Hiram College Student Senate
Meeting Minutes

Date: November 6, 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 senate that Director of Career and Community Engagement, Morg Kush, has a candidate coming to campus for the Assistant Director position. President Flaherty asked if senators could have lunch from 12-1 pm to get to know and ask the candidate questions. If senators would like to attend, they were advised to let President Flaherty.

- She also reminded senators that Wednesday, November 15th is the Senate Movie night. The potential movies that will be voted on by campus is Barbie, Grown Ups 2, 10 Things I Hate About You, Five Nights at Freddy’s, and The Sandlot. The first 20 people will also get fuzzy socks.

Advisor Announcements

Advisor West — 7:31PM

- President Flaherty gave announcements on behalf of Advisor West who was unable to attend the meeting. She informed everyone that if students have a final at 6-8pm on Tuesday, November 21st that students can stay on campus. Students who would like to stay need to inform the Director of Resident and Commuter Services, James Workman at WorkmanJT@hiram.edu.

Executive Board

Vice President Mongold — 7:32PM

- To start off this section Vice President Mongold started with organizing senators by their favorite senate event. The options were the Pumpkin Paint and Sip, the Spooktacular costume contest, the Voter Registration Table, the Cannon Ball Contest, and Jag Music Fest.

- Vice President Mongold mentioned that President Flaherty and her meet with Dean Swenson recently and would give a restroom update later. She was asked to see what senators think of the iPads. Senator Sauter explained that he liked how it is something everyone on campus has so it helps with communication as well as lessening the student's financial burden with having to purchase a personal laptop for class work.

- Senator Bentley shared Senator Sauter’s sentiment but did bring to question the condition of the iPads. When recounting a personal incident of an issue arising with the keyboard being told she’d receive a new one and the product she received was used.

- Senator Streator talked about potentially creating a larger emphasis on the trek portion of Tech and Trek.

- Senator Jones talked about how the iPads are very useful resource for the athletes for the trainers and similar things. He also mentioned how there could be a larger emphasis on the trek of Tech and Trek and athletics could get involved in promoting it more.
• **Senator Travis** voiced her opinion that it is a good starting point for students because students may not be able to afford it otherwise.

• **President Flaherty** was very appreciative of all the feedback and let senators know that Dr. Swenson was interested in this information and to email him with our opinions and feelings regarding the iPads. Senators and campus can email him at SwensonJC@hiram.edu.

• **Vice President Mongold** opened the floor for senators to propose event ideas they might like to see for the spring semester.

• **Senator Calvey** stated that someone proposed a jam session for commuters to listen to music, play board games, or asynchronous games so people can zoom in. A member of the galley proposed a mental health week in lieu of finals coming up. His ideas was things such as providing snacks, attending the sensory room, explaining and understanding neurodiversity, and creating calm environments.

• **President Flaherty** mentioned that Study-a-thon is coming up.

• **Senator Marin** proposed a hike behind Bonnie Castle while the weather is still relatively warm. She also mentioned that we could potentially do something with NatureRX that recently passed.

### Clubs and Student Organization Updates

**Vice President Chatman – 7:43PM**

• **Vice President Chatman** mentioned that November 8th, 10th, and 11th Sniper will be performed. She also mentioned that the 8th there will also be a mandatory President’s Round Table for club officers. The Wind Ensemble will also be performing the 8th in the Hayden Auditorium at 7pm.

### Committee Reports

**Vice President Mongold — 7:44PM**

• **Senator Travis** updated on the Mental Health Committee. They met with Dr. Romberger about the survey results regarding students feeling of the covenant. The committee is thinking about placing a general covenant on the Moodle website. Dr. Romberger mentioned his initiate of trying to get professors to receive more of a mental health first aid training. When President Flaherty asked if there was a summary Senator Travis explained that there was summary but it's a limited number of surveys started and there is no distinction weather it was helpful because of the survey or a student's personal feelings regarding said professor. The survey needs to be revised.

• **Senator Galecki** updated on the S.A.F.E. committee meeting. She mentioned that they proposed a Title IX poster campaign with ResLife. She also brought up potentially creating a support group for retired or soon to be retired athletes for their transition into life without collegiate sports, becoming comfortable to potentially report issues when a student was an athlete, and how to move on with life. They also talked about potentially doing a mental health fair of sorts with the Mental Health Committee and the Office of Campus Involvement. The dates are unknown but ideas for the fair would be how to know if your in a toxic relationship and how to identify the difference between gaslighting and being toxic. The next meeting will be Thursday November 9th at 6:30 pm in the Library. There will also be no meeting on the 16th.

• **Senator Cotterman** updated on the Library Committee. She informed up that at some point in time there will be a switch from Opal, which is what we currently use to find resources, to Alma. She does not know an exact time but that it will mostly not be this year or next
year. There will be some work over the 12 weeks break to hopefully make the library more accessible to students during the day with the lighting. The Committee is planning an event with a professor to explain the solar eclipse and what it is and then another event on the day of the solar eclipse. Vice President Chatman was curious if there was an issue with the lights in the library. Senator Cotterman explained that the lights on an automated computer program system and the computer is getting too old to properly run the program.

- Senator Marin updated on S.D.C. They talked about setting up a fund with Senate for donations. They also relieved a donation from Americorps. There will be a thrift store pop-up November 9th in the Kennedy Center Basement from 6 to 8PM.
- Vice President Palm gave an update on the Village Finance and Safety meeting to follow up on the Paid Street Parking ordinance that was recently passed. She mentioned that at the moment they don’t have a set idea they are planning on implementing. At the meeting members of the committee clarified to talk about the ordinance it needed to be talked off the table otherwise they are not to spread on it and progress its understanding. It was previously brought up in Village Council meetings to line spots on the street and if the streets are lined we will be losing some parking because it does not fit within the Ohio Department of Transportation’s regulations for street parking. At the meeting they members of the committee talked about hourly parking and what areas would potentially be hourly parking. At the meeting they plan on putting out a survey to gauge the resident’s feelings surrounding this issue. Vice President Palm spoke to Council Member McCreight, who does not sit on this committee, what a potential timeline for the survey may be and it was suggested that end of November at the latest. Senator Calvey wanted clarification if the survey was only for residents or if it also included students. Vice President Palm specified that it will be put on the Hiram Village website so students will also be able to participate. Senator Streator mentioned Election Day being the next day and to see who the new village mayor may be.

**Senator Action Item Updates**

- **President Flaherty** had meetings with multiple deans on Friday November 2nd regarding the All-Gender restrooms. She said that they are still in the process of ordering the signs but have an understanding of where they will first be implementing them. The plan as of right now it to place it on the Kennedy Center’s second floor men’s restroom because there is currently no sign and then all of the restrooms in the library. We are still waiting on a list of single use restroom from building stewards. She let senators know that the signs have to go through marketing but she is trying to get the signage from Amazon and approved by marketing so we can get student feedback. This will be mentioned in the Hiram Highlights and is being proposed to Faculty.
- **President Flaherty** is also working on placing restroom locations on outdoor campus maps. We will be working with Dan Fynes and Campus safety on this initiative.

**New Senator Action Items**

- **Senator Travis** expressed concern about the deadline with the hazing and prevention module sent out to campus. She also brought to light that when you go in to complete the module that it shows nothing being assigned to students and that they have to go and find it. Senator Calvey mentioned that she reached out to Dean of Students, Mick Steiner, and
that he sent her a new link. President Flaherty asked if the deadline was pushed into the three week if that would be better for students and multiple senators agreed.

- Senator Travis mentioned Miller’s Hall meeting being scheduled at 9:30 PM.
- Senator Streator reminded senators that Study-a-then will be this week.
- Senator Picoult mentioned frustrations of last-minute hall meetings being scheduled because people had to change their plans last minute or were unable to attend the mandatory meeting because they weren’t notified in a timely manner.
- Vice President Fritz mentioned that the Funding You Board is planning on picking up in activity in the spring with clubs petitioning to level up, so if any new senators are interested in joining or if current members are still interested in participating.

Notes from the Gallery

Guests — 8:00PM

Adjournment

Vice President Mongold — 8:00PM