



General Assembly Meeting

Thursday, October 17th, 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: 4:31pm**
 - A. Moment of Silence
 - B. Pledge of Allegiance
 - C. Michigan State Motto
 - D. Roll Call
 - II. Public Comment – Part I**
 - A. Mackenzie Sandel raises concerns on behalf of the Grand Valley Rowing club in regards to the Grand River dredging project.
 - B. Executive Vice President Dowker reads a statement from former Senator Marsman in regards to the reinstatement of the Pledge of Allegiance to the agenda. Senator Marsman asks the Senate to consider removing pledge from agenda
 - III. Guest Speakers - Deb Rambadt - Campus Dining**
 - A. Updates for the fall
 1. Kleiner closed Ecogrounds and renovated C-store area, (installed new JavaCity + two way counter service)
 2. Renovation to Lobby shop in Kirkhof
 3. Closed Papa John's, spending time to research and decide what the best option is for this location (tentative plan to come Fall 2020). Students can use dining dollars for Allendale Jets
 4. Revised delis throughout campus
 5. Upgrades at concessions - changes to menu items and some reduction in prices
 6. Transition to GrubHub
 7. Changes to student catering menu
 8. Changed c-store providers (encourages submitting a survey to Campus Dining)
 9. Fall break hours have been posted
 - B. Food committee meets every three weeks - students do not have to be part of Senate to attend
 - C. Questions
 1. Offers appreciation for keeping locations open during Fall break (Vice President McMahan)
 2. Concessions can be purchased with dining dollars in specific locations (Senator Jenia Thompson)

3. The option for self-pick up catering eliminates the labor cost (Senator Benet)
4. Solutions for single-use plastic water bottles - dialogue to be had (Senator Paquet)
5. Students don't want to raise meal plan prices, but solutions need to be found for food during breaks for residents who stay on campus. There is discussion on pre-purchasing meals before breaks (Senator Russo)

IV. Five (5) Minutes to Pass Papers

- A. Executive Vice President Dowker shares composite schedule and Investiture attendance and height

V. President's Report

A. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

1. Executive Vice President Dowker motions to strike officer reports in light of the amount of New Business and is seconded by Vice President Murarescu.

a. Vice President Fritz offers counter argument

b. The motion passes (34-1-4)

2. Senator Jenia Thompson motions to move the appointment of Evan Sander to the Educational Affairs Committee to under President's Report. The motion is seconded by Vice President Mueller and passes with one abstention

3. Vice President Murarescu motions to adopt agenda as amended and is seconded by Vice President Pagel. The motion passes unanimously

B. Halloween costume party will take place on October 31st at the Meadows from 4:30-6:30pm. Costume is not required but encouraged

C. Official recommendation from President Mantella to the Board of Trustees in regards to Section 3.9 of the Board of Trustees Bylaws will be that *there is no approval required to the topics that can be spoken of and to change 5 days in advance to 2 days*

1. This policy will take effect if approved on November 1st

2. The Senate's position has not changed (preference of 0 days in advance)

3. President Szczepaniak will recommend the Board reconsider this change (and make the deadline 0 days in advance) in a few years if the desired result is not achieved

D. President Szczepaniak and Senator Jacobs will be doing a Teach-in presentation on OMA and other Sunshine laws in Michigan on Wednesday, November 6th

E. Letter by President Szczepaniak was published by Johnson Center in regards to strategic planning

F. An Op-ed written by President Szczepaniak, Executive Vice President Dowker and Vice President Murarescu was published in the Lanthorn about continued support for the LGBT community and Grand Valley's position on it

G. Vice President Mueller motions to appoint Evan Sander to the Educational Affairs and is seconded by Vice President Murarescu. The motion passes unanimously

VI. Executive Vice President's Report

A. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

1. Stand approved
- B. If there are conflicts with the time someone is scheduled for their Composite, inform Executive Vice President Dowker immediately
- C. Searching for an alternate GA location for December 5th
- D. Added speakers to line-up for next semester
- E. Executive Vice President Dowker and Senator Jacobs attended Allendale group meeting which featured discussion of a 45 bus line (“Allendale express”). A survey will be made to determine if this is a service students would use

VII. Officer Reports

VIII. Sub-Committee Reports

IX. University Committee Reports

- A. Vice President Murarescu attended EIC - working to approve the Teach-in proposals; within the next few weeks, will finalize and publish schedule
- B. Vice President Fritz attended University Writing Skills Committee - key points involve some professors moving from 3 to 4 year assessment cycle; discussion on SWS courses; discussion on instruction and retention; encourage face to face meetings with SWS instructors; revision on some university writing policies
- C. Next Board of Trustees meeting is on November 1st at 11am at CHS building

X. Unfinished Business

- A. Discussion on the proposed Sustainability Sub-Committee
 1. Senator Marlowe provides brief overview, goals, mission, purpose, etc.
 2. Vice President Pagel offers a professor contact
 3. Vice President Fritz calls to question and is seconded by Senator Pacquet. The motion passes with 2/3rds majority
- B. Senator Hicks motions to approve the Sustainability Sub-committee and to make Senator Marlowe the chair. The motion is seconded by Vice President Pagel and passes unanimously

XI. New Business

- A. Discussion on F-19-02: CHS Prayer Room
 1. Senator Nitzkin presents resolution (similar to previous resolution with a change in location)
 2. Discussion - voting will take place next week
 - a. Senator Nitzkin explains that work for the Prayer Room resolutions began with the renovation of the prayer room in Kirkhof, followed by the goal to get a prayer center downtown, and lastly a conversation with Ed Aboufadel to get one on the Health campus (President Szczepaniak)
 - b. Information on the prayer centers can be found on website; Presidents of all religious groups have been emailed (Senator Russo)

- c. Bob Stoll suggests utilizing the wording “prayer and meditation” space in place of only “prayer” space
- B. Discussion on F-19-03: Opposing the Grand River Waterway Project**
 - 1. Presentation of the formal resolution - highlights that the Grand River is navigable without dredging
 - 2. Updates from meetings - Ottawa county made an estimate for the cost of upkeep
 - 3. Discussion - voting will take place next week
 - a. Senator Siegrist reminds body that Senate represents the students, recognizes the full gallery present against Dredging; offers support for resolution
 - b. Senator Paquet makes a friendly amendment to have sentence read “GVSU students, infrastructure, and surrounding community,”
 - c. When the dredging will start is unclear; after this resolution, it would be taken to President Mantella and the Board of Trustees, perhaps faculty for support/approval (in response to question from Vice President Benoit)
 - d. Events: November 21st Water Quality forum; November 25th, Allendale Charter Township Council meeting; February 28th, MSU Quiet Adventures Symposium
 - e. This resolution will not be on the agenda for the November 1st Board of Trustees meeting (due to timeline); goal is to get this on the agenda for the February meeting (President Szczepaniak)
 - f. Sanchez-Castillo voices support; that being said, recommends opening a dialogue in regards to flooding (which was one of the reasons for dredging)
 - 1. Senator Marlowe responds that there is a bigger conversation to be had in regards to flooding and that he and Senator Gamage will look into it and bring more information next week
 - g. Senator Houtman reiterates that rowing is an important sport for Grand Valley and the dredging would have a negative impact

C. CALL FOR NEW ORDERS OF THE DAY

- 1. Executive Vice President Dowker motions to reinstate officer reports and is seconded by Vice President McMahon
- 2. DeBerry calls to question and is seconded by Senator Moine. The motion passes unanimously
- 3. Placard vote to reinstate officer reports. Motion passes (19-14-6)

XII. Reinstated Officer Reports

- A. Senate Resources - Hannah Benoit**
 - 1. Reminds Senators to not be on their phones during meetings and to pay attention to speakers
 - 2. Surveys who would be interest in instating a five minute recess
- B. Finance - Maddie Samuels**
 - 1. No appropriations tomorrow

- C. Campus Affairs - Grace McMahon
 1. Shout out to those who read through CAC report
 2. Attended meeting in regards to Elect Her
- D. Educational Affairs - Autumn Mueller
 1. Open access week is next week: Symposium is Thursday, October 24th (1:30-4pm);
 2. Thanks Senators who have tabled
 3. Award winners have been picked, promotions has finished their awards
- E. Diversity Affairs - Alex Murarescu
 1. Yields
- F. External Relations - Joel Pagel
 1. Meeting with SVSU student government Friday, October 18th at 7pm
 2. Meeting with U of M Flint at 5pm on Allendale campus
 3. ERC hosts voter registration drive at Pew living center from 7-9pm tonight
 4. Met with Melissa from OSL, talked about voter registration drive, civic engagement, polling place on campus
 5. Met with VP McLogan about future of ERC and State funding
- G. Public Relations - Ryan Fritz
 1. Senate Info Night on Monday, October 28th
 2. Attended a Grand Huddle and recommends
 3. Planning new bulletin board for downstairs (design next week, put up following week)
 4. New round of ORE questions, will be anonymous and more accessible, link will be sent out for the online survey
 5. Push surveys in impact folder for Senator DeBerry

XIII. Public Comment – Part II

- A. Bob Stoll challenges the Senate body to think about the efficiencies, redundancies, etc related to officer reports; asks to consider looking into communication and how to make it more efficient (“How do you make time valuable/make it count?”)

XIV. Call for Announcements

- A. Senator Hicks invites Senate to Girls Who Code fundraiser from 6pm to 10pm; tickets can be bought from Hicks
- B. Vice President McMahon shares Alternative Breaks with available fundraising and scholarship opportunities; questions can be sent to Senator Paquet and Vice President McMahon
- C. Senator Marlowe shares a Fridays for Our future climate demonstration which will meet at the Clock Tower at 1pm
- D. Senator Russo shares Haunted Hall event on October 27th from 8pm-11pm at Pew living center; a volunteer form will be available in the Slack channel

- E. Senator DeBerry shares that MHAC will not meet on Monday, but that he is available for individual meetings
 - F. Vice President Benoit reminds those who have composites to head to promotions
 - G. Senator Nitzkin thanks Senator Gamage for help building the Sukkah
 - H. President Szczepaniak shares that the State of the Student Body speech will take place on January 16th at 4:30pm at the Cook-Dewitt center - this will occur in lieu of GA
 - I. Senator Sanchez-Castillo shares that on Monday, October 21st he will meet with University Budget to talk about (\$15) minimum wage for student employees; and on Tuesday October 22nd, there is an IT meeting in Senate office from 4:30pm to 5:30pm; additionally, Replenish is open during Fall break
 - J. Senator Jacobs encourages attendance at the Voter Registration drive at Pew today
 - K. Vice President Fritz reminds that Cabinet will not meet on Sunday, October 20th. The next meeting will be Tuesday, October 22nd at 6pm
- XV. Adjournment: 6:06pm**