



General Assembly

Thursday, November 29th, 2018 – 4:30 pm

Pere Marquette – Kirkhof Center

Chair: Morgan Mattler

Parliamentarian: Holly Neva

I. Call Meeting to Order: 4:30pm

- a. Moment of Silence
- b. Pledge of Allegiance
- c. Roll Call

II. Guest Speakers

- a. Theresa Rowland, Title IX Coordinator
 - i. Kristal is accompanying me today, who is our victim advocate here at GVSU.
 - ii. Here to address the changes that happened over the summer and continue to show how we evolve. I help oversee the grievance process with gender and sexual misconduct, like assault and harassment. I help oversee the investigation process as well.
 - iii. Past summer, Michigan passed legislature that affects budgeting for title IX. Lots of these changes are partly due to what happened at MSU. Some of the changes are required training offered to incoming students. GVSU already did this but we are glad this is now a requirement. Other elements require we have a liaison for the board of trustees. Liaison shares data, knows what we do with our work and how we do it. We notify the board when an employee is involved with an incident of sexual misconduct too. We take many steps to make sure bias is not present with cases.
 - iv. Recent lawsuit of MSU, resulted in us allowing a “live” cross examination. Hearing allows individuals to ask complainant questions. Interim process is online on Title IX website too.
 - v. Pending department of education guidance. Department of education, enforcement of education rights (Makes sure they are following laws and policy), new proposed guidance allows an opportunity for comment and questions.
 - vi. Some elements that are being proposed, we are hoping you are diving into the details. University is hoping to submit a comment to the department of education.
 - vii. Proposes university no longer liable for off campus events.
 - viii. More choice for university to choose between preponderance of evidence or another choice.
 - ix. Another change is narrowing definition of sexual harassment.
 - x. Senator Schaffer: Expectations for Doe v Baum to go to supreme court
 - xi. It has been ruled on in the 6th circuit. O of M did not challenge the ruling.
 - xii. Senator Nurmi: Lots of Universities across the country seem to use the title IX office to protect the university, but grateful that does not seem to be the case here at GVSU. Continued efforts to remain unbiased

- xiii. Glad students continue to ask questions from the university to hold us accountable
 - xiv. VP McIntosh: SAAC how to assist title IX?
 - xv. Provide comments on how you see this impacting you as students and potential future students, what it means for GVSU, what are values are, how to hold us accountable. Spirit of Title IX is to hold people accountable and educate individuals. Come into conversation with us.
 - xvi. Kristal (Victim Advocate): Silence is choosing a side, SAAC could come up with list of concerns from proposed changes to Title IX, if changes happen, GVSU can still go above and beyond. Its On Us and social justice center, LGBT center, are some places we have been in talks with for getting a general poll on how students feel. I want to make sure we continue to have documentation of the voice of students. Most powerful voices I believe. Timeline by December 14th for initial response and feedback on proposal. Send me an email if you want to voice opinions or concerns.
 - xvii. Kristal Presentation: I make sure to provide resources and support student survivors. For violence prevention programming, we continue to grow. This semester we have educated around 6000 students, more than entire last academic year. Search Committee have sent out an offer for researcher, GVSU has received a grant for the third year in a row for growing violence prevention.
- b. Kristin Meyer, MIP Director of User Experience
- i. Here to talk about user experience team to ensure students have a good experience in using library and also here to talk about exam cram.
 - ii. Work on all sorts of projects in how student use library spaces. User Experience team on first floor of library, make sure the service desk is approachable, student employees making sure we are approachable and trained to follow through with student questions, how to guide them or finding an answer for them on where to go.
 - iii. Purpose of team is not only make sure the library experience is beneficial, but to make sure we best support student in their academic needs and pursuits.
 - iv. We love working with senators as they have continued over the years to give us ideas on how to continue improve the library spaces (hand sanitizers, laptop charger, use of study rooms)
 - v. We do our own surveys, like daily experience. Also collect space usage data, how it is being used or how full it is. We prototype furniture and collect data on how it is used, also how technology is used in study rooms. We use data to make improvements
 - vi. Exam Cram. Traditional is week of exams and before exams. We know it is stressful, so we try to put out a slate of programming to provide care and stress relief. We offer extended library hours for 9 days of those two weeks. We don't believe cramming the

- night before is beneficial but sometimes student need to have this spacious tin case when they do need these extended hours. We do not get a lot of traffic from 3am-6am (50-60) but glad we offer it.
- vii. Activities for exam cram. Therapy dogs, massage stations, puzzles, notebook, face painting, variety of things to do to help students in stressful time for exams.
 - viii. Partnered with GVPD this year to help promote safety tips, Safety walk program, Rave Guard program as well.
 - ix. Something we heard from students that when leave stuff in library unattended, we will remove them and store them at service desk if left unattended for extended periods of times.
 - x. Will be keeping track of open spaces (Collaborative and quiet spaces) can ask us where there is an open space, can check library page to see how full library space is on website.
 - xi. Asking senate to help promote etiquette for exam cram. Encourage students to share space and clean up after themselves. Don't "Spread out" if you don't have to.
 - xii. Senator Kolc: Last year, some issues I heard was when they were there at 3am, they still got tickets, so how is that handled?
 - xiii. Was not aware of this parking issue, something we can explore. Bus does run later during exam cram; library website will tell you bus schedule for exam cram for starting November 30
 - xiv. Senator Drosshart: What would be a change you would like to see if there was no budget limitation?
 - xv. Wish we had more open visible places, design of MIP is great for that, but more sensory sensitive spaces that are open. Another could be smaller group study rooms.
 - xvi. VP McIntosh: First year students have librarians come into classrooms, but a lot of students don't get that since they may test of or WRT150, so maybe give them a pamphlet to let students know of how to use resources for library.
 - xvii. We try our best to reach as many students as possible, always open to ideas on how to better reach some of those missed students.
 - xviii. Senator Bialowas: Students who sleep in library, what they do to counteract that for them taking up space, maybe a nap area?
 - xix. Guiding principals of space is allow students own their education. We allow napping and sleeping, but since we don't have much traffic for the overnight, we are okay with the sleeping. But during the busy times, something we can look into. Have talked about "Nap Pods" before.

- xx. Senator Hall: More of what you do as I am curious, in charge of all resources in library or just exam cram and spaces in library.
- xxi. We have a knowledge market manager, so I don't oversee it all, but will always help give feedback to correct people and places.
- xxii. Senator Downey: Long Brown tables, 4 person tables, maybe incorporate removable dividers?
- xxiii. Mobile Dividers were piloted and most students didn't realize what they were for, dividers are \$1000 a piece. Maybe better promotion of mobile dividers.
- xxiv. Senator LaPlatt: Teaming up with counseling center during exam cram?
- xxv. Yes we do, they help schedule therapy dogs, also offer sleep/blood/stress screening and other programs and resources.

III. **Public Comment – Part I**

- a. President of inter fraternity council: Here for introduction for better relationship/grow. Hopefully we can help partner more on Sexual Assault Awareness and Alcohol programs in the future. Hoping in the future we can advocate to help for funds for programming.

IV. **Five (5) Minutes to Pass Papers**

VP Qureshi: Exam cram both in MIP and downtown. List for helping out, either in Allendale or Downtown. They will help table handing out food, walking around with cart, help handout green books, other supplies, more in report.

V. **President's Report**

- a. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA – Approved
- b. Will be leaving at 6pm for Toast with T-Haas. EVP Mattler will take over.
- c. One more GA, next week. Love Energy and the growth we have seen
- d. Associate dean lunch, love the people we saw being interviewed.
- e. Changes for Title IX, I intern in the Title IX office, really important for us to make statements on research on our own to what changes we approve or disapprove for title IX changes. Maybe a resolution could be a route. These are guideline proposal changes.
- f. Board of Trustees meeting, February meeting. Talk about student issues. I can send in physical items, but timeline for sending this in so it is physical, so I can have physical items there instead of just a verbal report.
- g. From student government conference, we got lots of information on who has a student rep on their board of trustees.
- h. Water Initiative has a task force coming from provost office, they are looking student representative.

- i. Lanthorn gave information on transportation, will be creating spreadsheet on cost benefit analysis for going to businesses for transportation.
- j. Nigh Walk updates to come from EVP Mattler. Sounds like lots of issues being resolved.
- k. Landlord owner meeting, most of them were there. Talked about Rave Guardian Initiative. Meadows wants to help be part of marketing campaign for Rave Guardian.
- l. Senator Schaffer: Title IX changes resolution, talk to legal in how to strengthen resolution
- m. Yes, meeting with them this week and getting their research.
- n. Senator Kolc: Night Walk, can you reach out to Dean Roland for doing one downtown
- o. Yes, I will reach out to him about that
- p. Senator Hunter: Econ Club can help maybe with cost benefit analysis you want to do
- q. VP McIntosh: Complex owners not there?
- r. Don't know who was not there, but will be talking to Andy Beachnau to see who was and was not there.
- s. Senator Sanchez-Castillo: Downtown crossing on Fulton implementation or bridge over the street suggestion.
- t. VP Ibarra: Reach out to Chris Swink, Laker line implementation has this talk, reach out for more information on their talks.
- u. Night Walk, changes would not have happened if we did not bring these concerns to administration changes, thank you for your input.

VI. Vice President's Report

- a. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES – APPROVED
- b. Cabinet past meeting cut SAFE Award nominees to three.
- c. Recommendations for guest speakers, let me know. Last time I am asking.
- d. Timeline for CTF, take time to if senate bylaws or constitution need changes. Will usually happen on Sundays, time TBD.
- e. Landlord meeting, lot of conversation between dean Roland and chief of GVPD. We only had time to talk to Meadows before we had to leave after the meeting.
- f. Next GA is in Alumni House. Free to wear a holiday sweater if you so choose to.
- g. T-Haas Farewell continues to make progress. Continue to talk with bob and interested senators
- h. Night Walk for on campus. Spots I sent, all high concern areas I addressed to them, they make some changes or have made steps in fixing them. Will put what they address on Facebook and team drive.
- i. Lieutenant Governor will be guest speaker at last GA. He will not make it political but he is a past Laker.

VII. Officer Reports

a. Senate Resources – Holly Neva

- i. Concerns or Questions for attendance, ask senator Downey.
- ii. Nominate Senator of the spotlight.
- iii. Mid year survey, will be sent out soon to get your feelings towards senate. Will be confidential, asking all to complete and want to present at next GA. Complete by Wednesday evening next week. Sending it out tomorrow hopefully
- iv. Winter In-Service, if we do hold one, it is required to attended.
- v. Check Google calendar for events.
- vi. I am GV nominations close tomorrow
- vii. Senator Szcapaniak: Winter in-service, January 26th is MLK day of service, so maybe make in service a senate service day?
- viii. Senator Kolc: How are you planning on making In-service different, new information, old information? Professional development or bonding?
- ix. Conversation in how it has always been the same, it helpful for new senators but we have not had solid plan, some sort of program like true colors, will have bonding but I really don't want it to be the same as fall in service.
- x. VP Jones: Senator Aller is planning a volunteering day for senate.

b. Finance – Amanda Crawford

- i. Meet with Val for timeline for funding requests. For January requests, do it asap fr funding requests.
- ii. Sending out email to organizations for when to submit
- iii. Cook Dewitt, acapela concert this Saturday.
- iv. December 6th, swing dance event. In pere Marquette

c. Campus Affairs – Carter Engler

- i. Food Committee, posted minutes on Facebook senate page.
- ii. Sue Korznick meeting tomorrow for MyGV App, things you want to see on the app let me know. Like bus times, campus dining menus
- iii. 1 on 1s with committee for progress review.

d. Educational Affairs – Erin McIntosh

- i. Should be getting class assessments soon. Do not be rude but give constructive criticism.
- ii. Last Lecture January 29th. Picking professors at next committee meeting.
- iii. 1 on 1s with committee this week and next week.

- iv. Meeting with Paul Sacks next Thursday dealing with ground water, then meeting with provost for their water initiative.
- v. SAAC will be meeting next Wednesday to talk about title IX changes and programming we want to do next semester.
- vi. Committee looking into march is reading month, non profits you might want to work with or area schools for us to reach out to, let us know.
- vii. Counseling Center: Open January 2nd for setting appointments for winter semester.
- e. **Diversity Affairs** – Rachel Ibarra
 - i. Associate dean search lunch, great applicants.
 - ii. Book club, we have started reading, Sunday at 4:30 in Kirkhof is when we will be meeting for discussion.
 - iii. Patil is finalizing pluggers for Social Justice Centers
 - iv. More updates on senators read report
 - v. Black Student Union has an event tonight that we help funded, go if you can.
- f. **External Relations** – Cameron Jones
 - i. Senator Aller is working on volunteering day and senator VanDeale for state funding more work.
 - ii. Senator Marsman went to SAAC, cabinet and committee meeting this week.
 - iii. Dean of Students lunches, continue to send me questions.
 - iv. Sheryl meeting from replenish, gave me information to share with CMU.
- g. **Public Relations** – Bilal Qureshi
 - i. Sent out first weekly email.
 - ii. Senate Swag, store should open next Friday or the Monday that would follow. Will be open for two weeks (week of finals and the next week). Takes 1-3 weeks to ship. Will have simple senate logo.
 - iii. Exam Cram. Senator Kolc is helping a lot with downtown, for MIP library will have food, mental health tips, cart that will go around with green books, stress balls with motivational words, pens, other promotion items as well. Set up for MIP at 6:30
 - iv. Senator Benoit continue to work on 4th amendment right and letting know students their rights
 - v. Senator Pagel took 7 pages of notes of engagement at CMU conference
 - vi. Senator Hicks editing committee photos
 - vii. Senator Castillo working on lounge space for international students, also talking to other organizations letting them know about senate.

- viii. OREs, please do 5 of them, ask them if they are interested in email list.
- ix. In Class speeches, ask professors for a time. Great time to give them an opportunity a time for students to know more about senate.

VIII. Call for University Committee Reports

- a. Senator Vinke: Faculty salary and budget meeting, they talked about what debts we have and how we plan to stay ahead of them. Talked about decline in high school graduation but higher enrolments rates
- b. Senator Schaffer: academic policies standards, cant make meetings next semester, 9-11am Thursday morning once a month.

IX. Unfinished Business

- a. Discussion and Voting on Resolution F-18-03: New Syllabus Resolution
 - i. Senator Nitzkin moves for pro con session.
 - (1) Discussion
 - (a) Senator Kolc: Sounds efficient, does allow to motion to extend number of pros and cons
 - (b) Senator Schaffer: against as I want to answer all concerns and questions
 - (c) Senator Nitzkin: Can always to move to new types of discussion
 - (d) Senator Thompson: lots of things to get to.
 - (2) Votes 5 pro 5 con, 1-minute talk, one time speaking
 - (a) Yays have it.
 - ii. Senator Schaffer: Took feedback, made suggested changes for those who wanted it to have “more teeth”.
 - iii. VP Ibarra: Con, wording changes I think weaken resolution, switch of many to almost all, feel as though it does not strengthen. Also the “moving target” wording
 - iv. Senator Nitzkin: pro, appreciate mindfulness for allowing student st have this resource so students can make decision on taking class
 - v. VP Jones: Pro, have request syllabi before, decision to take class made on what syllabi looked like
 - vi. Senator Kolc: Pro, helping fro returning and first year students.
 - vii. Senator Hunter: Con, nothing based on classes held recently due to some classes that are not held every semester, so these classes seem to be left out on this resolution.
 - viii. Senator Schaffer: (Explanation) Moving target is to show that due to research and new conversations, syllabi change and lets students know that the most recent syllabi has been provided.
 - ix. Senator Rush: Pro, good for potential switching of classes even after the class start.
 - x. Moved into general discussion based on motion
 - xi. Senator Aller: What students are you trying to reach? (all students)

- xii. VP Ibarra: for this resolution, what I struggle with is during first week of classes is you can change classes. Want students to pick the classes that contribute to their major.
- xiii. Senator Bialowas: have you taken the time from presentation to now to ask how departments might be able to do this type of implementation?
- xiv. Senator Schaffer: Have not talked to other departments, but the professors do have to send in syllabi to syllabi coordinators.
- xv. Senator Mueller: Advising, some appointments can't happen for 4 to 5 weeks.
- xvi. Motion to have placard vote
 - (1) Yays - 34
 - (2) Nay – 1
 - (3) Abstention – 0
 - (a) Passed
- b. Voting for the S.A.F.E. Award Recipient
 - i. **Jeff Kelly Lowenstein** - Professor Jeff Kelly Lowenstein has a passion for teaching and journalism that he brings to every class with excitement and encouragement for students. He has assisted many students excel in the field through his insight and dedication to student success. Professor Kelly Lowenstein has organized for many students to attend conferences and seminars across the globe to learn more about the field and present their work. The work in his courses go far beyond the classroom and give many students credentials for the future and quality journalism work for their resume. He actively seeks out ways to help his students succeed outside of the university and is always willing to provide guidance and knowledge for students even outside of the journalism major. Last year I was selected to attend the Global Investigative Journalism Conference with Professor Kelly Lowenstein in South Africa. Not only was this an amazing experience, but Professor Kelly Lowenstein ensured I felt safe and comfortable during the entire trip and made the conference that much more insightful and enjoyable. He has taken many other students to conferences that have inspired them and put them on a path to future success.
 - ii. **Stephen Matchett** (Get rational from Morgan)
 - iii. **Star Swift** (Get rational from
 - iv. Senator Nurmi: Had Swift before and she is everything that the rational says
 - v. Senator Hunter: Had Swift before and rational is perfect
 - vi. VP Jones: Matchett, never had but had a professor like him before and he helped me through my gen eds.
 - vii. Senator DeKoekkoek: Her OREs were something like resources were you can research and find summaries for certain arbitration cases where this resource has never existed before.

- viii. VP Engler: Matchett, hearing about his open access book is something we as senators push for, along with being a STEM major, it can sometimes be hard to make interesting, so hearing that he makes it connect to easier topics to understand is great to hear.
- ix. Vote (Secret Ballot) Winner will be announced at President's Ball
- X. **New Business**
- a. Discussion on Resolution F-18-04: Election Day Resolution
- i. Senator Szcapaniak: To create a policy for Support the Creation of a University Policy Prohibiting In Person Assessments, Examinations, and Presentations on Election Day in Advance of the 2020 Election Cycle. Allow students a better chance to be able to go vote in person. Passage of proposal 3 allow for no reason absentee ballot, but it not clear if you want to vote by mail, the first election you vote, if you need to be voting in person.
- ii. VP Ibarra: cabinet did talk a lot about this in recommendations. Glad he made changes, students have talked to me about wanting excused absences so they can go vote.
- iii. Senator Merdzinski: beginning of resolution is strong where last line is "weaker"
- iv. Senator Szcapaniak: Do need to take out last part as it will help us to better use the fall break. Not to get class off but allow students to have the option/choice to go vote. Allow students the avenues to plan ahead for voting
- v. Senator Bialowas: Think this is a great step for advocating fro 14th amendment and moving for national voting holiday
- vi. Senator Dekoekkoek: Would love to see something saying allowing for out of state student sto drive home to vote.
- vii. Senator Marsman: Worried about "proof of voting: not sure how to fix it but just thinking about it.
- viii. Senator Aller: Do not support even though I love civic engagement, Curriculum could be booked to the room, which is what the university is mainly dedicated to.
- ix. Senator Schaffer: I do not agree with this for the reason the polls are open for 13 hours in Michigan, feel as though 99% of students will not be affected by this. Could be seen as "get out of jail" card for some, like those in 6-9 classes.
- x. Senator Kolc: In support due the fact fro 2016 election, I drove 4 hours on total to vote and some professors where not okay with it. Also similar concept some seidman profs cancel class for career fair so could help.
- xi. VP Jones: Instill a greater attitude for civic engagement for normalize voting. Trusting students for those would skip, give them the benefit of the doubt.

- xii. VP McIntosh: Some schedules for students start in the early morning and day “goes” until the late night, and all different types of students have all different types of schedules.
- xiii. Senator Hunter: Love the part talking about using blackboard for assignments during voting, and there is time till the 2020 election to help plan schedule for professors.
- xiv. VP Ibarra: We have to make sure consider the 1% of senators we are here to represent
- xv. Senator Szpaniack: This is partly written as an extension as the GVSU mission statement. Enforcement part is not included as it is up the student to go to class. I do not think it is too much to ask for 2 years notice for professors to find accommodation to students. Cabinet gave the suggestion of the use of blackboard for submitting assignments for when voting takes place. This could help continue to bring more voter turnout for future voting. Making this an ability for students, is important to allow student son day of voting that they can go vote.
- xvi. Senator LaPlatt: Some students may not have the same knowledge of voting as other students, so I support this as it could allow those students not with same knowledge a better ability to vote.
- xvii. Senator Nurmi: Support as the largest group of students for GVSU is from East Side. So giving them the opportunity to vote.
- xviii. Senator Murarescu: Keep in mind how this may affect some lab classes.
- xix. Senator Schaffer: Maybe change wording of 2020 election to all elections.

b. CALL FOR NEW ORDERS OF THE DAY

XI. Public Comment – Part II

XII. Call for Announcements

- a. Senator Vinke: Presidents ball: traditions is having tabling, dates will be on Facebook page for sign up.
- b. VP Engler: MyGV recommendations, let me know
- c. Senator Hunter: Shabbat tomorrow.
- d. VP Jones: 50% off for dominoes pizza for online
- e. EVP Mattler: Charter for my fraternity is happening soon, look at my Facebook post for dates.

XIII. Adjournment: 7:30pm