

Grand Valley State University

Executive Committee of the Senate

Minutes of December 4, 2015

**Present:** Scott Berlin, Shawn Bultsma, Wendy Burns-Ardolino, Maddie Cleghorn (Student Senate Vice President), Karen Gipson (Chair), Brian Lakey, Nancy Levenburg, Felix Ngassa (Vice Chair), Mary O’Kelly, Tonya Parker, Joy Washburn, Deana Weibel

**Absent:** Yatin Bhagwat, Meri Goehring, Jon Hodge, George Lundskow, Samhita Rhodes

**Ex Officio:** Gayle Davis, Maria Cimitile, Kathy Gulembo

**Guests:** Ed Aboufadel, Chuck Pazdernik

The meeting was called to order at 3:01 pm

Agenda Items	Discussion	Action / Decisions
1. Approval of Agenda	The Agenda of December 4, 2015 was reviewed.	The Agenda of December 4, 2015 was approved.
2. Approval of Minutes	The Minutes of November 13, 2015 were reviewed.	The Minutes of November 13, 2015 were approved.
3. Report from Chair	<p>The Chair reported that Ed Aboufadel has been appointed as an Assistant Vice President in the Provost’s Office; Jon Hodge will replace him on ECS.</p> <p>A <u>motion was made and seconded</u> to congratulate Ed Aboufadel on his appointment and to thank him for his work on Faculty Governance and other campus issues.</p> <p>The Chair reported that the Accessibility Task Force has been formed and Patrick Roth will serve as chair; the first meeting is scheduled for next week.</p> <p>The Chair reported that proposal selection for the Teach-in is next week, and further reported that communication with faculty has improved with monthly summaries sent to deans and unit heads with an end-of-semester email planned for all faculty.</p>	<p><b>MOTION:</b> The Executive Committee of the Senate congratulates Ed Aboufadel on his appointment and thanks him for his work on Faculty Governance and other campus issues.</p> <p><b>APPROVED Unanimously</b></p>

	<p>The Chair reported that standing committees are sending in mid-year reports and will be posted on the governance website; short descriptions of various committees will be sent out to all faculty prior to Winter elections.</p> <p>A tentative schedule and agenda items for next semester were also presented.</p>	
4. Report from Provost	<p>Provost Davis reported that the Assistant Vice Presidents have been selected in her office – Ed Aboufadel and Suzanne Benet – both who will begin in January, along with Chris Plouff. She further reported that COE dean candidates have been interviewed and sabbatical decisions have been made with letters expected to be sent out soon. She announced that budget requests for next year are due before the holiday break and that an announcement of the open position for the dean of students will be ready next semester.</p>	
5. Report from Student Senate	<p>Student Senate President Cleghorn reported that the Student Senate hosted a holiday party inclusive of many cultural identities. She further reported that a change has been made to the category of Registered Student Organizations that was previously called "Faith-Based;" it is now going to be called "Interfaith."</p> <p>In addition, she reported that: a resolution was made requesting that Christmas lights be allowed to be hung in dorms with Student Senate working with housing to implement the change; a meeting was held with an Ottawa County Commissioner to learn about plans for county parks, sidewalks, etc. ; there is discussion on planning an open forum to continue conversations on any issues arising from the Teach-In and MLK Jr. week.</p> <p>Maddie was thanked for her comments regarding USETI and the leadership shown at the last UAS meeting.</p>	
6. New Business	<p>a. The Chair presented an overview of the feedback on Faculty Forums that was distributed earlier. Lengthy discussion was heard with numerous suggestions made on how to involve faculty and build networks, attract and support students and staff, identifying any potential charges for standing committees, and establishing priorities for internal university service. Further discussions will be held.</p> <p>b. The feedback from the survey of University Committees that was distributed earlier was reviewed and discussed. Certain committees were identified for additional review and clarification. A recommendation was made on how to realign some committees and how they are identified in the Faculty Handbook and/or Administrative Manual. The Chair will contact any committees with questions.</p>	

7. <b>Open comment</b>	<b>None</b>
8. <b>Adjournment</b>	The meeting was adjourned at 5:00pm