SECRETARY’S REPORT NO. 14, January 18, 2006
REPORT OF ACTIONS TAKEN AT THE MEETING OF THE USG SENATE

The Student Senate met in Regular Session on January 18, 2006 at 6:30 in the Ohio Union, Grey Suite K. Speaker of the Senate Nick Benson presided.

Present: 35   Absent: 14   Alternates: 1

Ahern  Anderson  Baker  Benson
Bhatt  Brin  Bullard  Capone
Cropcho  Denning  Dodovich  Evangelista  Fogt
Fuquen  Hoque  Howell  Hornsby  Innes
King  Klempay  Knoepfler  Lawson  Leland
Lockshin  Luby  Marconi
Noon  Nystrom  Pineiro  Pittman  Reed
Samuels  Seger (A)  Singla  Sprinkle  Steele
Surovjak  Valentine  Wallace  Wireko  Wiseman
Yeh  Gates  Barylak  Rothacker  Smith
Allie  Byerly  Martin  Webb

6:34, SWEARING IN OF NEW ALTERNATE, SPEAKER BENSON

EXECUTIVE REPORT, PRESIDENT SCHARER
-Holbrook’s Leadership Retreat Part II was held over the weekend.
-The McHale Meeting is tomorrow night at 7pm in the Conference Theatre. PLEASE GO. USG is also putting together a committee of senators and cabinet members to put together suggestions.
-Judicial Panel interviews are next week and there are already eight applications
-There is a video that exists of footage taken of the Game Day of Michigan 2002 and Michigan Days since that show the effect of increased force to prevent rioting. Vice President Kreiner would like for us to watch it and give suggestions at another time.

QUESTIONS:
-Ms. Singla: With the Targets of Excellence, are they still asking for proposals? No they are not.
-Mr. Howell: What band has been invited to Rock the Block? She cannot say until they are confirmed.
-Mr. Sprinkle: Who can you contact about the McHale Committee? Please contact Kyle Fox.

COMMITTEE REPORTS/CONSTITUENCY REPORTS
-Policy & Governance passed 38-R-43 unanimously
-Budget & Finance passed 38-B-10 and considered the executive budget reallocation. It will be going back to B&F on Monday.
-Last week, Mr. Reed attended the first meeting about the anonymous reporting line. An update is that it will be implemented on March 1st. At this point, it is only for financial
misconduct. However, in the future, they are considering adding issues of academic misconduct.

-Mr. Samuels will be meeting with Dr. Allison Snow, Director of the Undergraduate Research Office, tomorrow. If you have any questions that should be brought up, let Eric know ASAP.

OLD BUSINESS

38-R-43, A RESOLUTION TO SHORTEN USG CAMPAIGNS, Speaker Benson
-This will shorten election cycles from 18 days to 12 days. The reason for shortening the campaign was that it was a very long, drawn-out campaign last year. Last quarter, we also reduced spending limits. So, since we’re limiting campaign finances that can be used, then it only makes sense to shorten the campaign. President Scharer brought this up with the speaker. Campaigns will be much less of a strain. DISCUSSION:

-Mr. Dodovich: Motions to make a call to question.

WE APPROVE 38-R-43 IN A VOICE VOTE

38-B-10, A BILL TO SUPPORT THE BIOENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN TEAM, Mr. Noon:
This is an extremely successful group in the College of Engineering and has gone to national competitions in the past. This proposal would help to create a biodegradable diesel operator. Mr. Noon feels that an allocation of $2,000 is adequate. Furthermore, their budget is very detailed but they still need a bit more to go to a national competition. Their innovations will even help Ohio Agriculture. DISCUSSION:

-Mr. Cropcho: The last “whereas” clause, he feels that it should be made into a “therefore” clause.

-Ms. Singla: What portion of the budget would the $2,000 be applied to? Basically, the $2,000 would be allocated towards equipment and competition fees.

WE APPROVE 38-B-10 IN A VOICE VOTE

NEW BUSINESS

-We have nine pieces of legislation for next week that will all be going to committee. Please take comments or opinions to the committee.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/REMINDERS

-Mr. Howell: P&G will meet tomorrow at 6pm.

-Ms. Singla: Budget & Finance meetings are when? They are Mondays at 6:30 in Gray E

-Mr. Couch: There are a few applications coming due soon. Leadership Awards are due February 3rd and he encourages us all to apply for them. Furthermore, if you have interest in being a Major Campus Event Chair, selections are coming up and applications are due at the end of this month. Also, we have about eleven months left here in this building before we move out. If any of you have interest in planning events that will commemorate the Union before it’s knocked down, let Matt know. Lastly, Afeni Shakur, the mother of Tupac Shakur, is giving a lecture in the Union on February 1st. Finally, office hours are still going; Cristen Porter is on Thursday afternoons from 1-3 and Matt Couch is Friday afternoons from 1-3.

-Mr. Martin: HB 228 should be supported!
Mr. Knoepfler: We still have some openings on University Senate. If you’re interested, please contact him.

Mr. Samuels:

- PLEASE PLEASE ATTEND THE WINTER USG RETREAT THIS SUNDAY FROM 8am to 1pm AT THE RPAC. It's really important that we have as many senators there as possible. Right now only 4 senators have signed up, including the speaker and myself. I know that it's really early and that we'll all be really tired from the Hillel social the night before (as you all are attending of course), but it's extremely important that you all attend if you can.
- SPEAKING OF THE HILLEL SOCIAL, PLEASE ATTEND IT. I MUST SELL ALL MY TICKETS BY TOMORROW OR HILLEL WILL LITERALLY KILL ME. I might even have a date, which is an event of rare occurrence.
- I have been given the charge to fill the remaining senate vacancies. I have contacted those candidates who lost in the spring for our open Off-Campus Seat. We also have vacancies in Business, USAS, Education, Pharmacy, Nursing, Newark, Mansfield, and Lima. If you KNOW ANYONE who is qualified and would be even remotely interested, please let me know. Also, I'd like to speak with Senator Hornsby after the meeting concerning regional campus governments.
- Senator Wallace and I are going to be putting our heads together soon for a senate social activity, of course not using senate funds. If you have any ideas, please let us know.
- APPLY FOR HONORARIES

Mr. Benson:

- Please attend the McHale Report Discussion tomorrow night at 7pm in the Conference Theatre. This is the most important academic issue of the year.
- As Mr. Samuels said, PLEASE ATTEND THE WINTER RETREAT THIS SUNDAY!!!! Wear tennis shoes because we’ll be having relay races.
- Thank you to those senators who sent comments back to Speaker Benson with feedback.
- There is now a Business Senator opening. Mr. AJ Babcock had to resign for a class issue.

SENATOR OF THE WEEK IS MS. ZARA LOCKSHIN, CONGRATULATIONS!!!!!!!!!

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 6:58pm
MEETING MINUTES SUBMITTED BY Eric A. Samuels, DIVERSITY-AT LARGE SENATOR