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Documents from the September 26, 1990 meeting of the Associated Students of the University of Montana (ASUM)

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Associated Students
University of Montana

ASUM SENATE AGENDA
Mt. Sentinel Rooms
September 26, 1990
6:00 p.m.

1. Call Meeting to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Approval of Minutes
4. President's Report
 - a. Summer Work Report
 - b. Fall Schedule Presentation
 - c. Senate Vacancy
 - d. Senate Computer & Office
5. Vice President's Report
 - a. Committee Appointments
 - b. Extracurricular Extravaganza
 - c. Liaison
 - d. Carol
6. Business Manager's Report
7. Committee Reports
8. Public Comment Period
9. Old Business
10. New Business
11. Comments
12. Adjournment

ASUM SENATE TALLY SHEET

DATE

9/26/90

SENATE MEMBERS

ROLL
CALL

Comment

Dan Astle

✓

No

Teresa Bell

Xcused

Tim Berg

✓

No

Tim Dahlberg

X

Linda Farr

X

Eric Hummel

✓

Yes

Kelli McMaster

✓

No

~~Justin B. Nelson~~

-

Scott Nelson

✓

No

Linn M. Parish

✓

No

Paula Pellitier

✓

Yes

Pat Price

Xcused

Geannine Rapp

✓

Yes

Polly Rhodes

✓

No

Amy Clark Stevens

✓

No

Tyler Thompson

✓

No

Annie Thorgrimson

✓

No

Marc Vessar

✓

Yes

Steve Young

✓

No

Ed Zink

6:29

6:29

Yes

Ex-officio

ASUM OFFICERS

Chris Warden

✓

Yes

President

Alice Hinshaw

✓

Yes

Vice-President

Doug Wagner

✓

Yes

Business Manager

FACULTY ADVISOR

Pat Edgar

✓

Yes

ASUM SENATE MINUTES
Mt. Sentinel Rooms
September 26, 1990
6:00 p.m.

Chairman Hinshaw called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. Members present were Astle, Berg, Hummel, McMaster, Nelson, Parish, Pelletier, Rapp, Rhodes, Stevens, Thompson, Thorgrimson, Vessar, Young and Zink (6:29). Excused were Bell and Price. Unexcused were Dahlberg and Farr.

Hummel - Vessar moved to approve the minutes of the May 30, 1990, meeting as written. Motion passed.

President's Report

- a. Summer Work Report (Executive Report Summer 1990) - distributed (Exhibit A)
- b. Fall Schedule Presentation (Important Dates for Fall Quarter) - distributed (Exhibit B)
- c. Senate Vacancy - Applications are available in the ASUM Office and are due Friday, September 28. Interviews will be held Tuesday, September 2, from 4-6 p.m. and Wednesday, September 3, from 2-3 p.m. in 15-min. intervals.
- d. Senate Computer & Office - A computer will be installed in the Senate Office for ASUM business use only - no homework. Big Sky Telegraph, through an electronic bulletin board program, enables the Montana University System to send messages to each other.

Vice President's Report

- a. Hinshaw presented the following slate for committee appointments:

Cory Henderson - Student Union Board representative to Drug & Alcohol Abuse

Brian Dailey - Library & Archives

Billy Rathert - International Student Advisory Committee

Rocky Gilleard, Eunice Nah - Scholarship, Financial Aid

Teresa Bell - Semester Transition

Andy Calkins, International Committee

Olivia Olsen - Pantzer Award Committee

Amy Jo Fisher - Academic Standing and Curriculum Review

Amy Jo Fisher - Alternate, Student Complaint

Nathan Wilkinson - AIDS Advisory

Tyler Thompson - Computer Users Advisory

Rick Shrum - Elections Review, Reform

Reed Overfelt, Alex McGavin - Graduate Council

Tim Ross - Health Services

Mark Vessar, Eric Hummel, Paula Pelletier - Senator
Replacement (assisting executive officers)

Vessar - Warden moved to approve above slate. Motion passed.

- b. Extracurricular Extravaganza - will be held Tuesday, October 9, from 6-9 p.m. Hinshaw requested that the senators attend and wear their ASUM T-shirts and name tags.
- c. Liaison - Contact Teresa Bell to get involved in being a liaison for an ASUM group. Thompson is with the International Students, and Rapp is with ADSUM. Program began last spring and needs to be revitalized.

Hinshaw yielded the floor to Greg Fine, Legislative Action Director, who announced the voter registration drive to be held Mon., Oct. 1, and asked for volunteer help.

- d. ASUM Office Manager Hayes reminded senators of the breakfast with Dean of Students Hollmann at 7:30 a.m. Tuesday, Oct. 2, and asked that they RSVP on the circulating sheet, along with an RSVP regarding the retreat to be held at Yellow Bay Oct. 13 and 14. Hayes distributed a schedule of Senate meetings for fall quarter (Exhibit C). Finally, Hayes circulated a list of senator addresses and phone numbers to be updated.

Business Manager's Report

Wagner indicated that the Budget and Finance Committee would be holding their first meeting soon, after which he would be bringing several issues before the Senate - including the Kaimin account and one other ASUM account, both of which are in deficit.

Committee Reports

Warden requested a meeting of the By-Law Review Committee as soon as possible.

Public Comment Period

Old Business - None

New Business

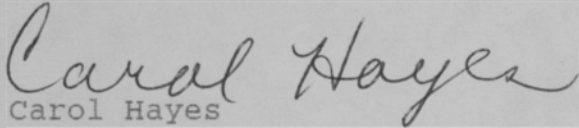
ASUM Senate Meeting
September 26, 1990
page three

Warden - Wagner moved to change the Wednesday, Oct. 31, meeting to Tuesday, Oct. 30 to accommodate Halloween and to change the Wednesday, November 21, meeting to Tuesday, November 20, to accommodate travel for Thanksgiving.

Comments

Vessar - Thompson moved to adjourn at 6:32 p.m. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,



Carol Hayes
ASUM Office Manager

Executive Report **Summer 1990**

Presented to the ASUM Senate Wednesday, September 26

The following is a list of what Alice, Doug and I did this summer. All three of us devoted most of our summer to working here at ASUM. ASUM Bylaws do state that only one executive will be paid during the summer, so we opted to split that salary three ways. Subsequently, I feel we accomplished many things.

We focused on five main areas this summer:

- 1). Representing UM Students at the Board of Regents and the Montana Association of Students Convention
- 2). Establishing Relations with New University President
- 3). Preparing for the Legislative Session
- 4). Participating in Student Outreach Programs
- 5). Dealing with the Kaimin Debt.

Representing UM Students at Board of Regents and the Montana Association of Students.

Regent Meetings

We represented ASUM and the University at three Regent meetings since our last ASUM Senate Meetings. These meetings took place on the following dates:

June 14-15	Helena
July 30-31	Helena
September 13-14	Pablo

Discussed during the first two meetings was the new lobbying proposal for the

University System. This proposal, which is being spearheaded by Commissioner Jon Hutchinson, outlines the systems approach to the upcoming legislative session. Details on this proposal will be covered at the Retreat.

A new student Regent was appointed by Governor Stephens during the second summer meeting. His name is Brad Musgrove, a student from Bozeman. You will be able to meet him at the October 25-26 Regents meeting that is to be held here at UM.

Lastly, ASUM did testify at the third summer meeting held in Pablo. On the agenda was UM proposed Fee Inventory of Fall Quarter. (See attached article). The big issue concerned the approval of the Health Service Fee. Last year the Senate approved this increase conditional on our nurses receiving a pay upgrade from the State of Montana. At the time of the Regents meeting, they had not received this upgrade. The upgrade was approved, since the Regents felt the upgrade might come within the coming weeks. The nurses did receive the upgrade last week.

MAS Convention

We also attended the Montana Association of Students (MAS) Conference held this summer at EMC September 7-9. MAS is a group made up of all the university student body presidents and elected officers. (See attached article.)

At this meeting we discussed the legislative session and a number of regential issues that we would like to tackle this year. Two developments are of noted interest.

1). MAS has decided to approach the Montana Legislature as a united effort. This includes coordination of legislative resources and a common legislative agenda. We will be planning our approach to the legislature during a string of meetings to be held this quarter. Our first is next week, October 5, in Helena.

2). The communication gap between the Montana U-System student governments has been temporarily bridged. We now have direct modem access through our computer system here at ASUM to all the other student government associations. This system is being routed through Big Sky Telegraph, the computer bulletin board system that we saw on our tour of

Western Montana College last spring quarter. I will show you all how to use this system in the near future.

Establishing Relations with New University President

One of our biggest goals this year was to establish and build a good working relationship with our new University President and Administration. I feel that we are well on our way to accomplishing that objective. Already we have had an opportunity to meet with President Dennison on a number of occasions. These discussions have led to a mutual understanding of how we are going to tackle some of the issues that concern both the students and the administration here on campus.

To help do this, President Dennison has agreed to meet with us for four miniature "Summit Meetings" in which we can propose and discuss ideas concerning any student issue of our choice. In addition to these meetings, we will be meeting weekly with the Dean of Students to discuss student affairs issues. We are optimistic that this new relationship will result in a solution to a number of student issues that we have been addressing for the past few years.

Preparing for the Legislative Session

Greg Fine and I have spent a great deal of time prepping for the session, which begins in January. Our legislative effort, which has been nicknamed the "S.A.V.E. our University Campaign" stresses voter registration, getting students to the polls on Elections Day, and getting them involved with pertinent student issues during the session. Here are some brief highlights of what we have done:

- 1). We have established Student Voter Registration Day- October 1- which will occur across campus. Individual letters have been sent to all dorm students along with voter registration cards. Hopefully we will have a high percentage of new students register to vote.
- 2). We will be doing an advertising blitz to remind students to go to the polls on Election Day. We will provide details to you during the retreat.

3). We have been coordinating our efforts with other lobbying interests here on campus. This has been done through the UM Legislative Task Force, which is a bi-weekly to monthly meeting of all University lobbying entities (including administration, faculty, staff and students). We will be making a presentation to them on October 9 concerning our first draft lobbying ideas. This will be presented to the Senate during our retreat.

4). We are putting together a legislative data base, which will organize important information about legislators. This data base will give us the option of providing quick mass mailing and support identification of various issues.

5). We are putting together battle plans for issues we feel we might encounter during the session. For example, if we encounter a tuition increase, we are planning what we should do, how to get students to respond, etc. Again, you will get a better explanation at the retreat.

Participating in Student Outreach Programs

We participated in a number of outreach activities this summer, including orientation and the UM Bus Tour. Here is a list of the activities that we attended:

RA Retreat

June Orientation

July Orientation

August Orientation

Disabled Student Orientation

Foreign Student Orientation

Parents/Spouse Orientation

UM Bus Tour

Montana State Fair

Operation Welcome

At all the orientations, we introduced the new students to what ASUM has to offer, from our services to our governmental system. We have received a great deal of new recruits, whom Alice and I have signed up for committees and assignments.

Dealing with the Kaimin Debt.

I did not really want to include issues in this handout, but since this was one of the areas we spent a great deal of time on, I thought it was only proper. Doug will bring you all up to date on what we did in detail, so here are only the highlights (also, see attached article):

1). We have figured out the approximate dollar amount of the Kaimin debt. As of today (Wednesday, September 26) the debt stands at approx. \$45,000.

2). We have decided that the Senate needs to decide what needs to be done, although we will be providing you with the options that we have identified this summer.

3). We decided not to take the Kaimin's allocation for this year and credit last year's debt. This has made it possible for them to print the paper this year.

4). We are currently interviewing for the position for Kaimin Accountant. Becky Goodrich, our past accountant, resigned because of personal reasons early this summer.

We would like to see the debt problem resolved by the end of Fall Quarter. Currently, Budget and Finance is looking into the problem, which we will present to the Senate in about two weeks.

Missoulian

Pablo Regents Meeting

Waylaid support

ASUM questions fees

By PATRICIA SULLIVAN
of the Missoulian

PABLO — The series of student fee increases planned this year is adding to the ever-growing proportion of the financial burden borne by students, a University of Montana student government officer told the regents' budget committee Thursday.

Alice Hinshaw, vice president of the Associated Students of the University of Montana, said the ASUM Senate agreed last spring to a \$4 increase in the health service fees because it was told the money would be used to give nurses a raise.

But the nurses were unable to get their positions reclassified in the state employee pay system, regents' attorney Leroy Schramm said, so the raise was not awarded. The university system also did not want to create a disparity between nurses at UM and those at Montana State University and Eastern Montana College, Schramm added.

Hinshaw wanted the money refunded or set aside for raises in the future. Sylvia Weisenburger, UM's vice president for

administration and finance, said she "would not want to be in a position where we had to refund every student's \$4 increase ... it would probably cost us more than \$4 to write the checks."

Hinshaw also noted that students had no opportunity to review the 5 1/2 percent increase in room and board fees planned for this fall, but made no objection to it as long as the money is used for maintenance of dorms, and not transferred to other uses.

Weisenburger said the increase will cover higher operation costs of the dorms and food service. "I doubt there will be much money left over in that account to do deferred maintenance," she said.

Hinshaw questioned the establishment of a student initiation fee, but accepted it after UM officials explained that those who participate already pay the fee, and other students now get the orientation materials for free.

"We will be very critical of any future proposals, such as this one, that switch the burden of funding to the students from the (state's) general fund," Hinshaw warned in a letter to the committee.

University system

Stories by CINDY UKEN
Of the Gazette Staff

In what some called an unprecedented move, student leaders from Montana's four-year college and university campuses agreed to set aside differences and unite to improve the overall university system.

The agreement came during a three-day retreat of the Montana Association of Students, which ended Sunday at Eastern Montana College in Billings. It cemented a bond that student leaders say will affect the 1991 Legislature.

"I think in the past there's been too much competition and infighting among the institutions and among the student governments," said Kirk Lacy, president of the Montana Association of Students. "Higher education is in dire straits because of totally inadequate funding for the entire system. We all understand that if we're going to have an impact and, if in fact, we are going to improve our own colleges, we have to unite together."

MAS has held meetings in the past but none paralleled the strides taken during the weekend retreat, according to student body presidents. They cited personality conflicts and demographics as the two biggest stumbling blocks to communication and cooperation in the past.

With adjustments being made in the way the system of higher education

“

We all understand that ... if in fact, we are going to improve our own colleges, we have to unite together.

—Kirk Lacy
student leader

”

approaches the Legislature at the Capitol level, students agree that changes at the campus level are needed as well.

"In the past, all the schools have been specifically interested in just their own campus needs and they've been promoting their own solutions to their own campus problems," Lacy said. "They've gone too long without an understanding of what other campus needs are. We've come to the realization that we need to think of ourselves as a system and understand our system's needs."

Lacy, a 22-year-old senior at EMC, said that when he ran for student body president last spring and ultimately president of MAS, he vowed not to lead the

(More on Students, Page 7A)

MAS Retreat

student leaders unite

Funding increase leads agenda for meeting with '91 legislature

During a weekend retreat in Billings, the Montana Association of Students drafted an agenda it plans to take to the 1991 state Legislature. Topping the list is the need for adequate funding in the university system.

"There is not a single person who has looked at the system and who understands the system as it is now who can possibly feel that Montana's education system is adequately funded," said MAS President Kirk Lacy. The organization represents 28,000 students in the state's six four-year college and university campuses.

The student organization compiled its list after an educational session with Board of Regents members Elsie Redlin and Brad Musgrove and Deputy Commissioner of Higher Education David Toppen.

"The students have the ambition and we have the desire to take action and actively promote our system and improvements in the way our system is being dealt with in the state," Lacy said. "What we needed was to get educated about how we could be more effective and how we can coordinate efforts with the administration. All too often people think the administration and the students are at odds. This

showed that doesn't have to be the case."

Issues MAS hopes the Legislature will address include:

- Adequate funding.
- Accreditation of existing programs.
- Educational Savings Bonds.
- State commitment to the funding formula.
- Support of a centralized higher education system through the commissioner.
- Transferability of credits.
- Need for student representation on planning teams.
- Tuition increases.
- Long-range planning priorities for the university system.

"I feel really hopeful for the coming year," said Heather Rouse, student body president at Northern Montana College in Havre. "After meeting with the Board of Regents and the deputy commissioner, I think they got the idea that we're going to be an organized force this year, not so much a force to be reckoned with, but I think they realized that we're going to be an organized force this year, not just a bunch of schools."

Billings Gazette (continued)

"For me personally, I've already seen the signs of progress this weekend," Lacy said. "On one level, to have all these students and all the delegations coming together and agreeing to unite, that's a major accomplishment in itself. That's an incredible sign for the future of student governments in Montana and the future for the higher education system. There's a lot of potential for students to make a difference."

"We've proven that this weekend and we will continue to do that through the session. Everything is going to fall into place now that we've come together."

Chris Warden, a 20-year-old sophomore, is student body president at the University of Montana at Mis-

"I think if we can show the Board of Regents and the Legislature that we are working as a whole a unit, then maybe they'll listen to us," said Sarah Wideman, a 22-year-old senior from Montana Tech at Butte. "There's so much more work that needs to be done but it's going to be interesting."

Eric Gustafson, a 29-year-old senior at Western Montana College in Dillon, said the organized efforts should carry a louder voice in Helena than in the past.

"Rather than dealing with six individual student body presidents, now we can go as a group of one," Gustafson said. "Maybe that will offer more credibility and clarity to whomever we're speaking."

MAS Retreat

Students

From Page One

organization in a divided manner, as it had been in the past. His leadership platform is rooted in a simple theme: "The Three 3 C's for Success in 1990-91 — Communication, Coordination, Cooperation."

Lacy's leadership approach had MAS members holed up in the Student Union Building from sunup until long after sunset pondering ways to improve everything from faculty salaries to campus buildings.

Their ultimate goal is to make a difference in the state Legislature and to make an impact with the Board of Regents. They are convinced they will succeed.

soula. "I think we've done an incredible thing," he said. "Whenever you have six different units that compete for funding, and that funding isn't a large amount, it's quite a precedent that you can get these people together and all agree. Our biggest hurdle in representing the Montana University System is behind us."

To keep the momentum building and to streamline its plan of action for the session, MAS plans a series of meetings throughout the fall. The next is set for Oct. 6 in Helena.

Despite the hours of travel and the hours of work required, MAS members agree it is all worthwhile. In the past, each campus has gone off on a tangent, never looking beyond its own front yard. Now that that is changing, no one seems willing to let it slip away.

UM paper is printing in red ink

By PATRICIA SULLIVAN
of the Missoulian

The Montana Kaimin, the University of Montana student newspaper, is starting the school year with a \$54,484 deficit.

Salaries already have been cut, photographers have been ordered to print smaller photos, advertising rates have gone up and calls to directory assistance from the newsroom will be strictly monitored.

And next month, editor Tom Walsh will go to the student government Senate and ask it to forgive about \$33,000 worth of the debt.

"At the Kaimin, we understand we can't be running beyond our means," said Walsh, who just won the editor's job last spring. "We don't want a \$33,000 deficit right away when we only have \$20,000 in startup (money)."

The Kaimin deficit, the largest of the half-dozen deficits out of the 105 funds controlled by the student government, has built up over the past seven years, Walsh and ASUM leaders said Tuesday.

A national advertising firm that had placed ads in the student paper went bankrupt a few years ago, leaving \$11,000 worth of bills uncollected. Another \$8,000 or so of bills are uncollected, but not yet overdue, Walsh said. The rest of the debt comes from other past-due bills, and the cost of new computers.

The paper operates on a budget of about \$120,000, about five-sixths of which comes from advertising. The rest of the money — \$13,000 last year, and \$20,000 this year — comes from student fees.

The deficit hadn't shown up until last year, said Doug Wagner, ASUM business manager, because "they'd been able to cover up with accounts receivable."

"In the past, the Kaimin hasn't operated on a real strict budget," added Chris Warden, ASUM president. "It's been more of a lump-sum thing."

That's changed. The student government and newspaper leaders have agreed on a line-item budget, and a new staff employee who understands the system and who will keep track of the budget will be hired, Warden and Walsh said.

The publications board, a student-appointed entity that is supposed to serve as buffer between the two institutions and keep an eye on the paper's transactions, will be revived, Warden said.

Walsh said he's not worried about the student government having its hand on the paper's wallet.

"I've never seen the Kaimin back off coverage of ASUM because of the financial setup and I don't see it happening this year," he said. "They're treating us fairly. They just want to get on top of the deficit. In the past, editors and business managers have felt the Kaimin can't run in the black. I think it can."

Important Dates for Fall Quarter:

ASUM Fall Reception.....Tonight ! After Senate

Homecoming.....Sept. 29 - Oct. 2

Voter Registration Day.....Oct. 1

Stu. Affairs Breakfast.....Oct. 2, 7:30, MT Rms.

MAS Meeting (Helena).....Oct. 5, 3:00, Higher Ed. Bld.

Extra Curricular Extravaganza...Oct. 9, 6:00-9:00

ASUM Retreat*Oct. 13-14

- Leave ASUM- Sat., Oct. 12, 9:00
- Return - Sun., Oct. 13, Mid-Afternoon

Board of Regents (Missoula)Oct. 25-26 (Griz-Cat Game)

- We are the "Host School" for this event, a tentative schedule will be made available soon.
- Meet w/ Regents (reception), MAS Meeting

Stu. Affairs Breakfast.....Nov. 7, 7:30, MT Rms.

*For the retreat we are asking that you contribute \$10.00 to help defray costs. Please give Doug your money or talk with him if you can't pay. We will also be taking personal cars. Please tell us if you can drive. (We will reimburse you with personal car mileage). A tentative agenda will be circulated to you next week.

SENATE MEETINGS

Wednesday	Sept. 26	6:00 p.m.	Mt. Sentinel Room
Wednesday	Oct. 3	6:00 p.m.	Room 360 ABCD
Wednesday	Oct. 10	6:00 p.m.	Room 360 ABCD
Wednesday	Oct. 17	6:00 p.m.	Gold Oak West (UC)
Wednesday	Oct. 24	6:00 p.m.	Gold Oak West (UC)
Tuesday	Oct. 30	6:00 p.m.	Mt. Sentinel Room
Wednesday	Nov. 7	6:00 p.m.	Mt. Sentinel Room
Wednesday	Nov. 14	6:00 p.m.	Mt. Sentinel Room
Tuesday	Nov. 20	6:00 p.m.	Gold Oak West (UC)
Wednesday	Nov. 28	6:00 p.m.	Mt. Sentinel Room

Please note the above days, dates and locations for Fall Quarter Senate meetings. We will be switching to Tuesdays twice (Oct. 30 to accommodate Halloween and Nov. 20 to accommodate travel for Thanksgiving weekend).