

**Student Senate Agenda**  
**Gustavus Adolphus College**  
**October 9, 2017**

**I. Attendance**

**II. Approval of the Minutes 10/2/17 - Approved**

**III. Community Comment - none**

**V. Old Business**

a. President Bergman

JoNes: What is a movie you could watch over and over again?

Bergman: I never watch a movie more than once, unless they are childhood movies. The first movie I ever watched in theatre was snow white, so I would watch that again

Co-President Svendsen: Bergman would you like to introduce yourself

Bergman: Congratulations for stepping into this leadership role, it is great to see a mix of people. Let me know any questions you have, my schedule has been very busy this semester, but I hope to get my head above water soon. I have been trying to put into place the strategic aids, so I have been trying to get feedback from all about areas of need or concern or enthusiasm. My preference would be to start with some questions, so I know what things you want to hear about

Edholm: Nobel Renovation?

Bergman: The plans will almost double the square footage of the building. The whole building will be known as the nobel hall of science. Using the Nobel name is a great honor. This is a 70 million dollar project, to put it in perspective the Anderson Hall renovation was an 8 million dollar project, and the Beck Hall renovation was a 30 million dollar project. This will probably be the largest project money wise for a long time. We have a plan to raise 50 million and borrow 20 million, which we took on the smart way by refinancing our older debt. We are down to raising the last 10 million dollars, and if everything goes to plan we will break ground on construction in April. It will take about 16 months to do the new construction , and then everyone will move to the new building in order to renovate the old building. This is the least disruptive way we could imagine doing this. The building will connect to the theatre, and addition to the labs we are adding a new black box theatre called the innovation theatre. It is an awesome design, and we cannot wait for it to start.

Ngabirano: How can Senate support the strategic action plan?

Bergman: We need student input on how to integrate in the classroom and out of the classroom work so in the end you have a portfolio and a resume that will rise to the top. We want to equip students to have an integrative answer to the question “what have you taken away from your liberal arts education”. I encourage you to think about that integration and what that means. Faculty is working on a new general education

curriculum that works on getting practice at looking across disciplines at a challenge. We want you to be prepared to act upon the great challenges of our time.

O'Neil: Are students involved in the new curriculum design?

JoNes: There are three students in the committee.

O'Neil: update on enrollment, how are we attracting competitive perspective students?

Bergman: It is a competitive environment, and each of you can be a recruiter at your high school, and community. Here we are building up scholarship funds in order to reach our goal and meeting the financial needs of every student. We want students to know that they can afford a private college when one considers the financial aid and the high probability that one will graduate in four years and not five. We are working to market our community as a place where education is real, and where you get to know the faculty through one on one interactions.

Co-President Svendsen: Along those lines, This is your fourth year here, and you did not attend Gustavus, so to you what sets Gustavus apart. What makes a person a Gustie?

Bergman: There is no one answer. I think it is our community that sets us apart, and that has to do with us being a residential college in a small town, so we are home for many students. I think having the college be in a small town acts as a huge advantage. I served on the Board of Trustees before becoming the President of Gustavus, and it allowed me to realize the advantages of a residential college. It is hard to sell that because

the allure of the big city is wanted by some, and here not being a big city is seen as a disadvantage. The commitment from our faculty is unusual here, they have a commitment to the mission here, that is a part of how they get hired, and teach, and plays into their tenure. Our faculty is one thing that really sets us apart. Our faculty are good at their craft and they really care about the students. They have a commitment to mission that is an asset to college.

Ngabirano: I know this year has a low international enrollment rate, do we have plans to address that.

Bergman: The current first year class was stronger than our sophomore year, and we are looking for an additional 30 students for our incoming year. We are one of the few schools that has been increasing it's class size each year. If we have a class of 625 then more seniors will be happy and they can live off campus, but there is a ripple effect. You all are dealing with the ripple effects of a couple low enrollment years.

Co-President Svendsen: any more questions - none

Bergman: I have asked Solveig and Hubert to think of things we could do that are small to improve our community.

O'Neil: I think lighting up Old Main at night would be good for marketing, along with the Chapel

Allen: I think the feminine products should be free to all, my highschool did this and students greatly appreciated this.

Edholm: I think lund could use some windows.

Bergman: I don't think they have any, and we have a priority list for the lund renovation, and this is on it.

Mir: I am curious on the situation with Greek Life and the plan for the orgs that will be coming back soon.

Bergman: I think the attitude that is important is what have we learned and how can we come back stronger. Especially in terms of all the good the Greeks bring to our campus and the foundation is that. 95% of the reputation of the Greeks is positive. As the Greeks are coming back I want to really focus on the future and how we can all get better. I think this will carry us through reintegrating the suspended orgs back into the mainstream. I want them to be welcomed back with opened arms. The expectation is that all Greek orgs take that to heart.

Kalyani: Tunnels would be helpful to navigate to building in this weather

Bergman: unfortunately the steam pipes make using the tunnels very unsafe. I recommend buying a good winter coat because I do not see tunnels in our future. The good thing about the Nobel renovation will be the connection between Nobel and the Music building.

Asghar: For breaks it would be nice if international students did not have to pack and move all their stuff to IC

Bergman: we need to look into how we can store stuff especially through the summer. We will see what we can do to help students in that way.

Co-President Svendsen: Any last remarks?

Bergman: Thank you for getting involved. My door is open if people have real concerns, and you also have JoNes here if you need a go between to my office. Let's make this year awesome.

b. Finance Committee: contingency update

Keeley: Our Contingency is \$63,271.26

c. Health and Housing update

The two charges about air conditioning, and opening the feminine cabinets. The first one Charlie Potts has been investigating and he said the cost would be huge. To get an actual cost would take hiring a specialist. There is not a lot of possibility with that right now. For the opening of feminine products I will be contacting them directly this week. For the caf food the pork will be removed. He also made the suggestion that the students can go talk to him directly. Students can come to us, but they can also talk with him. For the needle box Charlie is looking into this, he will get back to me this week.

d. Administration Director update

Toebe: Spring Semester office hour sign up needs to be filled out, everyone needs to sign up for at least 2 slots. If you are going to be absent to Senate you need to email me by noon on Monday. Also for committees just remember that you need to be signed up for 2 committees, and if you are not please come see me.

Kalyani: I have not heard from my committee chair, how do I know I am on the committee.

Co-President Svendsen: Chairs please contact the senators, Senators if you signed up for two then you are on those committees and they should be contacting you soon

## **VI. New Business**

### **1. Budgets**

#### **a. Finance Club**

Keeley: The initially requested \$1,710, the documentation came out to \$1,560 so that is what we recommended.

Finance Club: We are starting a new educational movie nights, and that takes money to get the rights. Everything is up there and there's documentation like Jack said.

Co-President Svendsen: discussion on the budget

Young: Everything seems fine with their documentation

Allen: The banquet presents a unique opportunity that is open to our community here, and brings in alumni.

Co-President Svendsen: Any more discussion

Vote - Passes

#### **b. Quizbowl**

Keeley: This is just admission to the tournament \$265 for two teams, and they had awesome documentation.

Quiz Bowl: We just need funding for two teams, and we are providing our own transportation, and we get a discount for bringing our own buzzer.

Co-President Svendsen: Questions for the org

Asghar: what is quizbowl?

Quiz Bowl: It is similar to jeopardy

Co-President Svendsen: Discussion

O'Neil: When in the tournament?

Quizbowl: November 4th

O'Neil: I love it, go get em'

Co-President Svendsen: Further discussion? Anyone want to speak about why we are giving them money?

Vierzba: I support it

Asghar: This is a great opportunity. I support it

Lang: with the proper documentation, I believe this is an awesome opportunity for them and for us.

Co-President Svendsen: Any more discussion - none

Vote - Passes

### c. Gus Bus update

Ngabirano: There will be an ID swipe system being put into the Gus Bus to know who gets on and off the Bus

Young: what is the timeline?

JoNes: probably January, but sooner if we can get everything figured out. Part of it is trying to figure out the technology and getting it in the bus



Asghar: Is Senate paying for this? And if they don't bring their ID will they still be allowed to take the bus, and will the students be notified

JoNes: We will be telling the students, and I think there will likely be a hard start date and at that date you would need your ID to get on the Bus. Another part is what to do with GAC Student guests, and how to manage that. Regard to financing I don't know the answer because we do not know the cost. If it is expensive than yes Senate may be asked to contribute because Gus Bus is your responsibility.

Keeley: You already touched on guests, I yield.

Allen: In regard to guests, have you looked at having students pick up guests passes

JoNes: Yes, and we have considered how many students are not good at picking up guests passes

Andersen: Why do they want to track who is on the Gus Bus?

JoNes: we do not want to track students, we just want to have a record for if their is an incident so we can go back and see who was there.

Andersen: Why not have the guest provide their ID

JoNes: we do not know if the technology will take that ID, and we do not want the Drivers to have to take down all the information. And we know that guests are not the ones causing the problems.

Vierzba: What are your current options when dealing with guests. And why do we want to know this information

JoNes: We have talked about Gusties being able to scan twice in order to allow my guest to get on. We have also talked about if the technology would allow the swiping of various ID's, register your guest and get a pass.

Harbeck: to keep everyone safe this is a great idea, but the kinks definitely need to be worked out

Lang: if someone had behavioral problems on the Gus Bus would they be suspended from using the Gus Bus?

JoNes: to date that has not been the case. I am not sure how that would be enforced, but in light of the scan possibility but it may be an option.

Mir: have you thought of any alternatives for Gusties who forget their ID's, it may put pressure on the drivers to enforce the rule

JoNes: My personal opinion would be that they should call a friend to bring them home.

Young: what if people bypass the scanner?

JoNes: the bus will not move, the driver will watching.

Co-President Svendsen: Any New Business?

Kalyani: I believe I have been dealing with bed bugs, so I have been leaving my door unlocked for physical plant, but I have not received an email saying they have come yet. I charge H&H to look into if the building has a problem with bed bugs usually, if other students have a problem with it, and if they could also please check the screens because there were a lot of ladybugs.

Seconded - Pham

Co-President Svendsen: Discussion

Schugel: I agree with this as I also live in plex and there are always a lot of bugs.

JoNes: Please do not leave your doors unlocked, physical plant has a procedure to get in and perform maintenance. and if you makes you feel better I know of people who are not in res halls that have been dealing with lady bug problems.

Kalyani: I wonder if physical plant has come in, because I have not received any follow up and it is serious to me, but I don't know if they have checked into yet.

JoNes: I encourage you to call your area coordinator because we do not want bed bugs.

Co-President Svendsen: Further discussion of the charge? - none  
Vote - Passes

Co-President Svendsen: Any New Business?

Arshad: I cannot charge people, but I think the complex kitchens need basic things, like soap, and utensils.

Lang: I charge H&H to look into getting basic utensils and supplies to the kitchen.

Second- Asghar

Asghar: When I was a first year back in the day we were supplied with utensils. I don't blame res life because people steal them, but it doesn't hurt to look into this

Kalyani: I think this will solve the issue of people coming and leaving the kitchen super messy.

Steinwand: I remember the days when reslife supplied utensils and they also just disappeared within a month.

Concepcion: I'm in pittman and many have soap in their rooms, but there is no soap in the kitchen so there are dirty dishes sitting out.

Co- President Ngabirano: This issue might be great if brought to hall council, and I think has to do with holding each other accountable.

Charge - Fails

Co-President Svendsen: New Business?

Allen: A constituent wanted to know the possibility of adding water bottle filling stations in coed. I charge H&H to look into getting more water bottle filling stations in coed or making the sinks deeper so one can actually fill their water bottle

Second- Asghar

Co-President Svendsen: Discussion

Asghar: This is a great charge we need a water bottle filling station. I live in Uhler and it would be nice to have more water fountains

Fonder: It'd be nice to have more water fountains in the res halls not just coed. Making the skin's deeper wouldn't help.

Allen: I agree with Fonder

Asghar: Can I friendly to add that they also look into Uhler

Co-President Svendsen: So friendlied

Keeley: do we know how much it costs to implement each fountain? And does senate pay for this?

JoNes: Sometimes senate has paid for it, and sometimes the college has paid for it

Co-President Svendsen: When senate put in a large portion of the water bottle stations in the res halls it ranged from \$500 to \$1,000 per station.

Co-President Svendsen: Further Discussion of the Charge?

Vote: Passes

Co-President Svendsen: Any New Business

Concepcion: I charge H&H to look into what is causing the water to taste bad in Sohre, so I can relay the information back to my constituents.

Second - Asghar

Co-President Svendsen: Discussion

Concepcion: A lot of girls have told me on second floor that it tastes bad, and changes the taste of their coffee and tea. I don't think it is unhealthy, but I just want something to be able to tell them.

Anderson: I thought it tasted bad my first year, and now I like it so I think it is just the gustie water.

Nguyen: is it the sink or the filling station?

Mir: Be aware that the city of saint peter does regular maintenance on the lines.

Lang: is this a health concern or a taste preference

Concepcion: I know it has come from at least 13 different people.

Vote - Passed

Co-President Svendsen: Any New Business? - None

## **VII. Announcements**

Co-President Co-President Ngabirano: The Committees should have been updated online so if you have not signed up.

Co-President Svendsen: the awkward moment in budgets is because we are giving money out to orgs, and when we make decisions about where the money goes we need to explain why so it is on record. There is no record of what goes on in finance meetings, so other organizations know that we do not approve orgs if their documentation is not up to par. If you talk we will have good discussions. I hope everyone has a great week.

Schugel: Cross Country is at La Crosse this weekend, so please wish them well.