



General Assembly Meeting

Thursday, October 24th, 2019 — 4:30 pm
Pere Marquette Room — Kirkhof Center 2204

President: Eric-John Szczepaniak

Parliamentarian: Hannah Benoit

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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
 - III. Guest Speakers - Jen Hsu-Bishop, Milton E. Ford LGBT Resource Center
 - A. Extends gratitude to President Szczepaniak, Executive Vice President Dowker and Vice President Murarescu in reference to their Letter to the Editor on Grand Valley's commitment to the LGBT+ community. Thanks Senate of past and present for their work
 - B. Shares a list of upcoming events located on bookmark and website
 - C. Details work with west Michigan and state-wide communities, particularly education programs dealing with LGBT+ homelessness and how to have these conversations at the university and in student organizations
 1. Trainings are open to the public
 - D. Hosting 5th annual statewide LGBTQIA+ summit on the Friday of spring break; organized with the help of a group of GVstudents
 - E. My Name - allows students to change their name on all GVSU documents. A Banner equivalent has been in place for a little more than a year; a user survey will be sent to those who indicated a my-name which Senate can help to share information on
 - F. Demographics - there is no formal process to collect optional information to indicate gender identity or pronouns, therefore cannot be used for better support from center // invites senate to encourage this conversation with administration
 - G. Question/Discussion
 1. Senator Hicks - what are the steps Grand Valley takes to make pronouns more public? Offers 101 training for faculty and staff (as well as for other colleges) but cannot impose trainings, the center must be invited in. Center has been and will continue to be proactive in partnering with LGBT faculty association to spread information and support, especially engaging in use of pronouns; encourages Senate to spread word about education and resources

2. Senator Paquet comments upon coding - placement in My Banner will help bring this to the attention of the professors/faculty

3. Vice President Benoit - homelessness, knowledge about this issue in the Allendale area? - almost no communities in michigan collect information on this in a meaningful way (“what’s measured matters”), // how to collect information and address these issues simultaneously

4. Benoit - approaching above would begin with more awareness or asking questions, networking, etc. / True Colours - was recommended data collection, awareness campaigns, education (happy to share recommendations doc to senate - will be placed in google drive) ; that being said, gv is not an exception to the national data

IV. Five (5) Minutes to Pass Papers

- A. Pres - tomorrow is deadline to rsvp for presidential investiture - all senators invited, paper is for name and email, as well is if you’ve already rsvpd and cannot make it
- B. Murarescu - Gvsu climate survey tabling sign-up - office hours - locations downtown and in Allendale, 2 hour time slots //not senate tabling, campus wide tabling
- C. Marlowe- availability sheet for sustainability sub committee
- D. Benoit - Laker experience day - giving tours, 10:30am-12pm, guiding around groups of about 15

V. President’s Report

A. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

1. Dailey motions to move appointment of william Thayer from new business to above EVP report, seconded by VP Fritz; motion passes unanimously

2. Sanchez-Castillo - motion to amend agenda and all future agenda to state line item ‘a’ as “moment of silence for native land recognition”, seconded by Murarescu / Dailey calls to question, seconds by mueller; motion passes unanimously / motion passes unanimously with two abstentions

3. Benoit - motion to add a five minute recess directly after officer reports and before sub-committee reports for today and the rest of the year, seconded by Sanchez-Castillo (between line items seven and eight) / discussion - Nitzkin voices concerns about how the recess could impair efficiency/ Sanchez-castillo and Marlowe, Thompson, Jenia offer support // motion passes with 2 nays and 4 abstentions

4. Motion to approve agenda as amended by Murarescu, seconded by Hicks; motion passes unanimously

- B. Halloween party 4:30 to 6:30, sponsored by office of student life, “costumes are optional, having fun is not” there is no GA
- C. Jesse Bernal - division of EIC, building new curriculum to help CEOs university presidents, superintendents, etc. Them know how to properly support their DEI director
- D. Getting more involved with True Colours west michigan can be put in touch with Jen or Pres. Sz.

- E. Previous actions: Last year Resolution W-19-05, Gv changed its procurement clause so that it no longer considers contracts with private vendors which discriminate against qual /
- F. Editing constitution and bylaws (as result of meeting with VP Butcher) will be discussed today
- G. Anyone wanting to address bot, request to speak is due tomorrow; if a senator chooses to speak, they speak as an individual they are not authorized as a speaker on behalf of senate
- H. Encourages senate to seek own further knowledge, own understanding to help and stand with (as well as other topics)
- I. Appointment of William Thayer to PRC, motioned by Fritz and seconded by murarescu; motion passes unanimously

VI. Executive Vice President's Report - provided by Benoit

- A. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES
 - 1. Stand approved
- B. Composite photos are tonight (final night)
- C. Preparing remarks for investiture (let her know if there is anything you would like emphasized, turn in tomorrow)
- D. Reach out asap if Senator is signed up and cannot attend investiture (friday, november 15th) - form asks that you're available from 9am until 12pm

VII. Officer Reports

- A. Senate Resources – Hannah Benoit
 - 1. Bonding - lock in this friday at 7pm to 12pm, have SOC, (shout out to Senator Boyd); football game - informal, info in slack (homecoming regents will be announced at half time); halloween party at meadows 4:30pm, movie night after hosted by Fritz ; new calendar made for november
 - 2. Made project spreadsheet (put in shared drive) - place anything senators are working on, able to look at what others are working on
 - 3. Shoutouts to senators for reading report and those who read them do not have to do office hours next week
- B. Finance – Maddie Samuels
 - 1. CFB (room 2201 kirkhof at 1pm) tomorrow and appropriations - required for voting rights (for budgets, funding approvals, etc.) (1 meeting)
 - 2. Mueller and she attended university stakeholder meeting
- C. Campus Affairs – Grace McMahan
 - 1. Nitzkin -
 - 2. Share flier for Elect Her, nominate friends and people who are interested, nominate as many people as you want Laker Link Cslc

3. Meeting with CAB president about food drive/fundraiser for Replenish - reach out if interested or with ideas ; kick off after state of body speech on January 16th and last between a week and a week and a half (tentative)
4. Vote for homecoming regent - VP Murarescu and VP Pagel
5. Attend Lock-in
6. Plug senate info night and attend
7. Food committee is Tuesday, October 29th 1104 kirkhof 4-5pm

D. Educational Affairs – Autumn Mueller

1. Open Access symposium was today, thanks senators who promoted event and stopped by

E. Diversity Affairs – Alex Murarescu

1. Sign-up to table for climate survey (thanks those who have)
2. Finishing up Teach-In, schedule will hopefully be published tomorrow; Nov. 6/7th
3. Climate survey launches the week after with many launch events; will take time during GA to fill it out
4. Thanks EAC for open access efforts
5. Food insecurity task force will start up soon, Hicks and Neil (Sanchez-Castillo is also a contact) will be student senate representatives
6. Benoit requests Murarescu speak about her outfit - traditional Romanian dress

F. External Relations – Joel Pagel

1. Went to Saginaw valley last friday, met with student gov't, spoke about higher education funding and BoV, philanthropic initiatives, preparation for upcoming conference
2. Met with U of M flint, talking about getting a higher education coalition together with students
3. Meeting with Dearborn and Wayne state soon
4. Polling place email sent up by Pres
5. Ann Arbor next weekend to meet with members of LSA and central gov't
6. Archive day again in the cages of kirkhof this week

G. Public Relations – Ryan Fritz

1. Encourages continuing advertisement for events
2. Senate info night on Monday from 7-9 in library multipurpose room
3. Dailey encourages senators to encourage their friends, others to attend
4. Fritz suggests the possibility of asking professors of classes for permission to send information through class email to plug events

VIII. Five Minute Recess (be in room and in seats by 5:45)

IX. Sub-Committee Reports

1. Marlowe - sustainability first meeting is next friday at 4pm room tbd, talking about strategic planning and initial ideas

2. DeBerry, MHAC Monday at 5pm, reach out to be involved, don't have to come to meetings

3. Hicks - S - 5pm on wednesday - talking about new projects

X. University Committee Reports

1. Siegrist - faculty salary and budget committee meeting met on Saturday, discussed unit reviews, graduate programs, HR presented about faculty benefits

2. Benoit - (pres as well) sat on Con rep meeting on Monday, (consensual relationships between faculty and students) revision of university policy 9.2 (faculty) ; develop recommendations for revisions, creating initial report of primary findings, will be presented at ECS not later than Nov. 30th (next meeting is Nov. 1st from 3-5pm) /// ?s - SC - referring to intimate relationships (as opposed to platonic), Benoit - due to the vagueness of the current policy; Murarescu - is it staff or student policy?

XI. Unfinished Business

A. Discussion and Voting on F-19-02: CHS Prayer Room - presented by Nitzkin

1. Dailey offers support

2. Marlowe would like to emphasize the need for communication with downtown students about this

3. Murarescu motions to approve, seconded by Paquet; motion passes unanimously

B. Discussion and Voting on F-19-03: Opposing the Grand River Waterway Project

1. Dailey references the presence of the rowing team to rationalize her support

2. Gamage - in reference to last week's question about flooding, studies which have been done on how it might impact on the environment have not addressed flooding; that dredging would dry up the flood plains so it wouldn't address the issue

3. Share a video to refresh;

4. Pres reminds that Ottawa counted stated their opposition and their willingness to sue the state of michigan, as it stands to lose many acres of riverside property; senate may make concerns known to local officials; university will make efforts if it decides to take a position with their own lobbyists

5. Murarescu takeaway from previous meeting - references the necessity of many people to voice their concerns (which was required for the Flint crisis to get noticed)

6. Moine - do we know if anyone else plans to speak about this? Several townships are listed which oppose the dredging project (presented in resolution); in resolution, requested that other local municipalities do their own research and form a position

7. Frappier - reminder that the locations which would economically benefit from the dredging are opposing it

8. Benet motions to approve and Nitzkin seconds;

9. Sanchez-Castillo - references the devastation of flooding and the financial costs

10. Paquet - recognizing the Flint crisis which still is unsolved and in light of the state funding this project which would promote tourism; dredging wouldn't solve the flooding issue anyway , supports issue

11. Gamage - the design of this project is not to address flooding; but O'Keefe states that the alterations "would be a matter of inches as opposed to feet"

12. Vote: motion to approve resolution, motion passes unanimously with two abstentions

XII. New Business

A. Discussion on Updates to Internal Documents - Constitution & Bylaws

1. Constitution - must be approved by university president (always supercedes bylaws)

2. Pres, in meeting with Tom Butcher and Pagel, found things which need to be fixed or altered, (example, committees often had two different purpose statements)

3. Pres presents -2018-2019 Senate approved (called 2019 Constitution)

4. Some additions/amendments include: meeting protocols, public comment practices, length of term, senate's authority to maintain a relationship with local government (Ottawa and Kent counties), non-discrimination policy

5. Hicks - asks to change pronouns to 'they' and to remove or alter 'preferred' in both Constitution and bylaws

6. Fritz - if EVP is running for re-election; EVP is in charge of delegating who should be put in charge of running election / Bob - look at potential conflict of interests in elections (and other sections)

7. DeBerry - CTF next semester? Dowker, not planning on it. Changes should be brought to Pres' attention

- Bylaws-
- Things which need to be cut out; only require senate to approve and implement
- Located in shared drive to look over, but likely will not be discussed today

- Benoit requests anyone unfamiliar with the documents to look into it

B. CALL FOR NEW ORDERS OF THE DAY

1. Hicks - feeling around for senate feelings - would like to make voting records public (how individuals vote in Senate) and provides rationale - as elected officials, students should know how a senator votes in order for a student to call for impeachment, believes senators should own their vote and opinion; some ideas are available with their various pros and cons. Motions to open discussion and is seconded by Sanchez-Castillo; (Benoit asks to keep poli-sci majors, political endeavors out of the discussion, and supports)

- a. Thompson, Jenia supports, gives voters more incentive

- b. Marlowe, supports good way to connect with constituents
 - c. Siegrist - supports, transparency
 - d. Krichevsky - supports
 - e. Sanchez-Castillo offers support and echoes previous statements of support
 - f. Russo - suggests counting votes only for resolutions as opposed to minor things which would help to limit time
 - g. Houtman, supports as long as the implementation is correctly
 - h. Moine asks if it would include election voting; Hicks clarifies that elections, awards and impeachments are NOT included
 - i. Dailey suggests a role call vote as a potential solution
 - j. Boyd - doesn't believing implementing this would change the way voting is done, also suggests voting through slips which would be correctly recorded after GA by office assistant
 - k. Szczepaniak offers support
 - l. Thayer (senator-elect) supports (regardless of time concerns)
2. Dailey - asks for senate buddy photos

XIII. Public Comment – Part II

- A. (Above) Kalen, representative of Lanthorn in Moran's place - would like to know if some language in constitution is exact language from Kenowa Hills school district, recommends review to ensure it is not plagiarism

XIV. Call for Announcements

- A. Sanchez-Castillo - pep talk Kirkhof 1104 Tuesday, 29th, talk about sexual assault, bystander intervention, etc. /
- B. Russo - haunted halls sunday the 27th from 8-11 at pew living center, info in slack
- C. Jacobs - teach in on OMA nov. 6th at seidman (downtown) 3-3:45; help with hosting voter registration drive
- D. Paquet - hosting tailgate by field house (through board)

XV. Adjournment:6:56pm