

Student Senate Meeting Minutes
Gustavus Adolphus College
Monday, April 18, 2011

- I. Call to Order** by Co-President Tessmer 7:00
- II. Attendance** by Nick Prince
- III. Approval of Minutes from April 11, 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 – Sam Burnton

Sam: Was on Senate last year, has experience with Student Senate and was around for the Finance Process. Also a member of Model UN, knows Parliamentary procedure.

Jacob: Nominate Sam Burnton, Claire seconds.

Sean: Any questions for Sam? Seeing no questions, Sam please step out.

Sean: Any discussion on Sam Burnton?

Josh Sande: Really good dude, president of Model UN, vote him in w/ little discussion.

Sean: Only 5 Senators who went through the process last year – Sam has been. He's an excellent person. Any other discussion? Seeing none, we will vote.

<Unanimous vote to approve>

- VI. Student and Academic Affairs**
 - a. Honor Board Nominations**

Courtney: As Student & Academics Affairs must nominate and appoint members. After an application process, six names are being put forth: Erica Nelson, Ashley Peterson, Maren Lodge, Karin Lund, Hanna Haileyesus, Josh Funk.

Sean: Do we need to appoint these separately?

Joey: Does this fall under our "rules?"

Courtney: It's been a blanket approval in the past.

Jacob: We didn't for finance?

Sean: Doesn't matter.

Joey: Why did one of them didn't come with a faculty reference?

Courtney: Erica Nelson. 3 applicants didn't. Faculty references came when I asked for them anyway.

Joey: Move to appoint all, Megan seconds.

Sean: Any discussion? Seeing none, vote:

<unanimous vote>

VII. Finance

a. Ultimate Frisbee budget:

Kristen: The group came last year, people liked this event.

Erik Huemiller: We try to hold a concert every year and it co-incides with an event we hold. Its open to everyone, substance free, held in the out-door Courtyard.

Jacob: This is the type of event that Student senate should be funding. Cost effective, lots of people, do it up yo.

Joey Nowariak: Do we have a quote?

Kristen/Eric: Yes.

Joey: Mirror jake then, if its half as good then \$100 is well worth it.

Sean: Seeing no discussion, we'll vote to approve this.

<unanimous approval>

VIII. Co-President Elect

Prince: One of the co-President Elect duties is to create and propose the Senate calendar for the next year. Everything on Senate side is plugged in and stated in the by-laws. Major Gustavus events are included as well in case Senate needs to show up. First Monday in February Co-President Application goes out. Late Monday of month is the election. 8 weeks before the end of the school year is when we approve the figure. 7 weeks out is when the meeting is, however that is Spring Break so we will be doing it 8 weeks out. There are individual group meetings, last meetings and finance.

Jacob: We do 3 weeks of meetings. Not two.

Prince: The by-laws says 2 meetings, and I have to go by the by-laws.

Jacob: I move to approve the calendar <Claire Seconds>

Blake: We just figure out Senate next year?

Prince: We need to do this next year, because next year's Senate is going to have to go through this process. The spring break/easter recess makes it difficult makes the decision.

Blake: Scroll one month over back to May.

Sam Hoppe: Can we call the meeting on the Tuesday after Spring Break?

Prince: No.

Sean: We will now vote to approve the calendar.

<approved>

IX. Old Business

Sean: Any old business? Seeing none, new business.

X. New Business

a. Transportation Committee – Blake Gust/Casey Hagadorn

Casey: We have everything worked out for the Mankato transportation. We will have a van that runs on Saturdays as a trial-period for one semester. Were going to have every student who signs up pay \$5 for maintenance. But then people asked, why doesn't Senate pay for it? So we figured we'd bring it up.

Joey: Does the committee have any more info?

Blake: Numbers we crunched said about \$4500 for the year. Jake had the idea.

Casey: That's also a very nice cushion, definitely worst-case scenario.

Jake: Point of information – \$4500 was based on how much students would be paying, not on actually how much it would cost us. The \$4500 is really high.

Blake: Ya, we figured we'd ask for more and get it worked out.

Hoppe: So it would be free for students?

Casey: Yes.

Joey: I see this as the Gus Bus. As someone who hasn't had a car, Mankato on a few Saturday afternoons would've been great. This is something we should be subsidizing. We'll get a lot more use out of it if its free vs. \$5 a trip. It'll promote a healthier campus life because people can get off campus in an easier fashion. I would like to charge the committee for next year to gather such information as riders, estimates on how much we should actually pay for this. This year's senate shouldn't do this though. Bravo to the committee though.

Sean: People with cars do pay money to go to Mankato – its not too much to ask for people to go to Mankato.

Tasha: Would the next step be to ask the committee to bring numbers forward?

Sean: It'd go in the Exec Fund.

Prince: Which was presented on already.

Tasha: So how do we do this?

Sean: We could, theoretically, up the cost of the Exec fund for this.

Jake: Point of information – when do we pay for the Gus Bus?

Courtney: It's quarterly. It used to be semester-based, but now its quarterly.

Burnton: What are we thinking about for drivers?

Sande: We would get people to volunteer I think? They would have to go through training.

Blake: We're using the Community service center, and this would essentially just add a day for them. As far as senate's concerned, if we funded it then we would basically be paying for them. Otherwise we'll figure something else.

Hoppe: Great idea, but I think that we should charge a small amount to students. It would encourage a safer atmosphere.

Prince: It could supplant people going on their own in a lot of way.

Eric Halvorson: I'm totally ok with that. This could eliminate the need for cars, public transportation is a good thing, the numbers of attendance are up for next year, and quite honestly its not a problem if "too many" students are using it. If students are using it "too much" then we 'struck gold.'

Blake: Agreeing with the previous speaker, but we're starting small with what we can do. We're hoping it becomes overwhelmingly used.

Casey: After they took away fundraising of bake sales, its hard for groups to fundraise. If groups took the training and drove the bus for the day, we would pay them instead of the student worker and help groups get money.

Joey: Fantastic idea from previous speaker. We need to see what actually happens during the trial period. Whether its free, we charge, whatever. Unless we're going to put money forward this year, I think this is something we table for now or charge to next year's student senate. Motion to end debate, Hoppe seconds.

b. Ethics Committee

Erik: So, if you've been on Senate for the past year or two, you've learned to love the phrase "Gacspot." Essentially we thought it was killed last year, but as it turns out it survived. As of now, we don't even *have* a Gacspot domain, so... I think this is pretty straightforward.

Joey: Are we motioning to consider this?

Erik: I would recommend motioning to change it...

Joey: I would move to consider cutting "GACspot.com and" and adding "the" to Tech Director duty #1.

Jake: Is this a grammatical thing?

Joey: I object to that...

Blake: If its gone doesn't that just drop out?

Sean: No. Any other discussion? All in favor of considering for next week, then
<approved>

Sean: I would entertain that we change two weeks to three weeks so that this can be changed, because we're always kicked out.

Jake: So moved (Joey seconds)

Sean: So I'm going to say "at the last **three** meetings." Any discussion?

Blake: It doesn't say we can't have three, we just have to have at least two.

Joey: I think its always been three.

Sean: No it hasn't.

Blake: I still don't think we need this.

Sean: I think we should make this clear for future senate, given the strictness of by-laws. Any other discussions? Now we'll vote

<vote approved>

Erik: For recording's sake, says, "... at the last **three** full Senate meetings of the academic years."

XI. Announcements

a. Diversity Chair

Tasha: So I found Brown, a company that deals with Fair Trade. They are *so* good at getting back, writing an amazing article and videos and lots of information on what they do and how they do it. Apparently only one factory does college clothing, and its in the Dominican Republic. Going through the Book Mark though its half-US made, half-not US made. So... do you want us to pursue this? Its more or less already how we wanted it.

Jake: I would like to commend Tasha for her work. Secondly, I am just in general opposed to Fair Trade. You may have read my article, or may not have, and I wouldn't blame you if you hadn't. I think we should try to keep it as American made as possible and we need the jobs here. And that is the most like the US Senate that Student Senate will ever be.

Blake: Ya... and its going to raise prices, and I'm against that.

Tasha: No it wouldn't really. Most of it already is US made though, so we're not really doing much.

Blake: Oh, and Emma Watson goes to Brown, so maybe that's why its awesome.

Sean: ... Order.

Casey: Is there something that could say "this is US made" above US-made clothing?

Tasha: We could try that, all the clothing says it, but we could try and talk to the Book mark to see if we can get it advertised more. Otherwise that's mostly what I've got.

b. Finance

Brandon (via e-mail): "Sorry for not being able to attend tonight's meeting. I was scheduled a Sesquicentennial Committee in the President Office. I am writing this statement to remind you of the upcoming full Senate Finance meetings. The Finance Committee has works tirelessly throughout April, logging in 55 hours of hearing groups' proposals and making recommendations. I ask you to take into consideration the hard work the Finance Committee has done in properly allocating the Senate's money for the 2011-2012 Academic year here at Gustavus. Groups will feel angry, confused, and hurt. We all must remember that there is no honor in triage. Multiple hard decisions were made in our work to cut the requests from \$330,000 to \$185,000. With the limited resources the Senate has it must allocate the money in the most fair manner possible -- The Finance Committee will do this prior to the May full Senate meetings. Please remember that these decisions were made with the thought of the full student body in mind. Thanks you."

c. Curriculum Committee

Jake: Curriculum committee met last Friday, Tasha was there too (Tasha: Woo). In addition to changing the English major, we added a credit if you care we also addressed the IEX and took a proposed changed. The change would allow IEX courses to allow for Gen Ed requirements/credits or major credit. Because of a lot of staffing issues, which apparently the college is having and I didn't know about that, we decided

to remove the requirement recommendation, and just proceed on the major credit issue. So it'll proceed to Faculty Senate, which will go there sometime next year. So if you're a Junior, you probably won't reap any benefits. Sophomores either. But freshman may experience IEX courses with major requirement allowability built in.

Tasha: Something that caught my attention was that one of the minor purposes/thinking in this was if there's classes you couldn't take during the semester then you could try to make it up in the IEX, which is a huge issue for me. I don't know if anyone else is affected by very specific ordering of things, but I'm curious.

Blake: If a class is required for the major, it should be offered in the Fall/Spring...

Tasha: I'll keep talking of them.

Jake: Another thing we're planning to talk about next month: how many courses you have to take for majors? This kind of stemmed from the discussion on the English major (which we raised by a credit) but the general gist of it is that we'd require majors to require more courses. There's a fear in the committee that we'd be moving away from the Liberal Arts course requirements.

Sande: Would that be more specific classes or one extra elective?

Jake: We just added a multi-cultural language course, so now its 12 courses that you have to take to graduate. The fear is that a lot of majors will add more requirements to their majors. So they're looking to find a system which will keep that from happening. The J-term discussions really came out of a number of perceived issues from professors about students not taking IEX courses seriously. So we're trying to help students be more studious by adding major credit.

d. Co-President

Sean: The President invited the Senior class over a week or a week and a half over for food to talk about the Gustavus experience. I politely jumped down the throat of a student there who is working to make a tobacco free campus, isn't going to talk to Student Senate, and is only talking to people who are in favor of the ban. So they're not really planning on doing anything open about this, and they're going to propose this with only positive responses and saying that GAC as a whole wants this gone. I'm going to be e-mailing people about this, but because its April/May, I'm going to ask that we do an open forum in the fall so that students can give their input because it was irritating that students aren't being consulted, and we know how much students loved when students aren't talked to about major changes. And could cause some professors to leave, such as Doug Huff, because there's numerous professors which take smoking seriously and like it. So I'd like to ask them not to just shove this down our throats.

Blake: They are forming some kind of committee, and they're asking for input. We talked about this in the PA meeting and are in agreement. So if you want, talk to me, because I'll be talking to them.

Sean: Ya the way they made it sound the committee had been formed. And they've tabled twice, but their question was "Why do you want to see GAC as a tobacco free campus?" It's funded by the state.

e. General

Courtney: Brandon's letter inspired me – Sean, Claire, Casey and myself sat in a break out session where we discussed with someone from Scholastica, Bethany and St. Kate's and they asked us how long our meetings go. We said an hour to five hours. They were shocked. We talked about why a meeting would take that long, St Kate's longest meeting was an hour and 15 minutes by the way, and it came down to the fact that even though they have a similar amount of money and groups, and what it came down to was the finance committee and we trust them. I don't think it would kill us to take a page out of that book. Discussions are great, but we have a finance committee for a reason. It would be really great to not have 5 hour meetings.

Jake: Do those groups get to come in lobby?

Courtney: St Kate's has groups lobby in just the finance meeting.

Sean: But the committee doesn't bring the budget, and Scholastica they can only come to the main meeting.

Jake: Not to take away from what you're saying, I'm just wondering if they have other reasons why its low.

Sean: Do you have a question Joey?

Joey: In my experience with MAPCS, I met with the finance group because Brandon couldn't be there, and I appreciate the finance committee, but we have a *much* better system that works out better. But the committee does try to make decisions fairly and efficiently.

Blake: I'm in that booklet for smoking but I don't advocate it.

Tasha: D-Week is the week after break. I'm going to e-mail everyone the events, and I'll e-mail what you signed up for. I let Irma know to have groups tell you if they need anything specific from you. Otherwise, just look at the event sheet and if you can be at anything please do. D-Ball is the next week and I have a neat idea about that.

Blake: Tomorrow we're meeting with Ray Thrower at 9 in the Campus Safety office to talk about the Escort service, and anyone is welcome to come.

XII. Motion to Adjourn by Jacob Lundborg, Hoppe seconds, 8:19.