

**BOARD OF REGENTS**  
EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

SECTION: 15
DATE: October 14, 2021

**RECOMMENDATION**

**STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE: APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES**

**ACTION REQUESTED**

It is recommended that the Student Affairs Committee Agenda for October 14, 2021 and the Minutes of April 22, 2021 be received and placed on file.

**STAFF SUMMARY**

The October 14, 2021 agenda includes a Student Affairs: Innovation, Collaboration and Change Management During COVID-19 presentation, and a Student Government 2021-22 Priorities presentation.

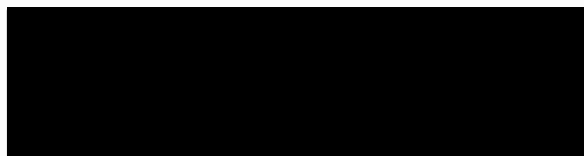
In addition, several announcements will be made.

**FISCAL IMPLICATIONS**

None.

**ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATION**

The proposed Board action has been reviewed and is recommended for Board approval.



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**University Executive Officer**  
**Rhonda Longworth, Ph.D.**

September 27, 2021

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

**EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY**  
**Board of Regents**  
**Student Affairs Committee**

October 14, 2021  
10:00 a.m.  
AGENDA

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. Approval of Agenda and April 22, 2021 minutes                                    | Regent Beagen                               |
| 2. Student Affairs: Innovation, Collaboration and Change Management During COVID-19 | Chris Finch, Ellen Gold,<br>Lisa Lauterbach |
| 3. Student Government 2021-22 Priorities  | Auryon Azar & Luis Romero                   |
| 4. Announcements  |   |

Eastern Michigan University  
Board of Regents  
**Student Affairs Committee**  
**Virtual meeting**  
Minutes of April 22, 2021

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Regents: Dennis Beagen, Nathan Ford

Administration: Steven Bryant, Dean Ellen Gold, Lucas Langdon, Provost Rhonda Longworth

Students: Najd Al-Jarba, Auryon Azar, Aria Ottenbreit

**GUESTS**

Administration: Sadaf Ali, Anika Awai-Williams, James Carroll, Regent Michelle Crumm, Suzanne Gray, Regent Mike Hawks, LaMarcus Howard, Rocky Jenkins, Regent Jessie Kimbrough, Bre McKamie, Regent Chad Newton, Brian Pappas, Sue Proctor, Joi Rencher, Vicki Reaume, Regent Alex Simpson, President James Smith, Elise Sturdivant, Paul Vuocolo, Ron Woody, Jeanette Zalba

Regent Beagen called the meeting to order at 11:17 am. The agenda for the April 22, 2021 meeting, and the minutes from the meeting held on February 18, 2021, were approved.

Regent Beagen introduced Dean Ellen Gold. Dean Gold introduced Auryon Azar, Student Government Vice President.

**Student Government End-of-Year Presentation**

Auryon Azar, Student Government Vice President, shared the Student Government presentation. Student Government elections were held on March 24-25, 2021. There were 20 candidates for the 17 Senator seats. The 2021-22 Student Government Executive Board will be hired early this summer.

Student Government accomplished several things this academic year. They held a three part Financial Wellness Series, covering budgeting and saving, credit cards and credit scores, and student loans. They lobbied for a pass/fail option for the Winter 2021 semester. They passed Resolution 107-6, urging LAZ Parking/ParkEMU to create a process to notify students digitally when a parking citation has been issued. A political activism event to discuss how to protest nonviolently, and write to elected officials was held. Student Government members met with Congresswoman Debbie Dingell to discuss student and community issues.

Student Government generously provided funds to Halle Library, the Student Emergency Fund, and free bus passes for EMU students during the 2020-21 academic year.

The 108<sup>th</sup> Senate has many plans, including programs to address food insecurity, continued support for the Student Emergency Fund, supporting Senators in their pursuits and passions, increasing Student Government involvement on and off campus, and involving Student Government in current and future university plans related to improving housing, academics, and student support.

Regent Beagen asked Auryon if there had been any progress on the request that LAZ Parking notify students digitally when a citation was issued. Auryon replied that the resolution recently was passed, and initiators were planning to reach out to LAZ Parking with this request. Provost Longworth stated that this issue should be discussed with the leadership group and LAZ Parking. There are apps that can be used to notify a student when a ticket has been received. Regent Beagen hopes that we can keep some focus on this issue.

Regent Beagen commended Student Government for their very active support of the Student Emergency Fund. This fund has made a huge difference for many students. Provost Longworth agrees that the need is great, and they are working on setting up an endowment.

Dean Gold said that given the year that we have had, Luis Romero and Colton Ray did a great job staying connected to us and to students. Moving forward, the items presented today are a good combination of low hanging fruit and long term goals.

### **BELONGING by design – Equity, Diversity, Inclusion & Belonging Presentation**

Dean Gold introduced the team that worked to compile the presentation. Presenters are Anika Awai-Williams, Steven Bryant, LaMarcus Howard, Bre McKamie, Joi Rencher and Elise Sturdivant.

Steven Bryant, Director of Diversity and Community Involvement, gave an overview about what would be shared during the presentation. He took a few moments to acknowledge the fact that Eastern Michigan University is on land that is the original homeland of the Odawa, Ojibwe, Potawatomi and Wyandot tribal nations.

Steven stated that belonging is the feeling of security and support when there is a sense of acceptance, inclusion and identity. Creating belonging is intentional and is based on research practices and principles. Equity, diversity and inclusion result in belonging when done correctly. Many programs on Eastern Michigan University's campus are designed to provide access and success, diversity and inclusion and institutional/civil rights for all students.

Elise Sturdivant, Director of Academic Success Partnerships, shared information about Academic Success Partnerships, which includes the Brotherhood & Sisterhood Scholars, KCP MICUP-BEAT, GEAR-UP and KCP College Day and MAGIC. There is a wide range of diversity involved in the programs. The Mentorship, Access and Guidance program has had to shift the way they interact with students since the COVID-19 pandemic began. They utilized creative ways to meet and support students. Porch drops of food and text books, weekly mental health check-ins, and mailed greeting cards were some of the things that were done to maintain a connection with students. 100% of MAGIC students are housing secure. Elise thanked Regent Crumm for her support of the MAGIC program.

The Brotherhood and Sisterhood Scholars had a 92% retention rate for the winter semester, as well as a 77% retention rate from fall to fall. 35% of Brotherhood/Sisterhood scholars had a GPA higher than 3.0. Staff is looking forward to celebrating with 15 graduates this month.

Anika Awai-Williams, Coordinator of the Title IX Office, outlined the work done by her office. EMU's Title IX Office oversees Title IX requirements for all students, employees and faculty. Anika works closely with campus and community partners to oversee and administer the institution's efforts to comply with and carry out its responsibilities under Title IX. This office conducts investigations, administers supports, and develops and implements training and campus outreach programs, policies, procedures and practices which are designed to comply with federal and state law under Title IX. We want the members of our community to feel safe, thrive and succeed.

The Title IX staff engaged in this work must be properly trained. Anika is currently working with administration to increase staff in the Title IX Office in order to address compliance and meet the needs of students, staff and faculty.

LaMarcus Howard, Director of the Disability Resource Center (DRC), shared information about the services provided by the office he oversees. Disabilities are an integral part of our campus and society. During the four years he has held this position, they have had many staff changes in the office, but he is happy to state that the office is now fully staffed. He welcomed Stephanie Peck and Heather Speer, both EMU graduates, and recognized Jenny Clark for 30 years of service to EMU. He also congratulated Jenny for being named one of the three recipients of the Women's Resource Center annual award.

LaMarcus stated that at any point in our lives, we can become disabled. The COVID-19 pandemic has had a profound effect on everyone, and the Disability Resource Center has seen an increase in students requesting services. Approximately 800 students are registered with the Disability Resource Center. Disability is a fundamental facet of human diversity. The Disability Resource Center plans to continue to engage in collaborations, outreach, training and meaningful conversations.

Steven Bryant, Director of Diversity and Community Involvement (DCI), shared details about the DCI Office and staff. The mission of DCI is to support and empower minoritized students, provide intentional learning experiences, and challenge systems and structures that perpetuate inequities. DCI's staff includes Steven; Bre McKamie, Coordinator of the Center of Race & Ethnicity (CORE); Amy Finkenbine, Coordinator of the LGBT Resource Center; and Joi Rencher, Coordinator of the Women's Resource Center (WRC). The Center of Race and Ethnicity represents 33% of student body, the LGBT Resource Center represents 25% of student body, and the Women's Resource Center represents 62% of the student body. The DCI staff works with these groups of students.

Bre McKamie and Joi Rencher shared information about the 4<sup>th</sup> annual Women of Color Feminism and Leadership Symposium, which was held on March 16-17, 2021. This symposium was a collaboration of the Sisterhood Scholars Program, the Women's Resource Center, the Women's and Gender Studies Department and the Center of Race and Ethnicity. Speakers included Tarana Burke, Dr. Christina Castro, and Dr. Mariel Buque. Panelists were Yodit Mesfin, Trische Duckworth and Yvonne Naverrete.

210 people attended the two day event. Guests were mainly from the community, and the majority identified as black women, 21-24 years old.

Steven Bryant closed the presentation and asked if there were any questions.

Regent Crumm asked where someone can obtain information if they would like to donate money to these programs. Steve suggested the Foundation's website.

Regent Ford stated that he knows that everything that we are doing is critical, relevant and vital, especially now. The pandemic was a good testament that these wrap around services are important. He told staff to keep up the great work.

Provost Longworth added that we are working to organize and present data that shows students who are involved are significantly more likely to stay in school and graduate. She endorses this work.

Dean Gold stated that creating the sense of belonging is a priority. She asked Elise to share what qualifies a student for the MAGIC Program or the Brotherhood/Sisterhood. Elise replied that MAGIC is a program for youth who are considered in transition (foster care) by the state of Michigan. The program is funded and supported by a grant from the state of Michigan. The Brotherhood/Sisterhood is a program for first year students of color. These students live together, take a course together, and engage in other activities. She encouraged people to visit the website for details about the programs.

Regent Ford applauds the Brotherhood/Sisterhood and asked about retention rates for the program. Elise replied that they have a 77% second year retention rate. Overall, the retention rate is 92%.

Regent Ford asked if participation has increased over the last three years. Elise replied that it has. Student GPA has also increased. She offered to provide this information to him.

Regent Ford asked LaMarcus about the population covered by the DRC. LaMarcus replied that anyone who has a disability can access services of the DRC, they have students from all populations. Provost Longworth added that LaMarcus has helped them think through how faculty and staff members can better address the needs of students.

Regent Beagen confirmed that the number of students registered with the DRC is 800. LaMarcus said that is true, and the number is climbing. They are working on obtaining software that will track the services in the DRC. Many students are registering due to mental disabilities. We must also think about post-pandemic trauma. He thanked faculty and staff for their patience with the DRC.

Regent Beagen said that he is curious about the growth of registration in the DRC year over year. LaMarcus replied that his goal is to work with IRIM to do data management.

Regent Beagen thanked all of the presenters. Dr. Steven Bryant was complimented by President Smith. Dean Gold thanked the Student Leader Group members for their involvement this past year. Regent Beagen thanked the students, as well.

The meeting adjourned at 12:04pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Michele Rich  
Student Affairs Committee Recording Secretary



EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

# Student Affairs: Innovation, Collaboration & Change during COVID-19

## Overview



- Student Affairs
- Department Spotlights
  - Counseling & Psychological Services (CAPS)
  - The Children's Institute
- Closing/Q&A

## Student Affairs

### Mission

- To empower students to achieve their educational and personal potential through intentional, student-centered programs and services. We prepare students to live, learn, work and serve in a global community.

### Vision

- To be a model of innovative and effective approaches to student success and engagement

### Values

- Holistic approach to wellness, student voices and leadership, student learning, diversity & inclusion, fiscal responsibility, and innovation

## Division of Academic & Student Affairs

- Student Affairs Departments/Offices (Led by Ellen Gold, Interim Senior Associate Vice President of Student Affairs and Dean of Students):
  - Campus Dining (Liaison)
  - Campus Life (Activities & Engagement; Fraternity & Sorority Life; Orientation & Transfer Programs; Student Organizations)
  - Children's Institute
  - Conference & Event Services
  - Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS)
  - Dean of Student's Office (Health & Wellbeing)
  - Diversity and Community Involvement (DCI) (Center of Race & Ethnicity; LGBT Resource Center; VISION Volunteer Center; Women's Resource Center)
  - Housing and Residence Life (HRL)
  - Office for International Students and Scholars (OISS)
  - Office of Wellness and Community Responsibility (OWCR)
  - Recreation/Intramurals (Rec/IM)
  - The Student Center
  - Title IX Office (T9)



## Student Affairs during COVID

- Student Engagement
- Programming
- Services
- Communication
- Sense of Belonging



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## Moving Forward in Student Affairs

- What we learned and are learning from COVID
- How we are transitioning and resetting
- What we are hearing from students; current trends and potential future trends



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## **Counseling & Psychological Services**

Lisa Lauterbach, Ph.D.  
Director

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### **Initial Transition to Telehealth**

- Phone consultations with all current clients
  - Provided ways to access routine and crisis support
  - Kept them informed about efforts to establish telehealth
  - Sent emotional wellbeing information and posted on social media
- Supervisory backup for unlicensed clinicians

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## Primary Challenges during COVID

- Technology: need for secure ways of sharing/sending confidential information
- Licensure: helping students both in and out of state

## Out of State Students

- We are licensed to practice in Michigan
- Temporary licenses to practice out of state
- Offered referral assistance and after-hours services to out of state students Sept 1, 2020

## Secure Provision of Services

- HIPAA (Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act)
- Secure telehealth platform to use – Zoom for Healthcare

## Secure Sharing of Client Information

- Client intake paperwork
- Sending client information electronically (ZendTo)
  - Didn't have encrypted email confidential material
  - Clinicians did not have fax machines at home

## Fall 2021

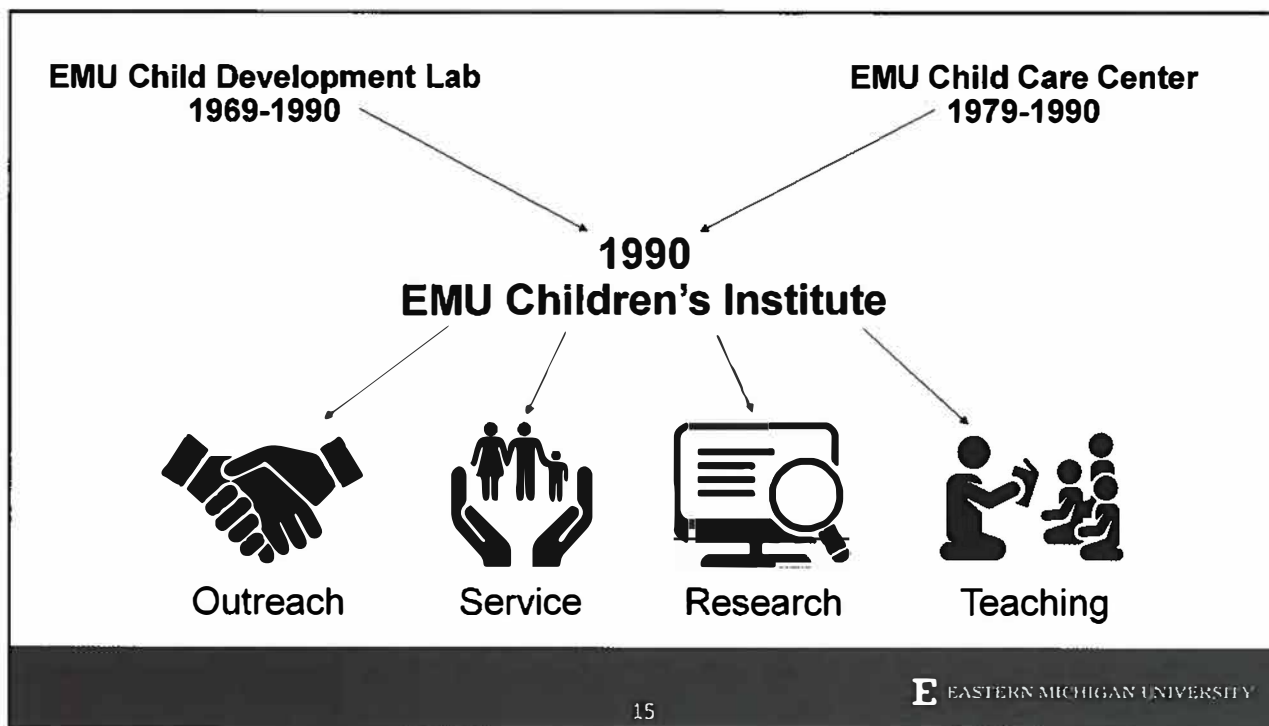
- Hybrid mode: in-person and telehealth
- Keeping the online portal for intake paperwork
- Keeping online billing for psychiatry
- Encrypted email!



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## The Children's Institute

Chris Finch  
Director



## The Children's Institute

Our mission is to provide a high quality early childhood education program for children, as well as provide a high quality education opportunity for EMU students.

## The Children's Institute

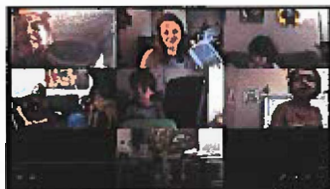
- Licensed for 120 children, ages 18 months to 6 years of age
- Provide Early Childhood Services to an average of 165 families annually
- Provides an average of 400 EMU students a year with practicum placements, internships, and opportunities to observe, assess, and volunteer with the children in our program.

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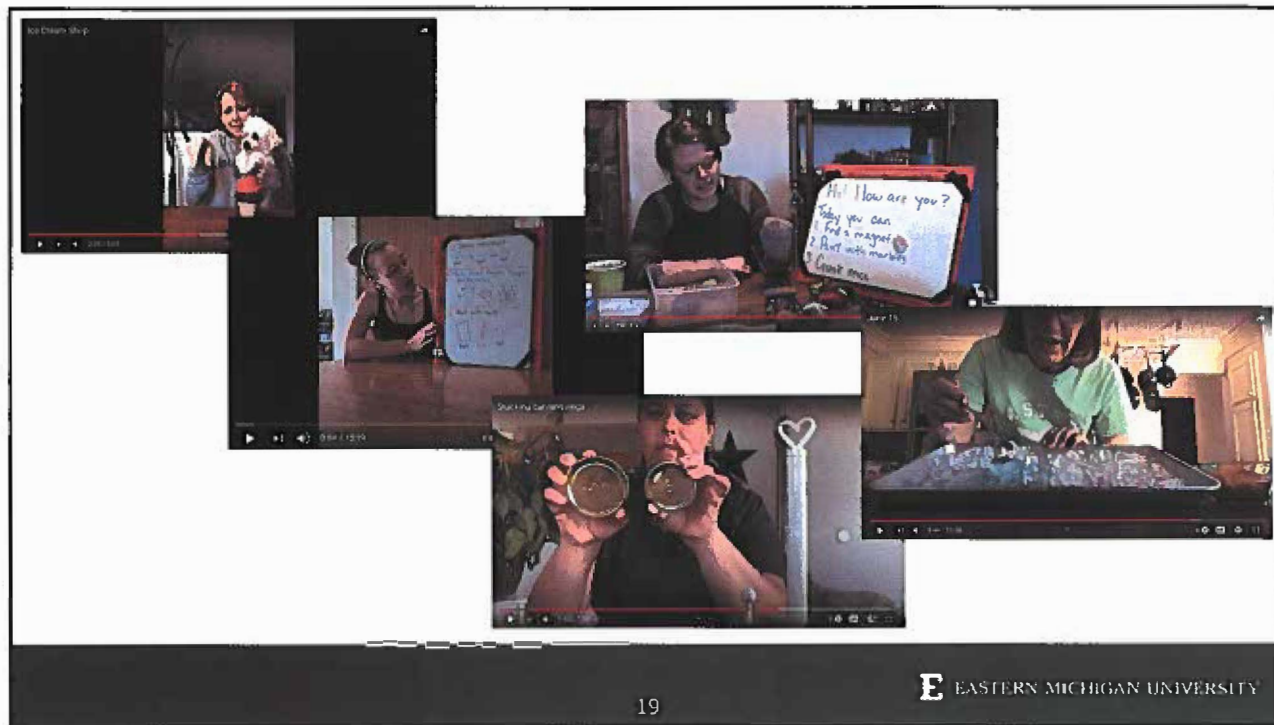
## On March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2020 the Children's Institute moved to virtual programming.

We:

- Mailed weekly activities to families
- Provided meal pick-up to families
- Provided daily Zoom group times, YouTube group times and activities, as well as individual Zoom sessions



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## **Pandemic grants became available to support programming and families.**

- We secured:
- Child Care Relief Grant
  - \$48,500 for programming
  - \$59,000 for families to assist with the cost of care during the pandemic
- Classroom Heroes Grant
  - \$2,000

## **Transitioned to in-person programming on July 21<sup>st</sup>, 2020 for 25 children in 4 classrooms, with many new protocols in place, such as:**

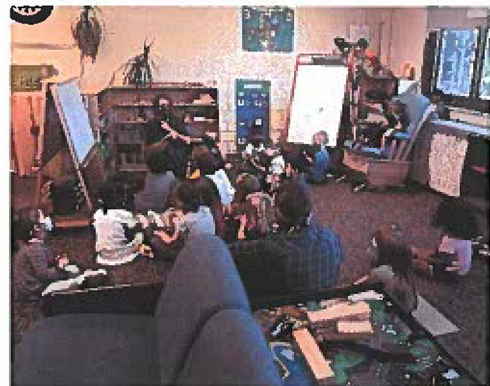
- No families allowed in the building
- Student staff runners to escort children to classrooms
- Shoe sanitizing mats
- Masks worn at all times (except while eating/napping)
- Half-capacity in classrooms
- Closed early on Fridays for deep cleaning



- **Fall 2020- 75 children in 5 classrooms**
  - Increased capacity in classrooms
  - Added a virtual kindergarten support classroom
- **Winter 2021- 76 children in 5 classrooms**
- **Summer I 2021**
  - Phased out the virtual kindergarten support program
  - Added a second toddler classroom
- **Summer II 2021- 87 children in 5 classrooms**
  - Secured a state Summer Programming grant for \$27,122

## Fall 2021- 106 children in 6 classrooms

- Transitioned to full capacity classrooms
- Allow families in the building
  - Limit the number and time inside
- Now open full day on Fridays



## The Future

COVID-19 has been devastating to many early childhood programs. Because we are located in a high-need district and could support the most needy children and families in the community, the Children's Institute has been requested by the State and Washtenaw Intermediate School District to add classrooms.

At this time, we are unable to expand due to the lack of space in our current location.



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## Questions



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# EMU Student Government Presentation

October 14, 2021

Student Body President Luis Romero  
Student Body Vice President Auryon Azar

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## Summer Tasks

- Continued funding free legal services for the 2021-2022 school year
- Helped in the process of selecting the new police chief
- Assisted and supported the Homecoming Steering Committee
- Hired new executive board members

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## Executive Board

- Director of Business and Finance: Myles Campbell
- Director of Diversity and Community Outreach: Andii Huffman
- Director of Student Services: Makaiya Snead
- Director of Media: Liv Gajewski
- Director of Internal Relations: Anna Bowling
- Parliamentarian: John Milkovich
- Speaker of the Senate: Cedrick Charles

## Goals and Initiatives For The 108th Senate

- Meal Swipe Donation Program and addressing food insecurity
  - Expanding and supporting the OZZI Reusable Container Program
- Continued support for the Student Emergency Fund
- Supporting both new and returning Senators in their pursuits and passions
- Increased involvement in the Eastern Michigan and Ypsilanti Community
- Involving Student Government in current and future University plans related to improving housing, academics, student support, and reducing institutional barriers to success and wellbeing

## **Continued Current Goals and Initiatives**

- Subsidization and support for more Rape Aggression Defense (RAD) trainings
- Finalizing the Period Poverty Project