

Grand Valley State University Student Senate

General Assembly
Thursday, March 23rd, 2023
Pere Marquette Room
Chair: Justin Frappier
Parliamentarian: Mallory Everly



“Student Senate will cultivate a student body that is engaged, healthy, and empowered.”

I. Call Meeting to Order: 4:30pm

- a. Moment of Silence
 - i. Native Land Recognition
- b. Pledge of Allegiance
- c. Roll Call - Part I

II. Public Comment – Part I

III. Guest Speaker: Workshop/The Johnson Center

- a. Schmidt: motion to suspend Robert’s Rules until 5:30pm
 - i. Everly- 2nd
 - ii. Schmidt: moves to carry without objection
 - iii. Passes
 - iv. Senate votes to suspend Robert’s Rules until 5:30pm
- b. Mandy: applauds everyone for their hard work so far, especially CTF. This is her last time with the Senate. On Sunday CTF will finalize changes and bring them to the floor next Thursday for a vote.
- c. Frappier: since this is her last time with them make sure you ask her any questions while she is here. Please take time looking at suggested changes from CTF and comment on those.
- d. Mandy: asks everyone to layer onto the proposed changes.
- e. Article I comments
 - i. Schmidt: as chairman of the elections commission, he has a lot of experience with these documents. Starting from scratch is not fun so thinks they should have a system to streamline the process but does not know if requiring a specific process in the governing documents is the best thing. Their transitions report allows for a streamlined process but not codified in the bylaws allows for wiggle room.
 - ii. Biermacher: thinks the section that the election petitions should be voted on by the general assembly should be removed because of conflict of interest because the majority of people voting would be on the petition. Should be trusted to people in positions such as elections commission because it is not a good use of the GA’s time.
 - iii. Schmidt: agrees on that section, but was looking more broadly.
 - iv. Bucon: if there were some big circumstance to happen that changes things like COVID did, it is good for the elections commission to have flexibility
 - v. Schmidt: Entire elections commission should be required to be voted on by the cabinet, not just the chair.

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- vi. Bucon: Article 1, section 1.1- states that voting should be during registration and scheduling dates, which are March 20-April 4 and elections usually happen the second week. Should they change the wording and are they not abiding by that?
 - vii. Schmidt: in his view they are abiding by it because it is so vague and they are still doing it during registration. Agrees that it is confusing and should be changed to just say in the spring.
 - viii. Schmidt: thinks the elections commission should chair the entirety of the meetings instead of the president and EVP for the first half of the first meeting. This would get rid of the weird transition.
 - f. Article II Comments
 - i. Schmidt: should be specified that they use the most current form of Robert's Rules
 - ii. Biermacher: frivolous and harassment are super vague. Thinks it really depends on the chair on what those words mean.
 - (1) Schmidt: there are definitions of those words
 - (2) Frappier: thought about this but they couldn't think of how to change it. If you have suggestions please share.
 - (3) Schmidt: maybe you should say as defined
 - (4) Frappier: wondering why they chose those words
 - (5) Schmidt: gives definitions
 - (a) Flickinger: michigan legislation definition
 - (6) Bucon: thinks harassment should be left in there after hearing the definition and thinks frivolous goes hand in hand
 - g. Article III comments
 - i. Frappier: the big thing for article 3 is they want to merge legislation and bills sections and make one big section
 - ii. Flickinger: have they made language or are they just suggesting merging
 - (1) Frappier: they plan on just merging them and will bring the proposed change to the next meeting
 - h. Article IV Comments
 - i. Frappier: changing office operations to executive office
 - i. Article 5 Comments
 - i. Frappier: they might move cabinet to policies and procedures, but it might come next year
 - j. Article 6 Comments

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- i. Bucon: something they thought about for speaking on behalf of the student senate, they should strike the sentence at the bottom saying they cannot speak on behalf of the student senate, only as an individual. Thinks it is implied.
 - ii. Mandy: thinks it wouldn't be a bylaw, could go in media relations policy
 - iii. Biermacher: thinks it needs to be in writing somewhere. Thinks it is a little bit rash to assume what people know. Agrees that it is more of a policy.
 - iv. Flickinger: thinks it is implied through "President and PRC VP are the only ones allowed to speak on behalf of senate"
 - v. Schmidt: also thinks it is implied
 - k. Article XV Notes
 - l. Frappier: left subcommittees they way it is, in case they are invigorated and a body can handle that pressure they think it should be there. He has seen them work.
 - m. Article XVIII Notes
 - i. Schmidt: really likes the changes
 - ii. Biermacher: echoes that
 - iii. Flickinger: if they move it to SRC policies and procedures where would it go?
 - iv. Frappier: one thing Schmidt suggested is maybe they don't make any of the big moves this year. Especially if they move it to the constitution because it is a longer process. They will make changes but not move anything and leave suggestions on what they should move for next year's body.
 - v. Frappier: does a straphole to see who is in support of leaving the conduct review procedures and other sections where they are now to be moved in the future or not. Yay (in support)-16 nay- 1
 - vi. Bates: can accused party call witnesses?
 - (1) Frappier: no
 - (2) Bates: personally thinks that should be allowed
 - (3) Frappier: him and Everly also talked about that
 - (4) Hahs: agrees with bates
 - (5) Quist: agrees
 - (6) Schmidt: are they allowing for questioning and cross-examination?
 - (7) Frappier: not currently
 - (8) Schmidt: Would like them to be able to question the witnesses.
 - (9) Frappier: will propose that on Sunday to CTF
 - n. Article XIX Comments
 - i. Hahs: really likes the changes made

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- ii. Schmidt: agrees
- o. Frappier: Use your office hours if you have any other comments. Thanks Mandy for her time.
- p. Mandy: will miss working with everyone. Congrats on all the work you have done. You are all working harder than most governing boards do on their documents. Commends you on all the hard work you are putting into tweaking these documents.

IV. Five (5) Minutes to Pass the Papers

- a. Kuiper: EAC will need people to sign up for exam cram. They will set up a table in the library with pizza and snacks during exam week.
 - i. Frappier: the university will also be doing exam cram events
 - ii. Haas: noting that this body will be dissolved by exams, it is still expected that if you sign up you will show up.

V. Executive Vice President's Report

- a. Adoption of the Agenda
 - i. Biermacher: motion to add item e under new business titled discussion of the composition of the cultural funding board
 - (1) Schmidt- 2nd
 - (2) 17 yays
 - (3) Passes
 - (4) Senate votes to add item e under new business titled discussion of the composition of the cultural funding board
 - ii. Johnson: Motion to strike officer reports
 - (1) Flickinger- 2nd
 - (2) 5 yays, 10 nays, 1 abstention
 - (3) Fails
- b. Approval of the Minutes
 - i. Stand approved
- c. Only have one more meeting on 3/30
- d. This is VP Schmidt's last GA which is sad, and appreciates his work on senate over the past two years.
- e. Will have an alumni board on 4/6, which will be the last meeting of this body and the first meeting of the next body will take place after.
- f. See GA schedule in the drive for changes and dates for the end of the semester
- g. Cabinet met with the president's cabinet twice last week. Once for a book talk and at the second meeting they discussed the main issues on campus which can be categorized into:

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mental health, academics, campus safety, and social justice. Had really great discussions, reach out with any questions. Keep those issues in mind if you plan to run next year.

- h. Cabinet will have their last meeting next week on 3/30 unless there is an emergency
- i. Faith is currently in Indiana out of office for the weekend. He will also be out of office this weekend until CTF on Sunday.
- j. Working with Kidd to wrap up projects and give a smooth transition for the next body.
- k. End of year party is on 4/13, offsite, food will be provided, and paper plate awards will be given. Last time to spend time as a group.
- l. Those interested in cabinet positions, keep in mind the transitions dinner which will be 4/20
- m. DerPilbosien: is there a location for end of year party
 - i. Frappier: not yet, will also get back with a time

VI. Unfinished Business

- a. Elections Commission
 - i. Schmidt: no updates at this time
 - ii. Bucon: met with the Lanthorn graphic designer to finalize the elections packet, they have been so helpful and great to work with.
 - iii. Biermacher: Bucon is not giving herself enough credit, she has also done an excellent job.
- b. Nominations and Elections for Vice President of Campus Affairs
 - i. Frappier: seeing none, he will continue to run as interim VP
- c. Constitutional Amendment Regarding Elections
 - i. Hahs: Proctor has added an expiration date, so this amendment will be in effect for this election and the next but not after that.
 - ii. Schmidt: supports this as amended. What are the chances of this being enacted before the new body is together?
 - (1) Frappier: good chance
 - iii. Schmidt: moves to approve this amendment as amended
 - (1) Everly- 2nd
 - (2) Schmidt: requests a roll call vote
 - (3) 16 yays, 1 abstention
 - (4) Passes
 - (5) Senate votes to approve this amendment as amended
 - iv. Frappier: will move this up to the university president to be approved

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- d. Legislative Review: Stipends
 - i. Schmidt: yields for questions
 - ii. Hallead: What year will this go into effect and why?
 - (1) Schmidt: this will be in effect for not the next body but the body after that, the 2025-2026 body, because these things take time and there is a process to make this transition.
 - (2) Frappier: the student wages task force is finally getting started and this will be a discussion there
 - iii. Bucon: 2025-2026 will be three years from now,
 - iv. Schmidt: made a mistake, it will be for the 2024-2025 body. Not next body but body after that.
 - v. Hahs: in full support
 - vi. Biermacher: motion to pass this bill, charged to President Philomena Mantella and CFO Greg Sanial
 - (1) Flickinger- 2nd
 - (2) 16 yays, 1 abstention
 - (3) Passes
 - (4) Senate votes to pass this bill, charged to President Philomena Mantella and CFO Greg Sanial
- e. Legislative Review: Interfaith Rooms
 - i. Quist: yields for questions
 - ii. Hahs: who will this be charged to?
 - (1) Frappier: VP Jenny Hall-Jones in Student affairs
 - iii. Biermacher: motion to approve this bill to be charged to VP of Student Affairs, Jenny Hall-Jones
 - (1) Haas- 2nd
 - (2) 14 yays, 1 nay, 2 abstentions
 - (3) Passes
 - (4) Senate votes to approve this bill to be charged to VP of Student Affairs, Jenny Hall-Jones

VII. Five Minute Recess

- a. Frappier: there are individuals who voted who missed role cole which makes their vote invalid
- b. Schmidt: call for roll
 - i. Everly: takes roll call

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- c. Schmidt: move to reconsider and pass the Constitutional amendment, Stipend legislation, and Interfaith Room legislation as a package
 - i. Johnson- 2nd
 - ii. Frappier: suggests an amendment to say charged to respective parties
 - (1) Schmidt: accepts
 - iii. 16 yays, 1 nay
 - iv. All of those pass
 - v. Senate votes to reconsider and pass the Constitutional amendment, Stipend legislation, and Interfaith Room legislation as a package charged to respective parties

VIII. New Business

- a. Legislative Review: Collective Liability
 - i. Schmidt: Schrader received an email from his living director threatening charges for things that he was not responsible for, such as leaving trash in hallways and leaving rocks in doors. This bill aims to take housing's ability to do that out of the housing contract. They can hold everybody in the building accountable unless you present evidence leading to the responsible party being liable. If you do not know who did it then you and everyone else will have to pay. They are not a prison or military so they do not operate like that, you should be held accountable for your own actions.
 - ii. Schrader: Another thing to think about is that some students may not be able to afford that charge. They shouldn't be charged with having to police the dorms or afraid that they might be held accountable for something they did not do.
 - iii. Frappier: regardless of the scenario, damages are going to happen. This is the way housing pays for damages. If we are to remove this there is a chance that your cost of housing may be raised in order to counteract this.
 - iv. Hoogwerf: has heard from various RAs that the charges brought to students is not a financial burden, it is usually less than a dollar and is added to your student account. If you get rid of this there will be issues with having damages in dorms that cannot get fixed, which is worrying.
 - (1) Schmidt: shows the cost that was sent in an email, \$25-50 per bag of trash in the hallways which can add up to a significant amount of money.
 - (2) Hoogwerf: is the \$25-50 spread out among residents?
 - (a) Schrader: It is individual, there is a minimum and maximum that they can give out, but the housing director did not clarify those numbers.
 - v. Bucon: thanks them for paying close attention to this. Thinking about how housing can do this all the time to students is crazy.

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- vi. Hallead: would like to be shown where it says that it is \$25-50 per person and not spread out
- (1) Frappier: our advisor was also curious about this
 - (2) Schrader: they were told by their RAs that it would be per person but it is not in the email
 - (3) Hallead: would like that in writing going forward in this legislation
- vii. DerPilbosien: thanks VP Schmidt and Senator Scharder for their hard work. Thinks relieving some of these burdens and costs will help students be able to afford other things. If there is a way someone in the future could come up with a piece of legislation to toughen up the asks on students trying to disrupt the flow of dorms, that would be good.
- viii. Hahs: do we know particular information on how much in fines are given out each year?
- (1) Schrader: he could find out
 - (2) Schmidt: Schrader has an ongoing meeting with Dr. Boone, who is the head of housing.
 - (3) Frappier: Hahs is also meeting with Dr. Boone tomorrow
- ix. Johnson: supports this bill. Has heard horror stories about people being charged fees. GV already gets a large amount of money from housing, and they should not threaten to raise rates.
- (1) Frappier; nobody threatened, but it was brought up as a possibility
- x. Roubos: with zero penalties what is the motivation for bad actors to stop their behavior
- (1) Schidt: hears that concern. Thinks the problem is not the individual actors. Thinks those who are individually responsible should be held individually responsible. You are not a team with those in your building. Only wants to be held responsible for his own actions. Thinks university housing should work with them and GVPD or other departments to find a solution to make sure they are held accountable for their actions.
- xi. Haas: first semester she was charged 25 cents because someone put a pumpkin in the dryer on her floor. Sees both sides of the argument. Heard plenty of other freshmen that have been charged for things they didn't do.
- xii. Frapier: Senator Gjloaj is an RA and said that they would only charge 25 cents if this occurs
- xiii. Bates: looking at the language of the email, it doesn't specify that it is individually charged or split up between all residents. Thinks at the very least a second email should be sent out to clarify. This would cause a lot of panic for

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- students receiving this email with no clarification. It is alarming that if they send these emails out they do have the power to just make charges. Thinks looking into the contract and if they cannot remove it, they need to edit it or limit the power they have.
- xiv. Hahs: are there more talks about getting cameras in specific areas of the living centers?
- (1) Schrader: they have these resources, they need to use their resources to stop this. Knows from talking to RAs that their resources are not used and it is not their fault. They have cameras in stairwells and facing each door.
- (2) Schmidt: Are they in the building?
- (a) Schrader: yes, inside and out
- xv. DerPibosien: in his townhome on campus he was charged \$50 for a bunch of messes he didn't make and received a threatening voicemail that he needs to clean up messes he didn't make and they were going to raise his rates in the laker village townhomes.
- xvi. Johnson: there is some stuff that the school can do to make sure the individual committing these acts is held responsible. They do not have cameras in laundry rooms or stairwells of his building which is where he sees the most problems. Anyone in any of the north campus housings can use their ID to get into any of the 6 buildings in their community when it should only be to get into 1 building.
- xvii. Schmidt: That raises the question of what is the limiting principle here? In the contract it says the building, but how do they know it was not someone who lives in a different building or even off campus. Especially if their ID can get them into other buildings. Really wants everyone to send him their comments so they can review them.
- xviii. Schmidt: moves to exhaust the speakers list
- (1) Flickinger- 2nd
- (2) Motion carried unanimously
- (3) Senate votes to exhaust the speakers list
- xix. Quist: agrees on the principle, people should not be held accountable for someone else's actions.
- b. Legislative Review: Keypads
- i. Schrader: wants to require the installation of keypad access points at all student entry points of on-campus residence buildings. Discussed with Dr. Boone and he said they were designed with the base of safety and convenience in mind, which don't line up when students are propping open doors and that can lead to big big issues, putting everyone at risk. Wants to get rid of this issue before it gets bad.

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- ii. Frappier: this will cause housing to incur costs and they will have to get the money from somewhere which may raise housing costs so make sure we know that students really want this.
 - iii. Quist: so this means they can get in without a key card?
 - (1) Schrader: when doors are getting propped open they can. It is not hard to see when a door is propped open.
 - iv. Roubos: if there are coded keypads in each door what stops them from getting door codes?
 - (1) Schrader: you need to swipe your card before entering the code
 - v. Haas: congratulates him on his hard work. Supports this as she has experienced similar situations and especially in light of events at MSU. Has Dr. Boone expressed any concerns?
 - (1) Schrader: he did have hesitations. Schrader sent out a survey and Dr. Boone saw that there is a want for this from students. He wants to do an inventory of the doors and Dr. Boone is open to working on this with them.
 - vi. Frappier: asks Senator Schrader if he plans on returning?
 - (1) Schrader: possibly yes
 - vii. Hallead: thanks him for doing this. Would suggest to add what buildings you want this for. Some buildings such as Niemeyer have doors that need to be open for classes and events.
 - viii. Frappier: there are some buildings that only require keycard access after certain times which could be an option
 - ix. Hoogwerf: thinks it would be helpful to have a list of what doors so faculty know which are accessible
 - x. Schrader: states that they want an inventory of doors with and without keypads and if certain doors need access they will note that too.
 - xi. Johnson: half the time the keypad does not work on his building. If someone holds open the doors for more than 30 seconds in his building a loud alarm goes off. Has had the pleasure of being woken up at 3:30am by students from Ferris State who got into his building after the game. Thinks all the buildings should have similar technology instead of some doors being open and some being highly secure.
 - xii. Hahs: thinks it is important to note a number on how much this costs. Student safety is priority number 1 when it comes to this cost. Would like someone to clarify where housing maintenance costs come from.
 - xiii. Frappier: thanks Schrader for his hard work. If you have any questions for Dr. Boone, send it over to Senator Hahs. Meet with these people before next week so you are prepared to vote on it.

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- c. Initial SRC Policies and Procedures Review
 - i. Frappier: shows everyone changes that have been made to the policies and procedures during CTF. Many VPs and Senators have gone through it. If you have comments, questions, or concerns please let him or a CTF member know.
- d. Initial Bylaw Review
 - i. Schmidt: Are these the bylaws that they just went through?
 - (1) Frappier: yes
 - ii. Schmidt: moves to end this agenda point and table it for next week seeing that they have already reviewed them
 - (1) Johnson- 2nd
 - (2) 16 yays, 1 abstention
 - (3) Passes
 - (4) Senate votes to end this agenda point and table it for next week seeing that they have already reviewed them
- e. Discussion of the Composition of the Cultural Funding Board
 - i. Biermacher: just a quick adjustment they need to make. Reads section of financial policies and procedures regarding cultural funding board. They have cultural funding board tomorrow and they do not have a DAC representative, and the requests are time sensitive
 - ii. Schmidt: who would be the representative if this were to be suspended? Or would the spot be vacant?
 - (1) Biermacher: suspending this would allow for the seat to be vacant and only require quorum
 - iii. Schmidt: motion to suspend this clause for 24 hours
 - (1) Haas- 2nd
 - (2) Biermacher: Do you want a specific section?
 - (a) Frappier: no its ok
 - (3) Quist: moves to carry with unanimous consent
 - (4) Passes
 - (5) Senate votes to suspend this clause for 24 hours

IX. Public Comment – Part II

X. Officer Reports

- a. **Senate Resources** – Mallory Everly
 - i. Reminder to fill out the climate survey, you get one office hour excused for the week.
 - ii. Submit office hours by 5pm tomorrow

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- iii. Next week is the last week that office hours are due for this body
 - iv. SRC is working to create google forms for each award that will be given out at the end of the year party- senator of the year, VP of the year, and paper plates awards. Please fill these out as soon as you can.
 - v. Wrapping up her transitions report, should be completed soon. Come chat with her if you are interested in running. If you are a newer senator thinking about running for cabinet she would be a good person to talk to. Her elections speech was the first time she talked in front of the body. She would love to buy you an iced white mocha with oat milk to talk about it, shoutout Senator Hoogwerf.
 - vi. Flickinger: Do you need to be notified when they submit the climate survey?
 - (1) Everly: No, will be able to tell through form responses
 - b. **Allocations** – Benjamin Biermacher
 - i. Will be meeting for cultural and funding board at 1:30 in KC room 2263, have 10 groups coming tomorrow so it would be a good meeting to come to.
 - c. **Public Relations** – Emily Bucon
 - i. Attended the first couple of classroom visits, they were successful. Keep an eye out for invitations for next week.
 - ii. They will have 5 senators of the month for April because of everyone’s great responses.
 - iii. Working with the Lanthorn, setting up voting and getting ballots live. Bates is working on content for course catalog information for next week. Proctor has been working on CTF and content for late march and april. Will be using their platform to get information out for EOA position, invite people to apply because this position is crucial for the success of senate.
 - iv. Certain swag item sizes are out of stock, will be reaching out to individuals to see if they want a refund or a different color. Swag is supposed to be here 4/6.
 - v. Flickinger: are they making 5 senators of the month or picking one?
 - (1) Bucon: They will be acknowledging all 5 who were nominated. They have been doing 2 senators of the month, but there were 5 nominated for April so they are shouting out all 5.
 - d. **Campus Affairs** – (Interim) EVP Frappier
 - i. If you have any questions about Elect Her reach out to Hoogwerf. Sign up for tabling. Encourage people to register, you cannot just show up.
 - ii. Hoogwerf: have not heard a single senator that can come for the whole time. Which is disappointing because she has really been put through the wringer for this event. Would really like to see some more senators there.

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e. **Educational Affairs** – Lina Haas

- i. Going to Ms. Pina's class at Burton elementary to read to them for reading month tomorrow.
- ii. They spoke at UAS and it went really well
- iii. Fill out the survey from IT regarding portals
- iv. Sign up for exam cram
- v. Bucon: will they send reminders when someone signs up for exam cram
 - (1) Haas: Kuiper will send reminders
 - (2) Frappier: should use email since slack will dissolve pretty quickly

f. **Diversity Affairs** – Bethany Roubos

- i. Will be having a meeting following GA
- ii. Frappier: thanks her for her hard work

g. **External Relations** – Zachary Schmidt

- i. Currently working on preparing for elections meeting, wrapping up legislation. Schrader is working on legislation and Flickinger is keeping up with the city of GR.
- ii. ERC met for the last time this last week, will be going out to dinner next week to celebrate.
- iii. This is his last GA and he thanks everyone for their great work.
- iv. Frappier: thanks him for his work while on senate.

XI. **University Committee Reports**

- a. Biemracher: SORB met and they added new student groups including students demand action, sports coaching club, and occupational therapy club. Student life awards are coming, please come. Student senate was nominated for an award so they were all nominated. 4/14/ 5-7:30 at the Fieldhouse, free food and punch. Fun event.
 - i. Frappier: checked with advisors that they all can attend
- b. Hahs: attended AP executive committee- 50% of staff are actively looking new jobs, show staff love, they are concerned about retention.
 - i. Frappier: staff worked really hard to keep GV running
- c. Gira: University technology committee- lastpass, password manager has had bad security issues so they are looking for a new provider. They are considering being a "bring your own device" campus or not regarding financial concerns. Talked about Traverse City campus classrooms.
 - i. Frappier: let her know if you are interested in any of those things and want to learn more

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- d. Frappier: UAS met. Hahs, Haas, and Schrader did a great job representing student voices. Congratulations to Hoogwerf, her legislation has passed with flying colors and will be charged to parties. Student wages legislation passed UAS/ECS and will be passed to the task force to be discussed. They are also working on wrapping things up and getting prepared for elections. Reach out if you have any questions.

XII. Roll Call - Part II

XIII. Call for Announcements

- a. Haas: it's light out and normally it is very dark when they leave so enjoy it! Has heard a lot of people struggling, so take care of yourselves, reach out, and focus on the positives.
- b. Frappier: reach out if you want to get dinner after this with him, Haas, and Everly. Reach out if you need something.
- c. Hallead: please fill out the climate survey, they are missing 8 responses. Will be closing on Tuesday at 3:30pm, before their committee meeting.
- d. Frappier: the climate survey is super important for the next body, so please fill it out.
- e. Johnson: Thanks Schmidt for all his service to student senate.
- f. Everly: right after elections last year she was really scared of Schmidt but he came up to her, shook her hand, and said he was looking forward to working with her. They have developed one heck of a friendship since then. She has learned so much about herself, senate, and her future plans because of him. Cannot thank him enough for all he has done for this body and her. She will stay in contact and will be coming to Tennessee to visit.
- g. Frappier: Thanks Schmidt for everything he has done for the student senate and all of his great work over the past two years.
- h. Schmidt: thanks everyone for the love they have shown him. Thanks Mallory, Justin and Brock for their comments.
- i. Frappier: DAC will be meeting following adjournment, cabinet will not be meeting, Take care of yourselves.

XIV. Adjournment: 6:47pm