

About GVSU

UNIVERSITY VALUES, VISION, AND MISSION

BOT 1.1 - 1.3

Date of Last Update:

March 31, 2022

Approved By:

- Board of Trustees

Responsible Office:

Office of General Counsel

POLICY STATEMENT

1.1. Vision: Grand Valley State University will prepare globally-minded citizens for the future they face and the communities they shape. Our community of educators will create and employ innovative approaches to liberal education and professional programs that center on and prepare students for a lifetime of continual learning and growth.

1.2. Mission: At Grand Valley State University, we empower learners in their pursuits, professions, and purpose. The University enriches society through excellent teaching, active scholarship, advancement of equity, and public service.

1.3. Values:

Innovation: puts ideas into practice, drives us towards excellence, and represents our forward-thinking mindset. We value entrepreneurship, risk taking, and interdisciplinary collaboration that solves local, regional, and global problems and advances the common good.
Integrity: drives us to be accountable to ourselves and to others.

Integrity: moves us to actively pursue and sustain quality educational experiences rooted in research and evidence, and to be excellent stewards of our communities, resources, and planet.

Inclusive and Equitable Community: fosters and sustains a sense of belonging, promotes diversity and respect, and addresses systemic issues that impact outcomes for those who have been historically excluded from higher education. Inclusion and equity are experienced through our physical campuses and in digital environments, as well as our interpersonal,

institutional, and community engagements.

Inquiry: encourages active questioning and problem solving to improve lives and strengthen communities. Building on our strong foundation of a liberal education and commitment to teaching excellence, we strive to provide opportunities that integrate theory and practice towards personal transformation and career success. Active scholarship, creative expression, and relevant co-curricular experiences drive learners towards fulfillment, prosperity, and justice.

International Perspectives: simultaneously support people, planet, and prosperity. We think and act on a global basis. Our efforts at supporting the well-being of individuals, groups, and ecosystems are important locally, nationally, and globally—all of which are interconnected and interdependent.

PRESIDENT'S OFFICE AND ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE

BOT 2.1 - 2.6

Date of Last Update:

February 18, 2022

Approved By:

- Board of Trustees

Responsible Office:

Office of General Counsel

POLICY STATEMENT

2.1 President's Appointment and Duties. The conditions of appointment, duties, and authority of the President may be found in [Article VI of the Bylaws](#) of the Board of Trustees.

2.2 Organization. In implementing the executive role, the President will develop an administrative organization consistent with the following principles.

2.2.1 Functions, tasks, and/or activities, whether continuing or nonrecurring, will be delegated to responsible individuals or groups as circumstances may dictate.

2.2.2 Authority commensurate with the responsibility will be delegated to ensure accomplishment of work objectives, including contract authority consistent with Board

policy.

2.2.3 Lines of authority will be established to ensure accountability, although ultimate responsibility remains with the President.

2.2.4 The resulting organization will be continuously evaluated in terms of overall effectiveness, efficiency, and performance relative to reasonable objectives.

2.2.5 The President oversees all areas of activity within the institution, aided by the eight vice presidents: the Provost/Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs, the Vice President for Student Affairs, the Vice President for Finance and Administration, the Vice President for University Relations, the Vice President for Development, the Vice President for Inclusion and Equity/Chief of Staff, the Vice President for Enrollment Development, and the Vice President for Information Technology and Chief Digital Officer. The General Counsel is a member of the President's leadership team.

A chart of the current [organizational structure](#) with executive officer assignments shall be maintained by the President's Office.

2.3 Assignments in the [President's Office](#). The President reserves the right to line authority over certain University matters. The numbers of these matters are not fixed and may vary over time depending upon institutional needs. The President's Office will have staff directly responsible for one or more of these matters.

2.4 Legal Affairs. Within the President's Office, the Office of General Counsel is responsible for proactively supporting the university's mission through development of sound legal practices, provision of legal advice and assistance, and assurance that all legal affairs of the university are properly handled through effective risk management. This office shall be the coordinating office for Freedom of Information Act requests.

The President or designee will contract for any legal services that may be necessary in the conduct of the affairs of the University, which includes the President's authority to institute such legal proceedings as may be necessary for the proper conservation of assets or the protection of interests of the University. The coordination of these services will be in one administrative office to ensure maximum efficiency

2.4.1 Indemnification. It is the policy of Grand Valley State University to support its Board members, offices, faculty, and staff in the reasonable and proper performance of their official duties, and to support students and volunteers when performing services on behalf of or under the direction of the university. Should university personnel become

involved in litigation because of such duties, the university will assume their defense, provide legal counsel, and satisfy resulting judgments against them.

2.5 Educational Innovation and School Services. The University has a long-standing tradition and commitment to providing quality education for students. As part of this mission, the Board of Trustees seeks to impact public K-12 education by fostering choice in K-12 education through the authorization of charter schools. Educational Innovation and School Services includes the charter schools office that enhances student learning by providing regulatory oversight, and support to the charter schools authorized by the University; and, GV NextEd Accelerator that accelerates new, sustainable initiatives that impact the broader educational community.

2.6 Employee Ombuds. The Employee Ombuds Office offers confidential voluntary services to help faculty and staff create and maintain a positive working environment, including exploring options, communication and conflict coaching, group facilitation and feedback to campus leaders regarding systemic issues.

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

BOT 3.1

Date of Last Update:

July 11, 2024

Approved By:

- Board of Trustees

Responsible Office:

Office of General Counsel

POLICY

3.1 Academic Organization

3.1.1 [Academic Colleges](#)

The table of organization indicates eight colleges under Academic Affairs: College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Seidman College of Business, College of Computing, College of Education and Community Innovation, Padnos College of Engineering, College of Health Professions, Kirkhof College of Nursing, and Brooks College of Interdisciplinary Studies. Each college is headed by a dean. They are the appointing

officer for that college.

3.1.2 [Library](#)

The library's primary goals are to: 1) unify content and provide intuitive access to information resources; 2) develop robust outreach and instruction programs to support teaching and learning of students and faculty; 3) build programs to support new models of scholarly dissemination; 4) build sustainable collections that respond to emerging models and support the university community needs; 5) optimize library space; and 6) offer high-quality library services

ACADEMIC POLICIES

BOT 3.3

Date of Last Update:

June 25, 2021

Approved By:

- Board of Trustees

Responsible Office:

Office of General Counsel

POLICY

3.3 Academic Policies

3.3.1. Academic Standards

Grand Valley is an academic institution dedicated to providing the highest level of quality instruction possible. Academic standards, levels of scholastic achievement, and grading systems are established on a university-wide basis after careful review by representative faculty members and the Provost/Vice President for Academic Affairs.

3.3.2. Academic Calendar

The University operates on a semester system, providing for fall and winter semesters and spring/ summer session. Each semester is a minimum of 15 weeks in length, including days required for final examination. The spring/summer session will be 12 weeks in length, including two 6-week sessions. Each session is academically equivalent to the 15-week semester. All academic units operate on the semester system.
