

VALPARAISO UNIVERSITY

General Assembly 11/09/2020

1. FORMAL CALL TO ORDER: 8:32pm
2. ROLL CALL: All present
3. GUEST SPEAKER:
 - a. Amy Atchison - Faculty Senate Response to SR004-FA20
 - i. COVID affects faculty too
 - ii. Faculty understand the struggles and are usually receptive
 - iii. Suggestions on SR004-FA2020
 - iv. Update on what Faculty Senate's SR will be
4. FORUM OF CONCERNS:
 - a. None
5. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:
 - a. Motion: Senator Foor
 - b. Second: Senator Ares
 - c. Motion passes
6. SENATORS' REPORTS:
 - a. Senator Raimondi: Report about freshmen
 - i. Have communicated that we are working on SR004, but many are worried about this semester; fear that all of our changes will be only for next semester
7. ADVISORS' REPORTS:
 - a. None
8. OFFICER REPORTS:
 - a. PRESIDENT: Kaitlyn Steinhiser
 - i. Atchison feedback
 1. Reading days: not possible unless there is an adjustment to the university academic calendar
 2. Add a preambulatory clause about how we understand that faculty are also having a difficult time right now (she asked that we also include one in the constituency report, I said no)
 3. Finals at any period of time during final exams: can't do that logistically because professors have over 90 finals to manage
 4. Will recommend that professors consider optional finals
 5. Will recommend that students have the option to take finals online
 6. Will state that 16 weeks worth of coursework cannot be covered in 13.5 weeks
 7. In the process of changing S/U for next semester but too late to do it for this semester
 - ii. Rick is working on the dashboard (we have a layout!)
 - b. VICE PRESIDENT: Ben Jacobs

- i. Student Senate will remain online until *at least* November 23rd. We will see how cases are on campus closer to the date to see what we should do. Be sure that you are still keeping all normal Senate meetings but moving them online.
 - ii. Sign the [Q2 Constituency Report](#) if you have not already done so
 - iii. Are there any Srs in the works? - looking into if Nov. 23rd is necessary
 - 1. Stay tuned about November 23rd
 - iv. Transition Documents
 - 1. Don't worry about it right now, but plan to write transition documents for committee chairs
 - c. PARLIAMENTARIAN: Danielle LeGrand
 - i. No report
 - d. SECRETARY: Paige Meczyssine
 - i. No report
 - e. PUBLIC RELATIONS COORDINATOR: Chris Grimpe
 - i. Social Media Updates
 - 1. Senior Senator highlights finished, next is Junior Senators
 - 2. Working on getting Instagram Town Halls for end of break
 - ii. Student Buzz
 - 1. Students want COVID-19 numbers
 - 2. Students are burnt out
 - 3. Personal note - Founders quarantine meals are decent, breakfast could have way more variety but it is what it is
 - f. EXECUTIVE & ASSISTANT TREASURER: Jackson Sheputis/Mark Lorenz
 - i. Stipends/Encumbrance request deadline is next Monday the 16th
9. COMMITTEE REPORTS:
 - a. EXECUTIVE: Kaitlyn Steinhiser
 - i. Rick is working on the dashboard.
 - b. FINANCE: Allison Pariso
 - i. All tier three orgs have received their finalized budgets.
 - c. ADMINISTRATION: Isis Zaki
 - i. No Report
 - d. COMMITTEE ON MEDIA: Jolie Foor
 - i. We met this past Thursday and talked to Reese Jones from VUSOC about student representation.
 - ii. We decided to create an email for all of the media organizations, so students can reach out through a singular email to let them know about upcoming events. The email just got approved by IT and it is media@valpo.edu. This is something that I am sure they want to promote so I will keep Chris up to date with that.
 - iii. The Torch just switched printers but the transition was smooth; they now print on Mondays.
 - iv. WVUR is planning on filing a cappex request for a new tieline so they can improve their quality for sporting events.
 - v. VUTV is putting everything on hold for the time being due to COVID.
 - vi. The media organizations have had no issues contacting administrators and look forward to working with Student Senate to promote any upcoming SRs.
 - e. SCREENING: Brianna Ares
 - i. Nominating an Assistant Treasurer
 - 1. Owen Doyle
 - 2. Screening voted 4-0-0
 - ii. Nominating a Sophomore Senator
 - 1. Sophia Behrens

- 2. Screening voted 4-0-0
 - iii. Senator McMillan made a motion to vote as a slate
 - 1. Senator Foor seconded
 - 2. Motion to vote as a slate passes
 - iv. Motion to vote: Senator Chenoweth
 - 1. Second: Senator Jones
 - 2. Motion to approve Owen Doyle & Sophia Behrens passes 24-0-1
 - v. Finished 3 VP interviews today
 - 1. Working on a couple more
 - 2. Hope to nominate by the 16th!
- f. COMMITTEE ON RESIDENCE: Aidan Byrnes
 - i. No report
- g. DINING SERVICES: Billy Robinson
 - i. Next semester, there will be greater options for international foods
 - ii. Food planned for Diwali event this weekend will be offered this week since event was cancelled
 - iii. Greater selection of pasta and snackable items next semester
 - iv. Dining committee will not be meeting for the remainder of the semester
- h. DIVERSITY & INCLUSION: Kendall Runnels
 - i. My committee chose to move our meeting to Nov 12th instead of the 19th because of finals
 - ii. I am going invite JT Mack, the president of NSBE, to discuss his black excellence initiative
- i. DISCRETIONARY FUNDS: Gwyneth Hoeksema
 - i. Reminder that applications for DFC are due next week Monday for this semester
- j. PRESIDENTIAL REPORT: Paige Mecsyste
 - i. Need all drafts by finals

10. NEW BUSINESS:

- a. [SR004-FA20](#)
 - i. Motion to move SR004 to old business: Senator Zaki
 - 1. Second: Senator Jones
 - 2. Motion passes
- b. [SR005- FA20](#)

11. OLD BUSINESS:

- a. SR004-FA20
 - i. Motion to discuss: Senator Raimondi
 - 1. Second: Senator Hoeksema
 - ii. Senator Zaki made a motion to vote
 - 1. Senator Bakri seconded
 - 2. Motion fails
 - iii. Senator Zaki made a motion to vote
 - 1. Senator McMillan seconded
 - 2. Motion to vote passes
 - iv. Motion to approve SR004
 - 1. Passes 24-0-0

12. FORUM OF CONCERNS:

- a. None

13. POSTMORTEM:

- a. Thanks for patience with long meeting & online format

14. ADJOURNMENT:

- a. Motion: Senator Raimondi
 - i. Second: Senator Bakri
 - ii. Meeting adjourned at 10:04pm