

College Advisory & Communication Committee November 5, 2025 • 11:00 – 12:00 PM Minutes

Present: Paul Bylsma (ELC), Rita Cooper (CECI Dean's Office), Mark Hoffman (CECI Dean's Office), Raymond Higbea (SCLD), Jamie Langlois (SSW), Kelly Lormand (T&L), Shelly Page (OCA), Melanie Rabine-Johnson (UAC), Courtney Topić (SCCJLS), and Raul Ysasi (T&L)

Absent: Mei Mah (CEP) and Rui Niu-Cooper (LEFT)

1. Minutes

 The minutes were reviewed and a motion was made to approve the minutes for May 13, August 13, and September 17 as amended. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

2. Replenish Donation Boxes

- The Replenish Food Drive runs the month of November and is part of Giving Tuesday (December 2). Pick up of donated items is December 8.
- Replenish donation boxes are available on each floor of DEV by the elevators.
- We discussed various ways to promote this initiative.

Action Items:

- Paul will share his personal appeal email that you can share with your colleagues.
 Paul's Appeal Email
- Create a flyer that encompasses all of the events happening for Replenish and post around each floor of DEV.
- Send out an email now to all CECI faculty/staff about the Replenish Food Drive/Giving Tuesday events, then a reminder email the week of the CECI Social (November 17).

3. Hat/Glove/Sock Drive

- This initiative is being requested by Jackie Doyon-Martin, director of the School of Criminology, Criminal Justice, and Legal Studies and coincides with the Replenish Food Drive.
- The drive is sponsored by the Office of Offender Success (MDOC) and supports formerly
 incarcerated community members returning to society with new hats and gloves which
 are specifically requested items.
- Hat/Glove donation boxes will be next to Replenish boxes on each DEV floor by the elevators.
- This supports CECI's mission to transform communities.

4. Collaboration with Orchestra

 Mark shared the details of the orchestra event happening on Wednesday, November 19 beginning at 7:30 p.m. in the Louis Armstrong Theatre, Valley Campus.

- The orchestra event is also promoting Replenish donations and will have a donation box available during the concert.
- Mark asked Joel Schut, the orchestra conductor, if one of the education music majors could introduce Mimi Sperl, Assistant Director of the Gayle R. Davis Center for Women and Gender Equity who will be sharing more about Replenish during intermission. If not an education music major, then possibly the Replenish graduate assistant who is a MPA student, to introduce Mimi Sperl.
- CECI is once again sponsoring a reception at the end of the concert.

5. CECI QuickTalks

- Thursday, November 20 from 2-3 p.m. in 138E DEV.
- All units are represented (see list of presenters).

6. CECI Social

- Thursday, November 20 from 3-5 p.m. in the Hager-Lubbers Exhibition Hall (105E DEV).
- Discussed ideas on an activity decided on the Grand Valley Land that was created by Kel Nemetz.

Action Item:

o If your unit has any of these games, please share them with Rita.

7. CECI College Awards

- Paul mentioned the process and would like feedback on what went well and what could make the process easier.
- This year, begin the process in February, not March.

Action Item:

o Table agenda item for a later date.

8. Entrance Display Case

- Currently promoting the Replenish Food Drive and other related events.
- Revisited possible display options: Honor Societies and Internship Placements on a Map.
- A few new ideas were: WAVE events, student deadlines and events, and friends event.
- Mark would like to change the display one more time before the end of the semester, if possible.

9. Student Representatives

- If you have a student (graduate or undergraduate) that might be interested in serving on the committee, please share their names.
- A student voice is important for this committee and is part of the membership as stated in the bylaws.

Reporting back to units:

- 1) Submit to CECI Connections! Consider different celebrations: fun campus events (e.g., Wellness and Vibrancy), presentations, publications, student research projects, notable internships, awards, etc.
 - Jamie's Google Document
 - CECI Happenings
- 2) Donate to the Replenish Food Drive boxes this month. It's maybe more important now than ever.
- 3) Donate to the hat/glove drive to support returning members of society.
- 4) Attend the CECI/Orchestra collaboration that benefits Replenish. Held on Wednesday, November 19 from 7:30–9 p.m. in the Louis Armstrong Theater (Allendale).
- 5) Attend the inaugural CECI QuickTalks on Thursday, November 20 from 2-3 p.m. in 138E DEV.
- 6) Attend the CECI Social on Thursday, November 20 from 3-5 p.m. in the Hager-Lubbers Exhibition Hall (105E DEV).
- 7) Start thinking about College Awards.

Upcoming Meetings:

Wednesday, December 3 at 11:00 a.m. in 303C DEV

Wednesday, January 14 at 11:00 a.m. in 303C DEV

Wednesday, February 11 at 11:00 a.m. in 303C DEV

Wednesday, March 4 at 11:00 a.m. in 303C DEV

Wednesday, April 8 at 11:00 a.m. in 303C DEV