

Student Senate Meeting Minutes
Gustavus Adolphus College
Monday, December 13, 2010

- I. **Call to Order** by President Thayer 7:18
- II. **Attendance by Administrative Director, Alison Hoffman**
- III. **Approval of Minutes from December 6, 2010**
 - a. Move to vote to approve minutes, none nay, motion passes
- IV. **Community Comment**
 - a. *Professor Gilbert – Accreditation 101*
 - i. Professor Gilbert
 - Every ten years in the US Gustavus goes under a very thorough review to remain an accredited institution. Accreditation is essential for research grants and financial aid. There are six regional organizations that do the accrediting, ours is the HLC, based in Chicago. Next visit is in the spring of 2013.
 - A process of self-study will take two years, need some student input and assistance, will create a 150-200 page document describing Gustavus. This is an opportunity to show that our campus can work together, especially since we have had a rough patch in the past year between the president and others.
 - We are forming working groups organized around each of the five criteria for accreditation, asking Senate to provide two students to serve on each committee. Various members of the community have been identified to chair each of these working committees.
 - Our goal in reflecting on things that haven't gone as well in the past few years is to be as transparent as possible, no secrets. There is a special e-mail to use: hlc2013@gustavus.edu
 - Will make sure to keep in touch with Senate leadership and make reports to Senate each semester.
 - ii. Gust: Are you looking for senators or students at large to be appointed?
 - Think about what is best
 - iii. Thayer: When do you need the names
 - By the end of January term, beginning of Spring semester
 - iv. Kampfe: We don't officially have to formally appoint someone to this? Could we have a sign-up sheet?
 - Tessmer: we'll probably send out an email to students to find interest and then conduct interviews and proceed from there

V. Appointments

- a. Prairie View Apartments - none

VI. Finance

a. Q&A

i. Brandon Hirdler – Finance Committee Chair (via e-mail)

- Requested \$1,200 out of the \$1,500 they need (have \$300, possibly \$400 already). The Finance Committee made the recommendation of \$800 because Q&A told us that they had reached out to CAB's Coffee House Committee and would hear back from them whether they were willing to Co-Sponsor. So, in an effort to have CAB spend some money we didn't recommend in full, but would if CAB doesn't follow through.

ii. Gust – Finance Committee Member

- Don't want to fund it in full because CAB may help fund some of it. In the future we can increase the funds we give them if CAB doesn't decide to fund them but we don't want excess funding

iii. Discussion

- Prince: if CAB doesn't fund, will Q&A still be able to bring Ellis?
 - a. WAC may be interested in partnering with them, could bring more funding.
 - b. Ostendorf: We want to bring her soon and we need to let her management know, so that's why we want the funding now.
- Lundborg: Who is Ellis?
 - a. She is a performer, musician, lesbian, very popular last year

iv. Move to vote to fund \$800, motion passes

VII. Old Business

a. Bylaws

i. Constitution Article II – Meetings and Attendance Line 3

- Currently says:
 - 3) *All Cabinet members and Senators must attend at least eighty percent of full Senate meetings each semester*
- Amend to say:
 - 3) *All Cabinet members and Senators must attend at least eighty percent of full Senate meetings each semester unless a prior attendance policy has been approved by the ethics committee.*

- Discussion
 - a. Bryz-Gornia: This was lost in the chaos from a few minutes ago, gives a little leeway for J-term meetings
 - b. Nowariak: It holds senator accountable, what are the possible detriments?
 - i. The ethics committee has to be approved by Senate, ombudsman must be picked by the senate
 - c. Lundborg: as a member of the ethics committee, doesn't have problem with it. The only foreseeable detriment is that it may take some authority away from the admin director.
 - d. Gust: This came up talking about the co-president elect position specifically, they aren't mentioned here
 - i. Lundborg: they are included in cabinet members
 - ii. Gust: I don't understand the point of including senate members in this, why not just cabinet members
 - e. Prince: helped write this up. Essentially referential to another bylaw. Anyone who could set up a prior attendance policy could do this, essentially just points back to another bylaw. The only reason that senators is still there is because that was the way the original bylaw was written. Could rewrite it to be separate but that's just creating extra work to accomplish the same thing.
 - i. Calls to question, Sande seconds
- Move to vote, roll call vote, motion passes

ii. Finance Food Bylaw (already considered)

- Amend to Say:
 - 6) *Funding for food may be provided for events advertised and open to the whole campus*
- Discussion
 - a. Flannery: this is a revised food bylaw, we can still fund food in the spring and doesn't have a case by case basis even though that's what it will be in the meetings. This gets rid of something that was confusing to read and interpret, and provides a bylaw that is more open.
 - b. Nowariak: it says we can fund food, cut and dry, pass it
 - c. Ostendorf: I can already see groups coming in and complaining that we funded one thing for one group but not another thing for another group. How would we argue that? Its already a problem.
 - d. Flannery: With this bylaw we are opening it up, we will be able to fund things that aren't "special events" and can fund more than just "cultural food". It will be a case by case basis
- Move to vote, roll call, motion passes

VIII. New Business

a. Impeachment Proceedings

i. Erik Bryz-Gornia – Ethics Committee Chair

- Angela Chang has been officially absent four times, one being an excused absence for exam. Her committee credits have been non-existent. Reference bylaws Article II Meetings and Attendance. Angela is in violation of the 80% rule. Ethics Committee recommends impeachment.

ii. Discussion

- Sande: We have given her ample opportunity to right this wrong/ resign
- Kampfe: How many absences including tonight?
 - a. Hoffman: 5 un-excused and one excused, not including committee absences
- Gust: How many meetings have we had total?
 - a. Hoffman: 12 meetings total including tonight
- Bryz-Gornia: Administrative director and myself met with her to discuss the problem weeks ago, this impeachment isn't out of the blue to her

iii. Move to vote, roll call, requires 2/3 passes

b. Reconsider: Constitution Article II – Meetings and Attendance Line 3

i. Gust: We wanted to change the bylaw solely because of the co-president elect position, to add it to all senators people can possibly miss more than 20% of the meetings. We never intended with other rules we have passed to include anyone other than co-presidents elect. This gives the ability to others to miss meetings.

- Gust Motions to reconsider, McAdams seconds

ii. Discussion:

- Prince: lets reconsider it, move it through quickly and then be done. This is a quick fix, add “for a co-president elect” after “unless a prior attendance policy”
- Nowariak: this is a lot like the dooms day scenario
 - a. Thayer rules not germane
- Gust: we can reconsider it, add a few words and it will go quick
- Prince: if you think this is a waste of time then don't bother voting to reconsider. If you agree it is a legitimate concern then please do vote for it.
- Flannery: I like the already passed version, kills two birds with one stone. I trust the ethics committee to approve only legitimate excuses for absences, this covers J-term among other things

- Tessmer: For senators you would need permission from an ethics committee that doesn't exist yet, only time that this is possible is for the co-president elect election
 - Ostendorf: there are several things we need to fix like the semester thing but inserting something like "co-president elect" does limit things, without inserting anything it leaves it wide open for things like medical leave. We approve these people to make these decisions.
- iii. Vote to reconsider, requires 2/3, roll call, motion fails

c. Wallstreet Journal

- i. Gust: constituent wants to know if Wallstreet Journal can be provided on campus
- ii. Tessmer: No, not part of the readership program

IX. Announcements

a. Committee Reports

- i. Mankato Transportation Policy – Gust
 - Met twice already, Antonio is a SAL and has shown a commitment to continuing past his course requirement, talked to Dierdre about options, looked into other schools, looking to implement something next fall.
- ii. Student and Academic Affairs/ Student Affairs – Courtney West
 - Each of the eight members have a pet project to work on. Everyone is in the research stage, have some meetings in place. Parking Permits, water bottles, athlete meal plan, club sports, library hour changes, gustie ware pickup bins in res halls, key card entrance to dorms.
- iii. Public Relations – Kate Redden
 - Student sent survey, more regular postings in the building, student organizations can receive press releases, going to start talking with the weekly
- iv. Outdoor Recreations Committee – Joey Nowariak
 - Was going to bring grills tonight but lost email. Hopefully next meeting. Frisbee golf course, met with Warren multiple time but found out he has no jurisdiction. Reslife looks promising, need to move on to the funding stage. Someone is working on the outdoor ice rink idea, a student emailed him about getting swings on campus. After grills are done, that's the next one. Bouldering wall, but all are custom made, somewhat stalled but not out of the question.
 - Thayer: three years ago a group came in wanting to get hammocks on campus
 - ORC: wouldn't happen

- v. Diversity Committee – Tasha Ostendorf
 - DLC has approached her about having another event with Senate, maybe something bigger, they really enjoyed last event. Was approached by profs and chaplains about interfaith worship space, they are working on a big thing in January, was going to be her committee’s project in the spring.

- vi. Finance Committee
 - Kunz: we meet every week, anyone can come to meetings
 - Gust: we drafted goals for a committee, what we think is important in terms of speakers and things we fund

- vii. Ethics Committee – Erik Bryz-Gornia
 - Being ethical

- viii. Technology Committee – Martin Barnard
 - Trying to get a meeting with Sean and Ken Westphal for Jterm to talk about cable and see where the contract situation is, Reslife has no information for us. Printing is going to be coming back up, we saw the numbers and they are making money off it so will be coming up with another resolution.

- ix. Compost Committee – Sean Cain-Skjerping
 - Good committee. Did research on MAPCS schools, talked to Steve in dining services who gave his support. Went to a webinar in the Arb, Warren was afraid of money and commitment, Steve and Jim told them to look at other small schools and then coming up with a resolution to pass on to Ohle.

- x. Prince
 - No one is on the committee, would love help. Talked with a few people admin/ profs/ students. Its way too close to finals to start anything but will work on it in January

- xi. 95 Theses – Martin Barnard
 - Will be printed nicely and distributed

- xii. Curriculum Committee – Jacob Lundborg
 - Make minor changes to majors, looking into changing the wording of the mission statement and the general education requirements.

- xiii. J-Term Advisory Board - Lundborg
 - Looking into Jterm and its culture, would like another student representative, giant brainstorm session last time

xiv. Faculty Committee on Student Life

- Campus event beginning of spring semester, any groups on campus are invited to come in January

xv. Limited Immunity – Phil Helt

- Research MAPCS and MIAC schools and their policies. No schools in Minnesota have an amnesty at all, both get in trouble. Had a good convo with Dierdre. We want the person who provides assistance will have amnesty. Meeting with Judy Douglas first week of January, we will have a decision by end of January

xvi. Handicap Accessibility Committee – Phil Helt

- Researched the costs, has a meeting first week of January.

xvii. Housing Committee – Phil Helt

- Sunday Feb 27: Reslife open house, all residences are open, campus is divided in half. Opportunity for students to see where they may want to live before applying to live there. Need people to open their dorms. Will be talking more about that. Good Feedback last year.
- Results from Reslife survey. 580 finished the survey. 85.6% supported a change in the visitation policy. Senate should formally say they support.
- Prince, move to suspend the rules and move to new business, McAdams seconds, motion passes

X. Return to New Business

- a.** Prince moves to approve Phil's policy, Flannery seconds

“The Student Senate would like to recommend changing the following as listed in the Residential Life Housing and Contract:

Visitation house in first year residences are:

- 1. Sunday through Thursday 9:00 AM to 1:00 AM*
- 2. Friday and Saturday, visitation is permitted 24 hours a day.”*

- b.** Move to endorse, motion passes

XI. Return to Announcements

- a.** Tessmer: Social event the first and third Mondays, formal meetings the second and fourth Monday. Need to be there if you are on campus.
- b.** Thayer: Possible MAPCS meeting on February 5
- c.** Thayer: will send email to student body for interest in serving on board committees
- d.** Gusbus is running tomorrow night, night before reading break, 9 PM to 2AM
- e.** Nowariak: Merry Christmas

XII. Motion to Adjourn by Sande, Schmitt Seconds, passes 9:07