

Montana Associated Students Meeting Minutes

November 19, 2008

- I. Call to Order at 5:10
- II. Introductions
- III. Roll Call
 - a. Present- University of Montana, University of Montana Western, Montana Tech, Montana State University, Montana State University Billings, Miles City Community College, Montana State University Northern, Great Falls COT
 - b. Absent- Helena COT, Dawson Community College, Flathead Valley Community College
- IV. Public Comment- none
- V. Dues Update
 - a. Bozeman Paid Today
 - b. Balance- \$11,739.95
- VI. UM Lobbyist Lucas Hamilton Presented
 - a. Went to Caucus
 - b. Budget bill has a strong chance of passing
- VII. UM Sustainability Center Coordinator Jessie Davis
 - a. Started Last year and conducted a greenhouse gasses inventory for UM
 - b. President Denison Signed Campus Carbon emissions agreement
 - c. Signed for all UM Affiliated Campuses
 - d. Challenge all to start reducing greenhouse gasses on their campuses
 - e. Robert Barnosky asked about funding
 - i. Funding is shared by different pools on campus
- VIII. Student Regent Mitch Jessen
 - a. House bill has a good chance of passing trying to squeeze for more, the bill says that there will be \$30 million added to higher education budgets but about \$20-23 million is money that was previously promised, trying to get more money
 - b. If we do not get more there will be a slight tuition jump in the next biennium
 - c. Taylor asked about Trevor's position on Tuition Cap
 - i. He expressed concern on the flagships
 - ii. His quote was taken out of context
 - iii. He feels that we cannot leave out flagship schools they need to be considered for a freeze or drop in tuition
 - d. Bitter Root Valley is pushing for a Community College
- IX. Old Business
 - a. Six Mill Levy Passed by 56% vote
- X. UM President Dennison & Vice President Falley
 - a. Welcome to Um Campus

- b. Encouraged MAS to work with the administration and BOR to get legislative issues passed
 - c. Vice President Falley thanked everyone for working on the Six Mill Levy campaign and helping get it passed
- XI. MAS Legislative Agenda
- a. Renter's Rights
 - i. Denver Henderson Director of Off Campus Renters Center
 - ii. Helps students find housing and deal with landlord issues
 - iii. Strengthens renters rights
 - iv. Three Renters rights
 - 1. Reasonable amount of heat
 - 2. Disclosure of lease documents
 - 3. If the lease is for a certain amount of time the agreement must be in writing and signed by both landlord and tenant
 - v. Montana Healthy Homes Act
 - 1. Regulates Mold in Housing
 - 2. Currently landlords just have to tell tenants about any testing or remediation of mold
 - 3. Would like to establish standards or testing and remediation
 - 4. Also must maintain moisture controls
 - vi. Security Deposit Act
 - 1. Authorize treble damages (3 times amount) and can be given to tenant if court chooses so
 - vii. In 2007 30% of Montana Citizens were renters and should be involved in the discussions about renter's rights. They have not been involved
 - viii. Steven Olig Moved to Accept the Resolution on Renter's Rights, Robert Barnosky Seconded, Motion Passed.
 - b. Online Voter Registration
 - i. Currently only California, Arizona, & Washington allow online voter registration
 - ii. Much easier to register online
 - iii. Improve the Accessibility of registration
 - iv. Siri Smilie mentioned that online would reduce the time people spent as well as human error.
 - v. Siri also mentioned that it is another option
 - vi. Taylor stated that there was a Supreme Court ruling that Out Of State Students can register and vote in city where they go to school.
 - vii. Robert Said that he is in favor of anything online
 - viii. Shane moved for an amendment saying "allowing their voters to register online" seconded by Robert Barnosky.

- ix. Siri amended motion to read “allowing for online voter registration”
Robert Barnosky seconded amendment passed
- x. Main Motion passed
- xi. Shane moved to accept resolution Taylor seconded
- xii. Motion passed
- c. Opportunity Montana
 - i. If students graduate from a state university and stay within the state they get tax credits on student loans.
 - ii. A way to keep students in the state, help give leverage in legislative session
 - iii. Steven asked about private institutions, Trevor responded that it didn’t include private as well as it helping all majors and both four year and two year programs.
 - iv. Shane asked about a list of employments that are supported but Trevor said that it applied to all majors but he will look into employment.
 - v. Kristini stated that keeping those jobs here is better
 - vi. Taylor moved to accept resolution Robert seconded
 - vii. Motion passed
- XII. Moved back to approval of minutes
 - a. Siri moved a change for her name
 - b. Shane changed Mo’s named
 - c. Both minutes were approved
- XIII. Website Update
 - a. Trevor met with Spectrofusion
 - b. Website will have same layout
 - c. Blog spot on the website that Lobbyists will give student updates on.
 - d. Update everything on there
 - e. The Campuses information is on the web
 - f. MSUB has a link on Web Page
 - g. People support the blog area for the web page
- XIV. Constitution Amendments
 - a. Shane Moved Change from meeting to meetings in section 3 article 2
 - b. Mark Mathison seconded
 - c. Motion passed.
- XV. Shane asked about someone to help him draft a thank you letter about Six Mill Levy, Taylor and Robert volunteered.
- XVI. Letterhead acceptance
- XVII. Luncheon Topics
 - a. 45 mins for campus reports
 - b. 45 mins for lunch discussion

- c. Mitch suggested 2 year program questions
 - d. University Funding along with the governor's budget (Legislators & BOR)
 - e. Transferability and common numbering systems
 - f. Sustainability issues
- XVIII. Campus Reports
- a. Miles City
 - i. Involved in exciting events in the community trying to be especially open to the community and getting students involved in community activities.
 - ii. Sponsored a concert to support a children's library
 - iii. Activities like a bowling night and Halloween dance
 - iv. Putting together thanksgiving baskets for less fortunate nontraditional students
 - v. Participating in Christmas stroll
 - vi. Holliday open house in new office
 - b. MSUB
 - i. Money Management seminar for students
 - ii. Festival of trees
 - iii. Given tickets to plays to students
 - iv. Spirit of giving for Christmas
 - v. Election night event
 - vi. Adopting a client for Yellowstone Aids
 - vii. Bringing back student paper
 - viii. Six mill levy rally
 - ix. Hired lobbyist
 - x. Flag Football for a cause during breast cancer awareness month
 - xi. Building recycling program
 - xii. Took students to MSUB v. Gonzaga game
 - c. Montana Western
 - i. Shared Governance & Student Awareness Campaign
 - ii. Rebranding stage
 - iii. Vlogs on webpage
 - iv. Homecoming Activities went well
 - v. Political discussions
 - vi. Foam Dance is Scheduled for December 5th
 - vii. Free Community Jazz concert
 - viii. Community involvement
 - ix. Barrett Hospital Foundation Banquet help
 - x. SUB Renovation
 - xi. Mariah's Challenge 5K 10K Fun Run
 - xii. Safe Ride Won Riding Against the Wind Award

- xiii. Co-Sponsored Tobacco Free Task Force and Sexual Assault Coordinators
- xiv. UMW Spirit Towel
- xv. Men's Rodeo team is leading the region and three men sitting in the top in almost every event
- xvi. Outdoor Classroom is underway
- xvii. Six Mill Levy Radio Show
- xviii. Elected 2 new senators
- d. UM
 - i. UM heart walk
 - ii. House candidate forum on campus
 - iii. Take Back the Night Event
 - iv. Co-sponsored day of dialogue event
 - v. International Students on Senate (3)
 - vi. Hired a lobbyist Lucas Hamilton
 - vii. Pursuing 5 pieces of legislation
 - viii. ASUM is sending students to presidential inauguration tour
 - ix. Presenting why repeat fee is not advantageous
 - x. Renters Rights panel on December 2nd
 - xi. 108th meeting of the Griz v. Cat
- e. MSU
 - i. Lecture
 - ii. Election forum
 - iii. Sustainability fee was passed by students waiting for approval by BOR
 - iv. Six Mill Levy Rally
 - v. Senate Elections in October
 - vi. University operating course is proposed
 - vii. Discussions to secure permanent funding for streamline transit system
 - viii. Designing outdoor recreation center
 - ix. May bring back judicial branch in Student Government
 - x. Coordinating with homeless shelter in Bozeman
 - xi. ASGA was beneficial for networking but felt like there could have been more teaching
- f. Great Falls COT
 - i. Fall Harvest Jamboree Party
 - ii. Coat exchange
 - iii. Giving tree that will be to help out students during Christmas
 - iv. Working on updating the common areas with furniture and flat screen TV's
 - v. Purchase copier to put outside of learning center
- g. Montana Tech

- i. Environmental Design has 3 separate teams
 - ii. Civil engineers are trying to start a campus group
 - iii. Trick or treat off the street
 - iv. Blood Drive
 - v. Planning for the school holiday stroll
 - h. ASMSUN
 - i. Imagine Northern Event
 - ii. Closed pool and there is a grant that is up in the air to renovate and students would like the pool back
 - iii. Held open forum about the closing of Donaldson Hall
 - iv. Response program grant was not renewed
 - v. Funding for student families on campus to have a great holiday season
- XIX. Quality and Affordability
 - a. Challenge us to get as many students as we possibly can to this subcommittee hearing.
 - b. January 21-23
 - c. Robert Asked for an Agenda
 - d. Mitch said it would come in December sometime
 - e. Siri said that this presentation is a big deal it is the one chance we have to show why we need funding
- XX. Try to set up a time with local delegations to discuss challenges
- XXI. Student Lobby Day
 - a. Would like all schools to participate
 - b. Do this early on maybe a February date
- XXII. Discussion of Legislative activity
 - a. Coordinate when students are present so that we have a constant presence in the capital
 - b. Mitch Strongly recommends this endeavor
 - c. Siri Suggested that the campuses that have student lobbyists make sure that they keep in contact so that they can be sure what days are the most important
 - d. We must wait to decide for sure but still would like a constant stream of students
- XXIII. Trans funding issue
 - a. Look into UM transportation system
 - b. Have been involved in talks about transportation as far as public transit goes
 - c. Work with county and city to coordinate
 - d. Shane asked what the time frame was on those monies
 - e. Siri responded that stimulus is a one-time fund
- XXIV. Tuition increase
 - a. Flagships would increase, affiliates froze and 2 years decreased.
 - b. MSUB says affordability for an affiliate is a huge issue

- c. UMW has a large issue with affordability because the community doesn't have as much to offer and most of the campus is on federal funding
- d. Michael stated that they were trying to focus on Montana Students
- e. Great Falls COT has many students that travel a long ways for classes so affordability is a large issue.
- f. Northern competes with the economy so affordability is important to Northern
- g. Shane says that we have all identified that affordability is a large issue to everyone but we need to make priorities for what we want to fight for. Should we focus on the students as a whole or the type of school that people go to
- h. Kristini stated that people are not only picking a school they are picking the lifestyle
- i. Trevor doesn't agree with Kristini and flagships have the same difficulties
- j. Robert says that you can get more at the flagships than at the affiliates or 2 years, affordability is much of the reason that students come to the affiliates.
- k. Taylor stated that the retention at Montana Western has increased because of the campus lifestyle that has been created within the last few years.
- l. Kristine stated that many students want something different from the lifestyle that they want and many come to the smaller schools to be in that lifestyle as well as the affordability issues
- m. Shane doesn't want to increase the numbers in high school graduate enrollments but rather complete enrollment
- n. Trevor brought up the concerns with out of state students
- o. Mitch says that personally he will not vote for how it is currently set up
- p. Mitch also stated that out of state students are very important and need to be considered in the discussion because Montana needs to share that burden
- q. Mitch stated that tuition has to go up
- r. Kristini stated that Northern could not withstand an increase
- s. In closing Robert suggested a conference call
- t. Also in closing Shane said that it is essential that we are all on the same page before we go to the legislative session

XXV. Amethyst Initiative

- a. Montana Tech has discussed amethyst initiative
- b. Seems that Dennison may have signed
- c. Rethink the drinking Age
- d. Over 160 University Presidents and Chancellors have signed to start a discussion of responsible drinking on campuses
- e. The initiative focuses on Responsible drinking
- f. Shane said the surgeon general came and discussed with MSU about alcohol abuse on campuses, ASMSU has said that it is not so much an age but a mind set

and offer alternatives to drinking, Shane doesn't feel that this will help solve alcohol abuse

- g. Mark says that it is a matter of culture and when kids are forbidden from something they want it more and it just makes more kids break the law, we need to teach responsible drinking rather than make it forbidden
 - h. Initiative doesn't necessarily mean that we agree with 18 but that we agree with having the discussion
 - i. Mark said there should be one law nationwide so that there isn't a problem between states.
 - j. Kristini agrees with educating
 - k. Robert said that it will bring it up to administrators about binge drinking
 - l. Shane said in closing this is not a new argument and feels we are all on the same page that we need to educate
- XXVI. BOR is to be held in Ballroom, ASUM office is on the first floor, parking passes were handed out by Siri, Dinner is at Sean Kelly's
- XXVII. Mark moved for adjournment and Taylor seconded