



General Assembly

Thursday, November 5th, 2020 — 4:30 pm

Via Zoom

President: Kelly Dowker

Parliamentarian: Grace McMahon

- I. Call Meeting to Order: 4:31pm
 - 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. Chiara Nicholas - author of the petition cited in the resolution on mental health which will be presented later this meeting. Notes that a mental health break is not only necessary for students, but professors as well; also acknowledges the Covid concerns
 - B. Baker-Boosamra - congratulations to VP Pagel for his efforts to bring satellite location to campus, as well as the various volunteers - thanks Senate for partnership
 - C. Chris DeWent - (member of Club Sports) has found that Club Sports has not received their funding, which has impacted many teams. Concern of the teams is that they are not going to be able to have a season, acknowledges that everyone has to make sacrifices, but requests that GV look into other ways to pursue money to support club sports, accommodating for future seasons with the lack of funds presently.
 - i. Dowker requests his email and intends to connect DeWent with Senate funding resources
- III. GVSU Strategic Planning Discussion - Jesse Bernal & Chris Plouff (associate VP of academic affairs)
 - A. Shares pre-work and plans for moving forward. The following information is taken from a powerpoint presented by AVP Plouff
 - B. Reach Higher 2025 - strategic plan under Mantella administration
 - i. Strategically advance university in bold new directions
 - ii. Position the university to be a top choice for students, faculty, staff and community partners
 - iii. Grow enrollments enhancing existing markets and new market segments and their performance
 - iv. Engage learners in high-quality programs with high-impact practices
 - v. Diversify the campus community
 - vi. Position the university well - an enabling structure, financial stability and ready for uncertainty and change
 - vii. Utilize multi-campus locations strategically to attract new audiences and programmatic opportunities

- C. 2016-2021 Plan is ending in the winter semester, so work for a new plan has begun. University leadership is excited to start planning for the future; all VPs and Deans will have roles as planning officers
- D. Five identified Commitments to the university
 - i. Knowledge and skills for the 21st Century
 - ii. Build on the reciprocity of learning
 - iii. The Laker Lifetime Learning - commitment to create an ongoing connection between Lakers and the university
 - iv. Expand access to new learners
 - v. A talent epicenter to attract entrepreneurs and employers
- E. Goals (cont.)
 - i. A learner centered education
 - ii. Inclusion and equity in GVSU's education through access and outcomes
 - iii. Liberal education - adaptable, digital, and transversal skills for the 21st century
 - iv. Graduates are well-prepared, resilient leaders in workforce and society
 - v. Relevant and differentiated GV experiences moving from "available" to "all"
 - vi. Growth mindset aligned with a future of rapid change
- F. Brief overview of 2020-2021 timeline graphic
- G. Review of Proposed Process
- H. Review of Steering Committee members
- I. Questions
 - i. Dowker - how involved do you see students in this process? (formulation of strategic plan); Response - as involved as they want to be, there will be various opportunities through various modalities; encourages participation in open town-halls and small-group invites in order to solicit input
 - ii. Dowker - could you speak a bit to what you do with accreditation? Plouff: oversees accreditation activities for university; there are two levels - one, institution as a whole is credited by the higher learning commission; two, program accreditation, programs go through a set of more specific standards in order to receive accreditation
 - iii. Cargill - how do you figure out what is your next mission? What does that process look like? Plouff - that's the work of the Steering Team, identifying objectives through looking at mission and value statements, previous strategy, sustainability, etc.
 - iv. Siegrist - what tangible changes/impact will the steering committee have on the student body? Plouff - great impact, it'll set the direction of the institution for the next four years. The primary influence being the students - could mean looking at resources, programming, way to approach education, etc.
- IV. Five (5) Minutes to pass the papers
- V. President's Report
 - A. Approval of the agenda
 - i. Stands approved
 - B. President will attend the Board of Trustees meeting where she will be introduced.

- C. UAS meets tomorrow as well - discussion on Academic and Student Affairs budget, as well as strategic planning discussion, and voting on some of their own legislation
- VI. Executive Vice President's Report
 - A. Approval of the minutes
 - i. Stand approved
 - B. Headshots - two dates available Friday 3-6pm, and Saturday 11am - 2pm; for those who don't live nearby and cannot make the trip, McMahon will put together alternatives
 - C. Both Dowker and McMahon encourage senators to take care of themselves properly
- VII. Appointment of Naomi Armstrong to the Diversity Affairs Committee
 - A. VP Neal offers rationale, citing Armstrong's previous success on Senate and as a member of all three subcommittees; motions to appoint
 - B. Motion is seconded by VP Siegrist
 - C. Motion passes unanimously
- VIII. Unfinished Business
- IX. New Business
 - A. Discussion and Voting on F-20-01: A Resolution to Support Alternative Methods to Compensate for the Mental Health Effects of Eliminating Spring Break for the Winter 2021 Semester - presented by Senators Raak and Zbikowski
 - i. Zbikowski - were made aware of a petition circulated regarding the removal of Spring break for winter 2021; felt as senators and co-chairs of MHAC, Raak and Zbikowski, that removing spring break has created significant mental health challenges for the student body
 - ii. Raak - Academic Calendar has changed Winter 2021 to a 14 week semester as well as exams, acknowledges that given the circumstances of pandemic there is logic (and necessity) for spring break's removal; reached out to UCC for feedback; and presents two suggestions within the resolution for potential alternatives to a spring break: a few days worth of break spread out over March, a dead week
 - iii. Zbikowski - agreed it was best to leave resolution open ended to provide Faculty & Staff Senate opportunity to come up with their own (perhaps better) alternative to the elimination of spring break; in the event this does not happen, Student Senate will present their own specific solution in the form of a bill
 - iv. Discussion
 - a) Moine - is the part about the University Task force new? Dowker says yes, included after being advised to make a tangible request
 - v. Voting
 - a) Resolution passes with 31 for, 1 against, 3 abstentions
 - B. Nominations for Vice President for Campus Affairs
 - i. Dowker - shares appreciation for Holcomb's commitment and support within Senate, then opens Nominations. Election and Voting will take place on November 19th
 - ii. Samuels - nominates Senator Frappier; provides rationale in that he's done well on Senate in the previous year, EVP McMahon seconds
 - a) Senator Frappier accepts the nomination

- iii. There will be another period for nominations on the 19th before Voting
 - C. Call for New Orders of the Day
- X. Public Comment - Part II
- XI. Officer Reports
 - A. Senate Resources
 - i. Officers hours are due at 5pm tomorrow (Friday), if anyone has had an issue, please message Thompson with Slack message or excused absence form
 - ii. In order to accommodate for the lack of Fall Break as well as the amount of stress, senators will be exempt from doing an office hour in the next week
 - B. Allocations
 - i. Funding requests were approved: Pokemon Scavenger Hunt event; Geologist Club event's speaker
 - ii. Will set up another time to get voting rights
 - iii. Will continue working with Craig W.
 - iv. November 21st - Paint and Sip program hosted by OSL, sponsored by Student Senate and funded by Student Life Fund. There will be a 7-8pm and an 8-9pm sessions
 - C. Public Relations
 - i. Continue plugging Senate social media, and if there are other orgs that have events that need to be shared, contact Moine
 - ii. Have shared graphics for the Veteran's Breakfast, encourages senators to take a look at the event
 - iii. Senator Eldon Pearson has put together a Senate of the Week form which was sent out in McMahon's weekly email
 - iv. Progress has been made on Senate Swag - a poll is sent in the Google Chat link to determine which products individuals are interested in ordering
 - D. Campus Affairs
 - i. Mental Health is important, but also take care of physical self and pay attention to basic needs, there are campus resources such as Replenish
 - ii. Many events from OSL: Paint and Sip, Grocery Bingo, etc.
 - E. Educational Affairs
 - i. Committee is working on some proposals, so those interested in Printer Project or standardizing curriculum for online classes may contact her
 - ii. Working on personal projects for Open Access and curriculum
 - F. Diversity Affairs
 - i. Has one more process training before data can be presented
 - ii. Teach-In is next week, there will be no GA so that senators have time to attend one
 - iii. Jen reached out to offer students a spot on two committees; two DAC committee members will be sitting on LGBTQIA+ recruitment and retention committees
 - G. External Relations
 - i. Thanks those who volunteered to work at the satellite office
 - ii. Encourages continued civic engagement

- iii. SCHEF will start up next week - election materials will be figured out, hosting a Summit (Michigan Leadership student gov't meeting), highlighting State-wide collaboration
 - iv. Archive Day - will be set up
 - v. Will have philanthropic updates next week, specifically with Giving Tuesday
- XII. Subcommittee Reports
 - A. Byers - first meeting held today, meet twice a month at 12:50pm; there is a link in Drive sharing the projects discussed during today's meeting
 - B. Zbikowski - met with UCC this week, one of the biggest request for MHAC was to help publicize UCC's mental health events through utilizing Student Senate's resources and media, so will be collaborating with Moine; Next meeting will be next Friday
- XIII. University Committee Reports
 - A. Siegrist (FSBC) - reviewed faculty healthcare and wellness programs; VRIP approved of all applicants
 - B. Mueller - General Education Committee - focused on 4 classes
 - i. Religion 300 - discussed moving this into a human rights course
 - ii. SOC 430 - lots of discussion on collaboration and integration; assessments need to be adjusted due to the online format
 - iii. Marketing 359 - Global perspective offered as a Gen Ed
 - iv. PSY 204 - ethical references, discussion and assessment (adjusted)
 - C. Mueller - APSC
 - i. Student absence and attendance policy review for winter 2021, old policy will remain in place
 - ii. continuation of temporary academic policies for Winter 2021 semester, all was approved including the withdrawal date being on Week 12 and Credit/No Credit extension
 - iii. Student Senate bereavement policy - GV compared different peer universities. GV will add a point to attendance policy for next academic semester
 - iv. Prior Learning - course credits for standardized tests given by GV within classes, committee wants to establish an evaluation; this policy will be established for undergrad like it is for grad school
 - D. Ortiz - Writing Skills Committee
 - i. Proposal to move MUS course online from the MTD department.
 - E. Raak - University Assessment Committee
 - i. Finalizing a letter to send to the unit heads that did not submit a self-evaluation. Working on team 0 which finalizes a lot of reviews. The Academic Technology Advisory Committee will resume next semester.
 - F. Suchecki - LIFT Committee
 - i. Working on a report for CEI. Trying to gauge how students feel about how students are feeling about classes. Learning curve and will report back with more information.
- XIV. Roll Call - Part II
 - A. Senate Resources Committee
- XV. Call for Announcements

- A. Pagel - If anyone wants a Student Senate I voted sticker please reach out.
- B. Neal- Sign up to be hosts for the Teach In next Thursday.
- C. Zbikowski - Join for the Veteran's breakfast next week with President Mantella.
- D. Moine - Reminder to fill out the google form about Senate Swag.
- E. Ortiz - Reminder to leave your number when you go out to eat so you can be traced.
- F. Cargill - Reminder to volunteer for the Student Ambassadors Program within the admissions offices.

XVI. Adjournment: 6pm