



Minutes, USG General Body Meeting

October 23, 2019

- I. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance
- II. Roll Call
- III. Approval of Agenda and last meeting Minutes
 - Motion to approve agenda
 - i. Motion to amend the agenda to move Zoe before President Koubek
 1. Second
 2. Motion passes
 - ii. Motion to approve amended agenda and minutes
 1. Second
 2. Motion passes
- IV. Recognition of Visitors – Thanks for coming!
- V. Zoë Ketola- Collegiate Student Advisory Task Force (5-10 min)
 - Looking at barriers to student voting and engagement
 - As of now
 - i. Looking at what the barriers are
 1. Distance, accessibility to multiple voting locations
 - ii. Meeting in a few weeks to decide what barriers they are focusing on
 - iii. Examples
 1. Absentee ballots
 - iv. Zoe will be meeting again on November 7th
 - v. Looking at putting more educational materials in layman's terms vs. political jargon
 - vi. Michigan voters are automatically registered
 1. Looking at being pre registered when they get their license at 16
 - vii. Absentee ballots
 1. Possibly stamp free
- VI. President Koubek- Presentation (15-20 min)
 - Three thrusts the University is dealing with
 - i. Higher education is switched from public to private good
 1. State does not pay as much as they did before
 - a. Student debt conversation
 2. Things working on
 - a. 5 Year Budget Plan for Institution
 - i. What they want to be doing with tuition
 1. Housing expenses etc.
 - b. Tuition increase is less percent than normal (2%)
 - i. Looking to support this
 - c. Putting together plan to keep tuition increase to minimum
 - ii. Way education is being delivered
 1. Need to be more innovative
 - a. Especially in earlier semesters
 2. Want to increase retention
 3. Possibility of pilot courses, looking into providing students more options
 - a. Examples
 - i. Flipped classrooms, 7 week semesters etc

- iii. Increase in first year population
 - 1. Want to keep steady growth
 - 2. Increase in effort on out of state and in state recruitment
 - a. 7% increase in first year in state
 - b. 63% increase in out of state applications
 - 3. Objective to make diploma more valuable for students and graduates
 - Summary
 - i. Be aggressive and get more out of state colleagues
 - ii. First year course changes
 - 1. Dr. Laura Meadows is leading this
 - a.
 - Comments
 - i. Outreach
 - 1. Call Center
 - a. Outreach to more high school students
 - ii. Possibility of something College of Engineering can do
 - iii. Input can be drawn from department advisory boards
- VII. Officer Reports
 - President (*Melanie Thomas*)
 - i. 1UP Conference
 - 1. Itinerary
 - 2. Transportation
 - a. Staying- Jack, Melanie, Stephanie, Jordan, Caleb
 - i. Let me know if I didn't get your name!
 - b. Leaving
 - i. Zack and Ziggy will be driving people back, confirm who you will be driving back with.
 - ii. SVSU Conference
 - 1. Melanie, Zack, Colin and Zofia
 - 2. November 8-10
 - iii. Non Motorized Transportation Committee
 - Vice President (*Zbigniew Bell*)
 - i. Updates are coming to computers
 - ii. Makeup list is up, will be updated weekly
 - 1. Takes the previous week's office hours and the most recent completed week and make sure there are 6 signed in weeks between those two lists
 - iii. Meet your Org
 - 1. Draft of email in important links document
 - Treasurer (*Leo Stelmaszek*)
 - i. Will talk about WAM material in New Business
 - Secretary (*Zachary Olson*)
- VIII. Advisor Reports
 - Beka Horsch
 - i. Diverse Dialogues at 12:30pm on 10/24
 - 1. Biracial identities
 - ii. 9pm mind reader this Friday
 - iii. Haunted Haus- Theta Chi/Sigma Pi this weekend
 - iv. Two more Husky Hour's coming up

- v. Leadershape applications open till November 11th at 5pm
 - vi. Film board presenting Detective Pikachu
 - Bonnie Gorman
 - i. Pigs N Heat has supported students in really tough times
 - 1. Fire Victims
 - ii. Make a Difference Day
 - 1. Thank you!
 - iii. Leadershape
 - 1. Think of applying and tell your constituents
 - Jessie Stapleton
 - Stefani Vargas Krause
- IX. Standing Committee Reports
- Events (*Lauren Spahn*)
 - i. Two buses
 - 1. 10/22 at 8am
 - 2. 10/23 at 8am
 - 3. Need chaperone for the second bus!
 - 4. Creating Eventbrite page that will state
 - 5. Signups to start November 5th
 - Judiciary Committee (*Jack Mitchell*)
 - Political affairs (*Anna Ellis*)
 - i. Diversity Meeting
 - 1. Discussing USG helping with Impeachment Forum
 - Public relations (*Natalie Wohlgemuth*)
 - i. Logo
 - 1. Ask GSG how they got their logo
 - Student Affairs (*Larkin Hooker-Moericke*)
 - i. People tracking of places on campus
 - ii. Commencement Survey
 - 1. Will present to body after corrections possibly next week
 - iii. Library Office Hours
 - 1. Fill out form ASAP!
 - iv. Teaching Evaluations
 - 1. Academic Policies Committee- Senate
 - 2. Working with that
 - Ways and Means (*Leo Stelmaszek*)
 - i. Items to be covered in New Business
- X. USG Liaison Reports
- Graduate Student Government (*Anna Ellis*)
 - i. President Koubek presented
 - ii. Commencement Ceremony
 - 1. Concern- limited tickets
 - a. Parents only being able to go to half of graduation
 - Interfraternity Council (*Colin Schaefer*)
 - i. Nominations for IFC E-Board open next week
 - Panhellenic Council (*Natalie Wohlgemuth*)
 - i. No report
 - Inter-Residence Housing Council (*Lauren Spahn*)

- i. Safehouse 3-6pm
 - ii. Extending dining hall hours
 - 1. Possibility of McNair open for dinner
 - iii. Broomball
 - 1. Referees needed
 - Houghton City Council (*Political Affairs*)
 - i. 5:30 p.m., second and fourth Wednesday of the month
 - ii. Political Affairs member will be assigned
 - Parent's Fund (*Leo Stelmaszek*)
 - i. No report
 - Senate (*Leif Olson*)
 - i. Task Force focused on planning for 2045
 - ii. Racial inclusivity, inclusivity in general
 - iii. Transfer credits vs. tuition
 - 1. Agreements with transfer credits
 - iv. Pell Grants
 - 1. State of MI continuing with this is not great as of now
 - v. State approval for H STEM building
 - 1. Who's going to build it? Stay tuned
 - vi. Realignment of Representation
 - Diversity (*Harley Merkaj*)
 - i. Impeachment Forum
 - 1. Audrey will be getting in contact with Political Affairs Chair (Anna Ellis)
 - Student Commissions (*Bryce Walbrun and Justin Mentink*)
 - Friends of the Library (*Zofia Freiberg*)
 - JED Campus (*Garrett Green*)
 - i. Programming
 - 1. Working on trying to provide opportunities on how to give training to students about Mental Health initiatives
 - a. QPR
 - i. 20-25 minute training online that can be done in person also
 - ii. Main goal to give students tools on how to give students the tools to ask others about their mental health and refer them to necessary resources
 - iii. Trying to get this to more people- faculty, staff and students
 - iv. USG be willing to take training, spread the word
 - 2. Next meeting isn't until November
 - 3. Meeting with Detective Sergeant Jason about drug trends
 - 4. Dispelling myths about being able to talk about Mental Health
 - Commencement Committee (*Connor Weber*)
 - i. Connor unable to attend meeting Friday, need someone to attend in his place
 - ii. October 25th, 11am
 - 1. Sydney will do this
 - Other Liaisons
- XI. Unfinished Business
 - College of Computing Representative Appointment (*Melanie*)
 - i. Motion to approve the President's recommendation of appointing Harley Merkaj
 - 1. Second

- 2. Passed
- Reaching out to Constituents
 - i. First Year- Fourth Year Representatives
 - 1. Second year
 - a. Made a document for Housing to send out to second years
 - 2. Third Years
 - a. Refining Plan
 - 3. Fourth Years
 - a. N/A
 - ii. College of Engineering, College of Arts and Sciences, School of Business, School of Forestry and Environmental Sciences
 - 1. College of Engineering
 - a. Still finalizing
 - 2. College of Arts and Sciences
 - a. N/A
 - 3. School of Business
 - 4. School of FRES
 - iii. At-Large, IRHC Representatives
 - 1. At-Large Representatives
 - 2. IRHC Representatives
- Thanksgiving Break Bus (*Events*)
 - i. Motion to allocate \$5,250 to the Thanksgiving Break Bus
 - 1. Second
 - 2. Motion passes

XII. New Business

- NOBCCHE Opp Fund
 - i. Updated request -\$2,063
 - 1. Recommending \$1,188 dollars, encouraged to seek other funding sources as well such as Parents Fund
- Economics Club Budget Revision
 - i. Cannot go to conference they planned on going , looking to show “The Big Short instead”
 - 1. Need to revise budget to reflect this
- Baseball Reserve Fund
 - i. \$470 for new helmets and safety equipment
 - ii. Recommended the full amount
 - iii. Will be in office to review for a week
- Pistol Club of MTU
 - i. \$428.00 request for card reader for ammunition for rifle range in the basement of SDC, keep track of inventory and result in better handling of ammunition
 - 1. \$349.00 recommended by WAM

XIII. Open Floor

- Idea
 - i. QPR
 - 1. Everyone on the body to do QPR training
 - 2. Good resource for members to be trained in
- GSG Representative
 - i. Designed logo for GSG- Tess Peterson (tessp@mtu.edu)

- QPR Continuation
 - i. Sororities did QPR training
 - ii. People did it in a group and have someone present it was very helpful
- XIV. Closed Session
- XV. Announcements/"Remarks for the Good"
 - Shoutouts of the Week
 - i. Bryce and Justin for Student Commission Co-Charing!
 - ii. Sydney for taking on Commencement Meeting this week!
 - iii. Everyone for being here!
 - Off campus Housing
 - i. USg sponsored website
 - Haunted Haus (Sigma Pi/Theta Chi Epsilon)
 - i. This Friday and Saturday at Sigma Pi
 - 1. 7-9pm PG
 - 2. 9-midnight- Super scary
- XVI. Adjournment
 - Motion to adjourn meeting
 - i. Second
 - ii. Motion passes

Respectfully Submitted,
Zachary Olson
Secretary of the Undergraduate Student Government