

**Student Senate Agenda
Gustavus Adolphus College
February 19, 2018**

I. Attendance

II. Approval of the Minutes 2/12/18 - Approved

III. Community Comment - none

VI. Committee Update

a. Memorial fund joint committee

Ombudsman O'neil: Talked to Deb Swanberg who is in charge of sending flowers to families of students who pass away. The flowers are accompanied by a note from the President, the Board of Trustees, and the gustavus community.

Keeley: They spend around \$100 per student.

Harbeck: If flowers are already being covered then we don't need to add an additional bouquet.

Ashgarh: I agree with the previous speaker.

Wicklund: What is included in the package sent?

Advisor VanHecke: Just flowers are sent.

Wicklund: We should send another bouquet anyway. It would be a more powerful statement to the families. Otherwise we could look at other options.

Allen: Senate may not need to send an additional bouquet. As the note attached to the flowers states it is from the whole of the Gustavus community it may make senate look like it is a different body.

Wicklund: Any other ideas?

Advisor VanHecke: One of the challenges is that most of what senate could do is covered by the addition of the memorial garden to the campus. Nothing easy to do comes to mind as to what could be done. Most things given to the families of those who have passed away are personalized to the person who passed away.

Wicklund: Could we add senate to the list of names at the end of the official communications from the offices of gustavus that go to the students when an incident occurs.

Wicklund: Charge student and academic affairs to look into adding our names to the response mechanism.

No second

Wicklund: I am disappointed this failed as we should do something to represent the student body. We should be conscious of the well-being of the student body, and we should respond when someone is lost

Asghar: How does the garden work when someone at gustavus dies?

Advisor VanHecke: I will share with the family they have the option to have a student's name added to the garden. Then the chaplains work with the family to engrave and add the stone to the garden.

O'neil: A handwritten note from the co-presidents would be more impactful to the families than any other option.

Allen: A note would emphasize the appreciation of senate to the families.

Wicklund: Would future co-presidents be able to write a personalized note, if they didn't know

Co-President Svendsen: I think it would be possible for co-presidents to write something meaningful even if they don't have direct contact with the deceased.

Schugel: I would like a note more than flowers. It seems more meaningful.

O'neil: The fact that time was taken to write the note is impactful.

Allen: Would the joint committee work to change bylaws? Or would we need a new charge?

Co-President Svendsen: You would need a new charge.

Allen: I charge ethics to look into language for a by-law which would instruct the co-presidents to write send a note to the family of the deceased on behalf of the senate.

Second: Asghar

Co-President Svendsen: Discussion on the Motion?

Wicklund: I like the idea, but have concerns we are asking future presidents to send personalized notes to the families. It may seem insincere and just procedural. We are asking future co-presidents to do this no matter the time of the semester which is concerning

Young: How would a letter be different from sending flowers where sincerity is concerned?

Wicklund: when someone is writing a personalized letter about someone they do not know it seems less personal and more contrite.

Allen: I trust future co-presidents are able to write a note which is heartfelt as they have invested themselves in the Gustavus community.

Co-President Svendsen: Our community is small so it is easy to find people who the student has impacted here on campus and gain their input.

Keeley: Whatever is sent there would include some form of a note. Co-Presidents are competent enough to write something to the families.

Asghar: Not sure if senate needs to send one additional item as other items are sent from the gustavus. No need to seperate senate from the community

Co-President Ngabirano: I like the idea of a hand written note. Shows our humanity. Also the students are more connected to each than the office of the president. I have concerns about adding it to the by-laws as it shouldn't feel forced but come from the heart.

Advisor VanHecke: All the co-presidents I have worked with I feel would be capable and thoughtful enough to send a note to the family which would not seem forced. Could help to give guidance to future senates as to what they can do to help with the grieving process.

Wicklund: Would we have to worry about money for stationary? I am concerned about it being in the by-laws is there a less powerful way to give a precedent for others to follow?

Advisor VanHecke: The dean of students office would cover the cost of a card.

Vote: passes

Co-President Svendsen: Any other committee updates?

VII. Budgets

a. Gustavus Women's Acapella

Chair Keeley: This budget is for \$160 dollars for the printing of sheet music. The finance committee recommends it in full.

GWA: We are a new org looking to build a library of sheet music to be sung.

Wicklund: Why have one copy for each member?

GWA: To give people to opportunity to practice in their own time

Co-President Svendsen: Any more questions for the org? Discussion of the budget?

Allen: I'm in full support

Wicklund: I'm in support

Vote: Passes

b. Global China Connection

Keeley: They are asking for \$245 to pay for food for the Lunar New Year event.

GCC: We are helping to present the Lunar new year celebration and need help to fund the food for our event. Over 100 students on campus are from eastern Asian countries where this is a significant holiday.

Co-President Svendsen: Any questions for the org?

Wicklund: Are they a part of DLC?

GCC: Not right now.

Co-President Svendsen: Any more questions for the org?

Asgar: We should fund as its important to their culture and many people will be in attendance.

Wicklund: We should provide them with money to support cultural activities.

Seyoum: Helps to build the gustavus community. I am in support.

Allen: Amend to recommend the budget in full.

Second: Wicklund

Co-President Svendsen: Discussion of the amendment?

Vote: Passes

Vote to approve the budget: passes

c. TMAYD

Chair Keeley: senate funded initiative to provide 250 wristbands to students which will cost \$128.50.

Co-President Ngabirano: This was done 2 years ago and are now bringing it back. This initiative will be split between building bridges and student senate.

Controller Arshad: Will this be a one time thing. Should it be continued or made a part of the annual budget?

Co-President Svendsen:

Allen: Why only 250 wristbands?

Keeley: Another 250 come from Building Bridges.

Advisor VanHecke: They are intended to be passed around amongst the students.

Wicklund: I'm in full support.

Allen: I think it's a good idea I am in support.

Lang: also in full support. Glad we partnered with Building Bridges.

Co-President Svendsen: Further Discussion?

Vote: Passes

Co-President Svendsen: Any more budget?

VII. Old Business

a. By-law Discussion

Oneil: We have been looking into a by-law which would prevent students who are convicted of title 9 offenses to serve on senate. Should we be told to consider also disqualifying students with other conduct violations.

Wicklund: originally just looking at title 9 now other illicit activities. Not sure we should add other violations as title 9 violations have someone being hurt and other violations are often viewed as victimless crimes.

Allen: What level of violations should we use?

O'neil: Disciplinary probation.

Allen: What does that mean?

Advisor VanHecke: depends on the egregiousness of the violation with the exception of drugs and alcohol have grids to provide guidelines for consequences.

O'neil: pot 2nd violation would put on on probations

Schugel: level 3 alcohol violation would put one on suspension

Mir: would it be similar to the set up of greek life. Where the advisor just gets a notification that a student is not eligible.

Wicklund: We could set it up so not everyone would know why a senator left the senate.

Schugel: We should do all or none of the violations.

Co-President Svendson: what laws do we have to worry about in regards to disclosure?

Advisor VanHecke: we can not disclose without your permission without a serious educational need.

Allen: we should do all or none of the violations.

O'neil: along the lines of privacy. Advisor VanHecke would just tell you you were no longer eligible for senate.

Young : we should have probation from senate for all serious violations.

Wicklund: We are supposed to pick and chose which rules we want to enforce. Many students don't mind if their senator drinks or smokes.

Allen: We need to plan more to understand the issue.

Young: Whether or not people agree with the law does not dictate its effect on them.

Wicklund: our job is not to assert federal law. We are here to advocate for our constituents and what they would like.

Lang: can we survey the students to find our the viewpoints?

O'neil: would have to pass the IRB

Co-President Svendsen: It could be done. Concerns about privacy of the students taking the survey. Could take many weeks to get ready. This charge has been around for a long time.

Allen: would there be a way for students to petition if they have a violation someone to be able to join senate.

Ombudsperson O'neil: there is an appeal process. Better to trust the advisory board.

Asghar: could there be an exception to for first year or earlier problems

Shugal: we have agreed to uphold a code of conduct. Word mean nothing

Chair Mir: We trust the expertise of the advisory board

Allen: charge senators to go back to their constituents to gather information about their view

Second to wicklund

Wicklund: Please actually reach out to your constituents. Be proactive.

Vote: Passes

Schugel: Can we amend to add that this is done before next week.

Allen: friendlied

Wicklund: The cabinet should only comment on issues related to their cabinet position.

VIII. New Business

a. Senate Retreat Summary

Ngabirano: This saturday there was a retreat in confer 127. We came together to create a list of things senate should work on over the spring semester. We also looked at the responses from the survey that was sent out. There were not clear crises on campus. The positives listed were community, friends, food, activities. The negatives were food cost, parking, lack of diversity of thought, some res life issues. Set our own deadlines to be most effective this semester. There were 118 responses not a ton, but I feel people who are satisfied with issues on campus will not let your know. Please take responsibility to make progress on the issues were covered.

Wicklund: Can we see the results?

Ngabirano: Yes there is a way

Wicklund: There were very few people who did respond. There are people who may feel they will not be heard by senate.

VIII. Announcements

Pham: Can you send a photo to Schugel.

Schugel: Will send an email please respond there

Wicklund: Can we make these photos private to the general viewing population.

Mir: Id like to see diversity council.

Schugel: Track has a meet this weekend wish them luck

Steinwand: Tennis nationals this saturday in the Bubble

O'neil: Eshan and I have a badminton match at 9pm on wednesday please come watch

Schugel: I have one at 10pm