**Student Senate Co-Presidents Election Information**
Spring 2010

Thank you for expressing interest in the Gustavus Student Senate! The following information will help you through the process of applying for candidacy and campaigning for votes.

**What is Student Senate?**“The Senate exists to represent the will of the student body. The Senate values community and strives to promote communication and collaboration between students, faculty, staff, and administrators while furthering policy interests of the student body.” The Senate meets to discuss and act on current and future College policies and events in the interests of the students. The Senate also holds the primary responsibility of allocating over $150,000 to student organizations every spring. The Full Senate meets every Monday night, typically from to 7 to 9 pm; small committees will meet at additional times as decided by the Senators during the Senate retreat held before the first Senate meeting.

More information can be found on the Senate Website by visiting [www.gustavus.edu/orgs/senate](http://www.gustavus.edu/orgs/senate).

**What positions are available?**In the spring semester, the study body elects a pair of students who act as Co-Presidents Elect for the remainder of the semester and as Co-Presidents during the next academic year. Candidates must have attended Gustavus for at least one full semester and may not be on disciplinary or academic probation.

**When are the applications due and when are other important dates?**Applications available: Monday, February 8. Applications Due: Monday, February 15. Elections: Monday, March 1.

Return the attached Application Form to Deirdre Rosenfeld, Associate Dean of Students, by 4pm on Monday, February 15. A submitted application is required prior to campaigning; solicitation for votes before submitting a completed application may result in penalties from the Senate Elections Committee. A MANDATORY meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 16 at 6 pm, in which at least one candidate from each pair must attend; this meeting will be used to clarify campaigning guidelines, outline the election timeline, and schedule any public events such as debates.

**What are other rules I should know?**Campaign Guidelines are written in Article IV of the Student Senate By-laws.

The Election Committee will hear any disputes arising from this policy. Disputes may only be submitted by

candidates in the same race or administrators, faculty, or staff members of the College and must be submitted

to the Election Committee in writing before the close of voting. No candidate involved in a disputed race will be

seated until the Election Committee reaches a decision.

Applications:

1) Any candidate seeking an office and campaigning in any manner must complete an election application and

submit it to the Election Committee before engaging in any campaigning activities.

2) If the application is submitted after the deadline, the candidate’s name will not appear on the ballot but the

form is still required for active campaigning.

Consumption Policy

1) No use of alcohol in support of a candidate. Penalty is removal from the election.

2) Any gathering where alcohol is involved should not give the impression that it is for, or in honor, of the

candidate. This includes, but is not limited to, the presence of campaign literature, formal speeches

concerning the election, or unreasonably low prices for alcohol. Penalty is removal from the election.

3) No use of items meant for ingestion may be used in support of a candidate.

Fair Access Policy

1) Candidates shall not monopolize the resources of any campus organization or College office during their

campaign. Campus resources available for rent may be utilized as long as they are available to all

candidates (i.e. candidates may not reserve all sandwich boards or all available tabling hours). The use of

College resources such as class email aliases is not allowed.

2) Candidates will be allowed to fundraise in accordance with the regulations contained within the Gustie

Guide.

3) Canvassing and posting in residence halls is controlled by Residential Life.

4) All verbal and written campaigning by candidates must cease on the day of the election in the building that

contains the polling place (Student Union and Campus Center are considered one building).

Poster Policy

1) Candidates are responsible for removing their posters after the elections.

2) Posters must be removed from the Campus Center and Johnson Student Union by 11 p.m. on the day

prior to election day.

3) All posters must conform to the Posting Policy of the Gustavus Guide.

4) Posting in residence halls is regulated by Residential Life and posting in the Campus Center is regulated by

the Student Activities Office.

4) Libel (defamatory writing: an untrue or unsubstantiated written publication with malicious intent) is

prohibited and will result in removal from election.

5) Abusive language is prohibited and will result in removal from election.

6) No student shall move or otherwise deface a candidate’s poster(s) unless acting as an agent for the said

candidate. Failure to respect campaign posters shall result in a referral to the campus judicial system.

7) Postings are not allowed in academic buildings.

8) Postings in dormitory floors are limited to ten flyers each with an area no greater than 93.5 square inches.

Gibbs, North, and Sorensen Hall are considered separate buildings. Voluntary placement of campaign

materials on private dormitory rooms doors are not considered postings.

9) A maximum of five postings are allowed in the Campus Center and Johnson Student Union. A maximum of

three of these five postings may be posters or banners, as defined by the Student Activities Office. Table

tents are not allowed.

Sanctions

1) Any violations of the campaign ethics guidelines, as determined by the Election Committee, must be

announced to the student body within twenty‐four hours of the Committee’s decision.

2) Sanctions may include community service but not the alteration of vote totals.

3) The Election Committee must present all violations and sanctions to the full Senate at the first meeting

following the election.

**What if I still have questions?**

Contact Senate Ombudsman and Election Committee Chair, Nick Harper, for answers to any questions or for further information: nharper@gac.edu

**Good luck with the elections!**