

Goshen College Student Senate
Meeting Agenda
October 31, 2017
6:00 pm

Ninth meeting of the academic year

Invitees: Corie Steinke, Abby King, Elijah Lora, Jace Longenecker, Nat Dick, Kethayun Mehta, Samantha Shank, Vanessa Chavarria, Kyra Krall

- I. Call to Order
 - A. **Meeting is called to order at 6:01**
- II. Roll Call
 - A. **Present: Abby King, Elijah Lora, Jace Longenecker, Nat Dick, Samantha Shank, Vanessa Chavarria, Kyra Krall, and Kethayun Mehta.**
 - B. **Corie Steinke is sick**
- III. Approval of minutes from Oct. 12 meetings
 - A. Assignment of minutes
 1. **Samantha is taking minutes**
- IV. Old Business
 - A. Communicator survey update
 1. **Nat- Have 106 responses. This will be open for a couple weeks.**
 2. **Abby- Maybe we should send out a reminder email in a week or so.**
 - B. Open Forum Updates
 1. GSWA Open Forum update
 - a) **Abby- GSWA gave us a long list to go through. We have accomplished some of those, but not all.**
 - b) **There was a concern raised about whether or not the counseling staff is qualified to address sexual assault issues on campus.**

- c) **Jace- While some of these ideas aren't all applicable (faculty are overworked) it is important to hear concerns of the student body.**
- d) **Discussion about whether or not faculty are overworked proceeded. Jace has heard many stories of how profs aren't available, but Nat raises the point that there is a difference between students feeling like faculty is overworked and faculty actually being overworked.**
- e) **Abby- We should consider making a list of concerns from the students to the staff, just so they know where the student body is at.**
- f) **Jace- Good idea, maybe some more transparency in the processes and solutions the administration goes through would help us understand why things are and are not being completed.**
- g) **Kethayun- Possibly invite Gilberto in to some meetings, so we have a more direct contact to the administration. It would be beneficial to have this about once a month. Jace agrees.**
- h) **Nat- Brought up the idea of attaching solutions to problems that we give the administration.**
- i) **Started going through GSWA list to think of possible solutions**
 - (1) **Professors of Color- We see this as an issue that the administration is working on. Nat includes his experience on the hiring board and how that process worked.**
 - (2) **Counselor Training- The complaint sounded as if there was one counselor who was belittling students who are survivors of sexual assault. Sam brings up that there is a wide variety of students who are complaining, not just**

a single person. Kethyun acknowledges that PIN knows about the counselors and has added another adult who is a nonessential reporter. Vanessa brings up the idea that maybe administration would want more details on the the complaints. Jace agrees that it is important, but we are not trained to gather this information.

(3) Administration Accessibility- While administration should be accessible, we need to realise that students can't sit in on confidential meetings. Kyra brings up that maybe we should have a panel or something similar with the administration. This changed into a less formal idea, like a coffee shop or ice cream with administration.

(4) Administration Tree- Jace says that he is willing to start some project about who does what in related to, specifically sexual assault and racial misconduct. This would include administrative roles and the chain of reporting. We then take a time to explore the Goshen website and see if that is already implemented. Jace brings up the idea of an interactive webpage with a map of titles and contact information. Jace will look into this issue more.

(5) Elijah- BSU's meeting is this Thursday. He will be there for an open forum.

C. Prevention campaigns brainstorming

1. Update on mental health/theater dept. - Ketha

a) Abby- **Healthy Bodies Convocation was effective and accurate, it was much appreciated.**

D. Sanitary Pads/Tampons in all Academic Buildings Update

1. **Ketha- People in the Administration people can't pinpoint who has been providing them, but she is working on it.**

E. Prayer room for Muslim students update

1. **Kyra- She emailed a muslim student and there were some specific needs for that prayer room, but Kyra will be in contact with Bob Miller.**
2. **Elijah asks what the necessities are and how can we fulfill them. Brainstorming that maybe muslim students could have the quiet room reserved for a certain time.**

D. Poster Update-

1. **Jace explains his changes in the poster. We then decide to move around some information to create space to all of the Senate faces.**

V. New Business

A. On-Campus Counselors and sexual assault

- a. **Talked about above**

B. Bringing IFYC to Goshen College

- a. **Dwayne suggested bringing in a interfaith club. Abby thought about reaching out to Bob about to see if we can possibly bring more resources from IFYC to the interfaith club.**

B. Off Campus Housing

- a. **Nat- Complaint about how there isn't an official way for students to hear about off campus housing possibilities. Many students who live there tend to all be mennonites, so there is a feeling like off campus housing information is by the "grape vine."**
 - i. **Possibly think about providing an option on the website where landlords can put their information.**
 - ii. **Ketha- Discussion on how the "Menno Wall" should be broken down, but maybe this problem isn't the specific way to break that. This is a conversation that we need to have, and this is a good start.**

iii. Nat- Will continue to do some more work and thinking. He will get back to us next week.

VI. Adjournment

A. Adjourn at 7:27