COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY INNOVATION
GRAND VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY®

College Advisory & Communication Committee
September 17, 2025 • 11:00 – 12:00 PM
Minutes

Present: Jade Bowman (OCA), 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), Mei Mah (CEP), Rui Niu-Cooper (LEFT), Melanie Rabine-Johnson (UAC), Courtney Topić (SCCJLS), and Raul Ysasi (T&L)

Guest: Shelly Page (OCA)

1. **Paul welcomed Shelly who will be filling in for Jade while she is on maternity leave. Introductions were made.**

2. **CECI Give-Back Event at Blandford Nature Center (Friday, September 19, 12-3 p.m.)**

   - Discussed CACC roles during this event.
     - Organizing carpooling in the DEV parking lot
     - Helping to distribute box lunches on site
     - Thank you cards and gifts
   - Paul thanked committee members for their work and involvement with a few specific shout outs.
     - Melanie for designing the flier and PPT slide for the CECI Fall Kickoff
     - Jamie for creating thank you cards and general involvement
     - Rita for coordinating with Blandford, working with Apple Spice on the lunch order, and sequestering thank you gifts for the volunteers

   Action Item: Paul will email a confirmation that includes all the day's details to our 40+ volunteers.

3. **University Faculty Awards**

   - Paul gave an overview of the process and timeline and let everyone know that Unit Heads were notified of this process.

   Action Item: Paul will create an email template for CACC members to share with their unit.

4. **Quick Talks**

   - Organized by Mary Bair in LEFT.
   - CACC will need to assist in recruitment of presenters.

   Action Item: Paul will connect with Mary on who is presenting from each of the units.

5. **Entrance Display Case**

- Mark's thought was to change the display case monthly.
- Mark wanted to promote the Honor Societies within CECI but didn't receive much information – only from Social Work and Criminal Justice.
- Who is the focus? Faculty/Staff or Students?
- Discussed other showcase options – CECI Give-Back event with current and past photos, upcoming calendar events, community-focused events (e.g., Groundswell, past Reach Higher posters, HTM interns, community service map).

6. **Collaboration with GV Orchestra (Wednesday, November 19)**

- Mark clarified the role CACC would have for this event.
  - Dean's Office pays for the reception
  - Orchestra and CACC to promote the event with Replenish as a fundraising component
  - Possibly involve the music education majors
  - Conductor really appreciates our involvement as students mingle more with guests during this reception
- Discussed the option of bringing a smaller quartet downtown.
- Possibly connect the conductor with philanthropic entities to pay for receptions or connect MHA students for grant writing opportunities.

Action Item: CACC members to encourage their colleagues to attend this event.

7. **Rubric for Liaising Between Units and Dean's Office**

- Paul asked for thoughts on how to streamline communication among and between units in the college.
  - How to promote student and faculty highlights/celebrations, events and opportunities for collaborations?
  - Would it be helpful to create a reporting system?
- Everyone agreed that a reporting system or checklist would be helpful.
- After each meeting, items will be shared that CACC members can bring back to their units. CACC members will also solicit items from their unit to share back with the Dean's Office or the college at large.

Items to share out with units:
- ✓ Consider nominations for faculty awards (if relevant to unit)
- ✓ Consider presenting at, or at least attending, CECI Quick-Talks on November 20
- ✓ Consider attending orchestra performance / Replenish fundraiser on November 19 (Valley Campus) and November 20 for the CECI Social (City Campus)
- ✓ Encourage people to submit to CECI Connections. Consider different celebrations - fun campus events (e.g., Wellness and Vibrancy), presentations, publications, student research projects, notable internships, awards, etc.

Upcoming Meetings
Wednesday, October 15 at 11:00 a.m. in 303C DEV
Wednesday, November 5 at 11:00 a.m. in 303C DEV
Wednesday, December 3 at 11:00 a.m. in 303C DEV