



General Assembly

Thursday, February 7th, 2019 – 4:30 pm

Pere Marquette – Kirkhof Center

Chair: Rachel Jenkin

Parliamentarian: Morgan Mattler

I. Call Meeting to Order: 4:32pm

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

II. Guest Speakers

- a. Roger Giles, Honors College
 - i. Here to talk about honors college and how things are going. Been here at GVSU since 1992, started in English department. Part of move to form separate writing department and English department. Became chair of writing department, helped develop the WRT 150 course and how the writing portfolio course curriculum. General education committee, helped form and how it formed. Interim director of honors department in 2017. Saw it could be very interesting. Liked it so much I filled the role for the time being. My time in honors college has taught me very much.
 - ii. GVSU is a great place, the honors college, 2 things can happen. Like minded students can get together and experience their education with other like minded students. Students who are fully engaged in their education. Part of it is attracting the top students but it is mostly filled with those students who raise their hands early, contribute fully to group projects, going out of their way to find a solution, getting engaged in on campus. There are students who do that outside of honors college though. Second thing is to lead way in terms of general education, so right now this means we are trying to give as many experiences as possible, getting out of the classroom and be active and interdisciplinary learning focus. In Fall 2020, we hope to make it fully interdisciplinary. Taking the honors college will fulfill general education requirements.
 - iii. We want to bring more than subjects, but the topics through interdisciplinary study methods. The General education issues courses are what the honors courses will be modeled after. Not changing things “Wholesale”, but changes are being made for curriculum. Figuring out best methods in ways to see that fulfillments are being made and how it can be audited.
 - iv. VP McIntosh: General Education program, why not the entire GVSU program, why the honors college over the others?
 - v. We are trying this out in honors, and then it might be implemented into entire GVSU general education. Honor students like to be academic in social settings and social in academic settings. So testing it out.
 - vi. Senator Sawatzki: Student who transfer into honors college, how does it look.

- vii. AP, dual enrollment and transfer credits are subject based, so when people come in, we want to try case by case scenario so that we can evaluate their experiences rather than their transcript.
- viii. VP Qureshi: just a huge thank you for when we send out a weekly email is that the honors college includes our information.
- ix. Senator Hicks: What part of honors college will become more topics based, like sequences courses?
- x. Most of disciplinary courses occur in 2nd or 3rd year for honors students, so those faculty will be challenged for developing project based or problem based courses. Making the topic covered to be done through interdisciplinary course structure.
- xi. Senator Maclin: This approach maybe leads to more diversity in the honors college since it will include experiences.
- xii. We sure hope it does. Honors college does have a culture. Honors does lack behind university in diversity. We have created a taskforce in helps of recruiting for more diversity, to appeal to a more diverse group. This is in hopes of changing the curriculum as well. Through content shift and recruitment and trying to shift culture, diversity will increase.
- xiii. VP Ibarra: With the task force would love to see recruitment before the students come here.
- xiv. Yes, agreed, hoping to have honors students go back to high schools to help bring incentive for students to come to honors college. Laker Familia and Black Excellence, talking with them and asking to as why we are not reaching those minority students. Need to be able to reach back as far as Middle School in hopes of those who apply.
- xv. Senator Hicks: Application for honors acceptance appeal, for those who's grades do not reflect their work in high school.
- xvi. Application process is more holistic in applying. We want those students who apply to see the culture as though we want to fully commit to their education. Those who want to be part of it can be part of it.
- xvii. President Jenkin: Other Universities, are they doing this as well or are we original.
- xviii. Our new shift is fairly original, main thrust of programs at other colleges are focused on social justice. We want to interdisciplinary courses as it includes social justice and we can cover other topics as well.
- xix. President Jenkin: Holton Hooker, comparing to Niemeyer, difference in how students communicate.

xx. Individualized, those in Holton Hooker seem to be apart campus community. So I recommend that then moving to Niemeyer for more focus. Each living center can learn from the other. We are hoping that the multi purpose room in Niemeyer can be shifted to a more social space, so we are renaming it.

xxi. President Jenkin: When I worked orientation, honors vs non honors, honors got the option to stay the night changed their mentality. Why do honors get the opportunity, maybe other students could benefit from it?

xxii. Building the cohort in part of honors direction. We do have the dorms and dining option to do it, so I think we could do that for other students as well.

III. **Public Comment – Part I**

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

VP Ibarra: Latino Student Union, hoping to help them with a fundraiser for one of their events.

V. **President's Report**

a. **ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

- i. Senator Nurmi: Move Appointments above office reports - Approved
- b. Going to board of trustees to give annual student report.
- c. Wednesday going to Greek life board, what senate looks like and how we can collaborate with them. Lots of potential to do work with them.
- d. ECS, will be talking about land Acknowledgement, also talking previous resolutions and where they will go. So things like Voting day and exam schedule.
- e. Provost meeting, talked about board of trustees meeting and roles of administrators and when students talk to them, whether they need to talk to a different administrator. Talks of roles of administrators and their roles and who to go to for certain projects. So direction, names and titles for the correct people to talk to.
- f. Presidents Ball, it was cancelled due to weather, donated food. Some people worked on it since April, so they should still get credit for their work. Want to implement the energy and combine with T-Haas farewell.
- g. Traveling to Lansing with president Haas and Matt McLogan to see why GVSU should get more funding.
- h. Senator Hunter: Send thank you notes to Laker Traditions for those who worked on Presidents ball.
 - i. Love the idea, go ahead and draft it and others can contribute and we can agree on language next week.

VI. Executive Vice President's Report

- a. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES – Approved
- b. Constitutional task force last Sunday. Added lots of things, reformed conduct review process so it makes more sense and is less scary, new language for ERC, task force and subcommittee definitions. Next is SRC policies procedures and on the 17th we will be going over everything overall. Then it comes to the body.
- c. T-Haas Farewell is still going. Promotions and others meet for getting on same page and how to integrate things from president ball into farewell.
- d. Elections packet, did not email out so it is fair and did not print since it is a large packet, we will talk about it later in email.

VII. Appointments

- a. Appointment of Faith Anderson to the Educational Affairs Committee
 - i. Senator Bialowas: Rational, very motivated, passionate about leadership and felt as though she will bring lots of energy to body.
 - ii. Vote: all yays, welcome to the body.
- b. Appointment of Amanda Brainard to the Educational Affairs Committee
 - i. Senator Bialowas: Rational, helped founded gay street alliance, principle advisory committee, loved energy in interview
 - ii. Vote: All yays, welcome to body.
- c. Appointment of Jenia Thompson to the Diversity Affairs Committee
 - i. Senator Bialowas: Rational, thoughtful, great leadership, wanting to make GVSU more inclusive.
 - ii. Vote: All yays, welcome to body.
- d. Appointment of Austin Healy to the Senate Resources Committee
 - i. Senator Bialowas: Rational, sergeant of arms in his social fraternity, intern in the senate, helped in founding of start up.
 - ii. Vote: All yays, welcome to body.
- e. Appointment of Gabrielle Prezekop to the Senate Resources Committee
 - i. Senator Bialowas: Rational, part of science Olympia and a national honors society in high school, successful in communication and values.
 - ii. Vote: All yays, welcome to body.

VIII. Officer Reports

- a. **Senate Resources** – Holly Neva
 - i. Please read my report

- b. **Finance** – Amanda Crawford
 - i. Internal budget was updated recently.
 - ii. No cultural funding board this week, will be next week.
- c. **Campus Affairs** – Carter Engler
 - i. Tuesday, 4-5, food committee, Kirkhof 1104, open to everyone. Time where we meet with heads of campus dining to voice concerns and discuss possible solutions and ideas.
- d. **Educational Affairs** – Erin McIntosh
 - i. February 26th for new date for Last Lecture. Get ready to table again. In library NPR 6:30-9:30.
 - ii. SAAC is coming to end of planning for valentine’s day planning.
- e. **Diversity Affairs** – Rachel Ibarra
 - i. Happy Black History Month, events attend if you can.
 - ii. LSU tabling, help table if you can.
- f. **External Relations** – Cameron Jones
 - i. Slack invites should have gone out, didn’t get invite, let me know so you can get invited.
 - ii. Feb 12 from 3-4 for state funding, timeline for rest of initiative will be brought.
 - iii. Recognize professors, like “I am Grand Valley”, sue Senator Aller’s form to nominate.
 - iv. Meeting with Sherryl from Women’s center, talked about food insecurity, partner with KFB, March madness bag decorating, looking to decorate 1000 bags over the month.
 - v. VP McIntosh: March is reading month also in March, keep in mind.
 - vi. VP Ibarra: Kids Food Basket does not have age limit for volunteering, helps raise awareness about food insecurities.
- g. **Public Relations** – Bilal Qureshi
 - i. Will be updating website for elections soon.
 - ii. Student Senate Week, last two weeks of February, tabling for Last Lecture and Student Senate Week events.
 - iii. Snacks are in the Senate Office, not for senators, but for other students if they want to come by and grab one and maybe talk with us.

IX. Call for University Committee Reports

- a. Senator McMahon: Task force talks for ban on Greek Life, hoping to have recommendation by early April. Talks on how to include more than just Greek Life
- b. Senator Szecepaniak: Campus democratic coalition: Democracy 101 events went great, large turn outs. They are still going on but not every week. Every other week, topics at CSLC website. During the summer, need volunteers on May 10th for Michigan voter engagement summit. Can attend for free since GVSU is hosting. Other student governments will be here and other university leadership.

X. Unfinished Business

- a. Roll Call
- b. Discussion and Voting on Resolution W-19-01: Contracts & LGBTQ Nondiscrimination
 - i. Senator Szecepaniak: questions that were not answered, like non discrimination of other groups, since we are funded by federal funds, other minority groups are already protected for when we accept bids. Clarification on a recognizing, executive director from past and current governor apply to 16 state departments for. Executive directive only to those 16 offices. Since universities are legally independent, it mean university board of directors to make policy.
 - ii. VP Ibarra: Brought this up to one of my classes, they were very supportive regardless of LGBT views. Also with Applebee's Grind, table told me that they saw this as good practice and they felt as though GVSU currently does not do enough for LGBT community.
 - iii. Senator Szecepaniak: it seems that it is not sustainable for companies to discriminate against the LGBT community. This would help allow down the road that sends message that the LGBT at large can go forward into their careers and be full authentic self in society and workplace. Will send send message to state of Michigan.
 - iv. Vote: Support of yay from all except for 1 abstention. Passes.

XI. New Business

- a. Full Body Photograph for Website
 - i. Senator Bialowas: Do it since we cannot always have everybody all the time.
 - ii. VP Ibarra: Maybe do on this week and one next week.
 - iii. President Jenkin: Thank you, it was a lot of fun taking the picture.
- b. ORE Presentation
 - i. Senator Benoit: Outreach Research and Engage. How to better student community. Lots of new senators who have not heard this yet.
 - (1) Example Questions:
 - (a) What do you think GVSU does well?

- (b) Do you feel safe on GVSU campus?
- ii. Senator Benoit: Meant to be done in social settings, help sell brand of senate. All committees need to help with outreach. Each senator basically covers 500 students. Help voice the concerns of students, we are here for the students, to better their campus/educational experiences. Can help senators be more productive as well, like getting event and project ideas. If you do not like OREs, you can reach out through in class speeches, attending other organization events, networking with other student-oriented departments.
 - iii. Senator Benoit: Suggestions, criticisms, alternative means of outreach, reach out to me.
- c. Discussion on Resolution W-19-02: Income Based Meal Plans
- i. Senator Harris: Help enable students who have food insecurities, to enact change so that students are getting the food they need. As when they don't get nutrition they need, grades tend to suffer since they cannot compete or perform due to lack of nutrition. 1/3 student experience hunger while in college. Mainly minority students and we have lowest retention rates with these students. Replenish can help but they cannot reach and cover all students who have food insecurity. Want campus dining to enact this by Fall 2020 so that administration does not prolong this initiative. Can be changed. 50% of public schools in Michigan are enrolled in subsidized lunches, so those students who leave schools with those programs may not be ready to subsidize their own food meal plan. Also GVSU can be the leaders in this type of initiative.
 - ii. Senator Dowker: Points speak for themselves. If students in high school cannot get food, how will they be able pay for meal plan when coming here.
 - iii. Senator Bialowas: 1/3 Lakers have to choose between food or other things. Also take out "as desired by students" to emphasize deadline.
 - iv. Senator Harris: Have GVSU value at beginning.
 - v. Senator Wierenga: Who's income would it be based on?
 - vi. Senator Harris: Concrete plan is not set yet, like who's income to base on. Something we believe administration might figure out. We want to figure this out later.
 - vii. Senator Schaffer: those not familiar with campus dining, meal plans are priced based on number of meals used per week, like if 14 meal plan, they plan on only 12 being used that week.
 - viii. VP Jones: future of GVSU body is those from low economic standing, so great first step to welcoming those students to GVSU potentially.

- ix. EVP Mattler: Discussion at cabinet for deadline of Fall 2020. Potential could be seen as “mission impossible” but in full support of resolution. May take longer to implement but love resolution.
- x. VP Engler: Love this resolution, question/concern of cost of meal plans is based on number of meals used. Will allowing student to have meal plan at lower cost or free, how it might affect others who pay for their meal plan.
- xi. Senator Harris: Maybe students have the choice, goal to not take away from anybody, but allow those with food insecurities to have the option for a meal plan.
- xii. Senator Boyd: One thing we could also highlight, how it can help bring in those who are just applying for college. Not just current students.
- xiii. VP Qureshi: Less specifics you put into it, like how we figure out what incomes to use, when brought to administration, it might take longer to implement. Only concern is that Fall of 2020 is a big ask if we don’t bring the plans ourselves.
- xiv. VP Ibarra: as first generation student and as someone who was one a subsidized lunch, in full support. We represent all students, showing consideration helps raise attention that we do have the power to make this push.
- xv. Senator Drosshart: Fall of 2020, is it implementation or just a plan for implementation?
- xvi. Senator Harris: into effect, not just the plan.
- xvii. VP McIntosh: Talks at cabinet, those who receive Pell Grant could be a good use for trying this out. Using financial aid office for financial information could be a great resource.
- xviii. Senator Sanchez-Castillo: Fall 2020 helps hold them to a point of when they should have this done by.
- xix. Senator Kolc: Maybe include wording for those who do received federal grants, like Pell grant to help show a plan of those who could receive it.
- xx. Senator Hicks: think it should mention which meal plan would be part of this.
- xxi. Senator Szcapaniak: Could generate more revenue for those who live off campus as for commuter students. Timelines are a good thing to put into resolution in my opinion. Point of student senate resolution are meant to be as a launching point, not encapsulate all research, Process takes time. We do have a good relationship with campus dining so if done, I think they would be very helpful in helping build this out. We need to help express the general opinions of the student body.
- xxii. Senator Bialowas: When brought up to Campus dining, they have to think about the revenue, so they think about profit margin. But when 1/3 students face this issue,

how important is the profit margin. We want to help them to mold something that is not only beneficial to students but campus dining as well.

xxiii. Senator Harris: Type of meal plan, it would be how they want to do it so they cannot dismiss entire initiative at the start. Maybe a complete new meal plan for this income based meal plan. Also Fall Break resolution didn't have full plan, it came later. Leaving this to be flexible is but with certain dates can help mold the plan.

xxiv. Senator Hall: Those who say to base off FAFSA, not all students get FAFSA help but they still face food insecurity.

xxv. VP Ibarra: Maybe option to appeal or option to appeal paystubs to show that the need for income based meal plan is needed, not only though FAFSA for qualification.

xxvi. Senator Schaffer: There will be a solution found through potential research.

xxvii. President Jenkin: When talking about who pays for what, mimicked off those who are qualify for subsidized meal plans, for jumping off point for starting this type of program potentially. Maybe add relevance for high school students who come here still need some type of meal assistance also add how we want to work with campus dining and others.

xxviii. Senator Hall: those who are in public school and have subsidized meal plan, they live at home most likely and parents cannot support them.

xxix. President Jenkin: Yes, I recognize that, just wanting to help show it as jumping off point for type of students who might benefit from it.

d. Discussion and Voting on the Election Packet

i. President Jenkin: Normally would sit on body but since the polar vortex happened, we need to get this to the elections commission.

ii. EVP Mattler: Changed point of contact to personal contact for quicker communication. Elections timeline changed to this year's timeline. Clarified where senate office is. Changed next the nominees to a date where environment can hear nominees. Winter In-service will be up to VP of SRC. GPA conversation at CTF rising conversation is not implemented but could be implemented the following school year. See the potential CTF potential changes.

iii. Expectations, added more points, like how long meetings last but expected to stay for entire meeting, have positivity, work is expected and continued and gradual, here to voice students not personal opinion, this is not a resume builder, that it might be a commitment of 10 hours a week, respecting peers, privilege to be in role, stay up to date in senate news, and to have fun.

iv. Added overview of senate, committees, cabinet, committee descriptions. Added election tips and advice to direct to website. Maybe adding tab to website. Tips and

- Tricks to run an efficient campaign. Campaign rules and regulations did not change much besides bolding clarifications of slates.
- v. Senator Kolec: Think we should use Lakerlink, since we pay for it and since we are a department, we should not be going around what the university provides. If going to be on body they need to be able to get use to it.
 - vi. Senator Marsman: In favor of using google form. Also in favor of striking GVSU requirements since some students might have rough semester.
 - vii. VP Ibarra: When working in restaurant, 20 people in place but only 5 order food, rough for workers, so in favor of not hosting meet the nominees in a different venue. Also applications maybe add checklist of things to do, like how some grad schools have this.
 - viii. VP Jones: Echo in not hosting restaurant venue to not make it frustrating for waiters and waitresses, also update committee purpose of ERC. Also grammar mistakes willing to help fix.
 - ix. Senator Bialowas: not using a student organization email, as to help with fairness of election.
 - x. President Jenkin: Campus wide email to take to senate website to see election packet with copyright on packet so people can see before hand.
 - xi. Senator DeKoekkoek: in favor of hosting meet the nominees at late night.
 - xii. Senator Drosshart: think point of contact should be an elections email so elections committee can look so it does not get lost in EVP email.
 - xiii. Senator Nurmi: Expectations section, number 4, information about GA, felt as though GA was covered in first line item, so add to first line item. Also nomination petition as separate packet.
 - xiv. VP McIntosh: why we have GPA, if a student is in risk of being removed from GVSU, if grades are in jeopardy, they need to focus on school before organization. Also is there a dollar limit for campaigning? Hopes to level playing field.
 - xv. EVP Mattler: Difficult to track, personally spent \$15 last year, almost impossible to prove. Not likely to spend “Mad money”. Can add language though.
 - xvi. President Jenkin: Other student Organizations have GPA requirements, Like RAs and Greek Life leaders.
 - xvii. Senator Aller: Love clarification of where senate office is, tips and tricks would love to help flush out.
 - xviii. Senator Schaffer: to Be RA, work at writing center, etc. need 2.5. We have a lower requirement. Being inclusive to student but still hold to standard.

- xix. Senator Hicks: Add profile pictures to website as well as well in Lanthorn. Also add how to get campaign and create campaign materials to tips and tricks.
- xx. Senator Hunter: Anything about if you don't get elected, information how they can still be interviewed later if there is an opening.
- xxi. Senator Bialowas: We do leave 8 spots open for first year students, so maybe just on election tab of website.
- xxii. VP Crawford: Laker Link vs Google forms, I recommend google forms since google since confirmation of submission option. And add section for elections commission to review case by case for spending if necessary.
- xxiii. Senator Wierenga: For GPA, we represent all students, so against cap.
- xxiv. Senator Szcapaniak: suggestion for some information being filled in packet, for fail safe for if something doesn't work online, putting information in the Lanthorn information when they publish those names for those running for senate. Also Lay this on table till February 14th due to number of changes.
- xxv. Discussion on tabling vote till 14th:
- (1) President Jenkin: EVP Mattler wanted this voted so elections commission can approve and get this online. And this will get 1 day to run by OSL for their approval.
 - (2) VP Engler: can we do approve pending; can we do that?
 - (3) President Jenkin: still have to go through each suggestion.
 - (4) Senator Szcapaniak: lots of good suggestions made, now you have chance to make more suggestions, opportunity to email someone on cabinet about potential changes.
 - (5) VP Jones: Kind of agree we have made a lot of changes, I think it would be good to have a copy in hand, but at same time we cannot expect a turn around, and maybe vote at cabinet, trying to brainstorm. Find a middle ground.
 - (6) Senator Kolc: Think we should vote on tonight since timeline and think we need to just get through it, since we leave night open.
 - (7) Senator Bialowas: Would love to full finalized document.
 - (8) Senator Marsman: could do this at CTF also, and you do have power to call emergency meeting.
 - (9) President Jenkin: Could do voting through online forum.
 - (10) EVP Mattler: changes have been made as we have gone along, still strongly encourage that we vote on this tonight since we need to give time to

others to approve to have it all in order. Cuts it fall too close. Snow week ruined our time.

(11) Senator Schaffer: in favor of voting tonight, do not think it should go to cabinet or CTF since it gives them a lot of power, so important that we all vote. Giving it a week could benefit personal goals. Allows elections commission to reach out to diversity organizations.

(12) Voting on whether to vote on the 14th: majority to vote on the 7th for changes.

xxvi. Discussion/voting on changes: (Senator Schaffer motion to suspend bylaws to vote and make changes)

(1) Not allowing student organization email: approved

(2) Checklist for things to get done on packet or online or both (headshot, blurb, signatures): majority for having it online and on packet.

(3) Using Lakerlink or Google form for slates or bio: majority for google forms

(4) Price limit (\$100 limit): changes added

(5) Senator Schaffer: Removing campaigning from computer lab?

(a) Senator Kolc: there was something last year that said you could invite your class but not walking into computer lab and asking people to vote:

(b) Senator Schaffer: what is difference between walking into lab or walking up to people with phones, so I will withdraw motion.

(6) VP Ibarra: Have checklist be a separate page so people can tear off if they so choose.

(7) Vote: in favor of approval.

(a) All yays, except 1 nay and 1 abstention.

(b) Bylaws reinstated.

e. **CALL FOR NEW ORDERS OF THE DAY**

XII. **Public Comment – Part II**

a. Jake: You guys are doing a great job.

XIII. **Call for Announcements**

a. Senator Bialowas: send dates of events to me so I can post to senate pages.

b. Senator Marsman: Sustainability will be biweekly on Monday in senate office.

c. Senator Benoit: send me ORE questions.

XIV. **Adjournment: 7:24pm**