

**General Body Meeting - Thursday, May 7th, 2018
Student Center, Hilberry A/B - 6:00 PM**

Presiding: Abdul Harris, President

1. Call to order: 6:00pm
2. Roll call

[x]  Abdul Harris [x]  Alice Santana

[ ]  Dalia Ibrahim [x]  Jabed Khan

[x]  Rexhinaldo Nazarko [x]  Abid Imam

[x]  Anchita Sanam [x]  Ryan Laith

[x]  Mazen Zamzam [x]  Courtney Mansoor

[x]  Stuart Baum [x]  Theodora ziai

[x]  Paul Jones III [x]  Kenan Sinan

[x]  Ajanta Dutta [x]  Abraham Husseini

[x]  Reshma Gadde [x]  Mignon Lott

[x]  Trina Schulz [ ]  Cameron Sanders

[x]  Ali Fakih [x]  Riya Chhabra

[x]  Bilal Hammoud [x]  Marcella Eid

[x] Hussein Bazzi

1. Approval of the agenda
	1. Moved: Abdul
	2. Second: Ajanta
	3. Agenda Approved
2. Approval of the minutes
	1. Moved: Rexhinaldo
	2. Second: Mazen
	3. Minutes Approved
3. Gallery announcements/comments
	1. Aaron-The BoG proposed a 2.9% increase in Medical School tuition, and we tried very hard for them not to increase tuition especially with the tuition freeze program in place. The main things they are looking at is the metrics. Another thing worth noting was that the medical school used to have 70% in state and 30% out of state enrollment however they are moving 60% in state, 40% out of state students in the future. This is something very debatable and we will be looking at it in the future.
4. Business
	1. Committee Appointments
		1. Abdul-For Academic Affairs we have Ryan as delegate, and Mignon as the alternate. Budget and Finance- Anchita (Delegate) and Mazen (Alternate), Student Affairs- Stuart (Delegate) and Ajanta (Alternate), Personal-Kenan (Delegate) & Bilal (Alternate).
		2. Academic Senate Research-Abdul Harris
		3. Budget Planning Council-Mazen
		4. SAFB-Anchita, Abid and Dalia.
		5. Accessibility Committee-Paul (Delegate), Ryan (Alternate)
	2. Jeff Bolton, Senior Director University Budget
		1. Jeff-Thank you all for having us, as this is a very important time for us right now. I would like to spend sometime going over what goes in and goes out of the university. We have about 645 million every year for our entire budget in the University. The budget book goes in much more depth about our budget which is on our website. The General fund is unrestricted dollars which the University can use (645) which is used from Tuition and fees, State appropriations, as well as the Indirect cost recovery which is a way which rewards many professors for having many grants in their research and other achievements. Designated fund is from the donors mainly, and we set specific parameters for how these funds are going to be used. Restricted fund-for example parking because they bring in their own revenues, and do not get university subsidy. Self-Supporting they bring in revenue and use it on their specific projects.In FY 2001 2/3 of our general fund came from the State, while now only 1/3 comes from the state. The cost of higher ed has remained constant throughout these years, but state funding has been the one that has gone down. Higher Ed has become much lower funded now. 200 million from the state. In FY 2012 There was a major loss (15%) in the state funding due to the recession making WSU lose about 32.1 million in the University Budget. From then on, they developed a new formula called performance funding which looks at the 6 different metrics. We look at specific metrics such as: Undergrad completion, Research expenditures, Six-year graduation, total degrees, institution support, and percentage of students receiving the Pell grant. Governor had then put the same amount of the dollar value of FY 2011. If the Governor’s proposal for this year actually passes we will still not be at the same level that we will be on, due to the fact that graduate degrees still do not count. Expenditures, 2/3 of dollars come through tuition, 1/3 through state. We use 65% of our money on compensation due to part time & fulltime faculty. 17% go to operative services such as professional development. 11% Financial aid, and 7% to new facilities. Expenditures for the most part have stayed constant over the past few years. For the state Michigan in FY 2001 had a budget of 9.7 billion while in FY 2018 it is now 10.04 billion which is not a big difference for 17 years. Higher education has actually dropped about 8% and we lost money actually this is why tuition increases mainly.
			1. Mignon-Is this a trend which stays around or is it Michigan Exclusive?
				1. Jeff-Not an MI exclusive but I would say that MI is on the higher end of state funding in terms of State Funding. The recession/cuts in 2011 definitely had a major impact on everyone nationwide.
			2. Abdul-If they include the Graduate Programs in the metrics how much would this increase the budget?
				1. Jeff-We have done some math it would be roughly around 5 million, however we have recently gotten Pell to be a part of this calculation. Something where WSU does very well in. Since WSU does a lot better in research we are classified as a Carnegie, and it helps increase our state budget substantially. Our main source of money outside of tuition is these appropriations.
			3. Ryan-If Pres. Wilson said we need to make cuts, where would you cut?
				1. Jeff-There is only so much you can do in terms of bringing in your budget and not having any budget reductions. We are looking at it right now as an academic enterprise, and we look at all the colleges and perhaps cut against all divisions and all schools and colleges nearly about 1%. Something which stays constant throughout the board.
		2. Jeff-The Budget and Planning council is made of the CFO, and the Provost and various faculty as well as 2 students. We have many budget hearings for every college/division throughout the year which tell us what they used their money on, and what their intentions are in the future. Different revenue locations throughout the year and the governor’s, house’s, and the state’s appropriations. 7/8 of our faculty here are union so they are entitled to an increase in salaries every year. So all of these are things which we are obligated to budget for and to put money towards them. We compare all our new revenues to our new expenditures and use all of this to plan our budget and allocate it accordingly.
			1. Stuart-I know there was a discussion last year about changing when our fiscal year starts, where are we in that process?
				1. Jeff-Ideally it would be nice, it may be annoying but however it has not made a major impact so it wouldn’t be changed.
			2. Ryan-Will there be an increase of tuition?
				1. Jeff-Yes, I do not want to share this amount at the time for that it has not been voted on at the time, however this will be much lower than the cap. Compared to many other Universities we are much lower than the cap. We will go the board on June 8th and get our budget as well as the tuition voted on. However, all indicators point that we are in much better shape.
			3. Stuart-One of the most attainable things from lobby day was to retain the 15% cut from the budget, how likely is this?
				1. Jeff-We still will not cross our threshold from FY 2011, while Michigan and MSU will. We still will not however in the near future this can be something which could be attainable. As we are looking at the 3 proposals I mentioned earlier with the Governor’s, Senate’s, and House’s.
			4. Mazen-For title 9 would be meeting these requirements in our money if we are affected by the 10% decrease from the House?
				1. Jeff-I would say we meet many of these requirements already, or at least are working towards it. We have money allocated towards title 9 expenses including hiring a director for the upcoming year.
			5. Abe- Previously you mentioned for Michigan, MSU you said that we are not at receiving the same amount of funding, what of the metrics are due to this?
				1. Jeff-Previously I would say that the 6-year graduation rate had been lacking however it has definitely increased in due to the great work of the Provost’s office. Another factor would be the amount of population, compared to U of M, MSU we are a smaller university so it is expected for us to have a smaller population yet we are still being compared to them.
			6. Abdul-How hard do you see these lobbyists pulling to improve these budget appropriations?
				1. Jeff-We have 2 lobbyists in Lansing actually and we have been working a lot to improve our metrics. Something which has been done in the past was to include the Pell grant since 54% of our students receive Pell which make us an increase in our budget.
			7. Abdul-Do you see any new expenditures to benefit students?
				1. Jeff-There are many things such as union contracts, debt services, and that covers the primary increase necessary. There will also be a very large increase in financial aid, which definitely will benefit the students. Parking rates will also stay the same as last year, with the lowered parking pass prices
			8. Abdul-Will there be any re-shaping of the union contracts?
				1. Jeff-Yes, we have about 10 different unions on campus and we have definitely tried to reshape them. We are working with unions as they come up. It is a lengthy process but it would definitely decrease the tuition increase.
5. Reports and updates
6. Stuart- I was at the BoG meeting for Student Affairs, and Dr. Brockmeyer presented. She presented about retaining graduation students in student success. It wanted to tie the student success and student services, she wanted to find a specific correlation between the health as well as the amount of credits which students take. In a world where state funding has decreased, we cannot make more money just by having more students. The best growth which the have is from retaining yet graduation. It was also heavily debated regarding the increase in need based aid and decrease in the merit based. The guide app was created and will be promoted in the fall for everyone.
7. Ryan-Last Thursday the BoG met for the Academic Affairs met. There was an information meeting, talking about how they had 110 more course fees. There was 52 last year compared to 110 more course fees.
8. DS-Jeff Bolton was talking about the title 9 director, it is actually Brandy Banks which will be leaving my office and becoming the new title 9 director. I suggested to Abdul to have a senator present in the process when we are cleaning up the accounts for the different student organizations. There is non general fund money, and non-auxiliary money as well. It is taking at the minimum 7-10 days for an org. to take money out of the agency account and you also must have a W9 on file to get your money which makes it a very tedious process. Student orgs must pay via agency accounts by IRB, which makes this an extremely hard and tedious process with the Student Center and DOSO. Andrea Gerber talked with the manager of the MI Credit Union, and asked her if they would be willing to have accounts with them. Brian told her that they already do this. The Student Center then agreed and made this situation much easier and thus making this process much easier with Credit, Cash, and Check. This would make it much more convenient so there would be no more agency accounts. This works much better which teaches financial responsibility, as well as it becomes much more easier for the direct billing. We will be going to direct billing and we will only get a statement twice a month. Which makes us pay however we like and it will make us easier.
	1. Stuart-Does MI Credit Union charge any fees? If possible could there be some sort of negotiation.
		1. Bilal-We closed our agency account and started they opened one on MI credit union. It is actually a $100 fee.
	2. Abe-For Direct Billing, how will you monitor the students?
		1. DS-Direct Billing is compared to any other student orgs. With direct billing student orgs do not need any more IRBS or agency accounts and can go into and pay via cash, credit, or checks. If an org may receive funding from SAFB, even then we will get direct billed and they get the money. Which makes it much easier and has us not have that much paper involved and within the process and makes it much faster. Direct Billing is mainly for the SAFB groups which makes it much faster. It can also serve as some petty cash reimbursements although DOSO does not like to use cash as much for that it is much cleaner.
	3. Rex-Does all the SAFB money get used?
		1. DS-This year only 50% of the money has been used and although it rolls overs I would have liked to have more funding, more groups, and we will make this much more easier to spend the money. Ryan Mitchell my new SAFB coordinator, will be working on this.
	4. Ryan-Can the allocations be different for food for SAFB?
		1. DS-It is $250 per year once a year for every group. The budgets have been very broad and groups have definitely changed. It is definitely possible however, I would recommend a senator who sits on SAFB to make it recommended. Tim Michael and I are also making the food requirements less strict through the Student Center, since the food inspection had been very tedious in the past. It is not an issue of food inspection, but rather the management.
	5. Jabed-Can it count for anything off campus?
		1. DS-The event must be on campus, and must be free, and also must be open for the public. The Community Arts Auditorium is very common to be used within our funding.
9. Announcements:
10. Mazen-Just an update for any new senators that reports are very important. So if you have anything to report on please send me a report on what you have to say 24 hours before the GBM. There is a template on Blackboard for how you format your reports as well.
11. Adjournment: 7:56