



Agenda  
Conference Call  
Friday, February 16, 2007 10am

I. Call to Order

The meeting began once everyone was on the conference call at 10:02 am.

II. Roll Call

The following members were present-

ASUM: Andrea

ASMT-Tech: Chris

ASMSU-Billings: Kevin

ASMSU-GF COT: AJ

ASMSU-Northern: Samantha

ASDCC: Jennifer Charlton, Designated Representative

The following members were absent-

ASMSU: Cole

ASUM-Western: Whitney

ASMCC: Andrew

ASHCOT: JT Henmen

III. Old Business

a. ASMT Tech refund:

The total amount that needed to be reimbursed to ASMT-Tech was \$600. Andrea moved to authorize the refund. It was seconded by Samantha. All members unanimously approved.

b. Resolution Opposing HB 525:

The implied objective of this bill would be to have faculty register with a political party. The bill discussed the “immaturity of students,” which is not true. AJ mentioned that there are retirees from careers and the military that attend his campus who are pursuing higher education and are mature in their beliefs. We all discussed the various academic freedoms already in place for students who can challenge administered grades based on ideological differences. Another item that was brought up regarded the search committees on campuses. Faculties are employed based on union contracts. During the hiring process, everything would have to be justified in Human Resources. It’s illegal to ask what kind of ideologies candidates have during interviews. After further discussion, Andrea moved to have the statement, “that MAS oppose HB 525. MAS feels this bill is unnecessary to ensure continued quality and urge the legislature to continue working on affordability for higher education” be declared at the hearing on the bill later today. The motion was seconded by Samantha. As far as the history goes, the drafter of this bill is known as the “Liberty Tree” guy. This nickname is derived from his trimming the fern on his desk each time he felt that the

Democrats did something he didn't like. As part of a national movement, Georgia was the only state that passed a similar bill. We concluded the topic by unanimously passing Andrea's statement.

IV. Student Regent selection process

MAS can submit up to three names to the Governor. Andrea asked if MAS could pay for the candidates' hotel stay in Helena. So far there are four from UM, zero from MSU-Billings, one from MT Tech, zero from MSU-Northern, zero from DCC, and three from MSU-GF COT. We are unsure how many candidates have expressed interest on the other campuses not present for the call. Depending on the number of candidates, some may have to bunk together.

V. Adjourn at 10:30am