



## Associated Students of Montana State University Billings

Tuesday, February 23, 2021- Meeting Agenda

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

**I. CALL TO ORDER** – Vice President Robin Cunningham called the meeting to order at 5:00pm

**II. ROLL CALL**

**PRESENT - 4 EC, 6 SEN**

**EXCUSED - 0**

**ABSENT - 0**

**III. PROXIES**

**IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – 02/16/2021, Motion by Senators Bautista and Davis; Passes

**V. GUESTS/REPRESENTATIVES**

- **Ms. Darla Tyler-McSherry:** campus is still doing very well, 0 in isolation 1 quarantined on campus, 14 people campus affiliates have tested positive with Covid. The reason we have in-person classes and can meeting for senate is because we are following Covid guidelines.  
**Sen Bautista:** Are those 14 active cases or not? No, they are the from the beginning of the semester to now.
- **MAS Lobbyist, Allison Reinhardt,** involved with Montana Associated Students and a legislative action committee within. Students can engage in legislature through student government. Session goals include ensuring students voices are heard throughout the entire state, working to secure funding for higher education (not likely to have a tuition freeze but there were very few budget cuts), advocating for mental health, landlord tenant rights, and making sure there is funding for utilities and building projects on campus. Be aware of a bill for Montana public and state radios that would remove amounts of funding from them. Reach Allison Reinhardt at [Allison.reinhardt@gmail.com](mailto:Allison.reinhardt@gmail.com), to help effect Montana legislation. Leg.mt.gov is also an online resource for providing support or concerns for bills.
- **Dr. Richard Beer,** study abroad opportunities were funded from jackets giving day among other projects last week. Encourages the progression of funding to allow more study abroad and international travel opportunities for students. There are currently resources available for students interested in travel studies.

**VI. ADVISOR REPORTS**

- **Dr. Kimberly Hayworth:** Campus now allows events hosting up to 50 people, more on a case-by-case basis. There is a form to request an event with up to 50 people. Summer registration is open currently. In person graduation plan is still being developed, hosted at the Metra, likely to have two ceremonies. Feedback about vending machines have been passed on to the marketing services.
- **Mr. Lance Mouser:** Reminder to register for fall classes on March 8<sup>th</sup>. Early registration helps department prepare for the semester as well.

**VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**VIII. OLD BUSINESS**

**IV. NEW BUSINESS**



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### X. EXECUTIVE & STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

#### President James Unzaga

- **Student Legal Services**, possible changes can be made to this position. Hiring a new person for the position, removing the position, create a pool of finances available to students for legal services off campus.

#### Discussion:

**SRO Norris** spoke about a message she received from Judy advocating for keeping the position open.

**Pres. Unzaga** recommended possibly limiting the amount of time that legal services are available during the week to possibly lessen the cost of providing them. Explained more about the way that fixed costs effect clubs when enrollment decreases.

**VP Cunningham** mentions that there are fixed costs associated with things like the legal services. Finding a compromise is possible but most of the costs are in the benefits of the position.

**Sen Bautista** asks whether we could structure the money pool based on the costs of legal services out-of-house and compare that to the cost of having our own legal services.

**BMG Williams** mentions that some numbers referenced may be from the view of a larger university.

**Sen Davis** asks whether we could hire a paralegal in place? Also points out that most lawyers would not likely take on a job for 1 day per week.

- **Senator engagement: draft 15 ideas to improve MSUB, submit by next senate meeting**
- **Posters** are nearly complete and going to be ordered soon.

#### Vice President Robin Cunningham

- Advocating for student government should be done soon because the semester will be over before we know it

#### Financial Board: Devin Williams:

- FB will meet with SAB and Heroes Soon to discuss their budgets

#### Student Resolution Officer: Naomi Norris:

- Drivers safety need in our community, regarding the recent deaths of high school students. Looking into ways to engage the community. Will be proposing a resolution to release to the media. Next Tuesday at 4 pm, senators are welcome to join in the composition.
- Black history Month trivia will be over soon.
- Snow bowl will be march 18 from 5:30-6:30; tentatively.



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### **XI. SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **XII. SENATE & ACADEMIC CONCERNS**

### **XIII. WORDS ON CAMPUS/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Sen Davis mentions that there are 58 more days until the semester is over.

### **XIV. PUBLIC COMMENT**

### **XV. ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion by Senators Boze and Bautista**

**Adjourned at 6:03**