

Grand Valley State University Student Senate

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Thursday, December 5th, 2024

Cook-DeWitt Center Auditorium, 4:30pm

Chair: Quinten Proctor

Vice Chair: Paris Lawson

Parliamentarian: Evan Jackson



Minutes

1. Call To Order at 4:30 pm

- a. Native Land Recognition
- b. Roll Call - Part 1
- c. Public Comment - Part 1
- d. Passing of the Papers
 - i. Proctor: Please fill out the form saying whether you will be returning or not returning to senate next semester. If you are interested in sitting on the elections commission there is also a place to put your name here as well to show interest in this.
- e. Adoption of the Agenda
 - i. The agenda is approved.
- f. Approval of the Minutes
 - i. The minutes stand approved.

2. Guest Speaker

- a. Dr. Kyle Boone, *Housing and Residence Life*
 - i. Boone: Hello I am here today to discuss any housing concerns and talk a little bit about myself as well.
 - ii. The Senate then discusses housing and residence life.
 - iii. Discussion/Questions:
 1. Annis: Something that was brought up at the SSS was about damage in rooms. They were unsure about who to contact in this case and wondered if they would get it fixed?
 2. Boone: If someone has damage in rooms, they should reach out to their RA and then from there the person can fill out a work order to get it fixed as quickly as possible.
 3. Hartley: I have heard a lot about the traditional style dorms being torn down at some point. Is this a true rumor?
 4. Boone: We have released a masterplan. In the masterplan they have a plan to remove these buildings. Right now look at it as a priority document. If they get taken down, green space will happen there if they do that.
 5. Gemmen: Is there anything in the works to increase student knowledge about housing?

6. Boone: Our website has been updated as well as sending emails to students. There is a knowledge base on our website that sends you to the right spot about your question.
7. Devries: I have never lived on campus, and the housing off campus seems that there is not a lot of accessibility there. I am not concerned about on campus housing.
8. Boone: They are all supposed to follow ADA as well. I will communicate with them about what they should be looking for. I will pass along information about ramps.

3. Executive Reports

a. President - Quinten Proctor

i. Academic Affairs

1. Tomorrow, I will be attending UAS along with Vice President Lawson and Chief of Staff Jackson. I will keep you updated on any notable policies that pass tomorrow.
2. Next Tuesday, I am meeting with the Provost, Jen Drake, to review the semester, discuss the Course Markings initiative that Chair Palumbo is spearheading, and talk about what next semester looks like for academic affairs and the libraries.

ii. University Relations

1. In about two weeks, I am meeting with Stacie Behler, the University Vice President and Chief Public Relations Officer, to discuss the implications of the 2024 elections on higher education, and what that might look like for GVSU, along with several other topics.

iii. Office of the President

1. A few weeks ago, the Cabinet met with President Mantella's Senior Leadership Team where we discussed some of our goals for the year, including the Student Solutions Summit, the Student Legal Services Department, and the Course Marking initiative.
2. The week before the break, VP Lawson, CoS Jackson, and I attended the President's Council where we discussed the next phases of planning for the upcoming Reach Higher Together initiative. This is the upcoming continuation of the Reach Higher 2025 agenda, which outlines the broad goals and visions for GVSU for the next several years.
3. Earlier this week, I met with Jesse Bernal, the University Chief of Staff and VP for Strategy to discuss the Reach Higher Together initiative further and to talk about how we can bring student voices into the planning process for that. We will be discussing this more in the General Assembly next semester.

iv. Personal

1. I have heard from a lot of you that GAs tend to run long, and I have been working with the Cabinet to brainstorm some adjustments to our meeting structure. If you haven't already, please fill out the General Assembly Strawpoll.

a. <https://forms.gle/CtRjen9C5DGmnjXR8>

2. Unfortunately, due to the weather, we did have to cancel our Holiday Party this evening.
3. As a reminder, I will not be returning to Student Senate in any capacity for the 2025-2026 academic year. If you are interested in running for President, please let me know, and I can give the rundown on what that would look like.

b. **Vice President** - Paris Lawson

- i. Hey, I hope everyone had a good break and is feeling somewhat relaxed going into exam week.
- ii. Earlier this week, President Proctor and I met with Dr. Boone to discuss the Solutions Summit and address some of the feedback we received regarding housing. Specifically some of the ideas around multicultural orientations and the roles of RAs. Additionally, I shared updates on the Narcan legislation I've been working on to get his input and explore next steps.
- iii. As this is our final meeting of the semester, I want to remind everyone who is planning to write legislation this year to start outlining your ideas and discuss your plans with me. The process often takes longer than expected due to the steps involved, including revisions and edits.
- iv. Finally, if you need anything—whether Senate-related or not—don't hesitate to reach out over break. I'll be working on a few Senate projects and will be available to chat if you have questions.

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

- i. Good afternoon, Senators, I have a few updates to share.
- ii. Events Requirements:
 1. I am actively working on preparing next semester's event requirements and finalizing the ones from this semester. If you have any feedback or suggestions for events you'd like to see included, please don't hesitate to share them.
- iii. Judiciary Committee Update:
 1. The Judiciary Committee will meet next Tuesday to review all final absences for this semester. In addition, they are beginning preparations for the elections next semester to ensure a smooth process.
- iv. Winter 2025 Applications:
 1. We are now receiving applications to join the Student Senate for the Winter 2025 semester! If you know someone who might be interested, please encourage them to apply. This is a great opportunity to get involved and make a meaningful impact on campus.
- v. Thank you all for your hard work as we near the end of the semester. Let's finish strong!

4. **Business**

a. **Governing Document Reforms**

- i. The Senate discusses the changes made to the governing documents.
- ii. Proctor: Motion to approve the documents.

- iii. Jackson: So Moved
- iv. Vanlerberghe: Second
- v. Motion stands approved.
- vi. The senate discusses the elections commission and requirements to be on it.
- vii. Hoogwerf: I was looking at the documents and did we possibly remove the allocations requirement?
- viii. Proctor: We did not know about this, but we can add it in.
- ix. Proctor: Is there concern about a conflict of interest?
- x. Palumbo: Is the judiciary committee the elections committee, but there are people from the Senate that are added as extras?
- xi. Jackson: Next semester it would be the judiciary committee and elections commissions. This would allow people from the General Assembly to serve on it if they are not returning.
- xii. Gemmen: I think this is a good idea because then people from the general body can serve.
- xiii. Proctor: Motion to entertain the bylaws.
- xiv. Vanlerberghe: Second
- b. F-24-02: Holiday Hosting Program for International Students
 - i. The senate discusses the legislation about Holiday hosting.

5. **Officer Reports**

- a. **Allocations** - Nancy Hoogwerf
 - i. Hi everyone, we are hearing two requests tomorrow at 1:30 in room 2263. Let me know if you want to join! Otherwise, I have been working on updating the Financial Policies and Procedures, and those are in my folder. Feel free to take a peek, make suggestions, and ask questions if you have any, I would love feedback!! With that, have a safe and happy holiday!!
- b. **Public Relations** - Ty Vanlerberghe
 - i. Hi, everyone! Happy Thursday! I hope you had a fantastic Thanksgiving break and are excited for our holiday party after this!
 - ii. First, since we last met, PRC had been hard at work promoting the Student Solutions Summit around campus. I am happy to report that the promotions package that we ordered, along with the yard signs, seemed to bring in a good amount of students from other organizations around campus. If you have any ideas for next year's promotion, please be sure to let me know.
 - iii. Second, as we returned from break, our focus has transitioned from the Summit to promoting our Exam Jam event alongside Chair Gessler and the Events Committee and advertising our Winter Applications which are now open. I have ordered a large widow QR code banner, Laker Hub slides, and posters across campus. If you know anyone who is interested in joining the Student Senate, be sure to point them in the direction of one of these promotions.
 - iv. Third, last week I had a very productive meeting with Stacie Behler, the Vice President of the university and GVSU's Chief Public Affairs and Communications Officer. We reflected on our

shared roles and established a standing meeting schedule to generate some ideas on how Student Senate and GVSU official social media can collaborate.

- v. Lastly, when we left for break, President Proctor dropped a link to a form in General Business. This form is for Senate merchandise and will help me determine what types of apparel to offer. Please Please fill this out if you have not already done so.
- vi. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out over Slack! Have a great weekend!

c. **Advocacy** - Genna Wright

- i. Hi everyone ! Happy Thursday, I hope you all are doing good during finals!!!!
- ii. As we wrap up the fall semester, I just want to take a moment to thank everyone in the Senate for their hard work, especially those on the Advocacy Committee. Your dedication and efforts have made a real impact, and I truly appreciate everything you've done. Looking ahead to the second semester, we'll continue to focus on improving campus resources, reaching out to more students, promoting sustainability, and getting more involved in the student body. I'm excited for what's to come, and I'm grateful for all your contributions. Let's keep pushing forward and making a difference!

d. **Policy** - Alec Palumbo

- i. I have no business announcements for you today. I just wanted to thank you all for a great semester, and I really appreciate being around all of you. Policy hopes to hit the ground running next year for much needed meetings with Admissions and Laker Food Co., as well as multiple pieces of legislation. If you have anything you want to see from my committee in the future, I am open to your feedback. Otherwise, Please have a restful break and I look forward to another great semester. If you need anything over break, you know where to find me.
Happy holidays!

e. **Events** - Riley Gessler

6. **Advisor Reports**

- a. Guzman: Have a great break!!

7. **University Committee Reports**

- a. Theakston: Hey everyone on Nov. 19th Senator Hartley and I attended the food committee meeting, we learned that it is confirmed that Qdoba will be going where the subway was and start construction during winter break or January. I'm not sure when they planned to have it open but can get more information on that next meeting. They are also always open to suggestions from students for different international or cultural food for their chefs to learn. Someone at the meeting also had an idea for a workshop on cooking where students can learn to cook which they said they have tried to do in the past but did not have enough attendance or interest for it and could be open to doing it again if there is interest. Finally, If you would like to come to the next meeting they said they are more than happy to have any voices heard so you can slack me and I'll send you the time for when the next meeting will be, or if you have any questions you want to be addressed you can slack me for that too. I yield.

8. **Representative Reports**

9. **Conclusion**

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

10. **Adjournment**