**Student Senate Minutes**

**Gustavus Adolphus College**

**October 12, 2015**

Co-President Panzer calls the meeting to order at 7:02

1. **Attendance**

Question of the day: If you were a weather pattern or force of nature, what would you be?

1. **Approval of the Minutes 10/5/15**

No objection

1. **Community Comment**

None

I.V. **Visit from President Bergman**

**a. Comments from and questions for the President**

Panzer: We welcome President Bergman. It’s a pleasure to have you with us. The floor is yours.

Bergman: Thank you for the invitation. I talked with your Co-presidents to come once every semester or if you want me to come to talk about any concern, feel free to invite me.

This is my second year and I feel like I learned quite a bit about what I’m doing and now I feel more at home. I would have a lot to say but I would like to have a dialogue with you. I open the floor to you.

**Questions:**

Svendsen: Was there a predominant theme from Gustavus ACTS?

Bergman: We have a committee looking at all the input but what I can say is that the Board of Trustees was pleased to see how the students were involved in that activity. We will have in less than two weeks some of the most standing out ideas. What do you think of Gustavus Acts.

Sauvé: It would be great to have it every year.

Bergman: That’s a very good thing.

Haberman: What do you do about gender issues?

Bergman: The topic has been discussed a couple of times at the Cabinet meeting. Specific questions like gender neutral bathrooms, locker rooms,…

VanHecke: Mixed gender housing was available only to seniors and juniors. If you’re a freshman or sophomore you’re encouraged to let us know who you want to live with and will give them priority to make sure transgender students feel safe.

Sauvé: Are there any plans about cutting any sports?

Bergman: No. However when you’re in a period of time when budget is tight, many things are thrown out on the table.

So, how would we accommodate people?

We are working hard to see how we can have a balanced budget. It’s a real challenge and we try to respond to different needs.

Panzer: What has been the most challenging and the biggest highlight in your transition?

Bergman: Being involved with young people has really been my highlight. You’re wonderfully idealistic and at the same time you’re down on earth. The biggest challenge was figuring out my calendar, there is never enough time to do everything.

AbuEid: How does the College help students (seniors) find employment or deal with post-graduation life?

Bergman: We set up a team for transition because we want you to go to apply for a job and stand out among others applicants. That’s our goal, we will work as hard as possible to have you rise to the top.

AbuEid: How do you do that specifically?

That then means that we look at comprehensive features. I look for transcripts but also for character traits (involvements, your social life). I would read the cover letter, look for something inspiring about you and support you.

Toeben: There are no women professors in the Physics Department. What are you doing about that?

Bergman: We make sure to have a diverse rate in our hiring, we interview everybody who wants to come but we retain those who are qualified. So doors are open for anyone.

Rasmussen: Where do you think the Senate should fit in decision making?

Bergman: I want you to be the voice of the students and bring to the Cabinet anything you think may make students more successful.

Cella: Are they specific things you think we should bring?

Bergman: Jones is here and she will let you know it will be easy or hard to implement your requests but also you must be willing to put together a proposal aiming to the wellbeing of the students.

Dix: ACTS was a great way to have students involved. Is there any other practical way (not just discussion based) to have students involved in decision-making?

Bergman: Of course. I’m willing to do anything to try something new.

Singh: For a lot of strategic things, there are different students on the ACTS team.

Dix: Is there any way to have more students’ input?

Bergman: I meet regularly with Sam and Bobby. Sometimes the co-presidents propose me to meet with a student, and I’m always open to hear from anyone of the students.

VanHecke: As students in general, you have great power to voice your opinion and point at anything you think should change.

AbuEid: What is Gustavus doing to retain the students we have here?

Bergman: It’s an area of particular focus. We want to see students come and stay. And as diversity increase, it creates a positive tension in the institution. That’s one of the things I’m planning on focusing on this year as I feel I’ve been here long enough to start to know the place.

Sauvé: How are we supposed to represent other students if we have different opinions.

Bergman: You’re not a divided unit. Trying to understand each other and you’ll reach the best agreement.

Panzer: Thanks President Bergman.

Bergman: I like this. You ask great questions.

1. **Budgets**
   1. **Quiz Bowl**

Panzer: We will move to budget stuff.

Director Schmitz presents the team’s representatives: Arun Velamuri, Ethan Henneman and Tyler Bruder.

Velamuri: We’re representing the quiz bowl group. We’ll go around the state and the region representing Gustavus. This will definitely benefit the school.

Schmitz: We will move in the actual budget.

**Discussion and Questions**:

Sauvé: What’s the process to become a member of the group?

Velamuri: We invite people to come to the practices and we train them until they become good. Actually we have seven people.

Gladitsch: I’m on the Finance Committee. I saw that they seem prepared, it’s a really good organization and I think this should be voted on.

Sweet: Do you know when they will post the regionals?

Velamuri: November

Svendsen: The amount 597.55 $ is within the by-laws limits. It’s ok with Ethics.

Haberman: When is the season starting?

Velamuri: Tournament occurs once a month and the season starts in mid-October.

Toeben: If you gain more members, will the budget increase?

Velamuri: It depends. We send a team and it’s $120 per team.

Toeben: How many members can you have?

Velamuri: There is no limit.

**Vote**

**Budget passes.**

**2.Newman Center**

Schmitz: Budget for musician invited by Newman Center this Friday. They showed their documentation and the budget looks good. This organization is working with a church in St Peter which is a good thing. They are just asking for 300$.

Huber (Newman Center Representative): Thank you guys for having me here and listen to our request.

**Questions:**

Gladitsch: How was the documentation provided?

Schmitz: An e-mail was sent to me by their advisor.

Gladitsch: What’s the Newman Center?

Huber: It’s a Catholic student organization and we are working with other Christian orgs on campus.

Gladitsch: If we have enough documentation, I think it should pass.

Sweet: I move to have all money asked to be provided (amendment on line item 29 having full money: 386.25$)

Seconded by Ryks

**Vote**

**Amended**

Sauvé: What other organizations are you collaborating with?

Huber: United (collection of Christian orgs).

Sauvé: Are people from outside coming?

Huber: We put up posts inviting people from outside the campus

Sauvé: With that on mind, I can’t support the budget that involves people from outside using Senate resources.

Luing: How are you informing students about the event?

Huber: Posters all over campus.

**Vote**

**Budget Approved**

Sweet: I move to extend the meeting

Seconded by Sauvé

**Vote**

**Accepted**

1. **Unfinished Business**
   1. **Contingency Update: Controller Johnson**

Johnson: After the allocation of budget to student orgs in the Spring, we always have a mid-year funding as a backup plan in case we don’t get the expected budget. And that’s the same money we use for instance in case of the two budgets that were passed today. After the two budgets just passed, what we have left is 89,636$?

In Finance Committee we are still discussing on how much to put for mid-year funding.

**Questions:**

Dix: Do you know what was the budget last year for contingency this year?

Johnson: I think for past years it’s been around 50,000$.

VanHecke: It’s hard to think how much money we can allocate in the Spring Semester. Many factors come in between. It’s a bit different every year.

Sauvé: When will we know how many people will come the next year?

VanHecke: I would say August of 2016.

Sauvé: What’s the admission office’s goal for next year?

VanHecke: 640-650.

* 1. **Committee Updates**
     1. **Public Relations: Chair Swenson**

Swenson: We are currently working with the Advertising team to create a new logo for the Senate and have the physical representation of Student meeting. Other projects are: sending a monthly e-mail to the Student body about what’s Senate is doing, let students know who are their representatives, Take your Professor Lunch, and using Social Media more effectively this year.

* + 1. **Health and Housing: Chair Dickey**

Dickey: We’re working on visitation hours/new athletic equipment/break housing/IC prarie grass. I met with Kitchen Cabinet this morning: we talked about sustainability and how the Dining services can keep improving. We are also working on how to improve the Gustavus Handbook.

**Questions:**

AbuEid: Can you talk about the Break housing feedback?

Dickey: They said there would be a CF staffing issue. I am meeting on Wednesday morning Charlie Potts and I’ll bring up the question again.

Antes: About Nutrition facts, can you talk with Dining Services to put labels on food?

Dickey: I will.

Rasmussen: Can you talk about “Take your Professor to Lunch?”

Dickey: Yeah it’s an opportunity to interact with professors/100 tickets last semester : most of them were used.

* + 1. **Diversity: Chair Singh**

Singh:

-DLC met last week , we are in the process of electing a new Co-President.

-Earlier in the semester I went to a faculty committee meeting (Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee): we talked about what they do in improving diversity on campus and we looked on our goals to improve this.

-Columbus Day issue: No results came up last year and this year we wanted to work on it. I contacted the Telecommunications office about it. They knew the event was going to be sponsored by Senate. But last Friday I got a feedback stating that the calendar is for promoting events and not put political statements. It was then rejected and with Cabinet and Jones we decided to send an e-mail to students.

Sauvé: What is the school doing to promote political discussion?

Singh: There is not thing being done at my knowledge about that for now.

* 1. **Office hour recap: Administrative Director Ngabirano**

Ngabirano: I would like the following people to sign up for tabling hours by tonight: Stolt, Jagler, Luing, Ryks, Gladitsch, Martinez. If you can’t make it on Mondays, make an appointment to talk about alternative tabling options. I would also like to ask you to copy me when you send your e-mails to your constituents about tabling.

**Questions:**

Roose: Can we get updated on when we signed up?

Ngabirano: I will send an e-mail to the Senate after everybody is signed up?

Antes: How strict do you want us to be about sending e-mails to our constituents?

Ngabirano: Anytime within three days before tabling.

Rasmussen: I think after everybody has signed up, it would be good to send an e-mail to the Technology Director for her to post them online.

* 1. **Arbor View Representative update: Ombudsperson Svendsen**

Svendsen: The vote will take place this Thursday. I asked the candidates to turn in the mid-vacancies applications to the Dean of Students. The applications haven’t been turned in yet. I will call the Ethics committee to make a vote ad see if we should be still holding the elections this Thursday.

Stolt: If there is no interest still shown on the day of election, what will be done?

Svendsen: We will keep trying until they have a representative.

Toeben: How do you get in touch with Arbor View people?

Rasmussen: Through e-mail.

Toeben: How about talking to the CFs about it and have them say it again through events that they set up?

Dickey: I am the Chapel View CF, We did but still no following through.

Rasmussen: If this doesn’t work, we could return to our old style.

Sauvé: How about inviting them to the meeting?

Gladitsch: Senate is open to the public

Muganga: What’s the old way?

Svendsen: Candidates were approved by Senate instead of constituents.

1. **New Business**
2. Sauvé: I’ve heard from several of my constituents: we don’t want swimmers running half naked in the dorm this year. I make a motion.

No second

Sauvé: I have a lot of Muslim and Jewish students. They have concerns about how the pork is processed in the Caf? I charge health and housing.

Seconded by Hinnenkamp

Dickey: I will look into that

**Vote**

**Motion passes**

1. Sauvé: The Minutes from Archives-I charge Cabinet to work into Archives(all the vital Senate documents we have an access to) and have them online.

Seconded by Dix

**Discussion:**

Sweet: Are those available in the Archives or the library?

VanHecke: We can look into that.

Gladitsch: Do these records exist in paper?

Panzer: This should take some investigation.

Gladitsch: I would like to amend this and have instead Cabinet investigate the case.

Seconded by Andersen

Sauvé: I disagree with the investigation. The amendment is intended to kill the original charge.

Luing: I disagree with previous speaker.

Sweet: The amendment is feasible. Invest work would be great; but also I think the number of students who want it is small.

Gladitsch: I work in the department and I can tell it’s not an easy task.

Dix: I think that the investigation idea is important. I amend the original charge to have Cabinet look into this case in 3 weeks.

Seconded by Sauvé

Cella: I move to end discussion

Seconded by Martinez

**Vote**

**So ended**

**Vote** (Amendment)

**Amended**

Sauvé:If previous Senate generations had done their job, it wouldn’t be hard to do it now.

Cella:I move to end discussion

Seconded by Luing

**Vote**

Sauvé: Point of privilege, Roll Call Vote.

**Full Vote: Luing, Sweet, Hinnenkamp, Roose, Andersen, Gladitsch, Cella, Toeben, Sauvé, AbuEid, Martinez, Lamberty, Ryks, Antes, Stolt, Haberman, Muganga, Dix, Jagler.**

**Motion Charged**

1. Andersen: I heard from some of my constituents about the death of Professor Morrison. I charge Student and Academic Affairs to investigate about setting up a memorial for TJ Morrison?

Seconded by Luing

**Discussion:**

Singh: The wording of the motion? (ensure?)

Sauvé: ensure to investigate

Sweet: There are so many things done- I don’t think the timing would be in our favor?

Mueller:There is a memorial Service on Thursday 3:30, Senator Andersen was talking about a permanent memorial sign.

Sweet: I apologize, I remove my motion.

No motion made.

Sauvé: I amend it to have it done for all previous deceased professors.

Seconded by Senator Cella

**Vote (Amendment)**

**So moved**

**Vote:**

**Motion charged**

1. Muganga: I move to charge Health housing to look into the possibility of installing water bottle filling stations.

Seconded by AbuEid

Muganga: Is this possible?

Rasmussen: As Chair of Health and Housing for the previous two years, we tried to do that. The idea was having them in more residence halls. It’s a conversation that is still have to be held.

Muganga: I move to charge Health and Housing to look into installing them in Sohre (Amended motion).

**Discussion:**

Sauvé: I support the amendment

**Vote**

**Amended**

Antes: I amend the motion to extend the hydration stations to all residence halls who don’t have them and have them installed by the main floor entrance.

Seconded by Sauvé

**Discussion:**

Luing: I’m against the amendment because apartments don’t need them.

Dix: My constituents raised the issue. So we need it.

Luing: I apologize for that. I’m speaking for my constituents in Chapel View.

Sauvé: We should include in the motion “where it’s appropriate”.

Dix:I don’t think there is anything wrong with analyzing the issue. Also I got a number of complaints about their lack.

Sweet: We put them in last year. I think we should wait until the end of the semester to reconsider this.

Schmitz: While considering the issue, I would just precise that it’s expensive.

**Vote**

**Amendment fails**

Sauvé:We should spend money on orgs and make a resolution to ask the administration to pay for it. I encourage the body to oppose this motion.

Muganga:I come back to my word “possibility”. I think we’re rushing.

Singh: My understanding is that we don’t want to rush. But the investigation is encouraged?

Rasmussen: It will be looked into whether it gets voted or not.

Cella: In Complex, we don’t have sinks. So hydration stations are very needed.

Andersen: I think a discussion should be held with ResLife. I charge this to Health and Housing Committee.

Seconded by Roose

**Discussion:**

Sweet: I call to question

Seconded by Luing

**Vote**

**Positive**

**Vote (Andersen’s amendment)**

**Amended**

**Vote (Motion: to have a discussion with reslife about hydration systems)**

**Motion passes**

1. Habermann: I move to have the tech director work with GTS to improve the Wi-fi in the library.

Seconded by Hinnenkamp

**Discussion:**

Sauvé: I support this

Hinnenkamp: Especially in the corner by the stairs, there is practically no wi-fi.

Seconded by Luing

Cella: I move to end the discussion

**Vote**

**So ended**

**Vote (Motion)**

**Motion passes**

1. Sauvé: I charge Health and Housing to send a resolution to the Administration in favor of the hydration stations.

Seconded by Dix

**Discussion:**

Sauvé: This has no impact on the other charge.

VanHecke: I would encourage you to appreciate how you determine what is indeed the student perspective.

Sauvé: I amend it to send a survey to students.

Seconded by Hinnenkamp

**Vote(Survey Amendment)**

**Motion amended**

**Vote(Motion-resolution to administration)**

**Motion passes**

1. **Announcements**

**Svendsen:-**If you are last on the speaker’s list please just yield. You don’t need to call to question everytime.

**-**The meetings get long but remember that you made a commitment. Please make sure you are representing your constituents properly

**Rasmussen:** -We’ve spent 45 minutes charging to committees. This is great but I think that most discussions should be held in committees. Charge away. But if you have idea that need to be charged formally, feel free to bring them to the floor.

**-** Amending charges: Let’s keep our amendments simple to save the time.

**Singh:** We added a representative to a sub-group on the D Committee.

D-Committee’s members: meet me after the meeting.

**Hinnenkamp:** Every Monday we have a PA hang out from 7 to 10:30 am. Feel free to stop by.

**Jones:** -Coca Cola needs fantastic ideas for their grants. Talk to your constituents about it or If you have any ideas please let me know.

**-**Safe zone training: October 13, 17 or November 2, 3**.** For more info or if you want to participate e-mail [**gacsafezone@gmail.com**](mailto:gacsafezone@gmail.com)**.**

Sauvé: Be safe with your drinking. Get involved with primaries, it’s coming soon.

Johnson: Support sports.

Gunnigle: If you could wait until the Co-Presidents open the floor to raise your placard, that would be great.

Luing: This week is coming out week sponsored by Quiers and Allies/Be supportive .You are also welcome to the Drag Show next Friday.

Muganga: As a part of the Quiz bowl team, I would like to show my gratitude for passing the budget.

Swenson: Mental Health Allies meeting tomorrow. You are welcome to join us.

Sweet: Flu shot tomorrow.

Lamberty: The Soccer team is sponsoring an event on Saturday. Also you’re welcome to Confer to watch together the Democratic Presidential Debate tomorrow.

Panzer: Great discussion. Thanks for your comments.

**\*Meeting adjourned**