

MUSG Senate 2014-15

Marquette University Student Government

Monday, February 23rd, 2015

8:00 PM – AMU 227

1. **Call to Order**

2. **Roll Call**

3. **Reflection**

A. *Senator Dearden*

B. *We all have passion for what we do here. Take your passion and go and set the world on fire.*

4. **Dear MKE**

5. **Forum for Concerned Students**

A. *Student: Some senators have been very helpful. Mazaa competed in first nation-wide competition this weekend in MN, won first place. First time in Bollywood history that a first year team wins a competition like this. Despite our success, MUSG didn't fund our competition success. People in positions in MUSG that are not doing their job. Our events are unique when it comes to funding, so we came to MUSG for advice when filling out our applications. We wanted to make sure our application wasn't inadequate. Funding guideline change, and our org did not receive an e-mail about this. Our application was denied because we put down A (per MUSG advice) when we were supposed to put B. MUSG admitted to this mistake, but found a different aspect of the application in order to find a different reason to not fund us. Our past applications we requested application fees for competitions, and this was approved. Our recent application says the same thing as the past applications but is getting denied. Inconsistency is against the constitution. We are trying to change Marquette's diversity involvement. MUSG seems to be finding every reason to not fund a diverse dance group that has shown success in the past. If the community hears that we can't compete because of a lack of funding, then that will show badly for Marquette. The message you are sending to this university and my culture is a negative one with lack of support. Encourage you to contact me if you feel like you need to see proof of these inconsistency.*

1. **Questions:**

A) *Senator Kouhel: What was your concern today?*

a. *When we submitted our funding at the deadline, we heard that if we submit Friday we will know by Monday if we get funding. We appealed our "no" for funding, and by the time we heard back the event was over. So the process is so much slower than they originally said it would be, lack of commitment for the time table*

b. *President Whelton: This won't be an issue under the new system*

B) *Senator Murrar: What were the events?*

- a. *One this past weekend, and one in Madison the second weekend of spring break. Something about charity means it is denied*
 - b. *President Whelton: It wasn't included in past applications. There was nothing stated about charitable contributions*
 - c. *We showed someone in the committee this today. Under funding fees our previous applications also stated something about charitable contributions*
 - d. *EVP Pinkney: They submitted a few last period, one got approved and one did not. All of them said approved after the last deadline to let people know that they got received, but we didn't do that this period because groups got confused.*
 - e. *President Whelton: The constitution does not say anything deliberately about consistency*
 - f. *Like I said, there will always be another reason brought up. I don't know how many times I have to prove it wrong*
- C) *Senator Bear: So for charitable contributions, does that just mean the competition as a whole has a charitable aspect? So if they didn't fully disclose that information they would have been funded?*
- a. *Yes that is correct. As a senate I urge you to look into this and understand who needs to be doing what.*
 - b. *President Whelton: No MUSG money can be used for any event that has charitable contribution in any way. Yes.*
- D) *Senator Bear: Moving forward, how can we improve this relationship? Should we help to fill out the application with you next time?*
- a. *Letting us know ahead of time, and maintaining consistency with what is said and what is done. Yes that would help, we would really appreciate that.*
- E) *Senator Kouhel: Can we move this to new business so we can have a full senate conversation that would be more effective?*
- F) *President Whelton: Part of the problem is all of the changes in the system. We used to have over processing going on because all applications would say approved if they were received, orgs were confused by this because they thought this meant they were approved. But the separate e-mail from Natalie was what actually told the orgs if they were funded or not. Prior to period 4 all applications will say approved on them whether they were or not, that has no bearing on if you actually received funding.*
- G) *Senator Elizondo: When is the upcoming competition? And how much do you need? Have you reached out to other organizations for funding? I don't know what they could contribute but it might be worth a try. Did you reach out to SOF committee?*
- a. *March 13-15. I'm not sure how much we need. I didn't know other orgs gave out funding. We only reached out to Natalie to see what we should write for our appeal.*

H) *Senator Schick: Could this be a case to use the judicial administrator as an independent investigator?*

- a. *Senator Bowman: Nothing unconstitutional happened, just some miscommunication*
- b. *Student: We just want some support, and making something hard even harder really undermines the University. I hope you guys just listen to what is going on here*
- c. *LVP Wallace: We do have judicial administrator as an independent body within our organization and you can file an appeal with them. This should help alleviate any communication issues*

6. **Presentations**

A. *Katie Kuhn, Marketing Specialist and Volunteer Coordinator, United Way*

7. **Officer Reports**

President

Kyle Whelton

A: We've been going over this situation for quite some time, and what was presented was an unfair representation of the individuals on this E-board. We have supported mazaa 3/6 times they applied for funding. The controversy started with something that the senate noted when they requested \$0. The budget committee affirmed they incorrectly deemed it a conference, but based on the language in the appeal form we can't fund it because of the charitable contributions clause. It's an extremely unfortunate situation, and this is no effort to deny their culture or opportunities. We're still dealing with inefficiencies of old systems as we try to transfer into the new. One thing that is consistent is the applications that have or have not been granted funding.

EVP Pinkney: The event that we did not approve them of, they won \$1,000 at the event. Given we can't do a lot that has to do with their competitions. Either way their application would have been denied no matter how the communication goes. I've personally worked with them on all of this. This is just a big unfortunate situation and I empathize with all parties involved

Senator Elizondo: Will charity clause stay in the new system? But it isn't their direct contribution, does that make a difference?

President Whelton: Yes. We made it because orgs used to request funding to offset events in order to donate to charities, so that is why we moved it front and center. It still offsets the cost of the entire event, so it is still indirectly going to a charity.

EVP Pinkney: It's been in our documents since 2002, so it isn't new by any means. We also can't give funding for groups that can win money at a competition. So they wouldn't have been approved in that way as well.

Senator Jaroor: What if they went and lost and never got any money?

EVP Pinkney: if the event is offering money, we can't use student money to support that group. We view it as a fundraiser initiative for their individual group.

President Whelton: There wasn't any changing of status of application from approved to unapproved. They requested \$0 and that's what we had to review

Senator Haines: So what does this mean moving forward?

President Whelton: They were denied based on grounds the info they showed us showed it was a fundraiser. Nothing more can be done if budget committee denies the appeal.

EVP Pinkney: We could write legislation for different appeals moving forward. We can only fix this in the future by what the SOF committee is already doing by talking with orgs to make it clear what we can and cannot fund.

B: Mandatory elections meeting is this Wednesday at 7pm in Ballroom D. Contact Grace Kinneman if you can't make it, she's the elections coordinator

C: Tomorrow we meet with John Furraro 3pm AMU 252. Talk about what board is working on

D: MUSG award nominations open on Sunday March 1st

E: I won't be here next week. I will submit a written report for you so you can email me if you have questions

Executive Vice President

Natalie Pinkney

A: All senior speakers who were nominated have until this Wednesday to apply. We need at least 10 so committee doesn't need to meet (if more than 10 we'll meet to narrow it down to 10)

B: If you're in a student org or know someone in a student org make sure they sign up for the mandatory SOF training. If they want to be considered for funding, including spot funding, then they MUST attending this training. Sat/Sun 11:30-1:15. If they cannot make it, they need to email me by Feb 26 at midnight so we can arrange something with them

President Whelton: I want to clarify that the list used to inform people about changes were through involvement link, and there was an inaccurate email for Jake in the ListServe so they didn't get any of the e-mails sent out. We can't edit that information, so that is another unfortunate circumstance but we will contact IT to fix this

Communications Vice President

Sarah McClanahan

A: Some taping for mental health video today and will again tomorrow. If you're in the office you can be in it

B: Tell people about the elections meeting!

C: Comm department apps out this week and due March 27th

Program Vice President

Ryan Twaddle

A: Friday Stone Creek Coffee performers. 8-10pm, wristband in CLSI. Free beverage if you go

B: Tuesday we have our midterms pet therapy from 12-1:30pm (dogs, cats, and snacks are back!)

Financial Vice President

Theodore Eberle

A: Mazaa: Natalie, Kyle, Myself, Cameron, Ricky could not have spent more time on this topic in the last week, we were all very helpful

B: Applications closed for period 5 on Friday

C: Budget met on Sunday will hear more about that shortly

Parliamentarian

Olivia Slusarek

A: Election needs 15 votes

Legislative Vice President

Zack Wallace

A: Ted and I will be hanging out with nuns on Friday so committee chairs are cancelled

B: Printed two copies of our calendar for office hours, if you aren't on the calendar be sure to put your name on the calendar. (on table and receptionist desk)

C: Packed agenda moving forward the next few weeks, so prepare yourselves

Advisor

Jennifer Reid

A: I want to reiterate that if you all need to come see me with questions, concerns, etc. please don't be afraid to contact me

B: DSA Leadership award nominations second part is students respond with a resume and response to a couple questions. I encourage you to complete this process!

8. **Committee Reports**

President Pro Tempore

Aliya Manjee

A: Community engagement didn't meet last week

B: Sip and Stroll was cancelled due to extreme cold, will be rescheduled soon

C: Get students here Monday, hopefully

D: LVP Wallace and I were going to meet with United Way today, but that will have to be rescheduled as well for business we can partner up with for neighborhood cleanup

Business and Administration

Cameron Vrana

A: Amendment 12 will be presented tonight, and more to come soon

B: We approve the program coordinators that PVP Twaddle and Beattie presented to us

Student Life

Estefania Elizondo

A: Legislation before you tonight

B: Met with coordinator for Hunger Clean up, and looking to do an end of Hunger Clean Up event. Still have a lot to discuss for our collaboration with them.

C: UPass is still pending, waiting to hear back.

D: Looking into the mask you live it, a film documentary

Academics

Ricky Krajewski

A: No Report

Student Organizations

Amanda Stolz

A: Went through handbook and highlighted areas we want to look into and get clarification on

9. **Outreach, Council, and All-University Committee Reports**

A. Senator Bear: I want to encourage everyone to make sure that you use the bias incident report tool. It's important that you report these incidents so we can make sure everyone is held accountable for their actions

B. Senator Bowman: Undergrads: 31.8% for Climate Survey Senior Administration: 40%

C. Senator Schick: Off Campus Caucus met and discussed many of the issues we have been discussing all semester. Newsletter coming soon (after spring break). Also discussed growing power going forward, neighborhood clean-up (march 28), and more! Expanded the boundaries of neighborhood clean-up as well. Pita Bros is opening in March...maybe April

D. Senator Murrar: DPS officers came into Center for Intercultural Engagement and talked about them getting commissioned. It went really well. Committee for diversity inclusion will have a think tank in Henke lounge, Thursday.

E. Advisor Reid: All of you in your committees working on particular initiatives that might include events, you need to register those as events on MIL so they can be vetted through OSD, and we make sure we are following all the university policies (as far as cash handling, and working with minors, etc.)

10. **Approval of Minutes**

A. Approval of Minutes from 02/16/2015

11. **Old Business**

12. **New Business**

A. Academic SOF Committee Election

1. *Senator Elizondo: I have been working with Kyle and Natalie with SOF reforms, and I feel knowledgeable about them and what they will entail. I want to make the students' lives easier and share knowledge with them about these reforms so that they are more successful. Want to make SOF committee accessible for students*
2. *PPT Manjee: I want to run for this position because I want to be involved in the transition that is going on. I served all year last year under EVP Bowman and Pinkney. I also served on Ad Hoc Committee to look at MUSG internal policies and external outreach. I know the policies pretty much in and out and I know it's a big time commitment. I'm willing to do that, and I'm really passionate about doing whatever we can to help student orgs, get them funding, and increase transparency*
3. *Senator Stanko: I have no experience with SOF. I want to get into it and get more involved. I want to jump right back into senate and be more actively involved. I feel like SOF and budget committee were more distant, I want to increase transparency and communicate with anyone that has questions.*
4. *Questions:*
 - A) *Senator Kouhel: How would you have handled the situation we had earlier?*
 - a. *PPT Manjee: I think Kyle and Natalie handled it well. They told us about the communications with the group that they had prior to this meeting. If anyone on senate would want to sit down that wasn't on SOF, or if SOF wanted to meet again to review the discrepancies I think that would be helpful. I don't know what I would change compared to what went on*
 - b. *Senator Stanko: At the end of the day there were discrepancies that need to be worked on in the future. As of now I think a better approach to the application process would be beneficial.*
 - c. *Senator Elizondo: I wouldn't have e-mailed as much. I would have met with them more in person as many times as needed so that they could understand the process and what they needed to do for this application. I would look to implement committee hours where people can go and ask any questions they may have.*
 - B) *Senator Vrana: What do you see as the biggest challenge as SOF process continues to evolve into next year and long term?*
 - a. *Senator Stanko: Transparency that we face. More improved guidelines and committee and student relations would help this committee grow. The biggest thing would be how to guide of how to get funding*
 - b. *Senator Elizondo: Availability for training and accessibility for the committee. Lack of funding, need an increase in SOF funding since there have been increases in applications received.*

c. *PPT Manjee: Student leadership training would be very helpful for them in formulating a budget and knowing how to handle the funding that they have. I used to chair a student org and that would have been very helpful especially when applying for money. Communication for student orgs would be great as well. We need to make sure they always know what's going on and why we're doing what we're doing*

C) *Senator DiVittorio: Scale 1-10 how well do you know new application process?*

a. *Senator Elizondo: 6 – haven't seen beta processing*

b. *PPT Manjee: 6 – knowing rules and being in the meetings are different things. Couldn't be a 10 until I experience a meeting*

c. *Senator Stanko: 0 – first goal is to learn more about the SOF process.*

D) *Senator Kouhel: Have you personally applied for SOF? Favorite event funded by MUSG put on by a student org?*

a. *Senator Stanko: No. Cultural nights as well just to learn more and embrace other cultures.*

b. *Senator Elizondo: I filled one out just because I was curious about what it entailed and what we were asking students to do. LASSO overnight lots of talented dancers and performers/artists.*

c. *PPT Manjee: Yes. Cultural night party that MSA put on this year. Great food and I learned a lot about their traditions*

5. *Debate:*

A) *Senator Schick: Speaks in favor of PPT Manjee*

B) *Senator Bear: Speaks in favor of Senator Stanko*

C) *Senator Canting: Speaks in favor of Senator Elizondo*

D) *Senator Murrar: Speaks in favor of Senator Elizondo*

E) *Senator Schmidt: Speaks in favor of PPT Manjee*

6. *Closed Ballot Vote: 15 votes, congrats to PPT Manjee!*

B. *Introduction & Presentation*

1. *Amendment 12 – Clarification for Impeachment and Removal from Office*

2. *Senator Vrana: Under old wording it looked like only LVP could remove people, we thought all senators should be engaged in this process. Members in MUSG appointed to office can be removed by appointing official, whoever that may be. Old language was kind of confusing as to who had the authority to remove an appointed person. Only includes Comm, Finance, E-board, etc. (not senator). Can remove officers with president recommendation. $\frac{3}{4}$ vote seemed more consistent than majority for that removal process. Any member who pays fee and is a member of MUSG can submit a charge for impeachment.*

3. *Senator Schick: We just felt any way we can clean up the constitution to make things more clear that would be good.*

4. *Questions:*

- A) Senator Murrar: Concerns of student org for impeachment process?
 - a. Senator Vrana: They were just confused by it so we consulted with President Whelton and LVP Wallace about it and clarified it so the procedures would be easier to follow
- B) Senator Elizondo: Was it a student org or academic council that brought this to your attention?
 - a. Senator Stolz: College of Arts and Sciences Student Council
 - b. Senator Vrana: It's not intended to address an active incident at this point, just housecleaning
- C. *Introduction & Presentation*
 - 1. Recommendation #4 - Acquisition of All Terrain Vehicles by MPD
 - 2. Senator Touhy: Endorsing MPD ATV's because of success they had with bicycle program. Improved community ties. Will bridge the gap between bicycle officers and squad officers.
 - 3. Questions:
 - A) Senator Kouhel: This is a recommendation to MPD not DPS?
 - a. Yes. Because it isn't DPS or Marquette that are buying the ATV's. They're looking for community support, and one of the control areas is Marquette so we would be affected by this. Cost of 1 ATV is about \$5,000 (reduced from \$9,000). \$50,000 for all w0
 - B) Senator DiVittorio: For the sidewalk or for the street?
 - a. They're for both
 - C) Senator Thiry: Can it be used during all seasons?
 - a. Can be used in all seasons. Bridges the gap of bicycles not being able to be used in all seasons.
 - D) Senator Keefe: Are they reaching out to other communities in a similar way?
 - a. They've reached out to multiple people asking for support and people to back up this program
 - E) Senator Vrana: No financial responsibility for MUSG or the University?
 - a. None
 - b. President Whelton: We have supported things like this in the past. This is something that would really help MPD.
 - c. LVP Wallace: Bicycle police are affective in community policing, so that is what this is supposed to achieve in the winter months when bikes aren't an option.
 - d. President Whelton: Idea came from Minneapolis, and it has been very successful there. We want this to help with auto thefts which has been an issue in the area, and Avenues West has already endorsed this and we have a good working relationship with them so it would be good to back them up as well.

13. **Announcements**

- A. President Whelton: AMU 252 tomorrow with board of trustees

- B. *Senator Elizondo: Think tank for diversity inclusion is this Thursday at 7pm in Henke Lounge*
- C. *PPT Manjee: Chair of Students Education Reforms asked if I could announce their meetings, Trying to boost their membership. They meet Tuesday nights at Cudahy 8pm*
- D. *Senator Krajewski: This experience of Mazaa is eye opening to us to see that there are students outside of here that care about what we do, and they think this is a serious arena of conversation. We need to treat it the way that they see it.*
- E. *Senator McNerny: Evan's Scholars is hosting St. Baldrick's next month. If you want to sign up to raise money let me know! Bring your friends, free chipotle, live music, see people go bald.*
- F. *Senator Schick: Delta Tau Delta colonization ceremony this Friday 7pm AMU Ballrooms, lots of free food*
- G. *Senator Stanko: Have a good weekend everybody.*
- H. *EVP Pinkney: SOF meeting this Saturday 9am*

14. Adjournment