

Grand Valley State University
Executive Committee of the Senate Meeting
Minutes of January 10, 2025

Present: Nick Baine, Krista Benson, Yatin Bhagwat, Jennifer Cymbola, Susan Harrington, Chris Haven, Courtney Karasinski (Chair), Salvador Lopez-Arias, Gwyn Madden, Hazel McClure, Tonya Parker, Chuck Pazdernik, Quinten Proctor (Student Senate President), Karyn Rabourn, Rahat Rafiq, Anne Sergeant (Vice Chair), Christine Smith (for Ernest Park), Kevin Strychar, Deana Weibel, Jennifer Winther

Absent: Figen Mekik

Ex Officio: Jen Drake, Ed Aboufadel, Felix Ngassa

The meeting was called to order at 3:00pm

Agenda Items	Discussion	Action / Decision
1. Approval of Agenda	The Agenda of January 10, 2025, was reviewed.	The Agenda of January 10, 2025, was approved.
2. Approval of Minutes	The Minutes of ECS Regular Meeting of November 22, 2024, were reviewed.	The Minutes of ECS Regular Meeting of November 22, 2024, were approved as amended at the meeting.
3. Report from Chair	<p>Chair Karasinski reported on several meetings she and Vice Chair Sergeant had, including Employee Ombuds Eliza Ortega-Schultz; General Counsel Jess Weare; and AVP/Chief Information Security Officer and AVP Aaron Lowen. Additionally, VP and Chief Digital Officer Miloš Topić shared the updated AI policy that incorporates feedback from ECS.</p> <p>She shared the upcoming schedule and agenda items and noted that the New Programs Council will meet next week, and gave information about the COACHE survey discussion scheduled for Friday, January 17 as a Committee of the Whole of UAS.</p> <p>At the next ECS meeting representatives for the University Technology Committee will be selected. Nominations (including self-nominations) can be sent to Chair Karasinski.</p> <p>Questions were addressed from the floor.</p>	
4. Report from Provost	Acting Provost Drake reported that Dr. Adebayo “Bayo” Ogundipe has been selected to serve as Dean of the Padnos College of	

	<p>Engineering. He will officially begin his new role on March 1, 2025.</p> <p>Updates on major initiatives were shared, including the search for a new VP for Research and Innovation and recent activities of the Senior Leadership Team (SLT).</p> <p>Laker Club Talks will be held with Robert Shorty, Vice President for People, Equity, and Culture on Wednesday, February 12 at 4pm; Jessica Weare, General Counsel, on Thursday, March 13, 2025 at 4pm..</p> <p>Senior AVP Aboufadel shared updates on COACHE and reported that the full document has been published online.</p> <p>Questions addressed from the floor.</p>	
5. Report from Student Senate	<p>Student Senate President Proctor reported that Student Senate is back in the swing of things for the semester. They held interviews for new members and will be at max capacity once the new representatives are onboarded.</p> <p>Student Senate is exploring options to bring Narcan on-campus, as well as having digital student IDs.</p> <p>He further reported that the spring elections will be held in March and that he has been selected as the Chair of our Elections Commission.</p> <p>Questions addressed from the floor.</p>	
6. Old Business	<p>a. An overview of the OEMC recommendation on Bylaws Amendment that was distributed earlier. Discussion.</p> <p>A <u>Motion was and seconded</u> to support the OEMC recommendation on Bylaws Amendment and place it on the UAS agenda with a recommendation of support.</p> <p>b. Felix Ngassa provided information regarding Appointments to the Centers Evaluation Committee comprised of eight total faculty, three with relevant scholarly expertise in qualitative or quantitative analysis of data and five with demonstrated ability to think strategically and broadly about university-wide issues.</p>	<p>MOTION: The Executive Committee of the Senate supports the OEMC recommendation on Bylaws Amendment and forwards it to UAS with a recommendation of support.</p> <p>UNANIMOUSLY Approved</p>

	<p>Nominations, including self-nominations should be sent to Chair Karasinski by Tuesday, January 21.</p> <p>c. Discussion was heard on helping HR Staff and how faculty can know where to go when needing support. Concerns were expressed on how to identify systemic issues versus individual issues. VP Shorty will attend a UAS meeting this semester for collaboration.</p>	
7. New Business	<p>Discussion was heard regarding planning for the Committee of the Whole scheduled for Friday, January 17. Guidelines were shared, including that no business will be conducted at the meeting, rather, discussion focused on various options available to the body relative to what changes, actions and outcomes UAS wants from SLT.</p> <p>A <u>Motion was made, seconded and agreed by consensus</u> to extend the meeting by 10 minutes.</p> <p>The COACHE Steering Committee process, updates on the work of the SHGR taskforce and the relationship between UAS and ECS will be shared.</p>	
8. Adjournment	The meeting adjourned at 5:11pm	