MTU ACLU
February 5, 2008 meeting minutes
7:00 pm
Fisher 139

Attendance
- Jeremy Sandrik
- Bryan Garfoot
- Chris Anderson
- Tim Beach
- Dan Satchell
- Roy Manninen
- Ryan Toll
- Kassidy Yatso

Introductions

Nomination of Officers
- Jeremy Sandrik self-nominated for secretary
- Roy Manninen self-nominated for co-chair
- Buddy Sasquatch self-nominated for co-chair
- Kassidy Yatso self-nominated for at-large member
- Bryan Garfoot self-nominated for treasurer
- No vote taken, no contention

Budget/Events
- Group needed to discuss budget & events for 2008-2009 school year
- Buddy
- Amber
- Wood
- Ryan
- Bryan
- Kassidy
- Dan
- Meeting @ KBC, Thursday, 3 pm

Freedom Files
- Wood is talking to student org's to sponsor Freedom Files videos
- Brown bag lunch week/Freedom Files week – get org's to cover refreshments
- Tech Teas/DiversiTeas
- Follow weeklong drive by once per week screenings
- Wood presented possible schedule & sponsoring org's

Screening of Beyond the Patriot Act Freedom File
- Question is between security and liberty
- Series of changes to existing laws
- Patriot Act Game
- Provisions/Cases
  - section 213 – sneak & peak provision
- search your house without your consent or knowledge
- searched Brandon Mayfield's home
  - Gerald David – student from Pakistan
    - missed immigration court date, no notification, order for deportation
    - wife writes letter to President
    - INS arrested & deported Gerald
    - deported on secret flight
  - section 215
    - government can obtain bank, computer, medical, library, book store records
    - government can look at people not breaking the law
    - use of information has been held to be private
    - FBI has demanded information from libraries
    - man on chat room seized by law enforcement for criticizing the President
    - 4th amendment violations
      - unlawful search & seizure
    - Infringement of liberties of citizens of Arabic descent
      - FBI harassment of Arabic student groups/ students
      - FISA court – FBI can get records of people that are not suspected of any wrongdoing
      - people come here to avoid hostile gov'ts & encounter another hostile gov't
      - institutionalizes discrimination against immigrants of Arabic descent
    - “You don't build a bigger haystack to find a needle.”
  - ISP letter
    - national security letter provision
    - demand client base information
    - FBI can engage in surveillance without any demonstration that it's constitutional
    - no privacy with regard to internet
  - Also targeting environmentalists
    - domestic terrorism defined very broadly
    - Steelworkers Union labeled a terrorist organization
    - Patriot Act given new powers to define terrorism
  - Mo Alafyouny
    - PLO involvement prior to 9/11
    - wife worked for TSA
    - taken by homeland security, imprisoned
  - Allison Smith – Andy Warhol museum
    - local municipalities enacted local policies to protect rights of citizens
    - Bill Peduto – Pittsburgh city councilman
    - citizens scared to sign a petition
    - 380 communities have passed resolutions against Patriot Act
    - Pittsburgh City Council passed resolution