Michigan Technological University Undergraduate Student Government

Minutes for Wednesday
December 2, 2009

I. Call to Order/ Pledge of Allegiance
   a. President Hanson called the meeting to order at 7:03pm

II. Roll Call

III. Approval of Agenda
   a. Agenda Approved

IV. Approval of Minutes
   a. Minutes Approved

V. Recognition of Visitors
   a. No Visitors

VI. Officer Reports (useboard-l@mtu.edu)
   a. President (cmhanson@mtu.edu)
      i. Information Session- Dec. 10 at 7pm in Fisher 135
         1. USG members are required to be there unless you have an exam.
         2. Reports from all committees to inform the student body what has been
            going on as well.
      ii. Lunch with Les and the Student Organizations Meeting last week
      iii. Winter Carnival Extra Safety
         1. More lights will be added.
         2. More traffic cones and flashing lights on the main roads
         3. USG members at crosswalks to help cross streets safely?
            a. A few members expressed interest.
      iv. USG Homework: Read the highlighted section of the robert’s rules books in the
          office before next meeting.
   b. Vice President (alvanslo@mtu.edu)
      i. USG Big Brother?
         1. Form more relationships with other USG members and they can help
            guide the new people on USG.
         2. Also sort of an information source
   c. Treasurer (amsheral@mtu.edu)
      i. Reserve Fund-
      ii. Opportunities Fund-
      iii. SAF-
      iv. USG-
      v. USG Resources
   d. Secretary (smandert@mtu.edu)

VII. Advisor Report (jaredmj@mtu.edu) (lpcook@mtu.edu)

VIII. Old Business

IX. New Business
   a. WAM (usgwam-l@mtu.edu)
      i. Daily Bull
         1. Reimbursement $503.11 for Computer Expenses. A. Van Slooten
            Seconds. Motion Passes.
      ii. IVCF
         1. Reimbursement $1000 for Conference Registration. A. Van
            Slooten Seconds. Motion Passes.
      iii. Women’s Soccer Club-
         1. Budget Revision-to include Winter Carnival Expenses as well.
            Motion Passes. One abstention.
b. By-Law Revisions- these changes will be voted on next week. Any suggestions or changes should be emailed to Marc Starnes directly as he is the motion maker.
   i. 15.01 Stipends
      1. Starnes- these changes have been mentioned with previous USG members.
      2. These would start as of next semester. A. Van Slooten- if these do pass, would need to redo internal budget.
      3. Cottrill- Friendly Ammendment to Strike 4.07 from By-Laws. Accepted.

X. Committee Reports
   i. Personnel (usgpersonnel-l@mtu.edu)
      1. Secret Santa Drawing- after meeting, limit $5 on the gift, exchange to happen next week.
      2. Get your Polo money to Freya Carmen Moran
   ii. Service (usgservice-l@mtu.edu)
      1. Winter Carnival Chili Van
         a. Mattson- Why does USG think about doing a Chili Booth instead of Van
            i. This would save costs of van rental and more money could go to more chili.
            ii. Multiple Booths?
            iii. This would eliminate walking garbage and waste.
            iv. Hanson- Is it too late to sign up for a concession booth? Mattson- not sure, will have to follow up with Blue-Key.
               1. Mattson will check on this, and USG will do an informal vote next week.
   iii. Judiciary (usgjudicial-l@mtu.edu)
      1. Yield.
   iv. Elections (usgelect-l@mtu.edu)
      1. Possible Online Election Site...
         a. A. Van Slooten- thinks that Collegiate Link will go through.
   v. Public Relations (usgpr-l@mtu.edu)
      1. Picture after meeting!
      2. Get Responses back to Brittany Wood
   vi. Student Issues (usgissues-l@mtu.edu)
      1. Fuller sent out email to stu-org president’s list. Instead of having attendance at one specific meetings, emailed the list and asked for groups interested in having a USG liaison.
   vii. External Affairs (usgea-l@mtu.edu)
      1. SAM report
         a. Talked about Senate Bill No. 408, there will be a USG vote of confidence about this next week.
         b. All weapons have to be housed at Public Safety currently and this bill would change that.
         c. Looking to see about getting waivers to go downstate to show support of a bill that might be passed, hoping to get some kind of funding to get students from MTU down there from the University itself.
         d. Resolution to support Medical Amnesty
            i. Underage students who have been drinking to seek medical help without any repercussions. (See pg. 7 of the handout)
ii. All Moorehead is looking for is a vote of confidence to take back to the next SAM conference.

iii. Starnes- All he thinks is that this bill is going to do is allow underage ppl to drink. There are laws that prevent Public Safety from knowing if a student is admitted due to alcohol consumption.

iv. Hanson- what is SAM planning on doing with this? Moorehead- This is something SAM will bring to the House before they vote on it.

v. A. Van Slooten- She is not is support of this but remember to think of the colleagues you are also representing. People are going to drink no matter what…

vi. Starnes- This is second attempt by senators to change this. Getting University support just gives them ability to say who supported… Just to much le-way to drink, will promote underage drinking.

vii. Matson- Could someone who is driving drunk, could they claim they are on the way to the hospital and get a way with this. Moorehead- that is not related. Mattson- He is in Full Support of this bill.

viii. Drake- There are still repurcions- ER bill, on insurance…

ix. Saxton- This might save even one live. What if an adult brings someone who is a minor to the hospital, does the adult get in trouble? Moorehead- not sure.

x. Thompson- He thinks drunk people are more accident prone, getting to the hospital could be dangerous.

xi. Starnes- This does not protect a minor who is at a party and brings them to the hospital. Saxton- there are plenty of times when she has been called to pick up friends but was not at the party itself.

xii. Matson- Does not think that this will encourage more drinking, people do not usually think about alcohol poisoning.

xiii. Waineo- This could be similar to having insurance. People act crazy and might break their leg while snowboarding.

xiv. Moorehead moves to pass a vote of confidence regarding Bill 408. Motion Passes. 1 nay. 2 abstentions.

viii. Civil Rights Committee

XI. USG Liaisons

a. Liaison Coordinator (amsheral@mtu.edu)
   i. No report, look for more opportunities next semester.

b. Liaisons
   i. GSG
      1. Presented new wording to SAF Fee Change and Had another Vote of Confidence.
      2. If grad student groups come to USG regarding funds, what is procedure??
         a. This came about because the group wasn’t an RSO and GSG doesn’t really handle funding.
      3. USG plans to go back to GSG will all final wording changes.
ii. Parent’s Fund
   1. No Requests so no meeting, they do still have money though.
iii. Student Advisory Board- Career Center
   1. Trying to get more participation amongst the 1st and 2nd years.
iv. SFES
   1. Ornament Decorating next week, let YiBo know if you are interested.

v. MUB Board
   1. Poetry Slam coming up

vi. Provost Search Committee
   1. Tentative Dates for a Student Campus Forum:
      a.

XII. OPEN FLOOR (If you are a visitor and would like to speak- this is your chance!)
   a. Mr. Vable Return of Teaching Awards
      i. Hanson- has received some comments but not sure what to tell the Board of Control.
      ii. Waineo- has spoke to people and they think USG should request that BOC writes a statement about it. (BOC is DEC 11)
      iii. Sherally- his case was more about when the professors are given more incentive to pay more attention to grad students. As undergrads we should really express an interest in this.
      iv. Saxton- this does lead to professors that do not teach as well because they are more pre-occupied with research. She is on the student advisory committee- Difficult to quantify professors as well. Take more time with the evaluations.
         1. Possibility of students going to other students trying to get feedback regarding professors teaching habits.
      v. Hanson- if this is something that students are passionate about, we could discuss at the info session. Encouraged to discuss with peers before-hand.
      vi. Anderton- did mention at Provost committee that would be voting in favor of those candidates who do not over emphasize research. Undergrads do not mind research, it is just the over-emphasis and lack of attention to the undergrad programs.

XIII. Announcements

XIV. "Remarks for the Good"

XV. Adjournment
   a. President Hanson adjourned the meeting at 8:15pm.