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Documents from the January 16, 2019 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 5, 2018

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

5. PRESIDENT’S REPORT
   a. Swearing in of new senators
   b. Faculty Advisor vote
   c. Jordan Hess, Director, ASUM Office of Transportation
   d. Eva Rocke, UM Sustainability Coordinator
   e. Committee Report
   f. Student Group Coordinator Update
   g. Other

6. VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT
   a. OCHE Information
   b. Committee Assignments
   c. Office Hour Tasks
   d. Administration Mentorships
   e. Committee Communication
   f. Other
7. BUSINESS MANAGER’S REPORT

Zero-Base Carryover: $199,741.00
S.T.I.P.: $189,959.00
Special Allocations total: $10,733.00
  Fall: $3,033.00  Spring: $7,700.00
Spring Travel: $23,944.00
Union Emergency: $6,195.00

  a. Binder buddies
  b. Overview of accounts
  c. Birthdays
  d. Other

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS

9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

10. NEW BUSINESS

11. COMMENTS

12. ADJOURNMENT
Chair Welch called the meeting to order at 6:34 pm.

The minutes from the December 5, 2018 meeting were approved.

Public Comment
- John DeBoer, former ASUM advisor and interim Dean of the College of Visual and Performing Arts
  - Will still be available to senators
- Maggie Noriega, Forester’s Ball Publicity Officer
  - Senators are welcome to help set up for Forester’s Ball
  - Forester’s Ball is February 1 and 2. Construction is from January 28 - February 1.
  - Tickets are available online at GrizTix, and the student discount will be available in the UC from 8-5

President’s Report
a. Motion to approve new senators as a slate. Passed unanimously.
b. New Senators were sworn in
c. Megan Stark is the suggested ASUM advisor for the remainder of the year.
   a. ASUM will look for a new advisor for next year, so communicate with President Butler about suggestions.
   b. Parsons: What made you want to come back?
      a. ASUM is important
   c. Motion to approve Megan Stark as ASUM faculty advisor. Passed unanimously.
d. Jordan Hess, Director of ASUM Office of Transportation
   a. Office of Transportation has been working with Downtown Missoula Partnership to improve options for students
   b. Working with Mountain Line on a new facilities plan
   c. Working with Facilities and Sustainability on parking changes
      a. Convenient, affordable access to campus is a priority
   d. Focusing on complying with regulations associated with the grant for electric buses from last year
   e. ASUM electric buses have saved money and resources
f. ASUM Transportation Ambassadors
   a. Promote sustainable methods of transportation around Missoula
   b. Educate students, faculty, and staff about sustainable transportation options
   c. Activities
      1. Manage bike fleet and bike rentals
2. Tabling around campus and at Missoula College
3. ASUM Transportation offers free bike lights
4. Collaborate with other groups in Missoula and on campus
   a. Commuter challenge with Missoula in Motion in March
5. Looking to increase their one-on-one interactions and education
6. Want to improve interactions between commuters
7. Increasing their activity on social media (@asumtransportation)
8. February 8th is Bike to Work day. There will be tables around campus.

d. Ambassadors have office hours
e. Parsons: What kind of outreach are you doing for the commuter challenge?
   1. They are just starting, but will mostly be helping out Missoula in Motion
   2. They are also focusing on helping outside groups spend more time on campus
f. Parsons: Where is Transportation at on collaborating with Mountain Line for the storage facilities?
   1. Mountain Line has hired a consultant
      a. Location analysis and selecting a site
      b. Analysis should be complete in May, decision next year
   g. Johnston: Will the new buses be on new routes, or replace old buses?
      1. The electric buses will replace old buses

e. Eva Rocke, UM Sustainability Coordinator, will not be at the meeting, but will discuss parking at a future meeting
f. Committee Reports
   a. ASUM Staff Meeting
      a. Search committee for new Sustainability Director
      b. Child Care is at maximum capacity
   b. Student Affairs directors meeting
   c. New VP for Operations and Finance is Paul Lasiter
      a. Will be at a future senate meeting to talk about mandatory fees

g. Student Group Coordinator Update
   a. President Butler will be the new direct supervisor for SGC, shared with Hailey Michelson
      a. Please bring suggestions to President Butler
   b. SGC will be the one helping all student groups with budgeting questions
   c. Parsons: What is Hailey Michelson’s relationship with ASUM, and why does she have partial oversight of the SGC?
a. ASUM worked with her to create this position, and the Branch Center provides half of her funds
d. Hanley: In the future, do you want to hire a staff member, or will you hire a student year-to-year?
   a. For now, we will hire a student on a yearly basis. The funds don’t currently exist for a full-time staff person.
e. BM Schafer: At most schools, all student group funding is done through the student union instead of student government
h. Update on legislature
   a. SPA is watching some bills, but it’s very early
   b. Execs went to Helena and visited with the lobbyists, and a subcommittee hearing on Education with OCHE
      a. Discussed resident student access
   c. Met with legislators
   d. Next Tuesday is MUS reception in Helena
   e. Lobby Day updates coming soon

Vice President’s Report
a. OCHE information on Resident Student Access
   a. Universities are working together with OCHE to recruit Montana students to Montana universities
      i. Change from individual efforts by campus
   b. New bill this year that will allow the MUS to look at ACT scores of high school students
   c. State-sponsored financial aid has decreased in recent years. Montana has one of the lowest rates of state support
   d. Working on a new college access portal for all MUS members
      i. Students will be matched to a counselor that will help them make the best choice in the MUS (long-term plan)
   e. Brown: Why are we focusing recruiting efforts in-state when there are not that many students to be gained?
      i. This is very important for legislators, which is the way to keep in-state tuition low
      ii. UM will continue to try and recruit students
   f. Hanley: At the last BOR, changes to residency requirements were being considered. Is OCHE still looking at potential effects?
      i. OCHE hasn’t released full info yet, but that’s not included in this information
      ii. Hanley: What is the timeline on those decisions?
         1. VP Welch is not sure when it will be introduced
   g. Parsons: Is anyone actively trying to advocate for vocational schools and first-generation students?
      i. OCHE emphasized CTE and helping students who aren’t looking for a 4 year university find other options in-state
h. Corkish: Is there an actual goal for this? What defines success?
   i. There was not an exact goal, but Montana would like to reach the national
      average of college continuation. They are currently below.

i. Miranda: Who is included in students who “stay in state”?
   i. This includes students who attend MUS institutions. Schools that are not
      part of the MUS are not counted in this percentage.

j. Akmal: What was the problem with ACT scores?
   i. A law was passed restricting the MUS from seeing high school students’
      scores unless the student paid to have them sent

k. Brown: How will these goals reach students who aren’t attending college? It
   seems like they would attract students who want to attend college, but might go
   out of state.
   i. They are using these strategies to try and get students who are not
      attending college to attend school in-state.
   ii. Akmal: These strategies are proven to increase college attendance among
       low-income students.

l. Milton: This document mentions a $5 million match by the Foundations. Is the
   UM foundation aware of that?
   i. Yes, they are

m. Schei: Has the MUS looked to incorporate more options, like vocational or
   cosmetology schools?
   i. The execs don’t know but will look into it

n. Parsons: Would like to know more about efforts to recruit non-traditional
   students.
   i. OCHE is looking at the best way to do this.

o. Paz: Does the percentage of people who stay in state include 2 year colleges and
   tribal colleges?
   i. Yes, it does

p. Anderson: Is OCHE looking at ways to make the academic process more
   efficient?
   i. Execs will look into it
   ii. Parsons: OSS is working to improve their alert systems for students in
       danger of losing financial aid or entering academic probation

q. Paz: Where will these counselors who will help high school students be located?
   i. This isn’t known yet, OCHE is still working on the exact processes

r. Grewell: Does this in-state number include private institutions?
   i. No, but not sure where those students are represented in the percentages

s. Flanagan: When the MUS changed from a formula funding system to a
   performance funding system, how did that affect resident student access?
   i. Execs are not sure

t. Johnston: Believes it would be more efficient to target large cities.
   i. This report is about resident student access and was made for the MT
      legislature

u. Johnston: Does MUS have other ideas about retention?
   i. Probably, but that wasn’t discussed in this report
v. Milton: The list of state-sponsored financial aid shows that some programs have been defunded or finished. Is there any chance that these will be reauthorized?
   i. There are not currently bills related to these programs. The Governor’s proposal includes new scholarship programs.
w. Schafer: Legislature appropriates funds and OCHE drives policy for the whole MUS. Each member of the MUS also has its own policies. OCHE believes that a reduction in state aid was a factor in the lower capture of in-state students, and that returning this aid will help.
x. Schei: How can senators influence out of state students to care about these issues?
   i. Any funding is a benefit for the University
y. Johnston: Having more money in the MUS benefits out of state students
z. Woody: How did states with more state funding per student fund their programs?
   Is OCHE’s plan based on any other states?
   i. It depends a lot on what percentage of funding comes from the state, and in Montana that percentage is low. Montana also has low tax revenue.
   aa. Hanley: Montana is doing a good job of keeping tuition low, but a bad job on state-sponsored financial aid. What is the discussion around that?
      i. Most discussions were about if state-sponsored aid would be need-based or merit-based

b. Office Hour Tasks
c. Committee Assignments
   a. Discussion called by Parsons
   b. Parsons: Search committees weren’t updated
      i. They will be updated next week
c. Committee assignments were approved
d. Administrative Mentorships
   a. New senators should sent their top 3 choices for a mentor to VP Welch via email
e. Committee meeting times should be set by Sunday
f. OCHE Event
   a. Tuesday, January 22
   b. Looking for a student who is trained to drive a University vehicle
g. Student Lobby Day will be February 12 in Helena
   a. Details forthcoming, but please keep this day as free as possible
h. Campus Day of Action will be February 21
i. General updates
   a. Tell the receptionists when you attend your office hour
   b. Make sure to take committee attendance
   c. Please give VP Welch 48 hours to respond to your email. Only send texts in case of emergency

Business Manager’s Report

Zero-Base Carryover: $199,741
S.T.I.P.: $189,959
Union Emergency: $6,195
Special Allocation: $10,733
Spring Travel: $23,944

- Binder Buddies
  - Binders for final budgeting are shared
  - Options:
    - Completely random assignment, or
    - BM Schafer can pair new senators with returning senators
  - Binder buddies might change every day
  - Akmal: At retreat, you said that we would have the same binder buddy throughout budgeting. Has that changed?
    - There are a few options, but BM Schafer thinks that pairing new senators with returning senators will be best
    - Same binder buddy each day, but the pairs would sit next to different other pairs
  - Nelson: Would new senators have any say in their binder buddy?
    - Pairs are always subject to change, and Schafer wants to make sure that the process moves smoothly
  - BM Schafer reserves the right to change binder buddies. She will bring a sign up sheet to the next meeting

- Overview of accounts
  - Zero-base Carryover
    - All ASUM funds must be spent within the fiscal year. If they are not spent, they return to zero-base
  - STIP/State Term Investment Pool
    - Purchases equipment in amounts over $150
    - Items must last for at least 2 years
  - Special Allocations
    - Unforeseen events or unforeseen costs for previously planned events
  - Spring Travel
  - Union Emergency: for unexpected travel expenses for music and sports unions

- Birthdays

Committee Reports
  a. Anderson: Child care will meet tomorrow at 8 in the ASUM office to discuss budget. Will meet with Foundation next week. 80 kids are on the waiting list, so they are working on solutions.
    - GPSC will meet next Thursday at 8 in the law school
  b. Akmal: Gen Ed met today. Gen ed pilot may be bumped to Fall 2020. Looking to increase interdisciplinary classes and seminar options.
  c. Corkish: ASCRC met yesterday to discuss using Starfish to reach out to students sooner. Senators were asked to write a similar resolution to show support.
    - Hanley: Where can we find a copy of their resolution?
      1. Probably online, but Corkish can send
d. Gregory: Motion to approve School Psychology Student Organization and Arabic Club as student groups. Unanimously approved.

e. Koch: Housing and Marketing and outreach committee scheduling emails going out soon.

f. Hanley: Relations and Affairs will meet on Fridays at 5, starting this Friday, in the ASUM conference room. Transportation scheduling email will go out soon.

g. Belcher: Online Program Management committee drafted a document to bring in an online program management company. Some contention over faculty control, but this company would manage some of the recruitment. Over the semester, the committee will look at companies that are interested and make recommendations to the president and provost. UM would likely begin working with the company this summer. Committee will meet on Friday at 9 am.
   i. Please respond to SPA scheduling meeting.
   ii. UPC will meet biweekly on Fridays at 1pm.
   iii. Schei: How will these companies control and protect student information?
      1. The RFP includes information about security, and Belcher will bring a copy to the next meeting.
   iv. Parsons: Are there significant costs with outsourcing this?
      1. UM would sign a contract with the company to give these companies a part of the tuition
   v. BOR policy about tuition would affect potential rates
   vi. BM Schafer: Can Belcher ask the committee about fees for those students?
      1. Belcher will ask about the ASUM fee

h. Parsons: Please respond to Legal scheduling email. Will probably meet Friday afternoons, starting next Friday.

i. Grewell: Interview committee will probably not meet.

j. Hiett: Pantzer award committee met and award should be announced next month.
   i. Orientation committee continues. Orientation will now be 7 days and include a Big Sky Experience for all students, but the final schedule is still in progress. Waiting on the president and provost to meet to discuss funding and credit
      1. Parsons: How will orientation affect non-traditional students?
         a. Waiting on President and Provost to meet to decide
      2. Schei: What will the costs be for orientation?
         a. Still unknown. Potentially for-credit. Students will be able to move into the residence halls for orientation. Exact numbers are unknown.
      3. Corkish: If orientation were offered as a credit, how would that be applied?
         a. Would be a C&I credit, like freshman seminar
      4. Milton: Have incoming freshmen in marching band and athletes been considered?
         a. That would count as a kind of Big Sky Experience, probably
      5. Johnston: How are the events organized for this new orientation? What else will be added, in addition to the BSE?
a. Traditional orientation activities, like learning about campus and resources. Want to offer a sample class to help students with learning strategies.

6. Woody: Does the university have the capacity to hold this many students?
   a. Yes, they would move into the residence halls early

7. Paz: How many students are on the committee?
   a. Senator Belcher will now be on the committee, and there are also UM Advocate members.

8. Senator Hiett would like the schedule to be prepared soon.

9. Miranda: Has the committee considered that low-income students will not be able to afford increased costs?
   a. If the experience is worth credit, financial aid could be applied

10. Hiett: Bear Track days in spring will take over some things like writing assessments and planning for classes, but there is still some question about out of state students

11. Gregory: How would this affect international students?
   a. International orientation would likely remain separate

ii. Elections will meet every-ish Tuesday at 7:30am in UC 216
   1. Dates will be April 17 and 18 for general election. Primary would be April 10 and 11 if necessary. Campaigning will probably begin the week before spring break.
   iii. Dean of Education search committee will meet next week
   iv. Campus and Facilities committee wants to have a contest for students to decorate the parking structure. Hiett would like another senator to work on it, so contact him if interested

k. Flanagan: Will send out scheduling email for website upkeep committee

l. Butler: ASUM Student Service award winner is Tommy Jensen, who will attend next week’s meeting

Unfinished Business

New Business

- Resolutions proposed in new business must be turned in by Friday at 12:30pm
- Hanley: Resolution defining the Student at Large position, to be sent to R and A
- Hiett: Resolution regarding petitions for elections, to be sent to Elections

Comments

The meeting was adjourned at 9:24 p.m.

Daisy Ward
ASUM Senate Secretary