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 - 2.7

Date of Last Update:
January 26, 2026

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 ten 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 and Chief Public Affairs and Communications Officer, the Vice President for Institutional Advancement, the Vice President for Enrollment Development and College Futures, the Vice President for Information Technology and Chief Digital Officer, the Vice President/Chief Executive of GVSU Omni, the Vice President for People, Equity and Culture, and the Vice President and General Counsel.

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 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 Co-Lab that accelerates new, sustainable initiatives that impact the broader educational community.

2.5 Campus Interfaith Resources. Campus Interfaith Resources fosters understanding and engagement of the diverse religious, spiritual and secular identities of our students, faculty, staff and community through the delivery of education, programs, and services. The office's purpose is to support individuals in developing integrated lives and to promote social justice by cultivating an inclusive campus climate that promotes interfaith engagement, dialogue, and understanding.

2.6 Sylvia and Richard Kaufman Interfaith Institute. The mission of the Sylvia and Richard Kaufman Interfaith Institute is to promote understanding and acceptance among all religious faiths and perspectives, in the community and on campuses. This is accomplished through conferences, events, partnerships and relationships that bring people together to dialogue and learn mutual respect.

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

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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 summer session. Each semester is a minimum of 15 weeks in length, including days required for final examination. The 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.

NON-RETALIATION POLICY FOR FACULTY AND STAFF

SLT 3.3.1

Date of Last Update:
July 10, 2026

Approved By:

- Senior Leadership Team

Responsible Office:
Human Resources

POLICY

This policy applies to all employees of Grand Valley State University.

POLICY STATEMENT

A. Policy Statement

Grand Valley State University ("GVSU") is dedicated to cultivating a workplace consistent with the ideals expressed in SLT 3.3. Upholding these principles is central to our mission, ensuring that all employees feel empowered to report violations or potential violations without fear of reprisal. Recognizing the importance of promptly and thoroughly addressing such reports, we aim to foster trust and accountability within our community.

The University's Non-Retaliation Policy for Faculty and Staff strictly prohibits any form of retaliation against individuals who make good faith reports of violations of laws, regulations, or University policies. This protection extends to those who participate in investigations, proceedings, or hearings, as well as individuals requesting accommodations, assistance, or leave under university policy or state or federal law.

PROCEDURES

B. Procedures

Allegations of Retaliation under this policy will be handled in accordance with the procedures outlined in SLT 3.3.

DEFINITIONS

C. Definitions

1. **Retaliation** encompasses any action, statement, or behavior intended to punish an

individual *for engaging in a protected action*. Retaliation may include, but is not limited to, intimidation, threats, coercion, harassment, or actions that negatively affect the terms and conditions of employment, such as termination, demotion, suspension, reassignment, or changes in responsibilities. Retaliation also includes attempts to discourage, deter, or interfere with an individual's ability to engage in protected activity.

2. A **protected action** as referenced in this policy, includes actions taken in good faith to report, address, or seek guidance regarding workplace concerns, or to exercise rights under applicable policies or laws.
3. **Good faith** means an honest belief that the information provided is true, based on the facts reasonably available at the time, and without intent to deceive, mislead, or cause harm

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