**Student Senate Minutes**

**Gustavus Adolphus College**

**November 24, 2014, 7:04pm**

1. **Attendance**
2. **Approval of the Minutes 11/17/14**

Approved.

1. **Community Comment**

None.

1. **Budget**
2. **Student Senate**

Branch: Student senate came to us about getting a third GusBus that will run 4 hours per night from December 5-April 18. Total $3900.

Timmons: In years past, the capacity was not enforced. Some nights as many as 800 students rode in a given night. We’ve seen this year people being kicked off. We want to keep Gusties out of cars, out of ditches, off the streets. We propose a third GusBus through the cold months.

Hegg: I feel this is a great use of our funds. I feel the safety of all Gusties should be valued. I don’t think we should make decisions that would lead to people walking or driving.

Peterson: Why until April 18?

Timmons: We feel there is a concern with driving, but there is a greater concern for cold weather. It would cover the cold months and would cover the concern of winter drivers.

Peterson: Is that for future years as well?

Timmons: No, contract for this year.

Sauve: Call to question.

Vote on calling to question.

Approved.

Vote on the budget.

Approved.

1. **Old Business**
   1. **Co-Presidents Update**

Goldstein: Possibility of Wednesday GusBus. We got a quote. It would be the same cost as any night. We didn’t feel it would be the best use of our funds or our student activity fee.

Timmons: We think there is a Friday/Saturday party atmosphere. We need to minimize potential risks. We don’t see Wednesday as being a concern at this point and we feel it would be enabling a Wednesday party atmosphere or culture. We think it would make that an option that is easier and more accessible. Contractor seemed hesitant. I think it would be hard to find drivers who want to drive Wednesday nights.

* 1. **Health and Housing Update**

Panzer: Three projects. Take your professor to lunch. Came to be in Kitchen Cabinet. Ways we are looking at doing this, there are three. Facilitate professors being in the Caf. Professors to reach out to students. One specific day in which students can pick up a ticket. Happens at a lot of different schools. There are some examples for us to follow and it is an opportunity to partner with Kitchen Cabinet. Dining services wages have been discussed with many to gain context on this issue of dining service workers being paid more, but with the minimum wage hike they are paid the same. Our current action plan is to draft a letter to the college asking for clarification for students about the background of the decision. We are also looking into visitation hour policy. The possibility of changing visitation hour policies and the value in doing that. That will be a discussion between us and residential life.

Hegg: On the resolution, you want to send to Kitchen Cabinet, you will have a recommendation?

Panzer: We will be drafting a letter to send to the finance committee of the college recommending that they relay information about the background of wage gap to those who are affected by the new wage system.

Edu: What was the community comment?

Panzer: Senior dining services employee, expressed dissatisfaction in the fact that when minimum wage was raised, dining services was no longer paid more. The wages were equal. The same is true for custodial student workers as well. They felt it was right that they were paid more and would like to see that gap reinstituted.

* 1. **Ethics Update**

Svendsen: Charged with whether it was ethical to restrict chairs speaking rights. Not ethical. They were appointed and although they do not represent a specific constituency, they represent the student body. I encourage all to remember who they are representing.

1. **New Business**

Mahan: Some constituents from Rundstrom have come with an issue they would like to be addressed. The hill from Rundstrom to the parking lot that many in Rundstrom have to park in. They would like a sidewalk or stairs built into hill. Charge Health and Housing.

Vote.

Approved.

Skiba: I would like to, given last budget with Nordic Ski Team, I would like the finance committee to look into bylaws about transitioning from full funded sport to a club sport. Charge Finance committees to look into bylaws.

Wicklund: I don’t know how purposeful an amendment to the bylaws would be, because transitioning is different for different sports. Some sports wouldn’t even need the top amount. It will be different depending on the year and the sports.

Skiba: I would like to look into instead of having clubs like Nordic Ski come in every year, we could help with travel fees by giving them slow decreases of their budget to get them to the $4000 mark.

Wicklund: Do you expect a decrease as the sport becomes less competitive?

Sauve: I guess I’m unsure about the scope of this motion. I don’t see many sports that will be turning into club sports anytime soon.

Hegg: I think we should, if we think we are going to break the bylaws we should amend the bylaws so that we don’t have to break them. In the end, it saves all of us money because all of the money comes from the students. I feel like student senate shouldn’t be picking up the tab every time sports get moved down to club sports.

JoNes: I think the model of sending things to committees to have a conversation at a more in-depth layer is a good model. It allows for a deep conversation, contextualization and a well-thoughtout idea to be brought back to the body. I am not aware that there is any institutional indication that Women’s Gymnastic would be changed to a club sport. I wouldn’t want anyone to be confused. I also want to warn about making decisions based on competitiveness. Think carefully about that buzzword.

Wicklund: I move to amend to have ethics look at the constitutionality of changing bylaws in addition to the finance committee.

Hegg: Call to previous question.

Vote on call to question.

Approved.

Vote to amend to have ethics and finance work together.

Approved.

Discussion on ethics and finance working together.

None.

Vote.

Approved.

Hegg: When we were doing the questioning for Ombudsmen, someone brought up proxy votes for senators. Can anyone provide insight?

Gunnigle: We talked about proxies in ethics committee. Proxies would be able to sit in for the senator and vote.

Hegg: Is ethics bringing this to the floor?

Svendsen: Yes, after ethics has the conversation within committee.

Sauve: There are a lot of things being charged to Student Academic Affairs that I think we could create a new position for, something like Student Administrative Affairs.

Timmons: Our chairs are trained really well to work with the administrators that fit with their realm and I think our system is really effective.

1. **Announcements**

Timmons: Thank you for the work you’ve been doing the last couple of meetings. Be prepared for the next few meetings. Final discussion about Building Bridges. It could be a really long discussion. The following Monday, as we are obligated and would like to warn you of, we will bring forward the Dive conversation. I admire your commitment and your patience. Travel safely over this break.

Grosshuesch: D-Committee meets after this meeting.

Gustafson: New exhibit in the Hillstrom. It’s really cool.

Goldstein: Attendance, please please please be here. Meetings are super important. Email if you can’t be here. The next two meetings have the opportunity to be long. They are important and some of the most exciting things senate has done here. Enjoy Thanksgiving and the people you get to spend time with.

Panzer: Every student gets a free ticket to CinCC. Get your free ticket!

Sauve: Be safe driving home! As it is Thanksgiving, you are all great people, so keep it up.

Hegg: Sauve stole the words out of my mouth. Be safe, drive safe.

Adjourned: 7:41pm.