this office needs to run. Thank you so much, if you have any questions, please reach out to myself or Kate.

Presentations

1. 

Admin Reports

1. President Jacob Zink
   a. Good evening, everyone! My apologies for my absence, tonight Sigma Nu will be initiating our Fall Candidate class that includes our very own Senator Cordero!
   b. Because I am not here in person, I will spare you of the laundry list of tasks I have accomplished in the last week and instead will part you with this message:
   c. To summarize my week, I have had the privilege of getting to work with Senators on crafting new legislation, I met with Administrators to discuss our HR and pay structures, I met with members of the Court to talk program development, I met with the Civic Engagement team to hear about their plans for campus outreach, and I met with our friends at OCSL to talk Safe Ride. If you were listening closely to Mel's lovely voice, you would have noticed that she mentioned every area of our organization: our programs, our government, our offices, and our campus partners. This is ASMSU at work. We are approaching the end of our first semester together and I must say I am incredibly proud of the work we are doing together. It is through our connections, our bonds, and our drive to improve our campus for Bobcats now and generations to come. Thank you for your unwavering support of ASMSU's mission and for continuing to push our organization to new heights: How can we make this program better? How can we meet the needs of Bobcats today and into tomorrow? Thank you for all you do and GO BOBCATS BABYYYY!

2. Vice President Melissa Ramirez
   a. Hey bobcats, couple things for this week:
   b. I met with a couple of programs this week. Marketing onboarded their final position Marketing Associate, if you see Kylie around the office say hello and Kelly is meeting with Chris to get adjusted. Owen and Films are also adjusting with the new advisor
Chris Pruden and gave me information on the success of rocky horror show. Congratulations to Luna for being the MC, and absolutely killed it!

c. Camile Report: I am working with COD on her first initiative. She wants to meet with different clubs, Greek life leadership, and AYCSS. She is just super super on it.

d. Regent Report: I met with Garrett Yaeger this week. We discussed goals, and his campus visit. His goal is to visit as many campuses in the Montana area as possible. We have the privilege of kicking off his tour. He will be here November 30th, joining us for senate, and hanging out in the office the next day. Zink and I are planning a dinner that Thursday, so stay tuned.

e. BOR next week: Zink and I will be going next week to Missoula. You can text us if you need anything, as well as Steve.

f. MAS initiatives: One of the big goals finalized is to institutionalize our processes. We know there is a lot of gaps in operations, and we want to create a better process for the future.

g. Legislation Workshop: Went great, there were a ton of people and new ideas. Again, if you need help please talk to your Pro Temperature.

h. Events Team: Just got a couple messages. Next week is an undie run, they need runners and help setting up!

i. Undie Run and Jingle Jam: JJ is a brand-new event, and it is so exciting! We get money to produce a Pilot Event. Davis planned Jingle Jam, a house music rave kind of feel with Christmas music. It is November 30th after the senate, we are taking Regent Yaeger with us, it is gonna be a blast.

j. Kim Announcement: Hello! Following up on our need for some extra volunteers for this Friday for 12 Hours of Giving. If senators sign up, we will count their hours as extra points towards their college. This is the link to the sign up (https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4FA5AD22AAFFC43-44488505-2023#/) It would be fabulous to first focus on filling shifts for Friday that have no one signed up for them yet.

3. Chief Justice Samantha Snow

a. look at how a hypothetical situation would be handled in the current state of the Elections Policy Manual. This was an interesting scenario that examined what endorsements are and are not allowed, and it opened up a conversation about how the current definitions break down when you look at specifics. This is likely an area that will be addressed during our updates, so I will keep you updated on that.

b. Once again, I am calling on you to give me input on the Elections Policy Manual. What policies did you have issues with when campaigning? What would you like to see added or removed from the Elections Policy Manual? I have tasked the Associate Justices with reaching out to you to get your input on some parts of EPM that we are looking into changing this year. Please let them know your thoughts on those and have a discussion on what changes may look like. Ultimately, the Elections Policy Manual has to be approved by the Senate, so it’s best if you get your thoughts and feelings out now, rather than when it is up for approval. That is all from me! Go Cats!

4. Senate Speaker Lorelei Michael-Owens
a. EHHD senator Gabby has stepped down. The application will open on Monday and will be open for 10 days. I am still missing office hours from some of you. Remind your friend so we can update the website. On that note, I am concerned that some of you are not reading my emails. If that is you, make that change. The last thing is on a lighter note. The senator of the month for October has been working really hard with all the hats she wears, and I’m incredibly pleased to announce that October’s senator of the month is Senator Kibodeaux.

5. Pro Temp Van-Steeland
   a. We did not have a funding board today! We need at-large students if we have one person gone, we technically cannot vote. Same also for the finance board. Presentations are beginning as we approach budget season. On notes of communication, it is important for how we organize senate. That means responding to emails and engaging with content in those emails. We only have so much time and need preparedness an engagement. It really helps us be more productive and leads to conversation. That goes for checking in too. I will be producing a method of engagement myself. Have a great long weekend everybody.

6. SDA Lincke
   a. Culture of Care event:
      i. We heard from CPS, Kelly Peterson from University Legal about the process and next steps of office of civil rights investigation and got resources about academic advising.
      ii. One of the big things we heard last semester was students being frustrated about the lack of communication from the university, and I have heard that again about the OCR so we discussed what it would look like to get a FAQ page up about the OCR, so people had a place to get more info. Sounds like that is being discussed and potentially in progress.
      iii. This is what Kelly (From University Legal) sent to Barbra (Director of the DISC) as a follow up from the event: “The OCR process is not as confrontational or contentious as the media coverage implies. OCR is a neutral investigative agency that serves as a resource to help educational institutions comply with civil rights laws. OCR does not punish schools that are out of compliance, rather, they work through voluntary agreements to achieve compliance going forward. MSU has entered into and successfully completed multiple agreements over the years, most recently for web accessibility. Under the applicable federal regulations, MSU can share all relevant information with OCR and has done so in response to the most recent request. MSU is currently awaiting a response and further guidance from OCR. More information about OCR’s processes, as well as a listing of current cases and passed resolutions, can be found on their website. If any of your club members or peers would like to learn more about the information shared at this session, please contact Ariel Donohue.”
      iv. Additionally, we heard more from students about challenges with their advisor, and while that was not the focus of the event, it was still a helpful
takeaway— seems like that topic has thoroughly made its way up to the provost.

v. Debriefed today with Barbra, and this will not be the only event that talks about topics like this, and we have some things we would like to adjust next time to make it more of an environment conducive of dialogue between students, so I will keep you all tuned.

b. I hope the legislative workshop felt helpful.
   i. Please que me in if you have any DEI related questions or are looking for support.

c. Did safe zone 2 yesterday, really helpful in building allyship skills, would highly recommend doing those trainings.

d. We got the graphics in for the DEI committee at-large students; please help me spread that, especially if you know anyone or group that would be especially interested.

e. Planning the next Town Hall, scheduled Nov 29th 2-4

f. I got my assignments for reviewing DEI self-studies from various departments; I am not allowed to talk about any specifics.

g. Events:
   i. Safe zone 3
   ii. Session on the hidden curriculum
   iii. DISCourse and Nuggets
   iv. Human Trafficking in Bozeman
   v. Things are getting stressful, and I personally feel things adding up, so here is a friendly reminder that self-care is group care, so please spend some time this weekend to engage in whatever self-care looks like for you and encourage your friends to do the same.

Senate Reports

1. Kibodeaux
   a. I want to report on things outside of OCSL. Bring your donations there as frequently as you would like, EHHD is kicking but right now in the competition. The Can the Griz ski film went off without a hitch! Can you Country Dance is happening soon as well! The legislative workshop was awesome, and it was so good to see everyone there.

2. Van-Steeland
   a. Culture of Care event! I am not sure if I went as a senator or student, or pro-temporary position. We learned some interesting things- Anja talked about the fact that we cannot get a lot of information as the investigation is ongoing. However, we can de-mystify a lot of things that have happened already. The Department of Education’s Office of Civil Rights website actually tracks by state the number of agreements they’ve engaged with. MSU has a history profile, and you can go look at that. You are all students, some affected and some not, but the conversation should
be ‘how do we support students? If you have ideas, everything is valuable. We want to continue to hold space to keep dialogue. If you have any ideas, I encourage you to reach out and share.

3. **Poole**
   a. I am liaison for the Arts and Exhibits, and I just wanted to warn everyone that there is a reception at 7pm tonight at the Exit, if anyone wants to attend before swing dancing.

4. **Dunne**
   a. Just some things from CPS- they sent a survey to the student body, partnering with UM, I encourage everyone to take it. We have used the Active Minds group to be the bridge from us to student services. We had our second meeting right before this, and they are having a tabling event next Wednesday from 10-1pm. Come by and grab some coffee, chat!

5. **Kaufman**
   a. There is a meeting tomorrow afternoon, on zoom at 3:30pm for the Healt Equity Circle! Also, I have a draft bill for the campus rec advisory committee, feel free to look at it and give feedback!

6. **Unfinished Business**

   1. Appointments
   2. Resolutions
   3. Bills
   4. Supplemental requests
   5. Financial requests

6. **New Business**

   1. Bills
   2. Resolutions
   3. Finance
   4. Policy
   5. Appointments
      a. DEI Committee

DEI Committee Appointments have been tabled until the next meeting.

6. **Bylaw Appeals**

**Senate Announcements**

1. **Kibodeaux**
   a. There is an event at Bozeman Brewing, food insecurity trivia on Sunday from m2-6pm. Please pop by!
2. Lawrence
   a. There is a concert tomorrow night at 7:00, free for students! A phenomenal quintet.

Meeting adjourned at: 6:50pm