



News Release

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Student Senate Announces Funding Changes to Multicultural Student Government

LAWRENCE, Kan.-- On February 14, Student Body President Mady Womack announced plans to discontinue the block allocation to the Multicultural Student Government (MSG) for the upcoming fiscal year.

Womack said Student Senate has immediate plans to rewrite Student Senate Rules and Regulations to expand the responsibilities of the Student Senate Multicultural Affairs committee and Multicultural Board of Advisors. Student Senate and MSG reached the previous deal through a memorandum of agreement last spring, which went into effect this fall.

“The well-intentioned setup for MSG under the previous administration did not establish clear rules and governing principles,” Womack said. “And it failed to promote representation of marginalized students in university governance effectively.”

Control over the Multicultural Education Fund, which was not specified in the memorandum of agreement, will be returned to the Student Senate Multicultural Affairs committee in the next fiscal year.

“MSG was rightfully formed in response to Student Senate’s lack of focus on diversity and inclusion,” Womack said. “Giving the Multicultural Affairs Committee and the Multicultural Board of Advisors an expanded platform and more resources to support marginalized students will continue to be our priority.”

Rusha Bajpai, Student Senate Director of Diversity and Inclusion, said she hopes MSG participates in the ongoing conversation regarding diversity and how to best represent marginalized students within the university governance structure.

“We hope MSG will want to be part of this dialogue moving forward, as we share the same goals and purpose,” Bajpai said.

About Student Senate

Student Senate is the student governing body at the University of Kansas that controls and allocates over \$24 million in student fees each year. It serves as the primary advocate for KU students at all levels. For more information, visit studentsenate.ku.edu, or email the Communications Director, Libby Stauffer, at senatecomms@ku.edu.