



General Assembly

Thursday, September 2nd, 2021 – 4:30 pm
Pere Marquette River Room – Kirkhof Center

Chair: Autumn Mueller

Parliamentarian: Emma Suchecki

Student Senate will cultivate a student body that is engaged, healthy, and empowered.

I. Call Meeting to Order: 4:30pm

A. Moment of Silence

1. Native Land Recognition

B. Student Senate Creed

1. We, as members of Grand Valley State University's Student Senate, dedicate ourselves to cultivating a student body that is engaged, healthy, and empowered. We pledge to represent all students and their diverse, ever-changing needs. With persistency, intentionality, and integrity, we strive to create a Laker experience that is equitable, accessible, and sustainable.

C. Pledge of Allegiance

D. Roll Call - Part I

II. Guest Speakers

A. President Mantella

1. President Mantella swore in the new senators
2. Mantella acknowledges five elements for senators to consider
 - a) representation of the student body and the diversity among them. One of the challenges of leadership is acknowledging the diverse backgrounds and opinions of those around you
 - b) participation in the leadership of the student body. She has been working with the student leadership to acknowledge the partnership between the two. The administrative board is a place where senators can go for conversation. The student senate now sits on the president's board.
 - c) Do your homework, understand what the issues are, learn what is happening on other campuses
 - d) Root yourself in the shared values of the institution.
 - e) Be the model for civil discourse. Understand how to have different points of view, ask questions.
3. President Mueller thanks President Mantella for her time and Mantella departs.



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III. **Public Comment – Part I**

- A. President Muller reminds the gallery that public comment is limited to 3 minutes per speaker. The Student Senate does not reply to public comment, only President Mueller can respond as the voice of the student senate.
- B. Alex Hicks, student at Grand Valley and VP of Students for Food Sovereignty. Pleads with the student senate to work with the university to end their contract with Aramark. Extends invitation for Student Senators and all students to join their meetings. Next Meeting is September 14th, 7:30 pm

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

V. **President's Report**

- A. Adoption of the Agenda
 - 1. Approved
- B. All GA meetings are scheduled for both semesters. There are trainings and workshops when there are no GA meetings, these are required attendance
- C. Utilize google drive to keep track of senate work.
 - 1. Events calendar to keep track of all events going on
 - 2. September 16th 12-4pm- Kirkhoff center grand river room
 - 3. Constitution day September 13-15- sign up to table
- D. Looking to fill seats of university committees, reach out to President Mueller to join.
 - 1. These committees are vital and need the input of senators
- E. Student Senate got approved to send a newsletter to all GVSU students starting next month

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

- A. Approval of the Minutes
 - 1. approved as been distributed
- B. Reaching higher 2025 starring committee- strategic planning of hopes for the university in the future. Please review the current draft of the formal resolution of support. Looking for input. Located in the drive under EVP.
- C. Looking for volunteers for the 9/11 memorial. Sign up available in google drive

VII. **Unfinished Business**

- A. none



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VIII. **New Business**

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

1. None

IX. **Public Comment – Part II**

- A. None

X. **Officer Reports**

A. **Senate Resources** – Alexis Krichevsky

1. Interviews will be held 15-20 minutes after GA in promotions office
2. Absolutely no phones during GA
3. Keep mask above your nose
4. Sits on university committee of sword
5. Everyone is required to be at inservice next week, bring water.
6. Office hours- 2 hours required weekly. You can work on projects and meet other senators. You can receive office hours by going to other committee meetings or cabinet meetings which are held Mondays at 6:00pm. You can also get office hours by tabling, attending senate events, or sitting on university committee
7. Look at SRC policies before inservice to bring up any questions
8. Do not be afraid to ask questions during GA. No reason to be intimidated
9. Turn on slack notifications, do not be afraid to use the random chat

B. **Allocations** – Jim O’Neil

1. Working with OSL over summer for a smooth transition between funds.
2. Will be talking more about funds during inservice
3. Senators sitting on his committee have received

C. **Public Relations** – Eldon Pearson

1. Social Media
 - a) Senator Wheeler has taken over. For social media requests submit through form in google drive
 - b) Applications to join is in the bio of social media
 - c) Working with Athletes for giveaway going up on social media soon



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- d) BOV promotion video is going up, share on your social media accounts
 - 2. BOV
 - a) Meeting with iunderstand
 - b) Meeting with GVTV to livestream game at lubbers stadium
 - c) Looking for t shirt sponsor reach out if you have any connections
 - 3. Misc. Committee updates
 - a) Extends gratitude to all those who helped campus life night to be successful
 - b) He will be working with President Mueller on the newsletter
 - c) Senate swag will be going live again
 - d) Working with the promotions office to make a video promoting the student senate
 - e) 9/11 memorial event press release will go out on TV and university publications will be covering it
 - f) Student Senate bulletin board has been completed
 - 4. Questions
 - a) Senator Rusch asked what content that will be put on newsletter
 - (1) The cabinet will be collaborating on what to include on it
 - (a) Put a general introduction of the senate and application information
 - (b) Overarching updates not committee specific info
 - (c) Links to social media channels
 - (d) Dates, times, and places of GA
 - (e) BOV will be included in first one
- D. Campus Affairs – Alyson Zdynczyk**
- 1. CAC has been working diligently- planned 9 events for BOV. Extends thank you to those who helped
 - 2. Extends invitation to come to weekly meetings
 - 3. Met with iunderstand last week to discuss sponsorship opportunities
 - 4. Senator Biermacher bash on Monday, September 7th, and trivia night Tuesday, September 28th



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5. Senator Huggins yoga night and golf outing at Meadows Monday, September 27th
6. EVP Suchecki clarifies that snapping is used in place of clapping

E. Educational Affairs – Faith Kidd

1. Cabinet meets at 6:00pm on Mondays
2. EAC meets directly after GA feel free to join
3. Singular student representative of 66 colleges and universities during the Association of American Colleges and Universities IOER conference. Strong partnership with Matt Ruen and will be planning an open access symposium for fall.
4. Planning open access symposium, events are student focused and will open up discussion.
5. EAC BOV fundraising event is GVSU jeopardy on 09/30/21.
6. Working on a 9/11 service project which will include writing letters to military
7. Cabinet went to lunch with President Mantella to start the discussion with the SLT
8. President Mueller reminds everyone that open access is highly important

F. Diversity Affairs – Kyle Gineman

1. DAC will be meeting on Sunday at 10:00am on zoom and after that Fridays at 6:00pm location TBD
2. Met with Christian evans, Co-Chair for University food committee
3. Open position on UFC for a senator Fridays at 1:00pm once a month. Reach out to Gieneman if you are interested
4. Sign up sheet for 9/11 service project is up, exact times TBD
5. Teach-in November 10 and 11. Theme is power, privilege and difficult conversations. Encourages everyone to sign up to host or attend
6. BOV fundraising event is a karaoke night Tuesday, September 28th 6-7pm. Sign up required as of right now, working on changing that. Students will have to pay to attend if not on the senate. Price TBD, all proceeds from the event will go to our beneficiary

G. External Relations – Justin Frappier



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1. EAC will be meeting after GA to determine when and where they will be meeting and when he will be in the office.
2. If you have a project you would like to connect to other universities reach out to Frappier and he can assist you
3. In talks on planning a student government conference. Currently reaching out to other universities to gauge interest.
4. Talk to your VP about resolutions and getting started
5. Rent college pads from former VP has been passed through the student senate
6. BOV- philanthropy competition between GVSU and Saginaw Valley State University
 - a) Needs assistance from senators to get participation. GVSU always wins the football competition and SVSU wins philanthropy. This year GVSU wants to win both
 - b) GVSU student body is much greater than SVSU- if every student donated a dollar GVSU could very likely win
 - c) Event list is being finalized- donate to participate in these events, if senators are attending another committee's event, if you are able, please donate
 - d) New trophy has been created to replace the old one
 - e) Game is away October 2nd, viewing party at Lubbers stadium
 - f) Understand Love Heals is our beneficiary. They deal with mental health issues and have many resources across the Grand Rapids area.
 - g) Working on getting sponsorships for whatever they can
 - h) Understand has a partnership with Meijer and Meijer will be giving the student senate \$5000. \$2500 for golf outing and \$2500 for "something to do with students"
 - i) BOV is a group effort, please be prepared to help whenever you can especially the week of BOV
 - j) Other than 9 events there will be other small events
7. Reach out with any questions regarding BOV or senate
8. Questions



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- a) Senator Kalafut asks if there's a plan if a COVID related issue affects the event
 - (1) Frappier reminds that the actual football event is out of the hands of the senate and the athletic department will be in communication about the event
 - (2) VP Kidd clarifies that all events will be held during the week of the game
 - (3) EVP Suchecki and Senator Biermacher remind the senate that there will always be people that can use your help.

XI. Subcommittee Reports

- A. Sustainability Rationale, presented by Cargill:
 - 1. Meeting times are yet to be determined, will send out when decided
- B. Sexual Assault Awareness Committee Rationale, presented by Byers:
 - 1. Planning events for April, which is sexual assault awareness month and October which is domestic violence awareness month
 - 2. Looking for help and invites all senators to join
- C. Mental Health Awareness Rationale, presented by Kalafut:
 - 1. Planning ideas for national suicide prevention month:
 - a) Interactive Bulletin board in Kirkhoff for what makes you happy or gives you hope
 - b) Therapy dogs at clock tower
 - c) Yoga and mediation event outside with Rec and Wellness
 - d) Stress ball making event
 - e) Paper materials and social media information from university counseling center
- D. EVP Suchecki reminds the senate that subcommittees are on a volunteer basis, you can get office hours for being a part of subcommittees
- E. President Mueller reminds that there are three subcommittees and any senator can join

XII. University Committee Reports

- A. VP Frappier encourages all senators to join a university committee as they are very important and useful



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- B. EVP Suchecki sits on the LIFT committee that sends out the professor evaluations at the end of the semester and stresses the importance of filling out these evaluations
 - C. EVP Suchecki is VPSA and President Mueller is the PVSA to bring the student voice to these committees. They want the input from the student senate, they sent a survey it is in the drive under VPSASC. Please fill it out
 - D. Acknowledges that Jaime Wilson will be taking her position on the Lift Management committee
- XIII. **Roll Call - Part II**
- A. Taken by Senator Byers
- XIV. **Call for Announcements**
- A. Frappier reminds EAC to meet after the meeting. He will be planning an archive day at the Siedman house to look at past senate documents. He cautions everyone against burnout and reminds them to stay diligent
 - B. Kidd reminds EAC that their meeting 15 minutes after GA adjourns, in Student Senate office
 - C. Zdynczyk reminds everyone that if you are interested in going greek to reach out to her and she highly encourages it
 - D. O'Neil reminds everyone that his board will be meeting September 24th
 - E. Gineman has the sign up sheet for constitution day if you are interested in working a shift
 - F. SRC is doing a tie dye event, details TBD
 - G. Pearson reminds everyone PRC is meeting Tuesdays at 8:00pm and reminds everyone to stay after to take photos of senate
 - H. Wheeler reminds everyone to use google form for social media post requests
 - I. Byers extends invitation to join her new group on campus, lakers for choice
 - J. EVP Suchecki reminds everyone that senators represent the entire student body regardless of personal beliefs, which can be challenging but she believes in everyone. Utilize the drive and check slack frequently.
 - K. President Mueller presents a ted talk that impacted her
- XV. **Adjournment: 5:53pm**