1. Devotions
2. Vote on approving Steven Vandyk as senator
   a. Approved unanimously
3. Brief Budget Report from your “friendly” Senate Treasurer
4. Committee Reports
   a. Committee on Learning Programs and Outcomes (Darren Kornelis)
      i. Nothing new to report
   b. Committee on Teaching and Learning in Community (James Zwier)
      i. Met about three weeks ago and went over some ATS standards
      ii. Meeting again today to go over more standards
   c. Committee on Purpose, Governance, and Resources (Paul Vandyk)
      i. Nothing new to report
      ii. Christa will e-mail Antoine to see if he is willing to take over this committee
   d. Assessment/Self-Study Committee (Maarten Kuivenhoven)
      i. Ben read the following report from Maarten
      ii. The Self Study Committee is a busy group of people! The committee is basically divided into three major sub-groups and each sub-group is further divided into smaller units. The small units are responsible for the work of ensuring that ATS standards are met. There are standards that affect the entire operation of the seminary. Each standard is put together with evidence from the existing practices and operations of the seminary along with suggestions for betterment in specific areas or no suggestions if those areas of the seminary are operating effectively according to ATS standards. As these reports are put together, they are passed through the “filters” of the three major sub-groups and then passed through the final “filter” of the Self-Study Committee. When these reports receive final approval, Dr. Williams will put all these reports into a narrative form in preparation for the site visit by ATS. So far, work is progressing well. I am currently working on the standard that deals with Admissions and Recruitment. It is amazing to see how the Lord has brought together a team of people to make this work and to make the seminary work more effectively for the building of Christ's kingdom.
   e. Distance Learning Committee (Janet Ryzebol, Student Assistant)
      i. No report
   f. Vocational Formation Committee (Hannah Ryou, Israel Alvarado)
      i. No report
   g. Enrollment Management Task Force (Robert Van Zanen)
      i. Robert contacted them and there is a meeting next week
   h. Student Appeals Committee (Ben Verkerk, Laura de Jong)
      i. Nothing new to report
i. Hekman Library Committee (Nathan Gamble)
   i. No report
j. Fellowship Committee (Tim McHugh, Christa Schout)
   i. Christmas Around the World tonight
   ii. Medenblik stick is the third week of February
k. Communications Committee (Robert Van Zanen, Tim McHugh, Christa Schout)
   i. Medenblik stick will be promoted in January
   ii. A note will be in e-news next week to remind students about Medenblick stick so that they can bring back skates/sticks/etc.
l. Town Hall Committee (Ben Verkerk)
   i. There are open spots for next semester if Senators would like to suggest something or if we have heard from others in the community about what they might be interested in
m. Ad-Hoc Hospitality Committee (James Zwier, Robert Van Zanen, Darren Kornelis)
   i. Friends around the World surveys are back, this will start up next semester
   i. Requested that someone from this committee write for the Kerux
   ii. Positive feedback on the name change
o. Ad-Hoc Committee on Race (Doug Chu)
   i. No Report
   ii. Ben will help Doug with this committee to get the ball rolling

5. Progress Report on Stromata (Isaias)
   a. There is now a Stromata website (calvinseminary.edu/stromata). Isaias is thankful for Tom's help in this regard.
   b. There is now a Stromata e-mail (stromata@calvinseminary.edu)
   c. Stromata’s missing digital files from 2013-2014 have been found! Praise the Lord for this rediscovery
   d. Stromata’s missing digital files from 2015-2016 have been sent to the IT office and now they are posted online.
   e. Stromata issues missing from the library will be reprinted and added to the library.
   f. Christianne has been appointed as copy-editor and is working hard proofreading and copy-editing. She is a valuable asset in Stromata
   g. Stromata winter issue had 5 proofs. The issue will hopefully be printed and distributed by next week
h. There have been several positive changes in the Stromata this year, including formatting changes and more diversity in authors

i. Isaias stressed that the Stromata is the responsibility of the whole community, so he hopes to see more support for Stromata from PhD and ThM students.

j. Kerux and Stromata have been discussing the idea of a combined editorial team in order to support each other. Currently they are analyzing pros and cons of that action.

k. Isaias reported that Stromata is in process of being granted a ISSN number from the Library of Congress for a better cataloging process.

l. Isaias reported that other seminaries libraries are interested in having printed copies of Stromata available.

m. Recommendations for the future
   i. One issue of Stromata each year, containing more pages and content rather than two smaller issues
   ii. A Spring 2017 Town Hall where students may hear about Stromata
   iii. For student senate to designate a small space in the Student Center where past editions of Stromata and Kerux can be stored

n. Motion to have a Town Hall during Spring 2017 dedicated to Stromata where Senate covers the cost of the pizza, seconded, passed unanimously

o. Faculty was made aware of the requests for submissions to Stromata

p. Ben will work with Isaias to display the Stromata

6. Kerux Report
   a. The fall issue of Kerux has been printed and distributed
   b. There are currently three Kerux websites, Ricardo is planning to connect with IT to remedy this
   c. Kerux is currently well ahead of schedule for the second publication
   d. Isaias commented that some students feel like they are not able to take issues of the Kerux, so awareness should be created about this

7. Report about Coffee
   a. Jim Lakin contacted the company and they will send us samples to try

8. Book Sale Report
   a. The sale went well, we should attempt to do some more informal sales next year
   b. Discussion about book prices. It's a challenge to price the books uniformly because there is such a wide variety of books.

9. Discussion on reaching out to students with new children
   a. The Dean of Students office does support
b. Motioned that at every student senate meeting we discuss if there are any community needs that a card would be supportive and sign them on the spot, seconded, passed unanimously

10. Other Business

a. Apparel #semswag
   i. Laura, Carolyn, and Barb are meeting with a representative from SportingU in order to craft a website where we can sell #semswag

b. Panel
   i. Based on discussions from students, Professor Feenstra will address at Faculty Senate the concern that professors will throw out a blanket statement on controversial issues and then not provide a safe space for discussion
   ii. Professor Feenstra requested that student senate submit a request for panels to discuss certain controversial issues and discuss both sides of the issue in an open way
   iii. It’s requested that Senate think through this so we can discuss it at our next senate meeting.
   iv. Laura, Darren, Ben, and Isaias will form a subcommittee to present ideas to senate at the next meeting. Laura will head this committee and any senators not present who are interested in joining can contact Laura.

c. Discussion on the Seminary being closed on Sundays
   i. Many students are preaching on Sunday and this is not the day they practice Sabbath.
   ii. A problem arises when the Seminary printer is the only one available to students and they cannot print for sermons on Sunday.
   iii. This should be discussed with Dean of Students and other offices before we make a formal recommendation, because there is likely a history and more factors that we are not considering.
   iv. Darren will explore this with Dean of Students and whoever else they recommend and present to Student Senate next meeting

d. Posting Student Senate meetings online
   i. We need to remove the 2015 minutes and Christa will continue exploring how to post the new minutes online.
   ii. Christa will look into requiring a seminary e-mail and password to view the minutes

11. Christmas Around the World