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Fall 10-30-2019

### Documents from the October 30, 2019 Meeting of the Associated Students of the University of Montana (ASUM)

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David, Anna-Marie, "Documents from the October 30, 2019 Meeting of the Associated Students of the University of Montana (ASUM)" (2019). *Senate Meeting Agendas and Minutes, 2007-Present*. 315.  
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**ASUM SENATE MINUTES**  
*Wednesday, October 30, 2019*  
*UC 225- 6pm*

**Chair Hanley called the meeting to order at 6:05.**

**Present: Senators; Akmal, Brennan, Borghesani, Durnell, Flanagan, Fulton, Glueckert, Hahn, Hurley, Jimmie, Johnston, Kalonde, Kiefer, Nelson, Pfeifer, Powell, Ream, Tarallo, Thompson, Willmus. Absent and Excused: Senators; Anderson.**

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – October 23, 2019**

- a. Durnell – Johnston amend Section b, Todd-. Toth. Motion Passed
- b. Nelson – Fulton: amend Bodner to Bodnar. Motion passed
- c. Senator Kiefer – Tarallo: semi colon to colon. Motion passed.
- d. Gluekert- Flanagan: approve minutes. Motion passes

**4. PUBLIC COMMENT**

- a. Ross Best – Student
  - a. Hearing loss. Cannot hear in meetings, please speak up.
  - b. Comment on “swastika discussion”
  - c. Widespread problem in public meetings – catch all agenda items, they don’t tell the public what is really being discussed. Request that discussion of swastika issue is delayed until more students are aware that the issue will be discussed.
  - d. University webpages are out of date, including diversity advisory council.
  - e. DAC should step back and allow public comment on the swastika on Corbin Hall issue

**5. PRESIDENT’S REPORT**

- a. Adrienne Smith, University Center Director and Diversity Advisory Council
  - a. Also present – Hailey Michelson, member of DAC
  - b. Diversity Advisory Council was made aware of the swastika on Corbin Hall last fall, at the time didn’t have enough information to make a recommendation
  - c. Corbin Hall built 1927, built during the spiritualism movement, when these “aristica” symbols were common (which appear in many Eastern cultures). Historical preservation society confirmed that these motifs were used across the state. At this time the swastika was used as a symbol of well-being and good luck until WWII. This symbol is left facing and includes dots, which means that it’s a Hindu symbol. Historical preservation office says that we can

remove the tile if we need, but it would adversely affect the buildings heritage qualities. They recommend that we put up a sign. Smith also passed around pictures of the tile in question and other examples of the tiles on Corbin Hall.

- d. DAC will bring this information to all governing bodies before making a final recommendation. They are currently recommending replacing the tile with something else in a similar style.
- e. Questions:
  - i. Flanagan: can a senator yield their time to a member of the audience
    1. Belcher: yes
  - ii. Fulton: where will this tile be located afterwards? Will the cultural relevance still be displayed so students can still understand the difference?
    1. Smith: not sure of the answer.
  - iii. Tarallo: Don't you think as a place of higher education we should educate the students rather than removing the controversy
    1. Smith: the students we have heard from have preferred to remove, as the sign just excuses the symbol.
  - iv. Tarallo: is it our place to determine what symbols are and what they mean?
    1. Smith: I think it is. It's quite clear that this symbol is still perceived as a Nazi symbol.
  - v. Durnell: If time is yielded to an audience member can senators still ask questions of both the audience and the public speaker?
    1. Belcher: another senator would have to yield to the audience member again, or we could reopen public comment
  - vi. Fulton: if we do take this down could that negatively affect the students who do follow Hinduism? Or another appropriate symbol
    1. Michelson: we will bring in people to help us decide what symbol to use
  - vii. Fulton: Will other buildings in the state with this symbol also be affected if we decide to remove this?
    1. Smith: I can only speculate. My opinion is no. When students look at that symbol they recognize it as a swastika because it was misappropriated by the Nazi party, the symbol has changed with history.
  - viii. Flanagan: called dilatory by Belcher
  - ix. Hanley: this portion of the discussion is a Q and A only.
  - x. Gluekert: Since this has been up for so long, why is this issue coming up now?
    1. Smith because we had a student bring it to us, my understanding is that is brings up periodically, just no one has made a decision before. Until a decision is made it will continue
  - xi. Tarallo: if we take this particular tile down where do we draw the line?
    1. Smith: is that realistic? People are not upset over simple logos, that argument diverts the discussion at hand. It's not the same.

- xii. Jimmie: Does this symbol have any significance to tribes in the area?
      - 1. Smith: we could not find any connection
- f. We just need to know what the senate's thoughts are on this issue before we move forward with a final recommendation by the spring.
- g. Discussion on the issue as a whole:
  - i. Hanley: if you are all interested in taking a formal stance please write a resolution. We can also just have general discussion.
  - ii. Belcher: I do not recommend that resolution be introduced tonight
  - iii. Flanagan – Tarallo move to open public comment
    - 1. Motion passed.
- h. Public comment reopened:
  - i. Ross Best – Student
    - 1. Agree that the best thing to do is to have someone submit a resolution. The general public has not been properly apprised of the status of the decision making process.
    - 2. The press should have the opportunity to inform the public of the situation.
    - 3. Frustrating that so many important issues are dealt with behind the scenes
- i. Discussion on the issue as a whole
  - i. Fulton: taking this down is not the best idea due to the fact that this has relevance to other cultures. Many tribes are trying to reclaim symbols. This symbol is all over, we should not be the ones making the decision to take it down, we should be educating our students
  - ii. Brennan: I also do not agree with taking down the tile. I think that we can't erase our history and taking it down does that. There is much more meaning behind the tile than just the Nazi party. It is not a swastika it represents many good things. I cannot support taking it down
  - iii. Tarallo: I think every one would agree that the swastika is a symbol of hate. This symbol is not a swastika, it is not up to us to decide which parts of tribal cultures are okay in today's society. We're not educating anyone on the matter.
  - iv. Gluekert: I support taking this down. We all know what it represents. I understand that it isn't a swastika, but we know that it is very offensive to many students and could students away. I don't think taking it down takes away the history, the archives will preserve the history. This is a good opportunity for media to educate as to why it was removed. If anyone wants to work on a resolution talk to me.
  - v. Flanagan: I don't have a strong opinion either way there were good arguments on both sides. I'd like to hear more from the student body, we've only heard from one student so far
  - vi. Thompson: replacing this would be the worst opinion, that would just wash over the history. No one knows where the archives are. Removing it would just further associate this with the Nazi party.

- vii. Johnston: I believe we should take it down. It is a swastika, I am sure the council has taken into consideration how this will be considered by tribes in the area and students practicing Hindu. I personally don't see a huge reason to keep it up beyond preserving the building. Think harder about the people it could affect.
- viii. Akmal: We aren't telling other religions that this is offensive, we're considering it in our context. People do not feel safe. Personally, I care the most about student safety, this is something we can easily fix. Everyone has the right to feel safe here. This symbol does not make people think about love and happiness. I am favor of removing it
- ix. Durnell: there is a lot of hopeful discussion about the symbol returning to its rightful context, but I don't think this is possible as a result of mass genocide. There is no historical context for the tribes in this region, this has been discussed on campus before. People were murdered just because of who they were, that isn't something you can remove just by educating people about a symbol. This is a symbol of hate and I am offended as a gay man. Please stop avoiding discussing genocide.
- x. Fulton: I think it shouldn't be archived, because it wouldn't be publicly displayed. If we can't see our history we are doomed to repeat it. We need to take the time to educate students about what this symbol means. If we take this down we should be displaying it and not hiding from it, it does have symbolism of hate but I love the fact that is is displayed and that we can learn from it. We should know what stuff means and we shouldn't be afraid of having these discussions.
- xi. Tarallo: We further allow the corruption of the symbol by taking it down and associating with them. We legitimize it's use by the nazi party, members on this party joke about communism which killed more people.
- xii. Brennan: I stand firm is saying it should stay up. The pentagram on the hello walk is offensive to some people, but to me it is a symbol of peace. We cannot just ignore other people's religious affiliations. If it is taken down it should be displayed with an explanation.
- xiii. Flanagan: I appreciate the plurality being displayed. I have heard some talk of resolutions, if such a resolution were to appear I would recommend the authors to survey the student body and have that reflected in the resolution and ask students to come to public comment.
- xiv. Jimmie: I don't think it's right to bring up tribes, there is no tribal significance. If we have a placard it could be seen as glorifying the symbol.
- xv. Hurley: Archives are created so people can look at them in the future when researching, there will be documentation.
- xvi. Akmal: If we were to erase the symbol that would include destroying the tile that is not what we are planning on doing. In terms of historical context, Corbin Hall will remain beautiful even with one tile missing. Students who never noticed this tile won't notice that its missing. This

symbol was already coopted by the architect, which speaks to a history of cultural appropriation in this country. Removing this symbol does not make it become a nazi symbol, but we cannot ignore the connections it has to the Nazi party.

- xvii. Johnston: Let's say you see this on the welcome walk as a potential student, think about what it looks like right away. I would think it was a Nazi swastika. We don't have a hammer and sickle anywhere on Corbin. I see no issue with including this in the library display or archives. Make sure when you survey that it is informal, doing a full survey is difficult and expensive.
- xviii. Durnell: It's wise of the senate to reflect on the diversity council's approach to this, they were able to recognize both the hateful and peaceful contexts this symbol is associated with. They were able to make the comprehensive recommendation to remove it. We can do the same thing.
- xix. Fulton: Can I look up which tribes this symbol is associated with
  - 1. Belcher: yes
- xx. Tarallo: Archiving this symbol can erase this history because no one might look for it. Arguments made for the removal say few people have noticed it, this is also an argument for keeping it up
- xxi. Flanagan: Yield to Smith
  - 1. Smith: DiverseU is coming up, we can add this as a session to open up this dialogue to all students and community members.
- xxii. Flanagan: yield to Best
  - 1. Best: you should not be making a recommendation tonight, the general public has had no notice that this is being considered. Bring this discussion back after DiverseU
- xxiii. Brennan: when the DiverseU session is added please let the senate know when it is
- xxiv. Akmal: I want to emphasize that the issue here isn't of disrespecting religions, it's an issue of how the students feel about it and how we are respecting those students. We should all consider that.
- xxv. Johnston: realize that we represent the student body and not ourselves. Think about how all of the students feel.
- xxvi. Fulton: based on my research on some kind of native American sites. One of these tribes is in Eastern MT
- xxvii. Tarallo: in our thoughts of representing the students, remember that some don't have a problem with it an may be offended by the removal

## b. Committee Reports

- a. Unit standards committee
  - i. Reviewed standards
- b. Orientation
  - i. New orientation programming
- c. Marketing coordinator position
  - i. Visit to campus

- c. Online Public Comment
  - a. None this week
- d. Other
  - a. Cabinet
    - i. Presentation from Cathy Cole and Dan Bolling about the new website, they have been invited to the senate
  - b. MSA with Wiley will be done this week or next
    - i. Wiley's camp will be done reviewing and will send to shared governance to review
  - c. Questions
    - i. Hahn: Once Wiley is done where does it go?
      - 1. Belcher: shared governance will discuss concerns then Wiley will review again
    - ii. Nelson: Did you know the presentation today would be focused on the swastika?
      - 1. Belcher: yes, sorry I forgot to inform you
      - 2. Hanley: I should have informed the senate, we will bring it back and add it to the agenda

## 6. VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

- a. Committee Updates
  - a. Fulton – Nelson add Fulton to Constitutional Ad hoc.
    - i. Motion Passed
  - b. Tarallo – Brennan
    - i. UC Fulton
    - ii. Motion Passed
- b. Basketball Game
  - a. Day before BOR
  - b. Game starts at 6:15
  - c. Let Hanley know before the 14<sup>th</sup> so he can inform the president's office
    - i. Fulton: if we're going to BOR can we also go to the game
      - 1. Hanley: yes
- c. Check In Meeting
  - a. Should have all received an email about this.
  - b. Reply back to schedule a time for these meetings.
  - c. Important to know how senators feel about ASUM and what projects are being worked on and getting done
  - d. Gluekert: is this different from the check in meetings with committee charis?
    - i. Hanley: it can be the same meeting
- d. Committee Reports

- a. Search committee for Mansfield
  - i. Zoom interviews will be next week
- b. ASCRC
  - i. Light meeting
  - ii. Lucy Frantz is creating a form for students to authorize references so staff can give references, this is a stipulation of FERPA
  - iii. Innovation certificate discussion was pushed to next week, Provost Harbor will come to discuss this at ASCRC, if you want to come please do
  - iv. Looking at a flow chart about writing requirements, this flow chart will be sent to senate to look over. Email comments to Hanley.
  - v. Fulton: did you approve the multidisciplinary degree
    - 1. Hanley: yes we did. Faculty senate have not seen that yet.
  - vi. Fulton: when will Fac Sen see it
    - 1. Hanley: next meeting is Nov 14<sup>th</sup>, they should see it then, not sure
- e. Other
  - a. None

## 7. BUSINESS MANAGER'S REPORT

**Zero-Base Carryover:** \$145,355.33

**S.T.I.P.:** \$220,091.13

**Special Allocation:** \$20,029.81 (\$255)

**Fall Emergency Travel Allocation:** \$1,982.55

**Union Emergency:** \$6,000.00

- a. Dennison Theater Event Funds
  - 1. Establishes cap for credit
  - 2. Similar to Special Allocation request
  - 3. Discussion
    - i. Fulton: why aren't unions allowed to use this
      - 1. Parsons: student groups in the unions can, but they cannot request to use the Dennison as a whole
    - ii. Motion to approve Passes.
- b. Financial Requests
  - 1. Russian Club: Special Allocation (\$225)
  - 2. Johnston: this is straightforward and small. This is 20 students getting tickets
  - 3. Fulton: do you know if this is a professional or UM production
    - i. Durnell: this is the Moscow Ballet
  - 4. Flanagan: This \$225 would be taken out of the \$2500 for this semester right?
    - i. Parsons: this is coming out of special allocations towards tickets
  - 5. Motion to approve passes.



- c. Committee Reports
  - 1. University budget committee
    - i. Working on budgeting model for academic programs on campus
      - 1. Reward programs performing well
      - 2. Functioning similarly to APASP focused on budgeting needs
      - 3. Will impact every program
    - ii. Pub board
      - 1. Met with the Kaimin to discuss budget and personnel
      - 2. We don't oversee the Kaimin, just the budget. We don't control any of the content
      - 3. They are doing well and have good plans for the future
- d. Birthdays
  - 1. Celebrating Senator Hahn
  - 2. Celebrating Senator Anderson
- e. Other
  - 1. None tonight

## 8. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. Gluekert: the due date was 3:00 and the emails were sent out at 2:47 can I give my report orally.
- b. Hurley: student computer fees committee, will not fund part of Starfish.
- c. Johnston: UAC met, discussed what has been in the newspaper. Also discussed the thunder sticks at the football games, hope to find a more sustainable noise making option.
- d. Belcher: Were policies about transgender athletes discussed
  - a. Johnston: no
- e. Fulton: Gen Ed subcommittee met, we focused on cultural studies. Biggest issue we've had was with classroom goals and how professors judge classes. Not enough information was provided. Music Union is looking through documents to remove 'red flags'.
- f. Nelson: Met with Mentee Seth Bodnar. Discussed ideas for recruitment and marketing, as well as ideas for retention. May survey highschoolers about how they feel about UM. Will discuss sexual assault issues in the past. Please send me ideas
- g. Flanagan: Move to provisionally recognize Dance Club, Forward Montana, Lambda Pi Eta
  - a. Fulton second
  - b. UC
- h. Gluekert: SPA will start meeting once a month, we are looking at the bylaws for the committee. Look for a resolution next week regarding these bylaws, there is a section where SPA elects someone on senate to be a city council liaison, the committee

decided to change this as well as membership during non-legislative years. Looking to run a student survey about priorities for next year

## **9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- a. SB24-19/20: Resolution to Amend ASUM Bylaws to Include Missoula College-West Campus
  - a. Hahn: Authorship. Reviewed the bylaws and realized that West Campus was not included. This formally designates WC under the committee bylaws
  - b. Passes 20 Y 0 N 1A
- b. SB25-19/20: Resolution Amending the ASUM Bylaws to Reflect Gender Neutral Pronouns
  - a. Hurley: This is a simple resolution, the bylaws should reflect gender neutral pronouns to include all students
  - b. Durnell: this is formatted the same way as the previous resolution.
  - c. Flanagan: Urge the senate to pass unanimously, one of our core values is diversity. If you want to vote no please explain why
  - d. Johnston: Thank you to both authors. This should be passed
  - e. Hurley – Akmal, change it to IT
    - i. UC
  - f. Pass 18 Y 2N 2A

## **10. NEW BUSINESS**

- a. Durnell: Resolution to Amend ASUM House Rules to reflect gender neutral pronouns to R&A
  - a. Similar to proposed last week, didn't get it in last week
  - b. Resolution to Amend ASUM Fiscal Policy to reflect gender neutral pronouns to B&F
    - i. Same deal different document
- b. Nelson: Resolution regarding sustainability fee referendum to R&A and Sustainability
  - a. Looking to make the sustainability fee mandatory
- c. Gluekert: Resolution amending SPA bylaws regarding ASUM City Council Liaison sent to SPA and R&A
  - a. In the bylaws in the SPA section it states that someone from ASUM is appointed to go to city council meetings, this person should be reappointed every month. This is being changed to every semester
- d. Johnston: Resolution supporting Sonocent's fee to be migrated to IT services to R&A
  - a. Sonocent's fees are currently in Missoula college and DSS, this fee should be moved to IT services

## **11. ADJOURNMENT**

- Fulton- Powell. UC called
- Discussion called – Johnston
- Fulton: lets get out of here so we can do something fun
- Johnston: I wanted to see the costumes one last time.

- Motion Passes.

Adjourned 8:02