MCSA Forum minutes 02/28/2022
Memo to: MCSA Forum Members  
From: MCSA Executive Committee  
Subject: Forum Agenda for Monday, February 28th, 2022

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

Zoom link: [https://umn.zoom.us/j/92605258042?pwd=OUhqVDduTTd6ZEFY0sk5FenB5R1dkUT09](https://umn.zoom.us/j/92605258042?pwd=OUhqVDduTTd6ZEFY0sk5FenB5R1dkUT09)

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](https://umn.zoom.us/j/92605258042?pwd=OUhqVDduTTd6ZEFY0sk5FenB5R1dkUT09) to check your voting eligibility in Forum.*

*MCSA core documents like the Constitution, Bylaws, and guide to Robert’s Rules can be found [here](https://umn.zoom.us/j/92605258042?pwd=OUhqVDduTTd6ZEFY0sk5FenB5R1dkUT09).*

This meeting came to order on February 28th, 2022 at 6:02pm

**I. Approve Agenda**

1) John Barber  
2) Daleney Teske  
3) This motion passes

**II. Approve Minutes: 2.21.22**

1) Cal Mergendahl  
2) John Barber  
3) This motion passes

**III. Committee Reports**

**MCSA Committees**

- Academic Affairs  
- Campus Relations  
- Resources and Operations

Vanessa and Griffin are working on food security
Student Services
John: We’re going to discuss what we need to get done

Executive Committee
Dylan: We’ll be meeting with Bryan Herrmann this week about how snow days work and are decided. We’ll also be hearing updates from Griffin and Vanessa on food insecurity work.

First-Year Council
Denisse: We’re talking about our choices for Earth Month and moving forward with those.

All University
Grace: We’re meeting on Friday

DEI Officer

Campus Assembly Committees
Steering
Cal: Campus assembly will be meeting on zoom only for the rest of the semester
Dylan: We met with Janet today and tomorrow she will let everyone know we have no students from Russia or Ukraine

Planning
Cameron: We’re asking different committees what they’re doing related to the living and learning plan. We discussed the budget plan. Most people on the committee seem to support increasing pay for student workers

Equity and Diversity
*cricket noise* (unfortunately a lot of people were gone, we’ll get an update next week!)

Student Affairs
We’ll be meeting tomorrow.

Membership
Julia: They need another faculty nominee to be on consultative, so if you know a faculty member who would be good on consultative let me know. That election is scheduled to begin on March 2nd so let me know soon if you have ideas. If you haven’t voted yet, vote!

Curriculum
John: Met on the 24th, did course approvals and continued gen ed discussion

IV. Organization Reports
La Union LatinX (LUL)
Denisse: The dance is April 15th, we’re working on planning on dance classes.

Black Student Union (BSU)

Circle of Nations Indigenous Association (CNIA)

Griz: This Thursday we are going to do Rez Talks and next Thursday we’ll be doing a board game night. We’re also working on Powwow

Morris Queer Student Initiative for Equality (MoQSIE)

Jay: If you know anyone who is interested in performing in the drag show have them talk to Kara Black about performing.

Students for a Democratic Society (SDS)

Cal: We’re meeting tomorrow to finalize the university governance teach in plans for this Saturday. I’ll post about that once we finalize the details.

V. Old Business

VI. New Business

For Information

1) Election Tabling Sign-Up

Grace: Sign up for election tabling!

a) Update

Julia: Everyone fill out this form! We’re going to use everyone’s reasons of why they are in MCSA to advertise to others to run in the election. We have about 16 applications to the election, and we need 16 campus assembly positions and other positions. Fill out the form to run in the election and encourage others to do so!

For Action

1) Support the U Day

Dylan: Support the U Day is an annual student led event that used to include a rally at the Capital to get the state legislature to support the University’s budget requests. Support the U Day happened in person in 2019, then was a virtual event in 2020, in 2021 there was no official event but MCSA tabled and handed out ice cream. There has been no official correspondence on if Support the U Day has continued, but Sam Rosemark has said that the Twin Cities campus will likely do a rally on their campus and encourage other campuses to host events as well. We have three options of what we could do for Support the U Day, which are listed in the document. Option 1 is rally and tabling in the student center (late March, early April), Option 2 is
symbolically withdrawing to protest exclusion of Morris by writing a letter, and Option 3 is a combination of both.

Cal: I think that if we decide to do any support the U Day celebrations or messaging we should avoid any support of funding of further campus policing efforts at the Twin Cities when that money could be going to MOrris or other things.

Henry: I think if we go with option 2 just writing a letter is not enough.

Julia: I disagree. I think if we go to alumni relations and make the point that there are alumni from the system campus that care about those campuses that would be good. Writing a letter is the minimum we could do.

Jay: Is it feasible to organize anything with everything else we have going on?

Dylan: Anything’s possible. If members of MCSA want to do something it’s going to get done.

Shelby: Don’t we usually go to the Twin Cities for STUD?

Dylan: With COVID we will not be going to the Twin Cities. The bonding bill that is currently being put forth by the University has funding for Morris’s infrastructure and accessibility. Morris is planned to get 3% of the bonding request. The rest of the money goes to the other campuses.

Cal: Is this only for HEAPR money?

Dylan: Yes

Julia: With all the concerns that we have brought up (accessible dorms) we should work for getting more of that money.

John: Would a phone a thon be feasible? A lot of the old STUD was getting ahold of legislators to get them to support us. A phone a thon would be a large group of us calling representatives to advocate for Morris to get more funding.

Cal: I’ve looked over the HEAPR information, which is about 10 million dollars and it would do a lot of good, including an elevator in the MRC. However it doesn’t go to dorms, which is a place where we have problems. We’re not asking for enough to fix all of our infrastructure problems.

Julia: I created a document with STUD ideas and added the phone a thon idea. I think we could work with Bryan Herrmann and the All U committee to figure out what we should advocate for. We could also get faculty involved and have their students involved in contacting legislators.

Dylan: Not only do we want more than what we’re given (the 3%), we also want things more specific to student needs.
John: We should establish what are priorities are and then clearly explaining them to clearly to legislators. Facilities is really struggling and this is a good opportunity for us to advocate for and support them.

Motion to table this discussion

1) Cal
2) John

IX.  Announcements

Dylan: If you’re unable to table make sure you’re still spreading the word about the election. This week we need to get people to sign up to run in the election. Ask your friends to join MCSA

John: Community meal 5:30-7:30pm tonight at

Cal: I wrote an article in the UR about increasing student pay

X.  Committee Time

XI.  Adjournment

1) John Barber
2) Cal Mergendahl