**Grand Valley State University – Sustainable Agriculture Project**

**Advisory Council Bylaws**

1. The purpose of the Sustainable Agriculture Project (SAP) Advisory Council (AC) is to provide guidance, oversight, and support to the SAP in its regular operations and in its strategic plan. Additionally, the SAP AC will review, and approve as appropriate, projects to be housed at any SAP site or otherwise utilize SAP resources longer than one growing season or one academic year. The AC meets 1-2 times per month.
2. The Academic Coordinator of the SAP is appointed by the Dean of Brooks College, with input from the members of the AC, using the Brooks College process for the appointment of a coordinator. The Academic Coordinator of the SAP shall serve as Chair of the AC, and is a voting member of the AC.
3. The Dean of the Brooks College of Interdisciplinary Studies, or the Dean’s designee, shall serve ex officio as a non-voting member of the AC.
4. At minimum, core membership on the AC will consist of the Luce St. farm manager (as well as any other site managers for future extensions of the SAP), the Campus Sustainability Coordinator, a facilities representative, a student representative, the ENS program director, a Bio/NRM representative, and a Lib Studies representative. The Bio/NRM representative and Lib Studies representative will be appointed in consultation with the unit head of the respective units.
5. Additional AC members may be drawn from various GVSU colleges and units, so as to reasonably represent those academic programs at the university that are involved in the SAP or to highlight areas in which the SAP AC wishes to increase involvement. Other members shall be appointed to the AC by the Dean of the Brooks College of Interdisciplinary Studies, with advice from the SAP Academic Coordinator and in consultation with their unit head.
6. All members of the AC who are not ex officio are voting members of the AC.
7. Appointments to the AC shall be for a three-year term and may be renewed for any number of successive terms. Terms coincide with the GVSU academic year (i.e., terms begin at the start of the academic year). Terms shall be staggered so that approximately one third of the terms expire in a given year; term lengths for initially appointed members will be determined by lottery to last one, two, or three years.
8. Every two years, the AC will review the membership to ensure the needs of the SAP are being met.
9. The number of voting members of the AC may vary over time so as to best serve the needs of the SAP. A quorum of the AC shall be defined as a majority of all currently appointed voting members. Ex officio members, if present, do not count toward achieving a quorum.
10. Voting members who miss more than half the meetings within an academic year may have their seat removed from the AC, or have the reminder of their term filled by a new appointee.