



## General Assembly

Thursday, February 11th, 2021 — 4:30 pm  
Via Zoom

*President: Kelly Dowker*

*Parliamentarian: Grace McMahon*

### I. Call Meeting to Order: 4:30pm

- A. Moment of Silence for Native Land Recognition
- B. Student Senate Creed
- C. Pledge of Allegiance
- D. Roll Call - Part I

### II. Public Comment - Part I

- A. Steven Catlin - has worked with Pagel and Raak on Housing website. He states that most students are now renting for the first time, and the goal is to create an easy-to-use resource that would also build accountability for landlords. He is happy to work with Senate to accomplish this project.

### III. Guest Speakers

#### A. Grace Tummel, program manager from the Cook Leadership Academy

- i. Applications are nearing. This program's founder's intentions were to create a resource to connect students with their community. It creates opportunities for students to network. The time commitment is about 2-3 hour per meeting, twice a month. Tummel explains a few of the activities that take place during the meeting.

#### ii. Questions

- a) Siegrist - what do the requirements look like? Tummel - the only requirement is that the student is returning to a west Michigan school in the Fall. They are looking for students who want to spend the time developing their skills as leaders
- b) Moine - could you touch on what the application looks like? Tummel - it is a series of six short-answer writing questions, a resume attachment, and references, as well as a nomination. Nominations are not required, but they are helpful.
- c) Kidd - what about the leadership academy will set the student apart? Tummel - students have a better understanding of themselves as professional individuals, and they also come out of the academy with a network of cohorts and resources
- d) Thompson - what is the independent initiative? Tummel - this is a program eligible for current CLA students who are looking into "additional leadership experiences"; this could include giving a presentation at a conference, studying abroad, etc. which would be

otherwise impossible to attend/do without additional funds.

B. GVSU Strategic Planning Discussion with AVP Chris Plouff and Cori Kahler  
i. Siegrist presents as the student representative on the Strategic Planning Committee. The goal of the committee is to revamp mission, vision, and values with input from the entire GV community. Today's presentation will be to share where the committee is at currently and to answer any questions senators have  
ii. Plouff presents a slideshow called Reach Higher 2025: Framework for Planning  
a) The goals to strategically advance the university:

(i) Position university to be top choice for students, faculty, staff, and community partners; identify opportunities for expanding access and experiences; leverage and continue to build our high-quality programs and experiential learning; diversify our campus community, etc.

b) Cori Kahler presents the mission statement from 2016-2021 as well as the proposed statement for 2021-2025. Kahler shares that the two questions to keep in mind with the draft are: What do you like about this draft? Is there anything essential that is missing?

iii. Questions, Comments, Opinions

a) Moine - between the old and new ones, noticed that the phrase including "public service" was taken out, is there any reason that it was taken out this time around? Kahler - one of the topics that have come up is the experiential learning for students, Kahler feels that community service can be included in this term.

b) Samuels - loves the draft, it uses strong language and it encompasses the University's goals well

c) Krichevsky - enjoys that this statement is so different from the previous and is more inclusive.

iv. Continued Presentation: Vision statement. The important questions when viewing this draft are: what do you like about this draft Vision statement? Is there anything that is essential that is missing from the draft? Plouff shares that the goal with these changes were to be more succinct but just as inclusive.

a) McMahan enjoys the words "personalized" and "equitable opportunities"

b) Gineman appreciates how the vision is condensed and feels that it is easier to understand

c) Siegrist shares that he enjoys the word choice of "learner-driven" instead of "students" which is more inclusive wording

d) Moine feels that the structure is well done and really gets the point across

v. Taylor Boyd presents the slide on Values. The questions regarding this draft are: what do you like about these draft Values? Is there anything that is essential that is missing from the draft?

a) Neal - GV is really prideful about sustainability, and feels that it is still a value that can be highlighted in 2021-2025

b) Johnson - wanted to point out that making everything more streamlined and concise shows there is a point as to why we have these values and

mission statements. It feels as if these are more achievable and adds value to the statement

c) Krichevsky agrees with Neal, feels it makes it more clear of GV's dedication to sustainability to have it as a value.

(i) Plouff shares that this is something that they have heard from various input sessions. Language including sustainability was included within other definitions

d) Moine - how available will the in-depth definitions be placed? Plouff - all of the few worded values will have their definitions on the website. The intention is to understand the operational definition when they see the single/few words, which means that not all locations where the words are visible will have the entire definitions.

vi. Plouff provides a link to the website where individuals can share their feedback. [www.gvsu.edu/reachhigher2025](http://www.gvsu.edu/reachhigher2025). He also expresses his thanks for providing their feedback and encourages senators to spread the word on where students can provide their feedback via the website

#### IV. Five (5) Minutes to Pass the Papers

A. Moine - Bulletin board is almost done (shout out to Senator Wheeler for getting most of it done, and to Senator Eldon Pearson who will be finishing it this weekend). If anyone can help out with finishing it, it would be appreciated

B. Sanders - sends thanks to those who volunteered to the Give Thanks Initiative which will be ending this Saturday

#### V. President's Report

##### A. Adoption of the Agenda

i. Thompson suggests striking line item c of new business, the appointment of Jacob Torok to ERC. Motion is made by Pagel and seconded by Samuels

ii. Siegrist wants to make a motion to strike officer reports. This motion is opposed by VP Mueller, and VP Thompson shares that in the event that this motion is passed, the agenda would have to be modified to include Senate Buddies outside of their report.

a) Motion passes.

iii. McMahon would like to entertain a motion to place "Senate Buddies" under New Business

iv. All of the above changes (i-iii) are applied to the agenda

B. UAS is tomorrow, those interested in attending should speak with Dowker

C. Those who are not sitting on University Committees and are interested, reach out to Dowker

#### VI. Executive Vice President's Report

A. Approval of the Minutes - the minutes stand approved.

B. Bylaw Review will begin this Sunday from 3:30pm to 4:30pm. It will take place over Zoom. Those interested in attending who are not a member may reach out to McMahon, everyone is welcome to attend. Representatives will bring back information from this meeting to their committee

- C. Composites - headshot times have been set up with Promotions from 4pm-5:45pm on 2/18
- D. McMahon will begin the process of hiring a new Executive Office Assistant, will be reaching out to SRC
- E. Climate Survey has closed, if anyone has serious allergies, please inform McMahon in order to ensure safety when receiving incentive reward.
- F. Be sure to communicate honestly and openly with your VP
- G. If anyone is interested in running for a Cabinet position next year, please contact the VP of the role you are interested in

#### VII. Unfinished Business

#### VIII. New Business

- A. Appointment of Michael Noble to the Public Relations Committee
  - i. Moine provides rationale: interviewed Noble with Thompson last week, and they had a lot of good ideas and a willingness to jump in.
  - ii. Moine motions to appoint Noble to PRC. Motion is seconded by Thompson a) Motion passes unanimously
- B. Appointment of Christopher Williams to the Public Relations Committee
  - i. Moine provides rationale: Williams was another great interviewee, also demonstrating a willingness to jump in, a very motivated individual
  - ii. Moine motions to appoint Williams to PRC and is seconded by Thompson. a) Motion passes unanimously
- C. Appointment of Jacob Torok to the External Relations Committee. This item is struck and did not occur.
- D. Inservice with Thompson and the Senate Resource Committee
  - i. General Assembly - Parliamentary procedures, Robert's Rules, GA Agenda a) Thompson presents the parliamentary procedures, providing examples of the appropriate language to use when it is necessary to interrupt or add information to a discussion
    - b) She also presents Robert's Rules, a brief overview of the structure of the meeting as defined by Robert's Rules. This overview includes the definition of some actions such as abstentions, call the questions, exhausting the speaker's list, etc.
    - c) She also presents on the General Assembly Agenda, providing a brief overview of how the agenda is set and how items are added, as well as what some pieces of the agenda are for
  - ii. Cabinet's role - chain of communication, VP roles, transparency, cabinet meetings
    - a) Thompson presents the titles of each Cabinet member as well as the chain of communication
    - b) McMahon presents on the roles of the President and Vice President and what their purpose is within the body
    - c) All of the Vice Presidents present on their individual roles as Cabinet members and what their purpose is within the body

- d) Thompson presents on Cabinet transparency, sharing the meeting time, the stipend amount for each member, and what occurs when a closed session takes place as well as why a closed session would take place
  - iii. Expectations and Accountability
    - a) Senator Krichevsky presents what accountability is within and around Senate. She addresses the purpose of a senator as well as the personal and professional development which occurs within Senate
    - b) Senator Krichevsky presents key etiquette during Zoom and online meetings
  - iv. SRC Policies and Procedures
    - a) Senator Krichevsky presents the purpose of office hours as well as what office hours entails
    - b) Senator Ferrera presents what qualifies as an absence, unexcused absence, and how to fill out a form for excused absences
    - c) Senator Krichevsky presents policies such as Article V in which senators may report incidents of misconduct to the VP of senate resources; what may instigate receiving a warning; what Conduct Review Board is, and what happens which would cause it to occur
  - v. Voting Rights presented by Siegrist
    - a) Siegrist provides an overview of the Student Life fund: Student Senate is responsible for all of the Student Life fund's \$1.2 million which goes towards allocated budgets (for student orgs such as the Lanthorn, CAB, Club Sports, etc.) and allocated funds for campus programming, travel, professional development, etc.
    - b) Siegrist explains the timeline and process of submitting a funding request, as well as the purpose and roles of the Appropriations Funding Board, and Cultural Funding Boards
    - c) Siegrist presents the Student Senate Funding Guidelines, available on the student organization programming website.
  - vi. Pronouns presented by Senator Gineman
    - a) Gineman shares why the use of pronouns are important, including how it is a sign of respect for the individual as well as their identity. Adding pronouns to a name will help to eliminate potentially harmful assumptions
- E. Senate Buddy Reveal
  - i. All senators are placed in breakout rooms. Senators who have been on the body previously are placed with new Senators
- F. Discussion on Resolution W-21-02: Show Support of and Encourage Grand Valley State University to Partner with "Rent College Pads" and Provide Housing Assistance to Students
  - i. Pagel provides rationale for this resolution: it is complicated for students looking for off-campus housing, and housing can make or break a year. The goal is to give students a comprehensive resource for housing. Pagel also presents the website,

### Off-Campus Housing Marketplace

- ii. Senator Raak adds that everything on the website is customizable to Grand Valley, and that it is only accessible to Grand Valley students. Pagel provides the example of perhaps making a video that highlights the differences between renting near Allendale campus vs. the Grand Rapids campus.
- iii. Pagel and Raak present the resolution document, which, if passed, would result in a recommendation that Grand Valley, particularly Housing administration, partner with “Rent College Pads” to provide the website and its educative information regarding housing
- iv. Discussion
  - a) Siegrist, as a Resident Assistant, appreciates this resolution and emphasizes its importance as a resource for the students.
  - b) Senator Cargill, as a first generation student, echoes Siegrist’s comments. She also asks if there will be a section for comments. Pagel shares that the website is open to development
  - c) Krichevsky, who lends support to the resolution, asks, would this replace the part of the GV website that already has information on housing? Pagel - it will be a subdomain of the GV website
  - d) Krichevsky - how would the Find a Roommate feature operate? Pagel - it’s still a demo site, so some things are still under work, but it will probably be as secure as Blackboard, a safe place to put information, and it’s similar to what Housing does with their incoming freshmen survey. Pagel adds that this can be elaborated on in the coming GA
  - e) Wheeler, as a transfer student who has never lived on campus before, finding a housing situation was intimidating. She feels this will be incredibly beneficial
  - f) Zdunczyk praises the website and the resolution, asks, how do individuals who want their properties on the website go about getting them on the website? Pagel - it will be a mix of GV and College Pads reaching out. There is a plan to send out a letter to several housing apartments, but to one-house renting landlords, if they inquire, Pagel is certain they will be considered. Raak shares that he believes there is a way to submit their property in order to be vetted
  - g) Gineman praises the resolution, feels that it will greatly reduce the stress of finding housing
  - h) Senator Jasmyn Pearson praises the resolution, and asks, will there be an FAQ part of the website, and will there be a Find My Housing personality quiz to see what form of housing suits them best? Pagel says that we can definitely get an FAQ section on the website, and is unsure if there is a quiz yet, but the website is perfectly capable of supporting it if the quiz is made. Certainly something that could be added
  - i) Raak shares that Steven Catlind emphasized that the website is customizable, so any of these suggestions (FAQ and quiz) could be

included even before voting occurs

j) Senator Byers shares that she feels it would save students a lot of money and the discomfort that could come from signing a lease when they are uncertain

k) Senator Weekley - many complexes have deals that run throughout the year, will it be the housing complexes or GV responsible for updating the website? Pagel - could probably get some of the deals listed without much difficulty, this will likely be a cooperation between GV and the complexes

(i) Raak shares that some apartment complexes are “call for pricing” or “call for availability”, it would depend on what the property owners want

v. VP Thompson - how much information will be provided on allowing pets and the pricing for pets. Raak - the website filters for pets

#### IX. Public Comment - Part II

A. Melissa Baker-Boosamra shares thanks to Pagel and Raak for their willingness to work on this resolution. She is appreciative of the continued conversations with them and campus partners

#### X. Officer Reports - Reports were struck. These did not occur.

A. Senate Resources - Thompson

B. Allocations - Siegrist

C. Public Relations - Moine

D. Campus Affairs - Frappier

E. Educational Affairs - Mueller

F. Diversity Affairs - Neal

G. External Relations - Pagel

#### XI. Subcommittee Reports

#### XII. University Committee Reports

A. Siegrist, Faculty Salary and Budget; discussed faculty raise and unit stability reports

B. Siegrist, Steering Committee; discussed various items on mission, vision, values, and what comes next for key performance indicators

C. Mueller, general education committee; philosophy 204, some of the curriculum is being amended for class structure; approved annual assessment report for 2019-2020 and will begin work on this year's report (collecting data on that), also spoke on how to incorporate discussions on diversity, inclusion and equity and racism in conversations D.

Raak, University assessment committee, did not come with a consensus to south studies E.

Raak APPS, discussed whether GV will continue using Blackboard, a new version of Blackboard, or Cana, also discussed the My Blue Laker, which Raak suggests senators download

#### XIII. Roll Call - Part II

#### XIV. Call for Announcements

A. Dowker: to those who are interested in Cabinet positions, please contact the VP B.

McMahon: there is a Tea Time episode tonight with CSLC with the poet laureate from

Grand Rapids; the second weekend of Winter Fest is this weekend and Cabinet is planning on going Ice Skating, McMahon is also on the court if anyone would like to vote for them

- C. Mueller: K-12 Connect program is in need of volunteer tutors and mentors. Tutors will be required to at least a two hour time commitment
- D. Pagel: Governor Whitmer that the new budget plan has a 2% increase in higher education funding; met with Allendale Charter Township on Monday, there will be another meeting in March and early April; BoV will be meeting with GV Student Association next Thursday over Zoom to talk about slogan, logo, trophy, and to learn about how both universities handle the BoV process
- E. Thompson: apply to Cook Leadership academy, Thompson is available to answer questions about the academy

XV. Adjournment: 6:56pm