

43rd Student Senate  
Friday, October 31, 2014  
423/425 Glickman Library, Portland Campus  
By Senator Martin

I. **Call to order at 1:01 pm.**

II. **Attendance**

<b>Roster</b>	<b>Attendance</b>	<b>Office Hours</b>
Sen. Thomas Bahun	X	X
Sen. Elizabeth Bishop	X	X
Sen. Ashley Caterina	X	X
Sen. Jud Cease, Vice Chair	X	X
Sen. Joshua Dodge, Chair	X	X
Sen. Fatoumata Issifi	A	X
Sen. John Jackson	X	X
Sen. Elizabeth Martin, Clerk	X	X
Sen. Scott Reiner	X	X
Sen. Ashley Rose	X	X
Sen. David Sanok	X	X
Sen. Joshua Tharpe, Parliamentarian	X	X
Sen. William Webb, Student Affairs	X	X
Sen. Matt Wilkinson	X	X

III. **Introductions**

IV. **Approval of the Minutes**

- Approval of the minutes two weeks ago, approval by consensus. No meeting last week, so minutes.

V. **Executive Committee**

- Met today at 12:30. Discussed what happened in individual meetings. Discussed merge of PEB and GEB or rather individuals interested in positions in the PEB.

VI. **Constitutional Review Committee**

- CRC met Tuesday at 2. 5 current constitutions. 2 in new business. 1 asked to postpone. 2 waiting to meet with group reps.

VII. **Finance Committee**

- Met Wednesday at 7 reviewed two proposals. One is still being worked on one will be talked about today.

VIII. **Student Affairs Committee**

- Met this week and last week, compiled a list from Gorham students from the poster in the cafe. Emailed parking, transportation and food to set up a meeting and review concerns.

IX. **Public Relations Committee**

- Facebook presence and having conversations online about student concerns.

X. **Clerk**

- Log in binders in the SGA Office and Greek Room instead of posting office hours online.

XI. **Student Body President**

- Email about two weeks ago, results of a survey given to graduated seniors last year. Presenting that next week.
- Huskypalooza tomorrow. Men's basketball game vs Orono. Only time we beat them was in '88.

XII. **Representative to the Board of Trustees**

- A 30 minute presentation about the BOT and their perspective of us. Budgeting processes questions can be answered by Alex Greenlee. Appropriation process, the amount of money UMS gets from Maine. Maine's budget has to be balanced every single year. The state cannot give more money that it has. Maine is behind most other states in the country. UMS is the third largest item on the budget that they can play with because they have money they need to spend on such as Medicare/Medicaid. We are one of the bigger budgets. 1% is about a 3 million dollar increase. for the last 2 years we have been getting a flat rate, the system as a whole. Trustees struck a deal with governor, not increasing tuition but not increasing money they are giving us. next 2 years, trustees decided to ask for more money. Advocating for us from the state asking for more money when the next budget starts. Attempt to make education cheaper, or at least not more expensive for students.
- Finance and facilities technology committee, lab in Payson, lab in bailey, nursing lab at LAC and lab in science building will be renovated.
- Trustees this am discussed unified financial model. Unifying all 7 schools administration. Don't end up with redundancies because we're doing the same thing as a lot of the other schools. Nov 16 & 17 7th floor events room. Sunday afternoon typically 3-5, informational. Sunday night dinner, reception. Monday 8-3/4. Trustees voted to eliminate French and Applied Medical Sciences.

### XIII. **SGA Grad Assistant**

- Bios & picture is finished! Be placed in the foyer of Woodbury.
- Jason went home sick today, Noah took over for Leadership Group meeting. Jason went to SMCC with a presentation on strengths and leadership. Nov 6 2:30 in Woodbury for a leadership meeting once a month starting next semester.
- Leadership Luncheon Nov 7.

### XIV. **Student Affairs**

- Reported in Committee Report.

### XV. **Other Committee or Entity**

- President Flanagan: Balance the budget and communicate with relevant constituency. Reminding everyone what the problem is, not enough students and competition increased from other schools outside of the UMS. Declining enrollment creates a deficit. USM has kept spending as if the decline in the enrollment did not happen. Another 6% drop in enrollment b/t last year and this year. That's where the 16 million dollar deficit comes from. Working on the development of a multi-prong strategy. Not looking to make a profit but break even. 183 million dollars in reserves but can only be used for the specific intent the donor gifted it for. Can't count that money for the 16 million dollar deficit. You cannot count reserves for the deficit. But we are combing through reserves for any available money to help. We are also asking for refinances to help lower funds and work with the system to finance other projects that need to get done. 16 million dollars is 12% of the budget. We need to do rescheduling on the academic side and the administrative side. Trying to keep a strategic, planned and thoughtful way. We will be replacing retired professors in areas in which we excel and can give back to our community. What I care about is having an affordable education for the people of Maine. People have the chance to go to a quality four year school. To have a good career and meaningful life here in Maine.
- Multi-prong plan: Cuts have to be part of it, but not entirely from cutting positions. Trying to make this a more attractive place to come to school to get enrollment up. Not only from Maine but from always as well. Use Maine economic funds, improve student advising, 28 different offices, centralize scheduling, restructure academic depts. with fewer overhead expenses, find someone who can help use with recruitment and enrollment, course credit requirements and transfer credits to make it easier to graduate in four years. New ways of finding funding. Such as philanthropy, UMS, gifts. USM does not get the same state subsidy a other schools. Increase money to state schools. Vision for the future: metro university, Pub service, strategic array of majors, helpful to economic development in Maine, centers of excellence that we can do better than other universities in UMS. Improve value, 60% of students are transfer students. Attractive because of lower tuition than most universities. Submit a budget Jan 1. Deal with the tremendous budget in a timely way that can benefit the students.
- Teach out plans? Advising, lack of qualified advisors? Provost also Dean of Buisness Dept, conflict of interest? Teach out plans where contingent on knowing the information of retired professors, fully intend to meet our obligations to teach out every individual in a timely way. Advising, such a complicated schedule and obscurity of the path to graduation, we need to set that straight. Several retirements in business and they will be backfilled because it is a center of

excellence. Also a Dean in Muskie, which has had cuts and retirements. He is still the Dean of Business, but we have saved 35,000 by not cutting him.

- More money allocated from the legislature? The system is looking for an amount of money from legislature to make funds available to the universities and community colleges to keep them affordable. Strategy is to pursue this idea. the system should think of ideas to ask for more funds. Lets pursue a number of strategies simultaneously; this is not the only strategy. An area where we should exchange info and create situational awareness.
- Difficulty marketing USM? 330,000 spent on advertising last year. University was forced to do most on social media and Internet. Kaplan and USN is spending in hundreds of millions. Chris Quinn and myself are meeting with an ad agency today to discuss what they can do with so little money. Recent grads going around to schools here and in mass to drum up interest. Love to have a more robust marketing program. It is a challenge.
- What role can the student senate and faculty senate play in increased revenue and decrease cost and how will you go about reaching out to us in the future? A visible presence of people who are directly affected. Legislatures need to see real people. Other groups are up there such as welfare, Medicare, forestry, ect. But university needs to draw attention to it. Drawing prospects that would benefit by coming here. Examples of kids who went out of state with massive debt. Input like you have given here today. More than open to the ideas people have had. Legislature, recruiting, advocacy, giving input.
- How you will reach out to us/how you will help us? Met with student leader groups when they have asked, talked with the free press every week, talked with students in halls and events. Ways of discussing problems more consistently with students from all different aspects. Need to visit Gorham more.
- Concerns with cuts in Sen. Rose's dept.. President Flanagan was not aware more than one cut/retirement was made in the department without being rehired. Our student professor ratio has been going down rapidly. Maintain and improve the value proposition for your education. If someone retires we will not fill the position, not our thoughts at all.
- Contract with Nancy Ericson? What that entails for the teach out plan for French? Generic comment on the idea of teach outs, if any contracts are cancelled and there is no teacher in that position then teach outs cannot happen.
- All different views on how cuts are being made, what is true? Music is a center of excellence. Seniors in the dept. are on phased retirement. Intention is to replace those positions. Last in first out rule, not something that President Flanagan wants but the union contract forces us to do, act by Oct 31. that is the deadline in the contract. Looking for ways to strengthen and make the music dept. better in the future.
- President's email: [dflanagan@usm.maine.edu](mailto:dflanagan@usm.maine.edu)
- Task force on better utilizing the funds from ANES.
- The BOT has plenary power for running the university and are responsible for the UMS. Running total for all campuses is about 70 million. The BOT is very concerned about all budgets and care a lot about what we recommend. Looking to us for leadership and give direction with the least time and most promise for the future. No guarantees they will do what we propose.
- Advertising budget? Submit a budget to the system and they to the trustees. UMS should have one advertising budget, one admission and recruiting plan.
- Application of Idman Abdulkadir read: Appointed to the 43rd Student Senate. Passed

unanimously.

- Lindsey Lombardi: Would like to Chair the PEB. Delaney Ruleau: Would like to be the finance chair of the PEB. Ashley Caterina would be willing to help out as much as she can. Recruitment via social media, posters. Lindsey was marketing chair so she has experience. Samantha Ireland: Willing to step in as the advisor to the PEB.
- Met with the CFO to go over specific data and numbers that were provided. Tom has the data to email to the Senate.
- Emissary to Faculty Senate: Interested in working with us to show solidarity and coming up with proposals to submit to the administration.

#### XVI. **Unfinished Business**

- Proposal 43-13: Finance Committee – Sponsor: Senator Bahun  
*Motion to approve funding for the Living Learning Communities to coordinate a day-trip to Boston.*
    - Passed unanimously.
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#### XVII. **New Business**

- Proposal 43-17: Constitutional Review Committee – Sponsor: Senator Jackson  
*Motion to ratify the constitution of the American Red Cross Club.*
- Proposal 43-18: Constitutional Review Committee - Sponsor: Senator Bishop  
*Motion to ratify the constitution of the Tourism and Hospitality Association.*

#### XVIII. **Former Concerns Update**

- Go to your committee meetings.
- Professionalism: Great job.
- Remaining for the entire meeting: Be courteous.
- More diverse:
- More open minded, more respectful: Keep doing this in senate meetings and office.
- We can improve if you have a concern please speak up: Bring up any concerns to the e-board.
- Concerns aren't meant to be replied:
- Office is full of Words and Images: Any 2014 copies please notify Katherine Friedlander or Jason Saucier. All other copies can be disposed of however but 2 copies of each year.

#### XIX. **Concerns**

- How many open senate seats are left? 6 seats.
- Business Office: Update hours/Uphold working the hours posted.

#### XX. **Announcements**

- Happy Halloween!
- Student Life is having a Halloween Dance in Gorham.

- School of Music and Theatre Dept. have shows this weekend.
- Lots of events going on tomorrow and show your Husky Pride!!! All on the Gorham Campus. First game (Men's basketball) starts at 12 o'clock.
- Be mindful of the image you are portraying with your Halloween costume.
- BSO is running out of money. The BSO has \$4,000 for the remainder of the semester.

XXI. **Adjournment at 3:28 pm.**