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MCSA Forum minutes 10/24/2011

Morris Campus Student Association

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

October 24th, 2011

- I.** Roll Call
 - a. Van Cleve called the meeting to order at 6:02pm.
 - b. Granaas called roll; Representatives Vue, Robinson, Myhal, and Rosana were absent. Representatives Peters, Donovan, and Nyberg were tardy. Representatives Rook, Dale, Trumper, and N. Wentz were excused. Representatives Peters, Fairbanks, and J. Wentz left Forum early.
- II.** For Action: Approve Agenda
 - a. Govada motioned to approve the agenda; second by Vogel.
 - b. Motion carried.
- III.** For Action: Approve Minutes
 - a. Govada motioned to approve the minutes; second by Showalter.
 - b. Motion carried.
- IV.** President's Remarks
 - a. None
- V.** For Information: UMACS Presentation *Presented by Secretary Forde and guests*
 - a. Zak Forde, Taylor Hays, Reed Olmschied, and Michael Peters presented a summary of what they learned from the recent UMACS Conference.
 - b. They focused on topics including collaboration with other schools to share knowledge and resources, student activism and advocacy, project ideas, avenues for sustainability on a college campus, the idea of a Green Revolving Fund, how to deal with leadership turnover and recruitment, green living on-campus, sustainable curriculum, and future conference opportunities that will help expand networking.
 - c. This group of students will work on collaborating within themselves and other MCSA-related committees and taskforces to help bring the ideas from the conference to something of action at UMM. They expressed their thanks to MCSA for providing the opportunity for them to attend UMACS.
- VI.** For Information: Campus Assembly *Presented by President Govada*

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- a. The next Campus Assembly is this week, Thursday, at 4:30pm. This assembly will focus on the Resource Allocation Review and what they have found. Jon Anderson will be giving an overview at the meeting; 45 minutes are slotted for related discussion.
 - b. Vogel asked if this is a largely student-focused issue. Govada mentioned that the student voice has been present in these discussions through committees; if the discussion leans toward complaints, it may not be worth joining the battle. If student input is necessary, it will happen organically within the discussion.
 - c. Patterson added that MCSA will never tell people that they cannot talk. However, this issue is completely new so students are on the same knowledge level as very one else at this point.
 - d. Forde expressed the importance of paying attention, as this issue does directly affect all students as well as their resources. It plays into the long-term vision of UMM.
 - e. Jayne emphasized that there is a lot of information that will be presented and we will need to absorb the information before we can comment on anything.
- VII.** For Information: Tech Fee Carry-Forward Policy *Presented by Secretary Forde*
- a. Forde will accept comments, questions, and revisions to this policy this week before it is presented For Action next week.
 - b. Forde explained the background of Tech Fee as well as how the policy would play into the current role of MCSA in the allocation of Tech Fee. The allocation process stays the same, but the amount that MCSA keeps in reserves must be retained based on the amount of funds available.
 - c. This policy, in short, is a reassurance that MCSA will always have enough funds to cover allocations, plus a little bit more for error. This guarantees that MCSA will always have enough money on-hand to fulfill the MCSA-approved allocations. Additionally, this policy allows MCSA Forum to re-allocate any carry-over funding that is not set aside for error's sake.

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- d. Govada mentioned that this policy is coming forward so that, in the future, MCSA Tech Fee Fund amounts are always clearly available for whatever purpose they were originally allocated. This policy ensures that MCSA will never overdraw the account through mistaken recreational funding.
 - e. Helgerson asked for clarification about the allocation amounts, and Forde addressed her concerns.
 - f. Felts inquired about why the number 55% is necessary when we only need 50%. Forde explained that, with a new policy like this, the amount provides extra caution for instances like what happened with the UR's Tech Fee request from a previous year. This allows MCSA to ensure that this policy works the way it is intended within the estimates and the cashflow. Felts is of the opinion that, although this is needed for cashflow, the funding is still there. Felts expressed the idea that the reserves will be replenished and should not be thought of as anything but reserves.
- VIII.** For Action: Co-Sponsorship Amount *Presented by Secretary Forde*
- a. Govada motioned to designate \$1500 for Co-Sponsorships; second by Blakenfeld.
 - i. This was brought up at a previous meeting. MCSA policy dictates that the amount to be spent on Co-Sponsorship must be approved by MCSA Forum. Forde explained the number is from unclaimed stipends and the amount is slightly conservative to allow for error. The number, however, is flexible and may be adjusted by a Forum vote at any time.
 - ii. Preston called the question; second by Vogel.
 - iii. Motion carried.
 - b. Motion carried.
- IX.** Organization Reports
- a. E-Quality has events going on this week as well as new support resources.
- X.** Old Business
- a. None
- XI.** New Business

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- a. Preston was elected to be a Student Senator at UMM, but must resign his seat because he was elected Vice President. If anyone is curious about learning more about this newly-opened position, talk to Preston. Govada and Van Cleve will be soliciting applications later this week for the open position.
- b. Patterson announced that Curriculum Committee will need student input regarding general education requirements. Any student perspectives on general education can be sent to Fairbanks, Blankenfeld, or Patterson so that they may be shared with the rest of the Committee.

XII. Adjourn

- a. Showalter motioned to adjourn; second by Forde.
- b. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:58pm.