

University of Minnesota Morris Digital Well

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Morris Campus Student Association

Campus Governance

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MCSA Executive minutes 03/25/2020

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Memo to: MCSA Executive Committee
From: President Rosemark
Subject: Executive Committee Meeting, March 25th, 2020

The Executive Committee will meet on Wednesday at 6:30 PM via Zoom:

<https://umn.zoom.us/j/999998278>

Called to order at 6:34pm

I. **Approve Agenda**

- A. Westfield motions
- B. Scovil seconds
- C. Motion passes

II. **Approve [Minutes from 3/11/20](#)**

- A. Scovil motions
- B. Westfield seconds
- C. Motion passes

III. **Slack:** umnmorrismcsa.slack.com

Rosemark- I invited you all to slack. I am thinking this will be the best way to communicate, since it's easy to get lost in emails. We can use slack for the various committees as well, there are different channels for different information as well. You can do zoom through it, gcal through, and other stuff. Unless anyone is super against it, I think it would be good to use. Any thoughts?

Happ- I've never even heard of slack. Can you go over how it works?

Rosemark- It's really common for workplaces. You can set up a bunch of channels that people can opt into or not. You can direct message people.

Lund- We used it for choir and it's a way to communicate with people, there's like a place for threads of messages and stuff.

IV. **Old Business:**

- A. Tech Fee (*20 minutes*)
 - o Update from *Secretary Happ*

Happ- So, I have some updates. It is this Saturday. I had a meeting with Bill Zimmerman today and he wanted to go over a bunch of things to make sure we knew what we were doing. First,

we completely forgot until today about people outside of forum who need to be there. I will be emailing those people tonight to invite them to sit into the zoom session. Bill said he will be there all day on the zoom to help. I will be telling them in the mail that this is not mandatory and they can join if they want but it is short notice. I need your guys' help with solidifying the deliberation timeline. So, in the MCSA shared drive, for each proposal forum will make comments and then exec will make decisions based on those comments. Bill wants us to send out information about that timeline.

Westfield- We could have hearings on Saturday. Give us until Wednesday the next week and go over deliberations then. And then release what we have to forum and then have forum vote on it that next Monday.

Happ- So requiring forum to have their comments in by Wednesday? I think that's a good idea. Any other thoughts?

Rosemark- I think we won't have time to approve everything in exec because we have other things we may need to talk about. There are going to be lots of things we have to go through that could take a long time. Depending on how much there is to do, we might need to do an extended exec or have a meeting outside of exec.

Maloney- We could try during the exec time and if it goes over then we figure it out.

Happ- I think it will take a lot longer, especially when I tell you the numbers I have. I think we need to have a meeting just for deliberations. Even with an additional meeting that weekend, we could still get the recommendation to forum by that Monday.

Rosema- I think we can decide on the time at next exec.

Happ- I will say in the timeline that comments from forum will be due on Wednesday and then exec will deliberate over the weekend and then bring the recs to forum that Monday.

Rosemark- Sounds good.

Happ- Next, I have a link to the "zoom best practices" link from IT. So people can read over it before the actual meeting so we can get those issues out before the meeting. I will send that out a clarification email before Saturday and add that in. How do we want to do questions?

Vasquez- I think I would prefer the first one, having people put comments in the chat and then have one designated person read them. I volunteer.

Happ- I have the numbers for what is available vs requested. 127,000 is what we have 80-90 will go to IT, leaving about 40,000 for the requests. We have \$110,000 of requests. The deliberations will probably be a lot longer. Those are rough numbers but there are a lot of things that won't be funded. These numbers are not usually shared to people requesting, but Bill said because of the weird situation, we should consider sharing that information. I don't really see what we would do that.

Maloney- The people who have multiple requests could prioritize.

Scovil- For transparency, people are less trustworthy of online decisions, so I think it's about transparency.

Happ- So you want to share those numbers? And when would be do it?

Vasquez- I would say before, so people couldn't push back.

Happ- How would go about that? An email? Then we would also be sending out how much IT would be getting.

Maloney- I think it's a time to talk about transparency and include the information about IT.

Scovil- When we send out the deliberations, that could be a time to send that information along with the decisions. If we could send it before or right after those announcements.

Novotny- I like that idea.

Happ- I like that idea too, I worry about it beforehand with how many people would use that information and stress out about it. And make an argument that their thing only takes up a bit of money so we should fund it. So when we send decisions, I will include a bit about what we had to work with.

Rosemark- I know CSCI are confirming their appointment slot and it's way later in the day than the others so we might want to move them up. The general way it's going to go over is laid out in the document that is linked.

- COVID-19 [Option 1](#)
- [Proposals on Tech Fee Oversight](#)

Rosemark- These are the different proposals that people have made. If something gets approved, I would prefer the ad hoc committee recommendation. LeAnn also made a rec that is basically

the same as the adhoc one. It kinda makes us commit more than the adhoc one. Thoughts? In steering I would advocate for it to remain with the language the ad hoc committee suggested.

B. Prairie Gala Update by *Secretary Loechler (5 minutes)*

Loechler- It is cancelled.

- Options for moving forward (i.e virtual, donate funds, save funds)
 - 1) MCSA Emergency Fund Balance: \$1,559.53
- \$1,000 budgeted in addition to Sodexo donation

Rosemark- So we could do a variety of things with the funds. These are a few options. I think this is something for Sydney's committee to also talk about.

Scovil- I like the idea of donating most of it and doing a virtual campaign.

Maloney- I feel like the committee did a lot with it.

Happ- I like the idea of donating to an emergency fund that can go toward our students, since a lot of students are suffering because of what is going on. So I like that the most.

Rosemark- I would say, Sydney if you can have a conversation with your committee about doing a virtual ting as well as donating the funds to the MCSA emergency fund or the campus' emergency fund.

C. 2021 Commencement Speaker Nominations (*2 minutes*)

- Google Form & Email

Rosemark- This has gotta get done. We have to get everyone in their normal routine before it goes out. Let's have it go out mid April.

D. STUD update by *MSLC Representative Bertalotto (2 minutes)*

- Cancelled on March 12th and we are already looking forward to STUD 2021!

Rosemark- Cancelled, supposed to be tomorrow. There was talk of doing a virtual campaign, so you might get an email tomorrow, and if you do I encourage you to do it. Very sad that it is cancelled.

V. **New Business:**

A. Campus Assembly Meeting Options (*5 minutes*)

Rosemark- We were supposed to meet on the 31st but it was cancelled. We are talking about how we will do it in the future. Me and Lindsey said that people should do a webinar type of zoom. If there are any votes it would be electronic. Some people were thinking we should all just upload individual videos.

Roemeling- They were being so dramatic about it, I don't know why they don't want to use a webinar.

Westfield- I would say that if we were to use zoom, we would need someone actively muting people as a host. I could foresee many interjections.

Rosemark- The webinar option, there is only one person who controls it and they are the only person who can unmute that.

Happ- Do we need a webinar style for tech fee?

Rosemark- You need a premium account and I don't know how we would go about that. I think we'll be fine, and the person who controls a regular meeting can still mute people. MCSA's resolution is still on the table, but we will probably only be doing essential things.

B. Freedom of Speech Language Brought to Assembly (*5 minutes*)

The Campus Assembly of the University of Minnesota Morris endorses the following:

- 1) The University of Minnesota Morris is unequivocal in valuing and supporting the free speech rights of all members of our University Community provided by the Constitution of the United States and repeatedly upheld through the Judicial system.
- 2) Any efforts (real or perceived) to restrict those rights must be opposed and when possible met with education* and more speech.
- 3) While an individual or group may choose to waive their free speech rights, it will not be construed as a broader waiving of the rights of other members of our University Community.

*<https://www.aclu.org/other/speech-campus> is not a bad place to start that education

Rosemark- Jenn Goodnough drafted this. Thoughts?

Vaquez- The second one, what does more speech mean?

Rosemark- I think it is about how the ACLU says to combat negative speech with more speech.

Scovil- It's the idea of having a conversation about things rather than just shutting someone down.

Rosemark- I think the language seems very broad. I don't know what effects this will have.

Happ- I think that, with the climate on campus, the reason why we were talking about free speech, it feels like not a strong stance. Nothing feels motivating or moving.

Rosemark- As a student who was specifically targeted by all of that, would this be a kick in the face?

Lund- Yes, I think so.

Novotny- Yeah.

C. [MCSA COVID-19](#) (10 minutes)

- Top Concerns: Student pay (work-study, Food Service), S/N & lenient grading, Reimbursements, Commencement, Late work policy, Emergency funds, Summer term, Wifi access, and xenophobia

Rosemark- Some new updates, the S/N policy update and the shelter in place. That goes into effect on Friday, my guess would be that students are not encouraged to get their belongings on Saturday.

Scovil- Yeah, when I talked to ORL, if anything the first day was the busiest. They're going to contact people during the week to

Happ- I know it's a big concern, moving out, especially students who are out of state. I have what I had for spring break, but also it depends on other states. Colorado's shelter in place starts tomorrow. If you guys get any questions, send to ORL.

Rosemark- How is it going to students to get their belongings?

Happ- I know that if you wanted to get them, you were able to. No one was turned away unless there were extenuating circumstances.

Scovil- It seems to be going really smoothly. You just fill out a form and it's going efficiently. A good chunk are moving out, but I don't have exact numbers.

Rosemark- I was just concerned about the week long window, seems a bit short.

Maloney- If I go in there tomorrow will they let me move out?

Happ- I would say email housing², they are trying to follow the guidelines of the state with social distancing. I don't see them telling you outright no, but email and work out a time.

Vasquez- I was reading the email that Michelle sent yesterday, and some students were concerned about the way they were managing things. They are saying that students who move out students who are moving out by April 1st will get \$1,000.

Happ- For graduating seniors, this will go into your student account, and then it will go into your bank account if there are no other charges.

Rosemark- I talked to Sandy about the refund and emailed Bryan. They didn't explain how they got the number. A meal plan is about 2300, housing is about 2000 a semester. Half of that would be a little over 2000, they are reimbursing about a fourth of the cost that they are not getting by not being there for this second half of the semester. Also, for students who live off campus who have a meal plan, but those are concerns I had.

Happ- Moving out by April 1st just means that you are not living there, you don't have to have all of your belongings gone by then.

Scovil- The same amount of work has to be done to keep the facilities running.

R- Yeah, fixed costs are part of that. Twin Cities housing is like three times ours and they're only getting 1200. We'll see if it gets increased or not. I asked about parking fees and they are still looking at those. So, for work study, it is federal law that students who are not working cannot be paid with work study funds. I don't know how that's going to affect the pay, they won't tell me. Food service from sodexo, that's separate, they're out of pay so they don't know if they're going to get paid. I think the grading policy is good, but I think it would be good for professors to be encouraged to be more lenient.

Happ- I think it should be worded that profs should be more understanding of situations, not necessarily lenient.

Rosemark- On Monday, someone talked about academic probation. It could possibly help students for their probation by putting the hard classes on S/N and then the easier classes on A-F to boost GPA. Apparently there is a late work policy that's been waived, so students can turn in late work and still get credit.

Happ- Do profs know?

Rosemark- I don't know. Some professors have told students that they can request a hot spot, but that hasn't been shared widely. Also, be aware of hateful language. Any other thoughts on this?

Vasquez- I talked to the person in charge of the hotspots and that they are in limited supply, and they are ordering them from Verizon and they should be available Friday.

- Student Survey on Concerns & Ideas

Rosemark- Dave said I should do a weekly video. Sandy told me not to, and kind of said that she didn't appreciate us sending out additional documents to what was already sent out. We have a check in set up not weekly.

Maloney- Why are we not supposed to talk to the student body?

Happ- And the stuff we released was just a general summary of everything they said. Free speech.

Rosemark- Part of it was because Morris didn't have a site with all of the updates, but now they do and they are sending out google docs, so we might just do it that way because it's easier. I asked Sydney to send out more information about the zoom and other stuff.

Scovil- I would prefer a video.

Lund- I feel like it's overkill.

Happ- Yeah, I don't think a weekly video is necessary, only if there are big things.

Novotny- Yeah, if it's a big update.

Rosemark- I no longer have a good camera or the MCSA banner. One idea was doing a survey for students on what their concerns are or asking for ideas about things.

Scovil- I feel like that would be hard to analyze.

Rosemark- I feel like it would be a lot of multiple choice and sliding scale things.

D. MCSA Operations (*10 minutes*)

- Virtual Office Hours

Rosemark- Similar to what professors are doing. Thoughts?

Happ- How would we then get the word out about people coming? I know I have never had someone come into my office hours on campus. I want to make sure it's used.

Rosemark- We could send out an email to UMMOfficial or do social media. We could also just direct questions to the email and then also recommend them just coming to forum.

Happ- I think in that email, say that the secretaries are willing to meet over zoom.

Scovil- And include topics about what the secretaries can talk to you about/help. On an email or a twitter thread.

- Virtual Committee Meetings

Rosemark- Still hold them. You can do it through zoom or google hangout or emails. It's

Important we continue all of that.

- Events & [Budget Update](#) and/or Adjustments

- 1) Spring Retreat \$75
- 2) Tech Fee Food \$250
- 3) Prairie Gala \$1,000
- 4) STUD Food \$100
- 5) Thank You Dinner \$200

= \$1,625 → ~\$2,100 Carry Forward

Rosemark- These are the events that are cancelled and the money associated with them. Ideas on what to do with that money.

Scovil- I think we should get a keurig for the office.

Loechler- I was thinking merchandise, like fanny packs or t-shirts.

Maloney- Cute notes?

Happ- Thank you swag instead of thank you dinner.

Loechler- Especially for the seniors.

Roemeling- If you have any others ideas feel free to email me.

VI. **Member, Committee, and Organization Reports**

A. Sam

Next forum is technically the last forum of this administration. Everything transfers over on the 12th. I would encourage you all to apply for the positions. Let me know if you have any questions. Considering that everything is online, depending on how many applicants we get, I might ask you all to serve through the rest of the semester just in case.

B. Josh

Emergency fund committee met and we came to a decision rather quickly. We funded the student.

Rosemark- So that brings the account down to \$1350 about, so we might want to replenish it will gala funds.

C. Sydney

Loechler- We're going to talk about what we're going to do with our money.

D. Julia

I think we will keep on looking at how majors and minors have grown in the last ten years. I will be emailing LeAnn asking how she wants to move forward with the ASSC resolution.

E. Maddie H

In our next meeting we will be talking about tech fee because we will have not have made the decisions. We will also be talking about recommendations for next years committee. It would have been nice to have a sheet of paper about what worked and what didn't work.

F. Maddie K - *excused*

G. Marley

H. John

I. Shelby

J. Lindsey

K. Juan

For the search committee for the director of transfer student services, a lot of things have changed due to recent events, so I don't know if students will still be involved, I think they're trying to do things over zoom.

L. Kimberly

Sorry I missed that meeting.

M. Becca

VII. [Agenda Construction for 4/6/20](#)

VIII. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 7:41pm.