

# Grand Valley State University Executive Committee of the Senate

## Minutes of October 7, 2016

- Present:** Chris Beaudoin (for Jon Hodge), Shawn Bultsma, Danielle DeMuth (For Wendy Burns-Ardolino), Ella Fritzeimer (Student Senate President), Karen Gipson (Chair), Salvador Lopez-Arias, George Lundskow, Felix Ngassa (Vice Chair), Mary O’Kelly, Tonya Parker, Chuck Pazdernik, Joy Washburn
- Absent:** Nancy Levenburg, Samhita Rhodes, James Sanford, Dan Vaughn, Deana Weibel
- Ex Officio:** Ed Aboufadel, Maria Cimitile
- Guests:** Christine Rener, Chris Swank

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 pm

Agenda Items	Discussion	Action / Decisions
1. Approval of Agenda	The Agenda of October 7, 2016 was reviewed.	The Agenda of October 7, 2016 was approved.
2. Approval of Minutes	The Minutes of September 16, 2016 were reviewed.	The Minutes of September 16, 2016 were approved.
3. Report from Chair	The Chair reported that the Equity & Inclusion Task Force met last week. She further reported that the Affiliate Faculty Advisory Committee was convened this morning, with Natalie Armstrong elected as the AFAC chair. She presented a request to present National Survey of Student Engagement data to UAS; the ECS consensus was to put that presentation on the agenda for the October UAS meeting. The Chair reminded faculty of various upcoming events and future agenda items.	
4. Report from Provost	Maria Cimitile reported on behalf of Provost Davis. She reported that the University Curriculum Committee will be briefly reporting their recent activities in the Forum. She further reported that a distance-learning report will be presented in November. Questions were addressed from the floor.  Ed Aboufadel reported that an updated memo on written performance summaries is posted on the Provost’s Office website.	

<p>5. Report from Student Senate</p>	<p>Student Senate President Fritzemeier reported that she wrote an editorial for the Lanthorn with President Haas which will be published next week. She provided an update on upcoming events and reported that Last Lecture nominations opened this week. She further reported on other initiatives she and Student Senators are currently involved in, including an event on October 20 called “Thin Blue Line” regarding police brutality and a presidential debate watch party on October 10. Questions were addressed from the floor.</p>	
<p>6. Old Business</p>	<p>a. Ed Aboufadel presented an update on the implementation of maternal/medical leave policies and identified highlights of the changes in the <i>Administrative Manual</i> and <i>Faculty Handbook</i>, and calendar sequencing for leave plans. He further reported that subsequent updates were made to various websites, and announced that all leave plans are to be approved by him going forward. Questions were addressed from the floor.</p> <p>b. Mary O’Kelly presented an overview of the half-year sabbatical policy for 12-month faculty that was distributed earlier. Discussion.</p> <p>A <u>motion was made and seconded</u> to table further discussion on the matter until other 12-month faculty representatives are present.</p>	<p><b>MOTION:</b> The Executive Committee of the Senate tables further discussion on the matter until other 12-month faculty representatives are present. <b>APPROVED Unanimously</b></p>
<p>7. New Business</p>	<p>a. Chris Swank presented an overview of the Rapid bus system and distributed material for review. Discussion followed and questions were addressed from the floor. Concerns were expressed about three main issues: parking, safety and accessibility.</p> <p>b. Christine Rener and Patty Stowe Bolea presented an overview of the Community-Based Learning designation and distributed a handout of what the University Curriculum Committee approved. Discussion was heard and questions addressed from the floor.</p> <p>c. Discussion was heard on what responsibility Senate has (or should have) for university committees including reporting lines, attendance and</p>	

	<p>reporting service, human capital costs of committee structure (including a uniform, web-based mechanism for reporting minutes, agenda, etc.).</p> <p>This discussion had two specific outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tonya Parker and Joy Washburn will draft handbook language regarding expectations of committee chairs for ECS review at a subsequent meeting.</li> <li>• Senators are asked to look at the various committees in the Faculty Handbook and identify those they believe should fall under ECS/UAS purview for discussion at a subsequent meeting.</li> </ul> <p>d. Discussion was heard regarding the meaning of what Senate endorsement means. During discussion a recommendation was made to put some language in the Faculty Handbook, including guidance for when it's appropriate to seek Senate endorsement and guiding principles for withholding endorsement. Concern was expressed about the appropriateness of endorsing completed documents without an opportunity for dialogue. A suggestion was made to create a Senate logo. This discussion will continue at a subsequent meeting.</p> <p>e. There was no discussion on the Role of Senate in the provost search.</p> <p>During Open Comments, the practice of allowing presenters to bring materials to distribute was questioned on the basis of wastefulness.</p>	
8. Adjournment	The meeting adjourned at 5:07pm	