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Morris Campus Student Association

Campus Governance

10-11-2021

MCSA Forum minutes 10/11/2021

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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, October 11th, 2021.

The Forum will meet on Monday at 6:00 pm in Imholte 109 and Zoom.

Zoom link: z.umn.edu/MCSAForum. Please mute yourself when not speaking or voting.

Reminder that only current voting members are allowed to vote, make motions, and make seconds. However, all are encouraged to participate in discussions. Click [here](#) to check your voting eligibility in Forum.

MCSA core documents like the Constitution, Bylaws, and guide to Robert's Rules can be found [here](#).

This meeting came to order at 6:02 on October 11th, 2021

I. Approve Agenda

- 1) John Barber
- 2) Shelby Maloney
- 3) Motion Passes

II. Approve Minutes: [10.4.21](#)

- 1) Grace Hiltner
- 2) Cameron Berthaiume
- 3) Motion Passes

III. Committee Reports

MCSA Committees

Academic Affairs

Discussed the Morris 1101 Course

Campus Relations

Talked about Presence and the current difficulties using it. Figuring out how to teach the freshmen how to use presence. Talked about posting weekly events on the instagram.

Resources and Operations

Noelle will let everyone know once the date for the Sustainability Forum once it's set. There's now a spreadsheet of what needs to get done for the forum.

Student Services

Decided to focus on the ORL issue for right now. Will work on the Native Tuition Waiver video and the Sodexo stuff later in the year.

Executive Committee

Talked through committee updates.

First-Year Council

Next week there will be nominations and approval for the at large representative for the first year council (someone who is both on first year council and exec). First year council has their first meeting next Wednesday.

All University

Meeting this Wednesday. Each officer will give a report of what's been happening in the groups that they are in. Will also discuss what the Gov Relations Officer will be doing.

Campus Assembly Committees

Curriculum

Tomorrow is the meeting about the Gen Ed requirements.

Equity and Diversity

Haven't met in a couple weeks, still working on finding a diversity officer

Membership

No Membership Rep Currently (will have to find one later)

Planning

Looked at Native Student equity in post secondary education (from 2018). Also looking at a formal land acknowledgement and diversity training.

Steering

Dave and Simon want Presence to be used to take attendance on campus assembly (people could scan their phone or ID to get into the meeting).

Shelby: Presence has a nice break down of whose been attending. It can be useful for student orgs

Cal: Also discussed getting COVID info from the main U
Student Affairs

Waiting to get more feedback on the Student Org document. Will be meeting after
break to push the student org doc to campus assembly.

IV. Organization Reports

BSU

CNIA

Powwow will be on April 2nd.

MoQSIE

Wednesday there will be an intersex scholar doing a talk in Humanities 111. There
is a zoom option as well.

V. Old Business

For Information:

- 1) [Robert's Rules of Orders!](#) presented by Parliamentarian Grace Hiltner

VI. New Business

For Information

- 1) Gen Ed Discussion
 - a) Tuesday, October 12, 2021 at 11:40pm ([Zoom link](#))
 - b) Email from Peh Ng ([link](#)) - Sent Oct, 8 2021 at 12:00 PM

Campus assembly members will meet over zoom to discuss the Gen Ed reforms.

Experiential Learning

Students would do some sort of community engagement/service/study
abroad/equity+diversity experience/internship/leadership/extracurriculars/research/etc to count as
a Gen Ed requirement

Laney: Would this be required for students who have already been at Morris?

Dylan: This would start for whichever class comes in after this passed.

Shelby: It could be positive for incoming classes because we could advertise that every Morris
student gets involved in community engagement

Julia: During the discussions it was brought up that at least 80% of the student body is already
involved in something that would count for this requirement. Would adding this create extra
stress and work for students? How much work should students do for this requirement?

Dylan: Concerned about the effect on campus culture. Would add students who don't necessarily have their own passion for organizations into those orgs

Cal: All of these things are wonderful things for students to be involved in, but is concerned about this being involved with credits. This might not actually push involvement. How would standards be measured?

Noelle: Agrees with Cal. You could be in a leadership position and do nothing. How much extra paperwork would students have to fill out? Does the position have to be related to your measure? If it isn't how helpful is it?

Dylan: Janet says students would be paired with a faculty member and work with them while doing the leadership position

Shleby: Not worried about people being involved in things they don't want to be involved in because there are so many things to get involved with on campus. It sounds like a lot of work to get the credits to count (doing projects, paperwork, and meeting with a faculty). Likes the idea, but doesn't like how much extra work students would have to put in. It would be nice to do one summary paper or assignment at the end instead of a directed study.

Henry: Is this based on something another Liberal Arts college has done? A lot of the listed things are things you should want to do, not because it's required.

Daleny: It takes the heart out and enjoyment out of the activities to make them requirements. Would the world experience also count for or replace the world experience requirement?

Julia: Experiential Learning could be added to whichever plan we do. Experiential Learning would be an add on to another plan. Not sure if you could double count a class

John: If experience is credit bearing, does that mean students could fail the experience credits? It's concerning that that could negatively impact students. Looks like UT Texas is using this, would like to see how this was used before.

Dylan: A positive of student orgs is that it's completely run by students. How would this requirement involve faculty and staff in student orgs?

Julia: The directive study stuff would not be as rigorous as directive studies are run now. All of these plans were well researched by those who brought them to curriculum. Students are putting a lot of time and effort into clubs, so they want to give recognition to that. The requirements would be met by time requirements which could be fulfilled by involvement in different groups.

First Year Experience Course

Cal: Thinks that it would be good for students to be able to take a WLA specific to their major

Shelby: Enjoyed having a bunch of options for the IS course, and really enjoyed the course. It was helpful that different offices came in to the class. People get vastly different experiences in WLA based on the Professor. Thinks IC and IS could be combined, doesn't want to lose IC

Delaney: Did not have a positive IC course experience. The course didn't focus on what it said it would and didn't learn much from it. If Morris 1101 were combined with IC it would give it direction. Combining these classes would give it direction and introduce students to different offices on campus which would be good.

Cal: Chemistry faculty see it as a problem that WLA classes don't teach students to write how it's needed for chemistry

Robert: The IS course was only for the first 2 weeks. Depending on the IC course combining could make it better or worse. Goals need to be more streamlined

Henry: WLA became really redundant. WLA doesn't seem necessary because it's taught in so many other classes. There are also some gaps in info taught in WLA. Wants to keep IC courses

Vanessa: WLA gets repetitive. Agrees with Henry's point.

Julia: Professors are teaching the courses differently because each professor has a different teaching style. Thinks it makes sense for course to be combined.

Singular Capstone

Noelle: How does this work for completely different majors?

Julia: Would work with faculty in both departments. If you can't do both you could do the research part of one but not the presentation, and then the research and presentation of the other major

Henry: Bookend wording? Are the classes related?

Julia: No, it just means the IC stuff is the beginning of college and the capstone is the end of college

John: They want the capstone to be career minded/based on what the student is doing next (career focused, grad school focused, etc). Want the capstone to be specific to the career goals of the student, which currently isn't happening.

Cal: How does this work with opposing majors?

John: Would look at what the student wants to work in, and make the project specific to that. You don't need to necessarily combine both equally, could focus on the aspects of each major that.

Noelle: Would that replace senior capstone?

John: Not sure but assuming yes

Shelby: Would credit requirements be lowered?

Julia: Would not change credit amounts

2) MCSA Mid-Semester Feedback Form ([link](#))

a) Due Wednesday, October 13, 2021 at 6:00pm

Anonymous, Julia and Dylan will read the responses. Feedback will be taken to exec.

3) Fall Break!

a) No Forum next Monday; committee time the following week.

IX. Announcements

Dylan: Today is Indigenous People's Day

Julia: The gen ed discussion is only via zoom. Bring any questions you have to the discussion tomorrow

X. Adjournment