**Student Senate Minutes**

**Gustavus Adolphus College**

**September 28, 2015**

Meeting called to order by Co-President Samuel Panzer at 7:03

1. **Attendance**

Question of the day: “If Student Senate was a circus, what act would you play?”

1. **Approval of the Minutes 9/21/15**

Approved

1. **Community Comment**

No Community Comment

1. **Appointments**
   1. **Ethics Committee**

Svendsen: Robbin is interested in the Ethics Committee and he wants to be involved with Senate. He wants to be a balance between the student body and the Senate.

Robbin: Last year I couldn’t be involved because of other commitments but I feel now is the time. I’m a Sophomore and I am interested in this position.

**Discussion**:

Singh: I worked with Joe on the Interhall Council. Most of the job was done by me and him. He is committed I wouldn’t hesitate to support him.

Gladitsch: He is smart. I really thing he is a good appointment.

Dix: He is a fluent speaker and a great conversationalist.

**Candidate Robins (Student at Large) Approved**

Svendsen: Now I would like Senators AbuEid and Dix to come up here.

Both filled the applications and got back to me.

AbuEid’s application was outstanding. He talked about how he values rules and I think that important in Ethics.

Abu Eid: As a scientist ethics is life. Everything you do must be based on that.

Sauvé: Who is your favorite ethicist and why?

AbuEid: My grandpa. You would learn more than you think on simple people because they don’t make things complicated.

Sauvé: If Senate contradicts the constitution, what should be done?

AbuEid: The vote would solve the issue. If there any bias it should be discussed in the Committee.

Sauvé: What’s your favorite Premier League team?

Abu Eid: Manchester United

Vote

**AbuEid confirmed**

Svendsen: Senator Dix showed clearly what he would do in a biased situation. I feel like he will do a great job on the Committee.

Dix: I’m a junior and I have a strong set of beliefs and values that govern my life. I’m very interested in ethics and moral action.

Questions:

Sauvé: Who is your favorite ethicist and why?

Dix: Aristotle. I like to see how people are influenced by their own actions.

**Discussion:**

Sauvé: We lived together in my freshman year. He has an ethical life that he doesn’t compromise.

Gladitsch: I had a couple classes with him he is really intelligent.

Miller: He is intelligent and he would be great on Ethics Committee

Vote

**Dix confirmed**

1. **Old Business**
   1. **Diversity Committee**

Singh:

Titlement of the second Monday of October. Last year it was proposed that the labeling of this day be changed to Indigenous People’s Day. A draft of a resolution was written by last years Diversity Committee with a few points as to why the change should occur. This is also some of the opinions people who supported the change had:

•Minneapolis has recognized it as Indigenous People’s Day.

•Because of Columbus, countless Native Americans were killed/abused.

•This would be a day in Honor of Native Americans; it promotes Native American culture, commemorates the history of Native Americans.

The countering perspective is that:

•It honors Columbus’ 1st voyage to America in 1492

•Others see it as celebrating the fact that this man did something, “discover” a new land when people from where he was from believed this to be impossible

•We should not be trying to change/remove a federal holiday.

A little bit of History:

•Columbus day was first celebrated/observed in 1906 in Colorado.

•It became a federal holiday in 1937

•Italians celebrate it as a day for their heritage

•It is observed federally, but not necessarily locally or on the state level:

•not observed by:

•Berkely, CA

•Denver, CO

•Minneapolis, MN

•Hawaii

•Alaska

•Oregon

•South Dakota

A possible solution is to have both days on the Gustavus Calendar. This way we are not “removing” a federal holiday and we are commemorating Native Americans. I think it is really powerful to see both of these on the calendar together because they go hand in hand.

**Discussion:**

Sauvé: Columbus was not the first person to discover America. I’m in favor of just having the Indigenous Day because he doesn’t deserve to be recognized

Gladitsch: I think Columbus day should stay there.

Hinnenkamp: I like the idea of the previous speaker. I think we should stick with what the Diversity Committee proposed.

Dix: I’m in favor of having both days on the calendar. Even if it wouldn’t be recognized on the calendar, it should be our moral decision.

Rasmussen: For now it’s just a proposition. If someone wants to make a motion, feel free to do it.

Sweet: The reason why we didn’t do anything about it last year was because we didn’t charge it on time. I think this would be a good time to make a motion.

Schmitz: Having the day on the calendar is extremely important. It shouldn’t be removed.

Ryks: I move to put the two events on two separate days

Singh: The reason why we have both on the same day is because of Columbus’ discovery, America was “discovered”, but it is also important to remember the loss of life and Native American culture that occurred due to this discovery”

Panzer:Senator Ryks, are you moving that Diversity Committee recommend such a change.

Ryks: I remove my previous motion. I think there should be a wider dialogue.

Andersen: How did the idea came?

Sauvé: It came through a group of constituents including myself. It would be easy to create a calendar.

Andersen: I yield

Sweet: I think we’re here to represent the body and that the conversation previous speakers were asking for is happening right now.

Muganga: I think having them on both days would be great because they complement each other.

Singh: The day celebrates the indigenous’ culture too.

Martinez: I think we are beginning the discussion, we don’t have to decide now but this is a good start.

Gladitsch: If we were to ask something today, how would this work? Sending it to the Administration and voting on it again?

Rasmussen: You can make a motion and the Diversity will contact the office responsible of the calendar and then it would be brought back on the floor.

Sauvé: I move that Diversity Committee contact the person in charge of calendar so that Columbus Day replace the indigenous day with a precision that it should be a federal holiday.

**Discussion**:

VanHecke: I don’t think there is a position called:” Administrator of Calendar”. You can check with the Marketing Office though.

No objection to contact Lorie Siebels (Marketing and Communication office) on this subject.

**The motion fails.**

Sauvé: I move to extend the meeting.

**Meeting extended**

Gladitsch: I move for the Diversity Committee to write a letter to Lorie Siebels or talk to her. I ask for a secret ballot.

Seconded by Senator Luing

**The motion passes.**

Gladitsch: I yield.

* 1. **Board of Trustees Presentation**

Rasmussen: We presented what was done last year and our plans this year. They appreciated the work done.

Sauvé: A specific subject mentioned at the meeting?

Rasmussen: I will get you a summary of our presentation.

Luing: How about building renovation to facilitate for people with disabilities?

Abu Eid: Can we have a copy of the presentation?

Rasmussen: Sure!

Sweet: What if you e-mail us?

No objection.

A copy of the Presentation will be e-mailed to the whole Senate.

* 1. **Committee Confirmations**

Committees’ chairs present the composition of their committees:

**Dickey (Health and Housing):** Senators Liz Toeben, Cristhian Martinez, Mitch Ryks, Emmett Habberman, Kylie Lamberty, Sammy Jagler, Brandon Dix, Alex Luing, Sean Hinnenkamp, Elias Antes, Holden Sauvé, Mahmoud AbuEid, Quinn Andersen.

**Swenson(Public Relations)**: Senators Kylie Lamberty and Sammy Jaggler

**Schmitz(Finance)**: I encourage you to apply. The retained candidates will be approved soon.

**Solveig(Ethics)**: Parliamentarian Carter Gunnigle, Speaker Delaney Sweet, Student at large Joe Robbins, Senators Mahmoud AbuEid and Brandon Dix.

**Mueller(Technology)**: Senators Joe Cella, Cristhian Martinez and Mitch Ryks

**Ostberg(Student and Academic Affairs)**: Senators Sean Hinnenkamp, Alex Luing, Quinn Andersen, Emmett Habberman, Mahmoud Abu Eid and Brandon Muganga

**Singh(Diversity)**: Senators Joe Cella, Brandon Muganga, Sean Hinnenkamp, Senator Liz Toeben and Speaker Delaney Sweet

Solveig: If your name hasn’t been cited twice, make sure you join another committee according to the Constitution and by-laws.

* 1. **Arbor View Representative**

Rasmussen: We have no candidate up to date. We have one person interested so far but it’s not confirmed yet. I you know someone there: encourage them to apply.

1. **New Business**

**Sauvé:** I move for a resolution to be considered. It’s in the Constitution Article IV 5.

Motion seconded by Senator Dix

**Discussion:**

Rasmussen: The resolution has been considered, we’ve seen it. Typically we don’t change the constitution with a resolution but more with a motion to amend the Constitution.

Svendsen: The resolution just points out flaws in the Constitution and does not give a solution. I suggest that you bring it again written in a better format we can see.

Rasmussen: Senator Sauvé, what you’re saying is that if we don’t have both co-presidents, quorum doesn’t work? correct?

Sauvé: Correct.

Rasmussen: My interpretation is that in the Constitution it says that in the case of the absence of both Co-presidents, the Administrative Director takes over.

Hinnenkamp: Can we move to postponing the conversion until we have enough information?

Svendsen: There is an order of successions in the Constitution in case of vacancies. The Constitution gives us the rules.

Article1. 10 Both Co-Presidents are considered voting. If someone would like to amend it, you’re welcome.

Dix: What happens in case of vacancy of a Co-President?

Rasmussen: We don’t need to have either one to have quorum. Like right now we don’t have the Arbor View Representative but it doesn’t mean we don’t have quorum.

Dix: If one of the Co-Presidents’ position becomes vacant, does this mean that we can’t hold a meeting until a new nominee is brought forward approved?

VanHecke: I think that that’s what it says.

Sauvé: Co-President Rasmussen, do you think the Arbor View Representative is not an integral part of Senate?

Rasmussen: What I was saying was that if one Senate member is missing, this doesn’t mean that we don’t have quorum.

Hinnenkamp: I move to postpone the discussion until enough information is gathered no later than next Monday.

Seconded by Luing

**Motion tabled.**

Dix: I move to charge Public Relations to send an e-mail to students every month on what the Senate has been doing and how it affects them

Seconded by Ryks

**Discussion**:

Sauvé: The Senate doesn’t know what the Senate is doing. This would be a great project.

Luing: Called to question

Question called

Vote

**Motion tabled.**

Sauvé: I move to charge PR to have a physical representation of the Senate meeting as a reminder that there is a meeting in the Boardroom and that they are welcome on community comment

Seconded by Ryks

AbuEid: I call to question

Question called

Vote

**Motion tabled**.

1. **Announcements**

Svendsen:

1. Wait to raise your placard until the Co-Presidents yield the floor.
2. You don’t need to call the question all the time. This can make things smoother.

Mueller: If you want something to be presented electronically to Senate, please send it to me ahead of time.

Luing: The Peer Assistants are hosting the SNL next Saturday.

Sauvé: Today I represented Senate on the Student Organization Recognition Committee and we approved a political campaign, the botanical society, and a couple other new greek life orgs.

Singh: I remind you to go to Nobel Conference next week.

Panzer:

1. Thanks to Senator Sauvé for representing us today.
2. Welcome to Senator Mason Stolt from Prairie ViewHall
3. We have a meeting on Monday even if it’s Nobel week.

**Meeting adjourned**.