COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY INNOVATION
GRAND VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY®

College Advisory & Communication Committee
October 6, 2026 • 11:00 – 12:00 PM
Minutes

Present: Berkley Bretschneider (CECI UAC), Paul Bylsma (ELC), Rita Cooper (CECI Dean's Office), Abby Dixon (CECI Graduate Student), Christopher French (CECI Undergrad Student), Raymond Higbea (SCLD), Mark Hoffman (CECI Dean's Office), Kelly Lormand (T&L), Mei Mah (CEP), Rui Niu-Cooper (LEFT), Shelly Page (OCA), Karyn Raburn (CECI Dean's Office), Courtney Topić (SCCJLS), and Raul Ysasi (T&L)

Absent: Zohra Asad (SSW)

1. **Introduction**
   - Members introduced themselves by sharing their name, pronouns, unit, and favorite fall hobby

2. **Minutes**
   - The September minutes were reviewed. A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously approved

3. **Debrief CECI Give-Back Event - New City Neighbors | September 25 from 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.**
   - Overall, the event received very positive feedback
     - Venue and community partner were well received, with a great level of engagement.
     - Good food and reasonably priced
     - Close working proximity provided a good opportunity for conversations and connection
   - Everyone enjoyed learning about a new community resource
   - The subcommittee will keep NCN in the rotation for future Give-Back events
   - Shout out to Quincy Williams and Ginger Rohwer for their recommendations
   - Kelly shared her draft digital thank you with the committee
     - The committee noted that printed thank you had been done in the past
     - All agreed that photos are a nice touch
     - All approved of the draft digital thank you with no signatures needed
   - Kelly will submit blurb to Victoria for submission in CECI Connections

   Action Items:
     - Connect with Bill Herbst for photographer's name for photo credits
     - Kelly will send out the thank you to all of the volunteers once photographer's name is confirmed
     - Committee members should share any additional comments or feedback regarding the Give-Back with Kelly for inclusion in the newsletter submission

4. **Fall Subcommittee Updates**
   - University Awards (Courtney and Raymond)
     - Two workshops are currently scheduled for October 9 and 23 to give nominees an opportunity to ask questions and work on compiling their nomination packets
     - Some past award recipients and Unit Heads will be available during these workshops
     - Invitations have been sent to all nominees

- Rhett the Dinosaur (Jamie Langlois and Christopher)
    - Rhett has attended Paul and Kelly's classes, the EDF Social, and the CECI Give-Back event
    - Rhett will be traveling with Courtney throughout the month of October
- Entrance Display Case (Mark, Paul and Rui)
    - Mark provided an update on additional display areas available throughout DeVos
        - Between Buildings B and A, on your way to the Knowledge Market
            - This display case will share items similar to the main entrance display regarding CECI 5th anniversary
        - 3rd floor, to your left as you exit the elevators
            - All SSW-related materials as they are preparing for their accreditation site visit
        - 2nd floor, by Quincy Williams' office in SCLD
            - This display case will share items similar to the main entrance display
    - CECI shares the main display case with the Hauenstein Center
        - CECI has the case from July-December

Action Items:

- Share any stories related to CECI alumni, students, faculty or staff with Mark
- Create a Give-Back collage for the display cases

- Student Organization Event (Christopher)
    - Paul will restart this conversation at the next meeting

5. Dean's Office Transition

- Associate Dean Karyn Raburn will be taking Mark's seat on CACC
- Mark shared that he enjoyed his time serving as the ex officio of CACC

6. Action Items to Take Back to Units

- 35 faculty and staff volunteered during our CECI Give-Back event with New City Neighbors on September 25
- Continue asking unit members to identify gaps in communication and/or ways CACC can improve communication and engagement

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded, and unanimously approved.

Adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

Upcoming Meetings:

Tuesday, November 3 at 11-12 p.m.
Tuesday, December 1 at 11-12 p.m.
Tuesday, January 12 at 11-12 p.m.
Tuesday, February 2 at 11-12 p.m.
Tuesday, March 2 at 11-12 p.m.
Tuesday, April 6 at 11-12 p.m.

All meetings are held in 303C DEV.