

Detailed UAS Notes from April 5, 2024

Report from the Chair

- The theme for the 2024 UAS Newsletter will be *The Role of Shared Governance in Co-Creating Laker Readiness*. All faculty who would like to contribute an article should contact Chair Ngassa and plan to submit their articles by the extended deadline of April 11. Please also send a photo to go with your article.
- Reach Higher Showcase is Friday, April 12, at 4 pm.
- The 2024 Teach-In will be held on November 13 and 14.
- The new Senate leadership will be elected on April 19 from the 2024-2025 ECS membership.
- *On the ECS Meeting of April 19*: The April 19 ECS meeting will be held in person at DCIH 510. The agenda items include the following: Instructional Materials Task Force Report; Academic Policies and Standards Committee (APSC) Memo on ASL-BA Language Requirement Proposal; Transition from ECS 2023-2024 to ECS 2024-2025; and Election of Senate Leadership for 2024-2025.
- *On the UAS Meeting of April 19*: The April 19 UAS meeting will be held in person at DCIH 510. The agenda items include the following: Remarks from President Mantella; Instructional Materials Task Force Report; Academic Policies and Standards Committee (APSC) Memo on ASL-BA Language Requirement Proposal; Transition from UAS 2023-2024 to UAS 2024-2025; and Highlights of Standing Committee Work for 2023-2024.

Report from the Provost

- *On the Dean of KCON Search*: Provost Mili reported that the interviews for the Kirkhof College of Nursing dean were held.

Report from the Student Senate President

- *On Swearing-In of Student Senate President*: Student Senate President Quinten Proctor was sworn in for his second term as Student Senate President for the 2024-2025 academic year.
- *On the Student Senate Vice President*: Student Senate Vice President Paris Lawson was introduced.
- *On the Town Halls*: The Student Senate President was asked about the student perspective on the Town Halls held last week and shared that many students share the same concerns. Student Senate is looking forward to working toward potential paths forward.

New Business

- *On the Update from the Employee Ombuds*: Elisa Ortega-Schultz, the Employee Ombuds, presented the work of the ombuds during 2023. A new PSS was hired at 50% in September. There were 443 visits during 2023. She shared the demographics of visitors and the breakdown of concerns. Her priorities moving forward are to make people and culture a strategic priority, transform evaluative relationships, modernize structures and procedures, and improve policies and procedures.
- *On the Research-Intensive Course Designation*: Anna Hammersmith, Faculty Fellow in OURS, and Susan Mendoza, Director of OURS, presented this proposal, which aims to recognize courses at GVSU that contain embedded undergraduate research experiences. A research-intensive (RI) course designation is proposed to be attached to specific course sections and courses to elevate and recognize research efforts. The body asked several questions, many centering on the need to include more examples of how humanities courses could fit the criteria for the research-intensive designation. Questions were also raised about the process for this designation appearing on transcripts. A motion to table this discussion and have the proposers obtain input from humanities faculty on incorporating relevant language for their fields and from the Registrar's Office on how this designation would appear on transcripts and the amount of work this would require passed unanimously.
- *On the International Education Committee (IEC) Memo on IEC Bylaws Change*: The proposed change will change the Shared Governance Policies in SG 1.02.B. The significant change in membership composition is recommending two representatives from CECI (currently, four are from CLAS, and one is from each of the

remaining colleges and the University Libraries). For student membership, it is recommended that one student be selected by the Student Organization, which represents international students. Other changes were mainly to conform with the current terminology. For example, **Faculty Led** for Study Abroad, **Executive Director of Padnos International Center** for Director of International Education, and **Padnos International Center** for Office of International Affairs. The motion of support passed unanimously.

- *On the University Curriculum Committee (UCC) Memo on Course Designation for Study Abroad:* The UCC recommends the creation of a permanent course designation specific to study abroad. The recommendation results from collaborations with the Padnos International Center (PIC), the International Education Committee (IEC), and the University Registrar's Office. The motion to support unanimously passed.
- *On the Graduate Council (GC) Memo on Independent Study:* This memo addresses an issue within the standing responsibility of the GC under the bylaws in SG 1.02.g.iv.b. The independent study policy has not been reviewed for over 15 years. GC reviewed and updated the existing policy to be consistent with current practices and terminology. The policy is housed in the Undergraduate and Graduate Catalog within the Graduate Academic Policies and Regulations section. The motion to support passed unanimously.
- *On the Graduate Council (GC) Memo on the Use of AI in Dissertations and Theses:* This memo addresses an issue within the standing responsibility of the GC under the bylaws in SG 1.02.g.iv.b. Artificial intelligence (AI), when generating a research project, thesis, or dissertation, must adhere to some minimum standards to ensure academic integrity and uphold quality standards. The policy is housed in the Undergraduate and Graduate Catalog within the Graduate Academic Policies and Regulations section. The motion to support the GC recommendation and forward it to UAS with a recommendation to support was approved unanimously.
- *On a Consent Agenda for UAS:* The proposed language for describing the operation of a consent agenda for UAS is being reviewed. The proposed language was recommended to be placed in the prior section as an appendix to 8.2.4. ECS could vote to put items on a consent agenda, but any member of UAS has the power to bring an item off the consent agenda. This is designed for things that need no discussion and go immediately to a vote. Still, if a member feels we should discuss it, a member can email/contact the chair and have it removed anonymously or move to have it removed from the consent agenda during the meeting. Otherwise, it will be adopted at the start of the meeting by unanimous motion. If something is moved off, the chair puts it on the regular agenda. The motion to support unanimously passed.
- *On GVSU Perception Research:* Jennifer Allard, AVP for Marketing and Branding, led the conversation on GVSU Perception Research Survey. Prospective students, GVSU "choosers" and "non-choosers," the parents of those three groups in MI and the Chicago area, and potential adult learners were surveyed in 2023 about their perceptions of GVSU. It is planned that marketing will draw attention to the "big school with small school feel," safety, and affordability. Different marketing will go to other groups. For parents, sharing how GVSU has grown and evolved will be necessary. For Michiganders, talking about how GVSU is ingrained in the state will be a focus. For Chicagoans, there will be a focus on GVSU's safety and affordability and how it is as close to Chicago as some Illinois schools. For adult learners, the ability to maximize credits and employment opportunities will be highlighted. In July, there will be a new home page that will be recruitment-based. We are working with a new ad agency that focuses on higher education. In the fall, a new brand for GVSU will be announced.