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MCSA Forum minutes 08/27/2012

Morris Campus Student Association

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Morris Campus Student Association
University of Minnesota, Morris
Morris, Minnesota 56267

August 27, 2012

- I. Roll Call
 - a. Godding called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.
 - b. Wolf called roll; Representatives Kies and Sletten were late, Representatives Helgeson and Preston were excused.
- II. For Action: Approve Agenda
 - a. McBrady motioned to approve the agenda; second by Donovan
 - b. Motion carried.
- III. For Action: Approve Minutes
 - a. McBrady motioned to approve the minutes; second by Vogel.
 - b. Motion carried.
- IV. President's Remarks
 - a. McBrady welcomes the entire Forum back, and apologizes for the agenda printing mix-up. First Years/guests Charlie Cain, Ellory Wealot, Sam Daniewicz are present and were introduced. McBrady reminded Forum of the use of Robert's Rules, included with what MCSA does for the entire year as a description for the guests. Representative Abraham is now sitting on Curriculum Committee over Scholastic, with which he has a conflict.
- V. For Information: Stamp Out The Stigma Event *Presented by Representative Fairbanks*
 - a. This summer, Representative Fairbanks served on a committee that revamped the Mental Health website and has started to focus on other different issues – please check it out for the changes. From the website work that she did this summer, the event “Stamp Out the Stigma” has been headed up by Fairbanks to get people talking about mental health and get rid of the stigma that is associated with depression, anxiety, etc. Being hosted by MCSA and other organizations around campus, an example of an activity was a backpack display of how many undergrad students are lost to suicide each year. Every day throughout the week would have MCSA members tabling, handing out brochures with health information and services that many students aren't aware of. Please contact Fairbanks if wanting to get involved.
- VI. For Information: Green Re-Investment Fund *Presented by Secretary Blankenfeld*
 - a. The Green Re-Investment fund is supposed to be used to fund the difference between green-working machines and the standard. There will be people coming in with available funds and we are just looking for a boost. The Alumni Association put \$30,000 towards the fund and now we are looking at around \$125,000 to be able to be used this year. That \$30,000 is staying with the Alumni account because it is accruing interest at the moment – but when it is needed it will be used. The fund is looking to be running in November, and Representative Blankenfeld and Forde have been working hard towards this goal. There will be a coordinating committee created through MCSA.

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- b. Forde is hoping that students and faculty will be able to suggest projects and be able to get more information out towards everything to get the fund out in public and let others know what resources they have to save money, natural resources, etc. We just need to set procedures to make sure the fund is used what it was intended for.
- VII.** For Action: Confirmation of Executive Assistant
- a. McBrady motioned to confirm Allison Wolf as Executive Assistant, seconded by Vogel.
 - b. Daniewicz asked if the Budget Manger position was open, since Wolf had to leave the position. Godding replied that the Budget Manager position was still open.
 - c. Motion carried.
- VIII.** For Information: First Year Elections *Presented by Vice-President Godding*
- a. The goal is to elect four freshmen to First Year Council, to show that everyone on campus has a voice. The word needs to be sent out and MCSA members need to help to show our support. The Petitions of Reason need to be submitted by September 7th, while elections will run from the 10th-14th. Election Commission and those that are interested in helping out with tabling and planning events should meet after Forum.
- IX.** For Action: Election Commission Election
- a. McBrady motioned to elect an Election Commissioner, seconded by Fairbanks.
 - i. Godding nominated Daniewicz; Daniewicz accepted.
 - ii. Vogel nominated Kies; Kies accepted.
 - iii. Forde wanted to clarify when the position would come into standing. Godding will be acting as Election Commissioner until First Year elections are complete; then will be handing election duties over to the newly elected Commissioner.
 - iv. Kies was elected as Election Commissioner.
- X.** For Information: Fall Retreat *Presented by Secretary Gruntner*
- a. Fall Retreat happens every year after the First Year Reps have been elected at the LaFave House to eat free food, be together, etc. As of right now, if there is anyone that is looking to help out or improve the retreat, contact Gruntner.
- XI.** For Information: Wellness Center Website *Presented by Representative Fairbanks*
- a. Already discussed previously.
- XII.** For Information: Budget Update *Presented by Secretary Blankenfeld*
- a. The total budget we have for the 2012-2013 year is 14,800. \$4,800 comes from carry over, even though we planned for \$5,600 from AFRC, shorting MCSA \$800 in resources, but now we have \$2,100 less in expenditures because of individuals giving up their stipends.
 - b. Vogel asked if the individuals were asked to give up their stipends, Blankenfeld answered that all that gave up their stipends did on their own.

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- c. Vogel also asked what the total amount towards spending on parties, co-sponsorships, etc. Blankenfeld explained that co-sponsorships cannot be budgeted for due to AFRC rules, but as of right now we have roughly \$1,300 to use. Forde pointed out that they would know more as the year goes on, and after stipends get processed the total number can be finalized.
- d. Sletten asked how a person who stepped down last year could have still gotten their stipend. Forde explained that it was communicated, but happen to be miscommunicated. In the future, the biggest help would be to have a clearer recording line of who gets what for their stipends. With the addition of the Budget Manager, there will be more time for individuals to double check and correct things if need be.
- e. Baglio wanted to know if the budget could be thrown into the minutes for Forum to know, especially if there was a change.
- f. Donovan noted that she would equally appreciate a budget spreadsheet for Forum to see and understand. Presidents remarks could be used for updated budgets
- g. Vogel wanted to second that idea.
- h. Forde explained that the way the budget usually functions is that the budget is brought towards Forum at the end of the year to be approved, which happened. If there is a certain amount of money that is spend outside of the budget then that needs to been reported to Forum.
- i. Karels wanted clarification about the availability of the minutes, and wanted to know if the Budget could be set up the same way on the website.
- j. McBrady offered that they could most likely have the Budget open to the website, and that Executive would discuss it at their next meeting.

XIII. Organization Reports

- a. BSU's first meeting of the year is directly after Forum and people should stop by.
- b. Breakfast for Dinner has an improv show this weekend in Edson.
- c. E-quality has their meeting at 8 on Wednesday in RGWCS, planning on doing a retreat for campus. More information will be available next week
- d. MPIRG's introductory meeting will be next week on Wednesday at 7 p.m. in the Cow Palace.
- e. The first issue of the UR comes out this week.

XIV. Old Business

- a. None

XV. New Business

- a. McBrady asked to see all representatives that were receiving their stipends at the end of Forum to get information.
- b. Election Commission wanted to meet after Forum ends.

XVI. Adjourn

- a. Vogel motioned to adjourn; second by Z. Van Cleve.
- b. Motion carried. Forum adjourned at 6:38 p.m.