



**Date 1.25.2018**

## **Opening of the Meeting**

Call To Order – 5:02 PM

Pledge of Allegiance

First Roll Call

Approval of Today's Agenda - *Approved*

Approval of Last Meeting's Minutes - *Approved*

## **Hearings**

Open Gallery I

- Abeer Syedah – Director of Equity and Inclusion (Students United)
  - Affirmative consent – a strong clarification of exactly what sexual consent is. “Yes, means yes” v. “consent”
  - Association of American Universities – Sexual Assault – research on rape and sexual assault across college campuses.
  - The rates of false accusations around sexual assault are no greater than any crime which is between 2-10%. This percentage includes dropped cases.
  - Common reasons for opposition:
    - Misunderstanding - Sex contracts?
    - Preference for hard data correlated to particular results
    - Resistance to change
    - Confusion about legality
    - Worries about rights of the accused – this does not change how the accused or how the accuser will be treated
    - Confused about how to prove a “yes” – just as difficult as proving “no”
    - Resistance when realizing their sexual activities haven't been consensual – worried about consent being too strict. People may reconsider what they have done in the past and not want to be called a “survivor” OR a “predator”
    - General resistance due to politicization of campus sexual assault.
  - To market for incoming students we hope to tie this in with orientation. This will need to be passed by the board of trustees before this is implemented. Want to get this going as soon as possible but may not be involved with orientation for next Fall due to planning already occurring.

- The day to day communication through personal conversation, events, and tabling is what delivers the message about affirmative consent the most effectively.
- Affirmative consent in action can obtain simple questions such as: “Is it ok if we do this?” “Do you like this?” Open communication.
- Statute of limitation – in a campus situation this is not going to apply in the same way. This will be noted in orientation as part of the education piece.
- Will work on finding ways to help continue spreading the word and educational material related to affirmative consent throughout students’ time on campus and not just at the orientation.
- Title IX - Ellen Bardges – Administrative Services Building.
- Angela Witte – Multicultural Academic Support Center
  - Saturday January 27<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 PM (Atwood Cascade Room) – Leadership on Our Campuses and in Our Communities
  - Saturday January 27<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 PM (Atwood Ballroom) - You, Me, We
- Motion to change agenda to have open student discussion about the White Students Union after Finance Hearings and before we move into internal elections - *Approved*

### Finance Hearings

- Husky Bass Fishing Club – Funded \$1,500 on the basis of travel and lodging
- Malaysian Student Association – Tabled until SFC receives quotes
- GLBTA+ and Alliance – Funded \$1,130 on the basis of registration fees, travel, and lodging
- Outloud – Funded \$1,000 on the basis of registration fees, travel, and lodging
- Business Student Executive Council – The request was cancelled
- SCSU Wind Ensemble – Tabled on the basis of no representative present to answer questions about the request
- Saudi Club – Funded \$2,000 on the basis of cultural night food, decorations, and advertisements
- *All finance hearings have been approved*

### White Students Union – Open Student Discussion

- Abeer Syedah - Director of Equity and Inclusion (Students United)– When she was in Student Government at the University of Minnesota they had many discussions around diversity and inclusion. They had many discussions with leaders and students around campus revolving around events and issues that had come up.
- President O’Neil-Como – Looking to create discussion events to receive input from students around our community. We want as much communication as possible and we want to know what direction this needs to be take. Creating an ad-hoc committee to help create a unified message.
- Liz Heong – Students United Member – inviting all students to give input to make the campus as well as other MNSCU state universities more welcoming for all students. We want all students to feel safe on their campuses and in their communities.
- Gallery – Very important for Student Government members to attend other student organization meetings. Need to see that we are a trustworthy organization. Establish a course to be involved within our curriculum that talks about the past history of rejection of diversity. Recommends we be more involved and out in the community. Create a bond with other student organizations.
- Women of Color Collective – Emphasizes that organizations need more support from student government. Celebrate and continue diversity if that is what the campus advertises.

- Students Organizing for Change – Asked if we have issued an official statement - Through meetings that SGA President has been attending we (SGA) have not officially released a statement on this issue but are working together to take input from students to see what they are searching for so that we can help. We are doing all that we can at this time to take down any posters around the community as it is against city ordinance.
- Police officer patrols around the community have been increased to help deter any White Student Union activity and to take down any posters they have displayed.
- Chair Mikkelsen – Recommendation to have those who have experienced aggressive actions to share their stories to help those who have not been affected understand and try to relate to their experiences.
- Lexi Byler – Vice Chair (Students United) – When at Moorhead they came together to create an initiative of short and long-term goals to help promote equity and inclusion. She urges us to come up with a plan of action that is long lasting.
- Gallery – Recommendation for the SGA to announce their statement about this issue as soon as possible so that all students on campus can see where we stand if they aren't able to attend the meetings.
- Women of Color - invite all to attend their meetings on Tuesdays at 5 in the Atwood Voyager room. They would be happy to share their stories.
- Gallery – Students are receiving horrible discriminatory messages. No matter how many times they try to shrug it off, the White Students Union persists.
- Gallery – Very helpful to have a statement from Student Government to allow students to see that we are considering the lives of all students on campus on this issue.
- Cop house – by Hallenbeck – corner of 13<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> St. Possible resource if students feel threatened.
- Gallery – Urge administration to take action or make a statement to see that they are doing something or being proactive about this issue and supportive of our students.
- Statement will be released by Thursday February 1<sup>st</sup>. Please submit any recommendations or thoughts on a statement to [sg-pres@stcloudstate.edu](mailto:sg-pres@stcloudstate.edu)

### **Ten Minute Recess – 6:39-6:49**

Motion to cut reports after President and before ambassadors, also cut open statements - *Approved*

#### Internal Elections

- At-Large Senator – Welcome... Govinda Raj Joshi, Karuna Adhikari, Hafsah Attaullah, and Achala Bastola - Table... Ashton Hansen
- Senate Finance Committee – Welcome... Tshering Dolma Sherpa and Rebika Maharjan

### **Plenary Session I**

#### Unfinished Business

#### New Business

Motion to cut recess – *approved*

### **Recess**

### **Officer Reports**

## President

- Great discussion earlier today. Hopes to have statement about White Student Union released on Monday in the Husky Howler. If in the office please let us know your thoughts.
- Thank you to all who have participated in SideStreet
- Election campaign will begin soon! Time to start campaigning for President, Vice President, and Senator At-Large.
- Please go to open forum this Saturday that was mentioned by Angela Witte.
- Round of applause to Vice President Shelley

## Vice President

- Delegates – February 16<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup>. Sign up!
- She will miss us.

## Chief Justice

## Students United

## RHA Rep

## **Committee Reports**

### Academic Affairs

### Campus Affairs

### Cultural Diversity

### Constitution

### Elections Committee

### Executive Council

### Fee Allocation

### Legislative Affairs

### Public Relations

### Senate Finance

### Student Services

### Technology Fee

### Urban Affairs

University Committees

**Plenary Session II**

Last Call for Business

**Closing of Meeting**

Open Gallery II

Open Statements

Last Roll Call

Adjournment 7:57 PM