

4-5-2018

Student Affairs minutes 04/05/2018

Student Affairs Committee

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Recommended Citation

Student Affairs Committee, "Student Affairs minutes 04/05/2018" (2018). *Student Affairs Committee*. 101.
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Student Affairs Committee Meeting 4/5/18

Members Present - Ryan Schamp, Ramona Bias, Dave Swenson, student _____

Guest - Adrienne Conley

Secretary -Holly Rutter

- 1) Ryan Schamp called the meeting to order at 11am
- 2) Due to lack of quorum the minutes from 3/22/18 meeting could not be approved.

3) New business

a. Guest Adrienne Conley presented on College Food Insecurity. She has started an ad hoc committee to study food insecurity and create programs and solutions for students, including culturally relevant foods being offered. She reported that Morris has the 2nd highest poverty for cities under 5000 in large part due to our large student population who are food insecure and housing insecure. Food insecurity directly relates to performances in classes - students are less likely to purchase books, drop classes, and achieve lower grades. A Food Bag program has recently been created which places bags of non perishable food in a variety of offices to give to students when there is a need.

Committee discussed ideas including

- 1) Encouraging Dining Services to be open over breaks so students still have access to food. Possibly add \$5 to each meal plan to help defray costs
- 2) Providing financial and life skills classes/creating a housing program model that helps students get prepared to live off campus
- 3) More programming regarding the community food shelf and sign up assistance for SNAP benefits

b. Morris Polling Places (Reduced from 6 to 3 - University will no longer be a polling site - moved to Armory)

Dave Swenson gave a report on the Campus Assembly where this topic was discussed. Dave was a part of the committee that met with the city representatives last winter/spring. This committee brought ideas to the city regarding more accessible venues on campus including RFC and HFA. Committee thought they were still in discussions to making this change of venue on campus, however at the City Council meeting it was determined that the U would no longer be a polling place and the new location would be at the Armory.

This committee discussed the concern that there are no complete sidewalks to the Armory and many students do not know where the Armory is located or how to get there without a vehicle.

Discussed possibility of renting a bus to take students to vote.

This committee recommends the University be closed on voting days so that all faculty, staff, and students can vote without worry of missing classes.

C. New organizations and Updated constitutions could not be voted on due to lack of quorum.

Meeting dismissed