

Grand Valley State University
 Executive Committee of the Senate – Special Meeting
Minutes of January 5, 2022

Present: Yatin Bhagwat, Tara Corneilus, Scarlet Galvan, Susan Harrington, Chris Haven, Courtney Karasinski (Vice Chair), Andrew Schlewitz (for Amy McFarland), Jared Moore, Felix Ngassa (Chair), Chuck Pazdernik, Karyn Rouborn, Anne Sergeant, Agnieszka Szarecka, Robert Talbert, Lissa Tallman

Absent: Salvador Lopez-Arias, Autumn Mueller (Student Senate President)

Ex Officio: Chris Plouff, Ed Aboufadel

Guests: Jennifer Cymbola, Ben Holder, Dave Huizen

The meeting was called to order at 3:00pm

Agenda Items	Discussion	Action / Decision
1. Introduction	The Chair reported that received a request (supported by 3-4 ECS members) for an emergency ECS/UAS meeting to weigh in on preparation for the start of the Winter semester, as the Omicron variant spreads.	
2. Process	The body will hear from representatives of the Virus Action Team (VAT), learn of the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) position and determine the position of ECS.	
3. Proceedings	<p>AVP Aboufadel reported that VAT met yesterday to discuss the start of Winter 2022 semester and that there was not a consensus reached by VAT members on a recommendation to the SLT, but acknowledged that a move from alert level 2 to alert level 3 is pretty obvious, and a move to level 4 may be needed down the road.</p> <p>There was discussion on concerns raised about the lack of infrastructure in place to handle the anticipated surge; it was noted that isolation will remain at 10 days instead of the CDC recommendation of 5 days.</p> <p>Provost Plouff reported on the stance of the SLT which is onboard with raising the alert from level 2 to level 3 but continue to move forward with primarily a face-to-face start for Winter 2022.</p> <p>Discussion continued and it was noted that there are two petitions</p>	

	<p>circulating around campus – one promoting returning face-to-face and one promoting a pivot to online instruction for several weeks.</p> <p>There was discussion on how to address a public health crisis and define goals to help manage the crisis takes into consideration spaces other than classrooms, such as resident halls, dining facilities, athletics, etc. and acknowledge that the decision makers are taking both sides into consideration (F2F vs remote) with a very complex situation that can change very rapidly.</p> <p>A <u>motion was made, seconded and agreed by consensus</u> to extend the meeting for 15 minutes.</p> <p>A <u>motion was made and seconded</u> that after careful review of the alert level and current indicators, ECS acts on behalf of UAS and recommends that the university return to classes as scheduled January 10. Discussion.</p>	<p>MOTION: After careful review of the alert level and current indicators, the Executive Committee of the Senate acts on behalf of UAS and recommends that the university return to classes as scheduled January 10.</p> <p>APPROVED 9 Yes; 4 No; 0 Abstain</p>
4. Adjournment	The meeting adjourned at 5:21pm	