**Student Senate Minutes**

**Gustavus Adolphus College**

**October 5, 2015**

Co-President Rasmussen calls the meeting to order at 7:00

1. **Attendance**

Question of the day: If you were ever to speak at a Nobel conference, what would you talk about?

1. **Approval of the Minutes 9/28/15**

Approved

1. **Community Comment**

None

1. **Appointments**
   1. **Finance Committee**

Schmitz introduces the two students at large:

Schmitz: Logan Boucher was recommended by the Finance Director of last year, he was a senator and he served on the Finance Committee. He is sharp and he would be a good fit for the team.

**Questions:**

Sauvé: Would you support a budget that goes against what Constitution says?

Boucher: There are certain times when By-laws need to be broken and I think we did a good job on that last year.

**Discussion**:

Cella: Did anyone work with him last year? What do you guys think of him?

Miller: I think he is a good fit for the committee

Sauvé: I think that budget wasn’t handled well last year that’s why I can’t support any candidate

Sweet: I was with him on Senate last year. He was a good addition to the team. I support him.

Cella: Can we lawfully ask what was broken in the By-Laws last year?

Van Hecke: Some exceptions were made. There are some times when the Finance committee saw that it would be wise to finance some projects even if it wasn’t thoroughly in line with the guidelines. For instance financing an org more than what should be given to it because it seemed appropriate.

Antes: Director Schmitz, How many people do you need?

Schmitz: 6 people: 4 senators and 2 students at large.

**Vote**

**Boucher approved**

Schmitz: Next is Olivia Ward. She was on Committee last year as well and she was recommended by Courtney. She asked to be involved again.

**Questions**:

Cella: What do you think you have to bring to the Committee?

Her: I think I have enough knowledge of the by-laws.

**Discussion:**

Miller: I worked with Olivia on Finance Committee last year. She did a great job. She brings another perspective to the table and the Committee.

Dix: Director Schmitz, could you talk about what set her apart from other candidates?

Schmitz: She was on the Committee last year. She seems very qualified and experienced. Also she is young and having young people being exposed to the experience is very important.

Roose: She is on top of everything she does.

**Vote**

**Olivia approved**

Schmitz: Turning to senators, I will start with Senator Roose. She is one of the people who applied. She is young and having her exposed to the experience is a very wise move.

Roose: I am an international Management major, this position is kind of an alley. Also I had a Summer Job that gave me some experience.

**Discussion:**

Sweet: I would like just to ask that when we are nominating, we should keep questions in the discussion to be fair to everyone.

**Vote**

**Senator Roose approved**

Schmitz: Next is Senator Miller. He is an Economics major and he was in the process last year. I trust him.

Miller: I served on the committee last year and I would be glad to serve again this year.

**Discussion:**

Dix: I had class with him last semester. He did very well in a class that was involving thoughts and a lot of work.

**Vote**

**Senator Miller approved**

Schmitz: Next is Senator Muganga. He is our youngest nominee and an Economics major. This will be a great opportunity to express it.

Muganga: I’ve been studying economics for the last four years in highschool, this will be a great opportunity to apply my knowledge. Also as a new face, I’m bringing a new perspective.

**Questions:**

Antes: Do you have ideas based on what you’ve already heard?

Muganga; I will try to learn and avoid mistakes from last year.

**Discussion**:

Sauve: I’ve heard a couple conversations with him, he seems to be a smart guy.

AbuEid: I got to know him during the freshman orientation. He is smart and I support him.

**Vote**

**Senator Muganga approved**

Schmitz: Our last nomination is Senator Gladitsch. I’ve known him for a while and he is very responsible. He will be a great addition to the team.

Gladitsch: You guys know me.

**Discussion:**

Sauvé: He is super smart and he is very responsible.

**Vote**

**Senator Gladitsch approved**

**V. Unfinished Business**

**a.Constitutional Amendment**

Rasmussen: We will start with the constitutional amendment from last week. Ombudsperson Svendsen is not here to answer questions now but I’m gonna open the floor for questions.

**Discussion:**

Gladitsch: I move this resolution to be sent to Ethics Committee.

Sweet: There is a lot of stipulation that would have to go in this amendment. I think the language should be explained and discussed in the Ethics Committee rather than here.

Sauvé: I think I was supposed to get an update first.

Rasmussen: The motion was updated last week

Panzer: From the Minutes, I can read that the discussion was postponed until enough information is gathered.

Gladitsch: I want this to happen because it’s hard to get things discussed here on the floor. I think the Committee can go in depth more than we can do here.

Panzer: I support what previous speaker said. The course of action should be discussed in the Committee first.

**Vote**

**Motion charged to Ethics Committee**

* 1. **Board of Trustees questions**

Rasmussen:I will give the floor to Co-President Panzer

Panzer: Our outline was distributed two Fridays ago. We didn’t have time to talk about all the points. But we got to talk on the most pressing ones.

**Questions:**

Dix: How did you decide what to bring to the Board?

Panzer: We strategized by looking for the intentions of the different concerns addressed to us to get a broad understanding of what to present.

* 1. **Columbus & Indigenous People’s Day**

Rasmussen: Our Diversity Chair talked to Lorie Siebels and Co-President Panzer will present because she couldn’t attend the meeting.

Panzer: She is hosting a Nobel speaker.

So, the calendar changement would have to go to the President’s Cabinet. They sadly meet on October13 while our day is on October 12. Seeing that we won’t be able to change the holiday this year, what was proposed by the Diversity Chair is an event. If it is approved we will have it on the announcements’ spot.

**Discussion:**

Sweet: I move to charge the Diversity Chair with putting the event on the calendar.

Gladitch: Do you mean calendar or announcements?

Sweet: Announcements. I think this will raise awareness and pilot events for the future.

Schmitz: I think Columbus should go first on the Calendar.

Gladitsch: I think this is a good compromise.

Cella: What do you guys think of having an event where people could come and having a discussion about it?

Gladitsch: I think people already do. I don’t know who puts that on but it happens.

Sauvé: It’s done by the Diversity Center.

Sweet: It’s more student mobilized. But as part of the Diversity Committee, it would be hard (time wise) to schedule something as of now.

Cella: I think it would be good to make people aware that they can go to talk about it.

Panzer: -A reminder that this should be approved before anything is done about it .

-Also, The Student Senate will have its name on it. What do you think of this?

Antes: I would like some clarification. Do you want it on just on the announcements or as an actual event?

Panzer: By sponsoring we just mean having our name on it on the Announcements.

Antes: Will it be sponsored by the Diversity Committee?

Panzer: I think it’s better to consent as an entire body.

Sauvé: I think everybody agrees on this.

Dix: I think that having both on the calendar is great.

Rasmussen: Point of Clarification. The motion is to be charged to the Diversity Committee.

Cella: If it is to be charged through Diversity Committee, will the Committee decide the wording or we will still have to approve it?

Sauvé:Through the Committee it would be sent and next week we will be talking about the same thing.

Sweet: I moved to send it this very week to the Committee with the same wording.

Van Hecke: I think Delaney’s motion is intended to be taken as a motion sent to the Committee so that Sharon might take it to the person in charge of the Calendar.

Cella: I move to have the word “as well as” in the description (Columbus day as well as Indigenous People’s Day instead of “and”)

Seconded by Sweet

Rasmussen: heading and sentence?

Cella: Yes both.

**Discussion:**

Cella:I want to make sure they read things right.

Gladitsch: Clarification on the motion. Capital letters?

Sweet: We should leave it capitalized.

**Motion passes (Letter Capitalization and the words “as well as”)**

Muganga: What is the theme for Indigenous Day?

Abu Eid: It’s not an actual event. It’s just on the calendar.

**Vote**

**Motion passes (The event will put on the Calendar next Monday)**

1. **New Business**
   1. **Office Hours**

Rasmussen: Last year it was 1hour a week. But this time, we (the Co-Presidents) would like to propose the office hours.

Panzer: Proposal of the office hours. Reading of the Proposal.

2015-2016 OFFICE HOURS PROPOSAL:

Note: this is not a bylaw

**1**.Student Senate shall provide a regular, publicized forum to hear student concerns in the form of a table in the Campus Center attended by two Senators from 5:00 to 7:00 PM every Monday on which Student Senate meets.

**2**.Each Senator shall staff the table for at least two 1-hour shifts each semester. Sign up for tabling shall be coordinated by the Administrative Director.

**3**.Any student concern aired to the table must be responded to via one of the following mechanisms:

a.Delivering the concern in writing to the Administrative Director to present at Cabinet meetings, where an appropriate response will be discussed;

b.Bringing the concern to the Senate Floor by one of the tabling Senators.

**4**.Each Senator shall alert their constituents about when they are tabling via an email sent within 72 hours of their tabling shift.

**5**.These tabling hours shall be publicized to the entire Student Body in a manner determined by the Public Relations Chair, who shall also provide tabling Senators materials/strategies to promote Community Comment and the Student Senate online suggestion box.

**6**.If a Senator is unable to attend any of the shifts, they shall develop an alternative method of hearing and responding to student concerns with the Administrative Director.

**7**.This proposal shall be reviewed on the Senate Floor at the first meeting of spring semester.

**Questions**:

Gladitsch: If we pass this, will it be renewed?

Panzer: this could be a by-law, but for now it will be just a pilot and we can review it next semester.

Cella: So from now we will do just tabling?

Panzer: Senators are welcome to have other office hours in the residential buildings or any other public place but this will be the minimum required.

We also have a student concern report you’ll be using in recording students’ concerns.

Antes: Does this competely replace what’s in the by-laws?

Panzer : This instead fulfills the by-laws

Haberman: What if a student addresses me concerns outside the tabling hours?

Panzer:In that case you can bring it to the Administrative Director and we will find out another way to deal with that in line with this proposal.

**Discussion:**

Sauvé: I think that last year office hours were unsucceful. People will be interested in this case. I think it’s a good proposal.

Panzer: You are welcome to amend it as well.

Sweet: I support this. It is more accountable and accessible.

Gladitsch: I don’t like the idea of how Cabinet dictates me how to interact with my constituents.

Panzer: This is an opportunity to give the entire student body a regular visible representation.

Miller: I think it’s a well thought proposal.

Johnson: I think this is an opportunity to try something new. Will this be voted once for all or it will be reviewed?

Panzer: We will give it a goal for a semester and review it next Semester.

Cella: Can we add in the first section this: “by at least “ two Senators?

Panzer: I love the intention. That would be extra.

**Discussion:**

Schmitz: If we have five people at one table , I don’t think it would be working as it should.

Cella: I didn’t move it to mean that it would have to be like that. You go if you want.

Dix: We need to add “at least” two. Every week that we have a Senate meeting.

Svendsen: Senator Cella, Are you suggesting that we will have more than two people signing up for one shift? I think the word”at least two” is confusing.

Cella: I’m just saying that two will sign up and the others might simply join them.

Rasmussen: Everybody is required to be there twice.

Andersen: I think we could add something like section a. to clarify the first point.

Sweet: I think it’s getting more complicated; I think it will be well coordinated and structured.

Mueller: I don’t think it needs to be written in that exact wording. People will show up if they want to.

Cella: I move to end the discussion

Seconded by Sauvé

Motion passes

**Vote:**

**Division(8/8)**

Panzer: I vote in the affirmative

**Suddenly, Nobel Laureate Eric Kendall comes in escorted by Chair Sharon Singh.**

**Senate Members ask him questions about his Nobel Prize and his work. A lovely interruption of 5 minutes.**

After his leaving:

Panzer: I voted in the affirmative in the spirit of respecting the largest part of the body and not pushing forward myself and the language that I and Bobby co-authored.

Roose: I call to question

Question called

**Vote**

**Proposal approved**

* 1. **Health & Housing Question**

Rasmussen: Chair Dickey will talk about a discussion he had with Charlie Potts.

Dickey: I met with Charlie Potts and he wants to know how the common spaces in residential halls are used. He wanted me to ask you Senators; you can shoot an e-mail to the students or do it any other way you want. We would love to hear a feedback.

**Questions:**

Sauvé: Maybe we should ask the Hall Coucil?

Rasmussen: You can talk them if you think they would be a better resource.

1. Dix: I move to charge Public Relations to put the Senate meeting on the announcements.

Swenson: I will do it

**Vote**

**Motion charged**

1. AbuEid: I have a Concern brought by a lot of my constituents related to staying in the hostels during breaks. I move to charge it to Health and Housing.

Seconded by Gladitsch

Gladitsch: I think it’s logical.

Sauvé: I think maybe it’s done for avoiding trouble.

VanHecke: It happens for the sake of avoiding to have one or two persons in one building. But I think it’s a great conversation that should be held.

Dix: I think it doesn’t only affect international students but also other students living far from the campus.

Miller: This issue should be sent to Reslife.

Abu Eid: Other schools in the region don’t make students to stay in hostels but they stay in their own rooms instead. But also I think that to keep track of who is entering which building we solved that issue through ID monitoring.

**Vote**

**Motion charged**

Schmitz: Any update in Arbor View

Rasmussen: It will brought up in the Announcements.

1. **Announcements**

Panzer:

1. Thanks for attending our meeting though this was Nobel week.
2. I would like to encourage you to attend the Nobel Conference : tomorrow and Wednesday.

Ngabirano: If anyone has a typo on their placard, please let me know so that it may be changed

Gladitsch: Don’t miss the Nobel Conference. It’s a great experience, take advantage it.

Sauvé: Elections are coming soon, so make sure you register for the primaries. Drink responsibly.

Johnson: Apply for athletics. This a good time to do it.

Rasmussen:

1. Thank you for coming everyone.
2. We have a vote on Thursday for Arbor View.
3. Point of clarification: whenever we have a division during vote, The other Co-President will split in case of a division.

Svendsen: I had a Bio exam. I apologize for not being here and answer some questions that could have been asked. But I will make sure I read the Minutes and know the major points raised during the discussion.Also If you have any concerns, feel free to reach out to me and finally don’t forget to attend Nobel.

Swenson: Thanks for bringing concerns to the floor and charging us as Chairs with different matters

Gunnigle: October is Orthodoxy awareness month, if you want to learn about it go to the interweb☺

Rasmussen: Thanks for office hours discussion. Feel free to let us know any questions or concerns you might have. Have a great week!

\***Meeting adjourned**.