

Student Senate Meeting Minutes  
Gustavus Adolphus College  
Monday, February 07, 2011

- I. Call to Order** by President Tessmer 7:10
- II. Attendance by Administrative Director, Alison Hoffman**
- III. Approval of Minutes from January 24, 2010**
  - a. Move to vote, none nay, motion passes
- IV. Community Comment**
  - a. Dierdre Rosenfeld – Judicial System
    - i. Presentation
      - Judicial System – college judicial board is one of most structured system on campus, more structure = the more likely you are to trust the system.
      - Legal terms vs. policy based language
      - “Judicial” system should become “student conduct” system?
    - ii. Discussion
      - Prince: Should be “Board of Student Conduct”
      - Nowariak: What is the reasoning behind thinking about a name change?
        - a. Its embarrassing to go to conferences with other professionals still using the word judicial
      - Lundborg: concerned that maybe it doesn’t have the same connotations so that students recognize the gravity of the offenses, the harsh name could be preventative
      - Tessmer: makes sense to change name
      - Gust: What cases are heard by the judicial board?
        - a. Most serious cases are heard by judicial board, if you are likely to face suspension, all student have a right to argue before the college board for a different sanction
      - Nowariak: how much to the hearings actually matter? A person can write out a testimony just as well as they can say it. Went to one last year and it seemed pretty cut-and-dry as to what was going to happen.
        - a. The hearings matter a great deal to the person who is being accused, gives them a chance to speak and tell their story and talk about what happened with the offending party
- V. Appointments**
  - a. Prairie View Apartments – none
  - b. International Representative – none
  - c. IC Representative - none

## **VI. President Updates**

### **a. Board of Trustees**

- i. Tessmer: Board of trustees met on Monday, Emily and Sean attended. It's a lot better looking now than it was a year ago, hopefully the trend continues. Setting budgets for the creation of plans to renovate SSC, the new mall and Nobel. We gave a report, talked a bit of having a pub.

### **b. MAPCS**

- i. Emily: went to MAPCS with Sean and Nowariak. Came away with a lot of ideas. Sean got to talk a lot with people from St. Bens about their pub and their transportation system. Other ideas involve throwing an alumni event for Senate members, maybe in the Spring. One school does a "swap shop" where instead of throwing things away at the end of the year you can bring it to the swap shop and trade it for something else, perhaps we can involve this with rock-a-thon. We are hosting the next MAPCS conference on April 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>, mandatory attendance for all Senate members. We also want to plan social events for it as well as business stuff mostly on Saturday. Would like to form a committee to help plan MAPC conference.
- ii. Prince moves to create a MAPCS Planning Committee, Nowariak seconds
  - Move to vote, none nay, passes – Thayer to chair

### **c. Day at the Capital**

- i. Lobby on behalf of the MN state grant program, go every year, Senate helps fund it. Will be on April 7, day before MAPCS.
- ii. Prince, Nelson move to form a planning committee for Day at the capitol
  - Move to vote, none nay, motion passes - Brittany Richardson to chair

### **d. Pub Project**

- i. Tessmer: Looked at survey data, 2/3 of the student body want a pub. Will now look to develop committees for planning, co-presidents will serve on it, as will students at large and faculty. Won't necessarily be a Senate committee, but will oversee the planning and creation. Faculty members are very interested as well.

### **e. Senate Election**

- i. Erik: about to send out an email with applications, have been available at SAO since Friday. They are due next Monday, the election is on the 28<sup>th</sup>. Will be having a meeting with at least one member of each candidate pairs next Tuesday, and there will be a forum for the candidates.

## **VII. Goal Setting and Brainstorming**

- a. Gust: Filling vacancies across the board, senators and committees

- b. Sande: Would like to know more about cable in dorms

- i. Apparently tech services is working on some sort of Ethernet cord that would be a lot cheaper.

- c. Stetson: Parking should be prioritized
  - i. Thayer: at MAPCS, Concordia has no parking fee whatsoever, we are one of the most expensive parking fees.
  - ii. Gust: medians could be better utilized?
  - iii. Tessmer: administration hasn't historically been open to any communication about parking
- d. Lundborg:
  - i. We have a negative attitude about things that haven't worked before we don't want to try again, but we should try, try, and try again
  - ii. Years ago, we wanted a windmill but the county board wouldn't let us. Lets get a Gustavus student on the board to vote our way. We should have people in positions that allows us to do what we want to do.
  - iii. I like the people who are collegiate fellows on campus, I don't like the role that they serve. They should be there as social facilitators and resources for students, not as punishment implementers. Perhaps shouldn't exist in upperclassmen dorms.
  - iv. We should work together with the Faculty Senate.
  - v. This college is rapidly becoming a suitcase college. Remembers freshman year, him and Kampfe were the only two that stayed regularly without going home. When you go home all the time, you don't develop roots here and you transfer.
- e. Nowariak: Facilitate better communication between Cabinet projects and the greater Senate, including having budgets sent to senators before meetings so Senators can look them over.
  - i. Prince: Budget meetings running more smoothly is a great idea. Finance committee should come up with criteria before hand and let Senate know these, or else come up with highly transcribed notes about what was talked about in Finance committee so Senate doesn't discuss the same things. It involves more foresights than just sending out the budgets.
  - ii. Hagadorn: good idea.
- f. Helt: I think CAB is very effective when it comes to leadership development, and we have amazing faculty who work on this too. Senate should work on developing leadership and group cohesion to facilitate goals.
- g. Nelson: Sidewalk all around ring road.
- h. Nowariak: Public voting records – making voting record from Senate meetings
- i. Gust: come up with a plan for where people are going to stand when they come in to talk about budgets.
  - i. Lundborg: Point of info, we have alumni hall for budget meetings
  - ii. Prince: we should set up plans for how the meetings and discussion will work, we should consider which are the big topics and which will go quicker. We can set a time limit before hand to keep things from getting out of hand and this will help cut down the repetition and keep peoples ideas more concise.

- iii. Bryz-Gornia: we shouldn't plan on limiting discussion on anything that reflects any organization's yearly budget. If we start limiting time we will start making rash decisions and votes, shooting ourselves in the foot in the long run.
  - j. Lundborg: We have switched from big-picture thinking to Finance, which affects just us. We tend to become afraid of big ideas just because they are big.
  - k. Thayer: Sean and I would like to see everyone in this room to talk about an issue and make a motion by the end of the year.
  - l. Fogelberg: Put Finance ideas on the agenda
  - m. Gust: Can Senate be more of a mediator with the off-campus housing situation? What is the school's association with Chapel View Apartments?
    - i. Dierdre: As she understands it, Gustavus will receive Chapel View Apartments as a gift in 20 years if Gustavus facilitates filling the vacancies in the facility until then.
    - ii. Lundborg: the off-campus meetings that are held are very informative and blunt. If you have any questions they seemed very willing to answer them.
    - iii. Flannery: also felt like it was very informative, they did a good job of giving cold hard facts. As students we have to take the responsibility to ask residential life the questions they have instead of relying on the rumor mill.

## VIII. Old Business

### a. Gusbus

- i. Courtney West – Gusbus Committee Chair
  - Kate did a great job with the survey over J-term and got you the info. There are three options now: go back to dial a ride, keep the trial run, or implement a new plan.
- ii. *Prince moves to return to dial-a-ride system, Skjerping seconds*
  - Discussion:
    - a. Prince: 70 to 30 were against the trial system, fairly compelling number. Half the campus like parts of both systems, might be a good idea to keep the Gusbus committee around. We should constantly address thus and refine it.
    - b. Sande: Agrees, shouldn't consider this a failure by any means
    - c. Thayer: Agrees, we need to keep looking at this, at MAPCS discussed having less stops on campus and more stops elsewhere
    - d. Gust: We can come up with another perfect idea but I would like to know what the ongoing committee is going to work on and how soon changes will be talked about. Going back to the old system isn't going to alleviate the old problems.
    - e. Gust calls to question, Sande seconds
      - i. Move to vote, passes
  - Move to vote to return to dial-a-ride, none nay, passes

*iii. Prince moves to create a New Gusbus Committee, Gust seconds.*

▪ Discussion

- a. Prince: there are plenty of ways that the committee can operate, there are many tweaks to be made to either system, committee input would be highly beneficial.
- b. Flannery: is there a reason or a vision for this committee?
- c. Prince: there are a lot of committees that don't meet every week, but for the rest of the year they can meet to figure out what can be fixed, what changes can be made, and how changes can be implemented. The committee can come up with a plan, at least for this year we need to wrap things up and figure out what we need to do, we don't necessarily need to create the committee next year.
- d. Tessmer: this committee can come up with changes and perhaps run a trial in the fall when the weather is nice.
- e. West: everyone is talking about little tweaks but that is not going to happen. We sign a contract at the beginning of the year, we sign it and they sign it, so we cannot make little changes now. What a committee CAN do is make a list of changes to implement next year after the contract turns over.
- f. Ostendorf: They don't have to do this for us, we can't just make changes all the time whenever we feel like it because at any time they can decide not to deal with us.
- g. Gust: there are little pieces of both that need to be incorporated, the committee needs to do this, why can't we sign a temporary contract until the committee comes up with another plan?
- h. Hagadorn: if anyone is concerned about what the committee should be doing, they should be on the committee. We might be pushing our luck asking them not to sign a contract or to sign multiple contracts.
- i. Helt: agrees, it should be up to the chair's discretion and leadership
- j. Fogelberg: regardless of whether or not we need to make changes a contract needs to be signed now so that changes could be implemented next year.
- k. Prince: Won't say anything and hopes that no one else will.

- Move to vote, none say, committee created to be chaired by West

**b. Technologies Committee**

- i. Lundborg: wants next Technologies Director to do something with the committee
- ii. Prince moves to appoint Andrew Schmitt to chair Technologies Committee until a new director is appointed, McAdams seconds.
  - Move to vote, motion passes

**c. 95 Theses Committee**

- i.** Nelson moves to appoint Jacob Lundborg to chair 95 Theses Committee, Fogelberg seconds
- ii.** Move to vote, motion passes

**IX. New Business**

**a. Outdoor Recreations Committee**

**i.** Joey Nowariak – Committee Chair

- We had talked about getting grills, met with Charlie, and they had the idea of putting these grills in “recreational precincts” there is one behind pittman sohre, one behind southwest, and one by the tennis courts. These will include grills, benches and sand volleyball courts. Will cost \$136 per grill and \$100 for installation. Although we talked about college view and arborview, they were less receptive because it wasn’t in their original plans.

**ii.** *Prince moves to assign Thayer and Tessmer to present a midyear to the Finance committee, Skjerping seconds*

▪ Discussion:

- a.** Prince: its odd that two of the buildings that can capably store food don’t get grills. This is definitely worth continuing conversation because a lot of the people who want grills in college view and arbor view.
- b.** Nowariak: The reason that Charlie is excited to help us is because they were already in their plans, hesitant that this would just be us funding something that will already be happening, best way to spend funds?
- c.** Helt: what does installation include?
  - i.** Nowariak: I assume it involves a concrete slab
- d.** Helt: Are you going to go back for another conversation?
  - i.** Nowariak: would like to push for the college view and arbor view grills because they’ll be used the most and wont be funded for sure without us.
- e.** Thayer: What type of grills are these?
  - i.** Nowariak: park grills
- f.** Thayer: Who will do the up keep (charcoal, cleaning, etc.)
  - i.** Nowariak: Up keep is minimal
- g.** Thayer: If senate pays does that leave us liable for damages or upkeep?
  - i.** It would have to be overseen by at least campus safety

- h. Lundborg: If we allocate the money, we need to tell them that we want the grills where we want them, not where they want them. Can include signs saying they were funded by Senate. Grills are great, people in apartments want the grills. Bold decisive action.
- i. Tessmer: we should pay for grills where we want them, but we should pay for all the grills so that we get more say in policy decisions. Lets ask Charlie what the policies would be and whether those policies would be different if they are fully funded by Senate.
- j. Dierdre: Its against college policy to have lighter fluid
- k. Tessmer: Would like any student to be able to grill at any reasonable hour, before we allocate money we should know the policy differences.
- l. Flannery: would be in support of this motion if she would be able to use it whenever you want. It should be first come first serve, shouldn't have to sign up to use it in advance, believes we already have a grill available to rent out.
- m. Hoppe: maybe should have one available only for reservations

- Move to vote nay, motions fails

iii. *Lundborg entertains a motion to charge ORC to have another conversation with Charlie to present to him our fact-findings*

- Skjerping so moves, Sande seconds
- Move to vote, motion passes

**b. Upcoming Elections**

- i. Gust: what is being done to ensure more voter turnout in the upcoming elections?
  - Bryz-Gornia: nothing planned
  - Lundborg: depends on the amount of campaigning
  - Prince: Can force people to vote, we can tell them when to vote, we should tell the candidate to facilitate their own voter turnout
  - Bryz- Gornia: we have done a great thing for students by online voting and sending them the link instead of poll voting
- ii. Thayer: Entertains a motion to charge PR committee to advertize how to vote
  - Helt: likes the idea of posters/ emails about HOW to vote, good reminder especially for freshman.
  - Hoppe: Agrees it should be a week before

**c. Next Meeting**

- i. Thayer: Next week is Valentine's Day, do we want to change the meeting?
- ii. Helt: any time we've tried to move meetings in the past it hasn't worked

- iii. Gust: would like to see it moved
- iv. Prince: people are going to have to choose
- v. Thayer: what about chapel break?
- vi. Lundborg: as a crotchety old man, will not be making plans for Monday. This is what you signed up for as Senators.

**X. Announcements**

- a. Nowariak: Give Lundborg a round of applause
- b. Helt: went to Charlie with visitation policy, going around the campus cabinet. Next Monday will be bringing a sheet to sign up for the open house on February 27<sup>th</sup>, if you will not be here you need to find a substitute. Would like all the different arrangements available to see (quads, doubles, triples, etc.) so bring info if you know of anyone is willing to show their room.
- c. Ostendorf: Senate should be involved in D week, they have expressed interest in partnering with them

**XI. Motion to Adjourn** by Prince, McAdams seconds, 9:22