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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**FOURTH CONSTITUTION AMENDMENT PASSED BY MUSG SENATE
NEW TITLES ASSIGNED TO MUSG COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT**

MILWAUKEE (March 27, 2009) At its March 26 meeting, the Marquette University Student Government Senate passed recommendations, “Dining Dollars are the Difference” and “Middle Eastern Studies Minor” and approved an amendment to the MUSG constitution regarding a student organization allocation threshold.

The Senate heard from Sam Toman, senior in the College of Communication and co-author of “Dining Dollars are the Difference.” Toman spoke on behalf of the recommendation, which proposes the donation of all left over dining dollars from Marquette University meal plans go to the Hunger Task Force of the greater Milwaukee area. The Senate passed the recommendation unanimously with the hopes of coordinating a program between Sodexo, Marquette and Hunger Task Force.

The Senate also passed a recommendation regarding the creation of an interdisciplinary Middle Eastern Studies minor. The recommendation proposes the minor be established with existing courses to support the diverse academic needs of the student body.

Additionally, the Senate passed Amendment #5, “Updating the Allocation Approval Threshold to Reflect the Current Budget,” amending its constitution regarding the threshold for extraordinarily large SOA allocations. The SOA committee within the Senate reviews and allocates funds to student organizations, independently, under a specific threshold, above which the Senate has oversight. This amendment effectively raised the threshold from \$1,500 to \$2,500. The proposal cited that the

increased threshold is reflective of the increase in the total amount allocated student organizations and the increase in the total number of student organizations since the original threshold was created in 2002.

Off-Campus Senator Henry Thomas said the increased threshold will increase efficiency in the SOA process and remove unnecessary and repetitive consultation by the Senate.

This meeting marked the end of MUSG President Ray Redlingshafer's and MUSG Executive Vice President Kathleen Blaney's terms. At the April 2 meeting, Henry Thomas and Stephanie Stopka will attend their first meeting as MUSG president and executive vice president respectively.

The Marquette University Student Government goal is to identify, understand, actively address and represent students' needs, concerns, and interests through acts of leadership and service which reflect Catholic, Jesuit ideals and contribute to the betterment of the Marquette University community.

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