The regular weekly meeting of Dakota State University’s Student Association Senate was held on Wednesday, January 16, 2019 at 8:01pm in the Regents room.

Senator Harmer motioned to amend the minutes to strike “Dr. Cody Welu” and replace it with “Professor Cody Welu”. Senator Alholinna seconded. The motion passed. Senator Harmer motioned to approve the minutes. Senator Alholinna seconded. The motion passed.

Senator Garippo motioned to amend the agenda to include SB41 and HB1007 to New Business. Senator Harmer seconded. The motion passed. College of Arts and Sciences Representative Guillory motioned to add Diversity Committee under Committees. Senator Harmer seconded. The motion passed. Vice President Johnson motioned to approve the agenda. PR Chair Lucas seconded. The motion passed.

Administrative Assistant Oeltjenbruns reported that she got the updated plaques for the Senator of the Year Plaque. She just has to clean the plaque and put them on. She is also working on the purchasing some of the items from the comment sheet in the Senate office.

PR Chair Lucas reported that he kept the SRO approval tracker and website up to date over winter break. The new banner was hung up in the Senate office. The PR Committee has drawn up some business card designs and is ready to print them if they are approved. The new meeting time for PR Committee is on Fridays at 12pm. The meetings are biweekly. A goal of the committee is to follow through on larger projects, such as renting out the Madison movie theater, this semester. College representatives are asked to send any information on events going on in their respective colleges to PR Chair Lucas for the monthly newsletter.

Vice President Johnson reported that he and President Williams had a conference call with the Student Federation on Sunday. The Senate budget has been updated and will be presented next week.

President Williams reported that he will be attending the Alumni Board meeting this weekend. There is also an alumni event tomorrow in Sioux Falls at The Sandbar and Grill. He also emailed ITS and asked about upgrading the Senate’s Slack
plan. They suggested the Senate try Microsoft Teams. Otherwise, there shouldn’t be any issues upgrading the Slack plan and he would just have to meet with the Business Office. The cost of the upgraded Slack plan would be about nine dollars per person per year with the education discount. An email will be sent out to DSU President Griffiths inviting her to attend a Senate meeting during the month of February. Emails were also sent out to South Dakota legislators. Most of them responded positively and would be willing to meet at SHED or take a phone call. SHED Days will be happening on February 10 and 11. 

The Faculty Advisor reported that a group of employees came forward with the intent to start a food and hygiene product pantry. It will take about a semester to get the pantry up and running. Vice President Johnson appointed Senator Garippo to Food Pantry Committee. PR Chair Lucas seconded. The motion passed. Vice President Johnson will reach out to the committee chair to let them know a Student Senator will be joining them. The Campus Watch Program started on January 8. It was well-received and other universities have contacted the Faculty Advisor and Officer Abraham asking for assistance in starting their own programs. An email will be sent out to students tomorrow about active shooter training. Four sessions will be offered on January 23 and 24 at 3pm and 7pm. President Griffiths asked for a proposal about hosting a Super Bowl party on campus in conjunction with Residence Life. There is talk of hosting the party in the Beacom. The DSU Esports team is being pushed out this fall. As a result, the team needs a room to practice in. After lengthy discussion and the President’s input, it was decided the best room to host the team is the Regents Room. Senator Harmer made the comment that the Regents Room would only be a temporary training facility for the team until the new athletics complex is built. MadLabs will have a conference room that could host Senate meetings. There are also plans to improve the Alumni Room. There will be more discussion next week.

College of Arts and Sciences Representative Guillory reported that Dean Jones is away serving as the interim Secretary of Education for South Dakota. She will meet with the interim dean Dr. Judy Dittmann next month.

Graduate College Representative Bolt reported that several intent-to-plans were submitted to BOR. These intent-to-plans include a bachelor’s and master’s degree in Software Engineering, PhD in Cyber Defense, PhD in Computer Science, and a master’s degree in Athletic Administration. The Higher Learning Commission gave DSU Graduate programs good reviews.
The Constitutional Revision Committee reported they met and reviewed comments left on Constitution amendments during the comment period.

SRO Audit Committee reported that four percent of SROs are approved, 23 percent need to be approved by Senate, 35 percent need to finish their Constitutions, 15 percent are working on their applications, and 23 percent have decided not to move forward. Amanda Parpart sent out an email to all the SROs telling them she was no longer a part of the funding process. The deadline for SRO funding approval is quickly approaching. The finance document is completed and will be sent to SROs after they are approved by Senate.

Concealed Carry Committee reported they are scheduling a meeting time. They will be discussing the questions in the FED report and working on the survey.

Student Federation Response Committee reported they appointed BCCCS Representative Vertullo as their chair. They are also scheduling a meeting time. They are working to get recommendations to Senate and hope to be done before SHED.

The Banner Committee reported that they are dealing with a lot of issues; BOR is behind schedule and is working to get back on track.

The Barrier Free Learning Committee reviewed official policy and saw that it stated “Student Representative” rather than “Senator”. The issue was resolved. The committee also wanted to approach professors on how to better work with students with disabilities such as recording shorter lecture videos. They are also planning a walk around campus with maintenance to address issues. Any barriers should be reported to Senator Harmer.

The Diversity Committee reported that they are working to improve the website and make it more accurate. The International Club is having a potluck on January 30. The DSU Alliance was honored at the Sioux Falls Pride Gala. There is also a showing of The Black Klansman on Monday in the library.

The Facilities Director attended the Senate meeting. He reported that MadLabs construction is coming along well. It should be completed in August and accredited in September. The new dorm location will be on 9th Street and Washington Ave. The location is currently a parking lot. He also reported that the St. Thomas building has been acquired and will be converted into residences. They are working with Residence Life to find the target population for the building. He addressed the issue of 24/7 enforced parking rules on campus. He said the rules were created to prevent parking in the President’s spot over the weekend. Students will be notified of snow
removal or if parking in red spots over the weekend is not allowed. Parking Pass fees may be increased by one percent. Parking for MadLabs employees will be on Egan Ave. and a barrier of some kind will be created to separate student parking from employee parking. The newly installed parking lot lights work, and a grant was received for new lights in the TC and other spots around campus.

Photography Club approached the Senate to be granted approval and become an SRO. Senator Harmer motioned to approve Photography Club as an SRO. PR Chair Lucas seconded. The motion passed.

NASA Club approached the Senate to be granted approval and become an SRO. Senator Harmer motioned to approve NASA Club as an SRO. Graduate College Representative Bolt seconded. The motion passed.

SEDS Club approached the Senate to be granted approval and become an SRO. Senator Harmer motioned to approve SEDS Club as an SRO. Senator Larsen seconded. The motion passed.

Anime Club approached the Senate to be granted approval and become an SRO. Senator Harmer motioned to approve Anime Club as an SRO. PR Chair Lucas seconded. The motion passed.

World Languages Club approached the Senate to be granted approval and become an SRO. Senator Harmer motioned to approve World Languages Club as an SRO. PR Chair Lucas seconded. The motion passed.

PBL approached the Senate to be granted approval and become an SRO. Vice President Johnson motioned to approve PBL as an SRO. PR Chair Lucas seconded. The motion passed.

Photography Club presented to the Senate about their club.

Anime Club presented to the Senate about their club.

World Languages Club presented to the Senate about their club.

NASA Club presented to the Senate about their club.

BCCCS Representative Vertullo motioned to take a five-minute recess. Senator Van Driel seconded. The motion passed. The meeting was held for recess at 10:02pm. The meeting reconvened at 10:07pm.
A Student Federation meeting was held over the phone on Sunday. Phone calls with BOR will be held every Friday during Legislative session. The FED Director is reaching out to lobbyists. The Federal Department of Education wants to revise Title IX wording. This concerned FED since BOR tried to make a similar change. Currently, there is no resolution going through the Senate. A response letter is being drafted and will be voted on by FED. There was also discussion over hosting a breakfast or dinner for legislators during SHED. The FED Director reported that it isn’t “financially feasible” to host a breakfast. Official numbers for catering and renting a room will hopefully arrive next week. The South Dakota School of Mines and Technology released the questions they asked for their concealed carry survey to FED. These questions were then given to the Concealed Carry Committee. President Williams asked for the exact salaries of other universities’ executive councils. The FED Chair set a deadline for directors to give President Williams the information.

SB41 was discussed. The bill allows for bond kickbacks to be sent back to BOR instead of the state government. This only applies to student and private funds. BOR estimates $1.5 million saved. FED may be urged to vote on the bill.

HB1007 was discussed. This bill removes the 12-month residency requirement for veteran students. It allows out-of-state veterans to receive in-state tuition. There is hope it will persuade veterans to come to DSU.

Senator Harmer motioned to move amendment 18-01-C SRO Funding Committee to final disposition. Administrative Assistant Oeltjenbruns seconded. The motion passed 13-0. Senator Harmer motioned to declare an emergency on this amendment to place it into effect immediately. Vice President Johnson seconded. The motion passed. Senator Harmer motioned to move bylaw amendment 18-01-B SRO Funding Committee Composition to final disposition. Vice President Johnson seconded. The motion passed 8-5. Senator Harmer motioned to declare an emergency on this bylaw amendment to place it into effect immediately. Administrative Assistant Oeltjenbruns seconded. The motion passed.

Senator Harmer motioned to move amendment 18-02-C Student Federation Resolution Changes to final disposition. Vice President Johnson seconded. The motion passed 13-0. Senator Harmer motioned to declare an emergency on this amendment to place it into effect immediately. Administrative Assistant Oeltjenbruns seconded. The motion passed.
Senator Harmer motioned to move amendment 18-03-C Grammar Changes to final disposition. Administrative Assistant Oeltjenbruns seconded. The motion passed 13-0.

Senator Harmer motioned to move amendment 18-04-C Finance Chair to final disposition. Administrative Assistant Oeltjenbruns seconded. The motion passed 13-0. Senator Harmer motioned to move bylaw amendment 18-02-B Finance Committee to final disposition. Administrative Assistant Oeltjenbruns seconded. The motion passed 11-2.

Senator Harmer motioned to move amendment 18-05-C Vice President to final disposition. Vice President Johnson seconded. The motion passed 9-0. Vice President Johnson motioned to move bylaw amendment 18-04-B Vice President Duties to final disposition. Senator Harmer seconded. The motion passed 10-3.

Vice President Johnson motioned to move amendment 18-06-C Bylaw Submission Timeframe to final disposition. Administrative Assistant Oeltjenbruns seconded. The motion passed 13-0.

Vice President Johnson motioned to move amendment 18-07-C Disposition Clarification to final disposition. PR Chair Lucas seconded. The motion passed 13-0.

Senator Garippo motioned to move amendment 18-08-C Purpose Clarification to final disposition. PR Chair Lucas seconded. The motion passed 13-0.

Vice President Johnson motioned to move amendment 18-09-C Minutes Clarification to final disposition. Senator Harmer seconded. The motion passed 13-0. Senator Alholinna motioned to declare an emergency on this amendment to place it into effect immediately. Senator Garippo seconded. The motion passed.

BCCCS Representative Vertullo motioned to move amendment 18-10-C Single Legislature to final disposition. Senator Harmer seconded. The motion passed 13-0.

Senator Harmer motioned to amend amendment 18-11-C Duties to say “GS100 or equivalent”. Senator Van Driel seconded. The motion passed. BCCCS Representative Vertullo motioned to amend this amendment to say “GS100 or equivalent if possible”. No second. Senator Harmer motioned to move this amendment to final disposition. Administrative Assistant Oeltjenbruns seconded. The motion passed 13-0.
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Senator Harmer motioned to move amendment 18-12-C One Matter to final disposition. Administrative Assistant Oeltjenbruns seconded. The motion passed 12-0.

College of Arts and Sciences Representative Guillory motioned to move amendment 18-13-C Bylaw Amendment Phrasing to final disposition. Senator Harmer seconded. The motion passed 12-0.

Vice President Johnson motioned to move amendment 18-14-C Constitution Revision Phrasing to final disposition. Administrative Assistant Oeltjenbruns seconded. The motion passed 13-0.

Vice President Johnson motioned to move amendment 18-15-C Chief of Staff to final disposition. Administrative Assistant Oeltjenbruns seconded. The motion failed 4-7. PR Chair Lucas motioned to move bylaw amendment 18-05-B Chief of Staff to final disposition. Vice President Johnson seconded. The motion failed 1-12.

Vice President Johnson motioned to move amendment 18-16-C Multiple Offices to final disposition. Administrative Assistant Oeltjenbruns seconded. The motion passed 12-0.

Senator Garipp motioned to move amendment 18-17-C Senate Budget to final disposition. PR Chair Lucas seconded. The motion passed 10-0.

Senator Garipp motioned to move amendment 18-18-C Communications Director to final disposition. Vice President Johnson seconded. The motion failed 5-6.

Vice President Johnson motioned to move amendment 18-03-B Autonomy Clause to final disposition. Senator Bigger seconded. The motion passed 12-1.

The next meeting is on January 23, 2018.

BCCCS Representative Vertullo motioned to adjourn the meeting. Senator Van Driel seconded. The meeting adjourned at 11:46pm.