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Documents from the April 10, 2006 meeting of the Associated Students of the University of Montana (ASUM)

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1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

2. ROLL CALL

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

4. PRESIDENT'S REPORT
   a. Election Considerations
   b. Other

5. ADJOURNMENT
### ASUM Senate Tally Sheet

#### Senate Members
- Kofi Abaidoo
- Josh Buchman
- Jed Cox
- John Dawson
- Derek Duncan
- Brent Epperson
- Shawna Hagen
- Andrea Helling
- Denver Henderson
- Casey Hogue
- Trevor Hunter
- Cedric Jacobson
- Ryan Knobloch
- Ryan Nalty
- Bill Oram
- Jake Pipinich
- Jessica Prongua
- Ross Prosperi
- Kari Samuel
- Ashley Sparano

#### ASUM Officers
- Brad Cederberg
  - President
- Leslie Venetz
  - Vice-President
- Vinnie Pavlish
  - Business Manager

#### Faculty Advisors
- Professor Anderson
- Professor Ausland
Chair Venetz called the meeting to order at 6:08 p.m. Present: Cederberg, Venetz, Pavlish, Abaidoo, Buchman, Cox, Dawson, Duncan (6:15), Epperson, Hagen, Helling, Henderson, Hogue, Hunter, Jacobson, Knobloch, Nalty, Oram, Pipinich, Prongua, Prosperi (6:15), Samuel and Sparano.

Public Comment

*ASUM Office Manager Hayes explained the petition validation process. After learning that Pres/VP candidates Perry/McCarty, Business Manager candidate Blakely, and Senate candidates Moore and Doggett were short of the required valid signatures, she checked more updated information and found that all of the candidates had the required number of valid signatures to participate in the ASUM Primary Election.

*Pres/VP candidates Perry Reed and Caroline McCarty felt there was bias involved in their case combined with committee ineffectiveness. They asked for student-oriented government - democracy not bureaucracy.

*Senate candidate Mike Doggett said he was told on Sunday that he wasn’t eligible to participate.

*Business Manager candidate Preston Blakely said he wasn’t called until Sunday about his eligibility and felt he should have been contacted sooner.

*Patrick Johnson announced his candidacy for Senate. He said there was no excuse for candidates not to have enough signatures. They should get substantially more than required to avoid problems.

*John Meyer said candidates should be notified firsthand and not by others if there are problems.

*A student from Romania felt American's democracy is an unreality.

*Former Senator Chris Healow, as author of SB44-04/05 to eliminate slates from the Bylaws, read the "whereas" statements preceding the actual Bylaws change and commented on them. He said the intention was to eliminate slates to make the election process more equitable. He reminded Senators Duncan, Helling, Hogue and Pipinich that they voted yes on that resolution and that Senators Dawson and Prosperi voted no. He hoped they would be consistent tonight when they vote with their original vote on the issue. He said that by the "letter of the law" there can be no grievance against party affiliation but that was not his intention with the resolution to allow it. He said there was partisan bickering during his tenure as a senator, and that shouldn’t be a factor in ASUM student government. He felt that pooling resources is a definite disadvantage to those running alone who don’t have financial resources to match.

The Chair recognized the presence of Senators Duncan and Prosperi.

*Senate candidate Ali Tabibnejad said he doesn’t like labels but that they are meaningful to some. He said there’s no Bylaws language regarding slates.

*Travis Cossitt said not all candidates were notified that their petitions were not valid and that they were not informed of a meeting. He also felt that candidates on Senate should not vote on the issues at hand.

*Scott Gauthier said he informed Senate last week that there was an issue, and that the committee needs to define the rules and act on them.

*Svein Newman felt there has been a lack of communication and blatant partisanship.

*Kyle (?) felt it shouldn’t be all about signatures.

*ASUM Office Manager Hayes said it was unfortunate that there is a large Senate audience only when there is a problem. She felt tagging ASUM as "elitist" is because students don’t show interest and participate, so Senate has to make decisions without a lot of student input.
President’s Report

a. Cederberg read a letter from Senate candidate William Selph (Exhibit A), a part of which was asking Progressive Party candidates to abstain from voting on the slate issue.

b. Hagen-Epperson moved the Election Committee’s decision not to confirm petitions of candidates Perry/McCarty, Blakely, Doggett and Moore, which would result in their names being left off the ASUM elections ballot. The Committee wanted to bring the issue to Senate for confirmation, since there was so much discussion on the issue at the committee meeting. The motion to uphold the decision failed 0 Y, 21 N on a roll call vote (see Tally Sheet) after a previous question call by Dawson. The names will be on the ballot, and the petitions were reviewed and validated by Hayes after the Committee had met, as was noted under Public Comment.

c. A motion by Knobloch-Dawson to adjourn failed.

d. A motion by Hagen-Oram to discuss the Progressive slate decision passed. The Committee’s decision was that the Progressive Slate should remove any posters with only the party’s name on them and no candidate names. The Committee decided on a vote of 3-2 to ask Senate to confirm their decision. A motion by Hagen-Pipinich to suspend House Rules to amend the Bylaws regarding elections failed. After a motion by Pavlish-Helling on the Committee decision, Senate failed to uphold the decision 3 Y, 16 N on a roll call vote (see Tally Sheet).

The meeting adjourned at 7:47 p.m.

Carol Hayes
ASUM Office Manager
To Whom It May Concern:

The recent action of the “Progressive Slate” because that is what it is a “slate” shocks me. I remember a meeting just last month in which one of the “progressives” was attempting to make more rules. It has now become clear to me that he only wishes for non-progressives to follow the rules.

I was one of the people at that meeting who thought wow he is attempting to make the process better for everyone. Now I see that he is “simply politics as usual” as one of his friends would say. I see that many of the candidates have gone ASUM; they have lost touch with the people.

Today I am encouraging that all those involved in the progressive slate do the right thing and abstain from voting on this issue.

I doubt all of you will do this. I however wonder who is man enough or woman enough to sit back and let the process work the way it should. Or will you corrupt the system even further. Many of you have pointed out the corruption of others and have ignored your own corrupt ways.

As I write this letter I know that many of you will write it off because I am a republican. However I feel that corruption is running wild.

I call on all of the progressive candidates to abstain from voting.

Respectfully submitted,

William Selph
ASUM Senate Candidate/
College Republican State Chairman