



Associated Students of Montana State University Billings

December 2, 2019- Meeting Minutes

We strive for Leadership, Involvement, Sustainability, and Service

I. CALL TO ORDER– Vice President Taylor Kurkoski called the meeting to order at 5:03pm

II. ROLL CALL

PRESENT- President Merritt, Vice President Kurkoski, Business Mgr Unzaga, SRO Cunningham, Senator Fausnaugh, Senator Neff, Senator Niemi, Senator Norris, Senator Robertus, Senator Seymanski, Senator Shovlin

EXCUSED- Senator Bryce-Black, Senator Davis, Senator Sheehan, Senator Williams

ABSENT-

III. PROXIES

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES-11-25-19

V. PRESENTORS/REPRESENTATIVES-

Chancellor Edelman

-SRO Cunningham was on the radio for Veteran's Day, and people responded favorably. Thank you, Robin!

-Board of Regents meeting:

- College name changes, effective immediately: College of Allied Health Professions to College of Health Professions of Science; College of Arts & Sciences to College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences
- July 2021, the biological and physical sciences are being moved to the College of Health Professions of Science

- Upcoming Events:

- Dec. 6: at 4pm-6pm, the Native American Achievement Center is holding a craft bazaar
- Dec. 7: at 7:30pm, the MSUB Music Department and the Rocky Mountain Jazz Collective are performing Duke Ellington's Nutcracker Suite. Free for MSUB students with ID.
- Dec. 13: at 11am in LI 148, ROTC Commissioning Ceremony. Need to do a better job at recognizing this event, so do attend and pack the place! The army was initially going to pull this event and take it to Bozeman.

- After the Lady Yellowjackets defeated Corban University, MSUB hosted an elementary basketball game; over 600 elementary students came. The Men's basketball games went well with two wins last Friday and Saturday.

- Update on the Give a Ton Food Drive: MSUB is beating Rocky by over 300 lbs of food donations!

- Update on the Yellowstone Science and Allied Health Building:

- Very long project which began 6 or 7 years ago; 10 million was going to be given to us after we (MSUB) raised 5 million ourselves. However, the longer you wait to do a project, the more expensive it gets due to inflation. We have been short here and there.
- Now we are changing the scope of the project, and have eliminated phasing (phase 1 – new building construction, phase 2 – old building construction, while students move to the new building), which is why construction is currently being done on the old building while students are using it. Currently having water problems and noise, but there is no way to avoid it.
- One solution would be to hold classes at Rocky (weekends and night classes). Another solution is to add new space for labs in the COE, but the



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funds required are around 1.1 million dollars. Susan Simmers is CFO. We do have 1.5 million dollars in an Academic Building Fund, which is an accumulation of \$80,000 of student fees per year. The fund hasn't been used for 18 or so years. This can be utilized to create labs in the COE building. BOR policy requires MSUB to get an opinion from the students if more than 200,000 dollars is spent from the fund; the current deadline to do so is Friday, but can maybe push the deadline back so we can get more student opinions.

- Have to use of the current budgeted money before asking BOR for other funds. Also have \$400,000 from the Office of Commission, but will still have a 1.6 million dollar deficit. We may not be able to get that covered by March to continue work on the Science Building.
- Questions/Comments:
 - Have you thought about having an open forum to get comments about putting labs in the COE? Did mention it; probably will have the Deans talk to the faculty members and the faculty members take it to their classes.
 - Why can't we do it in phases? Most challenging environment that Chancellor Edelman has ever experienced while constructing buildings on college campuses.
 - Student senators will be writing a resolution statement regarding the use of the Academic Building Fund.
 - Some science faculty have been involved, but not all are in the loop. The Dean Toenjes is in the know, and committees have been formed to decide where the labs could be constructed and how.
 - Putting the temporary labs in the COE building only? There is a space on the fourth floor that has underutilized computer labs; 4 classrooms would be converted. Will be relocating 10 lab courses to City College. Special hoods and equipment will be needed for each new lab space. Also, times between courses at City College and classes on the main campus are allotted 1 hour.
 - 1.3 million dollars will be asked (more than needed, in case other expenses come up; using the van or providing transportation). Students will start the next fall term; construction of temporary lab spaces would occur between April and August.
 - What will students who conduct research during the summer do? Not sure; Dean Toenjes is looking into that.

-University of North Texas Health Science Center: Chancellor Edelman is meeting with their president, obtaining guaranteed interviews for MSUB medical-oriented students. MD school at TCU, trying to also push the pre-medical students there.

Christine Whitlatch, Communications Instructor

- Students had an opportunity to give a persuasive speech as a civic presentation in place of a final.

Madison (MSUB student) presented:

- Propose that MSUB host a MobilePack event with Feed My Starving Children.



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- Wasting: low weight for height. Stunting: low height for age. Low weight: underweight for age. Vitamin deficiency: not getting enough iodine, iron, etc.
- Children dying before the age of 15 is a larger problem than expected. Infectious diseases are largest cause of death in children under 5.
- MobilePack event: three groups of people would mix food, deliver food/ingredients, and weigh/package the food. The formulas include MannaPack Rice, MannaPack Potato-D, and MannaPack Potato-W.
- Standing out from other organizations: the food is delicious and nutritious, halal certified (permitted for Muslims to eat), gluten free, and is less than 25 cents per meal to make. Every formula is created to fight undernutrition. FMSC has a great reputation and ranks well on Charity Navigator. Over 2 billion meals have been shipped. The assembly line fashion of a MobilePack does not take much time. 88 feeds one child for one year!
- Hosting the event is a one-time deal. Must let the org know 6 months beforehand after choosing a date.

SAB

- Bob ross night was a success - 83 people came!
- Upcoming stress less week stuff, like a meditation room next Thursday.
- Now that there is a SAB board, events can be planned more in advance, and the board will bring ideas back from the NACA (National Association for Campus Activities) conference. May try to do many small events or fewer large events. The conference is in February, in Denver, CO. They will get a better variety of acts and entertainment to bring back to campus.
- Email SAB@msubillings.edu with ideas that students would enjoy. Looking at more on-campus events; have done off-campus events like Party at the PUB station.

VI. ADVISOR REPORTS –

Dr. Kim Hayworth

-ROTC: attend the event next week! Hosting Cram Jam in the cafeteria, which is free to ALL students with a student ID.

-Enrollment update for next fall: prospective students that have sent us their email or address; we are up 1, 261 inquiries and 77 applications over last year at the same time. 400 incomplete applications; will be reaching out to those applicants.

Kathy Kotecki

Dr. Paul Pope

Lance Mouser

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

IX. NEW BUSINESS



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X. EXECUTIVE & STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

President Savannah Merritt:



Vice President Taylor Kurkoski:

- Senate Dinner December 9th, 5pm; meet in the SUB at 4:45pm. Will update through email as to what restaurant. Will carpool.

Business Manager James Unzaga:



Student Resolution Officer Robin Cunningham:

- Spirit of Giving nominations due December 6th
 - Nominate a student in need to receive extra help for the holidays.
 - Nominations can be dropped off in the ASMSUB office.
- Jingle and Mingle – Dec. 6: mandatory; give Taylor a heads up if cannot attend the event.
- Ordered 100 ski tickets at \$37 per ticket. SSPR committee will decide tonight how much we will be selling these for.

XI. SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

-General Education Committee meeting:

- Coted to change Special Science Technology to Physical Science. Intro to Geography moved to a different category. Bible as Lit was removed from humanities and replaced by MT literature.
- Looked over courses that do not transfer to or from other colleges. Rough draft of what to do with Gen Ed courses. It's an issue for students to not know what classes would transfer or not; need to be made aware before they take the class.
- Some students have complaints about content of the gen ed courses; working on new objectives and if they met them. Students should also look at the objectives and evaluate whether they felt that they learned these objectives.
- Also would like to see the instructor and course evaluations changed to be more detailed.
- Trying to get our courses to be "tomorrow proof" and connect them to modern-day applications. Drop-out rate for gen eds are higher; professors appear to be less responsive because the students are not necessarily in their program. Some students approach the classes as high school courses and believe they don't apply to their degree path; just a checklist to get done.

XII. SENATE & ACADEMIC CONCERNS

-Final grades Due on December 18th by noon



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XIII. WORDS ON CAMPUS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Tuesday December 3rd

-Symphonic Band Concert, 7:30-9:30pm, Cisel Recital Hall

Wednesday December 4th

-Employers on Campus, 10:30am-1:30pm, SUB Atrium

-Drop in the WGSC and make stickers, 10:00am-3:00pm, LA 201

Thursday December 5th

-Employers on Campus, 10:30am-1:30pm, City College Commons

Friday December 6th

-Jingle and Mingle Holiday Party, 5:00-7:00pm, Rimrock Café

- Mandatory for senators

Saturday December 7th

-Service Saturday, 9:30am-12:00pm, SUB Atrium

Monday December 9th

-Cram Jam Late Night Breakfast, 7:45-9:00pm, Rimrock Café

- free for ALL students

Thursday Dec. 12

-Women's Basketball game at 7pm

-Last day of Give a Ton Food Drive!

Friday Dec. 13

-Men's Basketball game at 7pm

Dec. 13:

-11am in LI 148, ROTC Commissioning Ceremony

XIV. PUBLIC COMMENT

XV. ADJOURNMENT

6:04pm