



Student Government

Senate Agenda

April 15, 2015

(Approved but didn't have the chance to be reviewed)

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
 - a. David, Jieun, Ben, Hannah, Launa, Tiantian, Jenae, Laura, Alma, Crystopher, Erin, Peter Meyer Reimer, Dylan Peachey
3. Approval of Minutes
 - a. 4/7/2015 - Approved
4. Old Business
 - a. Piano
 - i. Sign thank you card
 - b. PC
 - i. David had a meeting with President Brenneman
 - ii. Co-ed floor proposal
 1. No- took time to consider and had meetings, current developmental model for Student Life is satisfactory
 - a. Statement written by Ben
 - b. Jenae- In a meeting with Senate President David Zehr on Tuesday, President Brenneman represented the President's Council's decision to deny the Co-ed Floor proposal. Senate regrets this decision and hopes that future Senates will continue to pursue options for co-ed living on our campus.
 - i. Voting: in favor-7, opposed-2 (agree with the content of the statement, but should say PC instead of President Brenneman in specific)

- iii. RFRA- not a smart idea to make a statement
 - 1. Understanding how the statement will be received by the public, haven't changed the hiring policy, shouldn't be allowed from religious exemption (current President advocates for the current exemption)
 - a. Laura- I understand why the left would think GC was hypocritical for not making a statement--it is hypocritical to not have a fair hiring policy and claim to be a school promoting peace and justice. I don't buy his argument about the Solomon Act--we cannot reap the rewards of a bill protecting ourselves for being religious and allow the same bill discriminate against against people. more than just an image, this is what GC stands for
 - b. Jenae- concerned about the image of the college, hope decision will be made after convention this summer
 - c. Erin- not making a statement is perpetuating a system of violence because this exclusion is violence, because we're claiming historical peace school, not making a statement is hypocritical, we gave PC/administration/college an opportunity to say, they turned down the opportunity, EMU's president said that he is in favor, we don't have it
 - d. Jenae- amendment, different from asking for support,
 - e. Crystopher- incentivize LGBTQ community to write a statement and Senate support it
 - f. Erin- against it, LGBTQ people are asked to move things forward, it's not fair to ask other people to make statement
 - g. Laura- not sure who to ask to represent all the LGBTQ people in this community
 - h. Ben- Writing a news article- David should draft the news article
 - i. Voting: Approved (consensus)
- iv. Defining gender
 - 1. Bad publicity and PR, it's a complex issue(experts in the field don't have consensus on the issue, this is not a wise idea to do it at this moment)

- a. News article including the purpose of the statement, response from PC and follow-up response from Student Senate
- b. David- divided opinions about making a public statement
- c. David- news article, more possibility to be misinterpreted
- d. Erin- state what David heard from PC and state what Student Senate thinks
- e. Laura- so hard to interpret what PC said, would appreciate direct communication in the future
- f. Crystopher- why on record?
- g. Ben- transparency
- h. Laura- larger critique of the process
- i. Crystopher- main thing is letting the student body know the facts
- j. Jena- article not directed to anyone, update to student body
- k. David- PC reads the update, student body will get the update too
- l. Jena- what David heard from President, our frustration about not being clear
- m. Launa- I understand that PC has decided not to make a statement, not wise way to represent GC publicity
- n. Jena- student senate sees it problematic
- o. Ben- respond to both separately
- p. Erin- opinion part- publicity is not good enough reason
- q. Crystopher- only answer to the first
- r. Jena- Student senate contests the idea that publicity is a legitimate reason not to make a statement. This concern stems from the reality that Goshen College divides students based on gender every day.
 - i. Voting: Approved (consensus)
- s. Crystopher- OK as long as we don't mention David
- v. Ben- inform the student body about the response
- vi. Too late for Record article
 - 1. Press section on the website
 - 2. Communicator announcement
 - 3. Record article online

4. Direct statement from President Brenneman?
5. Summary of all the proposals this year, and include the response from PC and Student Senate's response to it
6. Share opinions on each topic, vote,

5. New Business

- a. Elections/Snack attack
 - i. 12 applications submitted
 - ii. Voting will begin on Friday
 - iii. Announce winners at Snack attack (Tuesday)
 1. David and Jenae will announce the winners
- b. Administrative Cabinet Update March/April
 - i. Anita Stalter reported on her trip to Kenya with Mennonite Central Committee
 - ii. Reporting on the Leadership Information Night: 48 students attended.
 - iii. Updates on Student Senate initiatives (e.g. FIRSST, wall-building, ice machine)
 - iv. Update on provost search at several meetings
 - v. Update on Academic Dean replacement process
 - vi. No additional request from HLC visiting team--seen as a good sign
 - vii. Budget planning in IR, Assessment, & ITS/M
 - viii. Mennonite Education Benefit Plan working with Affordable Care Act institutional policies. This will inform annual health insurance renewal costs.
 - ix. Reporting on conversations with the Ecological Stewardship Committee re: fossil fuel investment
 - x. Ongoing conversations re: SST compensation policies
 - xi. Phil Mason- new director for the Office of Graduate and Continuing Studies
 - xii. PC update on 2014-15 budget, project to be ok; not surplus. 2015-16 PC giving attention to projected shortfall what will factor into endowment request to Board
 - xiii. Strategic action steps: adjustment to strengthen effectiveness in key areas; moving ahead with a search for Director of Marketing position.
 - xiv. Administrative Cabinet shared observation to Student Senate about general heaviness about issues discussed on campus. Inquired about Senate's ideas about fun or 'lighter' to provide balance in student experience. David suggested including this as

recommendation for next year's Senate.

- xv. Additional club funding request
- xvi. FIRSST-\$250
- xvii. Ecopax- \$100
- xviii. FIRSST (training in the summer) - \$850
 - 1. Voting for all three additional funding requests: Approved (consensus)
- xix. Tuning of the piano \$120
 - 1. Voting: Approved (consensus)
- c. Budget remaining: \$1,760
- 6. Open Floor
 - a. Alma- HR initiative?
 - i. Launa- still in process, compliance committee meeting next week, discussed again at Administrative Cabinet, need to bring draft proposal, will be completed by end of May
- 7. Review Document for next year's senate
- 8. Approval of Minutes
 - a. 4/15/2015 - Approved (consensus)
- 9. Adjournment
 - a. Meeting adjourned: 10:06