



General Assembly Meeting

Thursday, February 20th, 2020 — 4:30 pm

Pere Marquette - Kirkhof Center

President: *Eric-John Szczepaniak*

Parliamentarian: *Kelly Dowker*

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- I. Call Meeting to Order: 4:30pm
 - A. Moment of Silence
 - i. Native Land Recognition
 - B. Student Senate Creed
 - C. Pledge of Allegiance
 - D. Roll Call
 - II. Public Comment - Part I
 - III. Guest Speakers
 - A. Professor Andrea Riley-Mukavetz, Native Land Recognition - unable to attend, will try to reschedule prior to end of year
 - IV. Five (5) Minutes to Pass the Papers
 - V. President's Report
 - A. Adoption of the Agenda
 - i. McMahon motions to approve, seconded by Dowker. Agenda is approved
 - B. Absentee Ballot Requests
 - i. President Szczepaniak and Senator Jacobs presents on how to register to vote and how to sign up for the voter absentee list
 - C. University Academic Senate meets tomorrow 3-5pm downtown, joined by Dowker, McMahon and Pagel
 - D. March 13th, ECS, all three Student Senate items will be addressed - Syllabi resolution from 2018; Student Perception Survey; and Voting Barriers
 - E. Met with Senators Garten and Hicks with provost on Feb. 17th; will meet with Mantella over spring break with Dowker and Houtman to discuss projects. There is a mentor survey created by Senator Houtman and Alumni association with the goal of guiding work moving forward with pushing for more mentorship and alumni connection programs
 - VI. Executive Vice President's Report
 - A. Approval of the Minutes
 - i. Stand approved
 - B. CTF going well - Sunday will hopefully be the last meeting to finish up the Bylaws and SRC policies and procedures; CTF doc folder is where minutes/changes are available. Please speak with delegates from your committee

- C. Composites will be taken after GA for those who did not have theirs taken in the Fall
- D. Will be attending UAS this week
- E. Reminder to maintain focus in spite of elections, midterms and nearing the end of the semester

VII. Unfinished Business

- A. Discussion and Voting on W-20-03: Ratification of the Student Senate Coalition for Higher Education Funding (SCHEF) - presented by VP Pagel
 - i. No wording/grammar changes were made over the course of the last week
 - ii. Houtman offers support, says it looks great
 - iii. Thayer feels it will be very helpful for the entire student body
 - iv. Siegrist thinks this is a well-thought out and well-planned, appreciates his work
 - v. Paquet calls to question, seconded by Hicks; as there is no one on speaker's list, Senate moves into a vote
 - vi. Motion passes unanimously

VIII. New Business

- A. Discussion on W-20-04: Call for Grand Valley State University to Provide Free Menstrual Hygiene Products to Students No Later Than Fall 2021
 - i. Project began at beginning of semester which saw several meetings with students, administration,
 - ii. Siegrist - thanks Hicks for their work, appreciates their contribution to this
 - iii. McMahan - she has to fill up the station every week and says this is very needed
 - iv. Murarescu - this project is getting a lot of positive feedback; very thankful; Senator Hicks has done this with the input of many—Senate, admin, etc—and all feel it is an amazing thing to support
 - v. Garten - supports this resolution, has had lots of positive feedback
 - vi. Koldomasov - Highlights the importance of feedback which has been present throughout this whole process
 - vii. Pagel - knows how hard Hicks has worked on this and offers support
 - viii. Szczepaniak - research for this project was the most thorough he has ever seen on Senate; goal is now to make this case to more people in the university; feels this is a good option to create the task force
 - ix. Voting is scheduled for next Thursday
- B. Vice President Samuels, Overview of Finance and Appropriations
 - i. Finance reviews Campus programming - ust be considered beneficial to the entire campus; travel, and equipment funding requests
 - ii. Shares the '19-'20 budget as well as the categories within the budget
 - iii. Explains how student organizations can get funding
 - iv. Explains Finance committee's responsibility for setting up the Student Life Fund budget; final budget comes to GA in March

- v. Shares a list of funding resources at GV
 - C. Appointment of David Dehn to External Relations Committee
 - i. VP Benoit provides rationale and motions to approve the appointment of David Dehn to ERC; Pagel also provides rationale in that Dehn attended previous committee meeting; motion is seconded by Pagel
 - ii. Motion passes unanimously
 - D. Call for New Orders of the Day
- IX. Five (5) Minute Recess
- X. Public Comment Part II
- XI. Officer Reports
 - A. Senate Resources - Hannah Benoit
 - i. Student Senate Climate Survey Results - Overview
 - a. Compilation of data from survey will be placed into a doc and gone over at SRC
 - b. Brief overview of demographics - majors/minors, religions, race, gender - body needs to diversify, not to tokenize, but follow value of inclusion and diversity
 - c. In regards to the senate office, the summary is that office is a positive social environment, but not a good place to study/work
 - d. In regards to GA meetings, majority felt that they were comfortable at GA and a common criticism is that they last too long; other things mentioned were biweekly GAs and the issue of respect during meetings
 - e. Committee meetings - majority enjoy and are comfortable at committee meetings; many feel comfortable with their VP
 - f. In regards to Cabinet - largest portion felt comfortable with all cabinet members, but beyond that, the rest of the results were across the board; also scattered results in terms of comfort ability in expressing opinions to cabinet
 - g. General suggestions for improvement: eliminate VP reports; more accountability; hear more genuine feedback about projects; more minorities and international students on body; shift to biweekly GA; shift focus away from projects and towards legislations, etc.
 - ii. Questions for this survey
 - a. Houtman - do we know how senate demographics resembles GV demographics and can we break this down and target those more specifically? / Benoit - Burnall will be coming in at end of march to talk about University Climate survey; it will give a better gauge on how ours reflects the campus // Murarescu - there is data from a 2015 climate

survey, but most reliable source will be the 2019 data which will soon be published

- b. Pagel - wary of putting a political science major cap, as it is a student government
 - c. Murarescu - wanted to give all of SRC (especially Nitzkin and Benoit) for crafting this survey
 - d. Paquet - based off of what we saw, something to discuss would be maybe some quiet hours in the office
- iii. Attend SRC meetings, especially if interested in the senate climate survey
 - iv. Opinions on changes to SRC policies and procedures may be discussed SRC/Dowker before CTF
 - v. Dowker - requests everyone look at SRC policies and procedures so these discussions can be had at committee meetings before CTF
- B. Finance - Maddie Samuels
- i. Will be attending more budget meetings - met with GVTV, Cab and Lanthorn; two more meetings scheduled for next work, likely more
 - ii. Will be working with Valerie and Bob in regards to the budget proposal for next year; committee members will be submitting their own versions of this
 - iii. CTF and appropriations tomorrow
- C. Campus Affairs - Grace McMahon
- i. Succulents, Senators, and Sustainability is Monday 24th from 6:30pm to 8:30pm in Pere Marquette
 - ii. Shout out to Senator Houtman for designing fliers
 - iii. CAC will meet after GA today to go over final details for the above
 - iv. Review CTF documents
 - v. Will attend UAS tomorrow
 - vi. Sibs and Kids weekend is this weekend; Jacobs is setting up a senate table for the Carnival tomorrow
 - vii. Those interested in being in any cabinet position next year, is open to talking
 - viii. Working at CSLC, Senate is hosting a blood drive in April
 - ix. Take Survey Houtman put together with Alumni house
 - x. CSLC is hiring, positions posted on Handshake
 - xi. Benoit - over a hundred people signed up overnight, now needs a lot of volunteers to put together gift bags - this will be counted as office hours
- D. Educational Affairs - Autumn Mueller
- i. Next week is Student Senate Week - Last Lecture is on Wednesday, 26th in Lib multipurpose room starting at 5pm
 - ii. Thanks those who tabled for this event this week as well as those who will be helping at the event next Wednesday

- iii. Last Lecture agenda is in google drive
- E. Diversity Affairs - Alex Murarescu
- i. CTF - review docs, talk to CTF delegates on committees, talk to delegates
 - ii. Shout out to Dowker for her effort with this task force
 - iii. Made in Michigan Interfaith Lab is this Saturday - sent an email to all those who signed up; will make Slack channel
 - iv. Spoke with a brother from Alpha Phi Alpha who are community focused and do a lot of good civic engagement; will be doing a Flint Water drive next week (similar to the one from last semester); Murarescu will be collecting money for Senate to make a donation to the drive
 - v. Either Senators Neal or Hicks will give update for Food Insecurity task force meeting; there are tabling locations where one can donate a meal - must be entered manually; can only donate once per table and only donate a max of two - some extra locations and times have been added
 - vi. Sent an email to all registered student orgs in regards to the v. Program which will be going on through end of the week; will update student orgs as more information comes in
 - vii. DAC will do a Paint and Sip for Student Senate week on Tuesday from 7-9 in Nemeyer MPR
 - viii. Will be dropping flier in the Slack for everyone to share on their social media
 - ix. Make sure to continue to share different Senate initiatives on social media
 - x. DAC will not be meeting in person before spring break, but there is a FaceTime meeting if anyone is interested
 - xi. After this GA meeting, there will be a voter registration drive in Holton-Hooker which is open for volunteers. In classroom 109A
- F. External Relations - Joel Pagel
- i. Appreciate the SCHEF approval; still has a few schools left to visit, hopefully there will be a meeting in late march
 - ii. Next archive day after spring break to focus on higher education funding
 - iii. Meeting with CMU, SVSU, and MSU this weekend about SCHEF and other student gov't business
 - iv. Planning to visit Ferris in March
 - v. Senator Boyd and VP Pagel will be in DC
 - vi. Will put something in slack about upcoming GR city commission and Allendale Township meetings
- G. Public Relations - Ryan Fritz
- i. Senate Swag website is live, will be live until March 6th - if link is needed
 - ii. Advertising - as things are sent for PRC to advertise, please make sure that Fritz is CCd (at least) in the emails