

# General Assembly

**Friday, September 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023, 3-5 pm**

Olscamp 221 and via Zoom with approval

**Attendance:**

**Meeting Started:** 3:11 by Vice President

**Roll Call:** Completed by President

**Approval of Minutes:** No minutes to approve.

**Guest Speakers:**

- **Dr. Waldron: Vice Provost and Dean of Graduate and Professional Programs**
  - Serves as the Dean of the graduate college.
  - Has only been at BG for a year.
  - Graduated with an MA in Kinesiology in 1999.
  - **Role as dean:**
    - Advocate for graduate students
    - Wants to create an environment for learning with very few obstacles.
    - Here to assist GSS and all graduate students, but it may take a couple of levels of contacts to reach.
    - Address issues and concerns as well as successes.
    - Loves to talk to students about their research.
- **Dr. Ludy: Associate Dean of Graduate and Professional Programs**
  - Has been in the graduate college since January. From BG.

- Came here for HS summer camp, was a faculty member for 13 years, and studied nutrition.
- Loves to talk to students, and to hear about student concerns.
- Likes to help solve little problems before they turn into big problems.
- Helps connect students to other resources across campus.
- Works with policy.
- Professional Development:
  - Graduate Student Orientation- All were mentioned here.
  - In-person monthly graduate student PD
  - Will this be recorded?
  - First on coming up!
- **Michele Schmitz: Budget Administrator**
  - Also, at BGSU, Started as a Freshman.
  - Manages the Graduate college budget.
  - Ad Hoc advisor to GSS and SEC finances
  - Check FPD applications are university-compliant.
  - Works with programs to review contracts and to get everything contract-related figured out.
- **Tammy Oelkrug: Director of Graduate Degree Progress and MS in Analytics Program**
- **Kim Fleshman: Coordinator, Thesis and Dissertation Services**
  - Handle topic approvals and defense forms
  - Handle graduate college website.

- Been on campus since 1999. Previously a 911 operator.
- Resident IT Tech
- **Alexia Coffman: Senior Administrative Assistant**
  - The first line of defense in the graduate college, talk to Alexia to find out who to talk to.
  - Been a falcon since age 4.
  - Jack of all trades
  - Help with forms, adobe form sign process.
  - Works with the awards committee
  - Support policies with Dr. Ludy
  - FPD, after approval from GSS it goes through Alexia.
    - Video submitting an expense report on Canvas.
  - Can just talk to her.
  - Often wanting to make events bigger.
- **Heidi Bouza: Assistant to the Graduate Dean**
  - Worked at an independent grocery chain.
  - Worked in a finance department in undergrad, then moved to higher ed.
  - Started in registration then moved to graduate college.
  - Supports Dean Waldron
  - Second line of defense after Alexia
  - Serves on the Graduate review committee.

**Questions:**

- **Ph.D. Philosophy:** Challenge in delay in the first paycheck. Is that on the radar and how might that be addressed?
  - **Michele:** BG Payroll is a two-week system. The first set works and the second set gets paid for the first.
- **Representative at Large:** Is there a possibility for a scholarship to cover the first month rather than change the pay schedule?
  - **Michele:** Scholarships are used to award for academics traditionally. Those who do awards for other things are typically from outside sources.
- **Representative at Large: Can there be an emergency fund set up like the COVID-19 one?**
  - **GSS President:** The emergency fund is available, and you are eligible once a year.
  - **Vice President:** The maximum amount funded is \$500.
  - **Dr. Ludy:** If you are concerned about someone you know having enough money, or food or having a housing insecurity you can report the concern on their behalf at the following link:  
  
[https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?BowlingGreenStateUniv&layout\\_id=2](https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?BowlingGreenStateUniv&layout_id=2)
  - **Emergency fund application link:**  
  
[https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?BowlingGreenStateUniv&layout\\_id=4](https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?BowlingGreenStateUniv&layout_id=4)
- **Katie Beradi:** The online students would like to know if we can have grant funds for PD?

- **Dean Waldron: Eligible for funds through GSS!**
- **Catherine Wilson:** Activities should be geared toward networking and meeting others.

Disconnect between classes and what they need to do after work.

- **Dr. Ludy:** Might need to get information about what they need or want from their department program or certificate group, so these activities can be structured better.
- **Michele:** Maybe make an “only if I knew” packet for incoming students.

#### **Officer Reports:**

- **President David M. Fisher:**
  - Welcome to GSS
    - Why are you here?
      - We should ask ourselves this question often.
      - What binds all of us together?
    - What can GSS do to be in better alignment with your values, goals, and strategies?
      - Look around and see what needs to change as you go around campus.
    - How can you serve the graduate student body and GSS?
      - It serves us and we serve it.
    - First, you were yourself.
    - Then you became a graduate student
      - Take chances, make mistakes, and get messy.

- Important to make mistakes.
  - If you avoid making mistakes, you learn nothing.
- Be good, be well, be kind, be vulnerable, be humble.
  - Be good: aligns with the university.
  - Be well: Take care of yourself, and protect your wellness.
  - Be kind: Can be difficult to achieve, can argue while being kind to each other.
  - Be vulnerable: Be authentic in your vulnerability, be honest if you feel more vulnerable.
  - Be humble: We're in a position if we don't come back to humility, we'll lose our support. Even if we know what we want well, try to remain humble.
- Strive for an ideal.
  - We need big ideas.
  - We need to work together to get the best for grad students.
- I want to help.
  - Why do you want to help?
    - Myself (1 Person)
      - Good to help yourself, it's not a problem.
    - My cohort
    - My degree
    - My department

- My school... my college. all 3000+ grad students at BGSU.
  - I want to help as many current and future grad students of BGSU as possible.
- What will be the legacy of GSS?
  - Want to help for longer than we're here for
  - Building sustainable changes for more than just ourselves
  - Many changes won't affect us, but that doesn't mean we shouldn't strive for it.
  - Our legacy should be about learning, not just doing.
- The responsibility of GSS and you as a member of GSS
  - Make sure everything we do this year transfers to next year.
- **Vice President: Christopher Chandler**
  - **New Senator Training**
  - **Attendance:**
    - Come to every meeting.
    - If you can't come to a meeting, find a proxy, or email the VP at [gss@bgsu.edu](mailto:gss@bgsu.edu)
    - Missing two consecutive meetings or three in a semester will result in censorship.
    - Censorship means your program loses its rights to funding, awards, and honors.

- **Commitment:**
  - Come to GA meetings.
  - Remain in attendance and be engaged.
  - Communicate with constituents.
  - Serve on one university standing committee, or GSS committee, or make up the hours doing service.
  - You must be present to be able to vote.
  
- **Roberts Rules of Order:**
  - Promotes democratic decision-making by the general body.
  - RRO provides a fair hearing for members of the Senate.
  - RRO conducts business in an efficient and timely manner.
    - **Making a Motion:**
      - Each active senator has the right to make a motion, every motion must be seconded.
      - Examples
        - Adjournment
        - Recess
        - Raise a question of privilege.
        - Call for the orders of the day
        - Main Motion
    - **Subsidiary Motions (Happens after the main motion):**
      - Laying on the table



- Previous question
- Limit or extend debate.
- Postponing
- Referral
- Amend
- Postponing Indefinitely
- Incidental Motions:
  - Point of information
  - Parliamentary Inquiry
  - Division of the assembly
  - Division of a question
  - Withdraw a motion.
  - Objection to consideration
  - Suspend the rules.
  - Appeal from the ruling of the chair
  - Point of order
- **Old Business**
  - Nothing!!
- **New Business**
  - **SEC Elections**
    - **Secretary:**
      - Carren Burkey

- Submitted virtual video.
  - Was a secretary in a mental health organization.
- Gnanna Tulasi Makineni
  - No Show
- Mir md Tasnim Alam:
  - No Show
- Gertrude Futi Amewuda
  - Switched quickly into leadership.
  - Sees everyone as a part of the team.
  - Wants to give people the opportunities she has gotten.
  - Not just about notes, but also about advocacy.
- Mian Adnan:
  - Last academic year in the dept of Math and Stats (PhD)
  - Management, budgeting, advising, staffing, event coordination, university committee servicing, communication, reviewing, and chairing committees experience.
- Hallie Ruby:
  - The purpose is to represent her department and get them resources.
  - Secretary at the Children Resource Center

- Housing plans, outreach, facilitated planning, and notetaking.
- The adult facility works as well.
  - Helped underprivileged students find housing and jobs.
- Punctual, hardworking, good listener, and good support.
- Have trained others and a good leader.
- Gertrude Futi Amewuda was voted as Secretary.
- **Treasurer:**
  - Gnana Tulasi Makineni: Not present
  - Rachel Kielar: Not present
  - Eli Bachman:
    - Graduated BGSU Spring '22
    - No experience
  - Kellyanne Bunkley
    - Treasurer for the curling club
    - Good with excel
    - Ungrad in math
    - Graduated BGSU Spring '22
  - Kellyanne Bunkley voted as Treasurer.
- Environmental Affairs Representative
  - Kaylyn Flanigan

- Ph.D. in Psychology, MA in Biology from BGSU
- Currently working with NOAA as a policy analysis fellow
- Strong environmental academic and research training, experience in policy and diplomacy, interest in conservation and preservation and preservation of environmental resources, communication, collaboration, and coordination skills.
- Hope to serve the BGSU graduate students, have positive interactions with BG leadership, and want opportunities to enhance the graduate students.
- Madamuk
  - Experience working with government groups working in communities to keep the environment clean, also done this in the classroom.
  - Wants to contribute to the BGSU community. Not just about giving back to them but learning from them.
- Kaylyn Flanigan voted as Environmental Affairs Representative
- Announcements
  - NA
- Adjournment
  - 5:36 PM