



## Associated Students of Montana State University Billings

Tuesday, January 27, 2026 - Meeting Minutes

*We strive for Leadership, Involvement, Sustainability, and Service*

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### I. CALL TO ORDER- Vice President Slade called the meeting to order at 6:36pm

- **ROLL CALL**
- **PRESENT-** Senator Andes, Senator Bamer, Senator Bookheimer, Senator Eichman, Business Manager Ellery, Senator Foxley, Senator Hofer, Student Resolution Officer Hollenberg, Senator Husen, Senator Kern, Senator Pelatt, Senator Roberts, Vice President Slade, President Sneigoski, Senator Stone, Senator Whitley
- **EXCUSED- NA**
- **ABSENT-** Senator Brady, Senator Merdanovich

### II. PROXIES (fill out absentee ballot)

### III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- 01/20/2026
  - Motion: Senator Andes
  - Second: Senator Foxley
  - Unanimously approved

### IV. GUESTS/REPRESENTATIVES

- SAB
  - Taylor- engagement fair
  - 1/22- hypnotist on City College campus and main event from 7-8:30pm about 80 people attended
  - Next Tuesday 2/3 Game night City College 11am-1pm Main Campus 6-8pm in Glacier
  - Love n Stuff 2/11 Wednesday Atrium 6-8pm
  - 2/12 Love n Stuff at City College 11am-1pm
    - Let Taylor know your availability for helping with this event- if you have any questions please reach out to Taylor

### V. ADVISOR REPORTS

- Christine Whitlatch
  - Things going smoothly out at City College
  - Cement pad put in at the corner of the Health and Science building- this will be exterior seating space for this campus
  - City College Senators will be meeting with Dean Gagnon
- Dr. Gentry
  - Nothing to report
  - Senator Whitley will send out the by-law revisions to the by-laws committee
- Dr. Hayworth
  - Great to have students back
  - Great start to the semester
  - Flooding at City College and water damage over the weekend in the Tech Building
  - Shout out to Bailee and SAB for the Power of One Week events
  - Students please finalize your payments for the semester. Please encourage your classmates to finalize their payments.
  - Census date is next Tuesday
  - This Spring there will be opportunity for student input on the University's strategic



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planning search- we need student input

- Have all the committee opportunities been filled?
  - Looking for a student to join College Experience Course Committee from Dr. Nynas. Dr. Queen is now the chair of that committee.
    - Aliyah from SAB is willing to serve
  - Student activity fee committee
    - Senator Stone
    - Senator Bookheimer (if needed)
- Cara Virostko

### **VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

### **VII. OLD BUSINESS**

### **IX. NEW BUSINESS**

- Contingency Request for Portugal Study Abroad Class
  - That the sum of \$8,050.00 be allocated from contingency index #630200 to the COB for a study abroad trip to Portugal from February 27<sup>th</sup> – March 7<sup>th</sup> 2026.
    - Motion to move to financial board: Senator Hofer
    - Seconded: Senator Foxley
    - Unanimously approved
- Contingency Request for The American Indigenous Business Leaders MSU Billings
  - That the sum of \$2,650.00 be allocated from contingency index #630200 for a trip to Las Vegas, Nevada from March 22<sup>nd</sup> – March 25<sup>th</sup> 2026.
    - Motion to move to financial board: Senator Andes
    - Seconded: Senator Hofer
    - Unanimously approved

### **X. EXECUTIVE & STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- President Elijah Sneigoski
  - No updates- glad to be here
  - Events Update:
    - President Sneigoski- Bell ringer at MLK day ceremony
    - Business Manager Ellery- Alaska for Basketball last week
    - SRO Hollenberg- Ran ping pong
    - Senator Stone- Ping Pong
    - Senator Kern- Ping Pong
    - Senator Bamer- Ping Pong
    - Senator Roberts- involvement fair
    - Senator Pelatt- Leadership workshops
    - Senator Eichman- Track and hypnotist
    - Senator Husen- hypnotist
    - Senator Whitley- Tabling
    - Senator Hofer- None
    - Senator Foxley- Basketball Games (3), Ping Pong
    - Senator Andes- Basketball, stopped at the involvement fair
    - Senator Bookheimer- Hiring Committees
    - Taylor- MLK event, day of service



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- Vice President Slade- Tabled at the involvement fair and academic senate
- **Vice President Alli Slade**
  - Outstanding Faculty Award Nominations need to be completed no later than Jan 28<sup>th</sup>.
- **Business Manager Ellery**
  - Financial Board Meeting
  - COB Contingency request above- have not heard back from the parties requesting the funds.
    - Dr. Gentry recommended reaching out to Dr. Perius
- **Student Resolution Officer Hollenberg**
  - SSPR Meeting

### XI. SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

- President Sneigoski: Academic Senate- General Scholarship application is now open so get on that

### XII. SENATE & ACADEMIC CONCERNS

### XIII. WORDS ON CAMPUS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

- President Sneigoski- Go to Jazz Fest next Friday 7pm at the Lincoln Center. Tickets are \$15
- Senator Andes- Rook deadline for submissions 2/13- if you have any questions please reach out to Senator Andes
- Senator Whitley- Soup Day at the ASC at both campuses 2/4

### XIV. PUBLIC COMMENT

- Brenna- Concern over Voc Rehab midterm changes
  - Students were notified late or not notified at all that books and course materials would not be covered
  - Changes were made midterm and blocked course access undermining students' education and causing financial strain
  - Voucher sent last semester did not work and it was not remedied
  - Students would like clear clarification on why this change is happening and assurance that they will continue to cover tuition. They would also like immediate support for required materials for courses as well as consideration of IEP accommodations for funding
  - VR is requiring students to use comparable benefits for all expenses that are not fees or tuition
  - There was no due process as they did not give any notice to students of this change
- Senator Roberts was informed that they would no longer cover anything but tuition- Brenna noted that students are not supposed to be notified over the phone and that this was supposed to be relayed in person with a moderator present
  - Senator Roberts would like to know how many students who have not returned this semester due to this change and lack of funding
  - Shared that he uses his comparable funding to live throughout the year as a non-traditional student
- President Sneigoski asked for clarification on what Voc Rehab is. Brenna shared her story and Senator Roberts shared his story.



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- This program supports individuals with disabilities and help them gain skills to enter the workforce
- Christine asked our EC to reach out to other student senates and see if they are also hearing concerns about this from students.
- Senator Eichman asked if Brenna had reached out to the Chancellor about this concern
- Senator Whitley asked if students can reach out to our state representatives
  - Christine Whitlach said to reach out to our senators
  - Senator Roberts said he would reach out to the governor
- Senator Roberts would like to work with Brenna on this as well as Vice President Slade, Senator Kern, and Senator Foxley
- Dr. Gentry recommends that we could form an ad hoc committee
  - Senator Eichman motions to form an ad hoc committee to investigate the Voc Rehab Committee
  - Seconded: Senator Whitley
    - Senator Kern
    - Senator Roberts
    - Senator Husen
    - Senator Whitley
    - Senator Eichman
    - Senator Foxley
    - Vice President Slade will Chair

### **XV. ADJOURNMENT- Meeting adjourned at 7:13pm**

- Motion to Adjourn: Senator Husen
- Seconded: Senator Hofer
- Unanimously approved