

Student Senate Meeting Minutes
Gustavus Adolphus College
Monday, February 14, 2011

I. Call to Order by President Emily Thayer

II. Attendance by Acting Administrative Director, Courtney West

III. Approval of the Minutes from February 7, 2011

a. Move to vote, none nay, motion passes

Prince moves to suspend rules and move to Appointments, Gust seconds, passes

IV. Appointments

a. Prairie View Apartments – none

b. International Center

i. Jacob Lundborg

- Political science and history major, classics minor. 2 ½ yrs on senate (class of 2012, co-ed, cabinet), former Parliamentarian, wanted to serve senate in a different capacity (as voting member of senate). Would like to be more active in committee work (wasn't able to do that so much on cabinet) and felt it was the best place to represent constituents.

ii. Eric Halvorson

- Sophomore political science major, involved with campus speech and other activities; hasn't felt a strong presence of senate on campus and would like to represent IC and enhance the presence of senate on campus- plan to talk to constituents (using IC weekly meetings to address individual constituents and their concerns, email, etc.) "Find out what people want and stay in contact with the international people..."

iii. Move to vote

- Secret Ballot
- Lundborg voted International Center Representative

c. International Student

i. Julia Lawant

- International student from Brazil; junior international management major and French minor; in international cultures club and investment club; wants to position b/c she feels her peers at Gustavus from the international organizations would be best served with her as a voice; would promote more international student events on campus which attract all students at GAC they would learn more about other cultures and their different cultures could be shared (right now there is only a small number of international events)

ii. Mickie Phan

- Freshman, bio-chem and molec bio major, neuroscience minor; in international cultures club; wants to join senate b/c she feels there is a small # of international students on campus and they are not a visible presence on campus but have different needs than other students and she wants to be a way for those students to address those needs; would promote more international events to attract all GAC students to help the community learn about the international presence on campus; would also promote more orientation for international students to adjust to American culture

iii. Move to vote

- Secret Ballot
- Julia Lawant voted International Representative

d. Off-Campus Representative – none

V. Community Comment

a. Charlie Strey – Visitation Policy

i. Visitation Policy

- Policy has been handed to cabinet at this point; President and cabinet are in process of making decision about that; they have a meeting tomorrow morning (2/15) and we are hopeful they will discuss it then

ii. Questions

- Gust: what if they deny it?
- Strey: will try to make sure we have a rationale for that decision to provide Senate with

b. Charlie Strey/ Joey Nowariak – Outdoor Recreations Committee Grills

i. Outdoor Grills Reservation Policy

- Nowariak: I asked Res Life what you wanted me to (noted in last meeting). Students will be getting their own starter packs, etc. Reservation policy: you can reserve them and use them spontaneously.
- Strey: Res Life thinks it would be reasonable b/c students are buying their own food from a store, it seems reasonable to ask them to buy the charcoal that automatically lights as well, b/c they are probably going to Econo or Mankato or somewhere like that. The wood that Campus Safety provides for the fire pits comes from cut down trees from campus and the arb and so we already have the wood stashed and are willing to have students use it, it wouldn't be the same situation for charcoal.
- Nowariak: Because it's a fire on campus, students would be asked to let Campus Safety know—just call them to give them a heads up that there will be an open fire on campus.
- Strey: We will talk to Warren Wonderlick (Physical Plant) about how to get grills by the apartments. The other three will be in central locations around campus.

ii. Questions/ Comments

- Tessmer: wouldn't it be against Res Life policy to keep a bag of self-starting charcoal and/or grill pack in the room? Would we get citations for that?
 - a. The current policy only addresses lighters, fuel, etc... We will have to think about how to address that on campus. We will probably talk to Ray Thrower and Campus Safety about that.
- Barnard: Suggests students store it in a car or head residents will store it in their apartments for a time period (b/c they are now subject to the same Res Life regulations as students).

c. Charlie Strey – Chapel View Apartments

i. Chapel View Apartments

- Strey: College has entered a relationship with the landlord (Gustie alum); Gustavus will be maintaining and marketing the building and providing the residents- it's like a hybrid on-campus/off-campus residence; you still need off-campus permission but Res Life will help place students there (the off campus process is the same, but we are hopeful to fill the Chapel View spaces with those students)

ii. Questions

- Barnard: is there a contract?
 - a. The contract is in lawyers' hands right now, we are far into the conversation; started with a conversation between landlord and Charlie, process moved forward with Charlie's involvement starting in late December 2010 and has since been providing the information as often as possible
- Barnard: so now this is a "preferred off campus location?" and how does this affect rent, etc.
 - a. Rent next year will be \$375, but there is not guarantee it won't change in the future; once the contract goes through, we will be locked in with the Chapel View apartments as a "preferred off campus location."
- Question: how many units?
 - a. There are beds for 32 students
- Gust: how is this not GAC students paying him \$2.8 million over 20 years?
 - a. He put in the risk with construction, utilities, etc. If students don't fill it, then he's out the money (theoretically). These students are electing to live there, they are not being forced to live in this place. Gustavus did not ask for this, this landlord came to GAC and said he would like to gift this building to the College under these terms (marketing, maintaining, etc.) for x amount of years (20 yrs is being discussed right now).
- Gust: how does this affect number of students who get off campus permission?
 - a. Students (at the set number) will still need to get off-campus permission by meeting the criteria, the priority numbers still work the same- randomly assigned and averaged and there is still a cutoff number for

off-campus permission, and the 32 people who will live in Chapel View apartments will still need to be beyond that number, no exceptions will be made just so we can fill Chapel View.

- Gust: so are they building more? What do other landlords think of this?
 - a. They are talking about raising the number of spots from 32 to 56.
- Nowariak: So there is X number of spots in Chapel View... okay, a student wants to live off campus on his own, not in Chapel View, but he is concerned he will be required to live in Chapel View. Also, has there been conversation with this outside of Res Life, b/c there are many concerned students so this is a campus issue, any way to get disclosure from President's Cabinet or somewhere?
 - a. Only those who tell us they want to live in Chapel View will live in Chapel View. This was not put into the process as a "four person housing unit" option, we thought about doing that, but it would have violated the off campus permission process. As soon as we knew this relationship would happen, we tried to bring information to students, we are happy to have as many conversations as necessary to clear it up for students. Yes, this is a little confusing, but we're doing the best we can to explain it to people.
 - b. It depends on the information you are looking for. If you want contractual information, you can take that question to Ken Westphal, but we're not sure that is information that can/should be shared with a wide audience. If it is a question strictly about housing, Res Life question.
- Barnard: First, thanks for fixing the priority numbers issue this year. I think this a great arrangement, we will need more housing in the future and this is a good way to get us the type of apartment-style housing students want in the future. This arrangement protects students from crappy landlords as well, this gets the college the housing GAC needs and the students get the living they want.
- Flannery: will this be co-ed?
 - a. It's off-campus housing, anyone can live in any situation they want, our rules do not apply
- Flannery: what if only a few students want to live there?
 - a. Res Life is planning for 56 (the potential number of beds). If the number living there is less than the open spots, Res Life needs to (per the pending contract) fill those spots in Chapel View; we will stay with our off-campus rules until that happens and then address the issue as best we can then. The only solid number in this whole mess is the number of 2,053 beds on campus that Res Life needs to fill. The number above that is the number that needs to live elsewhere (off-campus).
 - b. Did you know 400-ish students came to the off-campus info sessions? About 140 of them were sophomores and their opportunity for being off campus is looking pretty remote. The numbers, at this point, are so in flux for many reasons (like, what if admissions looks stronger or weaker, if Chapel View doesn't build more spots, etc...) So there is always adjustments to be made. We have walk-in hours, and if students want to come in and talk, we would love to help. We want to be as transparent as possible.

- Lawant: So Chapel View is only for Gustavus students? Why sign a 12 mo lease?
 - a. Only GAC students will live in Chapel View.
 - b. It's off campus housing, we have no control over the lease. When we realize the gift (in X years) and fully own the buildings (probably in 20 years), then it will be part of the full housing rules.
- Gust: What concessions did GAC make them give us in this whole process (other than getting the building in 20 years)?
 - a. Don't know.
- Lundborg: Where are these apartments?
 - a. Across from practice soccer fields, by the Catholic Church, on the corner of Nicollet and Broadway. We (GAC) owns the land up to there.
- Barnard: These places will probably will up fast, it seems like it might be approximately \$2,600 (minus utilities) less than it would be to live in Arbor View, for example.
 - a. Martin is mostly right, now you see my complexity here, marketing against myself both ways. The surcharge includes a kitchen, cleaning, etc. You aren't comparing apples to apples when you look just at money and cost.

iii. Charlie Strey: CF Selections

- Collegiate Fellow Applications
 - a. Applications are available, if you know someone who could serve as a good CF, please encourage them to apply, we will have a need for about 15 new students as CFs (rehired about 10)
- Questions
 - a. Prince: why the change in policy? There have been fewer rehires than in the past, right?
 - b. Strey: We expect different things from returners than we do first-years; Res Life is redesigning/redefining itself a little bit, some of the current CF positions may not "look like CF positions next year, we are looking for different types of people." We have worked as a programming model in the past and we are now re-vamping that to make it more relationship-based (more interacting rather than just creating activities).

iv. Charlie Strey: Elections reminder

- Address Res Life with plans for canvassing or door-to-door campaigning
- Need: candidates' names, times, locations, and names of those who will be canvassing

VI. Old Business

a. ORC Budget

- i. Lundborg: can I charge the ORC committee with presenting a budget?
- ii. Tessmer: the co-presidents will do that next week (this week's deadline has passed).

VII. New Business

- a. None

VIII. Announcements

- a. Tessmer: announcement is coming. I yield the floor to phil helt.
- b. Helt: There is someone who is always there for me, keeps me sane, and I'm hoping she would be my valentine (*presents flowers to Flannery*). *Smiles, clapping, giggling, collective "awwwwwwww..."*
- c. Helt: So on to housing... you will get an email from me.
- d. Lundborg: I don't know who's on the 95 Theses committee, but we're meeting tomorrow after the involvement fair.

IX. Motion to adjourn by Lunborg, Sande Seconds