Spring 4-25-2018

Documents from the April 25, 2018 Meeting of the Associated Students of the University of Montana

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ASUM SENATE AGENDA
Wednesday, April 25, 2018
UC 225 – 6 P.M.

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

2. ROLL CALL

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – April 18, 2018

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

5. PRESIDENT’S REPORT
   a. ASUM Transportation Budget
   b. Strategy for Distinction Public Comment/Discussion
   c. President Bodnar Strategy for Distinction
   d. Other

6. VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT
   a. Committee Updates
   b. Senator Reports
   c. Other

7. BUSINESS MANAGER’S REPORT

   Zero-Base Carryover: $128,383.86
   S.T.I.P.: $159,916.32
   Union Emergency: $1,813.91 ($1,011.91)
   Special Allocation: $6,086.61
   Travel Allocation: $353.30

   a) Union Emergency Travel Request – Men’s Ultimate Frisbee Smokejump:
      $802.00/$1,001.50
   b) Informational Item: Resolution Regarding Co-Curricular Student Groups
   c) Birthdays
   d) Other

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS

9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS
   a. SB 29 Resolution Prompting Diaper Change Stations in Restrooms
b. SB 41 Resolution Creating a Spring Dumpster Drive  
c. SB 42 Resolution Regarding Parking Accessibility Mount Sentinel Trailhead  
d. SB 43 Resolution Regarding Sustainability Coordinator Personnel Policy  
e. SB 44 Resolution Regarding ASUM Student-Paid Positions  
f. SB 46 Resolution Amending ASUM’s KBGA Personnel Policy

10. NEW BUSINESS

11. COMMENTS

12. ADJOURNMENT

ASUM Senate Minutes  
Wednesday, February 14th, 2018  
UC 225, 6 p.m.

Chair Love called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Present: Senators Anderson, Belcher, Borstad, Butler, Capece, Carpenter, Corkish, Cowley, Curtis, Durnell, Fitzpatrick, Gregory, Hiett, Hohenstein, Lemm, Lewis, Milton, Morrill, Parsons, Quist, Schafer, Stokovich, Toppen, Welch. President Fitzgerald, Vice-President Love, Business Manager Kuiper, Advisors. Stark and DeBoer. Unexcused: Senator Koerber.

The minutes from the April 18, 2018 meeting were approved.

Public Comment
  o Kaden Harrison spoke to the senate about SB 42. They want the parking lot at the trailhead for Mount Sentinel treated as a public resource. They want to increase the lot by 5 spots and increase parking time by two or three hours.  
  o Tess Gallagher Clancy from Reinvest Montana spoke to the senate and recap the year and ask for help in the following areas: Educating members on divestment history at UM, revisit getting a student seat on the Foundation, study the new operating agreement between the UM Foundation and the University, and looking into forming an ASUM investing committee.  
  o Chantry Rice from Wheton Labs spoke to the senate about a class offered this summer. It is a permaculture design course, it will deal with agriculture and farming. They are located in Superior.  
  o Gwen Coon from The Montana Democrats spoke to the senate about Jon Tester’s Senator campaign. Anyone who is interested in helping should contact her at gwen@mtdems.org.

President’s Report
  a. ASUM Transportation Budget  
     • This will be seen next week as the committee is not done with it yet.  
  b. Strategy for Distinction Public Comment/Discussion  
     • Brian McEvoy, the ADSUM Director, pointed out how ADSUM helps keep classes accessible, brings in valuable lecturers, and related services that make the opportunities offered at UM open to everyone. He pointed out the impact Lauren Fern has had with ADSUM as a lecturer by teaching classes, advising students with disabilities, and going to great lengths to help students find accessible options for classes. He pointed out that people like Lauren help retention on campus with efforts like these.  
     • Lisa McFarland spoke about concerns that Trio students have about the fate of lecturers like Lauren Fern with the proposed cuts. She also pointed to the value of professors like Gary Kerr
who teach classes like his anthropology class. She pointed out how the climate of campus is affecting non-traditional student’s decisions to come and stay here for school

- A senior named Lindsey Greytak spoke about all the help and support she found from not only her Russian major, but her language courses as a whole, during her time as a student here. She thought the division of languages into European and Asian studies pushed out languages like Spanish (specifically South American dialects) and Native American languages. She doesn’t think lumping in Middle Eastern culture with Asian culture is fair. She spoke to concerns about how this would hurt students’ chances for scholarships and study abroad opportunities with other countries and cultures. She said the simplistic division of the languages showed how important it is to not do so and keep a focus on teaching them individually.

- Dusty Keim, a junior English Creative Writing major, spoke about the word interdisciplinary, which has been used in many communications from the administration regarding the recommendations. She has found that the languages imbue this word the most. She said the opened her eyes to understanding different languages, cultures, and the world as a whole. She thinks these programs are especially important given that we live in a very globalized world. She thinks the recommendations with disadvantage both current and future students, particularly in graduate school applications if other schools do not have an understanding of this division.

- Kristin Bufflem pointed out how the language students are answering calls to action in response to these cuts, showing how important these programs are to them. Some are even trying to recruit high school students who are involved in languages to help enrollment in those programs. She said the enrollment problems with programs are products of low enrollment overall and losing faculty over the last few years, not from a lack of interest in these programs from students.

- Senator Durnell said she thinks one of the big issues is miscommunication between deans and faculty in terms of the recommendations that are made and faculty are inciting rage in their students.

- Senator Cowley spoke about the impact looking at scheduling could have as the current offerings sometimes force students to sacrifice their mental health in order to get their education.

- Senator Hiett spoke to concerns about the marketing and outreach team at UM hasn’t effectively reached out to students for all majors and this is impacting enrollment.

- Senator Curtis spoke to concerns about how some of the reasons for these cuts were caused by previous cuts themselves. He also spoke to the benefits of rescheduling classes and how that could help students finish their programs on time.

- Senator Capece asked if the division would help streamline communication between deans and faculty. President Fitzgerald said the division would make the dean to chair ratio more in balance.

- Senator Welch asked about what students could do about lecturers who are going to be let go. President Fitzgerald said the best thing would be for departments to give tenure to valued lecturers to help prevent that. Student encouragement to do so would help.

- Senator Stokovich said by generalizing certain majors into one would affect how UM appears in database searches for colleges.

- Senator Hiett said he is frustrated at the lack of attention students are being paid. He said the approach from administration and faculty is usually more defensive than receptive. He also pointed out concerns about how President Bodnar has said only small revisions would be made.

- Director McEvoy spoke to concerns about making decisions based on current numbers and that limiting room for growth. He also said he would like to see a specificity in smart cutting not broad cutting. He also said the university could put in a policy for donors that if they want to donate to sports they have to also donate X% to academics.
Senator Belcher said she said they could consolidate all advising and registration of programs rather than cutting programs. She also spoke to concerns about grouping all of the marginalized groups under one distinction.

Senator Capece wondered how the university could foster students at the two-year programs and get them to come to UM instead of somewhere else.

Senator Milton said he would like to hear more about the other cuts not directed at languages.

Senator Hiett spoke on the idea of revamping general education requirements and said often students have to take many classes that have nothing to do with their major.

Senator Lemm said one idea she has heard would be to offer a major in languages with concentrations in different ones.

Senator Welch said she thought it was important to clarify the difference between the divisions and doing something like making multiple majors into one.

Senator Borstad spoke to concerns about how the confusion around the division could lead to students wasting time in the wrong majors for the job they want to pursue afterwards.

Senator Morrill spoke to the diminishing value of the university experience. He said they overall have lost their edge in knowledge, culture, and access to jobs via a degree. He said the university needs to focus on providing those things before just cutting programs.

Senator Butler said he’d like to see ideas in changes to how students learn (scheduling, etc), more work with the cultural centers, and more interaction with high schools. He also would have like President Bodnar needs to be clearer as to when students could see updates to these recommendations.

Senator Belcher would like to hear more voices from students in the other departments that are looking at cuts.

Senator Belcher said she found the movements in the business school are odd. Specifically, the combination of marketing and management.

Senator Cowley expressed concerns to combining even WGSS with geography and environmental studies in the divisions.

Senator Capece is glad that Missoula College and Bitterroot College were not mentioned in these cuts.

Senator Curtis thinks the combination of history and policy could be beneficial.

Senator Milton is glad to see that something is actually being done at the very least.

President Fitzgerald is excited to see HPP in the Biomedical division.

c. President Bodnar Strategy for Distinction

President Bodnar thanked everyone who has submitted feedback and shared perspectives on these recommendations.

He said the purpose of these are to make sure that the university can give students its best at where it is strong, and the sacrifice from that is cuts like these.

He reiterated that everyone who started in a program when the cuts are finalized will graduate with those programs.

He pointed out there are actually very few programs that are cut and that most are being reduced.

He pointed out that the recommendation to divide them into those two areas came from the college of languages. He acknowledged that the division into two is overly simplistic. He said he is open to reworking the phrasing distinction between majors and focuses.

He stressed that they are not eliminating the studies of languages, they are reducing the number of faculty that are teaching languages to make the teacher to student ratio is more balanced.

Senator Hiett asked for a clear and advertised date for incoming students to enroll in programs that are proposed to be cut.
Senator Borstad spoke to concerns about targeting of certain programs and wondered how many deans took pay cuts to save their departments from cuts. 

Senator Durnell spoke to concerns about the division of languages that it marginalizes already marginalized cultures and groups. She said this could be due to a miscommunication and asked for clarification. 

Senator Toppen spoke to worries about other graduate schools not understanding the distinctions that the divisions make between majors and concentrations. 

Senator Hohenstein asked how this strategy of divisions and cuts will enhance these programs. President Bodnar said that it means the programs operate at a more efficient level on a financial basis which keeps them from being in the red. 

Senator Lemm spoke to the concerns that came up in the meeting she organized with language majors: lack of proficiency level, hurting recruitment of students who want to major in a language, some upper division classes are already full, students can’t cross list classes which means some students who want to take the classes can’t, smaller programs will not be offered because they cannot operate at the lower staff level. 

Senator Corkish asked about conversations between the president and administration about how current concentrations will be affected by their majors will be made concentrations. President Bodnar said they would still be concentrations. 

Senator Parsons asked if these reductions and cuts would affect recruitment effort. President Bodnar said this is why they tried to focus on reductions instead of cuts. 

President Bodnar said the next draft will be sent out in the fall, they will be sent to the commissioner’s office then. 

Senator Capece asked for how these will benefit the student body. President Bodnar said this will make UM focused on programs with student demand. 

Senator Cowley spoke to the concern that students who will be finishing out in programs that are going to be cut that their degrees won’t be very worth it. President Bodnar said they are looking at offering classes at more flexible times to avoid those students running into scheduling issues. 

d. Other 

Brian Kerns and Paul Trumbley from facility services explained their Storm Water Management plan to the senate. They went over a map that showed how the sewer system is laid out and how it disposes of excess water from storms. 

Bryce Bennet from MontPIRG spoke to the senate about their expansion plan to Montana State University. This will help them have an even bigger impact on the state as a whole. 

Vice President’s Report 

a. Committee Updates 

The below change is approved. 

b. Senator Reports 

All but two reports are in, they are due tomorrow. 

c. Other 

Volunteers are need for the Campus Committee on Facilities this Friday at 1:00 – 2:30 p.m. 

Senators Belcher and Capece volunteered. 

Business Manager’s Report 

a. Zero-Base Carryover: $128,383.86 

b. S.T.I.P.: $159,916.32 

c. Union Emergency: $1,813.91 ($1,011.91) 

d. Special Allocation: $6,086.61
e. **Travel Allocation: $353.30**
f. Union Emergency Travel Request – Men’s Ultimate Frisbee Smokejump: $802.00/$1,001.50
   - The request was approved at the recommended amount.
g. Informational Item: Resolution Regarding Co-Curricular Student Groups
   - Senator Welch would like to see this on the floor next week.
   - Senator Capece would also like to see this next week.
   - Vice President Love would like to see more discussion with more student groups on this.
   - Senator Schafer also would like to see more discussion on this before yes.
   - There will be a special Board on Budget and Finance meeting this weekend to discuss this resolution.
h. Birthdays
   - Senators Belcher, Welch, Fitzpatrick, and Schafer all had birthdays.
i. **Other**
   - Pacific Islander’s Club was named Student Group of the Year

**Committee Reports**
- Transportation is still looking at their budget. Special meeting will be on Friday.
- General Education Committee will meet next Thursday at 4:00 p.m.
- UMP will have a meeting discussing an organizational chart on Friday.
- Friday is the deadline for student groups to get funding requests in for anything happening before next semester.
- RCSF will allocate awards on May 7th.
- The Vice President of Administration and Finance search will be postponed until next semester.

**Unfinished Business**
- SB29-17/18 Resolution Prompting Diaper Change Stations in Restrooms
  - Senator Belcher moves to amend lines 36 – 38 to read “That ASUM requests that the President’s cabinet and UM Foundation establish the installation of diaper changing stations as a funding priority,” seconded by Senator Durnell. Motion passes.
  - Senator Cowley moves to reconsider striking the original language in lines 36-38, motion fails.
  - Senator Morrill moves to include “suitable” in line 40, seconded by Senator Lemm. Motion passes.
  - Resolution passes
- SB41-17/18 Resolution Creating a Spring Dumpster Drive
  - Senator Belcher moves to postpone indefinitely, seconded by Senator Durnell. Motion passes
- SB42-17/18 Resolution Regarding Parking Accessibility Mount Sentinel Trailhead
  - Resolution passes.
- SB43-17/18 Resolution Regarding Sustainability Coordinator Personnel Policy
  - Resolution passes.
- SB44-17/18 Resolution Regarding ASUM Student-Paid Positions
  - Senator Schafer moves to add “Changes may be made to the schedule with appropriate approval by the ASUM Business Manager.” In line 29, seconded by Senator Welch. Amendment passes.
  - Senator Durnell moves to strike lines 36-37, seconded by Senator Cowley. Withdrawn.
  - Senator Welch moves to replace “call” with “require in line 34, seconded by Senator Durnell.
  - Resolution passes.
- SB46-17/18 Resolution Regarding ASUM’s KBGA Personnel Policy
  - Resolution passes.

**New Business**
Resolution Regarding Lazy River on the Oval to R&A by Senator Schafer
Resolution Regarding Survivor-Style Elections to R&A by Senator Toppen
Resolution Regarding The Creation of the RNS Director to RCSF by Business Manager Kuiper
Resolution Regarding Purchasing the Secretary A New Computer to be Powered by the Shaking of President Fitzgerald to R&A By Senator Belcher
Resolution Regarding Squirrel Sanctuary to R&A by Senator Capece
Resolution Amending Sustainability Oversight Board’s Green Office Plan to Sustainability and one Establishing Marxism/Lennonism as our Driving Ideology to R&A by Senator Curtis
Resolution Regarding Election Bylaws and Editing Expense Forms to Elections Committee by Senator Lewis
Resolution Regarding Mystery Box to Be sent to R&A by Senator Morrill.
Resolution Regarding Dissolving ASUM to fund the MCLL to R&A by President Fitzgerald
Resolution Requesting that no Student Dollars be Spent on the Wardrobe of President Bodnar to R&A by Senator Belcher.
Resolution Replacing UM Mascot to R&A by Senator Durnell.
Resolution Regarding Allowing Ice Fishing on the Pond in the Lubrecht Experimental Forest to R&A by Senator Capece.
Resolution Requiring Ice Fishing Be Added to the General Education requirement to Gen Ed committee by Senator Belcher.
Resolution Regarding Resolution Titles to R&A by Senator Curtis
Resolution Regarding Tree Climbing Regulations for UM Admin to R&A by senator Quist
Resolution Regarding One or Two Year Anniversary of the Death of the Condom Chalice to R&A by Senator Morrill.

Comments

The meeting was adjourned at 12:04 p.m.

Christian Kiemele
ASUM Senate Secretary