

University of Minnesota Morris Digital Well

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Morris Campus Student Association

Campus Governance

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3-7-2022

### MCSA Forum minutes 03/07/2022

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, March 7th, 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=QUhqVDduTTd6ZFY0ek5FcnB5R1dkUT09>

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 6:01pm on March 7th, 2022

**I. Approve Agenda**

- 1) John Barber
- 2) Kendra DeRosa
- 3) This motion passes

**II. Approve Minutes: [2.28.22](#)**

- 1) Kendra DeRosa
- 2) Dylan Young
- 3) This motion passes

**III. Committee Reports**

**MCSA Committees**

Academic Affairs

Vanessa Mora: No updates

Campus Relations

Gabby Holboy: Check the email I sent last week

## Resources and Operations

Griffin Peck: Some applications have come in for Tech Fee. The application is due next Monday, but the deadline will probably get pushed to the Monday after Spring break. Tech fee has been going well.

## Student Services

John: Will be contacting Matt Hoekstra about the Accessibility audit, and we'll discuss the CPAC stuff in the google doc.

Executive Committee

First-Year Council

All University

DEI Officer

## **Campus Assembly Committees**

### Campus Assembly

Cal Mergendahl: Campus assembly is trying to rename the education building after Bill and Ida Stewart. They wanted to vote in assembly to suspend the normal 2/3s majority needed to rename the building and switch to just needing 50% of voting members to vote yes to rename the building. There was some discussion about that and if we would try to rename all buildings after individuals. The vote eventually passed (so that a 50% majority vote is needed to rename the building) and the vote to rename the building is open right now.

Finance

Scholastic

Consultative

## **IV. Organization Reports**

### La Union LatinX (LUL)

Vanessa: There will be a zoom webinar session on Wednesday from 8-9:30. More information is in the school events email that gets sent out.

Black Student Union (BSU)

Circle of Nations Indigenous Association (CNIA)

Dylan Young: Currently getting volunteers for the Powwow on April 2nd. They need 50-100 volunteers. You can sign up in the student center to volunteer.

Morris Queer Student Initiative for Equality (MoQSIE)

Drag show is the Friday after Spring Break.

liz thompson: there are still drag folks needed.

#### Students for a Democratic Society (SDS)

Cal: National SDS is planning a week of action against the war in Ukraine and against US involvement in it. This will be the week after spring break and Morris's SDS will figure out how we could potentially be involved in it at our meeting this week.

### **V. Old Business**

For Information

#### 1) [Election Tabling Sign-Up](#)

Grace Hiltner: Sign up for tabling! Still need people on Thursday or Friday.

Cameron Berthiaume: What do we need to do when we're tabling?

Grace: Ask people if they have voted yet. The yellow highlights on the spreadsheet are the most needed times.

Dylan: The same people are tabling all week, so it would be appreciated if other people can help out!

#### 2) *Snow Days Resolution* Update

Dylan: We passed a letter saying that we should not have had classes during the snowstorm a few weeks ago, because it was a health and safety issue. Bryan Herrmann went over the policy for closures with the executive committee and you can see that policy in the agenda. Grace and I will meet with Campus assembly later in April and we're going to suggest looking at and possibly revising this policy.

Cal: How much are we able to change/effect this policy/policies that affect snow day decisions?

Dylan: A lot of this policy is campus specific.

### **VI. New Business**

For information

#### 1) Food Odyssey Program

Dylan: Vanessa and Griffin had this idea. MCSA has a travel fund that usually gets used to send representatives to the Twin Cities campus for meetings/events, but that hasn't happened lately.

We have \$300 that we could use to rent 3 10-person vans to take students to Meadowland, Dollar Tree, and other cheaper grocery stores (not Willies).

Vanessa: Carry was open to the idea of getting TRIO mentors involved as well. TRIO mentors would be paid to help out. Leslie Lindberg and Ray haven't gotten back to me yet, but I reached out to them as well.

Griffin: The options of buying food in Morris aren't adequate for students or members of our community, so doing this is a way for MCSA to acknowledge the issue of food insecurity and fight against it. This will send a message to stakeholders in the community (including Willies). Hopefully that will make people think of the resources available in Morris and how they are lacking.

John: How do you plan on advertising? I think this is a good idea and we should make sure the message we're trying to send gets sent out.

Griffin: We haven't thought about that yet, but we'll probably use social media and could draft a letter to community stakeholders as to why we are doing this program.

John: We could have a statement of purpose on why we are doing this.

Cal: Is this something where we will invite students to come with us to get their own food or are we just going and buying food for the on campus food shelf?

Griffin: We would take students to do their grocery shopping. I think we could also buy food for our food shelf as well. I'm not sure if we have money available for that, but I think that could be valuable to add to the program.

Jade Allard: Can we just boycott businesses in Morris?

Dylan: I think that at the end of the odyssey we'd have an exit survey to gauge future interest in the program and to find out how much business this took from Willies. The intention right now is to do one odyssey in late April and depending on how that goes, we'll try to do it more regularly next year.

## 2) [COVID-19 Midterm Report](#)

Dylan: Chancellor Eriksen is meeting with the other chancellors and Joan Gabel this week to talk about the future of the mask mandate, because the CDC dropped mask requirements for Universities. This link has a report on COVID 19 and opinions on vaccination requirements and other COVID related things. What do you all think should be included in it?

General forum consensus is to keep the mask mandate.

Daleny Teske: They can't stop us from wearing masks right?

No

John: What has the CDC said about people with weakened immune systems?

Cal: I think it's advised that they talk to their primary care providers.

Griffin: MinnState lifted their mask mandantate last week. The University's confidence in reported vaccine rates could be a major factor in this decision. We might want to look at how accurate that data is. If there is a 95% vaccination rate I could understand wanting to remove the mandate, but I'm not sure if that's the case.

Kendra: University of Wisconsin Superior has not lifted their indoor mask mandate, and since we're in the same conference if they or Morris pull their mask mandate, the rest of the conference will probably follow suit.

John: Will the regents come if we lift the mask mandate?

Cal: No, not until next year.

Briana Dokken: Are we consulting the general student opinion to add? Should we make sure we ask students opinions on COVID policies?

Dylan: Generally we should always ask students how they feel about what we do. This isn't the best time to conduct a survey. We're elected to represent the student body. We'll also be giving an update on what MCSA has been working on, and will be advocating for booster clinics and free masks.

Kendra DeRosa: During tabling we can ask students how they feel about the mask mandate being lifted.

Dylan: We'll probably say that the vaccination requirement proof be simplified (not making people fill out multiple forms) and we'll be talking about adding a booster shot requirement.

## **IX. Announcements**

Jackson (teamster representative): I work for the teamsters union and was a student at the Twin Cities as of last year. We're going into contract negotiations soon and a lot of workers on campus (custodians, food service, carpenters, etc-the people who have kept stuff running the past year) are part of the union. There's been a lot of problems. Workers and students have a lot of shared struggles, so I can join a committee today to talk more about it. Some of your conversations are the same conversations I've had with workers (like the snow day policy). The fact that student workers have a 3rd party running the dining hall means that student dining hall workers work for Sodexo, not the University, which creates some weird stuff. Morris workers feel isolated from each other and from students so we want to bridge that gap. There is a member meeting at 7pm

today in the Moccasin Flower Room. You can contact me with questions or concerns. There is also a petition the workers are running that you all can sign.

John: Jackson can join student services because we've been discussing worker student solidarity  
liz: I support infrastructure surrounding accessibility, but a lot of students registered with the DRC have depression and mental health concerns. This should be kept in mind with accessibility and student worker conversations.

**X. Committee Time**

**XI. Adjournment**

- 1) Cal Mergendahl
- 2) John Barber
- 3) This meeting adjourned at 6:35pm