**Student Senate Minutes**

**Gustavus Adolphus College**

**March 3, 2014**

**I. Call to order at 7:02pm**

**II. Attendance**

A. Absent: Senator Hare.

**III. Approval of the Minutes from 2/24/2014**

A. APPROVED

**IV. Community Comment**

A. Megan Ruble

 1. Working w/ awards and recognition this year. Encourages nominating others or yourself.

 2. Check out the Dean of Students Office.

 a. Three awards sponsored through this office. Online there are easy to fill out forms. April 7th is the deadline for all three of these awards. Given out at Night of Distinction on May 4th. (See link here: <https://gustavus.edu/deanofstudents/awards/> )

 i. Guild of St. Ansgar (For seniors)

 ii. Magnuson (Premiere Leadership/ Service Awards. Recognize 10-15 students, organizations, events, or initiative.)

 iii. Ovanlig (Junior or Senior student who raises awareness on campus about LGBTQ concerns and issues.)

 iv. Email mruble@gac.edu with questions.

**V. Old Business**

A. Dive Referendum

 1. Timmons- Tonight we have both Junso and Ruble here to answer questions.

 2. We won’t necessarily have debate on this tonight. We’ll be voting to consider the referendum.

 3. Cabrera- Voting to consider would mean tonight we can ask questions/clarify, and then next week discussion and debate would occur.

 4. For the past several years a renovation of the Dive area in the Johnson Student Union has been a prime concern of students. A fee increase to students, in the anticipated new Dive Fee, will allow the College to complete this renovation to better suit students’ needs.

“I agree to a $50 increase and the creation of a Dive Fee for eight years. The fee increase will be used for the sole purpose of renovating the Dive.”

5. Discussion

 i. Birkey- What needs are we seeking to fulfill?

 -Timmons- It’s not achieving purposes as a student resource space- to perform or hold events. Currently, campus doesn’t have a venue to hold medium sized events.

 ii. Junso- Currently, student orgs don’t have enough space to hold events. Alumni is booked for the rest of the semester. There has also been an increased demand for student social space.

iii. Siatta- Would the fee only be paid by attending students?

 -Timmons- Yes. For the next 8 years there will be an increase of $50 each year.

iv. Wiest- At what point will students see changes in the dive? At what point will it be finished?

-Junso- The current anticipated timeline is projecting (hopefully) next Jan or Feb. Depending on the decision to vote yes, we will have to examine a calendar.

-VanHecke- The final decision will be made at the cabinet level. You could certainly talk to constituents about wanting to start as soon as possible, but it’s hard to project.

-Ruble- The dive would be closed for one semester.

 v. Goldstien- Has anything like this ever happened in the past? Using the student fee to fund a project?

 -Ruble- The cardio equipment in lund was funded in this manner.

 vi.- Thrash- $50 fee and Dive increase are the same thing?

 -Yes.

 vii. Schwichtenberg- Where will student orgs go when the dive is closed for renovation?

 -Junso- It’s been difficult to manage the events as it is. Would have to make adjustments in the event approval process.

 -VanHecke- Would probably see events moving to academic buildings during that time.

 -It’s more events rather than meetings. There’s a lot of other creative ways.

 viii. Singh- What is the renovation going to look like?

 -Ruble- Renovation included the entire bottom floor. Included gender neutral bathrooms. Some potential office and storage space. -Continuing to talk with the WAC (Women’s Awareness Center, whose office and meeting this area). -New dancefloor, a foodservice facility (run by dining services). -Flexible furniture. -Stage.

 -Junso- Make it a hub for student orgs currently housed in the dive.

 -VanHecke- Joe Thayer was on the committee.

 -Thayer- There was discussion of preserving some of the history of the Dive. Maintaining the black and white photos.

 ix. Larson- Anything done about accessibility of the dive from the main campus center?

 -Ruble- That was a huge thing with the committee from the start. The budget limited being able to have direct access from the campus center.

 -VanHecke- The Campus Center and the Student Union are on different levels...you would have to adjust grate levels and it would be a very complicated and expensive process.

 -Junso- Point of Clarification- Will you be clarifying that students will be paying ⅔ of this.

 -Timmons- Thinks that’s important to know. Not sure how to include this.

 x. Thrash- Currently we’re making a motion to consider? Is this discussion necessary?

 -Marino- Asking questions, clarifying things this week-- completely acceptable. Discussion and debate can occur next week.

 -Thrash- Who is going to be at the meeting with the architects?

 -Junso- I’m the building coordinator for the campus center/union. Dani, Matt, and myself. Would be interested in having others.

 -Thrash- Matt Dobosenski and Heather Wilmes would be valuable to consult.

 xi. Thayer- Moves to consider the dive referendum at the next full senate meeting.

 -Seconded.

 -Siatta- Point of Clarification- Will we be discussing this next week?

 -Yes.

 -Vote (Ending discussion)

 \*Motion passes.

 xii. Voting on the consideration of the referendum.

 \*Passes.

B. Goldstien- If the students are paying for the dive, will they get priority over campus events?

a. -This is something that is being looked into.

**VI. New Business**

A. Finance Committee

1. Block Budget Approval

 a. Montes-Osorio- These are the five groups that fall under the block budget category. -DLC, IGS, PAs, SAVE, SENIOR WEEK.

2. Discussion

 a. Thayer- Rumor that the PAs are going to be dissolved?

 -VanHecke- Not true.

 b. Thrash- What is a block budget?

 -Best- \*(Reads description as quoted in the Constitution’s Bylaws):

*“A “block budget” shall be defined as a group which has the ability to redistribute Student Senate funds subject to*

*the following constraints:*

*a) Groups that will be considered block budgets shall be approved as such by Student Senate under*

*recommendation from the Finance Committee, before the Spring Budgeting Process begins.*

*b) The block budget shall have direct supervision by an official Office of Gustavus Adolphus College*

*c) The block budget will not necessarily consist of a single student organization or grouping of student*

*organizations; however, the block budget may be comprised as an Executive Board representing a single*

*student organization or grouping of student organizations.”*

 -Basically. they’re like an umbrella. All five are overseen by an official office of the college. Some oversee other groups. Bigger entities.

 -VanHecke- Each of the those groups have a GAC employee who is their advisor.

 c. Siatta- Where are the budgets?

 -Cabrera- Right now, we’re not voting on a specific budget. Just voting to approve them as blocks.

 3. Vote

 -Passes.

B. Ethics Committee -Constitutional Amendments

 1. Olsen- Voting to consider this week. (Sampling of some of the changes) -Green highlighted edits are changes/additions, red are strike throughs. Ethics committee unanimously decided that we shouldn’t have an international student rep (has been an open positoion, triple reped population of constituents). -Class definition moved. -Didn’t think that you should be expected to be completely knowledgeable of the student handbook (removed). -\*Yellow is stuff that’s been added. -Technology chair added. -Ombudsperson given speaking privileges. -Art IV 1 striked and then rephrased as “discipline” -Added a section on midterm vacancies. - Specified standing/ad-hoc committees.

2. What we’re looking at tonight is a vote to consider this. Tonight we’ll takes Qs.

3. Discussion

 a. Thayer- Didn’t we change Housing/Health to Health/Housing.

 -This is the old version...committee accidentally made changes on the old copy, the new edits from last week are recorded on the other copy.

 -Thayer- Will we be making grammatical changes next week?

 -Yes.

 b. Thayer- Moves to consider.

 i. Sweet seconds.

 c. Vote

 i. The Question has been called.

 ii. Vote

 a. Consideration approved.

C. Vogel- Moves to suspend Art II section 3. (In light of election day).

 1. Thayer- If we were to strike this section, if someone were elected today, they would not be considered a co-pres elect because we just got rid of that position.

 a. Nigro- Can we strike just a line of this?

 -Marino- Checking…

 b. There is technically no good description of suspending the rules, so you can do it however you wish.

 2. Thayer- Moves to amend the previous motion to only suspend “and must resign from any other senate positions”.

 a. Seconded by Hoppe.

 3. Discussion

 a. Sweet- If Joe and I were elected, how would we learn to be co-presidents?

 b. Marino- If you and Thayer were elected, you would not have to resign but would be encouraged to.

 c. Birkey- It seems contradictory to what’s written…

 -If they don’t resign from other senate positions, they would still have speaking privileges.

 -Olsen- They cannot have both positions. Would choose to move from one position to another.

 -Timmons- We’re in a sticky situation. On the honor of the three individuals who this could apply to would resign. -We would be in a sticky situation in that we would not have someone to chair our next meeting.

 -Goldstien- We’re voting on constitutional changes next week? At the end of next week, we’ll be able to get rid of this temporary solution and the problem that it stemmed from.

 -Best- This is going to be more than a one week thing. Students will have to vote as well.

 -Goldstien- Just a note that as soon as this is taken care of next week.

4. Vote on amendment.

 a. Passes

5. Vote

 a. Passes.

D. Siatta- Over the weekend there was a situation with a student from this school. A costume was worn, and many people may have felt unwelcome or attacked by this costume. (Especially in light of the religious climate survey recently sent out). What should our stance be? Should we release a statement? Just wants to gauge.

 1. Thayer- Would you feel comfortable elaborating?

 -Siatta- At a party, an individual wore a towel on their head with “terrorist” written on it.

 2. Cabrera- If you want to open discussion on this, you must move to do so.

 3. Siatta- Moves to open discussion on Senate’s stance on acceptance and such and what that entails.

 a. Grosshuesch seconds.

 4. Discussion

 a. Afreh- You want us to discuss the possibility of a statement in regards to this?

 b. Thayer- Would you feel comfortable giving this to the Diversity committee?

 -Siatta-Yes.

 c. Thayer- Moves to charge the Diversity Committee to look into the concerns raised by Senator Siatta and a potential response or action.

 i. Hinnenkamp seconds.

ii. Point of Clarification- Birkey- Are we allowed to appoint an interim chair?

 iii. Cabrera- Our constitution does not allow proxies.

 d. Vote

 1. Passes

 5. Goldstien- Are you all comfortable pursuing this without a chair?

 i. Schwichtenberg- On D-Committee. Will be meeting after the meeting to discuss.

E. Thayer- Upon election, if those elected resign (by notifying the admin director), would the public be notified and would we then be appointing people next Monday?

 1. Olsen- That is the hope.

**VII. Announcements**

1. Grosshuesch- It’s Building Bridges Week!

 2. Timmons- -If you have dive Qs/ input, talk to us! -Lineus is coming back March 8th. 8pm in Alumni. -Huge thank you to ethics/elections committees. - This Wed Eppies are hosting a recruitment event in the dive. -Pball tickets are going fast! -Day at the Capital is March 18th.

 3.Nigro- Vote!!! The polls are open for one more hour and 54 minutes.

 4. Marino- Go to Lineus! -Look at the constitutional amendments.

 5. Thayer- Take the Hill Triathlon raising fund for diabetes. Talk to Krebs, he’s in charge.

 6. Best- March 16th 1900hours LAST DAY TO SUBMIT MID YEAR BUDGETS.

 7. Sweet- Next week is Theta week. Nominate Mr. Gustavus (next Thurs)

 8. Birkey- Diversity committee meeting after this!
 9. Rasmussen- SAE recruitment. courtyard caf. Cereal.

 10- Cabrera- Senior- Commencement speaker apps are out!

 11. Schwichtenberg- Most frats and sororities will be in the first year dorms in the coming weeks sharing information about their orgs.

 12. Goldstien- Hockey. Sat.

 13. May- Watch your inbox for more information on Faculty Reports! Also, PLEASE take the Campus Religious and Spiritual Climate Survey. It’s really important for the future of interfaith on this campus (We need to gauge where we’re at before we move forward!), and will provide us with some valuable information on our school’s attitudes and demographics. You might even win a free gift card to El Agave or Patty’s. Seriously. DO IT. :)

**\*Meeting Adjourned at 8:13pm**