

Grand Valley State University Student Senate

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Thursday, October 24th, 2024

Kirkhof 2204, 4:30pm

Chair: Quinten Proctor

Vice Chair: Paris Lawson

Parliamentarian: Evan Jackson



Agenda

1. Call To Order at 4:35

Native Land Recognition

Roll Call - Part 1

Public Comment - Part 1

- i. Patrick: I am running for Ottawa County Township. My volunteers and I have been at the clocktower and transformation link recently. There are a number of concerning actions that have been taken. One is for a million dollars to have a recycling center on campus. Not any action has been taken.

Passing of the Papers

- ii. Proctor: Fill out the mid semester check in form on slack if you haven't already.

Adoption of the Agenda

- iii. Agenda is adopted

Approval of the Minutes

- iv. Minutes stand approved.

2. Discussion

Public Safety at GVSU

- i. Guest: Department of Public Safety - *Chief Brandon DeHaan, Sgt. Bill O'Donnell, Officer Paul Weaver*
- ii. Chief DeHaan, Sgt. O'Donnell, and Officer Weaver go over public safety.
- iii. Questions
 1. DeVries: Do the 3D maps include the fire doors?
 2. O'Donnell: Yes, they have locations where somebody with a disability can go and not have to evacuate. The firefighters will go there first to see if anyone is there.
 3. DeHaan: We are working specifically to update campus response for people with disabilities.
 4. Stang: How does the new smoking law work?
 5. DeHaan: We are wanting to get signs so that people know that it is no longer allowed. If it continues occurring then public safety will have to get involved. It is important for us to have conversations about doing the right thing.

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6. Green: How do the initial stages of teaching K-9's start?
7. Weaver: We call a kennel and tell them what we specifically want in the dog. They begin by training the dog to find a kong. After that, they are trained to find a specific thing.
8. Green: How do they pick what they train?
9. Weaver: There were two black labs and the other was highly sociable and ended up going to an elementary school whereas they are not trained to find something but to be comforting for the children. Each dog's personality tells what they would be good at doing.
10. Eshelman: In preparation for a big event, what would Scout do?
11. Weaver: We will come in at about 8 am. Then we will go to the stadium and section off the areas where large numbers of people will go.
12. DeHaan: They will even have 3 dogs at the beginning of the football game. IF we were fully staffed, I would like to get another dog. Scout has been very helpful overall.
13. Jackson: How do you switch Scout from work to home mode.
14. DeHaan: He transitions more from work to home life. He is always ready to play with his toy when he gets home. He's starting to learn more. He also knows when the harness is on that he is working.

3. Five Minute Recess

4. Executive Reports

President - Quinten Proctor

i. My apologies for not giving you all a heads up regarding serious topics regarding suicide and suicide prevention prior to our meeting with the Counseling Center and QPR training last time.

a. Student Affairs

Make sure to make a plan to vote! Next week, I am volunteering at the satellite voting location in the Kirkhof Center. I am also giving remarks at the Election Day celebration on November 5th sometime between noon and 1pm. President Mantella, Louie the Laker, and the Laker Marching Band will all be there as well. Feel free to show up and support. I also finished coordinating with Deb Rambadt to set up the Food Committee. I am meeting with Dr. Boone from Housing & Residence Life on Mon, Nov 4.

b. Academic Affairs

I am attending ECS tomorrow. I am attending UAS with VP Lawson, Senator Robach, Theakston next Friday. I will keep you all updated. I am meeting with the Provost next Wednesday I have been working with the Provost, and the UAS Chair to draft corresponding letters to both students and faculty to encourage voting, provide resources, and encourage faculty to be flexible

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with attendance and projects/tests on Election Day. My letter to the students will go out tomorrow, the Provost's letter to faculty will go out on Monday.

c. Personal

Reviewed the fall schedule.

Vice President - Paris Lawson

- i. A couple weeks ago a couple policy senators and I attended a meeting with the director of sustainability. We talked about a wide range of topics regarding sustainability on campus including the need for additional staffing within the sustainability department, as well as understanding the university spending on utilities which is currently around \$1 million each month.
- ii. Additionally, we discussed ideas on improving campus infrastructure, including the establishment of a bus service to the campus farm, along with a possible construction of a sidewalk and bathroom facilities at SAP (sustainable agriculture project). We also discussed a possible new initiative titled "Take Something, Leave Something," promoting resource sharing and sustainability through community exchanges (this could be through replenish and involving things like thrifting).
- iii. Furthermore, there is a volunteer opportunity at the alumni tailgate on November 2nd. More information will be provided via Slack soon.
- iv. Looking ahead, I plan to meet with Dr. Boone from Housing on November 11th, alongside members of the policy committee. I also have a meeting scheduled with Campus Health next week; please feel free to share any questions you would like me to address on your behalf in this meeting.

Chief of Staff - Evan Jackson

- v. Good afternoon, Senators, I'd like to announce that we will soon be distributing a performance survey. This survey is essential for gathering your feedback on the roles and responsibilities of the executive branch both individually and as a whole. Your input will help us improve and ensure we're meeting the needs of the Student Senate.
- vi. Next, I'd like to pause and ask: would you all appreciate more regular updates from the Judiciary Committee? I want to ensure that you're informed about the important work we're doing and have the opportunity to provide input as we move forward.
- vii. We are also preparing for next semester's Student Senate elections. Over the coming weeks, we'll begin reviewing our election processes to make sure everything is in place for a smooth experience. Please keep an eye out for more information as we progress.

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- viii. As we near the end of the semester, I'd like to remind everyone to make sure you're meeting your event attendance requirements. If you have any questions or need assistance, feel free to reach out.
- ix. Finally, we only have two General Assemblies remaining this semester. Let's stay focused and continue our active engagement in these final sessions.

5. Business

Amendment on Misconduct Process

- i. Proctor: This is now the official draft for the amendment on the misconduct process. This will go into the bylaws pending approval. We can vote tonight or we can sit and think about it until the next GA.
- ii. Chief of Staff Jackson reads through the amendment.
- iii. Discussion
 - 1. Palumbo: I think that there should be $\frac{2}{3}$ majority vote within the closed assembly.
 - 2. Annis: I think that both options are good. If someone is going to sign a petition to remove them, they are probably going to vote yes anyways. This is why I think that $\frac{2}{3}$ is a good number for the vote.
 - 3. Rienas: When we vote, is there any way to have the person leave the room?
 - 4. Proctor: We could potentially use a secret ballot for this as well. Although, we do not do that for anything other than elections. Either way the vote will not be public, but the general assembly will know. What would we prefer? Also, what are some thoughts on the vote threshold?
 - 5. Theakston: I think $\frac{2}{3}$ makes more sense for the closed vote because I think they need to convince everyone that they should not be impeached.
 - 6. Eshleman: I think that impeachment is a serious process and if impeachment is necessary, getting $\frac{2}{3}$ should not be very difficult if it is necessary to impeach in the first place.
 - 7. Proctor: We will go forward with a $\frac{2}{3}$ in favor of impeachment. Next we need to talk about the voting.
 - 8. Hartley: I think that retaliation is very true, so I think a secret ballot should happen. Especially if it is cabinet members.
 - 9. Vanlerberghe: I am in favor of doing normal voting. It is very serious, so I think it is important to be able to put it all out there.

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10. Eshleman: In higher governments, the vote is public, but in public trials the defendant does not know how each juror voted. I am in favor of having the vote public like higher governments do because we should be able to vote the way we want.
11. DeVries: Oftentimes in trials, there is a unanimous vote required. I would try to take some of the things that they do in their trials.
12. Dykhuis: I do not want impeachment to harm any relationships that we have created in the past.
13. Green: I think it is important because we should think about future bodies.
14. Proctor: The closed assembly is a separate body completely that would only be dealing with appealed cases from the judiciary committee or impeachment. This is only being created in case there is a very unusual scenario. This would be created so that the minutes would not be aired publicly. The question is do we want vote counts to be in minutes for transparency for the public.
15. Johnstone: I think that the overall should be published.

6. Workshop

Executive Performance Survey

- i. Jackson: I put together a survey that has a section for each executive and the faculty advisors. We will leave the room, and would like you guys to be as honest as possible.

7. Officer Reports

Allocations - Nancy Hoogwerf

- i. Hi everybody! Sorry for my absence again, I will be back in GA more consistently following Nov. 5th! Last week Allo funded two events, which are outlined in my report. There have also been ongoing conversations about how Bri and I plan to attack the Finance policy and procedure in the coming weeks, as they haven't been updated in a few years! Looking forward to being back soon. If any of you have any questions or are curious about Allo and some of the more complex conversations I am having with Bri, please reach out to me and we can chat! Have a safe and fun weekend!!

Public Relations - Ty Vanlerberghe

- ii. Hi, everyone! Happy Thursday! I hope you all had a fantastic fall break and got some much-needed rest!
- iii. First, PRC completed our second social media collaboration with the Teach-In last week. This is super exciting as Student Senate is becoming a more-involved aspect of this event. If you would like to help out in more Teach-In promotion, PRC and Advocacy are

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tabling together this coming Monday and Tuesday. If you are free, we have some shifts that are still open. I am going to drop the sign-up link in the chat, this does count as an event requirement!

- iv. Second, as you all may know, our wonderful Allocations Chair, Nancy Hoogwerf, was selected as one member of the 2024 homecoming court! If you haven't already, please make sure you cast your vote for her to be this year's Homecoming Royal. I am going to paste the voting link in the chat right now, voting ends October 28th at 11:59 PM.
- v. Finally, PRC is starting work on promotions for the Student Solutions Summit that we discussed at previous GAs. We have a good list of ideas on how to advertise this event, but I am welcome to new ideas. If you have any feel free to Slack me! If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out over Slack! Have a great weekend!

Advocacy - Genna Wright

- vi. Hi everyone, happy Thursday, I hope you've all had a great week of classes! With that being said, the teach-in deadline for proposals has been closed so we now have all our proposals. Ty and I have tabling book for the teach in October 28th and 29th from 11-1 in Kirkhoff, which I believe we still do have slots to fill to if you are interested in that please see one of us and we also plan on sending the form out over slack as well for anyone to still sign up for tabling. Also the advocacy and events committee have teamed up for breast cancer awareness month tabling which the last day is 29th in kirkhoff. As usual if anyone has any questions or wants to talk to me about anything feel free to slack me!

Policy - Alec Palumbo

- vii. Happy Thursday everyone, I hope your fall break was refreshing and you are ready to finish the semester strong. This past week, we have had 3 successful meetings with campus liaisons.
- viii. First was a meeting with sustainability, where discussion revolved around challenges to recycling on campus and different ways to promote sustainability on campus. A follow up occurred today, and we will debrief this at our committee meeting.
- ix. Next was a meeting with the Veterans Resources Center. This was largely a meeting to educate us on the functions and goals of the VRC, as this was one of the liaisons we were not able to meet with last year. We talked about upcoming Veterans' events for the month of November and the ways the Senate could assist in the needs of the office.
- x. Lastly, we held a discussion yesterday with DeVos's Laker Food Co. Director, Morgan Billings. The main topic involved potential ways that food options could be expanded or diet-friendlier to the students of Pew Campus.

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- xi. All Policy meetings have minutes that are viewable in the google drive, if you are interested in learning more about these meetings and the discussions held. Looking forward, there is a lot of momentum towards liaison connections, and I will continue to have updates for you all. Policy plans to discuss our focuses for the remainder of the semester and the ways we can continue to strengthen on-campus relationships.

Events - Riley Gessler

- xii. Hello everyone! I hope you all had a great fall break, and that you are well rested. Thanks to everyone who came to the bonding event, our next one is Sunday, November 3rd at 3 PM! Please react to the chat I sent in bonding if you are planning on coming. We are having another tabling for Breast Cancer awareness month next Tuesday from 3-5 so feel free to stop by the table! Please stay safe at the game this weekend!

8. Advisor Reports

Haight: We are doing a vibrant campus initiative and Valerie is one of the co-chairs. I attended a landlord meeting last week. Make sure you're locking your doors and cars. Be careful when crossing the road.

9. University Committee Reports

Johnstone: The meeting focused on introducing the committee members and discussing potential topics. The committee members expressed their interest in contributing to the group and learning more about the committee's work, focusing on supporting the overall campus community. The discussion also highlighted the need for innovative solutions to help students navigate the unique challenges this generation faces post-pandemic and the importance of involving students in the Campus Life Committee. The pre-meeting discussions revolved around using AI on campus, and some attendees mentioned they already use AI in the classroom. Then Jenny Hall-Jones discussed reorganizing the CLC to focus more on advisory roles, how we engage, and feedback from committee members. She also highlighted the importance of supporting the overall wellness of the entire community, not just students. Jenny mentioned that the committee would focus on the needs of underrepresented students and the first-year experience. Jenny requested that I add to the agenda what the Senate is working on this term. The next meeting is on December 2nd, 10 am, via Zoom.

10. Representative Reports

11. Conclusion

Public Comment - Part 2

Roll Call - Part 2

Call for Announcements

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- i. Proctor: I am graduating in April. I intend to stay here for grad school. I will have been here for four years and I will not be returning to Student Senate. It is time for me to move onto the next chapter of my life. If you have any questions please reach out to Vice President Lawson or myself.
- ii. Lawson: I will also be graduating in the spring and moving on to the next chapter so as president proctor said please let us know if you are interested in running for Vice President or President and we would be happy to chat with you.

12. Adjournment at 7:04

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Itinerary

4:30 — Call to Order

5:45 — Recess

6:30 — Adjournment

6:30 — Committee Meetings

Q → Events, Paris → X, Evan → X

7:15 — Cabinet

*Please note that the times listed in the meeting itinerary are estimates.