1-26-2005

Documents from the January 26, 2005 meeting of the Associated Students of the University of Montana (ASUM)

University of Montana–Missoula. Associated Students

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1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

2. ROLL CALL

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - December 8, 2004

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

5. PRESIDENT'S REPORT
   a. Legislative Update
   b. Budget Meeting
   c. Academic Affairs Meeting
   d. Elections Schedule
   e. Other

6. VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT
   a. Committee Appointments/Removals
   b. KBGA - Thursday at 8:30 a.m.
   c. Personnel Conflicts
   d. Interview Committee
   e. Board on Membership
   f. Radio Board
   g. Group Contacts
   h. Other

7. BUSINESS MANAGER'S REPORT
   Special Allocation - $14,780.75
   Travel Special Allocation - $12,382.79
   STIP - $107,953.46
   Zero-Base Carryover - $59,483.24
   a. Special Allocation for Women’s Center’s Vagina Monologues - $2,382.50/$1,834.50 (4-0)
   b. Special Allocation for Chinese Student Association’s Chinese New Year Party - $650/$650 (4-0)
   c. Other

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS
9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

To see a list of resolutions in their entirety with the action taken on them, please go to
http://www.umt.edu/asum/government/resolution.htm

a. SB34-04/05 Resolution in Support of Vice President Robert Duringer and Alternative Revenue Generation
b. SB35-04/05 Resolution Opposing the Confirmation of Kala French as Student Regent

10. NEW BUSINESS

11. COMMENTS

12. ADJOURNMENT
# ASUM Senate Tally Sheet

**Senate Members**

- Bryce Bennett
- Andrew Bissell
- Brad Cederberg
- Tyler Clairmont
- Nezha Haddouch
- Shawna Hagen
- Chris Healow
- Andrea Helling
- Casey Hogue
- Derf Johnson
- Britta Padgham
- Kim Pappas
- Josh Peters
- Rebecca Petit
- Jake Pipinich
- Ross Prosperi
- Jon Snodgrass
- Leslie Venetz
- Rob Welsh
- Nathan Ziegler

**ASUM Officers**

- Gale Price
  - President
- Vinnie Pavlish
  - Vice-President
- Cassie Morton
  - Business Manager

**Faculty Advisors**

- Professor Anderson
- Professor Ausland

## Roll Call

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<th>Time</th>
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Date: January 26, 2005
Chair Pavlish called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. Present: Price, Pavlish, Morton, Bennett, Bissell (6:02), Clairmont, Healow, Helling, Hogue, Johnson, Padgham, Pappas, Peters, Pettit, Pipinich, Prosperi, Snodgrass, Venetz (6:10), Welsh and Ziegler. Excused was Haddouch.

The meeting minutes for December 8, 2004, were approved as written.

The Chair recognized the presence of Senator Bissell.

Public Comment
*SPA Director Bassett said she received a stack of emails from Senator Pipinich over break and felt her job and ethics had been threatened. She asked that anyone having issues with her or SPA speak to her directly.
*Erin Thompson and other CAJA representatives spoke in opposition to SB34, citing alleged Coca Cola employee abuse.
*Colt (?) offered the name of a resource familiar with coke-type contracts.

The Chair recognized the presence of Senator Venetz.

*TJ Dupras introduced himself as a new UC Program Coordinator.
*Tom Figarelle spoke in opposition to SB35 and read a letter from past-president of ASUM Aaron Flint expressing the same.
*Meghan Adney spoke in support of Kala French.
*Millie Dorsey and Levi Buckingham, affiliated with Forward Montana, expressed concerns about Kala French being the student regent.
*Thomas Livoti admonished Senators for not being more professional in their respect for those making comments. He said SB35 appears to be a partisan political attack and thinks everyone would be better served if Kala French was invited to Senate for debate and to defend herself.
*Patrick Van Orden spoke in opposition to SB35. He feels this process will hamper her ability to be an effective regent.
*Rebecca Crandall read a letter from Molly Sweeney in opposition to SB35 and said she concurs with Sweeney’s assessment.
*Kelly Crispen from Wildlife Biology spoke in favor of SB35.
*Tyler Matthews also spoke on the lack of respect Senate was showing to speakers. He spoke in opposition to SB35 and also thought Kala French should be invited to Senate for debate. He read a letter to Senate from Kala French.
*SPA Committee member Ryan Knobloch felt SB35 should have a chance to be discussed by Senate and so supported it in committee.
*SPA Committee member Patrick Johnson talked to Kala French after the SPA meeting where SB35 was discussed. He feels there are problems with SB35 and that people are being misled. He expressed hope it will not pass.
*Heather O’Loughlin spoke about ASUM’s relationship over the years with ASMSU and MAS and their conflicts. She hoped this wouldn’t erode the current relationship and hurt the education initiative.
*Kate Dickey expressed her opposition to SB35 and the fear that some of the accusations might not be true. She said she hopes the educational agenda will not suffer because of this action.  
*Meaghan Brock thought petition signatures should be reassessed in light of information shared at the meeting. She expressed disdain for the process of attacking Kala French.  
*Dillon Brown, from reading the Montana Kaimin, felt Kala French wasn’t the person for the job, but he now thinks there are more important issues and that she’s doing her job.

President’s Report

a. Price and the SPA Director sent letters to legislators congratulating them and offering information and assistance. They also sent them folders with information about ASUM agencies and lobbying platform. UM students attended the opening session and testified on the student regent issue. For additional information, contact Price.
b. For information on the UM budget going to the legislature, there will be a forum February 4 at noon.
c. Price met with Provost Muir about academic affairs. The Provost spoke of a lack of communication between her office and ASUM. A breakfast meeting is being planned.
d. The election schedule timing will be the same as last year’s.
e. The budgeting schedule was emailed to Senators.
f. The student service award will go to Ben Marcus and will be presented on February 17.
g. Senate applications are due February 4.
h. A MAS conference call will be held to determine the MAS stance on the confirmation of Kala French as student regent.
i. The Forester’s Ball will be February 4th and 5th.
j. Price apologized for any show of disrespect during public comment.

Vice President’s Report

a. The following committee appointments/removals were passed: Interview - Patrick Johnson (Heallow-Bennett); Radio Board - Nezha Haddouch, interim chair (Venetz-Peters); ASCRC - Vinnie Pavlish, Chris Healow (Bennett-Venetz); SPA - removal of Cody Atkins and appointment of Tyler Matthews (Bennett-Padgham); Board on Membership - Kimberly Pappas as Chair (Clairmont-Bennett); Enrollment Management - removal of Andrea Helling (Clairmont-Peters); Budget and Finance - removal of Ernest Hergert (Bennett-Peters).
b. Ryan Delany was allowed to give public comment opposing SB35 at this time because he arrived too late for the agenda item.
c. Petit will represent ASUM on KGBA tomorrow.
d. Pavlish asked Senators with personnel problems to contact him about mediation.
e. The Interview Committee will be meeting about Senate vacancies.
f. Board on Membership needs another Senator to serve on the committee.
g. The list showing Senate group assignments was distributed.
Business Manager’s Report
Special Allocation - $14,780.75
Travel Special Allocation - $12,382.79
STIP - $107,953.46
Zero-Base Carryover - $59,483.24
a. A Special Allocation request for $2,382.50 by Women’s Center was recommended by Budget and Finance for $1,834.50. A motion by Pappas-Peters to reduce the request by $44.50 to $1,790 passed, and the amended request passed.
b. A Special Allocation request for $650 by the Chinese Student Association was recommended by Budget and Finance for the same. A motion by Price-Welsh to postpone until next week failed after a previous question call by Healow. The request passed.
c. Two students at large are needed for Budget and Finance.

Committee Reports
a. UC Board (Helling) - Work continues on budgetary matters.
b. SPA (Padgham) - SB35 was discussed and voted on (5-2).
c. ASUM Transportation (Pappas) - A bus driver and outreach coordinator have been hired. The new bus should arrive in six weeks. Bike racks will be placed in ways that won’t impact accessibility.

Unfinished Business
To see a list of resolutions with the action taken on them noted and the resolutions currently being considered in their entirety, please go to: http://www2.umt.edu/asum/government/resolution.htm.
a. SB34-04/05 Resolution in Support of Vice President Robert Duringer and Alternative Revenue Generation was withdrawn by author Welsh.
b. SB35-04/05 Resolution Opposing the Confirmation of Kala French as Student Regent (Exhibit A). Chair Pavlish asked for a vote on whether he should pass the gavel, since he is involved in this action. Senators voted 12-7 for him passing the gavel, which he did, to Price. A motion by Petit-Clairmont to adopt an amended version of the resolution passed. Ziegler-Venetz moved to amend the new version of the resolution by striking paragraphs 8, 9 and 13 (counting all paragraphs in the original version). An amendment to include paragraph 19 was adopted with unanimous consent on a motion by Healow. After a previous question call by Clairmont, the amendment passed. Pipinich-Venetz moved to strike the last two paragraphs and insert two new paragraphs to read: “Therefore Let It Be Resolved that ASUM finds an inherent conflict of interest in Kala French working for the Petroleum Marketers Association and Convenience Store Association and acting as the student regent; Therefore Let It Be Further Resolved that ASUM demands Kala French find alternate employment independent from interest groups that run contrary to the best interests of students in Montana.” The amendment failed after a previous question call by Hogue. A previous question call by Helling failed. A motion by Peters-Pavlish to strike paragraphs 3 and 6 was adopted with unanimous
consent. A motion by Snodgrass-Pavlish to delete the second "be" in the last paragraph was adopted with unanimous consent. After a previous question call by Healow, the amended resolution passed 12-7 on a roll call vote (see Tally Sheet).

New Business
a. Resolution to support the governor’s best and brightest scholarship program
b. Resolution to send a transportation fee increase to referendum
c. Resolution concerning the Radio Board
d. Resolution for increased recycling in the dorms

Comments

The meeting adjourned at 10:38 p.m.

Carol Hayes
ASUM Office Manager
Resolution Opposing the Confirmation of Kala French as Student Regent

Whereas, Kala French has displayed a clear conflict of interest, pursued personal interests to the detriment of student interests, and has engaged in unethical behavior as outlined below;

Whereas, Montana Board of Regents Policy states, “The Student Regent has a first and foremost responsibility to represent students in the Montana University System”;

Whereas, Kala French has taken a lobbyist position with the Montana Petroleum Marketers Association without informing any Montana student association;

Whereas, extractive industries have argued against the University of Montana environmental studies program;

Whereas, Kala French did not inform any Montana student association of her affiliation with the Montana Petroleum Marketers Association;

Whereas, there is a clear conflict of interest in representing both the students of Montana and the Petroleum Marketers Association;

Whereas, the Board of Regents policy states “There must be no self-dealing or any conduct of private business”;

Whereas, without contacting student associations, Kala French pushed for an inter-campus grade transfer program;

Whereas, no other state has adopted this grade point average transfer policy;

Whereas, according to the Montana Kaimin, when asked about grade transferring, “Montana Associated Students President Matt Larson said that discrepancies may arise from different campuses having different focuses”;

Whereas, the Senate of the Associated Students of the University of Montana passed SB27 in opposition to an optional system-wide grade point average;

Whereas, a Kaimin editorial criticized Kala French for advancing her self-serving grade point average transfer plan and her lack of knowledge concerning the needs of students;

Whereas, student voices across the state including Montana Associated Students President Matt Larson, the Montana Kaimin, and the Associated Students of the University of Montana have all criticized the proposals feasibility or desirability;

Whereas, Kala French introduced this policy change to transfer her grade point average from Great Falls—College of Technology to Montana State University Bozeman;
Whereas, the Montana Board of Regents policy states: "The Board expects high standards of ethical conduct and requires all members to conduct themselves at all times in a manner that reflects honor upon the Montana University System."

Whereas, while seeking the office of Vice President of the Associated Students of Montana State University, Kala French's running mate was accused of corruption of the press;

Whereas, Kala French fought these claims by raising the threat of a lawsuit against the Associated Students of Montana State University should they pursue an investigation against her running mate;

Whereas, in the following election students voted resoundingly against Kala French and her running mate;

Whereas, in Kala French's actions as Student Regent thus far, she has shown more concern for her personal interests than the interests of students in the Montana University System;

Therefore Let it Be Resolved that the Associated Students of the University Montana oppose the confirmation of Kala French for the position of Student Regent on the Montana Board of Regents.

Therefore Let it Be Further resolved that this resolution be sent to the President, Minority Leader, and Chair of the State Administration Committee of the Montana Senate.

Authored By: Senator Rebecca Pettit

Endorsed By: Senator Christopher Heelow
  Senator Tyler Clairmont
  Business Manager Cassie Morton

Passed by roll call vote
12-7
1/26/05