

Student Senate Meeting Minutes  
Gustavus Adolphus College  
Monday, April 11, 2011

- I. Call to Order** by President Thayer 7:04
- II. Attendance by Administrative Director, Alison Hoffman**
- III. Approval of Minutes from April 04, 2011**
  - a. Move to vote, none nay, motion passes
- IV. Community Comment**
  - a. none
- V. Appointments**
  - a. Prairie View Apartments – none
  - b. Residential Off Campus x2 – none
  - c. Junior Class Representative – none
  - d. Sohre Hall Representative – none
- VI. Finance**
  - a. **Fellowship of Christian Athletes**
    - i. Hirdler: Speaker in may, debate about God. They came with travel expenses, have the fees of both speakers covered. Finance felt should sully support an event that will be big on Campus.
    - ii. Representatives: May have seen posters on campus, bringing in an atheist speaker considered one of top five atheists in America, also a Christian apologist. It will be a formal debate, have an agenda, will be moderated by one of the political science profs. There will be a Q&A after the debate. It will be in alumni, technology stuff has already been coordinated. A lot of people will be interested in going and this is very relevant for many classes as well. We are bringing in both sides of the issue, did try to bring in freethinkers group but they were unable. Both speakers are very excited about this. Will open up good conversation with campus as well as the community
    - iii. Discussion
      - Tessmer: I Love Civil discourse, it's a weakness of us here at Gustavus. Has talked to many administration members about getting more debates on campus. It's a big event not just for the topic but for campus as a whole, hopefully we will see more debates to come.
      - Hoppe: What do you mean by top five atheists?
        - a. FCA: Exposure, frequency of debates, popularity, credibility
    - iv. Move to vote to allocate \$859, passes

## VII. Video Podcast Discussion

- a. *Gust moves to suspend the rules to discuss the video recorder, Flannery seconds*
  - i. Move to vote, none nay, motion passes
- b. Discussion
  - i. Hoppe: What is it?
  - ii. Adams: Sent out an email today, will help the student body better know what goes on during Senate, it's a video podcast.
  - iii. Nowariak: Didn't get the email, what are the legal ramifications to post this to the web, isn't there something we have to sign?
    - Tessmer: We all signed something when we came to Gustavus
  - iv. Gust: I think it's weird, I don't know who is going to be watching this. I have no idea if I signed that thing and would like clarification about this. Thinks its unnecessary when there is already an audio podcast and minutes. This could make it look less professional because of some things that go on in here (eating, etc.). Who knows if this is even legal?
  - v. Bryz-Gornia: From a bylaw standpoint it just says there needs to be audio. With concerns about how people look on screen, I'm in favor of it because you can see how engaged people are.
  - vi. Prince: I don't like it, don't feel comfortable being filmed. That should overrule everything else. We should be careful about this because even if one people didn't sign that form, we could have legal trouble. There is risk and discomfort.
  - vii. Tessmer: We used to do this every meeting. The J-board's ruling was originally that video and audio were recorded but the writers negotiated to change it to only audio.
  - viii. Thayer: At the time, when we looked into having the meetings recorded visually the instruments required were difficult to get access to. That's why it was changed. When we had meetings that were video recorded, there were no legal problems and the meetings were much more professional. Meetings now are very different from they used to be.
- c. *Flannery, moves to turn the video off, Hoppe seconds*
  - i. Flannery: Work in marketing department and there were instances earlier this year that they now ask permission to video record and an email at 4pm today doesn't count as asking permission. Not comfortable putting this on the internet because it could potentially be used against me.
  - ii. Adams: I apologize to those who feel uncomfortable, there are a lot of people eating here in front of the group that just came into talk to Senate, seems unprofessional. The set-up is so some senators have their backs to groups and are not welcoming, this is a way to have more transparency. Can I just unplug this so we can deal with it at a later time.
  - iii. Hoppe: Appreciates tech director's effort, calls to question, Gust seconds
    - Move to vote, passes
  - iv. Move to vote, none nay, passes

## VIII. Appointments

### a. Ethics Committee

- i. Erik Bryz-Gornia, Ethics Committee Chair
  - Recommends Sam Hoppe, ethics committee is currently a little seasoned, would like to add someone new to carry on knowledge to coming years
- ii. Candidate Speaks
  - Hoppe: Have been interested in ethics since I joined but there was never an opening.
- iii. Questions:
  - Gust: 100% for Hoppe being on Ethics Committee
  - Adams: Would you ever be interested in being ombudsperson?
- iv. Discussion
- v. Gust moves to appoint Hoppe, Sande seconds
  - Move to vote, motion passes
  - Hoppe elected to Ethics Committee

## IX. Old Business

- a. None

## X. New Business

### a. Compost Committee – Sean Cain Skjerping

- i. Skjerping: Senate rocks because this came from outside of Senate and a lot of other people have helped out in the process. The committee has done a lot of work, they have plans just need money. A lot of people are in support of this, including faculty. The Cafeteria staff is fully in support, there is a lot of student support as well. Drafted a resolution.
- ii. *Skjerping moves to adopt Resolution proposed, Sande seconds*
  - Discussion:
    - a. Tessmer: Small grammatical friendly amendments: take out the “the” in front of Gustavus 150, also should be treated as one giant sentence, also take out “that the” after “acknowledges” – no opposition
    - b. Lundborg: There is verb tense disagreement. Moves to amendment to add “the Gustavus Adolphus Student Senate;” after Gustavus Commission 150
      - i. Helt: What about “we the Gustavus...”,
      - ii. Move to vote, passes

- c. Lundborg: Friendly to take out the semi-colon after that amendment
- d. Sande: Friendly to take out the S's, no opposition
- e. Sande: Add commas friendly amendment, no opposition
- f. Tessmer: Would prefer it to say just "Proclaim"
- g. Lundborg: Friendly to remove "further" from "further proclaim"
- Move to vote to adopt resolution, motion passes (*SEE APPENDIX A*)

**b. Ethics Complaints**

- i. Nowariak: Are all ethics complaints supposed to be brought before the full senate?
  - Bryz-Gornia: goes to the ethics committee first, then full senate
  - Hirdler: all complaints must be listed to full senate before end of school year

**c. Bike Storage**

- i. Halvorson: A student has asked if Senate can work on organizing bike storage for students over the winter
  - Lundborg: There is limited storage on campus
  - Gust: Can't people store things in basement of dorms if they live far enough away?
    - a. Nowariak: Has to be in an enclosed container
  - Lundborg: Special Projects committee can look into it

**d. Cafeteria Groceries**

- i. Hoppe: A student asked why all the boxed things in the cafeteria are so expensive
  - Tessmer: Its because people keep stealing things from the cafeteria
- ii. Nowariak moves to charge Hoppe to look into it, Sande seconds
  - Move to vote, passes – Food Committee

**e. Cafeteria Advertising Screens**

- i. Gust: Why are eagles shown on the advertising screens in the cafeteria?
- ii. Nowariak: this is committee work
- iii. Thayer: questions like this can be emailed to Tessmer and Thayer

**f. Re-Accreditation Committees**

- i. Flannery: wondering why no one has been contacted
- ii. Tessmer: gave them the names of the people interested, they said they would contact them

## **XI. Announcements**

- a.** Adams: Great to talk about technology with people at MAPCS, wants to increase communication between everyone. There is a new application called Google Voice. This is a way to send mass texts instead of emails. The number can be continually re-used, you can give the number to constituents, it can be synced to cell phone or your computer.
  - i.** Gust: This should be considered in new business if we want to consider it, but don't think a phone number is necessary. Constituents have email addresses.
  - ii.** Lundborg: The issue isn't constituent ability to talk to their rep is the issue, it is their desire to talk to the representative. Most of us communicate pretty readily with email. I don't think we're ready for this idea.
  - iii.** Tessmer: Maybe look into this next year. At some point would be cool to survey the student body to ask what their preferred way to contact their senator is.
- b.** Adams: Submitting budgets and forms and stuff online may be productive?
  - i.** Tessmer: There is a template online already for finance request
  - ii.** Flannery: Right now they email the finance director and if we were to put it online it is making it public
  - iii.** Adams: it could be a one-stop shop
  - iv.** Bryz-Gornia: By your standards may be easier, but maybe not for the lay person.
  - v.** Schmitt: Doesn't think its difficult for groups to email it, with budgets people don't fill them out in five minutes and submit it
- c.** Transportation Committee
  - i.** Gust: Meeting with way to find out what is going on with the escort system, haven't heard from them since the proposal
  - ii.** Good contact at day-at the capital
  - iii.** Meeting 5:30 Wednesday Gustie Den
- d.** Nowariak: Concerns with seating chart were brought to cabinet, sent out an email about the discussion. Tonight's meeting was much better, people were much more engaged, we got through finance quickly, etc. That is what a meeting is supposed to be. It is part of Alison's duties is to be in charge of decorum.
- e.** West: Honor board applications went out last week but the attachment isn't working let her know, will be bring nominees to next meeting
- f.** Hirdler: One more midyear to do, had \$344,000 requested, Men Can Stop Rape is this week in Alumni and there is one for faculty one for students
- g.** Tessmer: Talked to Ohle about escort, it is before cabinet and they haven't discussed it yet. Any decision made will be implemented next year. Lindau Symposium this weekend and there will be a book signing/ discussion on the topic of America in Linner lounge
- h.** Prince: Cabinet applications went out a few days late but they are out. Found out the email alias was screwed up but it is fixed now. Encourages anyone to apply for positions.
- i.** Ostendorf: Trying to find fair-trade suppliers, emailed the people at Brown to find out who they were using as a supplier

## **XII. Motion to Adjourn by Blake Gust, Sande seconds, 8:19**

## **APPENDIX A**

### **Compost Committee Resolution**

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Adopted:

GUSTAVUS ADOLPHUS STUDENT SENATE, April 11, 2011

WHEREAS, maintaining environmental sustainability is a Tier 1 objective of Gustavus Commission 150, we, the Gustavus Adolphus College Student Senate,

RECOGNIZE, over half of students and faculty polled think composting is a necessity on campus;

PROCLAIM, 94% of those polled would support and use a composting policy if one were implemented;

ACKNOWLEDGE, Director of Dining Services Steve Kjellgren in his pledge to fully support implementing any infrastructure needed in a composting system;

RESOLVE, to submit the Student Senate Compost Committee's data and infrastructure plans;

URGE, the College to consider these plans and requests to implement one of them in order to create a composting system at Gustavus Adolphus College.