**Student Senate Minutes**

**Gustavus Adolphus College**

**April 25, 2016**

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

1. **Attendance**

Question of the day: If you had a million dollars, what would you do with it?

1. **Approval of the Minutes 4/18/16**

Approved

1. **Community Comment**

None

1. **Finance**
   1. **Block Budgets**

Schmitz: We go through this every year (Senior Week, IGS, PAs, DLC and SAVE). We need the approval of Senate for passing the budgets.

**Questions:**

Dix: How can we get ahold of the budgeting information of those groups?

Schmitz: I will check the by-laws and see what I can do about it.

Dix: What’s the outcome of the IGS discussion?

Schmitz: I spoke to them. We decided that from next summer they will be funded by Senate and IGS will help with that.

**Discussion:**

Sweet: I think block budgets are great. They help us get a better hand on things we wouldn’t otherwise.

Gladitsch: It’s a great financial process that make things smoother.

**Vote**

**Approved**

* 1. Johnson: In the next 3 meetings, refrain from using phones and laptops. Try to stay relevant to the budgets being discussed. Phrase your words in a non-discriminatory way. Chair Schmitz sent the budgets, look into them and get back to us with any questions. With conferences and events we fund in full and not per line item to avoid some unnecessary details.

**Comments:**

Rasmussen: If you have any questions, talk to Johnson and Derek first before pulling them out.

Dix: How should we stay germane?

Johnson: You can ask questions whenever you’re not sure.

Dix: Is there any documentation provided?

Derek: It’s not shown in the budgets but we have them.

Singh: In the past, senators have made suggestions to orgs and that’s not appropriate. Don’t suggest but ask.

VanHecke: If there is a recurring question in different budgets, ask questions to Derek or Alex first before pulling things out.

Panzer: Can Cabinet folks pull out budgets?

Schmitz: No

Schmitz: Senate can’t increase allocations, so be mindful of the recommendations made by the Committee.

1. **Committee Updates**
   1. **Co-Presidents**
      1. **Board of Trustees Report Follow-up**

Rasmussen: We met with the Board on Friday. We talked about Mirrors in the weight room, TMAYD, Take your Professor to Lunch will be in the budgets, Implicit Bias Program, Sexual Misconduct Taskforce, Divest from Fossil Fuels (they are aware discussions have been going on for a while). We asked them feedback on this. We mentioned we wanted a social responsibility to be taken on the issue and we expressed concerns about cutting research funds. They thanked us for initiating the Divest conversation. They mentioned if there are students willing to figure things around this, to let them know. If Senate decides to have a conversation next year, we’ll go from there. There are opportunities to get involved on campus and hopefully it will be improved with the Strategic Planning as well. We also talked about Nobel and Anderson renovations and we introduced Co-Presidents elect Sharon and Alex.

**Questions:**

Muganga: FYRE funding?

Panzer: We talked about it and we encouraged them to keep fostering education.

Ostberg: Also there is a taskforce dedicated to that already.

Dix: How did the Board interpret the suggestion of having a Divest Taskforce.

Panzer: They are willing to have formal conversations with Divest.

* + 1. **Senate End-of-Year Cookout**

Rasmussen: We decided on May 13 at 6:30. E-mail Sam and I if you’ll be there.

* + 1. **Senate commencement cords**

Rasmussen: They will be given freely to everyone who has been involved with Student Senate and is graduating.

* + 1. **Vote for the Constitutional Amendment.**

Svendsen: Make sure you vote by 10pm!

1. **Unfinished Business**

None

1. **New Business**

Dix: I move for Student and Academic Affairs Committee to craft a resolution urging President Bergman to create a taskforce on Divest.

Seconded by Martinez

**Discussion:**

Dix: It’s very needed and it’s reasonable to orient it to next year.

Martinez: Thanks for the committee for presenting that to us. This Taskforce is great as well.

Panzer: I want to thank the committee as well for their good work. A reminder that’s it’s complicated and keep in mind that the taskforce should be given flexibility.

**Vote**

**Approved**

1. **Announcements**

Singh: It’s Jesus Week, Diversity Week and Greek Week. The President Council for Diversity and Inclusion is having an open meeting where they will talk about what they’ve been doing. 6:30-8 in the St Peter Room.

Rasmussen: Barbecue at JoNes on May 13th. Class reps stay here.

Haberman: Track meeting next Saturday.

Dix: Tomorrow night there is a philosophy talk on “Why philosophers have such strange problems”. It’s in Old Main.

Johnson: Eppies Awareness for raising funds for a philanthropic organization next Saturday 11-2pm.

Panzer: Keep nominating professors for Teaching Excellence. It’s due at 10pm. Congratulations to Speaker Sweet for being selected as the Commencement Speaker. Students are invited for talks about the Strategic Planning draft and offer input.

Cella: Tomorrow at 6pm: Debate between Republicans, Democrats and Libertarians.

Muller: Orthodox Easter this weekend. Africa Jam by the OKs on Saturday.

Shaikoski: Safe Carnival Sex 11-1pm this Tuesday. Take Back the Night on Thursday on the power of speaking out against sexual misconduct.

**\*Meeting Adjourned**