Meeting called to order at 7:43pm

I. Attendance
President Kat Klawes: Present
Vice President Katie Liubakka: Present
Treasurer Vito Giannola: Excused Tardy
Chair of the Assembly Alex Hawke: Present
Advisor Lina Blair: Not Present (Excused)
Advisor Carter Wilson: Present
Anne Marie Wellman: Present
Mitchell Sevigny: Present
Brianna Wright: Present
Teala Howell: Present
Sara Spragg: Present
Danielle Schafer: Presented
Spencer Deering: Present
Lindsey Lieck: Present
TJ Aiyash: Present
Sheila Williams: Present
Jonathan Korpi: Present
Cecilia Smith: Excused Tardy
Jess Gula: Present
Olivia Steil: Present
Secretary Katie Stumman: Present

II. Public Comment
a. None

III. Approval of Consent Items
a. Minutes 02.09.15
Lindsey Lieck: On page five, I voted in opposition instead of abstaining. And the next motion I abstained from.
Jess Gula motions to approve
Danielle Schafer seconds
Unanimous.

b. Agenda 02.16.15
Anne Marie Wellman moves to add Mitchell Sevigny, TJ Aiyash, Jess Gula, and Teala Howell for appointments referendum committee.
Danielle Schafer moves to approve
Jess Gula seconds
Unanimous.

IV. Executive Reports
   a. President Kat Klawes: I just learned that the LRC funding fell through so we will not have any serious plans for the LRC for at least the next two years but realistically it’ll be five years. Construction can’t start until we get the funding. We are down 300 students from last semester. There are a number of changes to the handbook, and I passed everyone out a copy and it’s close to being approved. The wording is funny but Teala and me can help clarify. Mitch and I are on the sexual assault task force and we’ll be bringing recommendations in the next month or so.
   b. Vice President Katie Liubakka: Myself, Anne Marie and Shelia are heading to the SAM Conference this weekend so if you have anything to ask the student governments let us know.
   c. Treasurer Vito Giannola: Our balance hasn’t changed, just purchased the sunlamp and poster sign that was approved last week and the tent for the career office is up.
   d. Chair of the Assembly Alex Hawke: Reminder, you’re not allowed to be using office supplies to campaign for elections, including office hours to work for campaign projects.

V. Committee Updates
   a. Danielle Schafer: The Provost Search Committee is meeting this Thursday and I’m excited that the committee has agreed to have you guys present.
   b. Mitchell Sevigny: External Affairs, I followed up with Christy Evans for the drug arrest question and she didn’t have any new info, but the university has seen it and they’re doing their own research about it. Elections, the packet is approved and available in the office and has a certain way of printing them to save on paper, but it’s kind of slow to do. Since Kat brought up sexual assault task force, my sub committee has been productive and they have a few recommendations and revisions to the policy and the committee as a whole. We’re meeting tomorrow and hopefully we’ll have a good product that’ll make a difference.
   c. Jess Gula: The survey committee sent out an email last week and if you haven’t taken it yet please do. We’ve had over 800 people take it as of today.

VI. Appointments
   a. Kat Klawes: Jess, Mitch, TJ and Teala were the reps who contacted me and we all know them very well and since this is time sensitive, I asked who would be interested and they stepped up. I’m hoping to meet between 4-5 on Fridays, and if you want to make suggestions to stop in during that time.

   Anne Marie Wellman moves to approve all four
   Danielle Schafer seconds
   Unanimous.

VII. Discussion Items
   a. Bylaws Discussion: Presented by Vito Giannola
Vito Giannola: I wanted to make sure everyone got the updated bylaws that are in the basket in the office.

Spencer Deering: I have the updates in color and why we changed them in case anyone wants to see them.

Jess Gula: To clarify, we’re talking about approving the bylaws that were changed last year?

Vito Giannola: That was the conversation last week, but it’s been tabled and it’s something we want to work on with the constitution so they don’t contradict themselves.

b. Wayne State SAM Conference Budget: Presented by Mitchell Sevigny

Mitchell Sevigny: This budget is different than presented in the past and it’s a little bigger. The mileage is something new that I’ve incorporated because driving back and forth can be a big wear and tear on your car and when you travel in the real world you’re given mileage. Some universities accommodate the trips not the student government, but stuff in the past shows we’re not one of those so I’ve catered to our reps more. I got the hotel quote, the food is about $12 per person for two dinners, and usually Saturday the host school provides a lunch. Gas, I’m not sure if it’s the number I wanted but I calculated it with Gas Buddy.

See Document 2.16.2015A

Katie Liubakka: I drive to East Lansing, and it’ll probably need $75 for gas

Mitchell Sevigny: I think it’s actually $75. The mileage has never been addressed and the legal number is .10 per mile, but I changed it to a nickel to see how you all felt about it. My experience with the way cars are and how it’s a lot to put on a personal vehicle.

Olivia Steil: The food, I know if it’s not provided you pay for yourselves. I don’t feel comfortable for people to get food

Mitchell Sevigny: The president for SAM conference, and we’ve passed food budgets before.

Katie Liubakka: The restaurants we go to by SAM are picked by the host schools and tend to be more expensive, so it’s a nice thing to do for the reps. It’s expected as a university we go, and it’s considered a business dinner.

Vito Giannola: All meals pay for during the conferences are paid by us and you stop at McDonalds on the way that’s on you.

Kat Klawes: Mitch, how much do you think you’ve spent on personal food?

Mitchell Sevigny: At Tech, the menu items were at $16 per entrée, and Oakland it was a pizza place but it was nice so maybe like $16-20. At Wayne the $12 is probably an app.

TJ Aiyash: I’ve gone to academic apartment conference we’re given some kind of compensation for food.

Jess Gula: I travel a lot with my sailing team and it cost us at least $25 each for food and that was the cheap stuff. And for SAM it isn’t that bad.

Danielle Schafer: My experience with Oakland, it’s an expectation to go to these dinners so it’s a part of the conference but the host doesn’t fund it. I see the point with the food.
Mitchell Sevigny: Since this is a time budget, I motion to move to action item and suspend the rules.
Danielle Schafer seconds
Unanimous.

c. CR 595 Resolution: Presented by Mitchell Sevigny
Mitchell Sevigny: TJ will help me with this too. I hope most of you have heard about this and how it imposes addition traffic in populated areas of Marquette, and in 2010 when it was first developing they knew about the traffic it would impose and the road commission started this project. I sent some materials up and posted additional materials to the FB page. There’s a lot of info too but what it is is a road from the 41 to the AAA, which is about 15 miles from the Big Bay, which is a V line from the mining facilities to the plant. This has been proposed by the commission and is being funded through Eagle Mine. It’ll be built on the intersection of 41 and CR-FY, which is further west of Ishpeming. Basically it’ll bypass the entire city of Marquette, and it was proposed in 2010. It involves a lot of wetland information, but it’s being blocked and questioned by the environmental agency and it’s important to us because of the traffic by Wright Street and the noise because these are large mining and logging semis. Plus additional traffic of going to work, emergency vehicles, etc, and this road will eliminate that traffic. Many of our local affiliates have commented on it, and all the UP legislatives have already issued resolutions in support of the road, and the appeal of the EAP’s concerns and statements of support. At the last board of trustee’s meeting, they also issued a resolution of support. I have a copy of that and forwarded it all to you so you can look at that. The AAA road is hard to access, so basically what it’ll include is this off-season road with year round emergency access and it’ll have plowing enforcement making it a safer route. They also state that it opens the southern Marquette County to the northern Marquette country. They also say Marquette County has been financed with mining and logging and the roads, power points and hydro facilities opens up. The issues of the road is most of the area is untouched wetlands, even though there are dirt roads it’s not on the scale for off season, and it leaves a lot of unanswered questions. One of the permits they’re applying for is to drain the wetland and move it. In the proposal there’s a 1.5:1, so every 1 acre there is, they’ll add 1.5 acres. One gap is they don’t designate who will take that or where the funding will come from. It’ll create 49 acres of new wetlands, and they’ll address some of the stream mitigation and make new ones if necessary. They’re not sure of the quality of the wetlands though and the new ones might not be up to standards. In the application, some people are skeptical that this is the best route. I have the documents here and the appeal information. They also say they’re going to challenge this in the western court of Michigan to try and move forward with the permits. The resolution is the support of the MCC’s appeal, and we’ve talked about amending the resolution so the MCRC is in charge of that. After reading the EAP’s resolution, we should still look at this for traffic concerns. Either way it’s a win if it passes, but if it fails they’ll come back with a new proposal.
See Document 2.16.2015B
Danielle Schafer: So I spoke to my dad who’s a hydro-analogist, he does work with people who’s working on this project and sent me the letter. What he explained to me it’s not the road that’s the problem it’s the process, and the caution we should have supporting this is being aware of the natural causes.

Spencer Deering: The Eagle Mine project must’ve started in recently but do you know how long it’s supposed to be? 7 years? So 7 years of this versus a permanent road, so we have about 5 years best case for a road and then the road wouldn’t be needed anymore. I guess I’m not seeing the value and I know student safety is a concern but I’m not sure I would support this.

Mitchell Sevigny: One thing to consider is while it’s for the mine, there’s also the logging industry, and it opens up the area for recreation use so state parks, etc. So after the 7 years or longer, although the origin begins with the mine it doesn’t end at the mine.

Jonathan Korpi: As a local boy, I’m in favor of this because I drive the US-41, and understand the logging trucks that I hate being behind them in the winter, but hearing the 595 would be prolonging the logging trucks, I’m in favor of getting those out of pedestrian areas, but I can’t stand the EAP anymore because of the power. I would be in favor of ASNMU voicing an alternative route is needed.

Kat Klawes: I wanted to mention that during the summer we received about 30 student statements about it, and Teala and I took a tour of the mine. The trucks they’re doing to haul, it’s up to 2 tons and the current road of Wright Street would need to be reformatted to have that happen for the next 7 years.

Public: One way or another has there been a lot of student complaints against Wright Street?

Kat Klawes: Over the summer when we got the statements, approximately between the hours of 8-5, there’s a truck that goes by every 2 minutes which is the noise equivalent of 4 semi trucks.

Jess Gula: This is a duel issue. We have student concerns with this that there’s a safety and noise concern but then we also have a conflicting issue which is is this good for the environment and the UP community so I suggest everyone really look into this to see where they stand.

Danielle Schafer: The EAP is not against the idea of the road, but how they are going about putting the road and where they’re putting it brings up questions. There are lasting issues, the EAP doesn’t like to reject projects but I’ll see what I can get from my dad.

Mitchell Sevigny: This isn’t an issue we should take lightly like the board of trustee’s did. I want to motion to table this to talk about next week and I have all the links online too. We’re going to try and get experts in here too.

Alex Hawke: The majority of debate should be done outside of the meetings and then you come in with crystal clear feelings about it.

Katie Liubakka: It’s more to address small things rather than big picture ideas. So do your research outside.

Kat Klawes: I think a debate could be beneficial to us with an audience to bounce ideas off of, but this isn’t something we should take lightly.

Katie Liubakka: That’s not how business meetings are run.

Mitchell Sevigny motions to table until next week
Danielle Schafer seconds
Unanimous.

d. President’s Climate Change Resolution: Presented by Mitchell Sevigny
Mitchell Sevigny: When the PR students came to talk to us, this is a resolution of ASNMU as a supporter of this. The biggest point is lowering NMU’s emissions, cutting back, promotion recycling and taking it the next step further. This has been presented to President Erickson, but this is just us voicing our support. Go over this in your spare time please.
See Document 2.16.2015C

Katie Liubakka: My only concern with this is I’m not against saying we want to be more environment friendly, but the university has to pay dues for this. Why can’t Northern draft their own resolution and not pay the money every year?
Public: Do those dues go to something else?
Katie Liubakka: To help provide resources to the university to becoming more environmentally friendly.
Teala Howell: I do think doing this pledge shows that we are put on this list and our attempts to do this are acknowledged. It’s our name showing that we’re actively participating.
Mitchell Sevigny: I do remember that when they talked to President Erickson is that the dues weren’t a concern.
Lindsey Lieck: Their proposal says that things like tracking emissions goes towards part of that.
e. NMU Student Experience Project Findings: Presented by Kat Klawes
Kat Klawes: I was asked to share this, and it covers a number of student issues. It’s interesting that over 66% of students have never used these services. I was asked if ASNMU was concerned that a large number of students weren’t using these. 33% because of hazard conditions students have skipped classes, and I thought knowing campus issues were helpful.
See Document 2.16.2015D

Teala Howell: In regards to the 66% of students, I don’t think a lot of these are for most of the students. I don’t need a lot of those services, but if you need these and are struggling then they’re great to have. In regard to the 33% percent, I do think when you come here winter is going to be a big part of your life and you have to suck it up.
Cecelia Smith: I work at the writing center and right now I feel like we’re trying to expand. We’re working on creating more opportunities for more students, and there is a lot to offer there and it’s a matter of seeking it out.
Teala Howell: Have they started offering APA workshops yet? That’s what the nursing and communications use.
Cecelia Smith: I know if someone asked me when I was there I would help them to the best I could, but they’re in progress.

VIII. Action Items
a. New Science Facility Sun Lamps Budget: Presented by Kat Klawes
Kat Klawes: It’s the same as the past two budgets, and this would go into new science on the first ground floor. It’s a little more expensive because of seating, and it can be moved. Total cost is $490. We will cover the entirety of the cost as well as maintenance and upkeep.
See Document 2.16.2015E

Danielle Schafer moves to approve
Anne Marie Wellman seconds
Votes in favor: Mitchell Sevigny, Jess Gula, Danielle Schafer, Brianna Wright, Shelia Williams, Cecelia Smith, Teala Howell, Spencer Deering, Anne Marie Wellman, Sara Spragg, and Olivia Steil.
Votes in opposition: TJ Aiyash, Lindsey Lieck, and Jonathan Korpi.

b. Wayne State Budget

Danielle Schafer approves
Jess Gula second
Unanimous.

IX. Public Comment
a. I’m Lewis, general manager of Radio X. We were talking at the staff meeting about the referendum, and there’s some uncertainty about it. The 2012 bylaws is that the bylaws being followed?
Vito Giannola: Yes, we aren’t. I can meet with you too.

X. Open Forum
a. Vito Giannola: Who needs the stamps?
Mitchell Sevigny: We’re sending letters about Cleary act.
Spencer Deering: I have a sign up sheet for the talent show. We like to talk about participating events and I need some ushers and I won’t be slave driver, but I would like you to sign up and I count on you to attend. I’m going to be really mad if you don’t show up after you sign up. Wear your ASNMU shirts too please.
Cecelia Smith: Is there a Facebook event for it?
Katie Liubakka: Is the information meeting being held yet?
Spencer Deering: There’s one tomorrow night at 7. I don’t have a number of who’s going to attend and there are 20 people intending to sign up but no one has yet.
Katie Liubakka: I saw it on TV6 news tonight, they advertised it for us.
Vito Giannola: have you been getting a list of people coming in?
Spencer Deering: Yes I’ve talked to them.
TJ Aiyash: I passed out a sheet with funding for a Native American studying program. It’s working its way to academic senate and what I’m looking for from us is to decide the information whether or not we want to voice support for or not. I don’t know where the funding comes from but I want to point out that we would be the first and only native American studies back lore major. U of M and Tech had
programs, but not a major about this. We would be the first program in Michigan to have this. Neighboring states have these programs too but if you want any information just let me know.

Kat Klawes: I was in the presidents council meeting and president Erickson directed this and the university is discussing the funding for this.

Carter Wilson: After those student senate, I can’t imagine this not coming about because it’s long overdue for external grant funding.

Kat Klawes: To my understanding what we discussed was if academic senate votes on it, it gets sent to GEC and the new provost will have to sign off on it.

Katie Liubakka: The last thing I want the assembly to look into is the student conduct code. Anyone who inflicts harm on themselves can be kicked out of the university and I think it’s a harsh way of kicking someone when they’re down.

TJ Aiyash: I’m shocked to hear that, but I would love to help.
Anne Marie Wellman: I’ve talked to a few people; we’re missing Cat Cleats.

Vito Giannola: When we first purchased them in the summer it was a cheaper price. It was the same price but there were fewer Cat Cleats.

Teala Howell: How many did we actually get? 

Vito Giannola: I can look up the number, but did increase our budget $150.

*Meeting adjourned 8:45pm.*
Wayne State SAM Conference Budget

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Price</th>
<th>139.00/night</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hotel</td>
<td>$278.00</td>
<td>139.00/night</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food**</td>
<td>75.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gas***</td>
<td>75.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mileage***</td>
<td>45.50</td>
<td>910mi x .05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$473.50</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

** Food valued at $12 for 3 people, plus rounded to $75 for tipping purposes.
***Gas calculated with gasbuddy.com travel planner and mileage accounts to $.05 per mile.
3.1. A resolution to support the Marquette County Road Commission’s USEPA Appeal of County Road 595
Presented on, February 16, 2015 Adopted on, ___________________
Sponsor: Director of External Affairs Mitchell Sevigny Co-Sponsor(s): Graduate Studies Representative T.J. Aiyash
WHEREAS, the Marquette County Road Commission has the authority to plan and lay out new roads within the county, including the proposed County Road 595. The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality was unable to issue a wetlands permit for the project due to the objection of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)¹; and
WHEREAS, The Board of County Road Commissioners plans to appeal the decision in the United States District Court for the Western District of Michigan. The Board has affirmed by resolution that it will only proceed with the appeal if no public funds are expended on the appeal²; and
WHEREAS, County Road 595 would be constructed in an environmentally responsible manner that will divert commercial, and industrial traffic away from populated areas, specifically County Road 492 (Wright Street); and
WHEREAS, less traffic within these populated areas of Marquette reduce the risk of vehicular accident and protects students’ health and safety; and
WHEREAS, in order to proceed with the planned construction of Country Road 595, the Road Commission must appeal the USEPA’s objections to the wetlands and related permits related to the road project; and
RESOLVED, ASNMU formally voices its support for the Marquette County Road Commission’s decision to appeal the USEPA’s objections in the United States District Court for the Western District of Michigan; and
RESOLVED, ASNMU joins with the Northern Michigan University Board of Trustees, State Senator Tom Casperson, State Representatives John Kivela and Scott Dianda, and various other State Organizations in their support of the MCRC’s appeal.
RESOLVED, a copy of this resolution will be sent to State Senator Casperson, State Representatives Dianda and Kivela, the Marquette County Road Commission, and any other appropriate individuals.

____________________________
Katerina Klawes, President
Alex Hawke, Chair of Assembly

2 Marquette County Road Commission. MDEQ Permit Application. Permit Application. Marquette: MCRC, 2012
Associated Students of Northern Michigan University
3.2 A resolution to designate ASNMU as a supporter of the American College &
University Presidents’ Climate Commitment Pledge
Presented on__________
Adopted on__________
Sponsor:
Director of External Affairs Mitchell Sevigny
Co-Sponsor(s):
WHEREAS, Climate change is an important issue for our generation and for
future generations. Creating a more environmentally
sustainable community at Northern Michigan University is of
vital importance; and,
WHEREAS, Colleges and universities have a great deal of influence and has
a particularly important role in the push for clean energy¹; and,
WHEREAS, The United States Department of Energy considers 29
American colleges and universities to be members of its Green
Power Network, in recognition of their large renewable energy
commitments²; and,
WHEREAS, Northern Michigan University is already pursuing cleaner,
renewable sources of energy and investing in environmentally
friendly technology³; and,
WHEREAS, Being a green university will reflect in a highly positive and
marketable manner, given the considerable amount of
concerns among students and faculty about the risks of climate
change and the growing list of colleges and universities that
already pledged to make a positive impact on climate
challenge; and,
WHEREAS, Northern Michigan University has the financial and
organizational ability to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions
and become an environmental leader in the Upper Peninsula;
and,
RESOLVED, The Associated Students of Northern Michigan University
General Assembly are in support of the American College &
University Presidents’ Climate Commitment Pledge; and,

Campus Initiative, 2006,
²United States Department of Energy (U.S. DOE) Staff, “Green Power Network: Large Purchasers of
Green Power,” from the website of the U.S.DOE, 2006,
³NMU Communications Staff, "NMU Breaks Ground for Renewable Energy Facility," News for NMU
Employees Campus website, 2012,
http://www.nmu.edu/Webb/ArchivedHTML/campus/2012/0504/renewable.htm
RESOLVED, The Associated Students of Northern Michigan University recommends President Erickson and Northern Michigan University sign the American College & University Presidents’ Climate Commitment Pledge; and,
RESOLVED, a copy of this resolution will be presented to President Erickson and any other appropriate administrators.

________________________________________  _____________________________
Katerina Klawes, President                   Alex Hawke, Chair of Assembly
INTRODUCTION:
The class of SO/SW 308, Methods of Social Research II, at Northern Michigan University (NMU) conducted a concurrent mixed methods study during the fall semester of 2014 which focused on NMU student engagement and overall experience. An electronic survey was administered to all undergraduate students at NMU, yielding 1,131 responses from all the departments, approximately 14% of the undergraduate population. Among the survey respondents, 33% were first semester students and 20% being third semester students. 813 survey respondents identified themselves as female, 213 as male, and 9 as other. Semi-structured, in-depth individual interviews and focus groups were used to further explore students’ own narrations of their experience at NMU. A total of 94 undergraduate students were interviewed with 57 identifying themselves as females (including transgender female) and 37 being males (including transgender male). Major themes that were addressed in the research project included reasons for choosing/staying at NMU, academics, academic support services, interaction with faculty/staff, and campus activities.

HIGHLIGHTS
- Location (54% of interviewees and 48% of survey respondents), financial (40%), and degree of study ranked highest in reasons students chose to pursue a degree at NMU.
- 95% of students who meet with their advisor reported that they find the meeting to be helpful, yet 33% of students reported having never met with their advisor.
- Approximately the same percentage of students claimed to be involved in a social club, as those who reported not being involved in any sort of club or campus groups.
- Over 70% of students reported they will be completing their degree from NMU in four to five years.
- Over 66% of students reported to have never used the following academic services on NMU’s campus: All Campus Tutoring, Writing Center, MERC Printing, and ACAC.
- Over 46% of students reported their biggest challenge to be balancing school and work.

FINDINGS:
Reasons for Choosing/Staying at NMU
Location (54% of interviewees and 48% of survey respondents), financial (40%), and degree of study ranked highest in reasons students chose to pursue a degree at NMU. The reason students ranked least important in their decision to attend NMU was Athletics, with 61.8% of students scoring this as Not Important.

- “I chose a school based on where I wanted to live for the next four years.”
- “I chose NMU because it is the farthest I could go from home and still get in-state tuition.”
- “I chose NMU because it was a great location and cheaper tuition.”

What are the strongest reasons you choose NMU?

Academic Engagement
- Over one quarter of students come to class without completing readings very frequently or frequently (29.5%)
- 50% said their work load was just right, while 34% said it was too heavy.
- Academic engagement indicators are reported below:

NMU Student Experience Project

Interacting with Faculty and Staff
- Students are more comfortable interacting with professors via emails compared to office hours.
- 60% of students said they find meeting with their advisor very beneficial, 27% felt meeting with their advisor was helpful sometimes, 4% said it was not helpful.
- One student stated, “My professor is my advisor so I find that very helpful.”
- 56% of participants said they meet with their advisor 1-2 times per semester, 33% said they never meet with their advisor.
- “Over my four years at NMU, I've seen my academic advisor only twice. One to get freshman restrictions off so I can sign up for classes, and another time to apply for the social work program. I felt like they tried to push you along with their busy days and their own issues. They just weren't engaging and never tried to get an understanding of me.”
- “Outside of scheduling, I don't see a need to meet with my advisor.”

How often do you meet with your advisor?
How comfortable are you with interacting with your professors outside of class?

Campus Involvement
- The number of students who reported that they are not involved with any sort of social club, club sport, and Greek life was 44.78%, which indicates that only a little over half of the students at NMU are involved in such activities.

NMU Student Experience Project

Major Challenges for NMU Students

- One major obstacle is the balance of class and work. As one student stated, “I’d like to, but I don’t have very much time with classes and work.”
- 54% of respondents report never or rarely attending an art exhibit, play, or other performing arts (dance, music, etc.)
- Over 66% of respondents reported that they have never used the following academic services on NMU’s campus: All Campus Tutoring, Writing Center, MERC Printing, and ACAC.
Over 46% of students reported their biggest current challenge is to balance school and work.

- Only 8% of students go to faculty/advisor to deal with these scheduling challenges, while the other 92% go to family and friends.
- Many interviewees stated that the weather is a huge challenge. Some students that do not live on campus are unable to make it to class if the roads are bad and the sidewalks are not shoveled or sanded. These participants stated that NMU could be more diligent in regards to properly caring for the sidewalks, roads, and outdoor property of the university that can be hazardous to the students when trying to get to class.
- 33% of participants reported that because of the hazardous conditions, they have skipped classes in the past when the sidewalks and roads are not properly cared for.

NMU Student Experience Project

Overall Satisfaction

- Overall, the majority of students attending Northern report satisfied with their experience so far.
  - A student stated, “I enjoy the person I’ve become through my experiences at NMU.”
  - One student stated, “Friends and everyday interactions with people is great at NMU.”
- Of the 23% of students who reported transferring from another institution, the majority claimed the process was fairly smooth.
  - “Transferring was the best decision I ever made. I came here from Grand Valley State University. I came to NMU for the people, environment, and business school. I enjoy being “Up North” and outdoors. My credits all transferred. I transferred after my freshman year.”
- In response to the question of “what would you change at NMU?” major suggestions are:
  - Increase in the amount of parking for students;
  - More classes offered (sections and frequency) to allow for flexibility when scheduling;
  - Increase of diversity;
  - Improving communication among departments, as a student stated, “Communication between departments could be improved... Administration needs to be an example and focus on communication across the university.”

CONCLUSIONS:
The research project indicates that overall NMU students are very satisfied with their experience at NMU. There appears to be a lack of involvement with campus activities partly due to the fact that many students struggle to balance work and school. Many supporting services such as MERC, the Writing Center, All Campus Tutoring, etc. are not being utilized to their full potential. Students report faculty and advisors to be helpful, but out-of-class interaction is limited. 56% of participants said they meet with their advisor 1-2 times per semester, 33% said that they never meet with their advisor. The major support mechanisms that students utilize are
family members, friends, or other students, but not faculty, staff, or other college services. These findings are consistent with the National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) report. The NSSE 2014 annual report indicates that “About one in three first-year students had fewer than two meetings with an advisor during the year (23% had one meeting, and 9% never met with an advisor). When asked about the primary source of advice about their academic plans, first-year students who rarely met with an advisor most often identified family members, friends, or other students. (NSSE, 2014, P.13)” NMU’s location, tuition (including financial assistance), and the programs that it offers are the three major factors that drew the students to NMU as well as keeping current students enrolled. Data suggest a need for more guidance and incentive to channel students towards the wide range of campus resources.

Vielemetti Health Center Sunlamp Spots Budget:

Purpose: The purpose of the sunlamp spots would be to provide an easily accessible way for students and staff to treat and help prevent symptoms from Seasonal Affective Disorder (S.A.D). This program would supplement the existing program of sun lamps at the Counseling and Consultation Center, and the two ASNMU supplied sunlamps at the Lydia Olson Library.

Request that was approved: The request approved was to place one sunlamp spot in the Vielemetti Health Center by Robin Aho the Vielemetti Health Center Medical Office Manager.

Equipment: Equipment used in the sunlamp stations would be the Flamingo Full Spectrum Full Lamp. Information regarding the lamp can be found here: http://www.promolife.com/cart/health-beauty/sunlamps/flamingo-full-spectrum-floor-lamp. The cost of the lamp is $260.00.

A sign will be placed next to each station detailing how to use the sunlamps, the symptoms of seasonal effective disorder, and where to go for consultation on Seasonal Affective Disorder. The sign contains a place where brochures will be placed with resources for students. Information on the sign can be found here: http://www.displays2go.com/P-12812/Sign-Holders-w-Literature-Pocket?st=Category&sid=2356&position=24. The cost of the sign is $103.02.

Total cost: $370.00

Cost Agreement with the Vielemetti Health Center: The Associated Students of Northern Michigan University agrees to cover the entirety of the costs of the sunlamp spots as well as maintenance and upkeep costs.