I. CALL TO ORDER - Parliamentarian – Stephanie Goodman

II. ROLL CALL

III. PROCEDURAL ITEMS

a. Consent Items

i. Approve Current Agenda

   Motion to Approve Current Agenda.
   Resolution: Motion Approved

ii. Approve Previous Minutes

   Motion to Approve Previous Minutes
   Resolution: Motion Approved

b. President’s Update - Mr. Damon Chambers

   Mr. Chambers held a moment of silence for the Kalamazoo shootings.
   Resources are available for all students who are having trouble
   processing this trying time. Recently a search committee has been held for
   the new incoming E-board members and Vice President. The Results of
   Search Committee recommended Amaury Pineda for a second term as the
   Vice President. Students will now hear from Amaury as to why he should
   continue his role in office.

c. Amaury Pineda- Current Vice President

   With Amaury’s first appointment in 2014 he pledge to instate a
   Certification Grant. This grant has been accomplished and at least 5
   students with a possible $300 each have been rewarded. We have been
   able to provide more grants to more RSOs than ever before. With my new
term we are planning to save a new Participatory Budget spot on the GSA budget that can be utilized by at the request of the students. Therefore, students will be able to apply a unit of money for something students feel will be useful for all the departments around campus, an example of this might be designated charging stations for electronic devices. We also want to create a GFAC informational video to make the organization more accessible to the student body.

**Open Questions**

1) *How will the Participatory budget be decided?*

   A: Different students and organizations will develop ideas for what they might want to use the participatory budget on then every organization will have one vote towards the use of the participatory budget.

*Why are you seeking a second term?*

   A: When I came in as public relations chair, the organization was smaller but back in my country we don’t have opportunities like this. I wanted to be a part of providing funding opportunities to other students. Now, with my second term, I want to extend this and make it more inclusive. When I present the budget in the beginning of the year I feel like students don’t really know where that money is going and this often leads to political apathy. I would like that to be something that changes in the next couple of years.

No further questions asked

Amaury leaves room and Damon takes the floor

**Damon:** Now we will have questions, discuss, and vote to whether the GSA approves the board’s decision.

**Open Questions**

1) *Was Amaury the only applicant?*
A: No there where 4 applicants, 1 was disqualified because of incomplete application, 3 were interviewed and the search committee has recommended their choice.

2) What happens if he is not approved?
   A: We would go back to the drawing board until we approve a candidate. Likely our next steps would be to go back and present our second choice for candidacy.

3) Will the other applicants present?
   A: No, the purpose of the search committee is to oversee the applicants and make a recommendation.

No further questions asked.

Motion to Accept Amuary Pineda as new Vice President
Resolution: Motion Approved

d. Title IX Presentation - Ms. Felicia Crawford, Director of Title IX

e. E-board Stipend Resolution – George Lluberes
   Policy to readjust stipends for E-board members.
   Motion to Approve E-board member stipend change
   Resolution: 23 For, 0 Opposed, 4 Abstained; Motion Approved

f. WSA Sustainable Earth Resolution
   A sustainability grant is being written to plant more trees on Western University Campus. WSA has already approved. In order to continue GSA must approve because sustainability fees are paid by both WSA and GSA.
   Motion to Approve
   Resolution: 31 For, 1 Opposed, 1 Abstention, Motion Approved

IV GRADUATE STUDENTS CONCERNS – OPEN FLOOR
Concerned Student – Where can incoming Graduate Students find information about applying to graduate school?

Dean Stapleton answers – In the fall there are a series of festivals and presentations with information for incoming graduate school applicants, additional information can be found on the Western Michigan University website. Additionally, either Tony Dennis or Dean Stapleton can personally be contacted for more information.

Concerned Student – I still do not receive GSA emails, how can I get on the Email list.

Damon Chambers answers – Please see us at the end of the meeting, any students concerned that they are not receiving emails can contact the GSA by email and we will work towards getting you added.

V. DEAN OF THE GRADUATE COLLEGE UPDATE – Dr. Susan Stapleton

We are very concerned with safety. We are here to ensure a safe environment, if you have any concerns please let us know. We also want to provide resources for student mental health and suicide prevention. Health and safety resources will be posted on the Graduate College webpage. There has also been a civility committee formed to provide safe and cohesive work environments for all student, faculty, and staff interactions. Graduate Students Housing is now up and going! And apartments are be held into May for incoming students and late acceptance.

VI. EVENTS – Michael Bobbit

Upcoming End of year Make a Difference Award Celebration will be Friday, April 15th at the Radisson Hotel. If you would like to nominate a student or organization for the Make a Difference Award please do! Nomination are due March 18th. More information available at the GSA website

VII. ICEBREAKER ACTIVITY
VIII. ADJOURNMENT 4:40PM