CAMPUS TOUR – TALKING POINTS

Every Tour:

- Introduce yourself, ask students to introduce themselves – where they’re from, major of interest
- Offer a map to follow along
- Explain the size of campus, note the inability to see everything in an hour, encourage them to explore on their own after the tour

You are NOT expected to remember or even say all of the following talking points, there is simply not enough time. Please use this as an example of what to say at various locations around campus.

STOP IN: Student Services Lobby

Student services are housed in one location for convenience:

- 1st floor: Records, Registration, Student Employment, Financial Aid
- 2nd floor: Dean of Students, Career Services, Career Counseling & Development, Counseling Center, Advising Resources
- 3rd floor: Admissions

Stories:

- College is a big transition for many students. Some students adjust well, while others might not. Career Services, on the 2nd floor, hosts group and individual counseling for students who might need it.
- Career Services and the Career Library, located on the 2nd floor, is a great place to learn about professional development, internships, and career paths.
- “I visited the financial aid office and they helped me...”

WALK BY: Cook Dewitt Center

- 236 Seat lecture hall
- Catholic mass and non-denominational services on Sundays
- Variety of events held here: weddings, religious services, guest speakers, campus events, music recitals and student organizations use auditorium

STOP AT: Clock Tower

Clock Tower is a working carillon tower, chimes every 15 minutes.

POINT OUT: Lake Plaza

Houses many different academic buildings, was the original campus in the early ‘60s

- Lakes Superior, Huron, Michigan, and Ontario contain lecture halls, classrooms, departments, and academic offices
- Lake Superior: School of Communication
- Lake Michigan: Administration, Human Resources, Business & Finance, University Counsel, News & Information Services
- Lake Huron: English and Classics
- Lake Ontario: Padnos International Center, and the Writing Department: Writing Center, Liberal Studies, Women & Gender Studies
  - Over 4,000 study abroad programs
  - Weekly start-up meetings every Wednesday
  - ONLY “open” study abroad program in Michigan
  - Ranked 5th in the country
- Zumberge Hall: Administration, Human Resources, Business & Finance, University Counsel, News & Information Services
- Seidman Hall: rare books, Civil War documents, study areas
- Au Sable: Psychology, Sociology, Political Science, Anthropology, International Relations

Stories:

- Founded in 1960, first class held in 1963
- Study Abroad are some of the most valuable experiences a college student can have
- If you have been abroad, please share your experience with the group. Perhaps a friend studied abroad and shared some stories.
- Share a positive personal story about visiting the Writing Center, or meeting with a professor

POINT OUT: Performing Arts Center

- Houses music classrooms and faculty offices, practice rooms, two dance studios, the Art Gallery and a music technology lab
- New renovation added a two-story, 47,000 square-foot edition that includes a black box theatre, support spaces, two theatre classrooms and ensemble rooms
Stories:

- Typically put on 4-5 large performances a year, as well as numerous one-acts and student directed plays.
- “I have a friend that got a music scholarship by auditioning before they came here.”
- You do not have to be a music or theater major to perform in ensembles and plays.

POINT OUT: Meijer Honors College

- Completed in 2008, the Honors building houses “smart” classrooms, and honors faculty offices.
- Contains 4 bedroom, 2 bedroom, and studio living options for Honors students.
- Geared toward students with an ACT around or above 28, SAT around or above 1300, and a high school GPA of 3.5 or higher.
- Requires a separate online application after being accepted to GVSU.
- Honors students take separate Honors courses instead of general education courses, specific major classes do not change.

Stories:

- “My friend was a part of the Honors College and had a class…”

STOP IN: Mary Idema Pew Library

- Flexible spaces, 19 group study rooms.
- There are spaces for individual, quiet study and spaces for collaboration on floors 2-4.
  - Quiet areas are on the east side of the building on floors 2-4.
- Approximately 1,500 seats, 30 different furniture types.
- Knowledge Market: Students can receive one-on-one help in the areas of research, writing, speech preparation, and data analysis and visualization.
- There are 150,000 books on open stacks on the upper floors and a storage and retrieval system that can hold an additional 600,000 items.
- The Technology Showcase is an immersive and engaging environment to: interact, discover, learn, and share how innovative emerging technologies can enhance teaching and improve student learning at GVSU.

Stories:

- Bring prospective students to the service desk to get a quick demonstration of the retrieval system.
- Knowledge Market: “I needed help with a research project…”
- When you need a place to study, there’s a variety of options: alone or together, quiet or loud, indoor or outdoor.

STOP IN: Kirkhof Center

- Central location for students to hangout, get food and meet with their organizations.
- Houses the Women’s and Gender Equity Center, LGBT Resource Center, Office of Multicultural Affairs, and the Veterans Lounge.
- KC 0008 holds Laker traditions, Student Senate and Spotlight Productions.
- Many Student Media opportunities are offered in Kirkhof such as Whale radio, GVTV and the Lanthorn.
- Billiard and Foosball tables, Playstation and X-Boxes available, mini movie theater.

Stories:

- The Community Service Learning Center can help you get engaged in the community.
- When you need information, for on-campus or off-campus, visit 20/20 desk. You can also stop by there to get game room supplies or tickets to the theatre!
- If you want to get involved as a student, visit the Student Life Office. Over 400 clubs and organizations. All clubs can be viewed on LakerLink. Any club can be started with 4 students and an advisor. Talk about organizations you’re involved in.

STOP IN: The Commons (Upper Level)

- Lower Commons: Bleeker St., Freshens Energy Zone, Jump! Asian Cuisine.
- Upper Commons: Fresh Food Company.
- Explain differences between meals and dining dollars.
- Explain differences between types of dining locations around campus – where can you go.
  - 22 dining locations.
- Use your student ID to access your Meal Plan account.
- The 14+ meal plan automatically comes included in your freshman housing contract.

Stories:
### PLAN MEALS/WEEK DINING $

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PLAN</th>
<th>MEALS/WEEK</th>
<th>DINING $</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unlimited Fresh</td>
<td>Unlimited Fresh/10</td>
<td>$125</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14+</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>$225</td>
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<tr>
<td>7+</td>
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<tr>
<td>3+</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>$125</td>
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<tr>
<td>Value+</td>
<td>90/semester</td>
<td>$450</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Casual+</td>
<td>45/semester</td>
<td>$400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Express</td>
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<td>$200</td>
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</tbody>
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- Can use 1 meal per purchase, but up to 4 per day on a weekly meal plan
- Dining dollars carry over till the end of the year but cannot be transferred to the next academic year
- Meal combo cheat sheets are available online and located near registers at dining locations
- Check your balance online or by asking the register

**STOP IN: Mackinac Hall**

- **SHOW A CLASSROOM**
  - Average class size is 26, though we do have lecture halls that fit 120-140 in Henry Hall.
  - Teachers teach all classes. We do not use graduate assistants or teaching assistants
  - 90% of classes at GVSU are smaller than 40 students
  - We offer over 90 majors, with over 200 areas of study (minors and different classes you can take), 41 graduate study programs, and 2 main campus areas: Allendale and Grand Rapids
  - Allendale is our main campus, downtown Grand Rapids houses our Education, Social Work, Criminal Justice, Engineering, Medical/Health, and Business campuses.
  - For the past decade, we’ve been rated one of the highest academic colleges in the state of Michigan

**Stories:**

- **Tell a story about a teacher or class you had...**
- **Talk about your experience with the Grand Rapids location**

**STOP IN: Housing**

- **SHOW TWO HOUSING STYLES**
  - 6,012 students live on campus
  - Different types of housing: Traditional, Cluster (2 or 3 person), Suite and Apartment Styles (1 and 2 bedroom)

- HHLC offers Linked Course Program where faculty collaborate for richer classroom experiences
- Living and Learning Communities: Honors, Women in Science and Engineering, Movement Science, Gender Justice House, Art Living, International House
- Housing Staff and Roles: 12 communities, 115 RAs, 14 Grad Staff, 12 Masters-level Staff, Some staff on call 24/7, 365 days a year
- **HOUSING POLICIES:**
  - Community council implements programming
  - Gender inclusive housing option – application required
  - Exterior doors locked 24 hours
  - Quiet hours 12a-10a weekends
  - First 90 laundry cycles are free
- Seeing the traditional-style, shared bathroom is available on our 360° views
- Freshmen are allowed cars on campus
  - ($420/year)
  - Bus service to Grand Rapids with stop at Meijer
- Campus security: Grand Valley Police, Community Police Officers
  - 24 hour escort service
  - RAVE Guardian app

**Stories:**

- When living on campus you are close to dining halls, the fieldhouse and have easy access to student organizations
- Tell about the safety on campus when walking around during the day or at night
- Tell any of the numerous appropriate on-campus stories you have (going to an event, hanging out in the residence halls, etc)
- Explain how living on campus helped you succeed overall at GVSU

**POINT OUT: Kleiner Commons**

- The Marketplace, Qdoba, expanded dining area
- 24 Convenience Store and Java City
- Late Night

**STOP IN: Fieldhouse/Recreational Center**

- Houses basketball courts, weight rooms, pool, athletic offices, practice gymnasiuems, rock climbing wall, dance rooms and a gymnastics room
• GVSU is the #1 Division II athletic program, and has earned either 1st or 2nd in the Directors cup for 16 straight years
• Three levels of play: NCAA DII, Club sports and intramural sports (explain the differences)
  o 50 club sports
  o 20 intramural sports
  o 20 varsity sports
• Facilities are open for student use free of charge, and there is no fee to attend sporting events
• The Laker Turf building is located behind the Fieldhouse and contains an indoor Olympic sized track and turf soccer field
• Over 160 student employees each year

Stories:

☐ Talk about games you have been to
☐ Talk about the Rec center if you use it, or joke about not using it and just eating…
☐ Talk about Football Saturdays, “Saturday nights under the Lights”

STOP IN: Kindschi Hall of Science

• SHOW A CLASSROOM AND A LAB
• Houses Biology, Geology, Chemistry, Biomedical Sciences, and Physics
• Well-equipped labs for research and studying
  o 15 teaching labs, 16 research labs
  o 3,000 sq. ft. greenhouse
• Loutit Lecture Hall 101, 102 OR 103 across the street
• Computer labs available for students from 7am-1am
• Students are encouraged to bring a computer to campus

Stories:

☐ Tell about a time you worked closely with a faculty member on campus
☐ Talk about an internship, co-op, teacher assisting, research or study abroad experience you had/or will have
☐ Talk about the importance of small class sizes, building relationships, and real hands-on experience

Conclusion

In closing:

• Things they may have missed: Art building, Health Services, Sports fields/facilities
• Encourage them to explore on their own
• Thank them for coming
• Remind them to call Admissions Office if they have any questions
• Tell them you hope they had a good time
• Ask guests to complete evaluation so we can continue to improve tours