

VALPARAISO UNIVERSITY

General Assembly 2/6/2022

1. CALL TO ORDER: 8:35
2. OATH OF OFFICE:
 - a. Nour Alhajjeh
3. ROLL CALL:
 - a. Present: 21
 - b. Excused: 2
 - c. Unexcused: 0
4. SENATORS' REPORTS:
 - a. Safety concerns within the Union - Jacob Mack (someone who stayed overnight in the union, not part of VU)
 - i. The individual was escorted from the building and given a no-trespass order
 - ii. VUPD gave them some resources for shelters if needed
 - b. Someone did not see the one-way signs by Lank and Shield and got pulled over
 - c. Is there a way to request that Google maps update which streets are one-way?
 - i. Will mention to parking administration
5. OFFICER REPORTS:
 - a. PRESIDENT: Sophia Behrens
 - i. Graduation cords! Pick up after meeting or in senate office
 - ii. Please chat with me after the meeting if you would like to be on the University Council or Educational Policy Committee :)
 - b. VICE PRESIDENT: Lucas Lennen
 - i. Plans to merge DEI with Student Experience
 1. DEI's main purpose has been to meet with OMP orgs, and putting an extra meeting on those orgs has not been preferable for them. DEI concerns are student concerns, so this is a good fit.
 - ii. Looking into improvements for [Bylaws](#)
 1. Please look over the bylaws and comment any ideas or changes you may recommend, as well as any suggestions
 2. Feel comfortable in your position as a senator and make your suggestions
 - c. SECRETARY: Hannah Williamson
 - i. [Office hours schedule](#)
 - ii. Committee attendance
 - iii. Excused/Unexcused absences
 - d. PUBLIC RELATIONS COORDINATOR:
 - e. EXECUTIVE TREASURER: Allison Plachta
 - i. So far budgeting is going well. New treasurers have been trained and we are continuing to get budget requests in presence. Operations and I are ready to start going through requests as soon as the March 3rd deadline passes.
6. COMMITTEE REPORTS:
 - a. EXECUTIVE: Sophia Behrens

- i. Bylaws - we are making some big changes, we want to hear from senators about proposed changes
 - ii. Addition of requirement to sit on a university council or committee and attend one meeting of an org (that you aren't a member of) every semester instead of having office hours
 - iii. E-board will cover the senate office time
 - iv. Senate office will still be a place open for senators' use
 - v. Katelynne - likes the idea
 - vi. Alex - will we lose our senate office space if we change our office hours? Not likely in the near future - Student Union is meant to be student centric and our staff will fight for us to have that space
 - vii. We have historically had trouble finding students to serve on university committees and councils - this change will make students (senators) who care about representing students the representatives on these boards
 - viii. Is the campus judicial board different from the conduct board? Yes
 - ix. Changes go into effect in the next academic year
 - b. OPERATIONS: Aidan Walton
 - i. Operations voted 5-0-0 to approve Inklisch for recognition last week.
 - 1. Operations also voted 5-0-0 to make an exception to give Inklisch \$1000 instead of the usual \$500 they would receive for being recognized in the 2nd semester. We chose to do this because Inklisch should have been approved last semester, but simply slipped through the cracks.
 - 2. Mistakes were made, and they ended up in limbo at the end of the year instead of being recognized during the first semester
 - c. STUDENT EXPERIENCE: Meshach Melton
 - i. Dining Commission will meet with Parkhurst next Wednesday
 - ii. Campus Safety and Parking Commission meeting next Friday
 - d. DIVERSITY & INCLUSION: Riley Sedlar
 - i. BSO BHM Please try to attend at least one event
 - ii. Wear your senate shirt and take a picture
 - 1. Remember to send your pictures from org events to Senate Secretary, so we can post them
 - e. ELECTIONS & OUTREACH: Makenzie Ward
 - i. Spring Elections Timeline
 - 1. 3/22= Required Informational Meeting
 - 2. 3/22-4/3 = Signatures Collected, Petitions Signed
 - 3. 4/3= Election Day
 - 4. Swearing-in at final meeting at the beginning of May
 - ii. Retention Meetings
 - 1. If you are not a senior, my committee will be going to the different committee meetings on Monday in order to conduct brief retention meetings. These are conducted to see if you will be re-running for Senate, if you think anything needs to be changed, and what you have liked this/ last semester.
 - iii. Voting in New Business
 - 1. PRC (blind vote)
 - 2. Second Year Senator
7. NEW BUSINESS:
- [PRC Manju Varaivan](#)
 - [PRC Megan Wing](#)
 - [PRC Aixa Sanchez](#)

- Committee approved candidacy 2-0-0 for all candidates
 - Motion to vote Makenzie, second Riley Sedlar
 - Aixa Sanchez wins 8/7/1
 - [Second Year Senator](#)
 - Committee voted 2-0-0
 - Motion to vote caleb second Makenzie
 - Approved 17/0/0
 - Recognition of Inklisk
 - Committee voted 5-0-0
 - Approved 17/0/0
8. OLD BUSINESS:
9. PUBLIC COMMENT:
10. ADVISORS' REPORTS:
- a. myValpo Engagement Data from Fall 2022
 - i. [Fall 2022 Engagement Data](#)
 - ii. myValpo tracks attendance via scanning OneCards at events - this data comes from that tracking
 - iii. 2,356 students on campus , of those 238 did not check in at any events
 - iv. Of those who did not check in, 95% are commuting students
 - v. The majority of those who didn't attend events are seniors
 - vi. Nursing students were also a large percentage of students who didn't check into events - College of Nursing hasn't been using myValpo check-in system
 - vii. 629 tracked events in the fall, 63 orgs, 23, 017 check-ins - more check-ins during fall of 2022 than fall 2021
 - viii. MyValpo builds a transcript of student involvement on campus, this can be used for building resume, this will be in co-curricular transcript - working on a report of verified involvement - this will include being in student senate, FSL, honoraries, and so on - this can be used in a similar way to an academic transcript
 - b. Ryan - Quality of Life survey - included commuter students this year - will be launching campus wellbeing survey this week - we will want feedback on a variety of issues, including the wellness center and mental health services
 - i. Please fill this survey out and encourage others to do so, as well!
11. QUICK ANNOUNCEMENTS
- a. Commuter rooms available with CC if the weather gets too bad
 - b. BSO dinner (26th at 5pm)
 - i. Count of senators interested in attending: 8-9
12. ADJOURNMENT: 9:27

Approval for exec

Approved - Allison Plachta - Executive Treasurer

Approved- Aidan Walton - Operations Chair

Approved - Meshach Melton - Student Experience Chair
Approved - Hannah Williamson - Executive Secretary