

43rd Student Senate  
Friday, February 6th, 2015  
405 Bailey Hall, Gorham Campus

I. **Call to order at 1:06 pm.**

II. **Attendance**

<b>Roster</b>	<b>Attendance</b>	<b>Office Hours</b>
Sen. Idman Abdulkadir	X	<b>Waived</b>
Sen. Elizabeth Bishop	A – Excused	—
Sen. Thomas Bahun, <b>Vice Chair</b>	X	—
Sen. Ashley Caterina, <b>SAC Chair</b>	X	—
Sen. Jud Cease, <b>Chair</b>	X	—
Sen. John Jackson	X	—
Sen. Elizabeth Martin, <b>Clerk</b>	A – Excused	—
Sen. Jasmine Miller	X	—
Sen. James Peadbody-Harrington	X	—
Sen. Ashley Rose, <b>Treasurer</b>	X	—
Sen. Joshua Tharpe, <b>Parliamentarian</b>	A – Excused	—
Sen. David Sanok	X	—
Sen. Matt Wilkinson	X	—
Sen. Caitlyn Willett	X	—

- Motion by Sen. Caterina to wave office hour requirement due to snow days and hazardous travel conditions this week. Seconded by Sen. Rose.

**Vote:** Unanimous in favor

III. **Introductions**

IV. **Approval of Minutes**

*Minutes approved by consensus.*

Motion by Sen. Rose to excuse Sens. Bishop, Tharpe, and Martin. Seconded by Sen. Jackson.

**Vote:** Unanimous in favor.

**Report by Chris Quint, USM Executive Director of Public Affairs:**

Addressing senators' concerns about snow-related cancellations. Wednesday, day after blizzard, USM opened at 4pm. Made that decision based on the fact that many Wednesday night classes are once-a-week and thought it was unacceptable for students to miss that much class time. Bring concerns to me about these things, though.

([chris.quint@maine.edu](mailto:chris.quint@maine.edu))

*Speaker yields for a comment on the subject.*

Sen. Wilkinson: Fourth floor of parking garage often still blocked off day after snow day. Very small amount of parking available even on a normal day. Having an entire floor of the garage inaccessible makes parking even more difficult.

*Senator yields back to Director Quint*

Surprised to hear about that situation and will look into it.

Thanks Senate for prior resolution passed calling for more marketing money. Now have \$1 million in budget. Putting up banner at airport now, ads will be run on major TV networks, cable, radio, and online presence will be substantially increased. This is a massive ad buy.

System has invested \$1 million into scholarship program too. Geared toward recruitment and also retention. We want people to be able to afford to stay. If you hear anyone saying they can't afford to come back, let them know about these options, please. Program will be announced to the public on the 9<sup>th</sup>.

Thanks Senate again for bringing issue up to the Board of Trustees. The System listened. Give us feedback too when you see the ads. Want feedback. Didn't have time to run focus groups, as the windfall was unexpected, but we want to know whether they're effective. Ad campaign also starting Monday, the 9<sup>th</sup>.

*Speaker yields to questions and comments.*

Sen. Bahun reports stairs outside Masterton Hall were covered in inches of ice after recent storms and he witnessed three people fall while attempting to scale them, even while clinging to railings on the way up.

Sen. Wilkinson reports parking garage stairs are dangerously slippery after any storm due to lack of traction strips on smooth concrete stairs.

Sen. Bahun asks how USM can address inequitable distribution of funds from System. Orono gets much more money than USM from System.

Director Quint: Formula changed recently but had not been before that since the 60's. USM graduates more people percentage-wise than any other school in the system. New formula will benefit us. Could still go further, though. Please convey thoughts to Board of Trustees. Legislature doesn't control funding formula. It is up to the Board. Pres. Flanagan has been advocating for a change in funding formula since 1990. Board needs student input too. Orono is able to advertise as much as they do because they get so much

money from the System. Most of USM's allocation goes directly to operating costs. Not as much left over for marketing.

*Sen. Jackson asks whether new ads target in-state or out-of-state areas.*

Targetting in-state, but not doing all we can. For example, UNH is winning the York County battle, by a lot. USM trying to target there and also Portland-area schools.

Also focusing on North Shore MA. Recruitment efforts there and in southern/seacoast NH are very successful. Heavy cable buys down there. Network buys too expensive. Running ads in newspapers too. Prospective out-of-state students the most valuable people to target due to the higher tuition rates they pay upon enrollment. Some targetting toward eastern CT as well.

*Sen. Bahun asks how metropolitan university model fits into marketing campaign.*

Cost and location are both big selling points for USM. Cheaper than most universities in northeast, certainly in Maine. In-state yearly tuition of about \$8000. Out-of-state under \$20,000. New scholarship program reinforcing this notion. Ads heavily focused on appeal of Portland as a location too. Targetting media outlets with stories about specifics—programs, etc., things like STEM, Music, Business School, Risk Management Program. Many partnerships with community businesses. Students getting real-world experience. Help prepare them for life after graduation.

Working with Texas Instruments, Mercy Hospital, among others. Spokespeople from these companies and others willing to go out and speak in favor of people coming to USM.

Just got the \$1 million for marketing. Not much time to prepare campaign to get students here for fall. Need to get ads out quickly.

Wednesday of next week: Faculty nominated five faculty members to be head of new incarnation of Metropolitan University Steering Group. Need students, 2-3 to serve on group as well. Put the word out. Serious, hands-on position, nominate passionate people. Send me suggestions. ([chris.quint@maine.edu](mailto:chris.quint@maine.edu))

**Legislative:** Legislature in session now, bills: USM bi-annual budget request: \$3.4 million first year, \$3.8 the next. Governor approved 1.7% increase over base rate in our funding. Good first step. Only area that got increased funding in state. First increase in funding from state in 5 or 6 years. Good, but really only keeping up with inflation, so still need more. Talk to all southern Maine legislators, not just your own.

Two bills submitted to undo changes made here last fall. \$16 million cut and terminated faculty/staff. Mayor Brennan requesting \$2 million from state for marketing for USM.

State Senator Alfond submitted that request as a bill.

Another bill is being submitted based on New York model of providing capital to startups. Startups could access funds from state but would have to partner for 5 years with a public university. Strengthens ties with community. Thriving startup community in Portland. University has space to lend to startups. Both high and low-tech businesses.

V. **Executive Committee**

Met at noon. No notable business.

VI. **Constitutional Review Committee**

Chair absent. Sen. Jackson reports nothing currently on committee agenda.

VII. **Finance Committee**

Total of \$45,663.80 unallocated. Second semester Student Activity Fee check will come in within the next 10 days. Two financial proposals on agenda today.

VIII. **Student Affairs Committee**

Didn't meet this week due to snow-related cancellation on Monday. During previous meeting, students assigned centers to communicate with.

IX. **Public Relations Committee**

Chair absent. Committee reportedly working on creating poster about Senate to hang up around campuses.

X. **Clerk**

Chair absent. No report.

XI. **Student Body President**

Enjoyed meeting presidential candidate Sartarelli and his wife. Both from West Virginia. Looking forward to meeting other two candidates. Will meet with university CFO next week. CFO very insistent about having a meeting, but will not reveal topic. An update will be forthcoming once information is known after meeting is held.

Looking for student member of committee looking to better utilize space on campus. Contact Kyle Frazier.

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

Representative absent. Submitted written report:

Board meeting last week. Voted to divest from coal investments throughout University of Maine System. Also vote to approve use of wood pellets as the primary energy source at UMF, retaining liquid propane as a backup source.

Board gave permission for USM to take out \$3 million internal university loan to replace the Central Heat Plant on the Portland campus. Three finalists for position of USM President have been selected, but student input is needed to ensure the best candidate prevails. The USM Presidential Search Committee will be receptive and responsive to student input regarding them.

## **XIII. SGA Grad Assistant**

Had planned to wrap up discussion about leadership retreat help two weeks ago after meeting today, but pushing it off until next week instead due to amount of business on agenda. Expect it to take about an hour. Email comments ahead of time to Noah if desired.

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

Sen. Wilkinson:

- BSO has \$1680 remaining in Special Projects account, \$3500 in GOB.

Sen. Abdulkadir:

- Concerns from Multicultural Center and CSGD: Some students not feeling safe in classes because professors are not using their desired gender pronouns when addressing them. Suggests professors should be required to address certain issues specifically at the start of classes every semester—e.g. Professor should be required to ask all students which gender pronoun they wish to be referred to by on first class day.
- **Matter referred to Student Affairs Committee**

## **XVI. Unfinished Business**

- Proposal 43-35 Constitutional Review Committee – Sponsor: Senator Bishop  
*Motion to approve funding for Kappa Delta Phi to attend a convention.*

**Vote:** 7 in favor, 0 opposed, 3 abstaining.

**Outcome:** Funding approved.

- Proposal 43-36 Finance Committee – Sponsor: Senator Bishop  
*Motion to approve funding for SGA t-shirts.*

Motion to postpone until next meeting by Sen. Caterina.  
Seconded by Sen. Rose.

**Vote:** 9 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstaining.

**Outcome:** Proposal postponed until next meeting.

- Proposal 43-37 Constitutional Review Committee – Sponsor: Senator Peabody-Harrington  
*Motion to change the entity name of GEB to G-CAB.*

- Motion to suspend the rules and to allow for an amendment to SGA constitution.  
**Vote:** 8 in favor, 1 opposed, 1 abstaining.

- Motion to amend SGA constitution to reflect GEB name change in the event that the main motion passes.  
**Vote:** 7 in favor, 1 opposed, 2 abstaining.

**Vote on main motion:** 7 in favor, 1 opposed, 2 abstaining.

**Outcome:** “Gorham Events Board” name changed to “Gorham Campus Activities Board” in both the entity's constitution and the SGA Constitution.

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## XVII. New Business

Proposal 43-38 Finance Committee – Sponsor: Sen. Bishop  
*Motion to approve funding for Enactus*

## XVIII. Former Concerns Update

## XIX. Concerns

- Get involved in new president selection.
- BSO almost out of money.

**XX. Announcements**

- Next presidential candidate luncheon on Monday. Get in touch with Megean Bourgeois for place and time.
- Hockey game tonight. Second-to-last of season.
- Student Affairs Committee members should attend presidential luncheon in lieu of attending meeting.
- Fashion Show auditions today.
- Capoeira class, Thursdays at 6:45, Sullivan Gym.

Motion by Sen. Caterina to appoint Delanie Rouleau to the Senate. Seconded by Sen. Bahun.

**Vote:** Unanimous in favor.

**Outcome:** Delanie Rouleau appointed to Student Senate.

**XXI. Adjournment at 2:44pm.**