Hiram College Student Senate
Meeting Minutes

Date: October 9, 2023                 Time: 7:30pm                 Location: East Hall Forum

Call to Order & Roll Call

Vice President Palm — 7:29PM

Presidential Announcements

President Flaherty — 7:30PM
- President Flaherty informed everyone about the fall-themed event Senate and TAB will be co-hosting. This Pumpkin Paint and Sip will be on the Booth and Centennial Lawn on Tuesday, October 17th from 6:30 to 9PM. There will be painting of pumpkins, apple cider, and a bonfire where you can make s’mores. She asked that people come and bring their friends and don’t forget cups for apple cider.
- She also let us know the Library hours for Fall Break. The hours are normal for October 11th, 8:30AM-5PM for October 12th and 13th, and closed on October 14th and 15th.
- With National Coming Out Day being this Wednesday, October 11th, PRYSM will be hosting an event from 7-9PM with OCI in East Hall Forum.
- She let us know that Americorps is taking over Food for Fines. This will take place on Monday October 23rd and will last for 2 weeks. The ticket to cans exchange may be the same as last year, 4 cans for a normal ticket and 8 for a late ticket.
- President Flaherty spoke about her meeting with Jeff Swenson, Steve Romberger, Brittany Jackson, Ryan Olszewski, and about the gender-neutral restrooms. They are going to move ahead with the project. The next steps are to look at signage pricing and making sure it follows ADA guidelines. The first place it will be done is the first floor Library restrooms to gauge campus opinion.
- President Flaherty let Senate know there will not be a meeting on October 30th so that Senators can go to an overlapping event.

Advisor Announcements

Advisor West — 7:33PM
- Advisor West informed Senate of the PrideIndex. The college is looking into registering for this. It shows colleges that are accepting of individuals in the LGBTQ+ community. To register a person of administration has to register, but at the moment the college needs more on the campus website showing acceptance and support for identifying individuals. Advisor West is looking for students to help with the website if interested. If interested, please reach out to Dee West at WestDE@hiram.edu.
- Advisor West is in talks with Village Council President Chris Szell to talk to campus and the community to come to a beneficial solution to parking for both parties. You may see them around campus asking questions to students about personal parking choices.

Guest Speaker

James Workman — 7:35PM
- James Workman that he will be attending meetings monthly. If he can not attend then Olivia will be attending in his absence.
- Senator Bentley brought up that in East Hall the light in the hall on the first floor is out. It was mentioned that a work order was placed.
A guest mentioned that they saw a bug in Bowler Hall. When questioned if there was a picture, the guest stated they did not. Vice President Chatman also mentioned seeing bugs and spiders in Booth and Centennial. James Workman mentioned that in instances like bugs please take a picture. There is a contracted exterminator that can handle bug issues. He also mentioned that bugs will be an increasing issue soon because it is getting colder, and bugs are trying to find warmer spaces.

Senator Travis was curious if there were any updates on the Men’s shower on the second floor of Henry Hall. James Workman said that the warranty has expired but when there are times when there are less students on break, they are planning to work on the shower.

Senator Streator wanted to give acknowledgement to ResLife for their contributions and help. Especially for the commuter students with working to try and get a full-size fridge for the commuter lounge.

Senator Felvus mentioned that earlier in the day that the airport schedule was incorrect and was wondering when it might be expected to be updated. James Workman asked when it was view and that it should have been updated that day at 5PM.

James Workman mentioned a idea they are interested in implementing. The idea of pockets in dorm halls is being thought through. These pockets will be groups of rooms in dorms for individuals with similar interests. For example, there could be an athletics pocket, an acidic major's pocket, and a club pocket to list a few. Questions of who it would be open to are still up for discussion but what is understood is it will be first come first sever and students propose who would make up these pockets. These pockets would not be in the townhouses and in the East Hall suites.

Executive Board

Vice President Mongold — 7:49PM

Vice President Mongold talked about the Executive Boards meeting with Dan Fynes about concerns regarding campus safety, parking, and tickets. The main concern was the parking availability. The solution to this was implementing 15 new overnight student parking spots in the 305 lot by Martin Field House. These spots are closest to houses on the west side of the parking lot.

Clubs and Student Organization Updates

Vice President Chatman – 7:50PM

Vice President Chatman talked about PRYSM’s event. There will be a panel talking about National Coming Out Day and topics surrounding it. It will be from 7-9PM in the East Hall Forum.

Overbooked will be hosting their first meeting from 7-8:30PM in the Booth and Centennial Lobby.

There will be a gallery of artwork created by Professor Christopher Ryan over the last 25 years.

Committee Reports

Vice President Mongold — 7:51PM

Vice President Mongold let senators know that SAFE Committee will have their meeting tomorrow at 5PM in the meeting room in the library.

She also gave an update on the Mental Health Committee. They had their first meeting last Friday at 5PM. Senator Travis is the chair and Senator Turk is the secretary. Senator Travis informed Senate of what they talked about. They reevaluated what they did last year and the mental health boxes. She mentioned that the boxes didn’t go as intended. A new idea
is to place on the Library Message Board campus resources that can help with mental health.

- **Senator Marin** updates on Sustainable Development Committee. Their first Thrift Store Pop-up went very well. They got plenty of donations and she was curious of ways it could be applied to the community.

**Senator Action Item Updates**  
*President Flaherty — 7:53PM*

- There were no items to update.

**New Senator Action Items**  
*Vice President Mongold – 7:53PM*

- **Senator Travis** asked if senators had any questions or concerns to bring up to the Academic Planning Committee about the Hiram Connect. Senators brought up the sentiment of students. Things brought up were that students dislike it, not because it doesn’t work but that people don’t know how to use it. Also, students don’t know what is needed to be completed before doing a connect experience.

- **Senator Felvus** brought up Degree Works shows multiple pathway majors in a strange view. *President Flaherty* mentioned it will most likely be inaccurate for the upper classes but be accurate for the first and second years. **Senator Travis** informed senate that it has only been active use for a few years and to give it some grace.

- **Senator Calvey** and a guest from the galley have shown their concern for students who transfer in and their lack of credit acceptance from other universities and colleges. *President Flaherty* gave some insight of what it might be the cause of this. She mentioned it could be a liberal arts college compared to others as well as our uniquely structured semester.

- **Senator Sauter** brought to attention the lights are out in the elevator in Coleman. He also mentioned that some of the automatic handicap door openers are not functional. The dining hall works but the Kennedy Center and Frohring doesn’t work.

- **Vice President Fritz** brought up that the double doors on the south end of Colton-Turner facing the library were unlocked but were very stiff.

- **Senator Galecki** brought up that when it comes to double doors in academic buildings it is a guessing game of which door is unlocked. *President Flaherty* informed it has been brought up previously and it is a security issue to have at least one door locked.

- **Senator Travis** asked senators to bring back the “Hiram Hi” on behalf of the mental health committee.

**Notes from the Gallery**  
*Guests — 8:08PM*

**Adjournment**  
*Vice President Mongold — 8:08PM*