

AP COMMITTEE

Senior Leadership Team Conversations: Interim Provost Chris Plouff

As a part of AP newsletters, the AP committee would like to highlight the conversations we are having with the GVSU Senior Leadership Team.

Q. What do you think is important for the incoming provost to focus on given the recent adoption of our new strategic plan?

A. How to keep and expand on the small campus feel that GV is known for. Engaging more students in experiential learning opportunities. Critically look at things that might not make sense for GV to do anymore and stop those things. Lifelong learning, and engaging those students after they graduate, along with equity are other opportunities and areas of focus.

Q. What advice do you have for the AP committee to have our voices heard within the university?

A. I would recommend the AP committee be more proactive and bring forth issues and concerns to SLT. Faculty will draft memos (recommendations, issues, concerns) and send them to the President and Provost which means they have to respond. This would help create a stronger voice as well as elevate issues and concerns of the AP group.

Employee recruitment time could be cut in half under new process

Last week, the Human Resources team and colleagues from across campus evaluated the GVSU recruitment process utilizing Lean improvement methodologies. During this deeply engaging process, they dug in to explore and evaluate the hiring processes for faculty, administrative professional staff, and hourly employees. Every step from the Hiring Approval Form to an acceptance offer was reimagined to ensure consistency and efficiency across the university. On the final day of the event, there was a reveal of what they came up with and how GVSU will move forward. [Read more in the forum!](#)

[Watch the recording](#)

GVSU Ranks Among Country's Best Employers on Forbes List

Grand Valley State University has been ranked as one of the [country's best employers according to Forbes](#).

Thrive @ GVSU

NEW: Wellness Hub by Virgin Pulse is now live

Thrive coaches are reaching out to those who signed up for the program during Open Enrollment 2022. However, if you want to schedule an appointment to connect with a coach now, you can do so through the Virgin Pulse portal.

My coach hasn't contacted me yet. What do I do?

Coaches are currently engaging with faculty and staff who signed up during Open Enrollment in the fall. No need to wait for the coach to reach out however, schedule anytime through your Virgin Pulse online account.

What if I didn't sign up for coaching during Open Enrollment?

If you didn't sign up during Open Enrollment, you can still [schedule an appointment online](#).

What's new with coaching?

The coaching structure is a little different; your coach will conduct six calls with you to earn your \$100 reward. However, you can continue to participate with a coach for more than six calls if you want.

AP Committee Openings

Group 1: Social Justice Sub-Committee

Group 5: Professional Development Sub-Committee

If you are interested in filling one of these positions please reach out to your group representative on the AP executive committee. To find which group you are in visit the [AP Committee website](#).

Feburary Executive Meeting Summary

1. Approval of January meeting minutes- Motion to approve- S. Wheeler, Seconded by Q. Williams
2. Old business
 - a. Open positions
 - i. SJ Committee-Group 1 still vacant
 - ii. Professional Development Committee-Group 5 still vacant
 - b. Group Designation Workgroup- this work group has met (Justin, Greg, Jason, and Dan). Believe there is a path forward, but need continued work.
 - c. Communications Workgroup- this work group ahs met about the survey results. Please respond to Dan and Mike with any changes to email by Monday, Feb 5. Email vote will be held regarding final language for distribution to all AP's.
3. Officer/Liaison Reports
 - a. Interim Chair- Dan
 - i. Next meeting: AP Executive Committee with Miloš Topić
 - ii. Kate to Secretary, Chris to SJ Liaison
 - b. Vice Chair: Quincy
 - i. Provost Search – Candidates have completed campus visits. Feedback is being collected.
4. Liaison/Subcommittee Updates
 - a. **Website:** Richard Freehafer/Jason Cronkrite – Keeping it updated. Submit subcommittee minutes and other updates.
 - b. **Awards Liaison:** Richard Freehafer- Awards portal is open now! Nominate and celebrate AP staff on campus. Information has gone out in the newsletter. An email will go out with just awards info soon.
 - c. **PD Liaison:** Greg Wilson- This group is still working on having a meeting.
 - d. **S&B Liaison:** John Offerman- Phased Retirement- faculty are leading this initiative. Faculty are giving a presentation to faculty senate. More details to come. Phased retirement used to exist, probably a cost issue why it was eliminated. Child care continues to be a topic of conversation.
 - e. **SJ Liaison:** Chris McQueen – The book read “WAKE UP” is on Feb 22, the book is Born a Crime by Trevor Noah. The first meeting does not need the book to be completed.
 - f. **RH 2025 Steering Committee:** Mike Stoll – Thank you for approval. Reach Higher 2025 will be presented to the Board of Trustees. We are all glad that the AP Committee was able to contribute.
 - g. **UAS Liaison:** Sara Wheeler- ECS is meeting with Title IX about investigation results, and then UAS will meet too. The investigation report is on the GVSU General Counsel page, the report was written by outside counsel.
 - h. **Newsletter:** Justin Melick/Kate Stoetzner- Click rate is up to almost 50%! Stacey brought up an error in the January newsletter- staff highlight feature. Ryan Smith's name was incorrect. Recommendation for an apology to be sent to Ryan, and confirmation of correct names and spellings through the HR Admin Office in the future. This should add double-checking and prevent an error in the future. Request to put pdf form of a newsletter on the website- this is being done.
 - i. **Provost Office Updates:** Mary Albrecht- Provost Search is wrapping up. Two Dean searches are happening- Kirkhof College of Nursing, and College of Health Professions. The commencement site will be updated and live soon. Commencement will be at VanAndel.
 - j. **Human Resources Updates:** Ruthanne Griffin will be the new HR liaison to the AP Committee. Mychal Coleman may still join us on occasion. HR is under construction/transition.
5. New business
 - a. Awards Submission Open
 - b. AP Appreciation- Sara to take the lead. Discussion on if there is a budget. Can we do a program similar to University Development's “Thanks a Latte” program
 - c. Phased retirement – see Salary and Benefit subgroup notes.
6. Adjourn. Next meeting: March 25 SCB 3001. 3-5pm. Miloš Topić

[Group Representation](#) | [gvsu.edu/ap](#) | [apcommittee@gvsu.edu](#)

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