The regular weekly meeting of Dakota State University’s Student Association Senate was held on Wednesday, October 31, 2018 at 8:00 pm in the Regents room.

PR Chair Lucas motioned to approve minutes. Vice President Johnson seconded. The motion passed.

Senator Harmer motioned to amend the Agenda to add the issue of the library parking lot closure to new business. Vice President Johnson seconded. The motion passed.

The International Club asked the Student Senate to cover half the cost of a bowling night to be held during International Week. It was determined that there was enough funds available in the general fund and the bowling night would be attended by a large number of students. Senator Garippo motioned to approve $404 from the general budget be allocated to the International Club bowling night event. PR Chair Lucas seconded. The motion passed.

Administrative Assistant Oeltjenbruns introduced the new Recording Secretary Rayanne Liester and reported that Senators’ office hours were better distributed throughout the past month. Senator Van Driel had the most office hours for October.

Vice President Johnson reported that he had received an email from a South Dakota School of Mines and Technology Student Senator about our process in allocating funds.

President Williams mentioned that there had been issues adding Senators to the Senate office door and also discussed the email received from the South Dakota School of Mines and Technology Student Senator.

The Faculty Advisor reported on the new housing project. He met with the architects last week and received survey responses from students. He hopes to give the Board of Regents the paperwork in December, break ground in the spring or summer of 2019, and open in the fall of 2020.
College of Arts and Sciences Representative Guillory met with Dr. Jones and expressed concerns with the upcoming changes to freedom of speech and expression with the Board of Regents. The lack of tutoring and support for Digital Arts and Design majors was addressed. Dr. Jones is working to open tutoring positions for that.

Beacom College of Computer and Cyber Sciences (BCCCS) Representative Vertullo reported talks for a Computer Science Doctorate, a Bachelor’s Degree in Software Development, and partnering with the University of South Dakota to offer a Bachelor’s Degree in Cyber Law. The Collegiate Penetration Testing Competition Team is traveling to New York this weekend to compete in the national competition. Phone interviews are continuing for faculty candidates. Renovations for the first floor of East Hall are being discussed. MadLabs construction is continuing. They are also looking into partnering with the Sioux Falls high schools to create Computer Science Academies.

Graduate College Representative Bolt reported that Graduate students are submitting proposals for research projects. They are also participating in a major marketing campaign using Google Ads. There have also been requests for new courses, program modifications, and proposals. They are also working with the Computer Club to put on an information session on the Graduate programs at DSU.

PR Committee has decided to push the deadline for the poster outreach project back a few weeks. They are working with the College of Arts and Sciences Representative to get in touch with Arts and Sciences faculty and Art Club. They are working on getting the banner hung and creating new slogans for the Student Senate. They plan to go to the Beacom GS100s next week to inform freshmen on the Student Senate. There is also talks of giving each Senator individualized business cards. They also discussed planning a Student Senate sponsored movie night, renting a bouncy castle, or planning an indoor laser tag event. PR Committee welcomed new Senators Larsen and Guillory. Senator Harmer motioned to resign from PR Committee and have Senator Larsen take the position. Vice President Johnson approved the resignation and nomination. PR Chair Lucas motioned to approve the nomination. Vice President Johnson seconded. The motion passed.

SRO Audit Committee reported that today was the deadline for web club listings and SRO applications. The Esports Club turned in an application. PR Chair Lucas will submit listing changes on Friday. Senator Harmer and PR Chair Lucas are working on the new GAF page. They also reported on the email received by the South Dakota School of Mines and Technology Student Senator. They are planning on setting up a phone call with them.
The Parking Committee reported they added one of the librarians as a member to the committee. They will be discussing the official definition for the refunding clause more in-depth at the next meeting.

President Williams and Vice President Johnson recapped the HLC meeting. They reported that the meetings seemed relaxed and displayed positive signs. There were some concerns over diversity and the representation of online students in the Student Senate. More information will come out in 4 weeks.

There was discussion on registering a student to be a lobbyist for DSU at the South Dakota Legislative Session. It was agreed upon to take reactive approach. Senators are advised to pay attention to bills that may affect DSU or college students as a whole and work with FED. If FED is unable to reach a unanimous decision, it may then be decided if a lobbyist is needed. Dr. Griffiths should also be informed of any updates in the situation.

The Faculty Advisor discussed the issue of providing prizes as an incentive to students to fill out surveys. There is concern that students will not fill out important surveys unless there is an incentive. There is currently no institutional or Board of Regents policy for or against incentivized surveys. This discussion may be continued on a later date.

Senator Harmer reported that students were uninformed of the closure of the library parking lot on Tuesday, as an email was never sent to the students. Parking Committee will handle the issue.

Senator Harmer, PR Chair Lucas, and Senator Alholinna met with the new Board of Regents Director Dr. Beran. They reported a positive experience and felt he was aware of issues faced by DSU and politically unbiased.

This was the final meeting for Faculty Advisor Garstecki. Graduate College Representative Bolt, PR Chair Lucas, Vice President Johnson, and President Williams all shared their experiences with the Faculty Advisor and wished him the best. The Student Senate presented the Faculty Advisor with a few gifts. The Faculty Advisor thanked the Student Senate for the rewarding experience.

The next meeting is on November 7th, 2018.

PR Chair Lucas motioned to adjourn the meeting. Senator Van Driel seconded. The motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 9:18pm.