



## **Associated Students of Montana State University Billings**

**Tuesday, October 21, 2025 - Meeting Agenda**

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

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### **I. CALL TO ORDER- Vice President Sneigoski calls the meeting to order at 6:30pm**

#### **ROLL CALL**

**PRESENT-** Senator Andes, Senator Bamer, Senator Brady, Senator Eichman, Business Manager Ellery, Senator Foxley, Senator Hofer, Student Resolution Officer Hollenberg, Senator Husen, Senator Kern, Senator Merdanovich, Senator Roberts, Senator Slade, Vice President Sneigoski, Senator Stone, Senator Whitley

**EXCUSED-** Senator Bookheimer, President Kumar, Senator Pelatt

#### **ABSENT-**

**II. PROXIES** (fill out absentee ballot)

#### **III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- 10/14/2025 Minutes
  - Spelling change: "MASS" to "MAS"

#### **IV. GUESTS/REPRESENTATIVES**

- Chancellor Hicswa

Announcements:

- Had 7-year accreditation: They come on campus to make sure the reports are accurate and they see what MSUB has been reporting.
- Three recommendations and Three compliments
- Better communication and training surrounding budgeting and budgeting decisions.
- Last year we reduced budgets by 17.5% in the past two years. Part of this resulted in the cutting of men's soccer. She stated that this could have been communicated better. They know for the next two years our budget will be stable and this does not have to happen again.
- Enrollment is growing, so this helps with budgeting as well!
- Notes that they had the best accreditation review in MSUB history. This is partly because of the involvement of our student leaders!
- From last fall to this fall, the freshman who stayed set a record for MSUB.
- Another recommendation was surrounding the general education requirements.
- Another recommendation was that we need to put data on our website for MSUB.
- They complimented how we used student data, and how we have separated that data, so we know what is happening with each demographic. Called it "our culture of care".
- Senator Roberts asked for more information regarding Circle K. Chancellor Hicswa stated that the meeting she attended was just their first meeting getting the organization off the ground for the first time this semester.
- Business Manager Ellery asked what we can continue to do and start to do to help improve our freshman rates.
- Chancellor Hicswa said as senators and students, we can say hello, introduce yourself and other students on campus and find out what they like to do, and why they ~~picked~~ picked MSUB. Its all about belonging and helping students feel like they belong can help them want to stay. The other idea is to "invite one more" so invite one more to sit with you at lunch, someone to come with you to the club you are apart of. The other thing is pay attention. Do not let someone struggle alone.
- Vice President Sneigoski asked for some advice on budget cuts and what her thoughts were on making the right choices.

***ASMSUB 2025-2026***



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- Chancellor Hicswa said that they used to do budget hearings. Example, you have a total revenue, and you estimate that the total revenue is 10% less than it was before and you ask everyone to set their target to 10%. Example, \$1,000 to \$900. She also said it's important for people to understand where the budget comes from so that the senate can make quality decisions. She would recommend us plan exercises to identify what our priorities are moving forward. Start at 0, then figure out what people need, and then how these fit into your priorities. It's never easy, but it's easier when you focus on those priorities.
- Senator Roberts asked about with the Government shut down, how does this affect our finances? Chancellor Hicswa said that she isn't worried about the budget, but she is worried about the research grants. This is different from the government shutdown. But she is worried about the Pell grants that are being given to students. She doesn't think that the government shut down will be going on for much longer.
- Senator Merdanovich asked about how the international student numbers have fallen. Chancellor Hicswa said that the United States is not as popular for international students to come to. It's not about people staying in Billings, but it's about who is even coming to the United States as a whole.

- **SAB**

- Their last event was their pop up at city college last Wednesday. They did friendship bracelets and pumpkin pong.
- Karaoke tomorrow in Petro Theater
- Last event is Halloween day: October 29<sup>th</sup> Wednesday, City college event 11am-1pm, then partnering with us at RHA and HEROS, Halloween costume contest in Petro Theater, RHA haunted Hallway, and Halloween Dance.
- November Schedule is coming soon, with more city college events.
- Wants to propose a game night with SAB and ASMSUB, November 3<sup>rd</sup>. TBD.

### **V. ADVISOR REPORTS**

- Christine Whitlatch (excused)
- Dr. Gentry
- Poll has been conducted and received 800 responses. She is working on data cleaning, and the presentation is on Tuesday.
- Also telling people whose budget is being cut and when before cutting the budget will help.
  
- Dr. Hayworth
- Registration starts on the first weekend of November.
- The first date it opens is November 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- Wants us to check in about how MYMSUB has been going, will push this conversation to next weekend.
- Next week is preview day.
- Time to refill out our FASFA.

### **VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**



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### **VII. OLD BUSINESS**

### **IX. NEW BUSINESS**

- Financial Bill #2: SAB

That the sum of \$8,825 be allocated from contingency index #630200 to the Student Activities Board to attend the annual NACA conference in Riverside, CA.

- **Motion to move to Financial Board: Senator Hofer**
- **Second: Senator Foxley**

### **X. EXECUTIVE & STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### **President Vikash Kumar**

- Events update
- Vice President Sneigoski – No event
- Senator Hofer –
- Senator Foxley –
- Senator Slade – Bible Study
- Senator Andes – NAC food
- Senator Brady – City College Pop up
- Senator Merdanovich – Diwali event
- Business Manager Ellery – Diwali Event

#### **Vice President Elijah Sneigoski**

- Vice President opening

#### **Business Manager Ellery**

- Financial Board Meeting

#### **Student Resolution Officer Hollenberg**

- SSPR Meeting

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

-Academic Standing committee is meeting tomorrow.

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

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

- November 20<sup>th</sup>, registration rodeo and there will be registration opportunity.
- The Rook wants to do a poetry reading event and will let us know next week the details on this.
- Open concert room 153 at Cisel hall 3:10PM October 22<sup>nd</sup>

### **XIV. PUBLIC COMMENT**

- Ryan wants to speak to the Senators who are interested in turning point USA.

### **XV. ADJOURNMENT**