**Student Senate Minutes**

**Gustavus Adolphus College**

**November 14, 2016**

Co-President Shaikoski calls the meeting to order at 7:02

1. **Attendance**

Question of the day: What’s your most anticipated class next semester?

**II. Approval of the Minutes**

1. Minutes from 11/7/16

Approved

1. **Community Comment**

None

**IV. Unfinished Business**

1. Pronouns

Toeben: We met with Brenda Kelly today. So far, Brenda Kelly likes the purpose of our initiative. More meetings will be needed before moving forward.

**V. New Business**

1. GTS Hours

Schwartz: GTS e-mailed me and asked me if we can gather student input on the hours of helpline. They are wondering if they could stop at 8pm instead 11pm. Reason: not enough people on duty; not a ton of calls coming in; A five minutes discussion to brainstorm on this.

Shaikoski: Just input. No charges.

**Discussion:**

Haberman: When are the 2 calls?

Schwartz: Not clear.

Clark: I think it should be helpful if they do longer hours during midterms and finals.

Schwartz: They will work normal hours on Reading days.

Ward: It’s valuable if they are open later.

Baron: Will the chat room be open?

Schwartz: I wouldn’t worry too much about that…they will take care of it.

Andersen: I think that if it’s consistently 2 calls every night, I would consider that valuable.

1. Lectures for Learning

Andersen: We thought we should organize types of learning series. Our current thought: 2 professors answering a hypothetical question once a month. How does Student Senate feel about endorsing this?

**Discussion:**

Clark: I love this idea. It exposes us to professors we would not know otherwise. Have two professors from two different departments argue about something would be something worth trying.

Lamberty: I think it’s awesome.

Haberman: I love the idea. Have you talked to any prof ?

Andersen : Not yet.

Shaw: I like the idea.

Hannan: It’s a great idea. We are here because we love to learn.

Edholm: It’s a cool idea. Look into having food and possibly on a weekend.

Andersen: Food wise I’m not sure. Having two professors is a bright idea.

1. Election and Campus Climate

Singh: As you all know, there has been significant discussion nationally, and on the Gustavus campus, about the outcome of the recent presidential election. There are a variety of political and emotional perspectives among your constituencies. As an organization that represents the student body as a whole, it is Student Senate's responsibility to have constructive conversation about campus climate. Cabinet has agreed that it is important for us to discuss your thoughts and concerns, as well as those of your constituents, regarding the election and how it has impacted Gustavus and its students.

Baron: I had a discussion with the FTS class that I help teach. Some people have accepted it and some people are still in shock. I ended up explaining that in order to move forward, we need to be at the table. Have people take their time if they need to.

Clark: I think that people on campus should know that they matter.

Hinnenkamp: There is a planned anti-Protest coming up on Friday. There is a duality that needs to be addressed. Let’s remember that we are a community of Gusties.

Lamberty: People are emotional about this. As Gusties, I would encourage us to support each other.

Hannan: There are people that feel marginalized by these issues. I think there are a lot of Gusties who feel alienated by this. The campus climate has opened some great discussions, let’s make sure we’re not unintentionally marginalizing others.

Asghar: Some people have felt that they are neglected. We as senators should have a positive attitude.

Clark: People can still support their candidate and still respect the other side. We should encourage people to actively express their political views in a civil way.

Singh: I would encourage us to keep talking to your constituencies. Also reflect on how this affects different people.

Asghar: I think that we should resolve the side walk chalking.

Toeben: DLC wants to go through a process in which you need to be approved before using the chalk.

Haberman: How will we know if someone is approved or not?

Toeben: We don’t know yet.

VanHecke: I’m not aware of any College policy that legislates chalking beyond policy around hate and bias or a vertical surface. There was a conversation with the original chalking group. They agreed to remove the chalking but after seeing other people writing on their chalks, they chose to take no action at all.

Haberman: We as senators are obligated to facilitate these discussions. We need to have a civilized talk.

Clark: We are leaders on this campus. I don’t know if this has ever happened before. It would be ridiculous to have this as a policy…

Schwartz: I struggled with the e-mail sent by the Chaplain’s office. I’ve heard that it was one-sided from students and faculty.

Lamberty: I’ve heard about that too from my constituents.

Hinnenkamp: We spoke extensively about this in Cabinet. I would probably argue that the e-mail wouldn’t have been sent in a different outcome. The heart was in the right place though. About the Chapel time, I’ve heard faculty and students saying the same thing.

O’Neil: I think that they are offering love and compassion…there is nothing wrong with that.

Hannan: The e-mail is a bit slanted. I don’t think it should have been done differently. It was appropriate even if it might have alienated a portion of the student body.

Edholm: For the next Elections, the e-mail should be spent the day before no matter what the elections results are.

1. Choenyi: Last Friday, my African friends realized that someone put a condom on their door. Who do they report that to?

VanHecke: Campus Safety. They can also report it through the Bias branch if they think it was a bias incident or the ResLife staff.

**VI. Announcements**

Asghar: MSA event this Thursday 17th 5:30-7:30pm.

Arshad: The E Pi Awareness this Wednesday at 7pm

Hinnenkamp: Eppies event on Wednesday.

Ngabirano: Faculty Reports at the end of the meeting.

Singh: I’m dressed like this because today is the birthday of the founder of our Sikh religion. The moon will be super bright tonight. Check it out.

Toeben: DAPL Panel at 6 on Thursday. Run-through a half-hour in the Courtyard. Russian Language at 2:30 on Thursday.

Choenyi: Gustie Tank tomorrow at 7 in the Courtyard.

VanHecke: Tonight, the moon will be to its closest to the earth since 1938. Check it out!

**\*Meeting Adjourned**