**Gustavus Adolphus College**

**Student Senate Minutes**

**April 28, 2014**

* Call to order at 7:02 PM
* Attendance
  + ABSENT: Birkey, Krebs, Rasmussen, Siatta, Thrash, Vogel.
* Approval of the Minutes (4/14/2014)
  + Vote
    - Approved.
* Community Comment
  + Rebecca Hare- Here to talk about the potential Meditation sanction. The practice of faith and spirituality is common and prevalent here (at Gustavus). But, despite our efforts, not all are represented. Students wish to use their activity fee to fulfill the most basic exercise of life, to fulfill spiritual needs. We don’t have the proper rules to respond to this situation. This body has not thought to craft laws to reflect this situation. We need to strive to make sure they are included. Need to work to meet these needs- as they are not being served by the chapel/St Peter community. In this, their diversity sets them apart, and comes to even harm them when it is not considered in these laws. Encourages the crafting of new bylaws, rather than punishing them for this.
* Old Business
  + Election Committee Update
    - IR Vote
      * Olsen- IR vote amendment did not pass (Around 86% against the amendment).
    - Dive Vote
      * Did not pass.
      * Timmons- We barred seniors from voting because they would never be charged. We have learned that there will not be a charge until fall of 2015. Juniors will never be charged, but they have voted. The vote has been ruled out of order and we have to re-administer the vote.
      * Marino- Need to figure out what new rules you will apply.
      * Timmons- Need to discuss who will be barred from voting and when the election will occur.
      * Olsen- We also won’t be charging the seniors because they won’t be missing it (the dive). Many voted against it because they will not be there for the one semester the dive would be closed. Juniors having a voice on whether or not the dive will be open is also something to be considered.
      * Burggraff- Is the decision of whether or not to re-administer the vote what we’re deciding? Will we re-administer either way?
        + Marino- We have to re-administer either way.
        + VanHecke- Even if you follow Tom’s logic, still have to.
      * Nigro- Moves to appeal the chair.
        + Choquette seconds.
      * Nigro- We should not re-administer. People will be angry either way. We should appeal this decision and be done with the dive.
      * Grosshuesch- It’s not fair for the juniors to have a vote if they will never have to pay.
      * Sweet- For the students the emphasis was on the use of the dive, not the funds. More of a suggestion, but if this were to go back out the emphasis would have to be on the funds, not the use of the space.
      * Thayer- Thinks that it was a slip-up, and we should own it.
      * Burggraf- Have heard from many constituents that they are tired of the vote. Thinks we should appeal the vote.
      * Goldstien- The conversation we’re having now is appealing the chair, not whether or not to re-vote.
        + PI- Burggraf- If we appeal the chair will we not be re-voting on the dive?
        + Marino- We would be appealing the chair on the ruling that the vote is unethical.
      * Grosshuesch- Doesn’t feel that senate did a good job of advertising.
        + Ruled not-germane.
        + Timmons- Try to keep the conversation on whether or this was ethical.
      * Harbeck ends discussion/calls to Q.
        + Vote

Q is called

* + - * Vote on appeal to chair.
        + ROLL CALL REQUESTED

8 to 6, vote fails.

* + - * Discussion on re-administering the vote
        + Harbeck- Will it be the same language?

Yes.

* + - * + Thayer-

The thought process and the role of juniors in this vote, and the date.

* + - * + Thayer- Andrea Junso says this is the first school she has been at where a vote of this sort has not polled the entire school. Personally thinks we should just poll those who will pay.
        + Afreh- We will not change the wording on the vote?

Cabrera- We’re just changing who it will be sent to...or, that is the consideration right now.

* + - * + Sweet- When we re-administer this vote, feels as though the fact that juniors could vote the first time but not this time will cause issues. Thinks that the emphasis should be “making Gustavus better/the betterment of the community”, rather than what will be changed for them.
        + Hinnenkamp- Agrees that juniors should be barred. It comes down to finances, if you’re not going to pay for it, you should not be voting. It would create a disconnect. Should stay with first-years and sophomores.
        + Singh- This is tough. This will cause problems, and agrees that excluding the juniors will cause issues. It comes down to what is ethical. Not sure how she’ll be voting...would like to hear what others are thinking.
        + Nigro- Moves to change the date of the vote to Jan 1, 2099 CE.

Seconded.

Nigro- Having a second vote this year will be highly unethical, especially if it passes. Thinks we need a good 70-80 years to think about this.

Olsen- This is technically allowed…

Thayer- Planning this far in the future, it’s hard to determine what grades will be around then...this is a ridiculous date. Just let the vote happen...let them be pissed at us.

Roland-

Cabrera- Verbiage would have to change (Could be $49, but $50.)

VanHecke- A little worried about you putting something out in 2099...appreciates the underlying sentiments, but it makes you look like you don’t take this seriously.

Hoppe- We have groups waiting. Calls to question.

Seconded

Vote (On changing the vote administration date to Jan 1, 2099)

Fails.

Discussion on rational on what classes will be included in the vote and when it will be administered.

Hoppe- We need to decide when to do this. What is the date of the Fri after next? The 9th?

Timmons- Thinks that it is vital to take adequate time to engage with constituents/explain what has happened.

Hoppe- Moves to set the date for the next vote to May 16th.

Seconded.

Burggraf- Thinks that setting this that far away is not a good idea.

Sweet- Can we change this to vote to occur in the fall? Most people are “dived out”. We’ll have a new class to include in the conversation.

Marino- Encourages you to vote this down, and then with this idea table the matter.

Thayer- Calls to Q.

Schwichtenberg seconds.

Vote

Pases (Q called)

Vote on readminstering on May 16th.

Vote

Motion fails.

Sweet- Moves to table this question indefinitely.

Hoppe seconds.

Discussion

NA

Sweet calls to Q

Vote

Q is called

Vote on question

So tabled.

* + - * Thayer- Moves to end the meeting at the end of announcements.
      * Burggraf- Moves to adjourn the meeting at the end of section VII.
        + Seconded
        + Vote
        + Passes
* New Business
  + Finance Committee-Under art 6, section 5 of our finance guidelines, a penalty section that reads that
    - * “Section 5: Penalties
      * 1) Any organization that fails to meet any of the requirements outline in these bylaws may be subject to
      * penalties at the recommendation of the Finance Committee with the approval of the Student Senate.
      * 2) If found by the Finance Committee that an organization misled, purposely presented falsehoods, or
      * mismanaged funds they will immediately be put on probation. The Finance Committee will recommend a
      * length of probation and the full Senate will decide the financial future of the organization.
      * a) Probation is defined as a period of time in which an organization must be approved by the Finance
      * Committee before spending any of their allocation or receiving any future allocations from Student
      * Senate.
      * 3) If an organization overspends their Senate allocation twice in one year, the Controller will inform the
      * Finance Committee, the Co-Presidents and leadership from that organization. At the following Finance
      * meeting, the Finance Committee will discuss the incidents and make recommendations to the full Senate.
      * The Committee will review the organization’s permanent file and allow the organization to speak on its
      * own behalf. Penalties may include:
      * a) A freeze in the organization’s Senate allocation.
      * b) An addition to the organization’s permanent file.”
    - \*Read above at http://orgs.gustavus.edu/senate/documents/By-laws-Updated-8-APR-14.pdf
  + Best- As part of that budget review, had to cross-reference. We are not here to debate emotion, but facts. These groups are on probation, we can not debate if, but how long. The shortest period of time for this is one day. Will present, then the groups may present, then the floor will be open..
    - VanHecke- These came out of the finance guidelines, not the constitution? The senate body could decide whether or not to follow?
    - Marino- The finance committee decides on probation, the body decides how long.
    - Thayer- They’ve been on probation since Thursday?
    - Finance committee has found that DLC has misused funding on two accounts. Gave PASO money when they were not a recognized org. -On the first account, PASO’s advisor was off campus and they were left without on. DLC allocated $2,200 and $550 to PASO. Incumbent upon DLC that the org is on their council officially/recognized. Second account, a debate on how to make sure block funds were only allocated to students, not departments. The understanding was that the spirit behind these was $750 was transferred to the Diversity Center for Martin Luther King Day, violating this. Probation lasts until 2015 spring budgeting process and they must submit updates/checkups in monthly reports to finance, and individual orgs to come to senate for midyears. These points will make up one vote.
      * Timmons- Explain what probation means?
        + Referencing section 6 (See above) This means that as of Thursday, DLC has not been allowed to spend money without coming to finance.
    - DLC- Rebecca Eastwood and Comfort Dolo, DLC co-chairs. Here to talk about the two charges.
      * Eastwood- On Dec 4th the DLC body voted unanimously to allocate $750 to MLK day. The reason this money went to the D-center was because, all of the money from various places on campus for this event went to the d-center was so that the check could come from one place. This was a student event and we were co-sponsors. Particular to the discussion that block budgets may only give money to students orgs...if that is not written, how can that be followed? As an exec board, were not aware of the spirit and meaning behind this.
      * Dolo- We were not giving this money to a department, it was a student event/block event. PASO did not know that they were not recognized. Advisor on sabbatical, and were not aware that their paperwork had not been processed.
      * Eastwood- Allocated money for Kwanzaa, and neither org realized that they were not recognized. Took appropriate steps, were under the impression that they were a recognized org, but their advisor did not do what he was required to do. Then on April 8th, found out a week before that they weren’t recognized when they went to change the names of their advisor.
      * PASO- Junso stepped in until a temporary advisor was approved.
      * Eastwood- In summary, both times money was allocated to PASO, we were not aware (and neither were they) that they weren’t recognized.
      * Hinnenkamp- It seems like an honest mistake. Communication breaks down. Doesn’t think that should be a qualifier. MLK day was a huge event on campus, they were a co-sponsor. Moves that their probation end at 11:59, at the close of today.
      * Hinnenkamp- Thinks they were honest mistakes. Doesn’t think there is any reason to punish them.
      * Burggraf- Felt that the funds were not purposefully misused or mismanaged. There are lots of flaws with how this system works (in how orgs are recognized). If your advisor doesn’t approve your org, you are not notified. This misinformation comes from a flaw in the system, not DLC’s fault. Feels like there was a mismanagement of funds, but it wasn’t purposeful and it was completely understandable given the circumstances.
      * Thayer- Seconds that. It’s hard to become a recognized group. Is PASO now organized?
        + Yes
      * Thayer- Feels that DLC should check on groups, but doesn’t think probation should last pst tonight. Section four under block allocation, section 2 ensures that departmental transfer is merely the act of passing money through. Thinks that we should spell out rules on departmental transfers more clearly in the bylaws. Thinks that though DLC did break bylaws, they were not severe enough to be on probation.
      * Sweet- Both groups well established. The groups did what they could, and took the appropriate.necessary steps. An earlier senator mentioned that other steps were taken that were outside of their control. Thinks that the probation should end at the conclusion of today.
      * Afreh calls to Q.
        + Seconded
        + Vote.
        + Q called
      * Vote on expiring probation at 11:59 pm tonight.
        + So set.
    - Best- Encourages an amendment that DLC would not have to go through the year of monthly checkups/individual orgs.
      * Nigro- So moved.
        + Hoppe seconds
      * Discussion to strike language requiring DLC to have monthly mandatory reporting for one calendar year.
        + NA
      * Vote on amendment.
        + Passes
    - Marino- As it stand now, it says that DLC will be on probation until 11:50pm. Everything else is mute, because it was dependant upon probation status.
    - DLC- Eastwood- Thinks that the discussion on block budgets should be revisited before the end of the year so that nothing like this happens again.
    - Vote on approving the end of probation to be at 11:59pm tonight.
      * So approved.
    - Meditation
      * Best- Finance committee decided that it was mislead about how the travel money was being allocated and to whom it was being allocated to. Senate understood that the funds were going to be transferred directly Triple Gem of the North, the monastery with which the monk who comes to lead meditation is affiliated. (Referring to Bylaw 11, section 2.) Was told that travel would cover driving from Chanhassen area, and to GAC and back. $546 fall semester needlessly spent. Voted 4 to 2 that finance were mislead.
      * Meditation- This stems from a cultural misunderstanding. Monks cannot directly accept money. However, triple gem is paid and then they provide car/gas/food for Bhante. Because we are paying for a service, are not making a charitable contribution. Meet weekly, Bhanthe leads meditation, and then discussion and question. Allows for spiritual exploration on campus. -WIth regard to the issue with traveling...there are two branches of Triple Gem of the North. One in Mankato, and one in Eden Prairie (Where Bhante lives). Part of the misunderstanding is that here are two branches. All donations go to the Mankato branch, the accounting hub. - And with regards to paying Bhante directly, he’s a modern person, but if we were engaging in a private contract it would be significantly more money to pay. -If we would have understood that we were not paying him directly, we would have brought this up. First time putting this together, and did not realize that this would cause discrepancies.
      * Best- This boils down to a big misunderstanding. Encourages you to vote this down. There was no real harm done. Please do something similar to the previous groups that their probation end tonight.
      * Thayer- Can we also attach an apology to this?
        + Marino- Recommends that you make that a separate motion.
      * Thayer moves to end probation tonight at 11:59 pm.
      * Sweet- Calls to Q.
        + Vote
        + So amended
      * Best- In reference to a previous suggestion about an apology, would like to do that himself, as this was “his baby”. You all shouldn’t feel bad- this was his fault.
      * Vote on ending probation
        + Passes
      * Meditation- Thinks that instead of probation, there should be another step, more conversation and dialogue. Feels that this escalated quickly. Thanks for voting this down!

* + - Finance Presentation
      * Best- Thanks for sticking through this, this is not a pretty part of this job! And now, spring finance is upon us!
      * (Sheet distributed with basic guidelines for budgeting, including such items as not funding food at weekly meetings, not funding sweatshirts, not paying dues, and allocating $ up to $1,100 for a given budget year (one lump sum). Used IRS mileage rate, (but distinctions for college vehicles), etc). -Simple majority/ roll call vote for budgets above $5,000. -Printing amount was decided at $15.
      * Thayer- Misnumbered list?
        + One on finance page, and one under constitution.
        + One on finance page is the most current version.
      * Most updated guidelines below
        + <https://studentsenate.blog.gustavus.edu/files/2014/04/Finance-Guidelines-4-11-2014.pdf>
      * Best- Asks you to look over these, and to bring any concerns. Other housekeeping things…-Please be respectful. Many groups wait outside for up to five hours. Please pay attention when groups are talking, do not eat while presentation are happening.
      * PI- Burggraf- Can finance have computers out to refer to notes?
        + Will have to ask admin director.
      * Goldstien- Treat groups how you would like to be treated. It’s a little thing, but it goes a long way.
      * Best- If a group is being disrespectful, send note to co-chairs. Respect is a two-way street.
      * Thayer- Personally locks chair when groups are presenting, so as to not lean back/look disinterested.
      * Best- Make sure you sit up!
    - Thayer- We received a campus email today about this. April 28th is United States Holocaust Remembrance Day. As quoted in email: “The United States Congress established the Days of Remembrance as the nation’s annual commemoration of the Holocaust… ‘The internationally recognized date for Holocaust Remembrance Day corresponds to the 27th day of Nisan on the Hebrew calendar. It marks the anniversary of the Warsaw ghetto uprising. In Hebrew, Holocaust Remembrance Day is called Yom Hashoah. When it falls on a Sunday, Yom Hashoah is observed on the following Monday.’”(- United States Holocaust Memorial Museum) Yom Hashoah. 8 days of remembrance in the US. (\*Find out more here **--->** <http://www.ushmm.org/remember/days-of-remembrance> )

Moves to officially recognize a moment of silence.

* + - * Grosshuesch seconds.
      * Vote
        + Passes
    - **\*One Minute of Silence Observed.\***
    - Hinnenkamp- Motions to charge finance with investigating a more efficient way of submitting probation and communication with the charged party.
    - Hinnenkamp- Tonight’s events warrant a need to make a more well-rounded process.
    - Burggraf- Friendlies to include a definition of department transfers.
      * Changes sentiments.
    - Hoppe- Was the reason we needed to have this done Thursday night because this needed to be done by Monday?
      * Best- We didn’t have a lot of time. The concerns are valid and appreciates them.
    - Hoppe- Was under the understanding that we were pressed for time, and that was why the communication was the way it was.
    - Cabrera- If you want to hear about this by the end of the end of the year, perhaps have finance come with report at the end of the year.
      * Best- The intent is to present this at the conclusion of the year.
    - Sweet- Moves to amend the previous statement to include the charge that finance must report by the last meeting.
      * Vote
        + So amended
    - Vote
      * So charged
    - Burggraf- Moves to charge finance with codifying the spirit of non-departmental monies being distributed.
      * Goldstien- If a normal student org was co-sponsoring an event with a department, would transferring funds to the department cause problems?
      * Best- If the group is putting it on with the department, it wouldn’t be a huge issue to transfer to the department because they would be footing the bill. Shouldn’t be a problem. Will take that into account when updating this information.
      * Vote
        + So charged.
    - Cabrera- Senate is hosting (In name,not finances) on Wed May 7th in courtyard Cafe from 2:30-4pm a goodbye ice cream social for President Ohle’s retirement.
      * VanHecke- Need 6-12 of you to scoop ice cream for this.
      * Cabrera- Will send out a sign-up sheet.
      * VanHecke- 6 if you wanted to do it the whole time, 12 if you split it in half.
* Announcements
  + Burggraf- This Wed is the May Day! conference!!!!! (Note from admin director, SERIOUSLY, GO!!!! It will be incredible. :) ) Monks are making a mandala in the chapel, and a ceremony will happen to destroy it Wed.
  + Schwichtenberg- Come to the OKs Africa Jam concert! Money goes towards their philanthropy.
  + Grosshuesch- TMs suicide awareness week. Vigil this week, performance from IAWA (I Am We Are). -IAWA sex show this weekend.
  + Hoppe- 9-5 tomorrow watch live the construction of the mandala in the chapel! Live Stream online!
  + Singh- Health and Wellness Fair!
  + Cabrera- Senior week wristbands on sale next week.
    - Burggraf- Do you have to have a valid 21 id? - No
    - Spring formal, hosted by res life! Free! H'orderves, mocktails. Honors Day on Sat.
  + Goldstien- Register for the Triathlon! Proceeds to Diabetes Awareness week. - Special Olympics this weekend! -Last three weeks of school, stay healthy!
  + Thayer- Tomorrow night, in the courtyard is Ei Pi Awareness, for diabetes week! (Eppies)
  + Choquette- This Sat is the GAC rugby alumni games. 11am and 1pm.
  + VanHecke- If you were fortunate enough to receive an invite to night of distinction, come!
  + May- Faculty reports are due this week! Send them through the POs! I’m still accepting them!
* Diversity Committee
  + Constituent Engagement- Committee was charged with something along the lines of exploring multicultural initiatives. Includes any aspect of a person’s identity. Thought that it would be best addressed through a workshop during senate!

**ROLL CALL ON APPEALING CHAIR REGARDING DIVE RULING:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Y | Adwoa Afreh |
| ABSENT | Andrew Birkey |
| Y | Jessica Burggraf |
| Y | Andrew Choquette |
| N | Gabe Grosshuesch |
| Y | Courtney Harbeck |
| Y | Sean Hinnenkamp |
| N | Sam Hoppe |
| ABSENT | David Krebs |
| Y | Nick Nigro |
| N | Kevin Pajor |
| ABSENT | Bobby Rasmussen |
| N | Rhett Schwichtenberg |
| Y | Peter Selness |
| ABSENT | Mark Siatta |
| N | Sharon Singh |
| Y | Delaney Sweet |
| N | Joe Thayer |
| ABSENT | Bennett Thrash |
| ABSENT | Hannah Vogel |
| ABSENT | Jordan Wiest |