

University of Minnesota Morris Digital Well

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Morris Campus Student Association

Campus Governance

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8-31-2020

### MCSA Forum minutes 08/31/2020

Morris Campus Student Association

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

**Memo to:** MCSA Forum Members  
**From:** MCSA Executive Committee  
**Subject:** Forum Agenda for Monday, August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2020.

The Forum will meet on Monday at 6:00 pm on Zoom: [z.umn.edu/MCSAForum](https://z.umn.edu/MCSAForum). Please mute yourselves when not speaking or voting.

Check-in [here](#) so that we have your information and can enter you into the drawing for the giveaways.

**I. Open Forum**

*Forum is called to order at 6:05 PM.*

**II. For Action: Approve Agenda**

*Agenda is approved by unanimous vote. Vice President Pryor facilitates a round of introductions.*

**III. President's Remarks**

Letters:

- [Racism and Policing 6/18/20](#)
- [Vandalism of Black Lives Matter Signs 7/6/20](#)

*President Rosemark reports on the two letters he sent to the campus community. One is on racism and policing in response to George Floyd's murder and the other is in the response to the vandalism of Black Lives Matter Signs in town. President Rosemark also welcomed everyone back while emphasizing the importance of the role student government will play this year given the COVID-19 pandemic and national reckoning on racism in the United States.*

**IV. Committee Reports**

**MCSA Committees**

*Secretaries are asked to introduce themselves and share what more about what their committees do.*

Academic Affairs

*The position of Secretary of Academic Affairs is currently vacant. The Academic Affairs committee focuses on issues around academics in the broadest sense. Things that are specifically on are academic integrity, scholastic policies, and*

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*general education requirements. Gen ed requirements will likely be a big topic this year as the campus revisits its gen ed requirements.*

**Campus Relations**

*Secretary Romeling shares that the Campus Relations committees focuses on the annual Prairie Gala fundraiser and on social media.*

**Resources and Operations**

*Secretary Maxwell shares that the Resources and Operations committee focuses on the resources and operations of MCSA and of campus. Administering the Tech-fee is a large responsibility of this committee. Sustainability initiatives are also a big focus.*

**Student Services**

*The position of Secretary of Student Services is currently vacant. The Student Services committee focuses anything and everything related to student services. Student mental health, get-out-the-vote, raising awareness on the American Indian Tuition Waiver, and other work around UMN Morris services or lack thereof are major focus areas.*

**Executive Committee**

*The Executive Committee is made up of MCSA's executive officers and sets the agenda of MCSA.*

**First Year Council**

*The First Year Council comprises the four First Year Representatives and addresses issues of the first year class.*

**Campus Assembly Committees**

Consultative

Curriculum

Equity and Diversity

Finance

Membership

Planning

Scholastic

Steering

*President Rosemark reports that Steering met on 8/25 and primarily discusses the agenda for the upcoming Campus Assembly meeting.*

Student Affairs

**V. Organization Reports**

BSU

CNIA

MoQSIE

**VI. Old Business**

*No new business due to it being the beginning of the year.*

For Information:

1)

For Action:

1)

**VII. New Business**

For Information:

1) [MCSA Overview](#)

*President Rosemark gives an overview presentation of MCSA, what MCSA is, why it matters, and how to get involved and why. All are encouraged to refer to this learn more about MCSA and how MCSA fits in the larger picture of shared governance of the University of Minnesota,*

2) Check Out and Apply for Positions: [z.umn.edu/MCSAPositionApplication](https://z.umn.edu/MCSAPositionApplication)

a) Preferred deadline: Friday, 9/4/20 at 11:59 PM.

*All are encouraged to look at the open positions via the linked form. All those interested in holding a position should fill out the form preferably by 11:59 PM on 9/4/20. Depending on the position, you may have to apply and be interviewed or simply just need to notify MCSA of your interest via submitting the form.*

3) Campus Assembly Tuesday Sept. 1st 11:40 AM - 12:40 PM

a) Zoom Link: <https://umn.zoom.us/j/93026805509>

*The first Campus Assembly of the year is tomorrow, 9/1/20. Campus Assembly Representatives must attend. The meeting is open to anyone. The Zoom link to the*

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*meeting is linked above. Campus Assembly is UMN Morris's main governing body consisting of faculty, staff, and students and discusses many issues on campus.*

4) Breakout Session Discussion on Priorities

*A large-group discussion on what MCSA's priorities for the year should be is had. Topics of racism, food insecurity, accountability and transparency of the UMN Morris administrators, better communications regarding COVID-19, 2020 General Election voter engagement, student mental health and wellness, and the MYU "Fall 2020 Statement" pop-up message are all discussed and recommended as top priorities.*

5) Covid-19 Discussion

*A discussion on COVID-19 is opened by Vice President Pryor. People are asked to state questions and concerns they have regarding COVID-19 as it relates to UMN Morris. Concerns about transparency and lack of communication from the campus are shared. Concerns about the lack of testing and the MYU pop-up message are also widely shared. President Rosemark gives updates as they relate to the concerns shared. For the MYU message, it was shared with President Rosemark that the message was solely a message and not a waiver of any kind. The message was sent out from the UMN system and not from Morris. All involved agree the message could have been shared in a better way. No student info was tracked. For COVID cases, as of August 28th, 2020 there were no UMN Morris students - that the University is aware of - who tested positive for COVID-19. About 70 students had been tested with all of the tests coming back negative. UMN Morris released its COVID-19 Dashboard (<https://morris.umn.edu/covid-19-resources/covid-19-dashboard>) last week that shows the amount of quarantine and isolation rooms available and being used by students. These spaces and associated services like food delivery have been named "Cougar Care." As of Friday, August 28th, 2020 only a few students were in quarantine and none were in isolation. Quarantine spaces are for students who are showing symptoms or were in close contact with someone who tested positive for COVID-19. These students do get tested while quarantining ,*

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*Isolation spaces for students who have tested positive. Due to federal health privacy law HIPAA and the University wanting to protect the health privacy of students, low number of students will be displayed with an asterisk or two asterisks. Given that Morris is a small campus it would be relatively easy to figure who students in quarantine or isolation are. There has been a significant increase in confirmed COVID-19 cases in Stevens County; however, the increase is largely in the Morris community and not from students. As for testing, UMN Morris released a new flowchart explaining how students should get tested. The flowchart, dashboard and other resources can be found by going to [morris.umn.edu](https://morris.umn.edu) and then clicking on COVID-19 Resources tab(<https://morris.umn.edu/fall-2020>). It is important to note that students who go directly to Health Services do not have to pay any out of pocket expenses to get tested since student fees will cover the costs. Test results will also be shared with the University rather than the University relying on the contact tracer to share that information. Students can be brought to SCMC to get tested via a University van installed with plexiglass. Students who go directly to SCMC may have some out-of-pocket costs. It is less likely that test results will be shared with the University. Lastly, the University is using Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) guidance when planning for modality or other COVID-19 changes. The higher education guidance from MDH can be found at <https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/schools/ihe.html>. Specifically, campus is using the MDH documents “Guidance for Mitigating COVID-19 at Higher Education Institutions” (<https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/schools/guideihe.pdf>) and “Recommendations for Different Levels of COVID-19 Transmission Among Higher Education Institutions” (<https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/schools/iherecs.pdf>).*

6) Covid-19 Survey Link: [z.umn.edu/MCSASurvey](https://z.umn.edu/MCSASurvey)

*MCSA has developed a survey on COVID-19 and on policing that will be sent out on 9/2/2020 or 9/3/2020 to students via UMMOFFICIAL. Feedback is requested from Forum attendees. It is suggested that the option zero be added for the*

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*questions asking about the number of classes, that it asks about hybrid classes,  
and that a question on food insecurity be included.*

For Action:

- 1) Giveaway!

*Five giveaways are raffled off. Congrats to the winners.*

**IX. Announcements**

*No announcements are shared.*

**X. Adjourn.**

*The meeting is adjourned at 7:05 PM.*