

HIRAM COLLEGE STUDENT SENATE  
**October 30<sup>th</sup>, 2018 MINUTES**

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**TONIGHT'S MINUTES:**

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**Call to Order & Introductions**

7:30PM

*We had 5 Executive Board members, our Advisor, and 23 Senators present for the evening.*

*Those Senators present were Bennett, Colton, Bessner, Wirfel, Thornton, Lyon, Bentkowski, Lisser, Rodgerick, Starpattern, Street, Louis, Gunther, Cook, Robb, Rivard, Daniels, Kollman, Hart, Harris, Hart, Thornton, Dualan*

*The Senators absent for the evening were: Hudson, Bhau, Andrzejewski, Ma*

**Presidential Reports**

Kudos on Hiram Halloween! We cannot express our gratitude or pride for how you contributed on the Haunted House, Afterparty, or Trick or Treating. If senators have questions about volunteering, let us know!

Senate Slideshow – we will be using Senators' headshots. If you would like a different picture to be used, send in a shoulders-up headshot by next Tuesday or we will use the Terrier as your picture.

The President has invited students to her home for Game Night November 20<sup>th</sup> 7-9PM. This would entail games and pool! Tickets and the process for the guest list will be announced next week.

College Relations will be in next week to share an ad campaign they have been working on!

**Speaker**

Val Bejar is here to speak about community service. She is a service coordinator, who works with Service Leaders on campus. She is responsible for Super Service Saturdays, which can be work such as a soup kitchen or homeless shelter. Val would like to make service not a job or requirement, but it can be a fun activity or being kind. She is also in charge of *Make a Difference Day* on campus, with events such as campus beautification, along with Bread and Soup and MLK Day. Bread and Soup is to raise awareness of food insecurity in Portage county. She is also in charge of Sugar Day, which is a day dedicated to service.

Some service partnerships include Hiram Christian Church, Little Village, Nelson Garrettsville Community Cupboard, Hattie Larlham, Habitat for Humanity, and Crestwood Middle School After School Program. There is an instagram page at @hiram\_serves and Val can be contacted via email or in her office in the Kennedy Center. Contact her with any questions or if you'd like community service opportunities.

**Executive Board Reports**

*VP of Administration Stevenson*

At the previous meeting, mental health groups were discussed. *Overload and time management* were the top two choices by senators for counseling groups. *Homesickness, relationships, depression and anxiety* were the second choice topics. VP Stevenson and President Enoch are meeting with Dr. Kevin soon to discuss mental health and more.

For the next Sit-In with Senate, Senators Harris, Street, Louis, Bennett, Bessner and Colton have volunteered. This will take place on Monday, November 5<sup>th</sup> in both the Dining Hall and Kennedy Center at 5pm.

A review of the Haunted House and Afterparty was held. Sen. Lyon asked why the event was held on a Sunday Night. Sen. Bennett suggested that the event was on a Sunday due to the fact that on weekends, other events may be taking place and many students would not be able to attend. Sen. Robb enjoyed it and thought a good amount of students attended. Sen. Lisser believed there was a great turnout. She was in a room at the Haunted House and believes spacing of the groups touring the Haunted House should be worked on, as they were too close together. Sen. Bennett says we need to be mindful of how preparation could be helpful in the future. Large groups with tour guides was not conducive to a good experience. Sen. Louis said half of the people really enjoyed themselves and some were indifferent. Sen. Harris built off of Sen. Bennett and reported that lots of people came to the afterparty. The event would have been smoother if more Senators had helped with the event. VP Lang talked with Andrew Palmer and reported that he was very proud of the event and was impressed with how well the event went. Advisor Okuma gave kudos to the Senators that participated in the event.

#### *VP of Communication Geric*

A Senator Video Project is being planned, more details are to come, as interest was shown from most Senators. She asked for feedback on how to improve the distribution of minutes. Sen. Bennett suggested that edited minutes be sent out in place of drafted ones, as they are easier to approve.

#### *VP of Finance Eddinger*

The FYB allocation meeting is this Sunday at 3PM in the Leadership Center in the KC. Club Presidents, Treasurers, and officers should plan to attend.

### **Old Business**

#### *Swipe Access Proposal*

Sen. Colton answered questions regarding the swipe access proposal.

Sen. Lyon thinks creating a stronger argument for increased security could help.

Sen. Bentkowski questioned how universal swipe access would affect security of dorms. Sen. Colton said that there will be more accountability due to the log kept when students use their key cards. People will not have to let students into buildings, and if someone can't get in, this could be a red flag that they should not be in the building. Sen. Robb asked how feasible this implementation is. Sen. Colton is meeting with Dan Fynes on Thursday and will report back.

Sen. Starpattern, as an RA, is not sure that they support it. There could be a loss in sense of community with this, as residents could leave the building to use other resources, such as study lounges. Sen. Starpattern said it is their responsibility to care for their building and residents of their building. Allowing all students into residence halls could create problems. If there was a problem with a student that is not a resident, medical or personal records would not be able to be immediately accessed.

Sen. Robb posed a situation where there are a few students that go into a building using one swipe and a student that did not swipe in did something bad. Sen. Colton replied that the proposal is not perfect, but it would add accountability.

Sen. Bentkowski says it isn't a safer option to have a log of students and reprimand them later if something were to happen. Sen. Colton said he believes in the good in people and that many may not abuse this privilege.

Sen. Gunther dittos Robb, and asks how this could affect the school in terms of safeguard policies. There could be legal ramifications of this reversal.

Sen. Kollman responds to Bentkowski that students already access dorms, but there would be increased accountability. There will be students getting into dorms regardless, so this would just allow there to be a record of who comes into the building.

Sen. Rivard says anyone can enter a building, regardless of access and with doors being propped open, there is no accountability.

Sen. Colton wants to extend these privileges to all traditional students. Right now, it's a proposal and there can still be additions.

Sen. Wirfel thinks it's a good idea to explore, but more research should be conducted for legality.

Sen. Starpattern proposes we table the vote until Sen. Colton obtains more information.

VOTE to table the proposal conversation

18-3-0 – PASSED – Conversation is tabled for further information gathering.

## **New Business**

### *Sit-in With Senate Report*

Sen. Lyon, Bentkowski, and Kollman reported about their Sit-in With Senate session. The number one issue raised was accessibility in residence halls for students. Also, there was interest in swipe card access. A student voiced that fixing the lighting would be a waste of resources and money. Students have expressed their want for central ceiling lights in residence halls. It was proposed dining hall hours should be extended to a later time.

## **Senators Mention**

Sen. Lisser stated there are a lot of skunks on campus.

Sen. Harris will be talking to Ed and Craig about issues raised this week from the Townhouse survey and will report to Senate soon.

Sen. Louis asked if the trap and release program planned by Veticus had occurred, as there have been a lot more cats out. She is worried about safety with these cats.

Sen. Hart reported boxed lunches can be prepared if you need them, despite this not being advertised. Senator Bennett said dining services has make it difficult for students to get a boxed lunch if you do not leave campus during the day. Sen. Cook added there are no milk substitutes in the Dining Hall. Sen. Starpattern asked if we could get a list of Dining services available. Sen. Starpattern also asked for updates on Gelbke lighting.

President Enoch reported that we don't have updates yet.

Sen. Starpattern raised the issue that there is no policy to take a medical leave of absence, only withdrawal from classes. Advisor Okuma replied that this is no longer in effect because withdrawal can occur until the end of week 10 and said that she and Sen. Starpattern could speak more after the meeting, too.

## **Notes from the Gallery**

Advisor Okuma reported that, at CESC, a faculty member encouraged faculty to attend Student Senate and commended our level of professionalism and respect.

**Adjournment** by Vice President Stevenson

8:30PM

*Minutes submitted by Vice President of Communication Geric*