**Student Senate Minutes**

**Gustavus Adolphus College**

**May 1, 2017**

**Co-President Singh calls the meeting to order at 7:01.**

1. **Attendance**

Question of the day: Were you shy as a child?

**II. Approval of the Minutes**

1. 4/10/2017

Approved

1. 4/24/2017

Approved

**III. Community Comment**

1. Sarah Ruble – Curriculum

Ruble: I’m a professor in the religion department but I am here today as co-chair of the curriculum committee. I’m here… starting in 2014 we started to do feedback and opinions… buffet without cohesion. Student saying they’re just trying to check off gen ed requirements. We have four… deal with integration of learning, ability to communicate effectively, etc. Student learning outcomes tell us the baseline things we want to achieve. We want to tell you that this is happening and will be engaging more student feedback when we have more framework. If we’re completely wrong that the gen ed curriculum as this cohesive set of experiences that you bring together in thoughtful ways and we don’t need to touch it, that would be a good thing to know. It’s a complicated process…

O’Connel: I think it would be super important and interesting if there was a requirement that had to do with environmental education.

Clark: I think you’re spot on with your analysis, thanks for coming in.

Ruble: The outcomes we’re seeing is pretty standard across all colleges but we’re wondering if we can do it better. Is it overhaul or… The curriculum committee does have three student representatives on it and we’ve had some consistency this year but if you have any interest in joining it next year that would be very helpful.

Cella: What do you think are the kinds of things students could bring forward moving forward?

Ruble: I think we’re going to come back in the fall with an actual proposal and understanding how we can get the best student feedback.

Charlie: Newly appointed ethics chair for… I don’t know if you have been paying attention to what’s happening at St. Olaf but we’ve started drafting a letter in support of the colored students at St. Olaf and we would love to co-sponsor it with Student Senate after it’s approved by our body.

Edholm: Thank you for bringing this up, Sam Keilor wanted us to be in support of this by sending a letter or in the future if St. Olaf needed a physical presence, Sam wanted us to be part of that as well.

**IV. Budgets**

1. Fly Fishing

Hinnenkamp: We told them they don’t have to be there since they already defended it last week. Leaves us with a budget of $2,647.50.

Svendson: The equipment that’s being paid for is being kept in the club and not just a one year thing?

Hinnenkamp: Yes everything is good.

Schwartz: I know they got 60% off so it’s cheap and should last a while.

Edholm: Looks good, we should pass it.

Vote

Approved

1. Omnibus

Hinnenkamp: This is the Omnibus budget, which is an efficient way to pass a lot of budgets at one time. So this is all of the budgets that we and the org have agreed to.

Choenyi: Alpha Sigma Tau is our first budget. They asked for a big speaker event and a national convention and leadership conference as well as printing for $10. We decided to go with $10 for printing for all org’s.

VanHecke: I think the point of the omnibus is so that we don’t go line by line.

Singh: Should we ask the body if we want to take a recess to look at it?

Baron: I move for a 5 minute study recess.

Vote

Approved

Co-President Singh calls senate from recess.

Shaw: Investment club looks wrong.

Choenyi: Yeah that was a mistake on my part, I forgot to put it on the other line.

Svendson: Has connecting clouds been pulled yet? I just want to know as far as funding the difference in what they requested and what they were allotted.

Hinnenkamp: That was for the swing set and we didn’t know where it would go and with such a huge purchase we decided not to fund it.

Svendson: For myself I know 5 minutes wasn’t enough for me to look over this so could we do a 24 hour window that we can actually look over them?

Hinnenkamp: These budgets have already been looked over by the orgs and they are happy with it and they know what they’re getting.

Shaw: Did we pull BPLP as well?

Hinnenkamp: Yes.

O’Connell: I had two questions, connecting clouds had flower Friday’s that wasn’t recommended.

Baron: We don’t fund takeaway items so we couldn’t fund that.

O’Connell: I don’t know how ethical it is to fund pop that causes cancer.

Ward: Sprite is an alternative ingredient to one of the other ingredients so it’s just going into the recipe.

Ward: It’s unfortunate that some of you didn’t get the chance to read through the budgets but finance committee put 15-20 hours into the budgets so they’ve been looked over sufficiently.

Shaw: Are we allowed to fund paper and pens for history club since we haven’t been funding that kind of thing for other orgs.

Hinnenkamp: They’re keeping the pens and are used in their games so we deemed that okay.

Gorshuecsh: Is dance team considered a club sport now? They were allotted the club sport funds.

Hinnenkamp: Yes they are a club sport.

Gabe: I would like to pull the dance team budget and the hill crew budget.

Singh: Now that we’ve looked through the budgets and I know that you may feel like you’ve been rushed and I want you to know that you have the option of tabling this.

Vote

Approved

1. Block Budgets

Hinnenkamp: We would like your input. We have $127,000, we set a contingency for $75,000 which is what it’s been set for the past couple of years. All block budgets except PA’s asked for increases. They all asked for an increase except for PA’s. We could take away from the contingency, which isn’t a terrible idea or we could tell the block budgets that they’re going to get a decrease in their funding by a substantial amount.

Clark: Who are all the org’s in the block budgets?

Hinnenkamp: SAVE, DLC, IGS, Senior week, PA’s.

Clark: Who sets the student activity fee?

Singh: Well we do and Dean of Students office but we can change it according to inflation, which we’ve been keeping up with. But we can’t just add $40 to it because we need more money.

Clark: Did IGS ask for more money?

Hinnenkamp: Yes, they asked for an increase.

Ward: Last year IGS requested $18,000 and there are three orgs are going to be coming back with zero money, so they’re going to be coming to IGS for all money requests.

Hinnenkamp: It’s over $18,000 that IGS requested.

Svendson: With the DLC budget how many org’s were added this year?

Anderson: One left and one joined, so it’s the same.

Schwartz: I’m a little confused if we allocate more to IGS, does inflation affect the total amount?

Hinnenkamp: Inflation won’t change it.

VanHecke: Yeah that doesn’t have any affect.

Choenyi: We can bring this to next week and I can give you different scenarios of how different numbers would affect different things if that would be helpful.

Ward: You mentioned earlier it would be inappropriate to raise the activity fee just because we need more money and I don’t know if that’s fair, if students want more money then they should contribute more to it.

VanHeck: Those fees are figured out much earlier to figure out who to give out financial aid to. Our contingency fund is our backup but there’s nothing stopping senate from changing the amount that goes into that fund. None of that has anything to do with how much each student has to pay for the activity fee.

Clark: Question to advisor VanHeck, it’s my understanding that Res Life, when they do financial award letters they put for housing the lowest common denominator and then they tack on any extra.

VanHecke: Res Life has nothing to do with financial aid awards.

Grosshuesch: Could you tell me the total amount asked and the total amount of what groups asked for?

Hinnenkamp: $268,000 total.

VanHecke: Is that estimated with rollover?

Hinnenkamp: Yes, we’ll probably have more than that coming but I can’t guarantee that.

Choenyi: Total that all groups asked for is $276, 278.

Hinnenkamp: They always ask for more than we have and this is actually substantially less than normal. Recommended amount is $257,891. In my mind reducing it and figuring out a way to get them at least what they got last year would be most equitable.

Baron: I think everyone should look through this and understand it before the next meeting to get it all figured out.

Haberman: I move to extend the meeting until after announcements.

Vote

Approved

       **V. Unfinished Business**

1. Charging Stations

Schwartz: First we want to hit on the ethical concern of this. If we were to try and propose a budget for these we would need to break a bylaw. Also discussed the location. The most important thing because the electrician guy has a different price depending on where it goes in. He said it would be around $400. Andrea proposed they put it by the PO’s as well as several other places. Their favorite option was the countertop near where the computers are. Campus safety really wants the lockers in Lund. We also need to finalize the funding, GTS wants to get this done now and install it over summer.

Singh: Two issues: we can’t allocate midyears again because it would be a conflict of interest but we might want to do that because we want the money from GTS who can only allocate the money this year. Location is the second issue.

Shaw: Are we still 100% on the charging station idea?

Schwartz: Yeah it’s done. We have a lot of research on this and are ready to move forward.

Svendson: Our main concern with the ethics was that it was a midyear allocation and we’d be funding ourselves. As far as GTS goes, did we talk to them about their funding?

Schwartz: No, we don’t know how their finances work.

Svendson: Okay, VanHecke do you know how their budgets work?

VanHecke: Yes they have an administrative budget that their extra money will go away after June 1st.

Schwartz: He also made it sound like they needed something physical before June 1st.

VanHecke: Yeah that’s accurate.

Svendson: Does that mean their budget will change in a way that they won’t have that money next year?

VanHecke: It’s all about what you want to spend your money on.

Arshad: I say we go ahead and break the bylaw because we already did and this will be our last final stunt before school ends. I also think we should go with the courtyard location because that’s where the most people are.

Haberman: One of the biggest complaints we get is that we don’t actually do anything, so by doing this I think this would be proving them wrong. Did campus security say why they wanted it in lund?

Schwartz: They just thought it would be better in Lund.

Haberman: They said their favorite place was outside the post office?

Schwartz: The little alcove by the computers.

Haberman: I like that location. I’d like to move to have that as the location.

Edholm: I like the location because I think it’s more neutral, if someone is going to be working out in lund they can easily drop their phone off there.

Asghar: I like the location, I was going to say the same thing.

Clark: I move to call to question.

Vote

Approved

Vote

Approved

Singh: Back to the financial aspect.

Haberman: I’ll reiterate, a lot of people have doubts about us and I think we could actually get something done.

Clark: How did the funding talks go with GTS?

Schwartz: They would match what we pay.

Clark: I just want to say that breaking bylaws can be a bad rabbit hole to get into but I think we should fund this.

Adebisi: Yeah the reasoning that since we broke the bylaw so we can again is not good.

Ward: I think it would be appropriate to break the bylaw for this because we’re doing it to benefit the student body, not student senate.

Gorsuch: Does this money come from the contingency fund? Or cabinet?

Hinnenkamp: This would come out of our contingency fund as a midyear.

Grosshuesch: Is there money in the executive fund to do this?

Singh: No

Hinnenkamp: I’m very concerned over breaking the bylaws for ourselves based on conversations we’ve had with other org’s that we’ve refused money to.

Anderson: I have to agree with previous speakers and I would like to hear why you think it’s acceptable to break this bylaw.

O’Neil: I move to table the discussion until we have an actual budget.

Clark: I’m against this because this needs to be decided tonight.

Shaw: I second the previous speaker.

Vote

Not approved

Arshad: Once the lockers are there, the student body won’t care that we broke a bylaw. I know it’s bad but we’re doing it for the greater good.

Clark: I move to break the bylaws.

Clark: I think this is a great opportunity especially since GTS is helping pay for it.

Hinnenkamp: I guess my biggest concern is that we’ve broken so many bylaw’s this year already. I’m wondering if we should have bylaws at all at this point.

Shaw: I support not breaking the bylaws

Anderson:

Choenyi: Yeah so many organizations have been sending me emails so what kind of message are we sending to the student body?

Arshad: I would like to point out that this is the only opportunity we have for GTS to match the price.

Cella: Reminder that a lot of people talking are cabinet members that don’t have a vote.

Asghar: I don’t want to break a bylaw because it gives us a bad reputation but I also like how GTS is willing to help pay for it this year.

Grosshuesch: Yes this is important for the student body but I also think it’s important that we hold ourselves accountable to our own bylaws.

Ward: I think the pros outweigh the cons. Any financially responsible person ever would know that paying half is better than paying all.

Martinez: Are you going to make this a trend?

Toeben: I think it’s awesome that you all have strong opinions and you should call to question soon.

Pemberton: I think it’s not really for us we’re breaking it, if anything it’s just going to be us that’s mad we broke a bylaw.

O’Connell: I was just wondering if it was certain that they won’t fund it next year.

Singh: WE know that they have the money this year that they can pay for half of it but there’s no guarantee they’ll have the money left over next year.

Clark: I’m happy a lot more senators have chimed in. Not much has gotten done this year. I call to question.

Vote

Approved

Vote

Approved

**VI. New Business**

1. Ombuds-Bus Ethics

Adebisi: We worked diligently to rewrite bylaws especially in regards to elections.

Clark: How are we supposed to go through it?

Singh: We’ll go through it and decide if we want to consider it.

Clark: What do my fellow senators want to do?

Antes: Could you explain the logic behind Article 4 …

Singh: I would recommend waiting to have our ombudsperson talk about them and then vote to consider.

Adebisi: We noticed that the election tabling bylaw was being broken a lot so we had to change it to this.

Facendola: Why two unexcused absences?

Clark: We wanted a punishment that would be substantial.

Adebisi:

Clark: I move that we consider this at the next senate meeting to actually vote for this to go in place. Any concerns you have bring it to ethics committee.

Antes: In favor.

Edholm: Agreed.

Vote

Not approved

VanHecke: I think that we don’t get to discuss yes or no’s, we vote all of it up or down. Next week you take this language as is and you vote yes or no on it.

Clark: I would like to friendly it.

Cella: We were thinking it would be all at once but just like the omnibus we could still pull them out and look at them.

Vote

Not approved

Grosshuesch: We should shoot this down

Vote

Approved

1. Sustainability Fund

Grosshuesch: Upon visiting other colleges over spring break and talking to students they wanted me to create this proposal.

Clark: What kind of projects would this fund go towards?

Grosshuesch: Yeah so just something that is outlined in this already, it could be anything from compost education, etc.

Toeben: We have an annual class tree project, which would be the perfect example of that.

Clark: I think this would be cool and would add a lot to our campus.

O’Neil: And this would be for all students not just ES students?

Jeon: Other colleges are doing this?

Grosshuesch: Yes, Concordia in Moorhead has been doing this for about 5 years now.

Shaw: Great idea, gives non ES majors a way to explore environmental sustainability.

Schwartz: Can you explain how the internships would work?

Grosshuesch: Yeah it has to be unpaid but they could get academic credit for it but could also get a living stipend.

Hinnenkamp: Did we discuss whether it’s going to roll over? And would there be an end of the year review?

Grosshuesch: Yes, and yes things would happen throughout the year and they have to present it to the board.

My next steps would be to receive feedback and then I will present to CAB next Monday.

Haberman: I’ve had a lot of students come up to me expressing concern over showers in Olin.

O’Neil: While pursuing an exploratory charge in the past, I ran into major pushback in the past. This may be dangerous.

Antes: I have heard people say they want showers in Olin.

Cella: Olin could use some showers.

Shaw: As one of the people who do live in Olin I don’t think this is a good idea.

Vote

Approved

Vote

Not approved

Asghar: I move to open discussion about the St. Olaf situation. I just think it’s a good idea to support them.

Shaw: I support this. There’s weird animosity with Olies but we should support their protesting and diversity on campus.

Grosshuesch: Important to back DLC. Should we charge cabinet?

Clark: Yeah we should support but whether we should just figure out whether we want to endorse DLC’s. I move that cabinet review’s DLC’s letter then brings it to senate for us to review.

VanHecke: I want to caution that there are a lot of issues going on at St. Olaf right now and I think you can weigh in but you need to decide what you’re weighing in on.

O’Neil: This seems to be rather time sensitive. As far as the letter goes, as long as we keep it on a humanitarian basis we’ll be good.

Clark: It would be great if our leadership could reach out to them and see how they’re feeling.

Asghar: My only concern is that when we’re trying to help them then…

Vote

Approved

VanHecke: I think there are some interesting and positive ways you could weigh in

Svendson:

Hinnenkamp: I’ll just email the cabinet.

Edholm: Sam Keilor wanted me to read this email tonight.

**VII. Announcements**

Grosshuesch: If you want to talk to me more about the fund, let me know!

Martinez: Thank you for shooting down the motion. It will have consequences of our legitimacy.

Clark: Look over the bylaws, email any questions.

Adebisi: Make sure to have anything in by Saturday.

Hinnenkamp: Look over omnibus bill for the budget. PA’s this Wednesday for senior’s it’s the inside scoop revamped.

Shaikoski: May 14th 2pm JoNess’s house.