



General Assembly

Thursday, April 4th, 2019 – 4:30 pm

Pere Marquette – Kirkhof Center

Chair: Rachel Jenkin

Parliamentarian: Morgan Mattler

I. Call Meeting to Order: 4:30pm

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

II. Guest Speakers

- a. Scott VanSingel, Chair of the University Appropriations Subcommittee
 - i. Thank you fro the invitation to come here. I am a CMU grad but my sister went to GVSU. State representative. Seeing how many of you that are able to name your state representative is great to see how you are engaged in democracy. My role, I have man my different tracks I do. Due to my Finance and accounting background I help with appropriations. Cannot be an expert on everything but chose an expertise to focus on. I feel as though we do not focus on Higher Education as much as we should. Granted request to house speaker to sit on this subcommittee. I work with the committee to decide how much money goes to each university. Historically the amounts are determined based on the lobbyists. When I came in, I want to see how it is equitable. The most affordable schools and those schools that turn out the best graduates to run out towards the bottom for amount of funds and something I am digging into. Want to rewards the schools to those that perform the best. The return on the dollar is best coming from those who start from low income families. This is non partisan issue in my eyes. My term my main focus is to better reward some of the best performing universities.
 - ii. VP Jones: Appreciate your message for those universities that turn out best students and rewarding them, for those that disagree with this idea, what is there reasoning.
 - iii. Most push back comes from lobbyists. Committee mostly agrees with me and give me great ideas. Total number for education is where I get push back. Large number of people who think we shouldn't fund higher education. Bad message to send to business community and create permanent class system. It will be a fight for time to come for something we will have to fight for. Mot of the money for budget for higher education is already spoken for. Not as much discretionary money, fighting to make sure it goes to higher education.
 - iv. Senator Schaffer: GVSU performs second best in terms of ACT and SAT test scores and still receives near the bottom for per student. What roadblocks are present from taking it from other schools we perform better than and give it to us?
 - v. With a new year and higher budget, from there we assign. We don't wan tot take any steps "backwards" for any schools. Shifting could happen but prefer a more measured approach. We try are best to get what we can.

- vi. VP Ibarra: Curious on plan or ideas on how to make the system more equitable.
- vii. Current formula for past 8 years, take base from last year, and then percentage of budget of new money is giving. Want to incorporate a more performance based formula, also want to change how number of graduates impacts the number. I want data for retention for in state graduates. How tax dollars are directly feeding back into the state. Schools like GVSU would perform very well around this metric since many graduates from GVSU stay in state.
- viii. President Jenkin: Thank you for coming in, something senate has been working very hard on very since I joined senate. Thank you again for coming in.
- b. President Thomas J Haas, Final Address to the Senate
 - i. Thank you for letting me and Marsha being here today.
 - ii. Quick shout out to Cameron Jones for being a finalist for Truman scholarship. Getting to be a finalist speaks volumes to his character, academics, leadership, what we want to see in an individual. To get to this point is incredible and proud that he can represent GVSU with this.
 - iii. One of my goals, first decisions, was with the honors college, was to have someone compete for this scholarship, took 13 years and happy that this is happening.
 - iv. Really not a goodbye, we bought a home up in Rockford. Son who just retired from Air force will be living with us and his family. Nice to have a 1 year old. Reminds us as to why we live. Will stay involved with the university and development. Still goals and things I want to accomplish in my last 90 days. Wonderful way to spend my last 13 years and look forward to the future.
 - v. Blessed to work with outstanding student leaders. Marsha and my daughter Sarah, out here on my first day on job. President of Student senate took us on a tour. We got to meet students. They asked us what I should be called and they chanted “T-Haas” and it stuck for the past 13 years. When I think of senate I think of great student leaders and pancakes. So many great memories from the traditions we started.
 - vi. With this transition coming up, I have been sharing how I see my life in quarters. Grew up in New York, I was a first generation college student. That was my first quarter. Service in Coast Guard was a great pathway that moved me from my early days and introduced me to my wife Marsha when I was in the coast guard academy. Second Quarter was time in the coast guard. Was proud to serve my nation through this. Able to work with people across the globe. Dream to go to this academy. Third quarter was my time teaching and coaching. This followed into my administration time, which led me to GVSU and to focus on student needs as it all started with education. Looking forward to focus more on family.

- vii. Hallmark of what we were able to do as educators, was to focus on student success. We are both educators. A lot of what I learned on how to be an educator came from learning from Marsha. Student success is the hallmark of GVSU and what makes us distinctive. As a teacher and coach, I want to push students to do their best. Here with student senate, I always want to push you all to the governance you push for the students here on campus. We want to listen to the student voice to foster student success.
- viii. People ask me, most important part about being a leader? Character and one's integrity, trust in one's word. Another part of the equation is "Showing Up". Show up as an individual, as a group, etc. Establish yourself as one that will show up. Elegant way to show how we shape character and how student will go out into the world and spread the Laker Effect.
- ix. Could go on for so long about the impacts you made on my learning. Contribution is swearing in 12 student senate bodies, 12 president's balls, 10 student senate presidents (2 had 2 year terms), ground breaking ceremonies with new building in Allendale and Grand Rapids. Senate had a role in how we shaped those buildings. Student leadership whenever we go to Lansing. We are the only university that brings a student voice. So critically important. Worked with senate on 2 different reaccreditation processes. Most recent one we met all standards and exceeded expectations. Got a new clean bill of health. Thrilled with efforts from students on this. Dedication to representing to students has been great. So many different efforts, like Fall Break, student speaker at commencement, safe environment to learn, open access, and so many more. So proud of the work senate has done.
- x. One of the most important words to me when I was in the coast guard was stewardship. Leave it better than we found it. Senate has done that and you all have a great Laker Effect. Leadership and GVSU change based on your work. Cannot wait to see what the future holds for the student senate. Exciting times for the new leadership that is coming in. Dr. Mantella is going to be great when she comes in. Her background in student affairs is great to have. She will bring in great new ideas, and will use this great platform to ensure university continues on upwards trajectory. Eventually the CO has to move on and the new one has to come in. The new CO coming in will be a great fit for GVSU. Support her just as you did for me, challenge her as you challenged me.
- xi. Remember the mission to shape student lives for the better.
- xii. Senator Thompson: Can we get one giant selfie with you and all of senate (after all reports).
- xiii. Selfie phenomena is only about 5 years old just as a fun fact.

xiv. Senator Hunter: Going back to opening remarks from this year, thank you for circling back to stewardship.

xv. VP Ibarra: Still teaching chemistry?

xvi. Will teach freshman chemistry, and teaching leadership and strategy and development. Maybe a little bit of both? Provost thinks I could do both. Will be my first sabbatical though.

xvii. VP Qureshi: One quote we would like me to tweet to student body?

xviii. Leadership and Learning are indispensable. It is why we are here. We learn from one another. We learn from those around us and those before us. Learn to lead and serve.

xix. President Jenkin: Love the relationship President Haas has with us, you are a role model to us. Thank you for all your service, also last week we passed a resolution recognizing your accomplishments while at GVSU.

III. **Public Comment – Part I**

Dean Rholand: Two things, thank you for the welcome over the past year. I am so impressed on what senate does, how they do it, who they talk to. Thank you for what you have done this year. Second thing is, good luck. Good luck to graduates. Hard to see sometimes to see the impact you have done. It was enormous though. So happy to see what you have done. Best wishes to those graduating and good luck on finals, take care of yourself too. Thank you for a great year.

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

V. **President's Report**

- a. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA – approved
- b. Giving last report to board of trustees in April. Sent board of trustees to provost. Working in transition report as well.

VI. **Executive Vice President's Report**

- a. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES – Approved
- b. Thank you all for your hard work. it was a very different type of year for senate.
- c. End of year dinner, 47 responses. Fill out form if you have not. Will be a great night. Award winners will be revealed there.
- d. Haasta La Vista event, Need a lot of volunteers. All hands on deck from old and new senate. About 1 or 2 hours of work before event happens. Friday April 19th in field house. Free pizza there.
- e. Senate Stoles, cost is \$20.
- f. Pins for student senate are being worked on. Don't know if they will be in by finals.

VII. **Officer Reports**

a. **Senate Resources** – Holly Neva

- i. Turn in name tags by end of year dinner. Charge of \$6 if you don't turn it in.
- ii. Thank you for everything

b. **Finance** – Amanda Crawford

- i. Weird to be giving last report, thank you to everyone's work. Thank you to those who are leaving a great legacy. Helps each year in improving. And committee, exceeded expectations.

c. **Campus Affairs** – Carter Engler

- i. Thank you all. When I first sat in my chair, hard time figuring out what to say to you all. You guys made experience unforgettable. Grown so much as a leader because of you all. Whether it is your first or final year, thank you and good luck.

d. **Educational Affairs** – Erin McIntosh

- i. Thank you every senator who was ever on my committee. Made the year so great. Loved being a resource to you all and for teaching me how to be a VP.

e. **Diversity Affairs** – Rachel Ibarra

- i. Lote Bar, LSU was going through leadership changes like how we are about to go through changes. They still want to do event but wait till new body comes in. If returning, please let me know if you want to work on it.
- ii. Went into this year not knowing what to expect from this role and the body as hole. You have been a great support system. Truly you have been so supportive. Grateful fro my committee. Enjoyed my role so much.

f. **External Relations** – Cameron Jones

- i. Michigan student voter summit. Will be doing break out session on student government. Get to me if you want to contribute.
- ii. Huge thank you to my committee for the huge amount of learning and projects we went through.
- iii. Returners, senate is in your hands.

g. **Public Relations** – Bilal Qureshi

- i. Senate Swag, April 23rd is when it will come. If there is an issue with let that, let me know.
- ii. Senator Pagel is working on Golf Cart ORE.
- iii. Thank you to PRC, so much for all of your energy! Thank you to everyone. Thank you fro listen to my laughs and voice. So many individuals have made me such a great individual.

VIII. Call for University Committee Reports

- a. Commencement speakers have been picked. All are great.
- b. Student media advisory board: they picked new editor in chief of Lanthorn, station manger of whale and GVTV.

IX. Unfinished Business

X. New Business

- a. Reflections of 2018-2019 Student Senate
 - i. Senator Nurmi: Thank you to everyone to those who cannot return next year. Veteran senators taught us so much. The opportunities we get are incredible, thank you fro your time.
 - ii. Senator Bialowas: When I started in winter of 2018, has been a wild ride. Ups and Downs, printer now in Au Sable Hall. Time here and serve the students has been great. SO many great friends. I am transfer student and first generation student. Loved my time here. Fortunate to have been here on this body. Made my time here at GVSU so great. Also get more printers in more halls.
 - iii. VP Jones: Enjoyed the booked club!
 - iv. VP Ibarra: As DAC chair, position of diversity, grateful for body for how welcoming this body was to diversity and willing to learn. Appreciate it so much, challenge you to take it outside of this body. Seek it out. Love for you all to care about it.
 - v. VP Qureshi: If you ever need anything, around my area, hit me up as I would love to hang out and talk. Always available.
 - vi. VP Neva: returners still return nametag. Can Keep placards. Returners, you are a role model to the new senators. Act professional, remember as to why you came to this body.
 - vii. Senator Kolc: I always wanted to be on senate, served 4 years, loved it all.
 - viii. EVP Mattler: Take it and run, Time does fly, opportunity is what you make of it. Remember life is more about those you surround yourself with but what opportunities you take. Previous senate president was so great in welcoming me to the body. Loved it all. So rewarding.
 - ix. Senator Thompson: TO Rachel and Morgan, will miss you so much. Late night phone calls, texts, god bless you both.
 - x. President Jenkin: Thank you for this great year, best year of college for me and life so far. People have been so inspiring to me. Loved resilience and dedication I saw in this room, so humbling and taught me to grow. Loved seeing growth of you all as well. Loved the risks we took. Loved the progress we made and work we accomplished. Acknowledge the work you took, take pride in it and celebrate with it.



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b. CALL FOR NEW ORDERS OF THE DAY

XI. Public Comment – Part II

- a. Bryce Wallace (Student Senate Office Assistant): I say my thank you's for giving me such a rewarding experience and the chance to listen to your critical discussions that affect all the students and more here at GVSU and beyond. I hope the next office assistant finds this role as enjoyable and rewarding as I did.

XII. Call for Announcements

- a. **VP Ibarra:** Recently meet with Kathrine Vanderlene, Heads climate survey, Interest in helping with it let me know as I sit on planning committee. Can take my seat.
- b. Senator Schaffer: Whale Radio is have 50th birthday party. Area 51 from 7-9 on Saturday is celebration.
- c. Senator Hicks: New BOV, ideas let me know as I meeting with CLSC
- d. Senator Hall: Thanks to those who came to volleyball game.
- e. EVP Mattler: End of year dinner, fill out form, graduation let me know. Haasta La Vista all hand on deck. Need help to take proper goodbye for them.
- f. President Jenkin: Want to sit cabinet, talk to cabinet. Veteran returner senator, challenge you to meet someone new and help them out.

XIII. Adjournment: 5:48pm