**Student Senate Minutes**

**Gustavus Adolphus College**

**September 21, 2015**

1. **Attendance**

Every present Senator introduces themselves and shares with others what is their favorite food.

1. **Approval of the Minutes 5/18/15**

Approved

1. **Community Comment**

No Community Comment

1. **Appointments**
   1. Administrative Director

Panzer: Hubert is an excellent member of the school, really excited to see if he can work as the admin director.

Hubert Ngabirano: pre-med student, sophomore, excited to work as admin director

No questions.

Sauve : I move to end the discussion

Approved.

b.Senate Speaker

Rasmussen: Reading of By-Laws concerning the speaker

Discussion

Luing: I nominate Senator Sweet as speaker

Dix: I nominate Senator Sauve

Ryks: I nomite Senator Sauve

The three nominees (Gladitsch, Sweet, Sauve) introduce themselves one by one.

1. Sweet: I’m a Senior: English major with a Political Science minor. I also served as a senator and on cabinet last year. I have interpersonal skills, experience and I’m willing to attend meetings.

Solveig(Question): What do you think is the speaker’s job on Ethics Committee ?

Sweet: Represent the body. I am familiar with Constitution and By-laws. Transition would be easier.

Dix: What was your previous position on Senate?

Sweet: Public Relations Chair

Dix: How can you describe it?

Sweet: We did a lot of outreach and I enjoyed it.

Dix: I yield

1. Sauve: Sophomore, International Center Representative. I served on Senate last year as well. You should vote for me for the speaker’s need. The previous speaker was excellent but I didn’t like the way he took the Senate’s concerns to the Administration and I fear that will happen again

Dix: How do you think you will be a better speaker this year.

Sauve: I’m not afraid of representing the body and advocating properly for it.

Solveig: What’s the speaker’s job on Ethics?

Sauve: Give neutral tone

Ryks: How will you handle your relationships with the Cabinet?

Sauve: I will do what I think is right

Abu Eid: Why using I? Are you gonna be a voice for yourself?

Sauve: No, I’ll speak as a voice for senators and the body.

3.Gladitsch: I’m a senior and this is my Second year on senate. I think Senate did well passing the budget especially the omnibus one. I would be glad to serve as a voice for senators.

Cella: What makes you a better candidate?

Gladitsch: I have experience and I’m very organized.

Solveig: What’s the speaker’s job on ethics?

Gladitsch: Bringing Balance.

Antes: What’s the speaker’s job in your personal opinion?

Gladitsch: Run everything smoothly between Senate and Cabinet

Ryks: How would you address issues between the Senate and the Cabinet?

Gladitsch: My goal is being approachable and being a liaison between the two bodies.

**Discussion**

Solveig: The speaker should be approachable, personable, confident enough. Keep that in consideration as you vote. I yield.

Hinnenkamp: I support Senator Sweet. She’s been a great senator and constituency representative.

Ryks: Gladitsch is experienced, personable, and very approachable. I support Gladitsch.

After vote, Senator Sweet is elected.

Rasmussen: Congratulations Speaker Sweet!

1. **Old Business**
   1. Parliamentary Procedure

Gunnigle: explains the Roberts Rules, why we use them and defines the key words.

1. **New Business**
   1. Board of Trustees

Rasmussen: This Friday, Sam and I are meeting the Board of Trustees. Do you have anything you would like us to present?

Antes: Will you include the concerns raised at the retreat?

Rasmussen: Yes we can do that

Panzer: The Board will deal with some specific and major questions facing our community.

Sauve: I’ve heard much money is spent on buildings and not attracting faculty.

Sweet: You could ask what’s the plan with the buildings’ construction?

Van Hecke: The Board has a priority of building projects. I think that it’s great to express your thought about this but I don’t think they will be able to give you a timeline as of now because funds come from donors.

Panzer: I would urge to keep thinking of any concerns and talk with their constituencies and let us know any idea you have before Friday.

Singh: Could you ask where the Board is getting with diversity and inclusion work?

Abu Eid: Could you ask what’s the strategic plan for maintaining international students here instead of having them keep transferring.

Bobby: Any questions should be directed to us as far as before Friday

* 1. Committee’s Introductions

Bobby: We would like to give a place to our Chairs to introduce themselves

**Audi**: I’m the Health and Housing and Chair. I’ve been receiving concerns about visitation hours, temperature in the library, nutririon facts, mental health and I will be working on that. I will be also working on expanding ‘Take your Professor to lunch’.

Abu Eid: Would the buildings be open during breaks?

Audi: You could help with that if you’re passionate about it.

**Swenson**: I am the Public Relations Chair. What I do is creating a connection between the body and the Senate. My ideas are creating a Senate brand for keeping a consistent image, increase awareness and transparency in the Senate and letting students at large know what’s going on in the Senate.

**Schmitz**: I am the Finance Chair and I meet with orgs on campus and discuss bugdet with them. The Committee meets once a week. It gets busy in the Spring. If your schedule is open, don’t hesitate to join.

Antes: How many extra hours a week ?

Schmidtz: Double digits ( a few hours a week)

**Svendsen**: I am the Ethics Chair. Ethics’ job is to police the Senate. We decide on disciplinary actions, amend by-laws(e.g. mid-term vacancies last year). Ethics does a lot with making some tough decisions; we put friendships aside and we decide what’s best for the body. We have 2 positions still open for senators.

Sauve: Who is the student at large?

Svendsen: Joe Robbins. He did a lot with student government in the past.

Rasmussen: All students at large will be submitted to the senate for vote.

Dix: Can you give us an example of these tough decisions you deal with?

Svendsen: A decision was made concerning a budget’s org last year and there was some timeline conflicts. The committee decided that the timeline wasn’t properly maintained and that in the future the Senate will make sure the rules are followed. The formal reprimand is put on the Minutes for anyone to see.

**Mueller**: I am the Technology Chair. One of the projects I’m working on is having our cable renewed. I will also be Communicating with GTS and the students to make sure every technology aspect is run smoothly.

Singh: How many people you need on your committee?

Mueller: I won’t need too many people on my Committee.

**Ostberg**: I am the Academics and Student Affairs Chair. Formalizing I’m really excited to work with the potential Divest group.

Sauve: Why is Senate working with a non-Senate group?

Ostberg: The issues we will be working on are sensitive and pertaining to our community in general.

Panzer: We work with student orgs fairly. We are charged to work on the wellbeing of the community. Sometimes we can take a step further when it’s an issue in which the Student body is interested in.

VanHecke: As a body you will have the opportunity to send recommendations to the committees once the committees are formed. You can also come to see me if you have any issues.

Dix: Can we get back to the Committee’s mission?

Ostberg: This year me and Diversity Chair will be collaborating on a few things for the wellbeing of the body.

Svendsen: The point of Student Academic Affairs is very wide. Last year for instance they were put in charge some few things not related to what they were covering necessarily. So it’s not unusual sometimes to collaborate with other committees

Sweet: Adding to Ombudsperson, I also worked with the Diversity Chair last year.

**Singh**: I’m the diversity Chair and this year I’m planning on working on the implicit bias intervention program. We want to educate the student body including Senate on how to be actively aware of implicit bias. The diversity committee is also focused on the Fair Trade Resolution with Student and Academic Affairs. It is important to remember that some of the ideas we are bringing to you are our own, others were charged to these committees last year.

Sauve: What’s implicit bias?

Singh: It’s a program that makes you aware on how one unconsciously leans towards, for instance, one race over another. But it will cover a broad range of subjects including age, gender, sexuality and race and ethnicity.

Dix: Can you give an example on how you will work with other committees?

Singh: It’s hard to see how integration works between committees. But an example would be that Diversity committee can collaborating with Health and Housing Committee focusing on people with disabilities. Integration is important because it is not one individual’s job, or the committee's job to work on diversity, it is everyone’s job.

I need five people on my committee.

Rasmussen: After the meeting we are taking pictures and then you will be back to sign up for committees.

**Discussion:**

Sweet: Office hours?

Sam: We will come with a proposal of what we (Co-Presidents) think are appropriate office hours.

Ryks: Some of my constituencies brought concerns about rights concerning off-campus residency. I would like to charge Health and Housing.

Motion charged to Health and Housing.

Sauve: Some of my constituencies brought to me concerns about a space by the International Center on the left where there should be put some prairie grass. I would like to charge Health and Housing.

Cella: What do you think might be put in that space?

Sauve: Prarie grass

Hinnenkamp: I would appreciate if Health and Housing could look into if it’s supposed to be like that for the moment.

Motion Charged to Health and Housing.

1. **Announcements**

Panzer:

1.Thanks for all your expressed concerns.

2.If you have a typo on your placard, correct it and give it back to Admin Director Ngabirano.

3. Feel free to end the discussion if you feel like it’s taking long

4.Sign up for committees after our photo

5. Reach out to your representatives and bring their concerns

6. I encourage you to include a hook for Friday’s discussion (Gustavus Acts Friday 2:30-5pm)

Johnson: I wasn’t at the retreat. I would like to introduce myself. I am on Finace committee and I am the Controller. I am the book keeper, I think Finance committee is fun and I encourage you to join it.

Sweet: Thanks for electing me, if you wanna address to me any concerns please feel free to come and talk to me. I would also encourage you to join the Greek Life if you haven’t yet.

VanHecke: This Fall, there is no breakfast with the Board unfortunately. The time is condensed and split between the cities and here, so please reach out to your constituencies and let them know.

Gladistch: This is the place for opinions. So for those who are new on the team, feel free to voice your ideas.

Gunnigle: Hold up your placards when you want to talk so that I may see you clearly. Also I will hand out Parliamentary procedure.

Sauve: As a Campus Safety Dispatcher I would like to say no drinking under 21. Give us a call for any trouble.

Svendsen: You can miss the meetings only three times. Come to see me with any concerns and I can also keep your name confidential if you want me to.

Rasmussen: Thanks for our first full meeting. Make sure you don’t not use laptops in our meetings to avoid any distraction. We are taking pictures after the meeting. Come to see me if you have any questions.

**\*Meeting Adjourned**