

VALPARAISO UNIVERSITY

General Assembly 02/01/2021

1. FORMAL CALL TO ORDER: 8:31pm
2. ROLL CALL:
 - a. Excused: Parliamentarian LeGrand
 - b. Unexcused: Dylan Bogucki
3. FORUM OF CONCERNS:
 - a. Isabella Dietrich
 - i. Can IT please go back to letting us add money to our PaperCut accounts? Especially with it being an online semester, all notes and lectures online, handouts being posted online, I don't understand why they don't allow us to add our own funds to the printing account. (Any other time, I understand - but it's pretty much an entirely ONLINE semester). Thank you!
 - b. Christopher Rasmussen
 - i. Lately there has been discussion relating to the future of the "Crusader" mascot. Designing, marketing, and rebranding a new mascot could be an expensive project. Given the current financial strain brought on by the construction of the science village, loss of the law school, and the pandemic I feel this is not the right time to change the mascot. Last November the university announced the closure of the Theater department and the reduction of program offerings in the Education and World cultures departments. We as a university must consider how to use our economic resources for the betterment of academics at valpo to ensure a truly diverse educational environment.
 - c. Grace Hoffman
 - i. Reached out about Crusader Club Basketball to get approval to continue, NEVER heard back from anybody. Would like an update on this matter :)
 - d. Emily Friedman
 - i. Valpo should open the professor offices and cafe in the law school to be used as study spaces. Also use the nice furniture hidden in the basement on campus
4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:
 - a. Motion: Senator McMillan
 - b. Second: Senator Pariso
5. GUEST SPEAKER
 - a. Professor Atchison
 - i. S/U policy
 - ii. 1 per semester, cannot take if class is in your major, deadline was today for 1st 7 weeks, deadline in a few weeks for full semester classes
 - iii. Talked with registrar: want to see if students want it brought up in Faculty Senate
 1. Unsure how Medical/graduate schools who are not okay with S/Us on transcripts
 2. Students are not getting the extra help they might need if they barely scrape by with an S
 - a. Puts vulnerable students in more vulnerable places

- 3. Some classes need to take a pre-req; if they take it S/U, it prevents them from registering
 - iv. Willing to go to faculty senate with a proposal, but not if students aren't okay with it
 - v. Do we want S/U extension?
 - 1. Majority voted yes to bring to faculty senate for discussion
- 6. SENATORS' REPORTS:
 - a. None
- 7. ADVISORS' REPORTS:
 - a. Steve Janowiak: Welcome back
- 8. OFFICER REPORTS:
 - a. PRESIDENT: Kaitlyn Steinhiser
 - i. Quick overview of the legislative process
 - 1. Need to come ready to discuss; do not draft amendments during the senate meeting. Come prepared with comments, motions, and amendments
 - 2. Robert's Rules
 - ii. Jolie and I met with President-Elect Padilla. He will be attending Student Senate GA meetings once a semester and meeting with the SBP and VP monthly. We are inviting him to an executive board meeting to go over the presidential report. 3 most important points we stressed to President Padilla:
 - 1. 1. Hire administrators that align with valpo's mission & values
 - 2. 2. Make sure buildings are ADA accessible
 - 3. 3. Racial & Social Justice
 - iii. Please do not post pictures of yourselves not following the COVID-19 guidelines.
 - iv. Underclassmen: time to think about your next steps in Student Senate.
 - b. VICE PRESIDENT: Jolie Foor
 - i. Welcome back
 - ii. Met with President-Elect Padilla; look forward to meeting with him throughout the semester
 - iii. In the process of looking for new Senators for some seats to fill
 - 1. 2 Junior Senators, CoB senator, At-Large Transfer senator
 - c. PARLIAMENTARIAN: Danielle LeGrand
 - i. No report
 - d. SECRETARY: Paige Meczyssine
 - i. I have a 6:30-9:00pm class on Mondays, so I may be late to meetings :(
 - ii. Asked Screening Committee to try and find an Executive Aide to assist with taking minutes if I have to be late to meetings, and to transition into the Secretary position next year
 - e. PUBLIC RELATIONS COORDINATOR: Chris Grimpe
 - i. Social Media Updates
 - 1. Instagram Town Halls went great!
 - ii. Committee Work Updates
 - 1. Dining Services Monthly Statements
 - iii. Internal Updates
 - 1. Starting Guidebook updates - Senator Bakri and Senator McMillan will be helping me, first meeting is this Tuesday
 - 2. Found out how to livestream to YouTube (finally!!)
 - iv. Student Buzz
 - 1. Mixed opinions about possible mascot change

- 2. Professors not respecting students who want to attend via Zoom (sounds like students must contact the registrar's office to get exemption)
 - f. EXECUTIVE & ASSISTANT TREASURER: Mark Lorenz/Owen Doyle
 - i. No report
9. COMMITTEE REPORTS:
- a. EXECUTIVE: Kaitlyn Steinhiser
 - i. Mondays 4-5pm
 - ii. Send any legislation ahead of time for discussion
 - b. FINANCE: Allison Pariso
 - i. Budget due dates: (orgs will get an email from me with these dates) I will be accepting late budgets if I am made aware of the issue before the due date. Only orgs that have been re-recognized will have their budgets considered.
 - 1. Tier 3: March 3rd (Present: March 15th, Vote March 22nd)
 - 2. Tier 2: March 10th (Present March 22nd, Vote March 29th)
 - 3. Tier 1: March 10th (Present March 29th, Vote April 12 due to Easter break)
 - ii. Orgs can email senate finance with questions
 - c. ADMINISTRATION: Isis Zaki
 - i. Re-rec will be conducted from 2/14-2/28
 - d. COMMITTEE ON MEDIA: N/A
 - e. SCREENING: N/A
 - f. COMMITTEE ON RESIDENCE: Aidan Byrnes
 - i. No Report
 - g. DINING SERVICES: Billy Robinson
 - i. No Report
 - h. DIVERSITY & INCLUSION: N/A
 - i. DISCRETIONARY FUNDS: Gwyneth Hoeksema
 - i. No Report
 - j. PRESIDENTIAL REPORT: Paige Mecyssine
 - i. Report is DONE! Waiting on the OK to send it to the President.
 - ii. If you want to see it:
 - https://docs.google.com/document/d/1DOzn8iSP27OK_2VXDuDjCOqVccH3TVBZybdDOiz8GPE/edit?usp=sharing
10. NEW BUSINESS: None
11. OLD BUSINESS: None
12. FORUM OF CONCERNS: None
13. POSTMORTEM:
- a. Waiting to meet in-person until it's safe
 - b. Email VP Foor or President Steinhiser with questions/comments/concerns
14. ADJOURNMENT:
- a. Motion: Senator Pandey
 - b. Second: Senator McMillan
 - c. Meeting adjourned at 9:16pm