

# Grand Valley State University Student Senate



General Assembly

Thursday, September 22nd, 2022

Pere Marquette Room, 4:30pm

Chair: Faith Kidd

Parliamentarian: Justin Frappier

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

## **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 - Part I

## **II. Public Comment – Part I**

## **III. Guest Speaker**

- a. Greg Sanial and Craig Wieschhorster: Budget Presentation
  - i. Greg Sanial CFO, Craig Wieschhorster associate VP of business and finance
  - ii. Dining update
    - (1) Moved to more full-time staff and less student employees- observed decrease in wait time, maximized venue options
    - (2) Dining changes: converted Kleiner to all-one-cares-to-eat venue
    - (3) Opened true balance- top 8 allergen free venue
    - (4) Re-opened all other venue areas less Qdoba and fuel
    - (5) Added Bento sushi and bowls
    - (6) Stadium concessions- Chick-fil-A and food trucks
    - (7) Residential dining options expanded
    - (8) Feedback methods: talk with Laker Food Co, online feedback, Student Senate food committee
  - iii. Updates- enrollment and state appropriation
    - (1) Most diverse first-year class is GVSU history, increase in FTIAC numbers
    - (2) Overall enrollment down about 3% which is tough to deal with, still have revenue challenges. Great plan in place to stabilize enrollment
      - (a) First year numbers were great, seeing big decline in two small classes from COVID years due to retention rates not being good
      - (b) Also less high school students in general, all schools having this issue, especially in Michigan. Working to make up for the traditional student from Michigan that comes to GVSU by reaching out to out of state students.
      - (c) Demographics are supposed to increase towards the end of the decade and enrollment should even out.
  - iv. Tuition and total cost of attendance final numbers

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- (1) 2.9% increase for undergraduate block tuition rates
- (2) 2.9% increase for graduate tuition
- (3) Lowest tuition increase across all of Michigan public universities; total cost of attendance is 12 out of 14.
- (4) To put it into context, every other Michigan public university raised more than that which is important to keep in mind. Still seeing tremendous value for the overall cost of attendance
- (5) Al Moutaa: Thanks them for keeping tuition increases really low. If the tuition increase was because they expected less from the state and received more, where did the unexpected money go?
  - (a) Wieschhorster: When they presented their budget they had to make an assumption because the state had not announced their funding. There has been a \$10million hit to revenue due to enrollment decline. Additional state money that was not expected that was given went to cover the deficit in revenue.
  - (b) Sanial: it is not a given where the state will end up with funding, they had to make an estimate, the state gave more than anticipated and that covered the enrollment decline. They also had to estimate enrollment and it came in 3% lower than that. If they had known that the state funding was going to be more it would not have affected the tuition increase that much. State funding only covers 16% of costs. Even if they would have known what the state was going to give he does not think that it would have affected the tuition all that much.
- (6) Al Moutaa: did the state appropriation funding create some extra funds that are not being used?
  - (a) Sanial: no, state funding is covering the deficit in revenue because of lack of enrollment. Even if they had the right amount from the state it would have affected the tuition increase.
- (7) Schmidt: did operating costs go up 3%?
  - (a) Snail: The biggest part of the budget is personnel cost and covering raises for faculty and staff. Personnel costs went up 3%, but it is not that clear cut.
- (8) Al Moutaa: big deficit in student wages and they are not being paid fair market value. Why was raising student wages not prioritized?
  - (a) Wieschhorster: student wage rates are a little bit above minimum wage rates from the state and depending on the job you could be making way above minimum wage. This is a very fair amount.
  - (b) Al Moutaa: student employee at the Starbucks at GVSU gets paid \$10.10/hour and just down the road they get paid \$14-15 an hour for doing the same job.

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- (c) Wieschhorster: working off campus is a little different, they need to travel to that place, and account for wage inflation on the outside. Not paying the absolute top of the market but due to the amount of time worked and convenience of on-campus jobs they are getting paid a fair wage. There has to be a tradeoff when they raise student wages, it is not as easy as it sounds.
- (d) Sanial: there was an increase in Michigan's minimum wage so the student wage pot went up, they look at it every year.
- (9) Schmidt: Is there anywhere you could see the funding for student wages coming from?
  - (a) Sanial: it is a strategic allocation process that is looked at as they balance the budget. No unused money. As you build the budget there are a lot of big levers. If retention increases, there are inflation pressures that need to be factored into the process. Everybody has their own opinion for opportunities of reinvestment but the key is to allocate the resources to best assist the mission, it is done every year.
- (10) Rusch: they have the lowest percentage tuition increase, but how does the enrollment decline line up to other schools in the state?
  - (a) Sanial: MSU and U of M are growing slightly, but for a regional public university they are doing way better than their peers.
- (11) Munoz: What does FTIAC stand for?
  - (a) Sanial: First time at any college. There is a number of different ways college enrollment is built but this is the biggest way.
- (12) derPilibosian: what did you do with the money from the 500 student dining jobs that were cut?
  - (a) Sanial: even though there were 1100 student employee positions, the most they filled was 400.
  - (b) Wieschhorster: Extra position dollars were converted to full time staff, and transferring money over to more full time positions. Still have a lot of capacity available on campus for students, that is why a few locations are still closed.
- (13) Frappier: did they receive 19% more funding from the state?
  - (a) Wieschhorster: Approximately
- (14) Al Moutaa: how is the wage rate for a campus dining student employee in comparison to full time campus dining employee?
  - (a) Wieschhorster: To attain a full time person it costs more, some differences especially based on if you are a supervisor or manager. Differences in jobs. Not an apples to apples answer so cannot answer this.

## v. Inflation

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- (1) Persistent over the past year, fueled by pent up consumer demand post pandemic, US monetary policy and federal stimulus funds.
  - (2) The index matters, multiple reference points.
  - (3) Inflation shocks are not easily corrected
  - (4) No impacts to student services or dining this year
  - (5) Johnson IV: what will result if a recession is declared?
    - (a) Wieschhorster: Will react to prices as they are, able to manage increases in prices every day. Will not know for sure until it gets published which is not known for a long time
    - (b) Sanial: Does not matter if they are in a recession or not, still have to match revenues to expenses. When times are tough people tend to go back to school because the opportunity cost is there.
- vi. Student senate/voice input and asks
- (1) Laker food Co- Feedback on existing and desired concepts, multiple forums to submit feedback, Housing-What's good? What's missing?, Services-such as academic advising
  - (2) Communications
    - (a) Happy to engage
    - (b) Get the word out to student population
  - (3) Encourages them to leave feedback whenever possible
- vii. Kidd: questions from student body
- (1) When they were given additional COVID money from the state where did that go?
    - (a) Wieschhorster: received HEERF, higher education emergency relief funding. It went to financial aid dollars and institutional dollars- \$45million went directly to students, institutional dollars went to covid expenses such as tests, isolation dorms, extra year eligibility for student athletes. Can see all of this on the website. Little bit of institutional dollars that do remain.
    - (b) Sanial: some left over institutional dollars were turned into financial aid. \$18million was financial aid and \$9million was institutional dollars that were turned into financial aid. Still 2 more years to dole that out.
  - (2) Under expenditures about \$10.3million is allocated for academic administration. Is that towards administration wages?
    - (a) Wieschhorster: It is not all wages, there are parts to that, such as program support, operations of academic affairs. Can get the breakdown for you.

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- (3) Frappier: reminds everyone that Greg and Craig set the general fund budget for the university but a lot of departments have their own budgets that they can set up meetings with.
  - (4) Munoz: A little confused on student wages, does each department decide their rates?
    - (a) Wieschhorster: Each department has a certain amount of dollars for student wages, sometimes they go over and sometimes they go under. 2 types of wages and 1 is auxiliaries such as housing, campus dining, meadows, they get no support from tuition dollars, must exist on their own.
    - (b) Sanial: Allocation of student wage dollars throughout the university is distributed down from divisions and colleges, and it is a part of their budget allocation. Pay table for student wages is all based on the nature of the work. SE+ is an initiative with President Mantella, more project based high level work which works off of a different table, things such as internships.
  - (5) Al Moutaa: does parking services and GVSU profit from parking violations and tickets?
    - (a) Wieschhorster: Parking violations go back to the general fund and are used to maintain the lots. Roughly \$2million a year to maintain the lots.
    - (b) Sanial: Parking is an auxiliary like campus dining- need the money to operate. They are not incentivized to write tickets to make profit. They are non profit by definition.
  - (6) Schmidt: how much does parking get allocated and did it go up this year?
    - (a) They are an auxiliary- all revenue is self generated. They are self-sustaining.
  - (7) Biermacher: what is the process for reallocating and reinvesting surpluses?
    - (a) Wieschhorster: Have a reserved use policy that are available for one time investments. Enables them to do thing such as maintain liquidity in times such as COVID when they had to refund everyone for housing and dining.
  - (8) Al Moutaa: there was a labor market analysis done for faculty and staff employees and determined they were below market levels which is why there was a raise in salaries. Why was this not done for student filled positions and is it something that can be done in the future?
    - (a) Sanial: about 4-5 years ago there was a study done for faculty and it looked at their salaries in comparison to other public Michigan universities and they decided there needed to be an adjustment done to get them to the median which was completed right before COVID hit. Every year there is a market analysis done for staff based on things such as years at the university, years of experience and a compensation analysis is completed by a professional.

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Compensation is not a point, it is a range. Not aware if one has been done for students, probably not due to the nature of the work the students are doing. The state would have something like this for the students because of the nature of the work. Would have to look into that, hears that you think students are not getting paid enough. Goes back to the nature of the work. Goes from \$10-\$17, keep the nature of the work in mind.

(9) derPilibosian: thanks them for coming

(10) Kidd: thanks them for coming, any additional questions can be emailed to her and she will set up another meeting if needed.

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

#### V. President's Report

##### a. Adoption of the Agenda

i. Schmidt: moves to relocate the five minute recess upwards to under line item 7 line item b

(1) Al Moutaa- 2nd

(2) No discussion

(3) 16 yays, 2 nays

(4) Senate votes to adopt the agenda to relocate the five minute recess upwards to under line item 7 line item b

b. Used social media to get input from students to find out their issues, main points were: campus safety, unpaid internships that are required for graduation, hourly wages on campus, increase in tuition without increasing scholarships, cost of add ons such as Seidman courses, parking, and the amount of people on public transit and lack of public transit times available. If you have or hear of further issues, reach out.

c. Had and have multiple meetings this week: Chief DeHaan, and Stacy Behler

d. Reached out to consulting services in the area to see if there is a good match to work with in the rebuilding process.

e. Sign up for university committees, very helpful and great way to get updates.

f. Instead of GA next week, they will be doing snacks and homework in the office, not required but encouraged. Will bring cider and donuts so send her recommendations and orders.

g. Give her feedback. She is working hard to make things more accessible and efficient and is about to start planning next semester's GA schedule. If there is anyone you want to hear from, communicate that and she will do her best. Libraries will be doing a presentation on textbook accessibility.

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- h. Not having cabinet on Monday, will be cleaning out the cages. If you are free and want office hours they would appreciate your help.
- i. derPilibosian: can GA homework time next week be counted as office hours?
  - i. Everly: if you are working on senate projects yes, if you are just doing homework then no

## VI. Executive Vice President's Report

- a. Approval of the Minutes
  - i. Stand approved
- b. UAS/ECS
  - i. Sign up for university committees, should be occurring soon
  - ii. Doing all sorts of great work- having discussion on: university conduct, technology in classrooms, and tuition
  - iii. President Kidd attended with him last week and gave the longest report ever so they are well aware of student concerns
  - iv. More than welcome to schedule a meeting anytime
  - v. October is considered one of the busiest times for students with most cheating and many mental health concerns, take care of yourself.
  - vi. Many campaigns in October, if you want to do senate events for theme reach out
  - vii. Fill out contact sheet in drive, only fill out what you're comfortable
  - viii. VPs need to fill out committee meeting time sheet in drive
  - ix. Governing documents look the same as when you joined, the changes that were voted on are in effect and will be updated in the drive shortly.
  - x. More than open to hear feedback on how they should handle CTF. A lot of different options- during GA, during Cabinet, reach out with suggestions.

## VII. Unfinished Business

- a. Nominations and Elections for Vice President of Educational Affairs
- b. Parking Services Legislation
  - i. Schmidt: bottom part has changed regarding Rusch's suggestions specifying email and subject line. Is now being sent directly to parking services instead of going through UAS.
  - ii. Frappier: VP Schmidt has a number of parking bills that he has prepared but noting he has a meeting coming up he has held back on those but thinks this one is pertinent to pass before the meeting.
  - iii. Proctor: fully supports this and looks forward to the other legislations.

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- iv. Biermacher: expresses support for this legislation. The other legislations are more about policy which is why he is waiting for the meeting for those.
  - v. Schmidt: meeting with parking services next Tuesday 9/27, direct your questions to him and he will bring them on your behalf, Munoz is also attending the meeting so can also reach out to her.
  - vi. Biermacher: motions to approve Schmidt's bill regarding parking services
    - (1) Al Moutaa: 2nd
    - (2) Rusch: thinks transparent communication to students is important but thinks this might be sending the message that all they care about is red tape and taking responsibility away from students. Changes are available on the website, twitter, and policies that had to be approved by BOT. Not against a move such as this but worried that it is introducing more red tape rather than getting into the meat of the issue.
    - (3) Schmidt: asks if anyone is following parking sevrces on twitter, he does not have twitter himself. Asks if he is regularly reading parking ordinances and checking the parking services website. Thinks emailing this is transparency and not red tape.
    - (4) 14 yays, 1 nay
    - (5) Senate votes to approve Schmidt's bill regarding parking services
  - c. Five Minute Recess
    - i. Call meeting back to order: 5:42pm

## VIII. New Business

- a. Appointments
  - i. Alexander Kolar- ERC
    - (1) Answer to question- "As we are representatives of the GVSU student body, what are you planning to do during your tenure on Student Senate to represent students?"
      - (a) As a future senator, I plan to represent all students attending Grand Valley State University and make decisions that will benefit the student population. My goal as a student senate is to leave Grand Valley State University in a better and more welcoming state than it already is. I want to improve what we as a university are doing correctly while also listening to any issues that arise and make changes accordingly. My personal goal however is to spread awareness of Asian American viewpoints through the position as student senator. I only seek for the benefit of those who are enrolled at Grand Valley State University and strive to introduce new viewpoints among our board. I



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Plan to represent all students and make decisions that will benefit the student population, leave GVSU in a better state than it already is. Listening to issues and make changes. Spread awareness of Asian-American perspective.

- (2) Schmidt: sat in on his interview, expressed that he has a great interest in leading, is fact oriented and logical, and would be proud to have him on his committee.
  - (3) Everly: moves to appoint Alexander to ERC
    - (a) Al moutaa- 2nd
    - (b) No discussion
    - (c) 18 yays
    - (d) Senate votes unanimously to appoint Alexander Kolar to ERC
- ii. Lina Hass- ERC
- (1) Answer to question- “As we are representatives of the GVSU student body, what are you planning to do during your tenure on Student Senate to represent students?”
    - (a) I am a freshman from the Metro-Detroit area. I am double majoring in International Business & Global Studies and Social Impact. In my tenure on the Student Senate I hope to represent students at Grand Valley in a positive, ambitious way. I am eager to learn the ins and outs that will allow me to implement changes that create an inclusive and innovative environment for the student body. I believe there are a lot of amazing events and matters going on within Grand Valley and the surrounding areas that can be interconnected. With doing so, the student body's experience has the capability to be enhanced through our community's knowledge. As the voice for our students, I am dedicated to being a bridge between their needs and the change required to cultivate a persistently thriving community.
  - (2) Schmidt: impressed him greatly in her interview, made a really great first impression. Has a lot of drive, and believes she would be a great addition and proud to have her on his committee.
  - (3) Everly: moves to appoint Lina Hass to ERC
    - (a) Biermacher- 2nd
    - (b) Schmidt: moves to pass the motion with unanimous consent
    - (c) Senate votes unanimously to appoint Lina Hass to ERC
- iii. Isabella MacKenzie - CAC

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- (1) Answer to question- “As we are representatives of the GVSU student body, what are you planning to do during your tenure on Student Senate to represent students?”
    - (a) Being a part of the Student Senate while having the opportunity to represent Grand Valley State University’s student body is very important to me. I could not be more grateful to have the opportunity to work hard and make connections with others all seeking to achieve the goal of helping our student body. It is a privilege and brings me so much joy to be a part of an organization driven by the needs and desires of students here at Grand valley State university. I am excited to contribute to the leadership at GVSU and work with like minded others to bring positive change to our community.
  - (2) Everly: sat in on her interview, thinks her enthusiasm would be great for morale and for repsation to the student body. She has ideas to plan events and make students feel welcome. She has previous experience with Robert's Rules and extracurricular experience. Passionate about educating students on campus’s resources.
  - (3) Everly: moves to appoint Isabell MacKenzie to CAC
    - (a) Al Moutaa- 2nd
    - (b) Schmidt: moves to pass with unanimous consent
    - (c) Senate votes unanimously to appoint Isabell MacKenzie to CAC
- iv. Brock Johnson-SRC
- (1) Answer to question- “As we are representatives of the GVSU student body, what are you planning to do during your tenure on Student Senate to represent students?”
    - (a) My time on the Student Senate will be focused on bringing a voice to the students who don't get a chance to speak up. All students have a voice, and we need to make sure we are hearing them all, not just the ones who shout the loudest. I will work hard to ensure students get what they want, and, I will make sure they know that everyone has a voice and that they are welcome to speak with me anytime. Just by being immersed in the community, I have already been introduced to some campus issues that need to be addressed, and I will use my time on the Senate to address and fix those issues. I will always put the students first, I will not do this for my own gain, I will do it to help the students. So to all students, from near and far, from freshmen to seniors, know this, you will never be ignored. Your voice, your hopes, and your dreams will

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be heard and recognized. Together, we will keep Grand Valley grand! Thank you Student Senate for your time. I am majoring in Business and Public Administration. I am from Grand Rapids and spend lots of my time in Muskegon where I volunteer on the SS Milwaukee Clipper, a museum ship.

- (2) Everly: very impressed with his interview, he talked about his extracurricular experiences that taught him how to work well with other people. Enthusiastic about opportunities the Student Senate can provide for students. Loves working with people who have different perspective. Has prior experience using Robert's Rules.
- (3) Everly: move to appoint Brock Johnson to SRC
  - (a) Biermacher- 2nd
  - (b) Schmidt: moves to pass with unanimous consent
  - (c) Senate votes unanimously to appoint Brock Johnson to SRC
- v. Magdalyn Hallead- PRC
  - (1) A freshman studying Biomedical Sciences on the Pre-Medical Studies track. Minor in management in hopes of improving the healthcare field in the future. Currently involved in the Frederik Meijer Honors College, Drumline of the Laker Marching Band, the office of Business and Finance, the Thompson Scholars Program, Pre-Med Club, and the Pre-Med Mentorship program. From St. Johns, Michigan, where in high school she served as Student Council President, her school's social media manager, Vice President of Business Professionals of America, the Student Director for all theater productions by St. Johns High School, a Certified Nursing Aide at a local nursing home, and graduated at the top of her class.
  - (2) Answer to question- "As we are representatives of the GVSU student body, what are you planning to do during your tenure on Student Senate to represent students?"
    - (a) During my tenure on Student Senate, I plan to serve with confidence, professionalism, and great involvement. As a member of the Public Relations committee, I plan to serve under VP Bucon and follow all the necessary policies and procedures to ensure positive and accurate actions. I am excited to learn in greater depth how to improve the Senate's public outreach through social media, promotions, and any other necessary communications. An important action I would personally like to focus on is updating the GV Student Senate website. I will speak on behalf of the student body and inform

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them of any important activities and legislation. I hope to engage the student body in improving the university as a whole and to encourage future applications to grow the student senate. I will use the leadership skills and social media skills that I have learned through my experiences throughout high school to enhance the environment in Student Senate and the Student body of GVSU as a whole. I would like to thank you all for the opportunity to interview and get to the appointment stage. You are all greatly appreciated and I hope to serve on the senate with you this year!

- (3) Biermacher: most impressed by her demeanor and how she spoke with confidence and assurance and thinks she would be a great addition to this body.
- (4) Bucon: would be very gracious to have her on PRC, she is a planner, creative, intentional and has experience in the legislation process.
- (5) Everly: moves to appoint Magdalyn Hallead to PRC
  - (a) Proctor- 2nd
  - (b) Schmidt: moves to pass with unanimous consent
  - (c) Senate votes unanimously to appoint Magdalyn Hallead to SRC

## b. Campus Safety Discussion

- i. Kidd: has a meeting with Chief DeHaan tomorrow and wants to bring all concerns
- ii. Rubos: has already started legislation looking into campus security such as putting up security cameras. If anyone has any resources she would appreciate you sending them her way.
- iii. derPilibosian: thanks her for addressing the body with this issue and will do anything to help.
- iv. Frappier: think broadly and about safety as a whole. Munoz and him had the opportunity to attend the downtown campus safety walk with individuals from the university and did a full tour of the downtown campus and talked about the different things they are already doing. Discussions are occurring, they are putting in new light fixtures downtown, they have 17,000 cameras across campus, that are all working at all times but not all are being monitored at all times. GVPD is really trying but they are working on getting support from Ottawa county and GRPD, they are running thin on officers. Next week on Wednesday there will be an on campus safety walk at 7:30pm on the Allendale campus meeting at the service building next to the alumni house. Get a tour and then discuss with Chief DeHaan after. Great resource.
- v. Kidd: let her know if you plan on coming to the night walk so she can give headcount to Chief DeHaan.

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- vi. Schmidt: This is an important issue. Next month the first Tuesday of the month Grand Rapids city council meets and he intends on bringing student concerns to their public comment. Crime is up in Grand Rapids, murder rate is 60% higher than last year along with car jacking and assaults are through the roof. If you have any concerns you want him to bring, reach out. GRPD also has a limited number of resources, formerly worked there and a committee member currently works there. Recently they got their budget cut again. GRPD does not have resources to spare, hopefully will get them more resources because they don't have the resources to make things more safe.
  - vii. Al Moutaa: there is a lot of crimes happening in off-campus apartments, GVPD does not have the capacity to send GVPD their or install cameras, want to see how they can partner with Ottawa county and leasing offices of these apartments to see how they can have more patrol roaming around these premises.
  - viii. Proctor: does intern with Ottawa county, Sheriff Steve Kempker is an elected official. Can reach out to him with questions or concerns, his contact information is on the website or you can reach out to him and he will pass it along. Use your voice because he is an elected government official.
  - ix. Rusch: point of inquiry is while we can police our communities they only have so many resources that will only go so far. What is GVPD and the partnership they have with Ottawa county, doing to engage with the community and what can they do to make changes about the systemic issues with events such as shootings at Canvas and assaults on the Blue Bridge
  - x. Frappier: join this discussion, they don't have a need to write legislation because GVPD is already trying very hard. Get your feedback in, send questions to Faith. They are willing to work with anyone. GVPD is in conversation with Ottawa county about Canvas and Canvas is working to issue a way to increase their safety.
  - xi. Schmidt: Does GVPD have jurisdiction over Canvas?
    - (1) Kidd: no, but can ask chief dehaan for clarification of where the lines are. Blue Bridge is not under GVPD jurisdiction.
  - xii. Al Moutaa: There are a lot of crimes that are going on and it is awful. What are we doing to support the victim's healing journey and navigate these traumas? Would it be in their spectrum to see if the off campus leasing apartments can require a background check before leasing there? A lot of people are not students and allegedly gang members that are living in Canvas and that is concerning.
  - xiii. Flickinger: works at GRPD, liaison for Grand Rapids commission, will be at the commission meeting with VP Schmidt. When it comes to crime almost all of it happens at night. Have a partner when you're out and be out in the daytime. The saying "lights out, guns out" is very true. GRPD has put out security cameras on the Blue Bridge, a lot of it has to do with construction on Monroe and Fulton streets

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- which is causing more people and cars to go on the Blue Bridge. Art prize is happening right now and there is art on the bridge. Personally takes the bridge many times a week during the day and has never seen anything. Try to avoid blue bridge as much as possible at night. GRPD has had a lot of violent crimes happening outside the blue bridge, and they have to allocate their resources to things like homicides that take precedence. At canvas 2 students were shot, 1 person who was not a student opened fire on a cop and got shot and killed as a result, heard that it was gang related.
- xiv. Welch: seconds Rusch, need to address the root cause. Police departments only have so many resources but they need to address the root cause before giving more money. Investigation is required for what is happening at off campus apartments.
- xv. Munoz: Chief DeHann identified that between 12am and 5am is when the crime is happening. GVPD is working closely with GRPD to put barricades up and cut off electricity to ensure there is the least amount of traffic on the bridge.
- xvi. derPilibosian: the safety concern at night is different, does not feel safe to go out at night because of safety concerns. Would like for a way to make it feel safer.
- xvii. Biermacher: there has been an apparent gun violence issue at off campus apartments for years
- xviii. Al Moutaa: thanks Flickinger for feedback so they can better understand what is going on. There is free wifi on the blue bridge, it is a really big hot spot for crimes and there are a lot of people using the wifi and distracted on their phones and would be an easy target. Would like to promote what Flickinger has said about the risks and when to avoid the area. General student body does not have this information, should promote these.
- (1) Kidd: GVPD is deputized in Ottawa county, so they can serve in all of Ottawa county
- xix. Rusch: motions to end discussion
- (1) Schmidt: 2nd
- (2) No discussion
- (3) 17 yay, 1 nay
- (4) Senate votes to end discussion
- c. Call for New Orders of the Day
- IX. Public Comment- Part II**
- a. Andrew, GVSU student: has come to address the GVSU privacy policy- GVSU student directory gives the military and government their information. The Solomon amendment- name, address, academic information, current enrollment status, and enrollment email. Not protected by FERPA, obligated to release most of the data. Asks

# Grand Valley State University Student Senate

General Assembly

Thursday, September 22nd, 2022

Pere Marquette Room, 4:30pm

Chair: Faith Kidd

Parliamentarian: Justin Frappier



Student Senate to address this head on by talking to people at university to update the privacy policy SLT 8.5 which was last updated in 2008. In the revisions they need to address the Solomon amendment.

## X. Officer Reports

### a. Senate Resources – Mallory Everly

- i. There have been multiple people each week who have not turned in all of their hours. Missing office hours does count for absences. If you are having trouble thinking of things to do for your hours, reach out. If you participated in something that would allow your office hours to be excused during one of the past few weeks, send her a direct message on slack by 5:00pm tomorrow so that everyone's hours are up to date. After 5:00pm tomorrow, she will be reaching out to people individually to make them aware of the absences that they may have acquired due to missed office hours. As always, office hours for this week are due by 5:00pm tomorrow.
- ii. Sent a link for a Bonding form in the Slack. SRC is working really hard to come up with some fun bonding events for everyone to enjoy. If at any point during the semester you think of/find a bonding idea that looks fun, you can go to the bonding folder inside of the SRC folder on Google Drive, click the link, and fill out the form with your idea.
- iii. Senator Biggs sent out a Slack last night asking if anyone would be interested in going to an apple orchard for an optional bonding event. Vote on one of the dates if you are interested.
- iv. All applicants that have submitted applications on Lakerlink have been reached out to regarding interview information. Seeing a bit of a decline in the amount of applications received, however, SRC is brainstorming ways that we can encourage students to apply for Student Senate, such as tabeling efforts.
- v. There were a few questions about why the appointment process was taking as long as it was. Interviews take place directly after General Assembly meetings on Thursday evenings. In order to appoint someone to the body, SRC needs to meet in a closed session to discuss outcomes of the interviews, quality of applications, committee placement, ect. Up until last week, SRC was not meeting until Wednesday at 7pm, and then sending out appointment emails on Thursday mornings and inviting applicants to GA the following week, because it wouldn't have been fair to send out an email Thursday morning and expect them to be present that same afternoon. In order to fix this problem, SRC agreed to meet directly after interviews that took place this past Thursday, and they will continue to do this, so that they can discuss

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- candidates, vote on recommendations, and send out emails on Friday morning so that appointments can take place a week after interviews occur.
- vi. The SRC meetings that take place after GA are strictly for interview purposes, meaning that most of the meeting will take place in a closed session. Therefore, if you would like to attend an SRC meeting, they will still have our weekly meetings on Wednesdays at 7pm to discuss all other matters, so feel free to stop by.
  - vii. If you miss a Student Senate event and need to fill out an excused absence form, include strong rationale in your form. Your response needs to have some substance within it simply because if it is too general, there is a higher chance that SRC will not vote to approve it because many different scenarios could apply.
- b. **Allocations** – Benjamin Biermacher
- i. First meeting will be tomorrow at 1:30pm in KC room 2215- hearing requests from the Renaissance club and 2 requests from esports.
  - ii. To get voting rights, the easiest way is to attend an allocations meeting. If you can not attend reach out and schedule a time to meet with him.
  - iii. If you need funding, your VP has to bring the request to cabinet and submit it on laker link.
  - iv. Downtown version of ignite is this Sunday in Seidman.
  - v. Asks committee members to meet with him after adjournment.
- c. **Public Relations** – Emily Bucon
- i. During their committee meeting they solidified senate swag and solidified interest form to be sent out in a few weeks.
  - ii. Giveaways winners from CLN have already claimed their prizes
  - iii. Newsletter is being considered to be added to VPSA update instead of being its own monthly newsletter and PRC members are in support
  - iv. Bulletin board is updated to get feedback from students
  - v. In contact with competitive edge regarding promotional items and working on getting those finalized and ordered
  - vi. Rusch: what is the rationale for switching the newsletter to be combined with VPSA
    - (1) Bucon: before the newsletter was used to promote events each month. If it was weekly and shorter it could give more pertinent updates to students.
    - (2) Kidd: The current newsletter puts a lot of time on the shoulders of the advising role and VP Bucon because of the way the program is set up and it has to go through multiple realms of editing. If there was a blip on the VPSA newsletter it would be more time efficient to communicate with students faster about what is going on. Happy to further discuss.



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- vii. Welch: when does PRC meet?
    - (1) Bucon: Wednesdays at 1:15pm, may be changing with the addition their new member
  - d. **Campus Affairs-** Bianca Muñoz
    - i. Committee met this week and discussed current legislations and parking services concerns. Meeting with parking services with VP Schmidt, reach out with your concerns.
    - ii. Meet on Wednesdays at 6:15pm in senate office, subject to change
  - e. **Educational Affairs**
    - i. Meets after GA
    - ii. Does not have much manpower for last lecture or OER work, but will be moving forward
    - iii. Kidd: has been in communication with the library. They are not doing open access week, switching to continuous campaigns. Will be coming to speak at GA in early January. Will look at what professors made the most improvements and will be creating awards. Last lecture happens in February. Sooner the better for a VP.
  - f. **Diversity Affairs** – Larbi Al Moutaa
    - i. Looking for volunteers to sit in on proposal review meetings for teach-in, October 11 and 18 9-11am. At least 3-5 students to be apart of each. Reach out if you are interested.
    - ii. Moved forward with pieces of legislation to address student wages concerns. Gives gratitude to Senator Bates who did great work.
    - iii. Thanks VP Schmidt and VP Munoz in their contribution to these legislations, confident they will set them up for success.
    - iv. Committee members are working together to find a solution for campus safety concerns. Looking for help for them to find a solution. Reach out if you can help them, any contribution would be much appreciated.
    - v. Rush: dates for teach in review, what day of the week?
      - (1) Tuesday, October 11 9-11am and Tuesday, October 18 9-11am,
    - vi. Welch: when does DAC meet?
    - vii. Al Moutaa: Sundays at 10am, location is either online or in person determined by agenda. They put out a poll on if they want to meet in person or online each week. Will share that information on the google drive sheet.
  - g. **External Relations** – Zachary Schmidt
    - i. Continuing to work on parking services legastion, meeting next Tuesday.

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- ii. Attended Ottawa county board meeting- recognized 5 deputies and 3 citizens for heroic action in August. Looked at the budget proposal, the tax levy is less than state law, 45% comes from state or federal grants, highest expenditure is salaries and wages 30%. Budget starts October 1.
- iii. Artprize is going on, feel free to check that out. Allegedly nothing good is going on.
- iv. The Grand Rapids Commission meeting this week was canceled, and will be attending the next meeting to go to public comment.

## **XI. University Committee Reports**

- a. Biermacher: SORB had its first meeting yesterday- approved 24 new student organizations, a few explicitly related to mental health and thinks the student senate could connect them with the counseling center. Has a full list of all organizations that were approved if anyone is interested.

## **XII. Roll Call - Part II**

## **XIII. Call for Announcements**

- a. Schmidt: will have a quick pow wow with his committee at the ficus before their meeting.
- b. Frappier: congratulations on passing the first piece of legislation today. Cannot respond to public comment, does not mean it fizzles into nothing. Wanted to share that they received a letter from campus ministries thanking them for approving the funding for their welcome events, great to know people are recognizing their work. New senators need to come up front following adjournment to get sworn in
- c. Bucon: asks PRC members to come up following adjournment to discuss meeting time
- d. Rusch: return placards to VP Everly or a member of SRC
- e. Kidd: no cabinet meeting this week, no GA next week- games, homework and snacks from 4:30-6:30 in the office. If you were appointed she will swear you in.

## **XIV. Adjournment: 6:40pm**