



General Assembly Meeting
Thursday, September 3rd, 2020 — 4:30 pm
Via Zoom
Chair: Eric-John Szczepaniak
Parliamentarian: Kelly Dowker

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- I. Call Meeting to Order: 4:32pm
 - A. Moment of Silence
 - i. Native Land Recognition
 - B. Student Senate Creed
 - C. Pledge of Allegiance
 - D. Roll Call
 - II. Public Comment - Part I
 - III. Five (5) Minutes to Pass Papers
 - A. Pagel, 9/11 Memorial: memorial orchestrated through Senate with other student organizations involved. Sign-up sheet will be available in Pagel's Slack.
 - IV. President's Report
 - A. Adoption of the Agenda - Stand approved
 - B. Appointments to University Committees
 - i. Spreadsheet of available committee spots and information on each of these committees is available in the shared drive.
 - ii. Once Senators have signed up, a link on the web page will be made available for other students not affiliated with Senate to sign up
 - C. Introduces Melissa Baker-Boosamra as new Student Senate Advisor; she speaks on her excitement for the coming year and encourages senators to continue to reach out to students and become a part of Senate
 - D. Provost created temporary policy on recommendation from faculty government to prohibit grade-bearing requirements to attendance. This is to ensure infected or potentially infected individuals face no repercussions for their absence.
 - V. Executive Vice President's Report
 - A. Approval of the Minutes - Stand approved
 - VI. Unfinished Business
 - VII. New Business
 - A. Discussion and Voting on S-20-03: Urge Grand Valley State University to Amend the Class Attendance Policy to Allow Excused Absences for Voting
 - i. Introduced by Senator Raak; encouraging the university to allow excused absences for voting. Raak is open to receiving questions and amendments
 - ii. Hicks: last November, there was a resolution passed that prohibited assessments or exams on election day, what became of this resolution?
 - a) Szczepaniak: this resolution reached Faculty Senate, agreed to charge a committee to figure out the policy language and then forgot/did not

follow through. Current Faculty Senate agreed that this needs to have a follow-through and the process has begun. Still pending

- iii. Murarescu: there have been resolutions like this that have been passed but never reached their intended purpose. What are the immediate next steps Senator Raak will be taking in order to make sure that this process is completed?
 - a) Raak: if it passes at UAS, will make the appropriate meetings to ensure it is completed
- iv. Siegrist: appreciates the work put into this resolution, particularly as someone who does not live close to Grand Valley
- v. Hicks: echoes the importance of passing this resolution despite it may not being passed before the 2020 Presidential Election
- vi. Thayer: offers his support, highlighting that the surrounding counties are also making efforts to make voting more accessible
- vii. Moine: Baker-Boosamra has shared a link that shows GVSU is in the All-In Challenge
- viii. Senator Gamage motions to pass and Senator Hicks seconds.
 - a) Motion passes, 21-0 with no attendance changes.

VIII. New Orders of the Day

IX. Public Comment - Part II

A. Samuels: are there any updates from the Elections Commission?

- i. Szczepaniak: there are a total of 20 signed up to run for Senate. 5pm on September 11th is the deadline to file; voting will take place the following week. Students can vote up to ten candidates. September 21st, tallies will be released, September 24th will be the first meeting of the new body.
 - a) Moine: what will Cabinet elections look like?
 - (1) Szczepaniak: two week process beginning after Senate elections.
 - (2) Moine: What would the logistics of the voting look like?
 - (3) Szczepaniak: EVP Dowker is using the system that Faculty Senate is using (private vote); would have to discuss whether or not candidates will “leave the room” during discussion. Hicks suggests a break-out room, this will likely be the solution.

X. Call for Announcements

- A. Murarescu: reminder to take care of oneself and others; be a compassionate community member, reach out to campus resources
- B. Hicks: Still working on Senate Alumni project, it’s going well. Looking to implement a few projects such as forming a mentorship program; will be sending out an email to the interested alumni who may want to join the leadership team
- C. Siegrist: what is the thought process is for separating five and five for Cabinet? Feels that it is important to get up and running as soon as possible and should get all Cabinet seats filled in the same time. Would also like to do outreach to the downtown campus and if anyone is interested in assisting, contact him.

i. Szczepaniak: because we haven't done the online format before, didn't want people to sit in on a lengthy zoom meeting. Processes for shortening the time are being explored (such as if acclimating the vote if there is only one person).

D. McMahon: Dem 101 events: take-off event on September 16th, will all be online.

President Mantella will be speaking at the first event as well as MI Secretary of State and VP Murarescu; planning a Student Senate panel for September 31st

XI. Adjournment: 5:33pm