

Crown Council Report
May 2012
Gustavus Library Associates National Advisory Board

Gustavus Library Associates History

Organized in 1977, Gustavus Library Associates (GLA) seeks to promote learning, literature, and the Folke Bernadotte Memorial Library. GLA was created specifically to strengthen the Library's holdings in the College's successful effort to earn Phi Beta Kappa status. Since that goal was achieved, GLA has gone on to build an endowment of more than \$2.5 million, and its annual membership gifts have been a reliable source of more than one-fifth of each year's library acquisitions budget. Additionally, GLA underwrites two important student ventures emphasizing the use of library resources and research. Given in alternate years, both of these awards are named in honor of the founder and first chair of GLA, Patricia Lindell.

“Gustavus Library Associates promotes learning, literature, and the Folke Bernadotte Memorial Library at Gustavus Adolphus College”

Recent Accomplishment

Gustavus Library Associates is proud to be concluding a three-year Strategic Plan and subsequent annual operating plans for the years 2010 – 2012. The four goals of the plan included 1) increasing awareness of GLA both within and outside the organization, 2) increasing the number and involvement of GLA members, 3) expanding GLA's financial resources and funding streams, and 4) building/strengthening GLA's organizational structure and capacity to carry out its mission and goals. Activities have ranged from enhancing our electronic communications, creating a campus-wide presence, initiating a rewards program for membership, detailing budgets with event planning, identifying new sources of earned income, and adjusting the current GLA Board structure and organizational documents. Many initiatives are ongoing and will continue to evolve in the years ahead.

Future

The primary efforts and energy of GLA will continue to be centered on promoting and supporting the Library. Several GLA-sponsored events are directed at library and literature lovers: Author Day events, Books in Bloom, and the Festival of St. Lucia. A special anniversary celebration/fund-raising event is in the planning stages for November 2013. A second edition of the Gustie Gourmet Cookbook will be published in the fall of 2013. Strategies for the next few years will involve using the latest electronic networking technology for communication; increasing awareness of and participation in GLA by students, staff, faculty, parents, and alumni; coordinating fund-raising efforts with the Office of Advancement; setting specific income and expense objectives for GLA events while increasing net income, and integrating GLA into the Crown Council structure.

Gustavus Library Associates National Advisory Board

We are looking forward to participating in the new National Advisory Board structure and the opportunity to communicate with other campus organizations within the Crown Council.

Members

The GLA National Advisory Board consists of our existing Executive Committee of twelve, plus three ad hoc GLA Board members, ensuring organizational consistency within our Board structure.

Currently, the GLA Board has approximately 40 active Board members and 30 Emeritae Board members, in addition to ex officio members Barbara Fister (College Librarian), Dana Lamb (Administrative Coordinator), and Dean Wahlund (Executive Director).

Summary of Discussion Topics

The GLA National Advisory Board met in March with Barbara Fister, College Librarian, to learn more about the specific needs of the Folke Bernadotte Memorial Library.

In brief, these needs include new study room spaces, the refurbishing of the lower level, new archives space, an expanded internship program, and resources for publication support. The library is also listed as a Tier 2 recommendation in Commission Gustavus 150 for building expansion. The NAB is determined to focus first on a project that would have the most impact on students. The library staff will be asked to price out what it would cost to fund new white boards, furniture, paint, computer-projector, screen, smart board, etc. to renovate a study room. The GLA Board will then determine if the project is feasible for GLA and how best to promote it as a "special project."

Please visit our website, www.gustavus.edu/gla for more information about GLA, to see a recent issue of our newsletter *Ex Libris*, and to learn more about Membership or Gifts of Celebration.

Submitted by:

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