The regular weekly meeting of Dakota State University’s Student Association Senate was held on Wednesday, February 13, 2019 at 8:01pm in the Regents room.

Graduate College Representative Bolt motioned to approve the minutes. Vice President Johnson seconded. The motion passed.


Tim Sereda and other students came to discuss the lack of water bottle filling stations on the water fountains in Emry Hall. He pointed out that all the other residence halls and the Trojan Center have them and installing the stations in Emry would reduce the amount of plastic waste on campus. Senator Van Driel said she had talked to Steve Bartel about this in the past, and he told her Emry’s older structure doesn’t allow the installation of water bottle filling stations. Installation of the stations would raise safety concerns and code violations. The students’ concerns will be relayed to the Faculty Advisor.

Administrative Assistant Oeltjenbruns reported that there was a comment in the comment box from a student about the Regent’s Room removal. The student was against its removal and the comment was posted in the Senate Slack. She also proxied for Vice President Johnson at the FED meeting and attended the Alumni Room Remodel meeting.

PR Chair Lucas reported that the Senate business cards were printed off. He also worked on updating the SRO section of the Student Senate website.

Vice President Johnson reported that he cancelled the hotel rooms for FED and he got data for Administrative Assistant Oeltjenbruns on the Recording Secretary’s hours.
President Williams reported that the DSU gala is coming up and those who volunteered need to be fitted. The Faculty Advisor reached out to Kelli Koepsell. She replied that she was willing to attend a Student Senate meeting to talk about the DSU rebranding rollout plan so SROs can prepare to get their logos reapproved. The Senate will work around her schedule and see if she is available the second week of March. The Faculty Advisor is absent due to injury. He spoke to Officer Heath Abraham about sharps hazard disposal bins, and he seemed excited to have them installed. It was recommended that the Risk Assessment Committee decide where to place the bins. Senator Alholinna hasn’t heard from the committee despite being assigned to it. Emails will be sent out to address the issue. Senator Harmer asked for a report on the ad hoc Vice President of Student Affairs hiring committee. Senator Garippo suggested appointing more than one Student Senate representative to the committee. Donna Fawbush, who is in charge of the Food Pantry Committee, asked which Senator was assigned to her committee. The minutes show Senator Garippo was appointed to the committee and an email will be sent out informing her. There are plans for Dr. Leonard T. Reinsfelder to be awarded an honorary doctorate. Senator Garippo motioned to have a roll call vote for the approval of Dr. Reinsfelder. Graduate College Representative Bolt seconded. The motion passed. The Senate approved of Dr. Reinsfelder receiving an honorary doctorate. There was discussion on the President’s Cabinet dinner on Tuesday. There were hopes to improve communication between the President’s Cabinet and Senate. Senator Garippo stated that the Cabinet was doing “clean-up” after taking the Regent’s Room offline without the students’ knowledge. College of Arts and Sciences Representative Guillory was disappointed that the Cabinet decided on the Regent’s Room without student input. The Beacom College of Computer and Cyber Sciences (BCCCS) Representative Vertullo stated there should be a follow-up to make sure communication is improving between the Senate and the Cabinet. PR Chair Lucas hoped to get student input on the Alumni Room remodel. Graduate College Representative Bolt stated that he felt the Cabinet was receptive to Senate being there. Dr. Pauli invited the Senate to tour Madlabs.

College of Arts and Sciences Representative Guillory reported she met with the Dean of the College of Education. There are a lot of events coming up in the college such as a program preview day, STEAM camp, and public speakers. The college is looking into curriculum changes on level-three courses. The Dean also suggested the Senate approach the Teachers of Tomorrow Club for a College of Education Representative for Student Senate.

Vice President Johnson reported that he and the College of Business and Information Systems Dean met. The college is having a hackathon over the weekend.
They are planning a data analytics competition in March. The college also started a new program with Google Voice where students of the college can text a phone number with questions about their major and the secretary will forward the questions to the right people. Vice President Johnson will send the Dean the Student Senator application and the duties of a college representative. The Dean has students in mind to run for Senate. He also received a BIS newsletter from last semester.

Election Committee needed to appoint new members. Election committee members cannot run for Senate next year. Vice President Johnson appointed Graduate College Representative Bolt, PR Chair Lucas, President Williams, Administrative Assistant Oeltjenbruns, and Vice President Johnson to serve on Election Committee. Senator Van Driel motioned to confirm the appointments. Administrative Assistant Oeltjenbruns seconded. The motion passed.

Constitution Revision Committee met and deliberated amendments.

PR Committee reported that they won’t meet this Friday but will continue to work over Slack. They are currently working on co-sponsoring an event with LCA or renting out the Madison movie theater for Captain Marvel.

SRO Funding Committee reported that SRO budget paperwork was due today. Interviews will be next week.

Graduate Council met on Monday. They approved Dr. Pam Rowland as Graduate Faculty. A Cyber Security Certificate is being planned. This certificate could act as an entryway for a Graduate degree. They are creating a 500-level version of Defensive Network Security. They also reported that enrolled versus accepted rates are down because students can’t get visas. Credit hours and total headcount have increased.

GAF Committee met last Friday. They are working on improving transparency, making sure information on the GAF process is communicated to students, and keeping IOs to their purpose. An amended document was sent out to IOs to get documentation on their impact or success of their IO programs. Senators should talk to students about GAF funding to raise awareness. College of Arts and Sciences Representative Guillory reported some concerns she has already had expressed to her.

Student Federation Bylaw Committee met. The audio quality was poor, and the call kept cutting out. The committee talked about how they want to handle issues such as lobbying vote threshold, legislative timeline process, resources and
collaborations, executive team accountability and turnover, relations with SD legislature, governor, and BOR, and the spring retreat. They also voted on the chair of the committee.

The Free Speech Committee got the last steps prepared for the open forum held today. Senator Van Driel felt the open forum went well and lots of people showed up and talked. The committee meets again in two weeks to discuss the open forum. They are considering turning the committee into a Free Speech Task Force and including the Senate.

Student Federation met on Sunday. Most of the agenda was stricken due to lack of consensus. DSU reported on the approval of SB41 and lack of a resolution on HB1087. DSU didn’t have a resolution for SB122, but the FED Director wanted a resolution from DSU. HB1165 died in its committee.

A student brought SB140 to PR Chair Lucas’s attention. The bill is meant to increase retention and enrollment of Native Americans in South Dakota public universities. The bill will enable universities to increase Native American enrollment. DSU could lead the push of this bill in FED. Carl Peterson asked the Senate to pass a resolution in favor of this bill.

Many students have an issue with the announcement of events on campus. DSU faculty have also taken an interest in this issue. Career Services are the biggest abuser of all-student emails. The current all-student email policy is extremely broad, and most all-student emails don’t meet those requirements. As for the Activities Post, it was suggested that it is sent out twice a week instead of everyday since the information on it is repeated. The quality of the Activities Post should be improved, and Senate should speak to whoever moderates the Activities Post. Due to the abuse of all-student emails and reforming of Activities Post, it was recommended that emails should have a policy to dictate when the emails are sent out and limit how long an event can be in the Activities Post. The discussion was also brought up if the Emergency Broadcast System is redundant in situations where all-student emails are already being sent out. Multiple emails with the same information being sent out in a short period of time is another issue. It was suggested only one email with all the necessary information is sent out to students.

The committee in charge of remodeling the Alumni Room met to discuss making the space an appropriate replacement for the Regent’s Room. The committee asked the Senate about technology ideas for the room. Some technology ideas include

1 https://dsu.edu/assets/uploads/policies/01-92-00.pdf
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In the service of the students,
DSU Student Association Senate
Ivy Oeltjenbruns, Administrative Assistant

a microphone system, smart monitor or smart TV instead of a projector, tables with outlets, and a conference phone. It was suggested the room be painted to match the Trojan Center and DSU’s colors. Installing cabinets and a whiteboard was also discussed. The logo of Student Senate and the SROs could be painted on a blank wall once rebranding is finished. Other suggestions include having a pair of flags in the room, colored and dimmable lights, and an updated ventilation system. The original date to have both rooms back online is April 1.

Senator Van Driel stated that the bookstore found some old Student Senate polos from a few years ago. They plan to sell them in the bookstore for $25.

Senator Harmer motioned to postpone “Regulation for All-Student Emails” to next week. Vice President Johnson seconded. The motion passed.

Senator Garippo introduced a resolution in favor of SB122, a bill about the South Dakota legislature making policy and laws on carrying and possession of firearms. The state could make laws prohibiting or allowing firearms on campus, circumventing BOR. The bill doesn’t have any law that would allow or disallow firearms on campus. There would be no policy in place until another bill is passed. This could result in some South Dakota universities losing their ability to hold out of season NCAA tournaments and games. The DSU president plans on expressing concerns with the bill. Senator Garippo motioned to pass the resolution. Senator Peterson seconded. The motion was rescinded. Senator Garippo motioned to declare an emergency on the resolution. Senator Peterson seconded. The motion passed. Senator Harmer motioned to postpone the resolution indefinitely. Senator Bigger seconded. The motion failed. Senator Garippo motioned to move the resolution into final disposition. Vice President Johnson seconded. The motion failed.

Senator Harmer introduced a resolution in opposition of SB122. Senator Garippo commented that BOR doesn’t allow for self-defense weapons on campus, so they clearly don’t want what’s best for students. Senator Alholinna motioned to declare an emergency on this resolution. Senator Garippo seconded. The motion passed. Senator Garippo motioned to postpone the resolution indefinitely. PR Chair Lucas seconded. The motion failed. BCCCS Representative Vertullo motioned to move the resolution into final disposition. Senator Alholinna seconded. The motion failed.

Constitutional amendment 18-19-C had its second reading. Constitutional Revision Committee recommended a pass. There were no changes. Vice President
Johnson motioned to move the amendment along in the legislative process. Graduate College Representative Bolt seconded. The motion passed.

Constitutional amendment 18-20-C had its second reading. Constitutional Revision Committee recommended a pass. Some wording was changed and added the ability to amend and repeal Executive Orders. Graduate College Representative Bolt motioned to move the amendment along in the legislative process. Vice President Johnson seconded. The motion passed.

Constitutional amendment 18-21-C had its second reading. Constitutional Revision Committee recommended a pass. Some wording was changed. Senator Garippo motioned to amend the amendment to require a two-thirds majority vote to pass a resolution. Senator Peterson seconded. The motion failed. Senator Garippo motioned to postpone this amendment indefinitely. Graduate College Representative Bolt seconded. The motion was rescinded. Vice President Johnson motioned to move the amendment along in the legislative process. Senator Harmer seconded. The motion passed.

Constitutional amendment 18-22-C had its second reading. Constitutional Revision Committee recommended a pass. The Committee added “or Senate”. Vice President Johnson motioned to move the amendment along in the legislative process. BCCCS Representative Vertullo seconded. The motion passed.

Constitutional amendment 18-23-C had its second reading. Constitutional Revision Committee recommended a pass. There were no changes. Senator Harmer motioned to move the amendment along in the legislative process. BCCCS Representative Vertullo seconded. The motion passed.

The committee for Resolution 18-04-R met today. Vice President Johnson was elected the chair. The committee struck the second-to-last whereas. The committee recommends a pass. The DSU President mentioned that the DSU administration would be opposing HB1087. Vice President Johnson motioned to move the resolution into final disposition. Senator Van Driel seconded. The motion passed.

The next meeting is on February 20, 2019.

Senator of the Year nominations are due March 15.

Senator Van Driel motioned to adjourn the meeting. Senator Larsen seconded. The meeting adjourned at 12:06am.