

# **Student Government Council**

University of Michigan-Flint

Friday, October 31, 2008

*Minutes*

## **Attendance**

### Executive Board

President- Owen Agho

Vice President- Nic Josey

Treasurer- Bob Routhier

Secretary- Tamera Dandachi

Director of Student Relations- Krystal Long

Director of Student Organization Partnership Board- Saad Qureshi

Director of University Affairs- Marcus Batson

Director of Government and Legal Affairs- Steve Mintline (absent)

### Representatives

Felipe Andrez

Kurtis Banks

Andrea Beaulieu

Shawntae Harris

Adrian Matthews

### Ex-Officio Members

Kalon Moore—Hall Council

### Guests

Jennifer Profitt—Mtimes

Dana Schlosser

Becky Wood—Cashiers

## **Minutes**

Meeting called to order at 12:00 pm

Presided over by President Owen Agho

### **Agenda Acceptance**

- Josey moves to accept the agenda as presented
- Shawntae seconds
- Vote: all in favor

### **Minutes Acceptance**

- Tamera moves to accept the minutes from last meeting
- Josey seconds
- Vote: all in favor

## Public Comment on Agenda

### Guests

Becky Wood—Cashiers

- Over the past year we've seen more credit card transactions from students
  - It costs a lot of money for the convenience
- We have come to realize that we need to do something about the options for credit payments
  - We have found a third party that would take the credit cards, but the university would not (proposal)
  - Starting next fall checks can be paid online and it was talked about having financial aid stipends direct deposited
- Why are we doing this?
  - It would be cheaper because of convenience fees, which are paid by every student
- Students would pay their own convenience fees through the third party vendor
- All credit card payments would be made through SIS
- Other payment options?
  - Pay by check online, starting in the fall
  - Pay by check or cash at the window
- Are there any other universities that do this?
  - 17 public universities do this, and only U of M-Ann Arbor does not accept credit cards at all
- Questions?
  - Marcus- does the university have any plan about giving information to students about being financially responsible? I don't think that there is enough financial literacy coming from the university.
    - The chancellor asked the same question, and Mary Jo said she would put it onto her agenda
  - Owen- how much is the convenience fee?
    - The university pays 2%, but the third party would charge about 2.75%
  - Owen- how has this impacted the other universities?
    - Well, in Dearborn the E-check went up a lot
  - Josey- would this be strictly tuition or other services?
    - Just tuition right now, and anything on the student account
  - Felipe- have you considered how difficult it would be for international students to pay tuition?
    - We would try to work with them on wire transfers and establishing checking or savings accounts
  - Josey- has there been any research about student sentiment on those campuses?
    - When Dearborn announced this in the spring, no one said anything. When they had to pay in the fall the cashiers office heard a lot of complaints for the first two weeks
  - Jessie- as a graduate student at Eastern and Wayne, I had to endure this. I tried to pay my tuition with my debit card but I couldn't because it was a Visa. When I

found out that I was going to be charged close to 3% I realized it would be a lot better to pay with an e-check.

- Josey- has there been consideration for where the extra money would go to?
  - Some schools have put it toward academic programs or financial aid, but there is no definite place for us right now.
- Owen- what are your thoughts about this?
  - Marcus- when I went to the Academic Advisory Meeting they were talking about the general fund and they were talking about a time when a staff member wanted to add money they could just take it out of their checks. I would like the university to put more effort into financial literacy for this.
  - Kurtis- it seems like a good idea because everyone has to pay for it now
  - Josey- I don't like that there is no definite plan for the money. I also think it will make paying tuition more difficult for students so I'm not necessarily a big fan of it. I would have liked to have seen who the third party vendor was.
  - Marcus- I don't think that the service charges would come up in other places. I don't think they would have to worry about being here from 9-5 because they can do it online.

## **Constitutions**

### Entrepreneur's Society

- Felipe seconds the presented constitution
- Discussion:
  - Do they have any difference than they Business Club?
    - This is for people set on being entrepreneurs and it's not as academically focused
  - Do they have everything and how many members?
    - Yes, and 12
- Vote: all in favor

## **Officers' Reports**

### Director of Student Organization Partnership Board

- Dead Club event
  - There was a miscommunication but we had a table set up anyway and a few people came by and took forms.
  - I saw an easel on the way down that had forms and I wondered if we should do that
  - Owen- I think you still need to have the campaign

### Director of Student Relations

- I don't know why Adrian's nametag is not in, and I paid for Shawntae's and Marcus's but I don't know where they are
- I'm working on getting the fliers for the election watch
- Thursday was the state of the students address and it was crazy that morning

### Director of University Affairs

- We had a meeting on Monday and there will be a lot of advertising to be done coming up

- The provost office is co-sponsoring so I need to get back to Jack Kay
- Check your emails for the revised evaluation forms
  - Have them there first thing Wednesday

Director of Government and Legal Affairs

Treasurer

- Allocations
  - Beta Alpha Psi
    - \$121.18 for 3 speakers to come in
    - Passed
  - IVCF
    - \$730.00 for a leadership conference
    - Passed
  - NTSO
    - \$1,822.25 for National Non-Traditional Student Week
    - Passed
  - SMUF
    - \$138.41 for reimbursement for flowers for sweetest day
    - Tabled
  - College Libertarians
    - \$6,640.00 for books that students ordered
    - Tabled
  - Pi Sigma Alpha
    - \$159.00 for a speaker that came in last week
    - Tabled
  - SMEA
    - \$202.50 for one person to go to a conference in Dearborn
    - Tabled
- Old Business
  - No applications in for at-large members yet
  - Audits begin next week. Only 22 clubs signed up.
- Funding Board account balance
  - \$22,825.55
- SG account balance
  - \$54,714.24

Secretary

- I scheduled the meetings for winter, but I'm waiting for a confirmation
- I am checking into other clubs that might be interested in Go Blue Live Green

Vice President

- Today is the last day to vote for MFuse so please go vote
- I'm sorry that we are unable to view the designs, but I'll email that out
- The office still looks really good from when the regent's came
- Can you get me your grades off of Blackboard?

President

- I would like to thank those of you who came to the address on Thursday
  - I told the students about the TVs and trip to DC as well as the other things we are doing

- We had questions and people are excited

Advisor Brian Proffer

Advisor Jessie Hurse

- I hate Halloween
- I think that we need to have a large SOPB meeting for November
- I am concerned that so few clubs have signed up for audits
  - You may want to email the clubs and let them know what the repercussions will be and the importance of it
- The Martial Arts Club left their constitution on my desk
- The digital signage should be in place in 30 days
- I need the receipt if I am reimbursing SG for the food from the Dead Club Campaign
  - I'm sorry for making it seem as though I was putting CAB in front of SG, but there was going to be a larger loss from CAB

University Committees

- Marcus—Academic Advising and Assessment Committee
  - One of the things they were talking about was a BS and MS program
  - They assessed the graduate programs and environmental science department
- Marcus—Academic Affairs Advisory Committee
  - They were looking at the general fund
  - They also looked at first year experience

Ad-hoc Committees

Ex-Officio Members

- Kalon Moore—Hall Council
  - We are going to have some activities for the Ohio State game
  - We want to put TVs in and try to stop the segregation issue

## **Old Business**

## **New Business**

\*Nic Josey has temporarily removed himself from being seated on council

Wolverine Bowl Co-sponsorship (Nic Josey)

- I am asking council to co-sponsor the wolverine bowl and it's typically a large event.
- There are a lot of teams coming from other campuses as well as our campus
- There are other cosponsors that have already signed on
- Are there any questions?
  - Owen- how much is CAB?
    - \$100
  - Kalon- can Hall Council cosponsor?
    - Yes
  - Shawntae- I think this would open the gates to cosponsoring a lot more, and this is a fundraiser
  - Kurtis- I see where Shawntae is coming from this, and if we cosponsor for this we will be helping make the event better, but also helping KE make money
  - Josey- I'm not looking for an answer right now, but I think it's beneficial to get our name out there
  - Owen- I think we should wait unless you want to call to question

- Marcus moves to postpone this initiative until next meeting
- Saad seconds
- Vote: 8 in favor; Felipe and Kurtis abstain

\*Nic Josey is now returning to his seat on council

### **Public Comment**

- Dana Schlosser- we need to also promote computer literacy because there are a lot of people who get frustrated about it, so if they're going to do it then we should probably promote that as well
- Felipe- e-checks seem kind of complicated so I think we should educate people
- Marcus- I agree and we will look into it

### **Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 1:10pm