

Detailed ECS Notes from August 30, 2024

Chair's Report

- *On the Vice President for People, Equity, and Culture Search:* The final candidates visited campus. Information about the Search Committee and position can be found [here](#). Chair Karasinski, Past Chair Ngassa, and Associate Dean Bailey-Fakhoury were members of the Search Committee from Academic Affairs.
- *On the 12th Annual Teach-In: Power, Privilege, and Difficult Dialogues:* The 12th Annual Teach-In will be held on Wednesday, November 13 on the Pew Campus and Thursday, November 14 on the Allendale Campus. More information on the Teach-In can be found [here](#). All are highly encouraged to participate.
- *On the ECS Meeting of 9/6/24:* The agenda for the ECS Meeting of 9/6/24 will include review and discussion of the FFPAC memos on active learning spaces, relationship with ATAC, wayfinding, facilities needs by college, standing charges update, and optimum membership size; and on the multi-year taskforce on the evaluation of teaching.

Provost's Report

- *On the Vice President for People, Equity, and Culture Search:* The final candidates visited campus and reference checks are being conducted.
- *On the University Priorities:* The University priorities are impact, relevance, and value. The foci will be on people-centered culture; empowered learning and dynamic teaching; inclusive connection and expanded continuing education/OMNI; fully leverage technology via Blue Dot; expanding capacity for discovery, inquiry and innovation via the teacher-scholar model with resources for faculty, students and staff; and vibrant campus life.
- *On the BIPOC Taskforces:* The taskforces are working on integration of recommendations.
- *On the GV Police Academy:* The Police Academy is moving to a new space in Holland.
- *On Meeting with College Leadership Teams:* The Provost is scheduling meetings with the leadership teams from each college.
- *On Gray DI:* When asked about the length of GVSU's subscription to Gray DI, a program evaluation system, Acting Provost Drake shared that the subscription is for one year.
- *On Finkelstein Athletic Village:* When asked about Finkelstein Athletic Village, Acting Provost Drake share that this is a donor-funded initiative for upgrades to athletic spaces and resources for athletes.

Student Senate President's Report

- *On the First Meeting of the Academic Year:* Student Senate held their first meeting of the year and were sworn in by President Mantella. They discussed ways to engage students in the 2024 elections, reviewed the expressive activity policies, and approved a statement for students that shares helpful campus resources.

New Business:

- *On Use of Robert's Rules:* The body affirmed the use of "relaxed" Robert's Rules for the 2024-25 academic year.
- *On Charges to the Standing Committees:* Chair Karasinski and Vice Chair Sergeant met with Standing Committee Chairs in August to discuss potential charges. These charges were presented and approved.
- *On the UAS Memo on Process for Reviewing Externally Accredited Programs:* UAC wanted to honor the accreditation work and devised a process by which accredited programs approved for the process by UAC will provide a one-page report for university assessment. ECS members expressed gratitude to the committee for this work, and unanimously voted to support with recommendation to the UAS consent agenda.
- *On the UAC Memo on Federally Funded Programs Exemption Status:* Federally funded programs function like accredited programs, and federally funded programs approved for the process by UAC can use the same process as the externally accredited programs.
- *On the Discussion on Increasing Student Voter Participation:* A robust discussion was held around increasing student voter participation. Student Senate had passed previous legislation asking faculty not to hold exams or have major assignments due on election days and on being lenient about class attendance on election days. Challenges for faculty, staff, and students were discussed. Ideas were shared, such as moving Fall Break to Election Day. Questions about which elections were relevant to the discussion (e.g., national

elections vs local elections) arose. Although it is too late to make changes to policy prior to this year's elections, it was decided to create a taskforce examining SS F-18-04 and W-20-02 (the aforementioned Student Senate legislation) relevant to the issue of voter participation and make recommendations. It was also decided to have the Provost, UAS Chair, and Student Senate President send a recommendation memo to encourage faculty to promote student access to voting.

- *On the Faculty Fora for Fall 2024:* It was decided to hold this semester's faculty *fora* on the topic of AI. Dates will be determined and shared soon.

Open Comment

- *On the Multi-Year Taskforce on Evaluation of Teaching:* It was recalled that at the end of last winter UAS decided to establish a taskforce on the evaluation of teaching. This will be discussed at the next ECS meeting.
- *On Student Workday:* Vice Chair Sergeant shared that she is part of the group working on preparing for the transition to Student Workday and progress is being made.