

# HIRAM COLLEGE STUDENT SENATE

## December 4<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, Wirfel, Rivard, Dualan.*

*The Senators absent for the evening were: Bhau*

*Our guests this evening were: Jacob Moncler, Delilah Stack, Allison Slutz, Graham Rubin*

### **Presidential Announcements**

Power through your 3-Weeks! The next and last meeting of the semester is next week, 12/11/18.

### **Advisor Announcements**

Advisor Dean Okuma told us that a Chronicle of Higher Education Reporter is on campus talking to the campus community about the New Liberal Arts! If you see him, be sure to say, "Hi".

Our guest speaker of the night is Daniel Dodge, Adventurer-in-Residence. With the new liberal arts, we are bringing in specialists to talk about their experiences.

### **Speaker**

Daniel Dodge was here to talk about his experiences and his role in supporting the Tech and Trek movement here at Hiram. He is close to completing the Triple Crown! He is an avid adventurer and photographer. He says, "Life is to be experienced." Through hiking, he has come to realize the things you do affect the way you interact with others and the way you view life. Dan is here to help people find their adventure path. The important thing to do is to be passionate about your interests. Pursuing your own adventure can be complementary to your educational career. Viewing life as a series of adventures can change all the other aspects of it.

Dan is a nature enthusiast and uses his connection with nature to facilitate his photography. He utilizes this art to convey the experience of being somewhere and having that experience yourself. This ideology pairs beautifully with the Tech and Trek movement. Dan happened upon Hiram College on one of his hikes when he met President Varlotta while hitchhiking into town for supplies. President Varlotta realized that Dan would be a great individual to share his experiences with students.

There will be announcements about hikes going out soon, so keep an eye on your email. Events are posted online and are being distributed through email.

On Thursday December 13<sup>th</sup> at 7PM, there will be an event called Trekking with Intent, Presence and Purpose. There is also a scavenger hunt happening on campus with Dan's pictures hidden across campus. People who find pictures will write captions and submit them to win a camera for their iPad per photo. The winner will receive a \$500 voucher for their own travels.

### **Executive Board Reports**

*Vice President Stevenson*

Sit in with Senate will resume in the 12 Week. If you are interested in holding Sit in With Senate in the 3-Week, contact VP Stevenson.

Ohio Student Government Summit (OSGS) has invited some members of our Senate to attend their conference at the University of Akron. It will be held on Saturday, February 9<sup>th</sup> 9am-3pm. Please send in a short letter of intent to the Senate account and CC VPs Lang and Stevenson by January 18th.

Community Service is due this semester on December 18<sup>th</sup>. Please give your form to a member of the Executive Board.

### *Vice President Lang*

Clubs will be pitching tonight and we will vote upon them next week. Constitutions will be distributed to Senators this week before voting next week.

For club name changes, VP Lang will approve it and then the name change will be announced. If there is a large change in the organization's Constitution, it will be brought to Senate.

### **New Business**

#### *Hillel*

Graham Rubin, President of Hillel is here to present the organization. Hillel will be a Jewish-based campus organization. It is a national organization and one of the largest ones in the world. They hope to learn about Judaism through each other and through neighboring Jewish organizations. Kent State and the Chapel have supplied funds for their first Hanukkah party, which was successful. They hope to raise awareness of Jewish culture and religion. Ellen Walker is the advisor, Jo Dunn-Foster is the Vice President, Callie Levan is the Secretary, and Josh Cohn is the Treasurer.

Sen. Bennett inquired about interest, Graham replied that 33 individuals were interested in the organization.

Sen. Wirfel asked about funding. Graham responded that they would continue to receive funding through the Kent-Akron Hillel Organization.

#### *Skating Club*

Emily Harris and Delilah Stack (co-presidents), Allison Slutz (Treasurer), Taylor Cook (Secretary), and Jacob Moncler (Vice President) attended to propose Skating Club. They would like to take students to The Pond to teach them the basics of skating. It would be a fun way to make friends or get light exercise. Funding would be used for transportation. Jana Willen is the advisor.

Sen. Harris asked if funding would go towards rental costs. Club members would be asked to rent their own skates. Additional funds could go towards students who may not be able to afford skate rentals.

#### *Safety on Campus*

Senator Street asked that all Senators write their two biggest concerns about safety on campus. He will be working with these responses moving forward to attempt to enhance safety on campus.

#### *De-stress Night*

Senators Cook and Robb held a De-Stress Night before the 12-Week Finals. The event went very well, with more than 60 attendees. Thank you to Senators for your presence and help! There was an art contest held and a ping pong tournament and prizes were given out. At the event, attendees were asked what their biggest concerns on campus were. Concerns included: security beacons around Residence Halls, campus infrastructure, cost of Dining Services, options at the Dining Hall, and recycling bins in Residence Halls. Another suggestion was Siblings or Parent Day. If we are interested, we can try to make this happen in the Spring.

Sen. Bennett commented that the security beacon placement is ineffective and too spaced out, as the meeting point with campus safety services is at the bottom of the hill by the Dining Hall.

Sen. Bessner asked about reliability of security beacons in the instance of a power outage. Advisor Okuma responded that these are backed up.

Sen. Hudson responded that some of the security beacons are not visible from all places on campus.

### **Senators Mention**

Sen. Andrzejewski voiced his concern with the chaotic way the power outage was handled. He believes there should be a more structured plan in place if this should happen again. Sen. Bentkowski said that RAs were on duty every hour for the entirety of the outage and spread information through word of mouth. Sen. Bennett said that there was very little notice of action that needed to be taken by Townhouse students during the outage.

**Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 by VP Stevenson.**