

Student Senate Meeting Minutes
Gustavus Adolphus College
Monday, February 21, 2011

- I. **Call to Order** by President Tessmer, 7:01
- II. **Attendance by Administrative Director, Alison Hoffman**
- III. **Approval of Minutes from January 10, 2010**
 - a. Move to vote, none nay, motion passes
- IV. **Community Comment**
 - a. **WAC – Vagina Monologues**
 - i. Megan Myrie and Allie Stehlin
 - Presenting the upcoming Vagina Monologues, weren't able to get a space large enough on campus to host the function, holding the Friday and Saturday night functions at the St. Peter Arts Center instead. Concerned that not enough students will be able to get there, would like the Gusbus to perhaps start an hour and a half early on those nights to transport students.
 - ii. Discussion
 - Gust: Where is the Arts Center?
 - a. Two doors down from River Rock Café
 - Tessmer: Are we even able to change Gusbus hours?
 - Thayer: If we are able, do we want to approve the Gusbus change?
 - Tessmer: Courtney West confirmed we are able to add hours
 - iii. *Prince moves to add three extra Gusbus hours next weekend, Nowariak seconds*
 - Gust: What is the cost?
 - a. \$26 an hour
 - Phil: Do we not pay gas?
 - a. Nope just hourly
 - Move to vote, motion approved to add Gusbus hours
- V. **Appointments**
 - a. Prairie View Apartments Representative – none
 - b. Off Campus Representative – none
 - c. Parliamentarian
 - i. Eric Halvorson – Nominated by Thayer and Tessmer
 - Tessmer: Thinks he will pick up on things easily, knowledge of parliamentary procedure, has shown to be very interested in Senate

- Questions – none
 - Discussion – candidate steps leaves room
 - Move to vote, passes – Eric Halvorson elected Senate Parliamentarian
- d. Technologies Director – election will proceed after Ethics committee discussion
- i. Barnard: Never submitted a written resignation, decided doesn't want to resign
 - ii. Tessmer: Won't discuss it tonight

VI. Old Business

- a. **Res Life Open House** – Phil Helt, Health and Housing Chair
- i. Sign-up sheet- need your help (especially dorm rooms), Need at least one example of each of the types of rooms in each dorm. Write name, email, cell phone, room number.
 - ii. Be in your room at least an hour before scheduled times, have table tents and flyers made by Megan Nelson.
 - iii. Make sure your room is clean, put away illegal things
 - iv. All dorm reps should pick up flyers before they leave

VII. New Business

- a. **Special Projects Committee – Jacob Lundborg**
- i. A few weeks ago gave a lengthy rant about what we should do to make students' lives better. Things can get accomplished if we set our minds to them.
 - ii. *Motions to create a special Projects committee, Gust seconds*
 - Discussion - none
 - Move to vote, none nay, motion passes
 - Lundborg to chair
- b. **New Campus Safety Escort System**
- i. Escort Discussion
 - Gust: The call-in escort system now works on a route system instead of a call-in system – wants more information about this
 - Fogelberg: spent a lot of time with campus safety, the drivers really like it but students hate it. Its hard to wait a really long time for an escort, it cuts down on the idea of the escort being used for safety reasons. If its dark, should have to wait in the dark for the escort.
 - Prince: The only reason it exists is for safety reasons, unlike gusbus. But people do abuse it just to get a ride in the cold. Usage is down, but what is the cost. The service is designed for student who can't effectively get around campus, and also for those who don't feel comfortable walking around campus in the dark to get back to their dorm. The choice becomes being unsafe and walking for twenty minutes or standing around and waiting for 20 minutes. Assault isn't a stranger on Campus. Hopes

Campus safety realizes what a mistake this is. The people who are going to be affected are women and disabled, a large percentage of our campus. The student drivers don't like it either, students really hate this, we are supposed to be their voices. Wants a resolution written up.

- Nowariak: Has had a few conversations with a Campus Safety officer about the route system. It has spiraled out of control with people calling because they are cold and don't want to walk across campus. None of the Campus Safety officers are thrilled about the escort service period. This is something that has been abused, trying to cut down on the abuse, believes eventually will be phased out. Don't just look at it from a students-are-angry angry. Student drivers are just angry that they have to keep driving instead of having breaks to joke around.
- Russell: Works in escort service, it is terrible. Just drive around for twenty minutes and only picked up one person. Have to stay to the set route, can't go out of their way to help the disabled. It was stressed that the change was to cut back on radio traffic but doesn't think that's the case. Thinks Senate should come up with an alternative, not Mike. He was told for 40 minutes
- Thayer: Keep in mind not only the sexual assault aspect but also just the safety of walking in bad weather conditions. Worked in Admissions and that is a major draw of prospective students because they like to know that the service exists if it is needed.
- Tessmer: Dierdre isn't here tonight because she slipped on the ice and broke her ankle
- Gust: Drafted a resolution. We don't want them to just go back to the call in system, we want changes as well.

ii. Gust moves to adopt resolution, Lundborg seconds.

"We, the Student Senate ask Campus Safety to re-evaluate their escort system. In light of the recent change many complaints have been heard concerning the change from a call-in system to a set route. Students in need of an escort range from those with medical needs to those who feel unsafe walking across campus. We hereby call on Campus Safety to go back to a call-in system until there have been further discussions on this matter"

- Discussion
 - a. Lundborg: They drive the escorts around constantly, seems gas expensive. May have to hire another driver but it seems like they have the money to do it. Seems to be a net-loss because they spend more money on gas. Is it such a bad thing to ferry students about "willy-nilly"? Its cold, we're on a hill, its windy, that's bad for people.
 - b. Helt: The route should include a motor pool because students will be coming back from trips with bags. Doesn't think a resolution is the best thing, we need to do more than that. Lets make sure we have all the facts before you vote.
 - c. Hagadorn: would like to chage gust and his transportation committee to look into this farther after this vote

- d. Fogelberg: Doesn't like to walk alone at night, creepy, especially when its really cold. It does sound like wasteful gas. Other universities she's looked into also have call-in escort systems. Saturday night had to park in Southwest and lives in Complex. It wasn't well lit, just missed the escort and would have had to wait 20 min so decided to walk and ran into seven drunk people – uncomfortable.
 - e. Sagstuen: being on crutches is hard enough, they shouldn't have to wait on top of this. Agrees with Phil, we need to do more.
 - f. Ostendorf: We can't judge how other people feel about their own safety in certain situations.
 - g. Lawant: We pay \$40,000 a year and we pay for parking and they don't provide adequate parking so you have to park across campus, its in our rights to have an escort
 - h. Prince: if student are being lazy we should fight for their right to be lazy. We are all in agreement that a resolution would be cool, a committee would be better. Would like to see this shot down.
 - i. Prince motions to end debate, Skjerping seconds,
 - i. requires 2/3
 - ii. motion passes
- Move to vote on resolution, motion fails

iii. Prince moves to create an Escort Committee to deal with this specifically, Lawant seconds

- Discussion
 - a. Lundborg: Friendly amendment to change to “escort service committee”
 - i. No opposition, opposes his own amendment
 - b. Stetson: who is going to chair this committee?
 - c. Nelson: It has been discussed in the transportation committee, wanted to bring it to Senate first, wants it to stay in the transportation committee, very dedicated to the issue
 - d. Gust: urges people to vote down
 - e. Gust calls to question, Hagadorn seconds
 - i. Move to vote passes
- Move to vote, motion fails

iv. Gust move to charge this issue to transportation committee, Felix seconds

- Barnard: we have more power if we say something, and then send it to a committee, maybe change the wording of resolution, formally disapprove of the change and that we are working on it

- Lundborg: would like to amend to add “and report back to the Senate body by the last meetin in March” prince seconds
 - a. Lunborg: sounds like its going to be the new big thing for campus safety, they will be tough to crack, give the committee some time to get all their ducks in a row.
 - b. Prince: friendly amendment to “March 7” that’s two weeks, we can get a preliminary update, no opposition, accepted
 - c. Move to vote on amendment to add deadline, passes
- Move to vote, motion passes
- v. Escort Discussion Continues
 - Gust: Should we pass a resolution of some sort still?
 - Tessmer: It would be nice, maybe Senate isn’t the right body to write it tonight because we get boggled down by debate
 - Thayer: perhaps transportation committee could make a resolution or two and bring them to next meeting
 - Prince: If we start out by saying that we hate this and want to change everything about it before we talk to them like reasonable people, they will take it wrong.
 - Tessmer: talk to people with experience writing resolutions

VIII. Announcements

a. Faculty Committee Reports

i. Kate Redden - Faculty Committee on Student Life

- Redden: At our march meeting will make a proposal for Charlie to put interfaith worship space next to the dive. Committee wants to get students involved in the project, come to the next meeting in march
- Fogelberg: Want to recognize Tasha for her work on this project

ii. Jacob Lundborg - Course Approval Committee, J-Term Advisory Board

- Lunborg: Approve courses for next year and changed a lot of majors. Serve on a j-term advisory board, gets a vibe from administrators and faculty that there are a lot of problems with j-term. Professors feel like the students aren’t very involved in their j-term classes. Administrators talked about concerns about j-term having more violations than any single month in the year, and j-term together had more violations than the entire fall semester. Changes brought up in the curriculum committee, department chairs has put forth the proposal to increase required j-term credits to three and make it possible to fulfill general ed classes during j-term, and maybe even satisfy major credits.
- Ostendorf: Have you discussed how teachers are approved for j-term courses?

- Lundborg; a lot of them don't want to teach during j-term, there are staffing issues, and course offering have gone down
- Ostendorf: had a course with an incompetent professor, affects student effort
- Lundborg: What do you think about student-initiated topics
- Sande: If they think J-term is used as a time to goof off, why are they requiring another one?
 - a. A lot of upper classmen sit around and drink and corrupt the freshmen
- Halvorson: if they want us to take them more seriously, they should treat them in a more serious fashion. Students will be more enthusiastic about topics if we generate the ideas.
- Thayer: you can create your own j-term class, you just have to do the paperwork
- Barnard: you have to do it by October, we don't think that far ahead
- Barnard: People graduating are facing a harder and harder job market and internships and career explorations are increasingly valuable

iii. Martin Barnard: Academic Technology Committee

- Barnard: Decided not to put forth a budget request for the next year, at this point there is no budget for technology next year because don't have all the information about the requirements of the new academic building. Faculty teaching in that building will each be issued a laptop.

b. PR Committee Report – Kate Redden

- i. Have two different designs for the jackets
 - Hagadorn: no difference between fabric, one just allows you to put stuff on the back
 - Sande: does it cost more to put stuff on back?
 - 14 like back graphics, 11 do not, will look into prices
- c. Nowariak: As Senate Speaker notices that we've had a lot of side-conversations going on this meeting, keep it under control
- d. Lundborg: Join the Special Projects Committee, talk after meeting
- e. Hirdler: WAC already sent out an email thanking Senate
- f. Helt: finished his scarf!

IX. Motion to Adjourn by Lundborg, Sande seconds, 8:23