

Grand Valley State University Student Senate

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Thursday, November 16th, 2023

Kirkhof 2204, 4:30pm

Chair: Quinten Proctor

Parliamentarian: Magdalyn Hallead



Agenda

1. **Call To Order at 4:32 PM**

- a. Roll Call - Part 1
- b. Public Comment - Part 1
 - i. Student from the Gallery: Hi, I am Andrew. You are ready to cross but you don't know when. We have all had to cross the street. Pedestrian crossing safety is important. Why this is important, there are 22,000 students that we don't want to see get hurt. Now let's talk about a solution, we have all seen the crossing guards. We could add more crossing guards and post announcements about people staying off their phones. Today you have learned pedestrian safety is important and let's work together and thank you.
- c. Passing of the Papers
- d. Adoption of the Agenda
 - i. Stang moves to adopt the agenda
 - ii. 22 yays, 0 nays, 0 abstentions
- e. Approval of the Minutes

2. **President's Report**

- a. Few reminders, it's a privilege to sit on senate and we are held to higher standards, please CC your VP and cabinet must be aware of these meetings. If you have meetings please show up to meetings with staff, if you miss these, that is a bad reflection of Student Senate. Additionally, please stay actively engaged in meetings and we don't meet with people just because. If you aren't paying attention, it affects your personal reputation and Student Senate's. Now that the end of the semester is coming up, you will soon be receiving your stipends. In the form I will send out, you will explain why you deserve your stipend. It will be 200 dollars and it will be an all or nothing ideal.
- b. Guzman: Paperwork needs to be completed by December 8th, if you already work on campus, you won't have to do additional paperwork. If you don't work on campus, you would go to student services and they will help you. If you can do that by the 8th that will be great.
- c. Proctor: If you don't fill out by the 8th you will not get your stipend. Applications have opened if you know anyone who would be a good candidate please tell them to apply.

3. **Executive Vice President's Report**

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- a. Headshots are still 4-5pm, please look nice. If you missed your 2-on-1, please reschedule. Cabinet will be attending VSAB tomorrow to discuss restructuring with students. Please fill out the Climate Survey. It's part of your stipend. Fill out the Holiday Party Awards form as well.
4. **Workshop**
- a. Representation
 - i. Proctor: This stayed the same as last meeting. Cabinet did decide the direct election of the Student Body President. You will have to sit for 15 weeks on the senate to run, Presidential candidates will have to have a lot more signatures. The expectation is that the candidates want to serve in this role. The VP election will be a slate, the parliamentarian will be interviewed by the President and the VP to make sure that the Executive Branch is on the same page. The parliamentarian cannot serve as the chair of the Judiciary Branch for elections. The rest of the cabinet will be elected by the Student Senate. So with that, I will entertain a motion to advance this to the Restructuring Omnibus.
 - ii. Bennett: Motion to advance to the Restructuring Omnibus Bill.
 - iii. Hallead: Second
 - iv. 21 yays, 0 nays, 1 abstentions
 - b. Division of Labor
 - i. Hallead: We went over everything already, this is a review. Cabinet will contain the Executive Branch, Allocations, Public Relations, DEI, Policy, and Events. President is external, the VP is the bridge, and the Parliamentarian is internal.
 - ii. Bashore: Motion to advance to the Restructuring Omnibus Bill.
 - iii. Maiuri: Second
 - iv. 21 yays, 0 nays, 1 abstentions
 - c. Image
 - i. Proctor: Student Senate will continue to use Instagram, Bulletin Boards, and things we already use.
 - ii. Hallead: Motion to advance to the Restructuring Omnibus Bill.
 - iii. Gessler: Second
 - iv. 21 yays, 0 nays, 1 abstentions
 - d. Calendar

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- i. Proctor: General Assembly will begin at 4:30 PM on Thursdays. Cabinet will decide when and where, but at least one must be located at Pew campus and one located at Allendale campus. We will give an extra week to iron all of this out.
 - ii. TerHorst: Pew is a 20-30 minute commute, how would I get there?
 - iii. Proctor: This will not be in effect until next year and if we were to do this next semester, it will be at 5:00 PM.
 - iv. Martinez: I like this. You get to go to Grand Rapids and have a chance to see places when you are stuck down in Allendale.
 - v. Stang: Has it always been the same time, is there potential to move this?
 - vi. Proctor: It has been at 4:30pm and we could change it if we wanted to.
 - vii. Hallead: When you sign up, you agree that you have your Thursday nights free.
 - viii. Vanlerberghe: Motion to advance to the Restructuring Omnibus Bill.
 - ix. Hallead: Second
 - x. 21 yays, 1 nays, 1 abstentions
- e. Professionalism
- i. Hallead: We took a lot of what we already had. Need to be elected or appointed, 2.25 GPA minimum, cabinet is a 2.5, attend the meetings, be a student at GVSU.
 - ii. Gessler: I think this is pretty good.
 - iii. Bashore: I like the idea of keeping it broad, you are making it more accessible.
 - iv. Bennett: Why 2.25 or 2.5?
 - v. Rienas: Let's say if a GPA drops below this, do they get kicked off?
 - vi. Proctor: You would be off but if you bring it back up you can come back on.
 - vii. Hallead: Next is absence policy, they are determined by the Judiciary Committee, same with our committee meetings. Chairs will be in charge of recording those.
 - viii. Proctor: It's pretty much the same, instead of SRC its the Judiciary Committee
 - ix. Hallead: University committees, senators will be required to complete assignments that you VP assigns you and if you don't do them you will be warned and Conduct Review will be in extraneous circumstances.
 - x. Proctor: Instead of office hours, this is what we are doing instead.
 - xi. Hallead: We took the current conduct policy and we are editing it for what a future body would need.
 - xii. Palumbo: Are the results revealed at GA or confidential?

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- xiii. Hallead: Revealed at GA. It will be the same.
- xiv. Johnson IV: In regards to the misconduct, where is this held? Will it be archived?
- xv. Hallead: The record is in the minutes as it is revealed in GA.
- f. Shared Governance
 - i. Proctor: Does anyone know what Shared Governance is and why it's important? Shared Governance is how students, faculty, and staff all participate in the development of policies and in the decision-making processes that affect the institution. It addresses the overall quality of academics at the university level and the related components that affect life at the university. Shared Governance allows University to more directly receive input and feedback on what is best for the campus community. It is how we communicate, collaborate, and connect about the things that are important to overall university life/
Examples:
 - 1. Student Senate passes legislation as the voice of the students.
 - 2. Senators communicate with stakeholders about issues on campus, and potential solutions to them.
 - 3. Faculty governance which includes the University Academic Senate (UAS), this is similar to the General Assembly of Student Senate, as well as the Executive Committee of the Senate (ECS), which is similar to the Cabinet of Student Senate. I am a voting member of both UAS and ECS, serving as the voice of the students in faculty governance.
 - ii. Proctor: Hallead and I also attend President's Council to serve as the voice of students for President Mantella's Reach Higher 2025 initiative. We also attend Board of Trustees meetings as requested. There are a few executive responsibilities, the president and vice president will attend UAS/ECS, attend President's Council and Board of Trustees meetings as requested. University Committee requirements will be at the discretion of each year's Cabinet. It has been somewhat difficult to get Senators on University Committees in a timely manner, so we wanted to allow the future to make decisions that work for them, although we encourage participation in University Committees. We would move University Committees to the Vice President, it's a lot of administrative work that we can balance with an expanded Executive Branch. I will work with Dr. Felix Ngassa and Lisa Surman to see if we can streamline the process in the future. The legislative process will look largely the same, but the Judiciary Committee will check for grammar and formatting, but not content, to free up some time for Cabinet.
 - iii. Johnson IV: What is the main intent for feedback from General Assembly?

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- iv. Proctor: For the first presentation, Senators can bring suggestions that may improve the legislation. This creates more buy-in and improves the quality of legislation, making it more likely to be passed and implemented. Legislation can be voted on at the second GA it is presented at, following discussions on any updates. There aren't too many changes to amending the Constitution. We shortened the process to only need to be presented at two GAs rather than three. There wasn't much to discuss the third time for my amendment last year. I am going to add that it has to be a $\frac{2}{3}$ majority vote of senators to pass a Constitutional amendment. The rest of the governing docs, including the bylaws and policies and procedures can be amended or suspended by a $\frac{2}{3}$ majority of GA. We are also proposing that Cabinet can temporarily suspend sections, or all of these governing documents by a unanimous vote. This would have to be voted on at the next GA. This is in case we run into barriers that need to be immediately addressed, like we faced at the end of last April. This will be tabled until the next GA, before we advance it to the omnibus.
- g. Miscellaneous
 - i. Hallead: For awards, this will be the same as it currently is.
 - ii. Proctor: We will start this process very soon, but Student Senate does vote to give an award to a faculty member. I will be sending you guys a nomination form, if you see any faculty that may deserve it. They will be invited to the President's Ball, they will be one of our last lecture presenters.
 - iii. Hallead: The criteria for President Emeritus is 3 years on senate, 6 academic semesters, 1 in a cabinet role, 3.5 GPA or higher, and serve as President. This goes to very few individuals and is very prestigious.
 - iv. Bates: Why such a high GPA requirement?
 - v. Hallead: It's to set a high standard.
 - vi. Martinez: Would it be possible to change the GPA to a 3.0 rather than a 3.5. I feel that if someone does all of this, it might be hard to keep a GPA up if you are this busy.
 - vii. Johnson IV: How do you evaluate merit if those aren't met, how can we say someone is valid in their role but they dont get an award.
 - viii. Proctor: I think it was supposed to be by design.
 - ix. Bates: You could be a great president and not be good academically.
 - x. Proctor: This will be tabled for the next meeting as we will vote at our next meeting.

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5. **Five Minute Recess at 5:22 PM**

6. **Business**

a. **Conduct Review Proceedings**

- i. Proctor: For this I am going to hand it over to EVP Hallead.
- ii. Hallead: November 5th, we held a Conduct Review Proceeding. Yash Hazari was conduct reviewed, we need to vote to approve the results, due to precedent. I am going to read the charges: Breach of the Fall 2023 Code of Conduct, Breach of the Constitution or Bylaws, Violation of the Senate Resources Policies and Procedures, or previous sanctions as set forth by the Conduct Review Board or the Senate Resources Committee, Committing actions unbecoming of your office, Misconduct, including: Office misconduct, Inappropriate behavior at Senate-related events, Defamatory acts towards the Student Senate. The board unanimously voted to remove him from Student Senate indefinitely.
- iii. TerHorst: Who is this?
- iv. Hallead: Yash Hazari, we are going to go into a vote. Approval of Removal of Yash Hazari from Student Senate indefinitely.
- v. 22 yays, 0 nays, 1 abstentions

7. **Pertinent Updates**

- a. Martell: PRC will be designing senate apparel and we will be sending out an interest form and see a style and color. That will be going out tomorrow.
- b. Johnson IV: In regards to the apparel, when will be the actual order and when is the deadline for interest form?
- c. Martell: We will talk about this in our committee meeting. I will have to update you guys because I'm not exactly sure yet.
- d. Hallead: If you are interested at all in any VP position, please let me know. For SRC news, please fill out the forms I mentioned earlier.

8. **University Committee Reports**

- a. Bashore: I got to meet with GVSU sustainability, they are very excited to work with us. We are doing a lot to help with climate. Please talk to me if you are interested.
- b. Dolnik: I met with the parking, possibly partnering with senate to make a video to promote riding the bus. They don't think that students want to hear from the faculty.

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- c. Rienas: I met with the Counseling Center, they want to partner with us to help for their mental health screening day. I also met with Laker Food Co. to make a kosher meal plan. If you are interested in working with me on this, let me know!
 - d. DeVries: Why hasn't the food committee done this sooner? I am sure we have had Jewish students forever!
 - e. Rienas: It's very expensive and we don't have the numbers to do that.
 - f. Proctor: As a part of Student Senate, we are here to advocate for students with all dietary needs.
 - g. Bashore: I also met with housing. One thing I didn't know, there is something called the GVSU Master Plan and what GV is architecturally doing in the coming years and what we will be doing in the next 10 years.
 - h. Proctor: I met with VP Stacy Behler, she does a lot of communications. She's President Mantella's VP. I met with Jesse Bernal, EVP covered most of this. I also met with him. It was more of an introductory meeting and I will be continuing to meet with them.
9. **Adjournment at 5:41pm**
- a. Public Comment - Part 2
 - b. Roll Call - Part 2
 - c. Call for Announcements