

VALPARAISO UNIVERSITY

General Assembly 11/16/2020

1. FORMAL CALL TO ORDER: 8:33pm
2. ROLL CALL: All present
3. OATH OF OFFICE:
 - a. Sophia Behrens - Sophomore Senator
4. FORUM OF CONCERNS:
 - a. Blake Harms & Garrett Willis- WVUR
 - i. Requesting capex
 - b. Cailee Hodges
 - i. I have a question and I guess a concern as well. With everyone going home for the holidays, still going on vacations, still going out places, cases are rising tremendously. Does the university have any talk about a remote spring semester? If they do, are we going to be getting more of a refund than last semester? It's unfair for students, especially those who live on campus, to be paying the full amount of tuition when we are not even attending in person classes or using on campus housing.
 - c. Taylor Rish
 - i. I think the price we had to pay for a parking pass was ridiculous considering half of the time classes were held via zoom, and now we aren't even meeting in person. I also thought that the refund that we got for last years parking pass (which was only \$40 when I paid \$240 for the pass) was ridiculous. We pay A LOT of money to attend the school, we should be able to park on campus for free, or at least a smaller fee.
 - d. Kaile Galka
 - i. I was wondering if there was any way for Student Senate to make a statement about finals, specifically directed at professors. My professor has given us a final that is supposed to take us 4 hours, 2 hours longer than the allotted time. This final is alongside other assignments as well. This is overwhelming and I believe that some professors have still not grasped the reality of students lives right now. I think it would be productive and influential if Student Senate released a statement about this matter. Thank you.
 - e. Gabrielle Lancaster
 - i. Mental health this semester, work load, lack of support and professor involvement, very inconsistent, work load AGAIN, grades, finals. It's all taking a toll on everyone's mental health and I haven't learned a single thing this semester.
 - f. Nolan Lebamoff
 - i. Let's get classes back to normal, no masks, normal class sizes. Let people make decisions that are best for them.
 - g. Antigone Wilson
 - i. Since the university can no longer allow commuter housing because they need the room for quarantine, something else needs to be done. In the winter sometimes it is too dangerous to drive home especially if I have to be on campus for a night lab. I live 30 miles away and the roads that take me home are easily drifted and the plowing is come and go. If we are on campus in the Spring

how can all commuters be expected to travel to campus if it means risking their safety because they were not able to stay the night on campus? I could usually also ask my friends if I could stay the night in the dorm too, but I respect the COVID-19 guidelines and that is no longer an option. Besides the winter, being able to stay on campus was nice because if I was too tired to drive home or had to be on campus early I could stay the night too. The entire campus community is exhausted and commuters have a special exhaustion because they still have to drive to in person class and home while managing their time during a condensed semester.

- h. Abby Corbett
 - i. The university penalized an extremely popular program due to its popularity. The Greek and Roman Studies program should not be discontinued. Professor Karas had made multiple requests for additional faculty to be added to the program. Yet, she was denied at every turn. Following this, the university felt that they HAD to cut the program because one professor wasn't enough to keep the program running, even though Dr. Karas had been doing so for several years and doing a very good job as well. The minor is very popular and often picked up, so it is unclear as to why the university wouldn't maintain the minor. Additionally, I am extremely disappointed that I had never received a response from our student body president after following up via email.

- 5. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:
 - a. Motion to approve: Senator Pandey
 - i. Second: Senator McMillan
 - ii. Motion passes

- 6. SENATORS' REPORTS:
 - a. None

- 7. ADVISORS' REPORTS:
 - a. Steve: Grateful for hard work; good job; rest

- 8. OFFICER REPORTS:
 - a. PRESIDENT: Kaitlyn Steinhiser
 - i. I replied to Abby
 - ii. Will only call a special session in an emergency
 - iii. Will only ask Executive Board to meet if something needs to be on the agenda immediately for next semester
 - iv. Won't be on my president email much over break, maybe twice a week
 - b. VICE PRESIDENT: Ben Jacobs
 - i. This is the last meeting of the semester, and my last meeting :(
 - ii. Senate work should continue to be online for the remainder of the semester
 - iii. CCPC Meeting November 4th update
 - iv. The Constituency Report was sent out on Wednesday
 - v. I left some of my parting suggestions for next semester up on the white board in the Senate office - please take a look (when we are back in person).
 - vi. I will be meeting with the new VP this week to transition
 - vii. Continue working hard, I am so proud of all of you!
 - 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. Sophomore Senators this week are being highlighted
2. Freshman Senators will be highlighted next week
3. Insta Live at the end of the break
- ii. Committee Work Updates
 1. I sent an email to all the committees chairs about communication improvements
- iii. Student Buzz
 1. Counseling Center email was insensitive and not helpful
- f. EXECUTIVE & ASSISTANT TREASURER: Jackson Sheputis/Mark Lorenz
 - i. Farewell speech from Treasurer Sheptuis

9. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- a. EXECUTIVE: Kaitlyn Steinhiser
 - i. No report
- b. FINANCE: Allison Pariso
 - i. WVUR Capex (\$4526)
 1. Finance voted 5-0-0
 2. Senator Zaki made a motion to vote
 - a. Senator Foor seconded
 - b. Motion to vote passes
 3. Motion to pass WVUR Capex proposal passes 27-0-0
- c. ADMINISTRATION: Isis Zaki
 - i. No report
- d. COMMITTEE ON MEDIA: Jolie Foor
 - i. The consolidated Valpo media email was created! (media@valpo.edu)
- e. SCREENING: Brianna Ares
 - i. Nominating a Vice President: Jolie Foor
 1. Screening voted 5-0-0
 2. Motion to vote: Senator McMillan
 - a. Second: Senator Zaki
 - b. L
 3. Motion to approve Senator Foor as VP passes 26-0-1
- f. COMMITTEE ON RESIDENCE: Aidan Byrnes
 - i. No report
- g. DINING SERVICES: Billy Robinson
 - i. No report
- h. DIVERSITY & INCLUSION: Kendall Runnels
 - i. JT Mack Black Initiative
 1. Annual showcase/support of Black students
 - ii. No filter panel
 1. Honest/open panel & discussion
 - iii. Engagement over break
- i. DISCRETIONARY FUNDS: Gwyneth Hoeksema
 - i. No Report
- j. PRESIDENTIAL REPORT: Paige Mecyssine
 - i. Edited the drafts that I have; about 10 pages single-spaced right now, waiting on 3 more paragraphs, then introductions/conclusion

10. NEW BUSINESS:

- a. [BP001-FA20](#)
 - i. Senator Zaki made a motion to move BP001 to old business
 1. Senator Bakri seconded
 2. Motion passes

11. OLD BUSINESS:

- a. [SR005-FA20](#)
 - i. Motion to vote: Senator Zaki
 - 1. Second: Senator Jones
 - 2. Motion to vote passes
 - ii. Motion to approve SR005-FA20 passes 25-2-0
- b. [BP001-FA20](#)
 - i. Motion to vote: Senator Zaki
 - 1. Second: Senator Foor
 - 2. Motion to vote passes
 - ii. Motion to approve BP001-FA20 passes 27-0-0

12. OATH OF OFFICE:

- a. Owen Doyle - Assistant Treasurer
- b. Mark Lorenz - Executive Treasurer
- c. Jolie Foor - Vice President

13. FORUM OF CONCERNS:

- a. None

14. POSTMORTEM:

- a. Have a great break!

15. ADJOURNMENT:

- a. Motion: Senator McMillan
 - i. Second: Senator Bocangel
- b. Meeting adjourned at 9:22pm