

ASNMU GA Agenda
January 27th, 2023
Jamrich 1315

I. Call To Order

- a. Meeting was called to order at 2:32PM(EST)

II. Roll Call

- a. Kylie Lanser is absent but excused.
b. Eli White is unexcused.
c. Everyone else is present.

III. Public Comment

- a. None.

IV. Approval of Consent Items

- a. None.

V. Executive Reports

A. President- Zora Binert

- a. "I got an email today about the special awards committee, so I will work with some of the administration on some of that coming up."
b. "Gwen and I got an email about the leadership recognition banquet so once we get more information on that we will keep sending it your way."
c. "I am really excited about the chair appointments that we have on the agenda today, I am excited to see what you do with those. We need two more people for the judiciary so if you have anyone in mind or know anyone who may be interested let them know we are looking for new people. You can send them my way if they have questions or they can look at our website."
d. "Gwen and I will be meeting with Dr. Tessman next week, he had reached out to us to set up a meeting so that we can touch base and work on setting some goals that we have."
e. "I have been in contact with the other presidents from other public universities in the state. So we are working to set up a kind of Michigan Student Government conference. It looks like that will be taking place on February 25th. As I get more information on that I will relay it to you guys. I will work with Anna on that too, as it falls with X Aff."

B. Vice President - Gwen Feamster

- a. "I reached out to dining again this week, I emailed them back in December, but they did not respond so I emailed them again. We're trying to get more vegetarian options, especially at the Den. Also working to get a better relationship with Dining and Students because it has been rocky the past couple of years."

b. "Aso working with Lucas Dushak. He is the assistant director of Housing on condomoniom. Micah, Zora, Anna, and I will be working on that. Condomoniom was a huge event in the resident's halls before COVID promoting safe sex and just a bunch of education around that. Lucas said he'd be getting back to me on putting together a meeting. I am hoping to do ASNMU housing so we can also have non-heteronormative sex ed."

C. Treasurer - Eli

a. None.

D. Chair of the Assembly- Kylie

a. None.

VI. New Business

A. Mural Proposals

1. Student Art Gallery *

- a. **Gwen Feaster:** "First we have the Student Art Gallery, they currently have five members and are hiring two more. They are also known as the SAG. They are working on becoming a more active organization on campus, regularly hosting pop-up shops, and bringing back opening nights at the gallery as well as partnering with other organizations on campus. They think that the painting project will let more students know that they are here and it'll be a great team-bonding experience. They are looking to start in about three weeks."
- b. Olivia moves to approve the mural.
- c. Gavin seconds.
- d. Motion approved 4-3.

2. College of Republicans *

- a. "The second mural is NMU College Republicans, they have about 20 active participating, and 44 currently on the Hub. They already have a mural in the LRC tunnel and want to update it. The mural currently has an outdated website and we would like to correct that and make some changes so that it is up to date. We want interested students to be able to contact us and not receive inaccurate information. I believe a painting is a great way to show that their organization is active and that cares about reaching students who have similar interests."
- b. **Anna:** "I don't think it's bad, it looks pretty good but I just worry about the paint swatches in the back and how that's going to look not graphically designed and how they are going to make that happen."
- c. **Gavin:** "Seeing as they aren't part of the art department, I am a bit more skeptical about how they are going to pull that off. In terms of the font of the 'college republicans' bit and making a perfect circle and all I would like to see a sketch first."

- d. **Gwen:** "I will say part of the paint project application we approve, then they do a sketch on the wall, and then before they can continue painting we have to sign off on the sketches on the wall, and then we have to look at it halfway through, and then when it's 100% complete. It is a completely valid request to want to see it sketched out, especially if it is shading, we want to know the process."
- e. **Anna:** Im just going to stress again that the paint lines in the back aren't going to look well on a wall. Because paint is a different opacity than graphic design."
- f. **Zora:** " I will say if you were to approve it with the expectations of regular check-ins based on this design, it's still on the wall and if we end up not approving it, it's on he wall and we would still have to paint over that again."
- g. **Olivia:** "I motion to the table with the expectation of them giving us a sketch."
- h. Gavin seconds.
- i. The motion to table until the sketch is received is approved.

B. University Committee Appointments 1.

Academic Senate - Olivia Dunn

A." As Vice President of the Associated Students of Northern Michigan University (ASNMU), I am recommending the appointment of Olivia Dunn, to the Academic Senate. Olivia has a great work ethic and has continuously shown that she knows the University and its processes and ASNMU. She has great experience and goals for NMU. Olivia has continued to excel within Academic Affairs and I think she would be a great addition to the Academic Senate. If you have any questions about this recommendation, please feel free to contact me.

This appointment requires a three-fourths majority vote of the General Assembly."

- B. Gavin motions to vote.
- C. Anna seconds.
- D. Approved unanimously.

C. Internal Appointments

1. Chair of Student Affairs

- a. **Gwen:** "Are there any nominations for the Chair of Student Affairs?"
- b. Miya nominates herself and approves.
- c. Gavin seconds.
- d. Approved unanimously.

2. Director of External Affairs

- a. **Gwen:** "Are there any nominations for the Director of external affairs?"
- b. Olivia nominates Anna.
- c. Anna approves.
- d. Gwen seconds.
- e. Approved unanimously.

VII. Public Comment

- a. None.

VIII. Good Of the Order

- a. **Olivia:** "Last Saturday, both Micah and I were at the diversity leadership retreat. I think something we realized for us as students in ASNMU is that we need to become more educated on diversity processes and maybe do something with SEEC in the future."
- b. **Gwen:** "We are going to be part of the Gender Fair, with the department of Gender and Sexualities Studies. I think we should definitely reach out to SEEC and see if they would do a workshop with us on DEI. Something discussed in EBoard was possibly doing something with the role of women and other minority groups in politics, and although ASNMU isn't a political group, we would just have a board talk about LGBT and female icons in politics because it is severely underrepresented and studies show that the more that are in student government in college the more they actually go on to be politicians in the future."
- c. **Gavin:** "A few months ago I made a statement that I think was miscommunicated, I had mentioned that I think ASNMU should make a general statement showing support for Jewish students on campus given the national rise in antisemitism going on at the moment. I mentioned that we should show support for the Jewish Student Union and I failed to point out that it wasn't only directed to the Jewish Student Union—which by the way I reached out to and they haven't reached out back to me yet—but I think we should make a general statement for all Jewish students who are on campus saying that we don't stand for antisemitism, given that there is a general rise in antisemitism nationwide."
- d. **Micah:** "I am in the Jewish Union, so if you want the president's contact information I can give it to you. What were you trying to entail, like a full statement from the university for antisemitism or with the things that have been happening and going around? What do you mean by that?"
- e. **Gavin:** "Moreless, just pointing out that there is a general rise in antisemitism and making our stance clear that we do not support or endorse any of those views. I think that goes without saying too, but it's important that we make our stance clear so these groups know that if any views came to the campus of any anti-semantic source, they aren't alone. It's a very important point to push, to have people know we have their back. I think it's an important point to make a student organization."
- f. **Micah:** "I get what you mean and I can work with you to make a full statement and explain what antisemitism is. And we can't generalize everything because of things like what happened at UCLA when they came out with a statement. Some individuals might not have been so pro-Israel or they're pro-Palastine so there is that whole divide."
- g. **Gavin:** "I look forward to furthering these discussions with you."

- h. Gwen:** "I want to remind you Gavin I think you, Micah, and Zora should work on this because all ASNMU communications go through Zora so if you're trying to make a statement Zora has to be involved in those conversations."
- i. Anna:** "Just in response to Gavin, I think its a really good idea, I am not denying that, I just think there might be an issue of people thinking we are of some sort of body to resolve conflicts that happen on campus, and since we don't have the authority to suspend people for behavior and what not I think making a statement that - I hate to say- doesn't need to be said. I don't want us to come to the stance that we can do something."
- j. Gavin:** "In that statement, I wouldn't want to take on the burden of making any action but simply to let our constituents-that may or may not be Jewish-know that they are not alone"
- k. Gwen:** "We would be the first to come out with a statement."
- l. Micah:** "Why does ASNMU have to be the ones to come out with a statement or have them prioritize a statement? Why should we be talking about it when it's the university as a whole?"
- m. Gavin:** "We represent the student body, nonetheless we assumed a mandate to support our fellow students, especially with something as grotesque and vile as antisemitism, for it hating someone based on their faith."
- n. Zora:** "So, as part of our shared ordinance that we have with administration, and the faculty, we are able to put out a public statement, those do have to be approved through me. However, we also can communicate with the administration to put out a statement as well that we can partner with them on. It doesn't just have to be the administration putting something out or we putting something out it can be a partnership between both parties. That's also an option."
- o. Gwen:** "I think it's a great idea to work with the administration to work something out. As a whole, a lot of people do not know about ASNMU and once they get that email they just delete it. I think we should work with the student union before we make any sort of statement, and make sure you want that support."
- p. Micah:** "I think it's great to have ASNMU want to do this, but it would really mean more to have the university put out the statement."
- q. Gavin:** "I am not opposed to asking the university to ally with us for that, but the possibility of them just saying 'no, especially if they just say no for no good reason."
- r. Caleb:** "essentially from what I hear, if the university does say 'no', if they issued an apology for something that hasn't happened on campus, that could ignite further tensions. I do believe this is a good idea, but if it's not needed I don't see the point to go through with it."

- s. Gavin:** "I am also curious why we are suddenly so hesitant to potentially peeve the clan. If you're gonna get offended because we are showing support for a religious group, then be mad at me sure. And I am not saying we need to apologize, just trying to say 'hey we know this is happening, we are on the same page and we're here for you'."
- t. Gwen:** "I think this conversation we're having is very similar to some conversations we have had in the past and so if you'd like, Gavin, Micah, Zora, you can continue to have these conversations and talk about what you want to do then we can start talking to DSO and work with them to make a statement, that'd probably be the best route."
- u. Olivia:** "If anyone wants to come to join, I am part of the organization, Northern Votes, it's pro-democracy, nonpartisan and we love to have students get engaged. We have a fellowship opening with the campus vote- where someone works on campus to get students engaged, were also trying to get secretary Benson involved. If you are interested we meet every other Thursday."
- v. Gwen:** "SLFP is going through their recruitment process right now. They are a great organization, I would really recommend applying for Applications close on February 3rd, and can be found on the HUB."

IX. Adjournment

- a. Meeting adjourned at 3:07 PM (EST).