

Special Interest Council of Grand Valley State University
POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Name and Purpose

- Section 1.** The name of this organization shall be the Special Interest Council of Grand Valley State University and shall hereafter be referred to as such.
- Section 2.** The Purpose of Special Interest Council shall be:
- A. To serve as the unifying body of all GVSU registered Special Interest Organizations;
 - B. To unify the community of Grand Valley State University through improving communication, promoting cooperation, increasing understanding, and strengthening support among the member organizations;
 - C. To serve as a vehicle for communication with the University administration, campus community, and general public regarding issues of common interest or concern;
 - D. To fund and provide a variety of programming to promote the betterment of the entire campus community.

Membership

- Section 1.** To be eligible for voting membership in the Special Interest Council, an organization must be registered and approved by the Student Organization Review Board (SORB) as Special Interest.
- Section 2.** Organizations not recognized as Special Interest may participate but will be non-voting members.
- Section 3.** Membership will not be restricted due to age, color, disability, familial status, height, marital status, national origin, political affiliation, race, religion, sex/gender, sexual orientation, veteran status, or weight.
- Section 4.** A staff representative appointed by the Director of Student Life shall serve as Chair of the Special Interest Council. The Chair shall ensure that meeting minutes are recorded and posted on the Special Interest Council website within three business days of the Council meeting.

Council Purpose

- Section 1.** The purpose of Council shall be to continue communication between all member organizations and councils and to vote on funding of various petitioned programs (as outlined in the **Finance Policy**). Special Interest Council shall also serve to assist member organizations in areas of unity, programming, service, and public relations.

- Section 2.** The Special Interest Council shall meet the first full month during the academic year. From then on, the Special Interest Council shall meet at least once a month. Notice of meeting times and locations will be sent to the officers and advisors of record through the STUEY student organization registration and messaging system. This information will also be posted to the www.gvsu.edu/studentlife Web site.
- Section 3.** If any member organization is not represented at two or more Council meetings, unless they have been **previously** excused by the Chair, will lose their voting rights and potential funding privileges (as outlined in the **Finance Policy**) for the remainder of the semester, or a time limit decided upon by the Special Interest Funding Board.
- Section 4.** A representative of member organizations must be in attendance for the duration of the meeting or the organization will be marked as absent, unless the representative has been previously excused by the Chair at least 24 hours in advance.
- Section 5.** Quorum for Council meetings shall be defined as fifty percent plus one of the voting member organizations.

Voting

- Section 1.** Each member organization shall have one vote.
- Section 2.** A majority vote, that is, a majority of the votes cast, ignoring blanks and abstentions, is sufficient for the adoption of any motion that in order.