Montana Associated Students

November Retreat

University of Montana

November 14, 2018

1. CTO: 5:28PM
2. Attendance:
   1. Mariah Welch, Taylor Blossom, Hannah Johnson, Joe Theil, Brock Tessman, Alex Butler, Jes Tews, Chance Maes, Stanley Munson, Lizzy Thompson, Savannah Merritt, Tiffany Kuglin, Collin Miller, Christopher Brekke George
3. Campus Updates:
   1. UM:
      1. Student group resource center opening tomorrow. In the process of hiring a new legal director. ASUM is in the process of educating senators about mandatory fees so that everyone is prepared for Spring semester.
      2. ASUM hired a lobbyist, and a food pantry is being formed on campus.
   2. MSU:
      1. MSU won two national awards for diversity as well as the 125-M photo. Participating in Can the Griz.
      2. Possibility on gaining campus shuttles to alleviate parking issues.
      3. Senate approved $2 million for new student building.
   3. HC:
      1. Creating a constitutional review committee. Holding first fee forum about potentially increasing student government fee.
   4. Tech:
      1. Senates are working on creating a lighting committee in order to change colors, etc. Also working on moving ASMT offices to different buildings to increase student club involvements. New student success center will be opening, it will be composed of dorms, study rooms, and other advising options. Montana Tech Chancellor will be retiring, committees will be formed to find a new replacement.
   5. GFC:
      1. Ongoing Turkey drive. Working on becoming a tobacco free campus. Food pantry is doing well, and has a food drive for cat/griz game. ASGFC office is being renovated.
   6. MSUN:
      1. Cleaning Donaldson building, wanting people to tour building. This building has been out of commision for 10+ years. Student concert will be happening on Sunday.
   7. MSUB:
      1. Late to retreat. Not present during this time.
   8. Western:
      1. Students grants close today. Students have an opportunity to receive $1000 to spend to go to conferences, etc. Has a coat drive going to give to children in the community. Senate is looking into food options, but it limited by space.
   9. Regent:
      1. Possible changes in out of state tuition. PLease reach out to Regents with any questions or speak during public comment. MUS employees (presidents, commissioner, etc.) raise of 2% will be voted on during this meeting.
4. MAS Lobbyist:
   1. 5 applicants have applied. PLease don’t share information, it is a hiring process.
   2. Committee will be meeting throughout the week, so top three lobbyists will be sent to members. MAS members will then have to vote and send responses back to Mariah.
   3. MAS found housing for session.
      1. Rent is $4,500.
      2. In the past, a representative had paid MAS. We won’t be doing this again, as it is a conflict of interest.
      3. Mariah recommends using additional money for student lobbyist day. MAS can spend money on buses, and student can attend.
5. Legislative Priorities:
   1. Our priorities are broad, but MAS can dig deeper if need be.
      1. 1. Increase overall funding of unrestricted funds for MUS.
      2. 2. Fund MUS items on the MUS Long-Range Building Program fully.
      3. 3. Support survivors of sexual assault of college campuses and pass proactive policy to do so.
         1. Maybe change importance of legislative priorities list. Make it a lower priorities.
            1. Taylor motions to lower to #5.
            2. Vote: 10 in favor, 1 opposed. Motion passes.
      4. 4. Support efforts for consumers to participate in net metering.
         1. MAS can change to be more broad, or even something environmental.
            1. Environmental Practices as a whole?
         2. Motion: remove from priority list
            1. Vote: 10 in favor, motion passes
      5. 5. Support renters rights for students.
         1. Motion: To pass as priorities
         2. Vote: 10 in favor, motion passes
   2. Budget should be our main priorities, social issues should be a secondary issue.
   3. Add any issues?
      1. No
   4. School vote to pass resolution as a whole:
      1. Motion: Pass resolution as a whole
      2. Vote: All schools in favor, motion passes
   5. There will be a shared document on drive for bills for MAS members to view and follow. This will be short notice, the legislative session is very fast paced. Please let Mariah know if you can’t be on a legislative call.
6. BoR events and timeline:
   1. BoR changed agenda. Lunch will be at 12:30-1:30 PM in UC 330.
   2. New student group resource center will open tomorrow!
   3. Thursday night reception.
7. New call time:
   1. Tuesday nights from 6-7PM.
   2. Only one MAS member would be missing and Regent Johnson would miss, but Regent Johnson can be on executive calls.
   3. Will begin Tuesday, November 27th.
8. General discussion:
   1. Financial information:
      1. Potential MAS fee increase probably is unlikely.
      2. Should we continue due system?
      3. Please send MAS dues to Hallee.
      4. MAS cannot propose fee as whole, each campus would have to propose.
      5. Joe recommends a few options:
         1. Regent policy changes that percent of each student government fee dollars.
   2. MAS will continue to go with a due process.
      1. What should our dues look like?
         1. Potential tier system (flagships top, 2 year bottom)
            1. Potentially based off of enrollment?
            2. Potentially based of percentage of total budget?
         2. Should pay the same amount each year, so it will fund legislative years as well as off years.
         3. All schools should have the same amount of representation in MAS regardless of size of dues.
9. Adjourn:
   1. 6:20 PM