

# HIRAM COLLEGE STUDENT SENATE April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2019 MINUTES

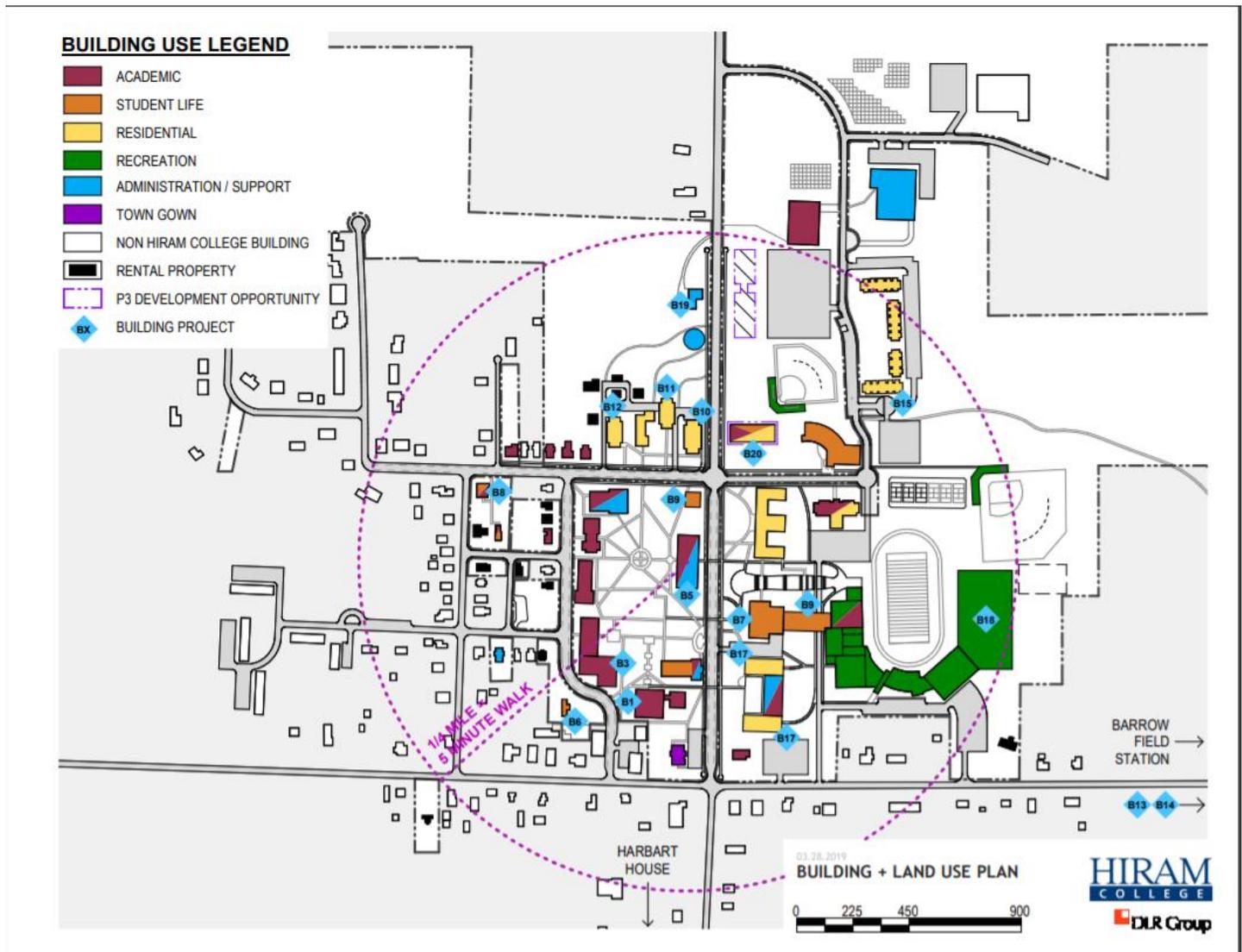
## Call to Order: 7:30pm

We had 5 Executive Board members present, our Advisor, and 21 Senators present for the evening. Those Senators present were: Andrzejewski, Bennett, Bentkowski, Bessner, Bhau, Colton, Cook, Dietzen, Dualan, Harris, Hart, Hudson, Kidd, Lisser, Louis, Ma, Oswald, Rivard, Robb, Thornton, and Toich

The Senator absent for the evening was: Street  
Our guest this evening was: Madison Linville

## Advisor Update

Advisor Okuma updated Student Senate on the state of the Master Plan, showing a diagram of campus, with areas in yellow denoting locations that are being renovated. This diagram can be accessed via my.hiram.edu under the “Common” tab, once you’ve logged into your Hiram account. Colton-Turner will be worked on in the future, thanks to generous donation, and other plans may include re-outfitting the first floors of Hinsdale and the library. Here is a **draft** picture showing potential renovations and re-purposed buildings.



Senators inquired as to potential plans for the Jesse Smith House, the library fountain area adjacent to the Hiram Inn, and the houses along Route 700, starting with the dilapidated one on the corner of Hinsdale Street. Miller Hall will see renovations this summer similar to those recently done in Whitcomb. *Senator Bennett*, *Guest Madison Linville*, and *VP of Communication Lyon* raised concerns regarding the possibility of Field Station housing, but learned that there would be an application process, should such a housing option exist in the future. *Advisor Okuma* explained that the Master Plan has three aspects: recruitment, retention, and places for student learning. Other potential plans include renovating the Quad with residential space, maybe an Eclectic Honors Scholars area, or the Admissions office; and adding on to Gerstacker in lieu of a demolished or partially-demolished Colton, as well as connecting the Kennedy and Coleman centers. Further discussion dealt with how best to signify the physical boundaries of campus, such that visitors better recognize when they enter and exit Hiram College. Nothing is final.

### **Executive Board Reports**

*VP of Administration Stevenson* informed Senate that the next meeting will be on Tuesday, April 23, at 7:30pm in East Hall Forum. Regarding Sugar Day, Senate's activities were successful, but Senators suggested that the day's events more generally could benefit from more organization, more abundant supplies therein, and the enforcement of first-year participation – some of this is on the students themselves across campus.

She proceeded to remind Senators to spread word of the Performing Arts major and Art & Design major meeting at 4:15 on April 3 in the Showboat Theatre, in addition to the next Sit-In With Senate, taking place in both the Kennedy Center from 5:00-7:00pm with Senators Hart, Hudson, Ma, and Oswald; and in the Dining Hall with Senators Daniels, Dualan, Rivard, and Toich from 5:00-7:00pm later that same day.

*VP Lyon* encouraged Senators to re-apply and to tell their friends to participate in the 2019-2020 Student Senate. Packets are available outside the Senate office in Bates Hall, or via [senate@hiram.edu](mailto:senate@hiram.edu), and are due no later than 5:00pm on April 18 to either location. He also invited Senators to partake in a campaign promoting the completion of Senate applications through portraits posted to social media.

*VP of Finance Eddinger* briefed Student Senate on the FundingYou Board's new level system that was introduced at the latest President's Roundtable on Sunday, March 31 at 3:00pm. The new allocation cycle kicks off on Thursday, April 4, with three levels in place of eight tiers. All necessary forms for club funding for the 2019-2020 school year are due by 5:00pm on Tuesday, April 16.

### **New Business**

*Senator Cook* presented an evaluation of the 2019 Presidential and Vice Presidential Election as the Election Committee Chair, reporting low voter turnout in the 50s, credited in part to an uncontested election.

*VP Stevenson* began taking feedback on the 2018-2019 Student Senate. Senators expressed concerns related to Senator training/orientation, commuter engagement, training Senators on Roberts' Rules (off which many student governments operate), expanding bowl painting at Bread and Soup, and utilizing Senators in clubs to advertise Senate meetings.

*Senator Robb* proposed a meeting extension of 10 minutes. VOTE: 13-8-0. Approved!

Senators expressed concern that students are unaware of what Senate does on campus, and that, while Senators know what's been done, they are unable to answer as to "what." The weekly Senate update emails and attached minutes may be too long, and *VP Lyon* acknowledged these and other related issues, taking suggestions to improve his work. He and *Senator Hudson* hope to establish a dedicated bulletin board in the Kennedy Center for Senate information.

**Senators Mention**

*Senator Hart* issued a reminder that the Office of Financial Aid will host a program to assist students with their FAFSA on Thursday, April 4, from 10:00am-2:00pm in the Alumni Heritage Room.

**The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 by VP Stevenson.**