



General Assembly Meeting

Thursday, October 10th, 2019 — 4:30 pm
Pere Marquette Room — Kirkhof Center 2204

President: Eric-John Szczepaniak

Executive Vice President: Kelly Dowker

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- I. Call Meeting to Order: 4:30pm**
 - A. Moment of Silence
 - B. Pledge of Allegiance
 - C. Michigan State Motto
 - D. Roll Call
 - II. Public Comment – Part I**
 - A. Erin Hershberger speaks, raises concerns regarding the Pledge of Allegiance at GA. She provides rationale that it is “providing opportunities for students to be “othered””, as well as its religious and nationalist implications,
 - B. Jahaven Hay, Vice President of Finance for Alpha Phi Alpha shares that, starting Friday, October 25th, the fraternity will be running a drive to address the water crisis in Flint in which they would like to collect a minimum of five cases of water from each student organization. On November 1st/2nd, it will be delivered. For more information, the email is iealphas@gmail.com and information is posted to social media
 - III. Guest Speaker - Rachel Becklin, Career Center, Career Lab, New Career Center Space**
 - A. The location has been updated since last year; there are two locations: one in Devos (downtown) and in Student Services building (200)
 - B. Started Career Lab: for resumes, career-related questions, etc. accompanied by a career adviser
 - C. Professionalism resources: a course US 301 (one credit class focused on helping students find internships and jobs: handshake account - new website for job search, as well as employer research
 - D. Deadline to request presentations for student organizations is Friday, October 11th for this semester; it will be reopened in late November for next semester
 - E. Started a podcast: Work Like a Laker, 30-40 minutes episodes
 - F. Would appreciate spreading the information about career advisors; accessible through career lab, appointments, events, etc.
 - G. Career Fair, Wednesday, October 16th at Devos Place
 - IV. Five (5) Minutes to Pass Papers**
 - A. Executive Vice President Dowker - Investiture Ceremony, November 15th - those interested in walking at precession for this event should put their height and name for robes

V. President's Report

A. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

1. Vice President Benoit motions to have a five minute recess between Senate Resources and Finance reports due to the Senate Buddy reveal. This motion is seconded by Vice President McMahon and passes unanimously
2. Vice President Murarescu motions to approve agenda as amended and is seconded by Vice President Pagel. The motion passes unanimously

B. President Szczepaniak will be in Washington, D.C. for the LGBT International Leadership Conference and will not attend the President's Investiture

1. Executive Vice President Dowker will be speaking in his place
2. Recommends Senators attend on Friday, November 15th from 9am to 12pm

C. SOS Security Commission: Wednesday, October 16th from 4pm to 6pm in the Cook-Dewitt Center; present to discuss concerns about election security, more information on this topic, personal experience, etc.

D. New Salem fundraiser: Friday, October 18th from 5pm to 1am; fundraiser is still in need of volunteers (to total at least 20)

E. IT: Tuesday, October 22nd from 4:30pm to 5:30pm (before Cabinet meeting at 6pm); meeting with Sue Korznick to ask questions about topics, projects, websites, etc.

F. Grand Opening to Grand River Greenway: Wednesday, October 23rd, the President's Office has invited senate to attend (event from 3pm to 5pm with remarks tentatively at 3:30pm from University administrators). This will occur at the corner of 42nd Avenue and Pierce Street

G. Comments that today is National Mental Health Day and reiterates that Senate is for "people over projects"

H. Meeting with Butcher and McLogan - discussed the scope of Senate

1. Learned that some of the past resolutions (in which Senate petitioned the government to do something) were actually the responsibility of University Relations
2. Senate may express its opinion of student concerns to administrators, but not directly to the state/federal level. The accurate process would be to create a resolution, determine if Grand Valley agrees with it; then, after GV approval, let it pass up to the Board of Trustees
3. Senate is able to exclusively communicate with local communities
4. Lobbying efforts will be continued carefully and in communication with Vice President McLogan to ensure not statute is violated
5. Senate should not use the Senate letterhead while doing State Funding efforts; an association exists which officially lobbies for GV and other Michigan Universities

VI. Executive Vice President's Report

A. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

1. Stand approved

- B. Working on investiture speech
- C. Working on composites
- D. Working to secure an alternate GA location for December 5th meeting
- E. Worked on Lanthorn piece with President Szczepaniak pertaining to LGBT rights
- F. Meeting on Friday, October 11th about President's ball
- G. Requests more ideas for guest speakers
- H. Encourages cross-committee work with projects

VII. Officer Reports

A. Senate Resources – Hannah Benoit

1. Requests Senators to remember to log office hours
2. Reminder that a Senate bonding activity is this weekend at the Saginaw game
3. Further bonding activities are: Senate Lock-In, Friday, October 25th; New Salem Corn Maze, Friday, October 18th; Halloween costume party at Meadows in lieu of GA
4. Senate Buddy Reveal - five minute recess which reconvened at 5:31pm

B. Finance – Maddie Samuels

1. CFB and appropriations will take place this week - Senators must attend one of them in order to have voting rights
2. Encourages showing support for student organizations, Vice President Samuels will put approved events in officer reports for all the organizations that go through the above two committees

C. Campus Affairs – Grace McMahon

1. Attended Campus Life University Committee meeting with Vice President Fritz. Dean Rullman gave updates
 - a. Officially separated “care” and “conduct”
 - b. 2018-2019 report - increase in number of faculty who submitted care reports
 - c. New care report system will be implemented with Blackboard
2. Next week, CAC will have a bonding session
3. Food committee was Tuesday

D. Educational Affairs – Autumn Mueller

1. EAC did not meet this week due to midterms
2. Will choose award winners for Open Access Symposium next week, encourages professor nominations
3. Had 1:1s with committee
4. Planning for open access is mostly complete, award selection process is near its end
5. Date reminders: Symposium in library multipurpose room on Thursday, October 24th; Network visit is Tuesday, October 22nd; Tuesday, November 5th at 5pm on Pew campus in Eberhardt center is the Fall Arts Celebration

E. Diversity Affairs – Alex Murarescu

1. Encourages inter-committee collaboration for projects

2. Has MLK meeting on Friday, October 11th, planning has already commenced
3. Reviewing teach-in proposals, schedule should be finalized by next week - encourages senators to attend teach-ins
4. Members of Alpha Phi Alpha came to speak; recommends connecting to other student organizations by attending their events and asking how senate can assist
 - a. More information on bottle drive can be obtained from Vice President Murarescu
5. Discussions with a consulting group about renovation projects for Kirkhof, trip on Tuesday, October 22nd; will look at Eastern and Oakland housing, dining and student centers

F. External Relations – Joel Pagel

1. SVSU conference coming up - form in the slack
2. Will be doing archiving in Seidman library, would appreciate additional help
3. Met with Tom Butcher among others

G. Public Relations – Ryan Fritz

1. Sent in funding requests, orders, and continues planning for Senate Info Night (October 28th)
2. Will attend university committee meeting tomorrow
3. Working on putting together an article for Lanthorn for housing project
4. Senator Hicks requests Vice President Fritz register senate info night for the sorority - event has been registered

VIII. Sub-Committee Reports

A. MHAC

1. Senator DeBerry thanks those who volunteered for the Care Fair; the survey from the fair is located in the drive, requests that senators encourage others to take it
2. MHAC met last Monday
3. Discussed research topics for CLAS project - will be presented to the university; open to all interested parties
4. Counseling center project - more details to come
5. Next meeting a week from Monday, encourages senators to join on slack, keep up on google drive, reach out, etc.

IX. University Committee Reports

X. Unfinished Business

XI. New Business

A. Discussion on the proposed Sustainability Sub-Committee

1. Senator Marlowe presents the resolution (located in drive) proposing the sustainability sub-committee
2. Voting will occur next week, discussion today and next week
3. Discussion:

- a. Senator Dorian Thompson raises concerns regarding the first point in “Within the First Two Years” goals regarding single-use plastics
 - 1. President Szczepaniak shares that, as with sub-committee proposals, not all projects presented are guaranteed to become projects and are subject to change; they are proposals
- b. Senator Nitzkin suggests changing language from ‘get rid’ to ‘phase out’
- c. Senators Paquet, Houtman, Russo, Dailey, Sanchez-Castillo and Vice President Fritz offer support
- d. Vice President Fritz recommends Senator Marlowe for chair of sub-committee
- e. Vice President Pagel suggests a rewording of the bullet point regarding the use of the Henry Hall green house
- f. Senator Sanchez-Castillo makes a friendly amendment to call it “sustainability and infrastructure” committee
- g. Senator Moine makes a friendly amendment to include “forming partnerships” in the goals
- h. Senator Sanchez-Castillo points out that the budget may need to be adjusted or require funding in light of a new sub-committee

B. CALL FOR NEW ORDERS OF THE DAY

- 1. Senator Gamage motions to open discussion on a resolution in the works and is seconded by Senator Marlowe. The motion passes unanimously
- 2. Presentation of current efforts on Resolution F-19-03
- 3. Discussion/Questions:
 - a. Senator Marlowe recommends the class Wicked Problems and Sustainability
 - b. Executive Vice Presidents Dowker and Murarescu offer support
 - c. Senator Frappier recommends talking to more faculty
 - d. Senator Siegrist inquires if there have been previous project attempts - there have been, the local projects were abandoned. Further information is posted in the shared drive

XII. Public Comment – Part II

XIII. Call for Announcements

- A. Senator Hicks’ sorority is hosting its annual Grilled Cheese event on October 23rd from 5pm to 10pm. Tickets may be purchased from Senator Hicks, 4\$ for unlimited grilled cheese; supports girls going into tech- and computer-based careers
- B. Senator Nitzkin - Hillel is building a Sukkah on campus on East Kirkhof lawn (more info on slack); fraternity is selling pies from 10am-3pm to fundraise
- C. Vice President Murarescu is organizing and collecting water bottles for drive
- D. Vice President Fritz will host a movie night immediately following Halloween costume party
- E. Senator DeBerry is hosting social bonding tonight at 10pm

F. Senator Sanchez-Castillo - Eco-socialists is hosting a climate change town hall in mid-November

XIV. Adjournment: 6:22pm

The following General Assembly meeting will take place on Thursday, October 17th in the Pere Marquette room of the Kirkhof Center at 4:30pm