MCSA Executive minutes 10/02/2019

Morris Campus Student Association

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Memo to:  MCSA Executive Committee  
From:  President Rosemark  
Subject:  Executive Committee Meeting, October 10th, 2019

Called to order at 6:33 pm

I. Approve Agenda
   A. Westfield motions
   B. Loechler seconds
   C. Motion passes

II. Approve Minutes from 9/25/19
   A. Westfield motions
   B. Loechler seconds
   C. Motion passes

III. Old Business:
   A. Membership (5 minutes)
      1. Open Positions:
         a) MCSA Positions
            (1) MSLC Reps (2)
            (2) Budget Manager (1)
            (3) At-Large Reps (2)
            (4) First Year Council (4)
         b) Visioning & Planning Task Forces
            (1) #2 Research and Creative Opportunities (1 student)
            (2) #7 Accessibility (1 student)
            (3) #8 Connectivity; UMM's place in the region, system (1 student)
         c) Strategic Recruitment Council (1 or 2 students)
      2. Recruitment Strategies update by Secretary Loechler
         a) Tabling
         b) Posters

Loechler- Posters are going great. They’re hung up, I don’t know if they’re in the residence halls yet, but they are in the mailboxes. They’re in the student center, we have a lot of extra posters. Canva is great, thank you Maddie H. for the tip for using it to create the posters! We will be
making more permanent posters that are nicer, but these are having to do for now because we
needed to get them out so quickly.
Westfield- Yeah, we can make more when we have more time.
Loechler- Plus, the nicer ones I think should be more quality rather than quantity.
Rosemark- We should have these hung up around campus.
Loechler- Yeah, take some and hang them up where you want. We also have them with all the
tabling stuff. The ones that need to be approved have been approved.
Hanging up around campus:
Happ- Imholte
Westfield- Math side of Science building
Barber- Humanities
Lund- HFA

B. Tuition Waiver Info Session update by Executive Assistant Lund (5 minutes)
Lund- At our committee meeting, Maddie gave us the run down about the meeting with CNIA
just like she gave us in exec the information from that meeting. All the details about it we have
already discussed here, but we talked about a few new points. We think using posters to
advertise will be the best way to go about advertising, as well as using social media and sending
a UMM Official email. We didn’t think tabling would be effective for this event. Also, we think
we shouldn’t call it “Tuition Waiver Info Session”, we thought it should have a more
catchy/dramatic title to draw in more people. A lot of events like this on campus, ones that are
like talks, they have interesting titles. Cole pointed out that a student might see the poster for a
tuition waiver info session and would assume it is only for those on the waiver. One idea we
had, it’s not official or anything, but something we came up with is “Breaking the Stigma”.
That’s not for sure or our final thought on it, but it was an idea. There’s not much else to say
about it, Maddie is meeting with CNIA exec again soon I believe.
Rosemark- We, MCSA, can pay for it. We want to lessen the burden of CNIA as well as the
students. We should think about programming around the event. Really drive home what we
want to do. Before the event, maybe we can do some social media about our connections to the
community and maybe do flyers or other emails about it as a whole to have a greater impact.

C. APLUS update by Secretary Scovil & Secretary Happ (5 minutes)
  1. UMN Morris APLUS Best Practices
Scovil- I emailed Jennifer about this. Really all it is, is staff, faculty, please agree to follow HIPAA, and that’s the only guideline. It’s really dangerous because students don’t know that all of these people have access to their information. Another issue is when the Math and Science faculty first brought this up. They said their training in FERPA is not qualified to handle this system. It’s been going on since 2015. They knew that students would be uncomfortable and it hasn’t broken until now.

Loechler- Why do we have this system?

Scovil- The goal, according to the minutes, was to help the campus go paperless, but there are obviously more secure ways to do that.

Loechler- Well if it’s already there, it’s better to have students know rather than keep them in the dark.

Rosemark- People can request access to who has seen their information. A log.

Scovil- I’m just worried that if we put up flyers or something, then that will be limited information and I

Loechler- What if we did this with more concerns than just this one. This is obviously a nerve wracking situation for people, but I don’t know if it’s big enough for a whole panel. That’s the only way I can see this happen.

Happ- I’m just worried that getting other issues together will take more time and this is a pressing thing.

Rosemark- The chancellor didn’t seem to know much about it.

Loechler- The concern is the access possibility.

Scovil- It’s basically the honor system, which isn’t great.

Rosemark- The goal was so people could stay up to date on the status of a student. If a professor wants to look at how someone did in a math because they think they might be struggling, and then they think they might have a mental health issue, and they look at that, that’s a FERPA violation, and students don’t know about this. So just doing an email or flyer letting students know would be good

Happ- I think a forum post would be best.

Scovil- The main concerns in the minutes was that students would be uncomfortable, FERPA training is not enough, and alerts could be tied in.
Rosemark- They are now, the alerts, and the information is always there. In part of the application for grad school, they can look for your information. It’s likely that they can see everything now that it is all electronic.

Loechler- It’s similar to it’s not what your intentions were, it’s how people are going to respond. If we are to make it on facebook, which I think is right, if you have questions about it, if we say they go to the advisors, they put that right in the system. We should make ourselves available to them if they don’t feel comfortable with their advisors. They should feel comfortable, but if they don’t they could come to us?

Happ- If more and more people are going to their advisors about it, it will show it’s an issue.

Loechler- Are counselors included in this.?

Happ- No, they are confidential.

Loechler- We need to make sure that's in the post.

Rosemark- If you go to your success coach, and they recommend that you go to a counselor, that would be on the report.

Scovil- If I asked them not to include that, would they?

Westfield- I think that’s up to their discretion.

Loechler- From what I read, they have to put any pertinent information in there, so it’s up to the discretion if they are really requested to keep something private.

Rosemark- I don’t know if they know that it’s all available.

Barber- I talked to both of my advisors and they didn’t know all the details, they didn’t know who all had access.

Westfield- What about the content of those notes.

Barber- She said she keeps them pretty light, but that can vary between professor to professor.

Loechler- And, if there is a different topic being discussed, who knows?

Scovil- The faculty and staff said that they feel like they need new training to adequately work with this system.

D. Chancellor Meeting debrief by President Rosemark and Vice President Westfield

(5 minutes)

Rosemark- We met, it went pretty well.

Westfield- We talked about sustainability forum, tech fee, the bias response referral network, campus climate, paperless resolution.
Rosemark- When I talk about campus climate and other people do generally, we talk about political climate on campus, not necessarily staff transparency. We were talking about how the bias response and referral network, and trying to make a better way to report that. Becca Gurkin and Liz Thomson are working on doing something around holistic plan on community. They don’t want to call it campus climate, they want to focus on community. They want to have conversations about difference. The system is working on a survey on campus climate. We talked about the commencement speaker. 2020 is a go, we will work on 2021. We talked about forum, as well as the tuition waiver talk. She was kind of concerned, and said that we are in a “healing process” and maybe it was a risk, she was looking at it through a risk management perspective.

Happ- You can’t have healing with ignorance.

Lund- She hasn’t been a native student here, she doesn’t necessarily know how it feels to be one.

Rosemark- We are having an athletic director search committee. We need a student on that. Also, a marketing and communications search committee. I was thinking we would go through SAAC. One thing about the tuition waiver, Michelle liked the anonymous questions. She perked up when we brought up the resolution.

Scovil- Now that we are doing more for the committees rather than in forum, should we have things pass through committees and then forum.

Rosemark- Yes.

Rosemark- She wants students to be at the HLC meetings and forums that students are allowed to go to. So look for information about that.

E. Affordable & Sustainable Courses Resolution and Affordable Content Initiative presented by President Rosemark and Secretary Happ (15 minutes)

Rosemark- Talked with LeAnn about their initiative they started to help professors implement etexts to their course, and the library can help by going through their databases and help them get those texts. She wants us to do a survey to faculty and students, the one to students being about their courses and preferences, and to faculty about their preferences as well.

Scovil- I think it’s good to make sure that cost is not part of the question about preference of ebooks vs real textbooks.

Rosemark- Those surveys would happen at the beginning of spring semester. We talked about how professors are interested in getting open source textbooks. The library is down a staff
person who was managing this plan, but they’re working with professors to sort of pilot it in a way. She thought the resolution was a good idea, we asked if she thought if we should do the data and then the resolution, or do the resolution and then the data, and we decided on the resolution first.

Happ- My committee was annoyed that there were promised changes, and there weren’t any. They went through on a copy and did what they wanted to do with it. Most of it is gone. The last whereas was completely thrown away because it doesn’t include the laptop and affordability issue. They don’t really know how that does stuff with sustainability stewardship. It’s about affordability + sustainability. We talked about how most classes allow for etextbooks and electronic notes. Removed the deadline, talked about if this is something that faculty even have control over, and the legality of it all, since most books you can only use 10% of as a pdf. Scrapped completed the one about the MN System, the question was whether we have jurisdiction. A lot of it seems to ignore affordability. And if this is even something that will make a change, there are other sustainable issues that would make more of an impact. Composting was a big one, composting correctly, energy storage, since most of it comes overnight, that was a concern that profs are worrying already about being more sustainable. Scovil- I do agree with what Marley said at an earlier meeting about clubs and offices being a better target.

Happ- A main vibe I was getting was that being sustainable is about people, and this is very environmental.

Finzen- Reusing a book is still sustainable. It is still reusing.

Happ- Do we even have control over the bookstore? It is a system wide thing.

Scovil- I agree with most of that, professors are already trying to be more affordable and sustainable. Not always using this year of the book.

Happ- Just want to add, the overall thought is that it is not thought out enough, and that many considerations were not considered.

Rosemark- So, I will come to the committee meeting. Troy always says, “don’t make perfect the enemy of good.” I think there is a lot of “microscopic” looking at this and the language of it. We can’t be so pessimistic.

Barber- I think it’s not pessimistic, it’s valid concerns and trying to find other solutions.
Rosemark- The goal of thing is to make courses more affordable and sustainable. One way to do that is to allow students be allowed to use electronics to take notes. The second goal, is textbooks and the affordability. Ebooks are cheaper than books, it’s more sustainable to use them. I already have a laptop so it is cheaper and more sustainable, and reusing books is also good.

Loechler- A point was made is that there are bigger things we can focus on, and we can focus on multiple things. This was something Sam saw as an issue and is trying to help solve it. I would suggest that people be more open about it. We are doing the little things we can, this one might seem on the quicker side of it, rather than trying to look at the entire compost system, but that’s a bigger thing.

Rosemark- Textbook affordability is an issue in the news that Morris has not addressed. Composting, we have addressed it, we have a whole office for it.

Loechler- A better way of approaching it might be encouraging the campus to promote these things.

Rosemark- An initiative would be a lot of work.

Scovil- If we made it an initiative, we could also look at clubs and offices.

Loechler- Since I have been here, I have not seen much of a change on our sustainability issue, and that could simply be a projection issue, that people aren’t talking about. We have been very stagnant, but this would be a new addition to our sustainability. This would show further growth that we haven’t been looking at before.

Happ- The reason why there’s not adding more stuff is we want to perfect the things we already have.

Rosemark- There’s not really anything we, as MCSA, can do about the compost system in terms of improving upon it. We can call upon them to do something but that’s it.

Happ- Isn’t that what this is?

Rosemark- No, we haven’t even looked at this yet.

Loechler- I see MCSA as a voice, and we can voice that we want this to happen.

Rosemark- When you ask students, I am sure they would want this. MCSA doesn’t have jurisdiction over anybody, we can call on people to do things and call on things to happen, and that's what we can do. We can use the student voice to call attention to an issue. We can emphasize ebooks to them and tell them that it would be really great.
Happ- Please come to the committee meeting.
Rosemark- To say that this is something Sam just did very quickly, is a bit ridiculous.
Lund- I don’t think you just came up with it, but it was a quick turnaround.

IV. **New Business:**

A. **Resources and Operations Update by Secretary Happ (5 minutes)**

Happ- We talked about sustainability consultants. They had good feelings about it, but we didn’t go into it in detail, also next meeting we will be talking a lot about sustainability forum.

B. **Director of Communications Search Committee Student Representative (2 minutes)**

Scovil- Is this internal?
Rosemark- Both internal and external.

C. **Foreign Language Restructure presented by Secretary Scovil (5 minutes)**

Scovil- I talked to Janet after curriculum about how there is a 4 credit difference with foreign language minors and majors. We could make minors into Spanish studies, German studies rather than being proficient like the major. She recommended me to talk to Stacey Aronson about it.

Happ- I worry about the naming of it. French studies vs french minor, the naming could be different and not be as credible and a “french minor”.

D. **Student Representatives to the Board of Regents Annual Report topics (5 minutes)**

1. Indiginous Focus
2. Affordability (Traditional & Non-Traditional Students) - Housing & Food
3. Multi-Cultural and Rural Students Underserved by UMN

Rosemark- Mental health has also been one for the past few years, and it’s falling a bit on deaf ears. And Joan is an advocate for it already.

Westfield- Would it be bad to just mention it?

Rosemark- I think it makes sense to do a little about that in the report.

E. **Responsibilities (5 minutes)**

Rosemark- On the white board.

F. **Regent Lunch - October 17th, 12:15 PM to 1 PM in Prairie Lounge (2 minutes)**

Rosemark- Go this please.

G. **Vice Chancellor Meetings (2 minutes)**
Rosemark- Has anyone gotten an email? Sydney has.

V. Member, Committee, and Organization Reports
   A. Sam
   B. Josh

Student senate is tomorrow.
   C. Sydney

We talked about getting the community and campus more connected. Like, how can we make off campus jobs more accessible.
   D. Julia
   E. Maddie H
   F. Maddie K.
   G. Anika

Next week is coming out week, MoQSIE is doing a lot for that.
   H. Marley
   I. John
   J. At-Large Representative
   K. At-Large Representative
   L. At-Large Representative (1st Yr)
   M. Budget Manager

VI. Agenda Construction for 10/7/19

VII. Adjourn

Adjourned at 7:47pm