

**VICE PRESIDENT FOR STUDENT AFFAIRS**

Bree Richards

**October 11, 2006**

Madame President and Distinguished Assembly Members,

Since the last Assembly meeting, I have primarily been working on three things:

1. Office management and new staff hiring.
2. Resolutions.
3. Student Senate and University Senate.

1. After Dmitry Zhdanov resigned, Suzanne Sobotka ascended to the position of President, leaving the position of Executive Vice President open until a new one could be elected (which we will do today). I stepped in to cover the office management, and coordinated the search and interviews for our new office assistant. I also have been in contact with the Minnesota Daily to discuss the newspaper's coverage of GAPSA.

2. I have been working on two resolutions. The first, which we will discuss today, is about revisiting the University's decision to ban legal permit holders from bringing firearms onto campus. The second, which will be brought to the joint meeting with MSA in November, is about standardizing the questions about race and ethnicity on admissions form across the various colleges at the University. If you are interested in helping with either of these, please contact me for more information.

3. The Student Senate and the University Senate met for the first time this semester on September 28. The Student Senate has a number of issues it will be trying to address this year, including housing (especially for non-traditional students, such as married/partnered students, and people with kids), the student conduct code changes, social responsibility contracts, student safety, TA preparation, green initiatives, medical amnesty, carbon neutrality, ADA accessibility, standardized admissions forms with respect to race and ethnicity options, and ways to communicate with students.

The leaders of CAPA and the CSC came to the Student Senate meeting and would like to have liaisons from the Student Senate, MSA, and GAPSA so that everyone can stay in the communications loop.

In addition to these things, I have been updating the website, working on moving the server to the University's central servers, working on setting up an international student career fair, and working on establishing a mentoring program between graduate/professional students and undergraduate students on campus. If you are interested in any of these activities, I'd love your assistance. I have also attended meetings of both the Public Affairs Committee as well as the Internal Affairs Committee.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS:

If you are a representative to the Student Senate or University Senate, please send me an e-mail with your name, which group you represent, and which Senate you are a part of.

If you are interested in representing GAPSA to CAPA or CSC (giving a 10-15 minute report once a month of what GAPSA's doing), please contact me.

Thank You,

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