

Grand Valley State University Student Senate

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Thursday, September 19th, 2024

Kirkhof 2204, 4:30pm

Chair: Quinten Proctor

Vice Chair: Paris Lawson

Parliamentarian: Evan Jackson



Minutes

1. **Call To Order at 5:15**

- a. Native Land Recognition
- b. Roll Call - Part 1
- c. Public Comment - Part 1
- d. Passing of the Papers
 - i. Proctor: I am passing around the university committee sign ups again. Make sure to sign up if you did not get it last week. Also, send Nancy a slack if you want to be a part of allocations. Finally, 616 service is looking for volunteers at the art prize this weekend if you are around.
- e. Adoption of the Agenda
 - i. Agenda is adopted.
- f. Approval of the Minutes
 - i. Minutes are approved.

2. **Executive Reports**

- a. **President** - Quinten Proctor
 - i. **Student Affairs**
 1. Next Monday from 1-1:30pm, I am meeting with Dr. Kyle Boone from Housing & Residence Life again. Please let me know if you have any specific questions or would like to go with me to this meeting.
 2. As I mentioned last week, I met with Jenny Hall-Jones a few weeks ago to discuss a variety of topics including the Student Legal Services Department legislation. In response to this, Jenny did issue her first ever official University response to a Student Senate bill, and I will go ahead and read it:
 - a. "Thank you for your thoughtful legislation and research around the potential benefits in creating a legal service for students. After careful consideration, I do believe creating a task force would be helpful. In our next meeting, let's brainstorm together students, faculty and staff who can serve and develop the charge of the committee. Any new fee to students will have to be carefully assessed within the university budget planning and must have full support of students to move

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forward. I look forward to working with you on this project! Please extend my gratitude to the senators who worked on this legislation.”

3. I did discuss this statement with former Senator Sophia Bates, who authored this bill prior to graduating last semester, and she was happy to hear this update!
4. Additionally, since then, we have discussed the Gender-neutral Bathroom Map legislation that former Senator Zuriel Johnson authored last year, and Jenny has suggested talking with Facilities as well as the Promotions Office to create a draft visual for this as our next steps.

ii. **Academic Affairs**

1. At ECS last week, we discussed AI policy at the University level, and faculty were very appreciative of the insights gained from our discussion at General Assembly last week, so thank you all! I also brought the Student Legal Services taskforce to them to gauge interest in participating at the faculty level.
2. Furthermore, I met with Courtney Karasinski, the Chair of UAS and ECS last Friday and we discussed the partnership between Student Senate and faculty governance. We also discussed the unfinished legislation regarding students with communication barriers or language disorders that former VP for Public Relations, Selina Martell, had worked on with her. Either myself, or the Executive Branch as a whole will be continuing Selina’s work on this Bill to see it to completion.
3. I am attending UAS next Friday from 3-5pm. I am able to bring two student representatives with me, so if you are interested and available, please let me know right now!

iii. **Information Technology**

1. Earlier this week, I met with Emil Delgado, the Associate Vice President for Information Technology and we discussed ways to gather student feedback on IT services, including the ongoing IT survey, which has an unfortunately low volume of responses. We also discussed furthering the partnership between Student Senate and IT, and he is hoping to have monthly meetings with Student Senate representatives.
2. We also briefly discussed the future of AI at GVSU and generally. We also talked about printer locations on campus, and how much certain printers get used in relation to others.

iv. **Office of the President**

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1. I am happy to report that President Mantella has approved our amendment to expand back to 50 total members! Following our appointments of new members today, we will be up to 44 total members, which is by far the largest the General Assembly has been within the last four years.

v. **Personal**

1. Next week, I am attending a student focus group along with Vice President Lawson, and Chief of Staff Jackson to discuss how climate action influences migration among young people. This will be hosted by the State of Michigan's Growth office, and we are looking for a few more students to join us! If you are interested please let me know.
2. This Tuesday, I helped out the GVSU Votes! team for National Voter Registration Day to help students register to vote, and make sure they have a plan. Shout out to Senators Gemmen and Theune for helping out, as well as Chair Gessler, who is part of the GVSU Votes! team as well!
3. I also want to review our Fall Schedule again so our new appointees can see them as well.
4. Finally, next Wednesday from 6-7pm, Chair Hoogwerf, Senator Green, and myself are speaking on a student panel for a Democracy 101 event. I'd love to see you all there. This will be in the library multipurpose room, and if you want to attend, please RSVP through LakerLink. I will put a link in Slack as well.

b. **Vice President - Paris Lawson**

- i. Hello, thank you for your patience with headshots today, I will make sure to get all of your pictures to you as soon as possible. If you do not love your picture you will have the opportunity to retake them in the winter semester. This past week I have followed up with Cabinet members on events and committee progress. I also worked with President Proctor and Chief of Staff Jackson to prepare for our inservice today. On Tuesday the three of us met with Jenny Hall-Jones and our advisors to talk about how to proceed with both current legislation and past legislation. One of the pieces past last semester was our legal services legislation. This was a request that GV adds some type of legal services that would be provided for students and their various legal needs. We have decided to create a task force with relevant university faculty and a couple of student senators. Please slack me if you are interested in participating in this taskforce. Lastly, over the summer I created two documents, legislation 101 and our legislative dashboard. These are to help you both understand what legislation is, how it works and also keep track of

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what everyone is working on. Some of you have begun to use these resources, but as a reminder these documents can be found in the legislation folder in our shared drive.

c. **Chief of Staff** - Evan Jackson

i. I hope you are all doing well and settling into the semester. We've got some important updates to cover today, and I appreciate your continued commitment to our work. Your dedication doesn't go unnoticed, and together, we're making real progress.

1. Judiciary Committee Update:

a. The Judiciary Committee is set to meet for the first time next week. We will be discussing initial procedures, expectations, and laying the groundwork for our conduct process this semester. More updates will follow after the meeting.

2. Resignations:

a. I want to inform you of the following resignations from the Senate:

- i. Landon Calleja Bartlett, Zuriel Johnson, Aurora Vaidya, and Alexandra Strand.
- ii. We thank them for their service and commitment to the Student Senate and wish them the best of luck on their future endeavors.

3. In-Service:

a. We will be holding an in-service session today where I will cover a much broader range of topics. This will include structure, procedures, attendance, conduct policies, and how we utilize Laker Link, among other important updates. Your participation and engagement are encouraged as we aim to strengthen our internal operations.

3. **Appointment of New Members**

a. Appointments

- i. Vanlerberghe: Motion to appoint Micah Dykhuis, Bryseida Gonzalez, and Hannah Weller to the Public Relations Committee.
- ii. Wright: Second
- iii. DeVries: I motion to carry with unanimous consent.
- iv. Proctor: I would like to welcome Senators elect Dykhuis, Gonzalez, and Weller to the Public Relations Committee.
- v. Wright: Motion to appoint Sarah Bucanan, Joshua Eapen, Cornathan Miller, Grayson Rodgers, and Lasya Priya Vemalla to the Advocacy Committee.

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- vi. Eshelman: Second
- vii. Lawson: I motion to carry with unanimous consent.
- viii. Proctor: I would like to welcome Senators Elect Buchanan, Eapen, Miller, Rodgers, and Vemalla to the Advocacy committee.
- ix. Palumbo: Motion to appoint Cameron Annis and Ka’Nyha Johnson to the Policy Committee.
- x. Wright: Second
- xi. Vanlerberghe: I motion to carry with unanimous consent.
- xii. Proctor: I would like to welcome Senators Elect Annis and Johnson to the Policy Committee.
- xiii. Gessler: Motion to appoint William Laurin, Diana Marroquin, and Lamar Scott to the Events Committee.
- xiv. Stang: Second
- xv. Lawson: I motion to carry with unanimous consent.
- xvi. Proctor: I would like to welcome Senators Laurin, Marroquin, and Scott to the Events Committee.

b. Introductions

- i. Everyone introduces themselves.

4. **Workshop**

a. Inservice - Part 1

- i. Bri Slager and Chair Hoogwerf present on funding training.

5. **Five Minute Recess**

6. **Workshop**

a. Inservice - Part 2

- i. President Proctor, Vice President Lawson and Chief of Staff Jackson go over the inservice.

7. **Advisor Reports**

- a. Guzman: We need four more people for the focus group if you’re interested.

8. **Reports**

a. **Allocations** - Chair Nancy Hoogwerf

Hi everyone, we officially have an Allocations Committee! I’m excited to work with each of these senators over the next year! With that, we have our first board meeting tomorrow where we will be hearing two different requests. If you’re ever wanting to sit in on an allo meeting, let me know, I’d be happy to have you sit in and learn more.

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b. **Public Relations** - Chair Ty Vanlerberghe

- i. Hi, everyone! Happy Thursday! And happy parents weekend! I have a very short list of updates for you today. First, Senator Richards and I have continued our work to partner with the Career Center to help promote their services and the upcoming Career Fair. We have set up a meeting with their marketing and communications director and I will update you all after that meeting.
- ii. Second, you guys all looked fantastic for headshots today! You can expect the bulletin board, social media, and website to be updated with those shortly. If you don't love how your headshot turned out and want me to keep using your photo from last year, please slack me now or shortly after this meeting.
- iii. Finally, this is a reminder that GVSU Homecoming Court nominations close soon on September 23rd. If you want to get nominated, you can have a friend do so on your behalf or please feel free to let me know and I would be happy to do it. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out over Slack! Have a great weekend!

c. **Advocacy** - Chair Genna Wright

- i. Hi everyone ! Happy Thursday and I hope you all had a great week of classes ! With that being said, I've continued with planning the annual teach-in event, a gvsu social justice event, which we are now sending an email to every student on campus to promote awareness and encourage everyone to attend or even present at the teach-in. And again if you are interested in hosting a session please reach out to me. With our new committee name "Advocacy" we have come together to come up with a mission statement that best represents our values as a committee. The Advocacy Committee's mission is to empower the issues and voices of students who can guide Grand Valley to be a more accessible, ethical, inclusive, and equitable community. Also today we will be discussing ideas for deaf awareness month and how we can best advocate for deaf students on campus. As usual if anyone has any questions, or anything to talk to me about, please feel free to slack me ;))

d. **Policy** - Chair Alec Palumbo

Hello everyone, First of all, congrats to all of our newest members, we are thankful that you are here! I do not have much to update you about this week. For the survey I mentioned last week, I am still waiting on confirmation if it is complete and ready to be sent to students. I will link it in the slack as soon as possible. Additionally, I am looking to create follow-up appointments with the counseling center and housing, among others. Stay tuned for news about student mental health events and awareness programs, such as

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the Mental Health Ambassadors (which is still available to sign up for). Lastly, next week is Replenish Week, hosted by Replenish Basic Needs. They are recognizing September as Hunger Action Month and hosting a 3-day resource fair to educate and advocate for food justice. Check out their set-ups on Tuesday through Thursday at Kirkhof from 11am-2pm. I have posted the flier in slack to check out. I hope to have more updates for you all at the next meeting, as policy begins to settle into business. Thank you and have a good weekend! I yield.

e. **Events** - Chair Riley Gessler

- i. Hello everyone! Happy Thursday. I would like to start off by reminding everyone that our first bonding event is tomorrow from 2:30-4:30! We will have pizza, please do not stress if you cannot make this one as we will have plenty of more bonding events. Something I will be sending out is the GVPD Safety Night Walk Sign up. What is the GVPD Safety Night Walk? Stated on the website it says "The walk is an opportunity for the Public Safety team and GVSU students, faculty, and staff to review the campus safety strategy, identify emerging safety concerns, and understand the Public Safety team's multifaceted approach to maintaining a safe environment for all Lakers. The Night Walk allows the Public Safety team and members of the civilian campus community to see GVSU's campuses through each other's eyes, supporting better understanding of Public Safety's role at GVSU and developing connections between officers and the community they serve." I would like at least 3 senators at each walk. The walks are October 3rd, October 8th, and October 10th. I will send the sign up in the slack, please send me a message if you sign up! I do not have access to the sign up as it was made by the university so the only way I can give you credit is if you tell me please. Have a good weekend!

9. **University Committee Reports**

- a. James: During the forum, we talked about having Allendale families host international students during big holidays. We are collaborating with the international center and other resources. We have someone meeting with us next week to discuss this further.

10. **College Representative Reports**

11. **Conclusion**

- a. Public Comment - Part 2
- b. Roll Call - Part 2
- c. Call for Announcements

12. **Adjournment at 7:45 pm**