

Grand Valley State University Student Senate

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Thursday, September 12th, 2024

Kirkhof 2204, 4:30pm

Chair: Quinten Proctor

Vice Chair: Paris Lawson

Parliamentarian: Evan Jackson



Agenda

1. **Call To Order at 4:30pm**

- a. Native Land Recognition
- b. Roll Call - Part 1
- c. Public Comment - Part 1
- d. Passing of the Papers
 - i. Proctor: University committees are the number one way for us to get involved on campus. On this form I have listed all the committees. The times for the meetings are here if I have them. Put your name on the ones you are interested in.
 - ii. Proctor: Make sure you fill out the forms for volunteer projects and for food restrictions.
 - iii. Lawson: Here is the sign up sheet for headshots.
 - iv. Proctor: Finally, here is a sign up for being on the Allocations committee.
- e. Adoption of the Agenda
 - i. Agenda is adopted.
- f. Approval of the Minutes
 - i. Minutes are adopted.

2. **Executive Reports**

- a. **President** - Quinten Proctor
 - i. **Student Affairs**
 1. This week, I met with Kyle Boone, the Director of Housing & Residence Life, and we discussed the lower than expected enrollment numbers and how that has affected housing, in addition to ways to help south campus residents feel more engaged during the move-in process. We also talked about the off-campus apartments rented out by GVSU and how to engage students there. As I mentioned last week, I have standing biweekly meetings with him, so if you have any questions for Housing specifically, please let me know.
 - ii. **Academic Affairs**
 1. Tomorrow, I am meeting with UAS/ECS Chair Courtney Karasinski to discuss the partnership between Student Senate and faculty governance and how each body can support the other moving forward. I am looking to schedule additional meetings with her throughout the year.

Grand Valley State University

Student Senate

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

2. After that, I will be attending the ECS meeting as usual, and we will be discussing the Taskforce on Faculty Support for Student Voting I mentioned last week, so please let me know if you are interested in sitting on that ASAP. We will also be discussing AI policy at the University, more on that later this meeting.
3. In a few weeks, UAS will be meeting for the first time of the year. I am able to bring two Student Senators with me in addition to Vice President Lawson. We will be rotating out throughout the year so we can get as many of you that are interested as possible. If you want to attend UAS at any point this year, please write your name down under University Academic Senate on the University Committee sign-up sheet, or Slack me directly. For the first UAS meeting on September 27th, I will reach out to a few of you to see if you're available!
4. I have set up monthly meetings with Acting Provost Jen Drake to discuss issues relating to academics, curriculum, and faculty and student support among other things at the administrative level. This is one of the most important partnerships I will be building this year, so I will keep you updated on these meetings.

iii. **Information Technology**

1. I am meeting with the Associate Vice President of Information Technology, Emil Delgado, next week to discuss ways IT can support students and gain more feedback on their services. This will be at 4pm on Tuesday, September 17th in Kindschi Hall. If anyone is interested in working with IT or attending this meeting, please let me know ASAP and you can very likely come with me.

iv. **University Relations**

1. I am in the process of setting up meetings with Stacie Behler, the University Vice President and Chief Public Affairs and Communications Officer, to discuss communication with students, the 2024 elections and their impact, and the University's branding and marketing, among other topics. I will keep you posted.

b. **Vice President - Paris Lawson**

- i. Hey everyone, please continue to update me on any meetings you are having with centers or stakeholders as well as emails you are sending out to them. It is important that I am kept in the loop of all projects and legislation you are all actively working on. I have spent some time outlining the expectations for the college seats, which we will go over later in this meeting. Next, please fill out the food restrictions google form I sent out in

Grand Valley State University

Student Senate

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

slack if you have not already. Lastly, president proctor and I met with Doug Wentworth yesterday to set up our catering, holiday party and discuss further progression of our legal services legislation passed last winter semester. We will continue to update you all as plans develop.

- c. **Chief of Staff** - Evan Jackson
 - i. Good evening, Senators, this week, I've been focused on several key areas. First, I've been conducting interviews for both the Senate and Judiciary Committee, and today marks the final round of those interviews. For onboarding, confirmation emails will be sent to our new senators tomorrow, Friday, September 13th, and I will begin the onboarding process for the Judiciary Committee members with emails going out on Monday, September 16th. I've also been reviewing our bylaws and governing documents, identifying areas for improvement and clarity, and making suggestions for updates. As final edits are made, I will present these in the coming weeks. Finally, building off ideas we discussed last week, I've been refining ideas for the Judiciary Committee's conduct process to ensure it's both effective and streamlined for smoother operations. Please do not hesitate to contact me if anyone has any further ideas, questions, or things they would like to see. Thank you.
3. **Workshop**
- a. College Representative Seats
 - i. Proctor: This is the first time we are doing this, so we have a brief slideshow to discuss this.
 - ii. Lawson: We have seven colleges and representatives for each group given how big they are. We are hoping that each one will meet with their Dean throughout the year with legislation, knowledge, and other things. This is to have open communication. Representatives will work together to set up meetings. After the meeting you will report back to GA for talking points and other things.
 - iii. Discussion
 - 1. Zurita: Is the graduate student included?
 - 2. Proctor: You are more of a connection between the student population rather than a certain college.
 - 3. Palumbo: Should we have group meetings?
 - 4. Lawson: I would definitely make a groupchat so that communication between you all is open.
 - 5. Green: Are the Deans expecting this communication?

Grand Valley State University

Student Senate

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

6. Proctor: I have talked to most of them and they are on board. If they are not able to meet themselves, there can be a proxy who would meet with you.

4. Discussion

a. Student Use of Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning

- i. Proctor: Please fill out this anonymous form about how you use AI when it comes to academics.
- ii. Proctor: What do you think students use AI for?
- iii. Gessler: I use them to make schedules or practice problems.
- iv. Eshelman: I do the same to fill the gaps that I don't get in lecture.
- v. Ford: I use it to understand long or confusing words. Especially when it comes to health words.
- vi. Luitel: I use it to break down codes or ask the question of "how would you explain this to a child?"
- vii. Green: I use it to get a push in the right direction when it comes to writer's block.
- viii. Hartley: I use it to create study guides from PDF's.
- ix. Rienas: Sometimes I use it to create comments from papers or have it write an example of something when I can't write.
- x. DeVries: I used it once to come up with bullet points for a presentation and I'm trying to use it for note taking but I'm having trouble figuring it out.
- xi. Proctor: I think many of us know that AI can be used in not positive ways. Sometimes students might use it when they don't have time to complete something.
- xii. Rienas: A lot of assignments where you are tempted to use AI seem like busywork, so that is why students choose to do that.
- xiii. Gessler: I have seen a lot of people coming to terms with cheating or getting help. A lot of students don't know how to use it in a good way and so they use it in a negative way.
- xiv. Eshelman: I think that we all lead busy lives and when we are tempted with a service that will finish your homework it's easy to just do it.
- xv. Hartley: When students do not feel engaged in learning, they are more likely to use AI.
- xvi. Stang: I think that when it is not face to face learning, it is more tempting to cheat or use these materials.
- xvii. DeVries: I think some people might be using AI to get their papers done.
- xviii. Bernardi: I did not know that there were good ways to use AI. I have a fear of losing the ability to critically think. I get nervous that someday our population will not learn anymore and will rely on technology.

Grand Valley State University

Student Senate

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

- xix. Theune: If you don't know how to use AI correctly, your writing will not sound like yourself and your professors will know.
- xx. Proctor: I think that promoting caution is important. It can be a dangerous tool.

5. **Business**

- a. Constitutional Amendment on Total Membership
 - i. Jackson: The amendment would move the capacity from 40 senators to 50 senators. This would be due to the amount of applicants and the large number of members leaving after this year.
 - ii. Proctor: It has been 50 in the past, but we shrank to 40 due to the lack of interest.
 - iii. Jackson: Motion to amend the constitution from 40 to 50 senators.
 - iv. Gessler: Second
 - v. The amendment passes unanimously.
- b. Councils versus committees.
 - i. Proctor: Last week we talked about councils vs committees. The general consensus was that we don't think councils will stick.
 - ii. Theakston: I think that committees is so much easier to remember and what my brain goes to first.
 - iii. Gessler: I think councils sound more professional.
 - iv. Green: I think that newer senators would understand councils because they don't have prior knowledge of another name.
 - v. Ford: Council is more formal whereas committee is for a group function
 - vi. Vandyke: The senate of the United States does committees.
 - vii. DeVries: I think that old habits die hard.
 - viii. McDonough: I call it a committee because it is more natural for me.
 - ix. Bernardi: If we don't have a common name we will look very unprofessional.
 - x. Vanlerberghe: What does UAS use? We should be the same as them.
 - xi. Proctor: We changed due to the confusion between us and the UAS committees.
 - xii. Rienas: I think that council sounds too formal.
 - xiii. Vanlerberghe: I think that having both councils and committees both sounds too confusing. We should have one thing and stick with it.
 - xiv. Hartley: Committee fits best for what these positions are. Councils sound like a group of people voting on something and being very formal. That is not what the roles are for us here.

Grand Valley State University

Student Senate

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

- xv. Richards: I think being consistent is very important. Will people go back to saying council if we go back to committee?
 - xvi. Stang: I think it is confusing because some are called committees and others are called councils.
 - xvii. Gessler: I think that there might be some confusion for staff members who know us as councils now.
- c. Advocacy vs DEI+B
- i. Wright: Pretty much everyone is for changing it to advocacy.

6. Officer Reports

a. Allocations - Chair Nancy Hoogwerf

- i. Hi everyone, we will be creating the allocations committee tonight, so if you have an interest in Allo, please communicate that with me if you haven't already. We begin an Allo meeting next week, which I am excited about. I've been having weekly meetings with Bri and the finance assistants in the OSL for the past few weeks in preparation for this fiscal year. Finally, I had a meeting with Val last week to discuss some Allo-related things and what my priorities are for this year – so stay tuned! I'm excited for another year on Allo!

b. Public Relations - Chair Ty Vanlerberghe

- i. This week, PRC has been busy getting back into the swing of things and starting to reach our goals for the semester. Last week, I went through and split up all the responsibilities of PRC into different groups and had the PRC Senators select where they want to focus their work. This should help improve efficiency within PRC and allow us to share all the exciting things the Senate is doing this year as best as possible.
- ii. Second and with that being said, I have created a social media request form that is currently in the Drive and can be accessed by anyone. If you want a post to be created or designed for you and you do not have the chance to reach out to be, feel free to utilize that form to request what you need.
- iii. Third, PRC has initiated collaborations with the University Counseling Center to promote their annual Myths and Facts campaign, the Career Center to promote the upcoming Career Fair, and the Tutoring and Reading Center to promote this year's Teach-In. I am excited for these collaborations and how they will strengthen our relationships on campus.
- iv. Finally, we have a fresh order of Student Senate stickers in the office! I know this is small, but if any of you joined after the election last year, you most likely did not receive

Grand Valley State University

Student Senate

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

one. If you don't have one or need another, please feel free to take one and represent us around campus!

c. **Advocacy** - Chair Genna Wright

i.

d. **Policy** - Chair Alec Palumbo

i. Good evening everyone, first off, all of the members of the Policy Council are officially assigned liaisons. We cover a wide variety of areas around the university, so if you are interested in meeting with someone, let me know and I will organize you with the proper Policy members that are actively assigned there.

ii. Additionally, I have begun to schedule follow-up meetings with the Libraries Executive team and OER/Provost Office. I will update you all with more information once this progresses. As I may have mentioned before, a theme of cost transparency for course materials would likely be our primary focus at these meetings, along with learning more about library functions and objectives.

iii. There is also a survey being sent out by Matt Ruen and the OER team regarding student perceptions of textbooks and the personal effects of course material costs. If you could fill this out once it is released and shared with you on Slack, that would be greatly beneficial in gauging opinion.

iv. That is all I have for now, but I will keep you all updated on policy business! I yield.

e. **Events** - Chair Riley Gessler

i. Hello everyone, happy Thursday! Just wanted to give a huge shout out to all the 9/11 memorial helpers, I appreciate it so much! Look out for our next bonding event coming next Friday, I'll send more information in the slack next week. Don't forget about volunteer opportunities! Slack me if you have any questions.

7. **Advisor Reports**

a. Haight: Valerie will send something out in slack about being a part of a 5 person focus group.

8. **University Committee Reports**

9. **Representative Reports**

10. **Conclusion**

a. Public Comment - Part 2

b. Roll Call - Part 2

c. Call for Announcements

i. Proctor: Second round of interviews tonight!

11. **Adjournment at**

Grand Valley State University
Student Senate
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

