

Grand Valley State University  
Executive Committee of the Senate  
Minutes of January 24, 2020

**Present:** Shawn Bultsma (Vice Chair), Courtney Karasinski, Tara Kneeshaw (for Kathryn Remlinger), Brian Lakey, Salvador Lopez-Arias, George Lundskow, Felix Ngassa (Chair), Charles Pazdernik, Elizabeth Psyck, Georgette Sass, Paul Sicilian, Anne Sergeant, Melanie Shell-Weiss, Eric-John Szczepaniak (Student Senate President), Christian Trefftz (for Jared Moore), Joy Washburn, Deana Weibel

**Absent:**

**Ex Officio:** Maria Cimitile, Ed Aboufadel

**Guests:** John Bender, Kevin Holohan

The meeting was called to order at 3:00pm

Agenda Items	Discussion	Action / Decision
1. Approval of Agenda	The Agenda of January 24, 2020 was reviewed.	The Agenda of January 24, 2020 was approved.
2. Approval of Minutes	The Minutes of January 10, 2020 were reviewed.	The Minutes of January 10, 2020 were approved.
3. Report from Chair	<p>The Chair reported that submissions are still being accepted for the 2019-20 Senate Newsletter "Liberal Education for 21<sup>st</sup> Century" and will send a notice to department chairs inviting them to send him articles; senators are also encouraged to submit material.</p> <p>He further reported that Faculty Convocation is scheduled for February 11, 2020 at 4pm in the Loosemore Auditorium and provided the dates for the Faculty Conversations with Provost Cimitile.</p> <p>The proposed calendar and agenda items were shared.</p>	
4. Report from Provost	<p>Ed Aboufadel reported that a list of restrooms on all campuses is at <a href="http://www.gvsu.edu/restrooms">www.gvsu.edu/restrooms</a>. The Interfaith Reflection Rooms are also listed on that site.</p> <p>Provost Cimitile reported on the adult degree completion that is being revised, provided several examples of how competency would be gauged and credit awarded, and asked for feedback. Discussion.</p>	
5. Report from Student Senate	<p>Student Senate President Szczepaniak thanked those who attended the State of the Student Body. He reported that the first general assembly was held with discussion including spring/summer enrollment and the challenges students face, serving on University Committees (roles, training, involvement, etc.), and bereavement planning for students who have parents die.</p>	
6. New Business	<p>a. Felix Ngassa noted that creating university level guidance for colleges/units on how to assess prior scholarship work for faculty who bring years toward tenure/promotion could be a charge for the Faculty Personnel Policy Committee (FPPC) for 2020-2021. During discussion it was noted that flexibility should be maintained.</p>	

	<p>b. Ed Aboufadel presented an overview of the current Academic Policy/Guidelines for GPA of returning Lakers and shared examples of how the current policy disadvantages Laker alumni. Discussion ensued; Provost Cimitile will present material at a later meeting.</p> <p>c. Felix Ngassa presented an overview of the Ombudsperson UAS recommendation from 2014 that was distributed earlier. A response from the President’s Office stating “... we will streamline today’s defined pathways for raising issues to assure they are clear, accessible and effective.” was discussed. Provost Cimitile noted that a small task force will be convened in Human Resources to help develop the position and a representative from the Equity and Inclusion Committee (EIC) will serve on the task force. Discussion.</p> <p>d. John Bender and Kevin Holohan presented an overview of the Equity and Inclusion Committee recommendation on Ombudsperson that was distributed earlier. Discussion and questions addressed from the floor.</p> <p>A <u>motion was made and seconded</u> to support the Equity and Inclusion Committee recommendation on Ombudsperson and forward to UAS with a recommendation to support.</p> <p>e. Felix Ngassa requested that discussion on designing a faculty survey on faculty governance committees and meaningful service be held until the next ECS meeting.</p> <p>f. Felix Ngassa presented the UAS Faculty Representative Count for 2020-2021.</p> <p>g. Shawn Bultsma presented an overview of the FaCE In Task Force work to-date and noted that the goal is to pull in different voices/opinions from around campus.</p> <p><u>Open comments</u> Faculty are reminded that there was a call for nominations for the new honorary degree as outlined in Noteworthy</p>	<p><b>MOTION:</b> The Executive Committee of the Senate supports the Equity and Inclusion Committee recommendation on Ombudsperson and forward to UAS with a recommendation to support.</p> <p><b>APPROVED Unanimously</b></p>
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7. Adjournment	The meeting adjourned at 4:59pm	
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