

# HIRAM COLLEGE STUDENT SENATE

## November 6<sup>th</sup>, 2018 MINUTES

### Call to Order & Introductions

7:30PM

*We had 5 Executive Board members, our Advisor, and 22 Senators present for the evening.*

*Those Senators present were: Bennett, Colton, Bessner, Thornton, Lyon, Bentkowski, Lisser, Rodgerick, Starpattern, Street, Louis, Andrzejewski, Gunther, Cook, Robb, Bhau, Daniels, Kollman, Ma, Harris, Hart, Thornton, Hudson*

*The Senators absent for the evening were: Wirfel, Rivard, Dualan*

*Our guests this evening were: Liz Keller, Rachel Baum, Madison Linville, Emily O'Neil*

### Executive Board Reports

*VP of Administration Stevenson*

Senators, please fill out the End of Semester Review in your inbox by next week!

The President's Game Night on Nov. 20<sup>th</sup> is being planned. You will get 2 tickets to invite constituents and/or friends.

You have admission without a ticket. Please return completed ticket stubs by November 13<sup>th</sup> to RSVP!

College Relations is not here tonight to present on the new college IAMHIRAM campaign due to power outages, but they will be here to speak next week. Someone from XPLOR will be here to talk about the program, as well.

*VP of Finance Eddinger*

The President's Roundtable went well. Encourage club leaders to fill out the club allocation forms for next semester as soon as they can. Funding You Board will meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the 3 week. On December 11<sup>th</sup>, budgets for next semester will be distributed.

### Old Business

*Swipe Access Proposal*

Colton had meetings to address concerns raised in the previous two meetings. They couldn't all be addressed in the time he had, and he is still working on getting all information needed. He talked with Dan Fynes and the RDs. Safety was the biggest concern he heard. If students could only get into lounges of Residence Halls, these individuals would be more likely to support this proposal.

In response to culture in Residence Halls, Ed wasn't sure how it would change.

Dan Fynes had concerns of lost or stolen IDs. People in possession of these could get into every dorm under a name that is not their own. Colton believes people would get into the dorm regardless. Regarding legality, he does not believe it is a concern.

Advisor Okuma reported regarding insurance premiums, All-Swipe Access could alter these in the future.

Two emails from the Hiram community were read by members of the Executive Board. Both addressed concerns with sexual harassment and assault, as well as the effects that All-Swipe Access could have on survivors of these acts.

Sen. Bennett has heard that some sexual assault individuals would feel safer with the All-Swipe Access.

Sen. Starpattern thinks no-contact orders are ineffective, as you cannot talk about what happened once they are in place. If people don't have access in the first place, this is not an issue.

Liz Keller asks what "all students" encompasses in the proposal. She believes it is not fair as all students, even commuters and Townhouse residents, would have access to all facilities when they do not pay for them.

Sen. Bentkowski wants to know how safety would be improved by this proposal.

School officials do not see safety in the same way that Colton perceives safety. There are not statistics that fully support one option or the other. Colton believes All-Swipe Access would decrease door propping, as only students would get access to residence halls. He also believes red flags would be raised if someone is trying to get into a dorm and cannot. Liz Keller asks how accountability applies to groups of students that use one swipe to enter a residence hall. If something were to occur, how would it be known who was involved and if they were to stay in the building for a longer period of time, how could this be traced to them? Colton acknowledges that this proposal could work, or it could be abused.

Sen. Bentkowski points out that Colton's proposal hinges on trusting others' accountability and responsibility.

Sen. Starpattern brings up that some people do not want to report their abuse. They sometimes forget their ID, and people still let them in with no questions asked.

Sen. Bhau says that her door is frequently vandalized and she knows it is no one on her floor. She prefers knowing who is in her building.

Sen. Thornton says that one of their constituents was involved in an assault and giving All-Swipe Access could compromise the feeling of safety in their building.

VP Lang restated that the proposal is for all students: commuters, non-traditional, and Weekend College.

Sen. Andzrejewski was initially in favor of this proposal due to collaborative efforts of RA's between buildings. He poses if sociability is more important than safety, he is ultimately against the proposal. If all students have card access, this could decrease the level of safety.

Sen. Hart says that there is an age restriction to live on campus. There are some traditional students that are grown men and women and they would be receiving access, as well, and she does not support this.

Sen. Street's Xbox was stolen and, even after room checks, it was never found. He adds that his constituents do not support the idea and are uncomfortable with students that are not residents in buildings having access to the facilities.

Sen. Bentkowski thinks this proposal will introduce more strangers into the buildings, and this could be problematic. VP Eddinger adds that the RD's are not in support of this proposal. The Campus Climate survey reveals that most students think there should be more security and safety on campus. Making this proposal a reality would require adding video surveillance and more swipe access readers. He adds that some schools have retina scanners and people at front desks, monitoring who comes and goes.

Sen. Lyon says he would not want someone coming into his living space and does not feel like it is his right to enter someone else's living space. He believes that both systems, the current and proposal, are inadequate for safety. He suggests more scanners and cameras be installed.

Sen. Starpattern says they are very against the proposal. They add that all professional staff in charge of keeping this campus safe are in opposition of this proposal. They are accountable for their residents, as an RA, and does not want strangers being in buildings to be a norm.

The All-Hall Access proposal did not pass with a vote of 2-18-0.

### **Senators Mention**

Sen. Robb announced Sen. Cook and himself are planning a Destress Night on November 14<sup>th</sup> from 6-8PM in the KC Basement. There will be Ping Pong, art, food, and various activities.

Sen. Andzrejewski said that emergency lighting in Hinsdale stairwells is not sufficient .

Sen. Hart works in Financial Aid and it was suggested that Master promissory and entrance counseling be added to the Institute Schedule.

Sen. Louis suggested a mental health playlist be compiled. Sen. Bentkowski offered to join her.

Sen. Harris met with Ed and Craig to talk about Townhouse issues. They are replacing damaged furniture over winter break. They are concerned about people not eating in the Townhouses. She emailed out a link to meal plans to suggest an alternative to relying on cooking yourself.

Sen. Lisser asked if anything happened with the skunks. Advisor Okuma responded that this is the time of year where skunks are roaming. If Physical Plant sees skunks, they try to move them or their nests. If you see skunks, email the Senate account. Sen. Bennett stated that removing the skunks is unfair as this is their habitat. Advisor Okuma replied that the skunks are living in unnatural habitats, such as under porches.

Sen. Andrzejewski thinks we should plant a pine tree by the Dining Hall to diffuse bad smells from the sewers. Sen. Starpattern dittos the planting of pines idea.

### **Adjournment**

Vice President Stevenson

8:21PM