



**Government Relations Advisory Committee
Minutes**

Minutes of December 1, 9:15-10:00 am, regular meeting

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Present: Ruth Person (Chair, presiding), Chris Kolb (VP for Government Relations), Larry Gant, Mark Kushner, Andrea Lewis (Government Relations Specialist), Ann Marshall (FSO, secretary), Silvia Pedraza, Teri Rosales.

1. 9:15 am, Chair Person called the meeting to order. Minutes from 10/27/22 were approved.
2. Recap from the Fall Elections (VP Chris Kolb). Topics discussed include: impact of issues of abortion and democracy on voter turnout; possible role of competitive elections for encouraging more moderate candidates; questions about the impact of the election on higher education -- possibilities include new opportunities for UM Government Relations to be proactive instead of reactive, appropriations (e.g. Michigan Achievement Scholarship), policies around the environment and social change; discussion on the waiting time for voting at the two on-campus voting locations due in part to the same day registration option.
3. The committee brainstormed ways to alleviate long lines for student voting: provide a voting information PPT slide faculty can share with their classes; energize students around early voting registration and voting; a count-down; making it fun; campaign for students to engage their peers; engage affinity groups; provide data to students (if you vote at this time, it might take this long).
4. A reminder and brief discussion about the Road Scholars Tour and the tour as a possible tool for faculty retention
5. Suggestions of items for second semester meetings: A suggestion was made to try to identify ongoing or not yet implemented initiatives or policies for GRAC to provide input on. Chair Ruth Person offered to meet with VP Kolb to assist with this.

Meeting adjourned at 10 am

Submitted by Ann Marshall, Secretary