**Student Senate Minutes**

**Gustavus Adolphus College**

**November 3, 2014, 7:02pm**

1. **Attendance**
2. **Approval of the Minutes 10/27/14**

Approved.

1. **Community Comment**

Cafeteria Worker: Last year I made $8.00 an hour. Everyone makes $8.00 now, just like cafeteria workers. Seems unfair because people can do homework in other jobs and there are more discrepancies in hours at other jobs. Cafeteria workers clock in and clock out.

1. **Old Business**

Panzer: Visitation hour policy concern. We are going to form a committee to discuss the policy. Just so you’re all aware that there is a body in work to look at this closer.

Grosshuesch: Diversity committee has drafted a change to the name of Columbus Day to Native American day. We will bring it to the body next week.

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

Timmons: We talked about at the retreat how office hours seem ineffective. It is not in my interest to waste anybody’s time. Opening transparency is important. I want to have a discussion about changes to the system.

Goldstein: We want to make sure everyone is open to constituents. The goal of the office hour is to reach out to people you don’t encounter in everyday life.

Gersch: We discussed this briefly in ethics committee. I will share what we discussed. Office hours are antiquated. We need something new. We talked about hours at a table outside the cafeteria for senators who are representing dorms with a meal plan. Senators could have more outreach to the body. People funnel through the area more frequently. Off campus could set up some sort of calendar, scheduling tool. Presumably, the upperclassmen would know how to use that system.

Wicklund: I did PSEO at community college last year and they had an office where senators held office hours last year. It was effective and had high traffic.

Hegg: Instead of having a set office hour, perhaps doing them by appointment. Instead of an office hour, a monthly newsletter from senator to constituents.

Singh: Outreach is necessary, just because people aren’t reaching out to us, doesn’t mean we can’t reach out to them. Hall council is already meeting once a week. Would we want to add more time?

Grosshuesch: I used my office hours everyday last year and no one ever showed up. Office hours are a necessity. I think otherwise we don’t meet with our constituents and rely on our own opinions. We have to be held accountable.

Hegg: Making contact information well known would be more convenient because people could schedule time. You save yourself time and make it more convenient for your constituents.

Rasmussen: A simple email to constituents telling people where and when you are available may be effective. Maybe it is a possibility for us to set times and then take appointments.

Thrash: I think people that are going to talk to senate are going to talk to senate. The other percentage of this campus will not make the effort to hunt us down. We have to make it easy. We can’t be expecting them to come to us. I think if we have a table that’s manned, people will approach us. If we make ourselves available, I don’t think there’s any danger of us being flooded.

Siatta: Tabling in general perhaps, but maybe not each individual senator tabling. One or two senators. As a whole body senate, then students from 2015-2018 can voice their opinion. Decrease time commitment and time wasted.

Wicklund: Motion to charge ethics to look into logistics of tabling outside the caf.

Siatta: I think it should go to PR instead of Ethics.

End discussion.

Vote.

Approved.

Charge Ethics.

Vote.

Failed.

Grosshuesch: Office hours falls under ethics. Maybe make a combined effort of ethics and PR.

Siatta: Move to have a joint effort to look into office hours by Ethics and PR committee.

Hegg: Would you make a sub committee? Or would both look in?

Goldstein: We will discuss at cabinet how they can work hand in hand.

Motion to charge Ethics and PR.

Approved.

Grosshuesch: This Wednesday, Students for Education Reform asked if they could join DLC.

Gladitsch: Move to bring up discussion on cafeteria wages.

Approved.

Thrash: I agree with the student representative. As a supervisor, my pay didn’t go up either. I don’t know if it is our place to criticize the caf for raises. If we are going to do this, we need to play it lightly.

Siatta: I feel similarly. Although each department in the school under student employment has a different feature, I disagree that some jobs have more leniency. I think $8.00 across the board for all jobs is fair. I feel it is all even now. Whether $8.00 is enough, that’s not in our jurisdiction. It isn’t our place to demand.

Rasmussen: I think I can safely assume there is some reason cafeteria workers were making more money than others. I think it should definitely be looked into. I move to charge Student and Academic Affairs to look into history.

Goldstein: Health and Housing has a more direct relationship.

Thrash: Call to Question.

Approved.

Charge Student and Academic Affairs.

Failed.

Hegg: By raising what we’re paying our workers in the caf, it will change our financial make up. Our food prices will go up. We should think about that cost.

Johnson: Each department is allotted a certain amount of money, if we change wages we then have to let go more employees. Fewer people on campus will have jobs.

Panzer: I think this needs to brought to Kitchen Cabinet. I think the best way is for Health and Housing Committee to craft a letter.

Grosshuesch: We have really strict log in, log out hours in the caf. We have to do our jobs the entire time. I think cafeteria workers should be paid more.

Sauve: The idea that working campus safety means just doing your homework is asinine. It is not in the purview of this body to even look into this. We cannot just change things because some departments are using the system wrong.

Wicklund: I work at the ice arena and I don’t work nearly as hard as people in the cafeteria. I think caf workers should make more.

Move to charge to Health and Housing.

Rasmussen: We are here to look into student concerns. We aren’t here to argue about it. We need to send it to a committee so that it can be looked into. That’s all.

Sauve: That’s not the way that Senate works. When we charge things to committee we do so with tangible change in mind.

Wicklund: I think anytime we are brought an issue we have an obligation to look into it.

Goldstein: Maybe make this motion more specific.

Panzer: As representatives we have to look into all issues. I think our committee would meet and craft questions for Kitchen Cabinet and find out why cafeteria workers were paid more at one point. We wouldn’t be taking action. Our committee will be moving forward with tact and respect, but with understanding and belief that we have an obligation to look into issues.

Call to question.

Vote.

Approved.

Charge Health and Housing with looking into caf wages.

Vote.

Approved.

1. **Announcements**

Thrash: Congratulations on first actual debate of the year. Everyone stayed professional. Happy Birthday, Nick!

Timmons: I wanted to thank our guest who brought concerns forward. Next Friday, Lineus show. 8pm in Heritage room.

Johnson: Tomorrow is election day! Encourage other to vote.

Goldstein: If anyone is interested in emailing constituents, we have access to that. Let us know and we will get you to the right people. I want to thank all senators for that discussion today. There’s a lot of exciting stuff to look into this semester. Be looking forward to it!

Grosshuesch: D-Committee, please come see me right after this.

Panzer: Health and Housing committee meets right after we adjourn.

Gustafson: Thursday the Greens are sponsoring Do the Math about Divestment. There are posters up.

Adjourned: 7:42pm