Student Senate
February 22nd, 2017
River Valley Room
6:00 pm

Minutes

Members
John Opland
Nicolas Hanson
Jonathan Schlitz
Chris Petschen
Eric Souvannascad
Eric Gefroh
Matthew Adamson
**Daniel Frank
Conrad Kranz
Kaleb Dschaak
Theresa Hanley
**John Bjorklund
Taylor Bovee
***Layton Ericson
Hannah Carlson
**Tucker Haffner
**Jake Wahlin
Laurie Freid
Roy Roach
Ryan Bjerke

Non-Voting Members
Brandon Beyer
Blake Andert
Cole Bachmeier
**Ben Grounds
Jake Eischens
Erik Hanson
Nate Schroeder
**Abigail Christiansen
**Cassie Gerhardt

Visitors

CALL TO ORDER

V.P. Andert called the 2/23/2017 meeting of the UND Student Senate to order at 6:00 PM

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION

Last week’s minutes have not yet been approved. Senator Dschaak motioned to table the consent agenda. Seconded by Senator Kranz.

DISCUSSION

VOTE

MOTION APPROVED
GUEST SPEAKERS

Connie Frazier, executive director from Housing and Dining, spoke about the overall performance in 2016 regarding a market study, overall facility housing maintenance. Room and board rates are the lowest among regional competitors. The findings were that there is an abundance of diverted maintenance and facility issues. She stated that a more significant rate must be implemented to counter the facilities concerns and issues. The combined increase is 9%, 20% on the residence hall, 1.5% on dining, apartment communities at 10%, with the exceptions of Hamline apartments and University Place apartments because they are at market value. The increase in rates would generate an extra $1.3 million to be utilized. She noted that the amount appears large, but in reality, does not stretch far in regards to housing operations.

REPORTS

A. Executive

(00:08:30) President Beyer – Vice President Laurie Betting and Vice President Peter Johnson will be retiring after the semester. Vice President of Finance and Operations Brekke will be stepping down to 80% capacity.

OER’s have received very positive feedback. A list of high capacity classes is being gathered for cost analysis. Pres. Beyer is expecting $4 million (if all $100,000 is allocated) in OER’s. This past round of NDUS has yielded a 41:1 payback.

U Senate budget restructuring and reallocation committee meets every week, Tuesdays 4:30pm - 6:30pm in Twamley Rm. 305. Senator Petschen and Carlson will be the students representing on the committee.

(00:13:50) VP Andert – There is a spot open for the Medical School Senator position.

(00:15:11) Treasurer Eischens – Reminder that student government has $35,000 left on the unallocated line item. SOFA has depleted all of its funds left to allocate. They will be funding based on contingency of funds. They have allocated $211,000 including summer rollovers.

(00:16:15) PCoS Bachmeier – NDSA will be held March 24th & 25th possibly at the new medical school building. Students from around the state will be visiting to hold the annual elections.

PCoS Bachmeier held a Campus Art Committee (CAP) Presentation. The presentation covered the stages and purpose of the on-campus art project. It is important to note that art projects
are signifiers of campus pride and overall attractiveness to prospective students.

(00:50:30) Governmental Affairs, Erik Hanson – Passing of the NDUS budget proposal. Keeping the funding formulas from base funding as a reduction which will sit at 11% from base funding. There is a capstone tuition at 3%, there could be an additional 1% added if the institution matched that for deferred maintenance, a potential 4% increase in tuition.

The next bill passed through took challenge grants out of the previous funding and put it into a separate bill. Challenge grants are something universities if they get private dollars, the state will match them on a 2:1 ratio. Gov. Burgum proposed to increase challenge grant dollars with the massive decreases in higher education. Legislature said no to that and decreasing substantially.

Committees

Judicial

(00:55:30) Senator Gefroh - Judicial did not meet. Reminder that the Feb. 15th meeting had discussed candidates, Austin Ricliffs and Trevor Nameniuk, for the off-campus senator position. There was a 3-1 3-0 vote recommending Trevor Nameniuk. Both candidates were in attendance to speak on the Senate floor.

(01:04:20) Senator Petschen spoke on candidate Ricliffs behalf for the position, noting his reliability and leadership in his fraternity.

Senator Dschaak spoke on candidate Nameniuk’s behalf noting his work ethic and experience for the position.

Senator Hanson spoke on candidate Ricliff’s behalf noting the close, positive relationship the candidate has with the University police department, in hopes to continue that connection.

Senator Adamson reiterated the task force candidate Ricliff referenced in his speech, as well past work experience with small groups working on and off campus.

Senator Gefroh shared information regarding judicial committee. He stated it was worth noting candidate Nameniuk has state wide experience at NDSA. His knowledge at the state level could bring new energy to the student government body.

Point of clarification on the voting record at the judicial committee meeting. The result in the aforementioned was 3-0 in favor of candidate Nameniuk- quorum was met.
Senator Kranz referenced the progress and success candidate Ricliff made creating a new student organization on campus.

VOTE

(01:11:35) MOTION APPROVED

Austin Ricliffe (9)  
Trevor N ameniuk (5)  
Abstention (1)

Appropriations

Did not meet

State and Local

SB 1617-07 was approved to be brought to the floor.

Elections

Did not meet this week. Last meeting finalized the election dates and marketing plan. Elections packets are now available in the student government office.

B. Special Reports

Constituent Reports  
No report

Other Matters Arising  
(01:14:20) Senator Dschaak – report from NDSA. Nominations for positions was held. 6 UND students have been nominated into positions in NDSA, as well as 4 general officer positions. Senator Dschaak was nominated for president of NDSA.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

LINE ITEM A:  
(01:15:50) SB 1617-12

Discussed the reallocation of money towards collegiate link. Collegiate Link is the platform used by UND for a variety of student organization websites.

Point of clarification: There is a line item on the budget for Collegiate Link. $14,425 has been budgeted for the program, in which we will be over budget by $1,041; $15,000 is not coming out of the unallocated portion.

MOTION

Sen. Adamson motioned to approve SB 1617-12  
Seconded by senator Gefroh
No discussion

(01:18:50) MOTION CARRIES. SB1617-12 APPROVED.

LINE ITEM B:

(01:19:00) SB 1617-13

This bill pertains to allocating funds in order to replenish the SOFA account. They have no money to fund student orgs. As of now, out of the $25,000 to be allocated, they have used $16,000 and will have $8,600 left to allocate. This will come out of the investments.

MOTION

Senator Hanson motioned to approve SB 1617-13. Seconded by Senator Bjerke.

DISCUSSION

President Beyer noted that SOFA running out of money to allocate is not a new matter and is a usual occurrence.

VOTE

(01:22:50) MOTION CARRIES. SB 1617-13 APPROVED.

LINE ITEM C:

(01:23:00) SB 1617-14

The Alley Live event for the food truck voucher will be allocated $7,000 (1000 food vouchers at $7/voucher). The voucher will be given to the food truck driver and in return students receive a meal. It is funded the same way movie tickets are and will be given out at student government as well as student involvement the weeks prior. Once redeemed, only then will student government pay for the vouchers. It should be noted that last year this event ran very well. Local talent and bands will be highlighted at the event.

MOTION

Senator Dschaak moved to approve SB 1617-14. Seconded by Senator Kranz

DISCUSSION

No discussion.
LINE ITEM D:

MOTION

DISCUSSION

(01:25:19) MOTION CARRIES. SB 1617-14 APPROVED

SB 1617-15 April 8th Ted X event

Senator Dschaak moved to approve SB 1617-15
Seconded by senator Gefroh

Senator Carlson referenced the last Ted X event held in 2013. She stated there was a line item (SB 1314-20) in which Ted X had a plan for self-sustainability. She questioned why there is an increase in funding from the 2013 event to the 2017 event.

Senator Hanson addressed that the money allocated is to lower the price on tickets for student pricing. The $6500 would be more feasible for student’s to obtain tickets priced at $25 as opposed to the $80 price.

Senator Dschaak stated that the intention was to encourage more students to attend the event. The bill is focusing on subsidizing the price of tickets. 40 tickets are specifically reserved for UND students, but are not limited to just 40 seats at the very least.

Senator Kranz asked if it was possible to only pay for the amount of tickets the students actually buy.

President Beyer noted that the last time Ted X was held, student government chose to use the lower tier option they were given with the voucher system. This does not allow Ted X to necessarily gain any excess profit from student government funding.

Senator Dschaak specified that if student do not redeem vouchers, as a nonprofit, Ted X would like the revenue to equal the expenses.

Senator Petschen recommended that Ted X should venture out to more community sponsors along with student government to advocate for the program. This would show involvement in the community to advocate the program.

Senator Dschaak stated that Ted X sought to see a bigger venue in the future for more seats so that more students could attend. Making sure that the program is expanding, not repeating.

Senator Roach stated that this has an educational component that is advantageous to the student body. The
priority of student government should be to contribute to the overall education of students.

MOTION CARRIES. SB 1617-15 IS APPROVED.

**MOTION**

**MOTION**

SR 1617-06

Senator Petschen stated that the student senate is in favor of optimizing tuition. The favorable version of optimizing should fall below a certain cap per year. It is stated that the tuition cap is at 2.5% per year, and should be changed to 3%, while there is an option to increase to 4% per year.

(01:39:52) Senator Dschaak motioned to approve SR 1617-06 Seconded by Senator Hanson.

(01:40:00) Senator Dschaak motioned to change all instances of 2.5% to 3%. Seconded by Senator Bovee

President Beyer recommended to address the additional 1% for deferred maintenance, instead of opposing the additional 1% or increasing to 4%. The current resolution does not support the additional 1%.

Senator Dschaak noted that the weight of increases is being put on future students, estimated at an additional $1400.

Senator Souvannascad recalled a similar situation at his former university when they lowered tuition fees. He stated that they initially had paid less, but the ramifications down the road affected students who were unable to take courses because of the cuts.

President Beyer noted that the problem with the deferred maintenance is that it will continue to increase until something is done, which is why he is in favor of the additional 1% increase.

Senator Dschaak stated that the 3% should remain, and to look for an amendment for another clause specifically related to the 4% advocating for the additional 1%. He also proposed the need to look for alternative sources of funding to decrease the burden that is put on students. Furthermore, for the reason an easy solution is available, that does not mean should stop looking for other, better solutions.

(01:54:03) MOTION CARRIES. All instances of 2.5% in SR 1617-06 are to be amended to 3%
DISCUSSION

Senator Dschaak proposed to either take a recess or table the resolution in order to rephrase any wording in regards to the amendment.

MOTION

Senator Dschaak motioned to table SR 1617-06 until the next meeting. Seconded by Senator Carlson

DISCUSSION

No discussion

VOTE

(01:59:06) MOTION CARRIES SR 1617-06 is tabled

NEW BUSINESS

SR 1617-07

This resolution is in support of senate bill 2036, that supports to further extend the challenge grant. Senator Hanson noted that the resolution was written prior to knowing that the bill had been lowered from $7 million to $750k.

MOTION

Senator Dschaak moved to approve SR 1617-07. Seconded by Senator Bovee.

DISCUSSION

PCoS Bachmeier recommended to adjust the language of the resolution for clarification.

MOTION

Senator Schlitz motioned to table SR 1617-07 until the next meeting for editing. Seconded by Senator Bovee

VOTE

(02:03:22) MOTION CARRIES. SR 1617-07 is tabled.

PUBLIC COMMENT/ANNOUNCEMENTS

VP Andert thanked the Vice Presidents that are retiring for their hard work and dedication shown to the University of North Dakota.

ADJOURNMENT

(02:04:04) The 2/22/2017 Student Senate meeting was adjourned at 8:04PM by Vice President Andert.

Respectfully Submitted,

Blake Andert
Chair

Recording Secretary