

THE GUSTAVIAN WEEKLY

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ISSUE 1

**First-Year
class adjusts to
COVID on
Campus**

VARIETY - PAGE 7



**Senioritis:
Stuck at
home**

OPINION - PAGE 12



**MIAC Postpones
Fall Sports
Season**

SPORTS - PAGE 16



Gustavus students grab a socially distant lunch in the Caf.

Nate Habben

Campus responds to new COVID-19 guidelines

Gustavus sets new COVID-19 rules to help bring students back to campus

Emily VanGorder
Staff Writer

Thus far, new on-campus COVID-19 guidelines are generally being followed. “[The rules have been followed] very well. I am very impressed with the students on campus,” Assistant Vice President for Student Life, Megan Ruble, said.

In order to maintain everyone’s safety on campus, members of the Gustavus community are now required to wear a mask and maintain a six-foot distance from others, both inside and outside when proper social distancing is not possible. Those on campus are also asked to limit their contact with others and restrict unnecessary off-campus travel. Practicing good hygiene by washing one’s hands, sanitizing personal items and reducing sharing with others is also

encouraged.

Students and employees on campus are expected to perform a daily COVID-19 self-screening and report any suspicious symptoms using a COVID-19 reporting form. The Gustavus Health Service is also providing tests for students who believe they may have COVID-19 or have been exposed to someone with COVID-19. Students that test positively will be contacted and required to quarantine, as will anyone who spent more than 15 minutes within six feet of the infected student, whether or not they were wearing a mask. If students are able to quarantine from home, they are encouraged to do so. If not, there will be alternative living spaces on campus set aside for them.

Despite the safety precautions in place, there are some concerns about everyone re-

turning to campus, as “we could run into alcohol incidents, or people not wearing their masks, or not social distancing, and that puts us at risk... it’s a little nerve-wracking,” Junior CF Brenda deRosas said.

“It’s been going pretty good. From what we can see out in the public, students are wearing their masks. A big concern is [wearing] masks in the residence halls and within their dorm rooms — we’re trying to keep them socially distanced, while also being social,” deRosas said.

“[In residence halls], it’s been tougher, which is totally understandable, because it’s people in their own homes, essentially. I think that people are trying to remember, and they’re trying to do the right thing, for the most part. Maybe they forget, or maybe they get careless... but by and large, I think it’s going

really, really well,” Ruble said.

While the majority of students have been acting in accordance with new COVID-19 guidelines, there have been some issues, “especially on move-in day. Some parents and students chose not to wear their masks or took them off as soon as they got into their building. So we were aware of those situations and kept reminding people to put their masks on. Some students forget or refuse to wear masks in the residence halls, so we remind them to wear their masks in the building,” deRosas said.

“My PA colleague and I talk about it sometimes... basically, when you’re living with a roommate, they’re like your family. When you’re going in public spaces, I think that sometimes we all forget that regardless of whether that’s your roommate or not, you should still be

distancing,” Junior PA, Habeke Bekele, said.

There are several stages of warning a student may receive if they do not follow COVID-19 guidelines. If students are reported over social media or anonymously, they will typically receive an informal friendly reminder about campus COVID-19 policies. At a more formal level, if a student is reported by a CF or seen by another student, they will receive a more strongly worded reminder. If a student violates campus rules a second time, there will be a hearing with the student, who will have both educational and punitive sanctions. The higher levels of punishment can go up

**Continued on
page 2**

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Campus Safety Report

- Tuesday, September 1**
- Campus safety responded to a fire alarm in Rundstrom Hall, no smoke, no fire, no damage.
 - Campus Safety was contacted for a welfare check request.
 - Campus Safety was contacted for a welfare check request.
- Thursday, September 3**
- Campus Safety was notified that there was a potential weapon (knife) on property. Res
- Life was notified and the item was confiscated.**
- Friday, September 4**
- Campus Safety received a fire alarm prompt over radio from Southwest Hall. Alarm caused by burnt food in room 205.
- Saturday, September 5**
- A CF called for Campus Safety for Alcohol incident in Norelius Hall. Two students were referred to the campus

- conduct system.
- A CF called for Campus Safety for Alcohol incident in Norelius Hall. Two students were referred to the campus conduct system.
 - Campus Safety responded to Gibbs hall for alcohol incident. Two students were referred to the campus conduct system for a 21 and older violation and two students were referred for underage

- consumption.
- Tuesday, September 8**
- Campus Safety provided a medical escort to the E.R. for a student in Norelius Hall.
 - Campus Safety and Collegiate Fellows responded to an odor of marijuana in Norelius Hall. Two students referred to the campus conduct system.
- Thursday, September 10**
- Campus Safety responded to a call for

- medical assistance in Evelyn Dining Hall.
- Saturday, September 12**
- A CF reported there was a racist symbol scratched into metal on the Pittman elevator. Campus Safety is investigating the incident.
- Tuesday, September 15**
- Campus Safety took a report of a theft in Norelius Hall.



Signs around campus remind students to social distance and wear a face mask. Nate Habben

Continued from page 1

to suspension or loss of housing privileges, in which the student will be asked to go home and take their classes online if they cannot responsibly live on campus.

"[The hardest part of putting together COVID-19 safety policies has been] not being able to anticipate everything that would come into play. I've heard this used by other staff and I think it's really apropos — it feels like we're laying down the train tracks a minute before the train comes. We're just trying to stay a little bit ahead of things, and sometimes we don't see things coming, so now we have to plan and pivot for that reality," Ruble said.

"[Another challenge has been] balancing an appropriate level of awareness and precaution and response without going off the deep end. I've been the recipient, within the same day, of an email from one student asking us to please close campus and make the hard decision, and literally two hours later, there's an email from another student asking why they can't come back to campus because learning at home is bothering their mental health and family situation and finances... there's no win there. There's no way you're going to be able to meet everyone's needs, so you try to make the best possible decisions you can, and our leadership I think has been doing a great job

with that," Ruble said.

The impact of COVID-19 can be seen all over campus, but the social aspect of campus life has been especially affected, most notably, in freshman dorms.

"In the freshman dorms... you can really tell that people don't really interact as well as they used to because if you have your door open, you have to be wearing your mask, or if you're going to common areas you have to be wearing your mask, and [students] don't really want to do that since they have to do it everywhere else," deRosas said.

"Despite not having more than half of all students on campus, I think not having upperclassmen kind of helps [first years] to set their own rules. We were talking in our PA group and with our supervisor Laura Johnson and were coming to a consensus that the first years... haven't established their niche here, so they're very much following protocol," Bekele said.

Returned upperclassmen are also experiencing this reduced social aspect, especially in on-campus apartments, as "everybody has their own space, so they just stay in their own spaces because they don't have to wear masks. I think that's the most impacted aspect of the community, the social aspect," deRosas said.

"Being a PA this year is slightly interesting in that our programming is virtual... it's kind of hard to see how people are engaging with you because many just mute themselves, or take off their videos and just listen to us, which is nice as long as they are tuning in to listen to some of the

awesome things that we have to say, but it's not that face-to-face or one-on-one interaction," Bekele said.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, CFs have had to get creative with events.

"We're hoping to do a lot more socially distanced activities and activities outside with less contact. Another idea we had was pre-packaging activities or leaving them outside residents' doors, so they can do them on their own, so we don't have to be bunched up in one area. We know that some people don't want to participate because they have to wear a mask, so we're trying to accommodate for that as well," deRosas said.

"Thinking about all students returning to campus can be "scary, especially when you put into consideration that literally more than half of all students are not on campus. I think the Campus Center could get congested when everyone comes back, especially during the first few days. I would love to be optimistic... people do seem to genuinely want to come back. No one can truly force you to do anything, so being proactive and cognizant of what you're doing is so important," Bekele said.

"Just don't forget that the choices you make and behaviors you choose, wherever you are, matter to our community," Ruble said.

Gustavus students face effects of campus housing decisions



Students face similar housing concerns as they did spring semester.

Cadence Parramore

Freya Nelson
Staff Writer

Campus housing has been an unusual point of stress for Gustavus students this semester. Some students have even opted to take the entire semester online. However, their decision to go virtual is negatively affecting their financial aid awards. Is this a glimpse into the future of all Gustavus students if the college goes fully online this semester?

"Because financial aid is based on the total cost to the student (not just tuition), dropping your housing and meal plan might affect your aid package," said Provost and Dean, Brenda Kelly, in an email earlier this month.

An interview with junior Gustavus student Katrina Kramer, who has opted to be all-online this semester, proved Kelly's statement to be true. "[My financial aid] was reduced to the point where I am basically paying what I would have paid if I was on campus," said Kramer.

Kramer also stated that, ideally, she would have chosen to stay on campus.

"I decided to stay online in order to save money, although that kind of backfired," Kramer said.

Madelyn Smerillo, a senior at Gustavus, shared a similar experience to Kramer's. Smerillo, however, found solace in her conversations with the Gustavus Financial Aid office.

"[Financial Aid] did tell me that if Gustavus were to go all

online, for everyone this semester, that they would be taking that money away from all students," said Smerillo.

Even after the reassurance that this aid deduction which, Smerillo states "wasn't a federal aid deduction, but a deduction from the Gustavus scholarship award" could potentially affect all students, not just the online-opting ones, she still holds some doubts regarding the preparedness of ResLife and the Financial Aid office to face issues this semester. Online-opting students have expressed a frustration with the overall communication from the Financial Aid office. "I have never felt so out of the loop," said Katrina Kramer.

Another online Gustavus student, junior Alannah Rien, stated "[My responses] from Financial Aid were not informative nor kind."

All online-opting students interviewed acknowledged that this was a particularly hard time for the college, faculty and students, but still felt there could have been better communication. Madelyn Smerillo also shared, regarding her own experience, that it had been difficult to manage these communications with the Financial Aid office from a virtual standpoint.

"The only way that I even know that I was released and that my room has been filled is because I have seen pictures of my would-be roommate and her new roommate on social media," said Smerillo.

The most overarching commonality between all online-opting students interviewed was their desire to be on cam-

pus. "I would have, one-hundred percent, returned to campus this semester. I might have even done it if they had given us a decision right away. I miss campus and especially miss the opportunity to live with my friends this year," said Rien.

As students face the difficulties of navigating tough decisions against the obstacles of COVID-19, general uncertainty surrounding campus housing and an overall unusual year, some are choosing to stay home and opt for a virtual semester.

"If it were a normal semester, I would have chosen to stay on campus," said Kramer.

Students were first given the option to enroll in fully online courses in the beginning of Aug., with a deadline of Aug. 12. Following the aforementioned deadline, some students continued to express interest in pursuing online courses. The deadline was then moved to Sept., for those students who wished to enroll in online only courses.

The majority of the Gustavus student body still remains at home, waiting for the college's final decision, which is expected to be released on Friday, Sept. 18, regarding all on-campus, in-person classes beginning in Oct. As the Gustavus administration works diligently to maintain a sense of community amidst a global pandemic and an overall unusual school year, students still continue to be greatly affected by campus housing and online learning.



Students forced to move out spring semester pack their belongings.

Cadence Parramore

Counseling Center hires BIPOC support professionals



Students can currently make virtual appointments with counseling center staff.

Cadence Parramore

Marie Osuna
Staff Writer

President Rebecca Bergman announced the hiring of two new counselors on the first day of fall semester who specifically support BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, People of Color) students. The change stems from the work the Counseling Center has been doing in conjunction with the President's Council for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (PCDEI), the Office of the Chaplains, the Center for Inclusive Excellence (CIE) and student activists.

The mental health professionals, Monica Mikhaeil and Deja Jackson, just started this week and are still getting settled at both Gustavus and the Counseling Center. They are also still deciding exactly what services they would like to offer. But even in the first few weeks, they have already made plans to meet with students and are hoping to make an impact on the community.

"I remember what it was like for me in college, so if I'm able to provide one person the sense that they can come to the counseling center that might have felt

they couldn't before, that would be really good," Mikhaeil said.

The new counselors help support the Center's long-term goal of diversifying their office so all students have a mental health professional they identify with.

"We know that although every licensed mental health professional is trained to work with people representing many intersecting identities, it remains for many an important factor to see themselves represented in their counselor, especially when it comes to racial representation and GLBTQA identities," Hannah Godbout, Director of the Counseling Center, said.

The PCDEI team, chaired by Chaplain Siri Erickson, helped support the counseling center through the process. The idea, however, came from students themselves.

"[Our BIPOC students] have been asking for a number of years for a therapist who not only looks like them in terms of skin color, but also understands the unique mental health challenges BIPOC students may be facing and how they may be different from those white students are facing," Erickson said.

Since the death of George

Floyd, President Bergman, along with the PCDEI and the Board of Trustees, committed not only to funding the new counselor positions, but also to examine biases, practices and policies that are preventing everyone in the community from feeling fully included.

"Siri and I will work together to provide regular updates to the campus on Gustavus' Racial Justice and Inclusion work. We commit to transparency, accountability and meaningful action that makes a difference to the entire Gustavus community," President Bergman wrote in an email to the Gustavus Community.

The next major change students will notice from the PCDEI team is a renovation of The Dive to provide additional space for the CEI and students working on DEI education and action. The updated space will include offices, a gathering space for the CEI and a space to host events that support their goals.

"I'm excited that it's happening. It's been a conversation for some time now... to know that it's actually moving forward is a pretty big thing," Tom Flunker, Director of the CEI, said.

Flunker hopes the renovated Dive space will be a more versatile space for students, and will provide more ways for students to connect with staff and faculty.

In addition to the renovation, the PCDEI team is working towards hiring an external evaluator to examine various aspects of the community, including human resources and the campus safety office, for areas of improvement.

"That work is happening in the background, but will ultimately have the most benefit in the long term," Erickson said. "Stuff is bubbling up at the grassroots level, and we (the Cabinet) are trying to bring that kind of energy and passion from the top down."

Flunker is also optimistic about the changes that will come from the external reviewer's findings.

"When you take into consideration all the things that are going on—not just on campus but the world—you can't just change a name or pursue getting better and not evaluate how you are doing things. It's very difficult to do that internally because you are in it. The fact that we are bringing in experts to review different processes

and procedures is a wise move because it shows intentionality on our part," Flunker said.

Flunker also acknowledges that there have been some setbacks and slowdowns to their work due to COVID changes.

"We have some incredible ingenuity on our campus, Flunker said. "We will find ways to do the work that we want to do, it just may look different. Actually, not may — it will look different."

As for the Counseling Center, they plan to continue to grow in their offering of support groups and services for BIPOC students. There is a BIPOC support group in the works, as well as existing services of Queer & Questioning, Let's Talk consultation times, triage services and traditional talk therapy. Those at the Counseling Center want to keep communicating that they are open to everyone.

"I'm really excited to be here and live in this community and see what kind of impact I can have, and the students can have on me too," Jackson said. "All students are welcome at the Counseling Center, so we look forward to meeting you all."

First-year class adjusts to COVID on The Hill

Emily VanGorder
Staff Writer

Gustavus's first-year class has had a lot to adjust to, from an abrupt end to their senior year to starting college while dealing with ramifications from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Collegiate Fellows (CFs) in first-year dorms have been noticing a change in the students they lead.

"[There is] a lot more stress and anxiety than in previous years...there's a heightened degree to it," Senior CF Catherine Lim said.

"Being in [Pittman] where there's almost a full building of people also doesn't help any of that stress or anxiety," Lim said.

Other CFs have echoed this sentiment.

"[The beginning of the year] has been weird... everyone seems to be in really good spirits considering what's going on. I asked [one of my residents] how she was feeling about things and she just said she felt kind of special, because [they're] the first group of people who's ever going to experience college like this," Sophomore CF Logan Harkness said.

"[They're] the first group of people who's ever going to experience college like this."

-Sophomore Logan Harkness

On Friday Sep. 18, Sohre and Pittman CFs are hosting a combined in-person event. For the event, they will be handing out pairs of gloves to students and groups of students will come in organized groups to participate in activities. Between the two groups, everything will be sanitized.

"I won't lie, I'm slightly nervous to see how it goes. We're trying to get the best of both worlds, but it's weird to juggle everything with a pandemic," Lim said.

Lim also spoke to how first-year orientation went this year. According to Lim, Andrea Junso, Director of Campus Activities, and the Gustie Greeters put in a lot of time and effort to ensure everyone was safe.

"I appreciate all their help because that makes our job as CFs a lot less stressful," Lim said.

Orientation planning this year was much different than it has been in the past. In mid-July, Junso met with Senior Director of Institutional Events, Barb Larson Taylor, to begin planning.

"[Taylor] came up with the idea for an orientation that was disseminated into orientation groups... we quite literally had exactly the number of classrooms that were capable of facilitating 44 orientation groups with 16 or less people," Junso said.



This year's Gustie Greeters line up outside of Norelius Hall to welcome the incoming first-year class.

Isabel St. Dennis

Due to COVID, certain events like tulip planting, the President's Banquet, the square dance and Dive dances were cut from the schedule or rearranged into virtual or smaller in-person events, which Junso said was the biggest disappointment.

Due to the online format of many orientation activities, keeping students engaged was difficult. To combat this, orientation groups used an app called GooseChase to facilitate scavenger hunts around campus in between scheduled events.

"My [first-years] still met people, and they have friends, so I think that's really good."

-Sophomore Logan Harkness

In order to meet the increased demand for flexibility, an app called Guidebook was used to provide a digital orientation schedule that could be updated at a moment's notice. Guidebook will continue to be used for orientations in the future as it provides a more sustainable model for students.

Despite best efforts, there were a few issues once orientation began. On Sunday, August 30, there was some dinnertime congestion, with a line going from the dining room to the chapel.

"[The line] was moving very quickly, [and] I have to be honest, they weren't doing a good job of distancing at that point, but that was really the biggest

hiccup we had," Junso said.

Due to the changes, CFs were less involved in orientation this year.

"It was kind of hard to balance out what our roles were with the Greeters and the first-years," Sophomore CF Yesenia Sanchez said.

Another difficulty was in sharing information.

"A lot of my [residents] had never been on the Gustavus website, and didn't know how to print... it was little things like that where they didn't get as much information as they normally would," Senior CF Alexis Fleming said.

Despite the challenges, Junso feels the Greeters this year have been great role models for the ROAR (respect others, act responsibly) program.

"I think they exceeded my expectations with their attitude... they were just really grateful to get here and create an engaging environment for the first-year students," Junso said.

This year's orientation changes and challenges provided information that may be used in planning future first-year orientations. While a busy orientation schedule sets the tone for college life, Junso feels it may need more flexibility and grace in the future.

"We want it structured so [students] have something to do, but then it stresses them out. So if we can loosen up the schedule a little bit so they're not as stressed, maybe they won't be as stressed going into the first couple weeks of school as well," Junso said.

Harkness hopes things will get easier for the first-years once more upper-classmen arrive on campus.

"I'm hoping that...the first-years can learn by watching other people instead of just... each other. I think it'll be a lot easier for them to understand the rules," Harkness said.

Overall, Fleming feels that the first-years have been doing well with following COVID rules.

"[They have been] very open to listening to us... While we've had to give gentle reminders that their normal experiences are going to change, they're still trying to make the most out of their first year at college and experience as much as they can," Fleming said. "Whether [first years] remember all those rules all the time is a different story, but a lot of people... want to be here," Fleming said.

"[Most students on campus have been] following along with [COVID] policy without having to be reminded, but there are a handful of students and people I see daily that I have to remind to put their masks on, to socially distance, to wash their hands. It's really dependent on all of us whether we get to stay here or if we get sent home, and I really worry about that handful that I have to keep reminding," Sanchez said.

"There's always going to be people who are just going to do whatever they want to do, and that's been really hard because... I want to be here, I want to be safe, I want my friends to be here, I want them to stay," Harkness said.

"[The vast majority of students on campus] have done a great job wearing masks... that's probably where we're succeeding the most," Sophomore CF Zoe Zarth said.

However, Zarth noted that

there are still issues, especially with social distancing.

"We give a lot of reminders to spread out, which is a little bit frustrating," Zarth said. "I think we could do better with [the sanitization kits]... we've given a lot of reminders just to wipe down before and after you use a space, but I don't see that happen very often," Zarth said.

Many CFs have concerns about the decreased socialization first-years are experiencing during this unusual time.

"Many new students feel like they can't really meet anyone, it's very isolating and restrictive," Lim said. "There are some people who are very concerned about COVID, and there are some who don't think COVID is a thing. It's hard to try to find a balance between meeting the needs of all students while keeping everyone safe," Lim said.

"Many new students feel like they can't really meet anyone, it's very isolating and restrictive."

-Senior Catherine Lim

"Their senior year was kind of blown up and now their first year is similar, but I think that the sooner we actually take action and listen to all of our policies, their year [will be] more normal, and I want that to happen for them.... we all really want to stay on campus. I think we just need to stress showing that more in our actions," Sanchez said.

GUSTIES *of the* WEEK

Regina Olono & Hiwot Sugebo



Junior Regina Olono is the president of a new student org called Ignite.

Submitted



Senior Hiwot Sugebo serves as Ignite's vice president.

Kristie Olson

Tori Smith Staff Writer

This week's Gusties of the Week celebrates two strong student leaders on campus. Junior Regina Olono and Senior Hiwot Sugebo are two Gusties who are highly involved in the community. Their most recent involvement is as president and vice president of Ignite, a non-partisan student org new to Gustavus this year. The org is designed to empower those who identify as women in politics.

Olono, the organization's president, is a Political Science major and Public Health minor. She is involved in Student Senate, Model UN, Students for Reproductive Freedom, A Moment of Magic, Organization for Latin American and Spanish Cultures (OLAS). She is currently working on the Dan Feehan for Congress campaign.

"I just thought it was perfect for me, personally, because I do want to run for office in the future," Olono said.

Olono's interest in politics began through her personal experiences as she grew up seeing racism, homophobia, and sexism all around her. This has changed the way she views politics today.

"[Politics is] more of a fighting-for-justice-for-everyone type of thing," Olono said.

Sugebo, vice president, is

an Environmental Studies and Peace Studies major with minors in both Public Health and Geography. During her time at Gustavus, Sugebo has been involved with the Pan-African Student Organization (PASO), Diversity Leadership Council (DLC), Model U.N. and Peer Assistants. She is currently serving as a Collegiate Fellow as well as co-president for Students for Reproductive Freedom.

"I have grown so much. I've had opportunities to learn and to expand not just my worldview but to see how we can expand a worldview from a community perspective as well," Sugebo said.

Sugebo uses her experiences from these activities in her current leadership roles. For her, being a politically involved international student has given her a unique perspective on politics.

"Being politically inclined is not necessarily encapsulated in just the U.S. two-party system. It's more than that. I definitely see and have experienced the intersections of different things and how politics is in everything," Sugebo said.

Olono and Sugebo are excited to be working on the executive board of Ignite. As female leaders, they understand the need for representation and support in male-dominated fields such as politics, business, and STEM.

"Many women don't go into these roles because they don't

believe they are qualified," Olono said.

Olono believes one way to help bridge this gap is to provide women with the support and encouragement they need in order to be successful.

Additionally, she feels that running for Class Representative for Student Senate helped give her an extra boost of confidence.

"I didn't even think about running until someone said, 'Regina, you'd be perfect,'" Olono said.

Without this extra boost, Olono believes she never would have received all the opportunities and experiences Student Senate has provided her. This is exactly what the leaders of Ignite are aiming to do for women

all across campus.

Providing women with empowerment and support is amazing, but Olono and Sugebo aren't stopping there.

"[My goal is] to use Ignite as a one-stop resource for education and knowledge, not only for political literacy and elections, but also for public speaking, professional writing, and networking," Sugebo said.

Olono's goal is for Ignite to be a resource for all women.

"We want to help women in any type of career whether it be politics, communications, STEM, etc. We want to help prepare everyone," Olono said.

Olono and Sugebo plan on holding professional development workshops, hosting public speakers, and much more.

Women-identifying individuals regardless of background, major, or interests are invited and encouraged to join Ignite. "We might not be able to do much as individuals, but collectively we can create a new network of empowerment that I think will take us to so many different places," Sugebo said.

Do you have a suggestion for a Gustavus student, professor, or staff member who could be our next Gustie of the Week?

If so, send their name, position on campus, and a short description of why you think they should be recognized to

weekly@gustavus.edu
for a chance to be featured!

A representative from the Gustavian Weekly will follow up with you via email if your suggestion is chosen to be featured in an issue of the paper.

Victoria DeVille hosts Drag Bingo Night

Campus Activities Board invites Minneapolis queen to campus



Victoria DeVille is a seasoned drag queen, performer and comedienne based in the Twin Cities.

Luke Yang

Samantha Raghu
Staff Writer

As Gusties persist through the hardships faced due to social distancing and limited interaction, Gustavus' Campus Activities Board (CAB) continues to strengthen community solidarity through socially-distanced, interactive events.

In collaboration with the Gustie Greeters, CAB arranged the Drag Bingo Night event on Sep. 11, 2020 hosted by Minneapolis-based drag performer Victoria DeVille.

Senior CAB Co-President Katie Ashpole illustrated the ways in which CAB meticulously planned the event in accordance with the COVID-19 guidelines.

"Originally it was going to be held in Eckman Mall. But because it was raining, we decided to move the event to Alumni Hall, where a maximum number of students can participate while being socially distanced," Ashpole said.

Ashpole explained that in order to ensure the safety of everyone that attends, the CAB crew measured the Alumni space, marking areas spaced six feet apart with an "X." Hand sanitizers were handed out to each participant, and each individual was required to wear a mask.

Junior CAB Concert Executive Luke Yang explained that

the event had a full house of 104 students, all of whom were ready to have fun.

Yang listed off various prizes that a handful of lucky winners walked away with, including spikeball sets, hydroflasks, a hammock and multiple different gift cards.

Not only was Drag Bingo an opportunity for a fun get-together, but it was also the first campus event that many first-year Gusties got to partake in.

First-year Emily Mullan provided more insight into how the event resonated with her.

"A lot of the jokes [DeVille] [made] and the atmosphere [in general] was very different from high school. It reminded me that this [college] is happening and that I am an adult," Mullan said.

Yang and Ashpole also elaborated on the incentive behind having a Drag Bingo event, which stems from wanting to host more events inclusive to LGBTQ+ members on campus.

"As CAB, we held a lot of events over the years, and we wanted to host more events that were inclusive to everyone on campus," Ashpole said.

Some of the most memorable moments from Drag Bingo came from the glamorous Victoria DeVille, who used versatility and humor to create an inclusive environment.

"What really stood out to me was how [DeVille] articulated herself. Some of the topics she discussed, you know how it's

important to support and vote for your queer brothers and sisters, definitely made everyone feel very welcome and at ease," Yang said.

"She was very relaxed and easy to go with the flow. She did a really good job at just making jokes," Ashpole said.

Ashpole also explained that DeVille was truly gifted in speaking authentically to her audience, rather than solely relying on scripted material.

Drag Bingo was a successful first example of how Gustavus is able to hold meaningful and fun events while adhering to COVID guidelines of social distancing.



Many first-year student experienced their first drag event at CAB's Drag Bingo Night on Sep. 11.

Luke Yang

Laura Schwichtenberg
Features Editor

Meet the Weekly!



Corinne Stremmel, '21
Editor-in-Chief
English & Communications majors
Scandinavian Studies minor

This summer...
I visited a wind farm
and got to go inside the
turbine.



Laura Schwichtenberg, '21
Features Editor
Psychology & Art History majors
Studio Art minor

This summer...
I took lots of walks
outside!



Anna Edblad, '22
News Editor
English & Psychology majors

This summer...
I spent time outdoors
with the people I love.



Leah Lind, '20
Web & Media Manager
Computer Science & Spanish majors

This summer...
I learned an embarrassing
number of Tik Tok dances.



Ben Wick, '21
Assistant Editor-in-Chief
English major

This summer...
I shot wedding and
senior portraits!



Weston Lombard, '21
Sports Editor
Public Accounting major

This summer...
I won the Wisconsin
town ball state
championship!



Hania Asim Imdad, '20
Copy Editor
Egnlsih major
Comparative Literature minor

This summer...
I spent some time
traveling with my
parents!



Alma Jorgenson, '21
Opinion Editor
Psychology & Geography majors

This summer...
I did a lot of reading
and gardening!



Cadence Paramore, '23
Photography Editor
English major
Political Science minor

This summer...
I illustrated a children's
book!



Emily Seppelt, '22
Copy Editor
Political Science & GWSS majors

This summer...
I hiked High
Cliff State Park
in Wisconsin!



Kyra Bowar, '21
Copy Editor
English & Communications majors

This summer...
I went hiking in the
Upper Peninsula of
Michigan.



Brett Hufendick, '21
Advertising & Marketing Manager
Financial Economics major

This summer...
I spent time at the lake
with family.



Marie Osuna, '21
Copy Editor
English & Psychology majors

This summer...
I spent a lot of time tending
to my deck garden! There's
nothing better than eating
fresh-picked strawberries
that you grew yourself!



Liam Carr, '21
Entertainment Editor
English & Classics majors

This summer...
I set a new personal record for
days in a row without going
outside (twenty-three).



Tyra Ericson, '21
Variety Editor
English major
Political Science minor

This summer...
my family adopted
a kitten!