



# General Assembly

Thursday, March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2019 – 4:30 pm

Pere Marquette – Kirkhof Center

*Chair: Rachel Jenkin*

*Parliamentarian: Morgan Mattler*

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## I. **Call Meeting to Order: 4:30pm**

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

## II. **Public Comment – Part I**

## III. **Five (5) Minutes to Pass Papers**

## IV. **President's Report**

- a. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA
- b. Next week GA will be shorter. T-Haas and higher education commission chair will come in
- c. Will introduce to new senate president after they are elected.
- d. Fine tuning resolutions over the past weeks, will be voting on today.
- e. Election, good luck to those running. Campaign as much as you can. Get that senate outreach. Last year we had record number of votes.
- f. BOV, not only Saginaw reaching out, but news stations too, so be mindful of what you are saying. You represent the students and you are a governing body.
  - i. Senator Nurmi: If students ask us questions, what should you say?
  - ii. President Jenkin: talk about how this is your personal opinion when speaking about it, talk about work load and how we want to direct efforts towards student government.
  - iii. VP Qureshi: Also the competition over time how it lost its original vision.
  - iv. President Jenkin: Could come back to it in few years to realign goals.
  - v. Senator Bialowas: Statement on clarification on article for the other options. It leads to unanswered questions.
  - vi. President Jenkin: Yes, we can draft up something to help make a clarification.

## V. **Executive Vice President's Report**

- a. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES – Approved
- b. Elections, finish strong, both candidates and elections commission.
- c. Working on end of year dinner, fill out the form. 38 have filled it out. Internal Awards were ordered.
- d. BOV in general, make sure to take the high road with mentality surrounding the competition. Only president and PV of PR can only speak on behalf of senate.
- e. T-Haas project is ending very soon. Upcoming Tuesday promotions will start. Haastass-La Vista. Thank you note tabling went great. Submit your selfies also. Can submit up to 10 photos.

## VI. **Officer Reports**

### a. **Senate Resources** – Holly Neva

- i. SRC will be mainly doing bonding for the rest of the year
- ii. Fill out end of year dinner form
- iii. Senate Climate survey later.
- iv. Interest in my role, come talk to me.
- v. Congratulations to new transitions leaders
- vi. Go to Lip Sync later tonight if you can go.
- vii. LMCU also has a marketing internship.

### b. **Finance** – Amanda Crawford

- i. Turn in receipts for elections by end of week.
- ii. Rest of report in my personal written report

### c. **Campus Affairs** – Carter Engler

- i. Happy Sunshine day!
- ii. CAC did some bowling bonding. Better at Wii Bowling.
- iii. MHAC, some updates later on.
- iv. Continue to campaign, finish work within this week.

### d. **Educational Affairs** – Erin McIntosh

- i. No EAC report this week since we went to Applebee's

### e. **Diversity Affairs** – Rachel Ibarra

- i. Out for Awards ceremony

### f. **External Relations** – Cameron Jones

- i. Thank you to those that helped color bags for KFB, will end this week.
- ii. Student voter civic engagement summit on May 10<sup>th</sup>. Will be doing a break out session. Interest or ideas, let me know. Student Keynote spot is open. Application is open. 20-minute talk about being active in democracy.
- iii. Thank you to committee, had a great year.

### g. **Public Relations** – Bilal Qureshi

- i. Senate Swag, closes April 1<sup>st</sup> at 4:30pm. Submit orders by then. Will be delivered April 22<sup>nd</sup>. Do not get it by then let me know.
- ii. PRC went to meet with Rhonda Lubbers about Laker effect to student organizations. Talked about an overall Laker Effect Video for all student organizations. Also

creating individual student organizations videos, so incoming students can watch these, more exposure beyond campus life night.

iii. PRC has been doing OREs and in-class speeches.

iv. Big thank you to all senators, pleasure working with all of you this year.

## VII. Call for University Committee Reports

- a. Senator Kolc: Academics policies and standards, dean basically didn't like most of the ideas we came up with, so more decisions about GPA requirements, credit requirements, looks like pilot has some hard times ahead
- b. President Jenkin: ECS, Phycology drafted policy relationship between students and faculty, currently it is "highly frowned upon" so we want to make it more concrete due to power dynamic it creates.

## VIII. Unfinished Business

- a. Discussion and Voting on Resolution W-19-03: Pew Campus Prayer
  - i. Senator Nitzkin: Over the past year, MSA and I talked about how there is no prayer room downtown, and some students had to use empty classrooms to pray.
  - ii. Senator Nurmi: Space currently in Devos that could be converted?
  - iii. Senator Nitzkin: Place would be decided after passed if this is passed.
  - iv. Senator Nitzkin: Will add how it will be "Timely Access" is not present for downtown praying. Want people to be able to celebrate their religions.
  - v. Senator Benoit: Size of prayer room?
  - vi. Senator Nitzkin: goal is to have it be size of prayer room currently in Allendale.
  - vii. Senator Aller: Will they take into consideration the mistakes for current prayer room.
  - viii. Senator Nitzkin: Yes, will focus on how it should function, blue print of room, hopefully room for individual and community prayer space.
  - ix. Vote: All yays
- b. Discussion and Voting on the 2019-2020 Budget
  - i. Senator Bialowas: Breakdown for student Media?
  - ii. VP Crawford: Lanthorn. \$14,00 raise and whale and GVTV will get the rest of the increase of \$2000. Increase for Lanthorn increase due to print media cost are increasing, ad revenue continues to decline, transition to digital media, cost of posting online still there. Not a budget fix but more increased budget needs.
  - iii. Senator Bialowas: Last time we gave Lanthorn a reserve request, they did less publications and less ad spaces. I do not think they should be getting this budget request, personally do not think the increase is necessary for these minimal changes they should be making without the extra funds.

- iv. VP Crawford: Majority of their funds go to supplies, printing and other operating expenses, not all to student wages. This recommendation coming from student media and OSL along with finance committee.
  - v. Senator Aller: In Favor, Lanthorn to me is a student department, as they do have an impact on campus.
  - vi. Senator Boyd: Being apart of student media, and seeing Lanthorn struggle is hard
  - vii. Senator Schaffer: being in charge of Whale funding in past, in support if Lanthorn getting more Lanthorn funding.
  - viii. VP McIntosh: They are also getting a leadership change, they are open and transparent to their struggles. This is their passion, should support their passions.
  - ix. Senator DeKoekkoek: Whale and Budget happy with proposal?
  - x. VP Crawford: Advisors of this are happy.
  - xi. Bob Stoll: Key things, three media groups are all under One board, board working on ho you will get this media, Paper been here since the beginning. Revenue for paper has declined since 2006 from \$200,000 to about \$60,000. Huge decline due to things like Brain's Books closing, they print less per week. Working on how you consume, physical or digital, not enough total funding due to advertising model. Also working with new paper position. Wan tot have business manager advisor and editorial advisor. Goal to see how to package media all together. In National Scaeneit is important to keep track of community events. Even when you disagree with them, part of democracy.
  - xii. Senator Szecepaniak: student media in general, couple remarks regarding content of Lanthorn, there are other ways of voicing opinions, can submit student and reader letters to editor. Can have your own words on this platform. Can also do statements of support that we can add on what student media puts out.
  - xiii. Senator Aller: Can you go over Spotlight and traditions changes.
  - xiv. VP Crawford: their separate budgets are combining since they are combining, their reserves are in a good spot just combining budgets. Do not know how they utilize their reserves.
  - xv. Vote: All yays except for 2 abstentions.
- IX. **New Business**
- a. Discussion and Voting on Resolution W-19-04: Student Representation on Board of Trustees
    - i. President Jenkin: Talked about this week, highlighting Board of trustee bylaws and president of university goals, lacking student section. Also how other universities have this student position, to have a voice and visual representation. Also how most of the Board decision making is done in subcommittees and hopefully to have a student report at all 4 meetings instead of just the 1 we currently have.

- ii. Senator Schaffer: Personally do not think we can pass both, as this is a big ask. So if both things are asked for, they might see it as too much and they wont accept any of it. I support this on more than the other as a more direct pipeline for students.
  - iii. Senator Szcpaniak: Want to stress importance of passing both as presented, as this shouldn't be an and/or situation. We shouldn't have to be guessing which is more important. Both have goals for more shared governance, help link us the students with the board more. Think both are great, give different people different access points. Need to have more then student senators to have access to Board of Directors. All Michigan residents help pay for Board through taxes, so a public comment is important for people to have a chance to voice themselves.
  - iv. Senator Nurmi: Do not think this "Pass one and hope". Should be efforts in passing both. This is asking them to take an hour a meeting for students to listen to us. They are public officials, so they need to listen to us. Both are critical and tied together.
  - v. Senator Bialowas: The game of telephone would be limited with passing both.
  - vi. Senator Hall: This resolution for a student seat on Board?
  - vii. President Jenkin: not a voting seat but a seat to be apart of the discussion, get a student on subcommittee discussion and symbolic representation at the 4 board meetings.
  - viii. Vote: All yays
- b. Discussion and Voting on Resolution W-19-05: Public comment at Board of Trustees Meetings
- i. Senator Szcpaniak: On this topic, spoke with tom Butcher, chief councilor for university, mostly amicable. Talked about how it can be hard to find senate documents but we already have a public comment, so this puts us above them in this manner. We should be in forefront in the decisions. Both resolutions go hand in hand together. Do not feel as though it is asking for much. All public governing bodies should be following the same set of rules. There is a way to get on Board Agenda, but process to get on agenda is complicated and buried. Up to president and chair of board of they want to hear your comment or not. So Zero ways for any grievances to be aired to the board. Allows them to not respond. Country was founded on being able to air your voice. Tom Butcher did say "It does look like you have done your research" his suggestion was to better promote current status quo, but it currently over 20 years it has only been a handful of people who had gone through their process. And if you don't agree with board, you will probably not be heard.
  - ii. Senator Schaffer: Can have a 1-2 Punch, can Hit once and then again later, but if we hit both at the same time, will be open to being hit. Do not currently support this since I support the other.

- iii. VP Qureshi: We all agree a public comment is important, but based on their actions in the past, they are not interested in a public comment or more direct communication. We have to recognize how we present this information to them and maybe a point of understanding. Defines practices for the future and future relationship that we will have with them. Possible of happening but current attitude we have and them as well I do not see action happening.
  - iv. VP Crawford: Phrasing and tone and attitude, can be harsh on what we are trying to do, we can have that opinion, but should be able to separate it from what we are trying to do.
  - v. Senator Maclin: This is for them to consideration for them, a discussion. Not an immediate action.
  - vi. Senator Thompson: we do represent the students, but they may not want to always go through us, so we want to give them the options to have other avenues.
  - vii. VP Jones: Odds of them receiving resolutions and quick implementation, is low, but their response can be a great starting point for their position for future work.
  - viii. Senator Dowker: Push back from others should be enough to continue to push this. Great for transparency
  - ix. Senator Nurmi: If no one wants to utilize this, but it should still be an option, just “leave the door open”. Both resolutions serve the main purpose.
  - x. Senator Hall: If we pass this, and they say no, can we pass another thing similar?
  - xi. President Jenkin: We can bring another around for consideration, helps establish an answer and point to start conversation and how to better frame future work.
  - xii. Senator Bialowas: We want to be more level with students, and how we should go to students more often they come to us. In the same sense, we want people to be given the chance to talk to them.
  - xiii. Senator Szcapaniak: senate roles are 1 year long, as our charge is to be forward thinking, long term practices here at GVSU, looking for ways to improve. By passing both, not mandating we be disrespectful, truth is with a lot of stuff, the board are volunteers, only know what is presented to them. The administration may say the board may not like this, it should not dictate what we want to accomplish to better university. With new president, lots of change will come. With the board living across the state, we want to make sure people can talk to them when they do meet. How we chart a new course, we cannot forget the people that never got their chance to voice their voice.
  - xiv. Vote: Yays have majority, 2 nays, 1 abstention.
- c. Discussion and Voting on Resolution W-19-06: Honoring Legacy of President Haas

- i. President Jenkin: Honors Haas retirement and awarding him the President Emeritus. Tom Butcher suggested we pass this, if passed this will be given as memo to board. His student perspective deserves to be considered when award might be given. Corrections are needed, like wording changes, nothing that changes meaning. Idea to give this in a frame to President Haas and present it to him.
  - ii. Senator DeKoekkoek: what is president Emeritus?
  - iii. President Jenkin: Title of honor, can still call him president after he retires he leaves this role
  - iv. Sensor Kolc: when he is here, can we read it aloud to him. Wont vote on it in front of him.
  - v. VP Neva: Can we give this to him in a “Shadow Box” (yes big frame)
  - vi. EVP Mattler: will be presented to him next week and Goodbye Event
  - vii. Vote: All yays
- d. Senate Climate Survey Results Presentation
- i. VP Neva: 39 responses, not all charts here based on some more private information. More relevant information.
  - ii. Senators in all colleges except nursing. Represent all races except native American, most of body is new senators.
  - iii. Culture, majority enjoy time on body, in the office, comfortable speaking in committee meetings, but not in GA.
  - iv. Climate: most enjoy bonding, 41% go to bonding. 28% feel comfortable coming to all of cabinet.
  - v. Impact: 98% feel as though they make an impact. 100% feel as though they have the resources they need to work. Half of responded saying they feel as though it adds to college experience.
  - vi. 89% rate committee 4/5.
  - vii. Some concerns were voiced about ways of communication.
  - viii. Overall, senate body enjoys time here, contribute to community and GVSU, most pleased with work we do, varying wants and guidelines wanted from all senators. Some want stricter rules while others want less strict rules. Common to have this.
  - ix. Both positive and negative things were heard, as we should recognize wins and where we can improve. So make sure to utilize suggestion box in office and approach anyone on cabinet.
  - x. Open Mindedness, one may feel as though they are doing a lot while another may feel like they cannot do as productive as they lack the resources or routes to be productive.

- xi. Form here, take time to review findings, of opinions have changed and want to voice it, come to VP Neva or cabinet. Recognize how you feel towards body. We do have a ripple effect towards one another. We can be here to help each other. Do the most you can with your time here on the body.
  - xii. Conclusion: for more findings you can talk to VP Neva, findings will be anonymous. No specifics will be shared.
- e. **CALL FOR NEW ORDERS OF THE DAY**
- i. EVP Mattler: Move to add Haasta La Vista reserve funding request.
  - ii. Senator Hall: Getting a number for those coming to volleyball game (13) and time for booking is 11am on 14<sup>th</sup> of April. So prefer Sunday 9pm this Sunday. Show up at Gym and hope there is an open net
  - iii. Funding Request for Haasta La Vista from reserves
  - iv. EVP 19<sup>th</sup> from 4-5 at Fieldhouse. Dollar figure of \$19,000 from coming from reserves possibly. Student send off so lots going into it. Resolution was passed, laptop stickers, shirts, mural, food and drink. Would be split between campus activity board, senate covering for \$13,000 for t-shirts (2500 shirts given out for free), 800 stickers \$3000, 1200 cookies \$2000, \$500 for catering, \$500 for artwork, \$500 for video, \$500 for promotions. It is a lot, but president Lubbers went out in a hot air balloon. He deserves a send off from the students. Projecting 2000 student attendees. Campus activity board is doing \$9000.
  - v. President Jenkin: Lots of of current and reserve budget. Will not impact budget.
  - vi. Senator Maclin: consideration since it is Easter Weekend
  - vii. Yes but only time he could do.
  - viii. VP Qureshi: for us being involved, just through budget or volunteers as well
  - ix. Can help volunteer as well, promotions, want all of us to do this as well. Been apart of the planning since the beginning.
  - x. Senator Hall: Extra shirts based on projections (more of a safety net to bring in more than projected, and left over could be used for OSL future events)
  - xi. Senator Schaffer: Friday before Easter, which is a good Friday, so keep in mind.
  - xii. Senator Dowker: Current Reserve amount (No current number, will be adding more at end, roughly \$40,000 after president ball)
  - xiii. Senator Aller: In support since it isn't a yearly allocation and Haas is great
  - xiv. Senator DeKoekkoek: also more shirts to accommodate for t-shirt sizes
  - xv. Senator Hunter: Also Passover for Jewish Faith.

xvi. Bob Stoll: With conversation of faith with this, and talks with president's office, but this was also before finals, before many students leave campus. Really only possibility for time we could host event.

xvii. President Jenkin: Amount for production of people involved for cost and along with previous president sendoffs.

xviii. EVP Mattler: encourage to approve this, great t-shirts, free food, laptop stickers, etc.

xix. President Jenkin: Roll out for promotions next week, but still tell others to come, for them to make sure they plan to come if they can.

xx. Vote: yays have majority, 3 abstentions.

## X. **Public Comment – Part II**

a. Lanthorn: the BOV article does at end that you guys are looking into other options, and editor posted a survey article, so share the article if you can. We can publish a statement from senate if you want.

## XI. **Call for Announcements**

a. Senator Schaffer: Metal Pit project, work is being done, they are hauling trash out. Many trees had to be taken out for vehicles,

b. Senator Hicks: Started a Slack Channel for New BOV

c. Senator Hall: Volleyball game, come talk to me

d. VP Qureshi: thank you to those who came to Muslim vigil, meant a lot to me.

e. VP Engler: Senator Drosshart wanted me to say "Thank you for those who did QPR, hard subject but important, April 22<sup>nd</sup> at 8pm, handing out stress relieving item in Allendale.

f. Senator Sanchez0castillo: income based meal plan, 11-12 1104 in Kirkhof, task force is meeting, ideas give to me other others

g. Senator Hunter: April 10<sup>th</sup>, walk to remember, to remember Holocaust. 12<sup>th</sup> in Niemeyer MPR for last Shabbat.

h. Senator Szcapaniak: Tom Butcher let me know LGBT resolution is being worked on internally, April 2<sup>nd</sup> is "Out to Win" day to promote those of LGBT community run for office.

i. EVP Mattler: Deadline for end of year dinner is April 3<sup>rd</sup>. Send in T-Haas Selfies, due this Sunday.

j. VP McIntosh: Research for Library for open access over summer, interest, let me know.

k. President Jenkin: End of year dinner, no dress code but usually most people take pictures. Want to talk about BOV comment, come talk to me, interest in cabinet



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elections, very important you talk to a cabinet member. Chair of higher education allocations coming in. Politely grill him. Take advantage of this opportunity but be respectful. Promote elections!!! Thank you fro such a great year! Work done all year long.

**XII. Adjournment: 6:30pm**