**General Assembly Minutes**

December 7, 2018; 3pm-5pm

Graduate Student Senate

* Call to Order – 3:05pm
* Roll Call
  + Please come see us after the meeting if your name was not called
* President
  + President Rogers email
    - Over the weekend, we lost a student - Ashley Doonan
    - She was a 3rd year doctoral student in the Department of English
    - If anyone wants or needs to talk, the Counseling Center is here and available
    - If anyone needs resources, contact the Counseling Center or Falcon Health Center…or wants to just chat, contact President or Vice President
* Approval of the Minutes and Agenda
  + Motion: Media and Communication PhD
    - Second: College of Musical Arts
* Guest Speakers
  + Chris Bullins, Dean of Students
    - He wants to talk about the Office of the Dean of Students and what they do
    - And answer some questions
      * Located on:
        + Third floor of the BTSU in Suite 301
      * 8am-5pm Monday-Friday a full time professional is available to talk to you.
      * Services:
        + Student organizations
        + Off campus student resources
        + Emergency and crisis services
        + Student case management
        + Spirit Program

School spirt and community

* + - * + Two satellite organizations available
        + The Case Manager is new Dani Haynes
        + Falcons After Dark - Fridays 8 pm – midnight in the BTSU
        + Academic Minor in Leadership (planned for spring)
      * If you have a problem on campus, you can report it on
        + See it hear it report it
        + <https://www.bgsu.edu/dean-of-students/rights-and-responsibilities/student-conduct/report-an-incident.html>
    - **Questions/Comments** 
      * English MA
        + What happened with the fraternity from the email about the speech being protected but being incongruent with our values?

BGSU is working to finalize our core values and want to set a higher standard than what the law is.

To be illegal speech, it is libel, slander, threats, fighting words or harassment.

Hate speech is not covered under this.

It is not a policy of the University to protect it, but the law.

What are the options?

You can protest the protest

You can raise awareness

The University will always speak out against these things.

The school talked to the fraternity and the fraternity made changes.

There can be suspension or expulsion for this if you are found to be guilty.

He wants us to find the silver lining in every situation.

In the past, freedom of speech can be a great thing. It has allowed us to speak out about things that are wrong.

We can raise awareness to issues that are going on.

* + - * Representative-at-Large
        + There have been some events on campus about educating people about free speech and their rights? What feedback have you received?

We come in and talk about the legality and what you can do.

Part needs to be understanding the law and understanding that speech can hurt and how we can support them.

* + - * English MA
        + The fraternity created a diversity representative position. Is that something that all fraternities should do?

There were some issues with this chapter before we asked them what they are going to do differently. They are going to appoint someone to find out the information about the training and resources available.

They cannot force them to change the government structure because they are their own private organizations outside of the school.

* + - * Communication Sciences and Disorders PhD
        + When we have outside groups come in, how are our policies as it compares to other schools in Ohio?

We think we are similar and what we found is it depends on if the forum is public or not. Public forums have to be considered in a time/place manner. Outside locations are public forums. Cannot pick and choose based on content.

It all depends on **where** the content is happening. It cannot be dependent on the content.

* + - Mental Health Issues
      * We can never help anyone if we do not know their problem
      * We want to become a more caring campus.
      * When you see a dramatic change in someone, refer them to the Counseling Center.
      * Counseling Center:
        + Monday -Friday 8am-5pm
        + Walk-in Hours 1:30-4pm Monday-Friday

You will go in the first time and see someone. They will assess if there is an immediate threat to self or others.

Tell them what kind of help you are looking for

They will assign you to a counselor

* + - * We have a crisis unit
        + Wood County Crisis Line
      * Jed foundation
      * National crisis line
        + The Counseling Center and Wood County Crisis Line is free
      * We need to look out for each other.
      * For example:
        + If you have a student who you haven’t seen in weeks, you should refer them or check-up on them
        + If you have students turning in assignments with concerning content, you should refer them or check up on them
    - **Questions/Comments** 
      * Stefani
        + Walk-in hours 1:30pm-4pm
        + They have someone on call whenever they are open if it’s urgent.
  + Michele Schmitz, Graduate College Budget Administrator
    - [mschmi@bgsu.edu](mailto:mschmi@bgsu.edu)
    - What can she do for you?
      * Ensures that graduate policies are met
      * Scholarship Terms and Conditions
      * Appointment descriptions
      * Pay schedule
    - Graduate College Catalog:
      * htts://www.bgsu.edu/graduate/catalogs-and-policies/2018-19-Graduate-Catalog.html
    - General Counsel Policy web site:
      * https://www.bgsu.edu/general-counsel/university-policies.html
    - Winter Session
      * January 2, 2019- January 23,2019
      * Three week session over four calendar weeks
      * If your contract is over the full session, a GA may work 80 hours over the full winter session vs an anticipated 60 hours as the winter session contracts fall over 4 calendar weeks.
    - Scholarships cannot be used if they are institutional aid
    - Spring session aid dispersed Monday
    - **Semester contracts will not receive compensation over winter session. These pay schedules align with the dates of the fall semester**
    - Expectation of work
      * There is no expectation for work when classes are not in session.
      * If a GA is expected to work over Winter Session, a Winter Session contract should be in place. If such an expectation exists and a contract is not issued, please contact your graduate coordinator ASAP.
    - Can GA work over winter session in a different office as a student employee instead of his assistantship?
      * Yes
    - Winter Session Resources
      * Graduate College Winter Session web page
      * <https://www.bgsu.edu/graduate/wintersessiongrads.html>
    - **Questions/Comments**
      * Representative-at-Large
        + Does the financial aid year start in the summer or winter now?

Assistantships and scholarship follow the student financial aid year: May-May

* + - * + Higher Education PhD

Institutional scholarships cannot be used over winter session. Does this included the employee waiver?

Please confer with the Office of Human Resources as employee/dependent fee waivers are issued from that office.

* + - * + College of Musical Arts

If you have a reduced number of hours over winter session, does this mean the pay will be less?

The expectation of pay should be equal to the semester hourly rate

* + Dawn Chong, Director of Student Employment Services
    - Those of you who have an academic year contract, that will continue
    - If you have a winter session contract, they will be taking care of this
    - **Questions/Comments**
      * Criminal Justice
        + If I have a full year contract and a winter session contract, will the pay be higher?

Yes, it will

* + - * Vice President
        + If there are questions about contracts, who should we contact?

Either of us

* + - * Michele
        + If you have an academic year only contract, you should not be working over winter session
      * Representative-at-Large
        + The expectation of working without being paid. If you have to make a syllabus without being paid, go to your supervisor. They can work to balance things. There should not be an expectation of work without pay.
      * Michele
        + Graduate Students are considered exempted employees under the Fair Labor Standards Act because this should be helping you to advance your degree.
        + If you are doing something that is not advancing your degree, this would be something you would want to make sure you are getting paid for.

For example, if you are having to answer the phones because the secretary is on vacation, you should get paid for this

* Officer Reports
  + Chair for Professional Development of Graduate Students
    - Absent
  + Chair for International Graduate Student Affairs
    - No new news
  + Chair for Multicultural and Disability Graduate Student Affairs
    - Door Button Resolution Update with Student Accessibility Office
      * The office is really excited that we passed this!
      * Staff in the office are in the process of creating a map of all the door buttons on campus
      * The Office of Sustainability
        + Friday Night Lights

Students go around and turn off the lights in the classrooms that don’t automatically turn off.

Those students will help to check the buildings door buttons on the buildings that they turn the lights off in.

If you have suggestions on collaboration or suggestions contact, please contact her at [gravela@bgsu.edu](file:///C:\Users\ikeen\Downloads\gravela@bgsu.edu)

* + Chair for Environmental Affairs
    - Absent
  + Chair of Online Graduate Student Affairs
    - Absent
    - He is making an online graduate student survey that will be available early Spring
      * Remind everyone to fill it out
  + Representative-at-Large
    - Black Swamp Pub Happy Hour
      * Events to get graduate students together
      * It would happen after hours of operation, so they have an incentive for us to be there.
        + A place for us to meet regularly
        + **Would this be something we would be interested in? Please let him know if you would come to something like this.**
    - We wanted to do something for graduate students with children
      * A day where graduate students with kids could meet
        + Examples of ideas:

English department workshop for the kids

The music department

The theatre department to make plays

* + - Shanklin marketing
      * **People who have participated in the Research Excellence Award, poster presentations, and colloquium presentations, please send a picture and a blurb of 1-2 sentences about your presentation and how it was helpful to you and what you gained from participating in it.**
        + We need this as soon as possible
      * This will go on a poster to help with advertising
  + Secretary
    - No new news
  + Treasurer
    - **Spring FPD applications are live on Canvas!**
    - It is a link located under “Modules:
      * There will be link that will take you to the Qualtrics application
    - January 2- May 19th activity range
      * **Application due Feb 14th by 11:59pm**
  + Student Affairs Representative
    - Absent
  + Academic Affairs Representative
    - Absent
  + Vice President
    - Live on GSS Canvas page under “Modules”
      * **Shanklin Applications for Research Excellence Award due February 12th**
        + Interdisciplinary colloquium

Three categories

Arts and humanities

Social and Behavioral Sciences

Sciences and Mathematics

* + - * + Shanklin Colloquium and Awards Ceremony is April 18, 2019
    - **Questions/Comments**
      * Representative-at-Large
        + We want to make sure that people still present and go even when they realize that they are not a finalist. It is really helpful to get feedback and hear from our peers as well.
      * President
        + Please come to the award ceremonies: Free Food and Keynote Speaker
      * **Spring 2019 Regalia Application due Feb. 25th** 
        + Assistance for full cost of Masters Regalia
        + Rental cost for the PhD Regalia
      * **GSS Awards due March 4th** 
        + Live on GSS Canvas page under “Modules”

Outstanding Graduate student

Outstanding International Graduate Student

Outstanding Research Assistant-1

Outstanding Research Assistant-2

Outstanding Contributor to Graduate Education

For a graduate student to nominate a faculty/staff member

* + - Fall FPD Update
      * Thank you to those who have helped to reach out to venders
      * **If you have submitted a report to Chrome River, the turnaround time is 4-6 weeks**
    - Attendance policy reminder
      * In the spring semester, all attendance resets and you go back to having no absences
      * You can change senators
        + February 8 is the next meeting. Please do this before
    - **Changing senators - You need to let Vice President know as soon as possible**
    - Elections 2019-2020
      * Coming out with the mailer
      * Applications will be on the GSS Canvas page under “Modules”
      * The President and Vice President must come from the current GSS body
        + President must have served for a year and Vice President for a semester
  + President
    - We have had a lot of good feedback of the good things that have been going on this year.
    - Toledo collaboration
      * We met this week with the University of Toledo
      * We were talking about having a collaborative event with Toledo in the Spring
    - Shuttle update
      * Faculty senate voted to endorse it
      * If you have feedback or suggestions, email President as soon as possible
      * Meeting to start drafting a proposal is over Finals Week
    - Counseling Center update
      * Met with Counseling Center this week
      * Survey coming out about what are the needs of graduate students.
        + Fill out the survey!
        + If you have specific ideas for questions that should be asked on the survey, let the President know as soon as possible
      * They are going through and making a provider service list, and they are working to make it better on the Counseling Center’s website by 2019
      * There is a partnership with clinical psychology students to use the counseling services at the University of Toledo. This only applies to clinical psychology students; not everyone else.
    - Chief of Police Meeting: Working on a new emergency alert update, may need to verify information
* New Business
  + Student Evaluation Committee
    - Two appointees’ nominations
      * Decision will be made by SEC
      * English MA
        + Is there any more information that could be given?

I don’t have it. There have been a lot of studies that have shown there have been bias on student evaluation this would include examining that research.

* + - * Higher Education PhD
        + How often would we meet?

We don’t know at the current time

* + Cyberbullying Resolution
    - President move to vote to pass the resolution
      * Second American Culture Studies PhD
    - Theater and Film MA
      * Resolution says that cyberbullying is not mentioned in the Student Code of Conduct, but there is a sentence in there that sounds to me like it does seem to address it?
        + I was told that to qualify as harassment, there are frequent loopholes used to mean that it often doesn’t qualify as harassment. This resolution is asking for a more explicit statement that would avoid those loopholes.
    - Vote
      * Yes: 32
      * No: 0
      * Abstentions: 2
* Announcements
  + Athletic Appreciation Night
    - January 25th men’s hockey game
    - First 20 to RSVP Get hospitality (food, drink, box seats)
    - **Email the President to RSVP** ([rickend@bgsu.edu](file:///C:\Users\ikeen\Downloads\rickend@bgsu.edu))
  + Nest General Assembly: February 8th from 3-5 pm in the McFall Gallery
    - Speakers: Mayor Edwards and Provost Whitehead
    - Email in questions for either speaker to the Vice President ([ikeen@bgsu.edu](file:///C:\Users\ikeen\Downloads\ikeen@bgsu.edu))
  + ACS PhD
    - Professional development events flyer for Graduate College Winter Session programs is available. Please pick one up!
* Adjournment –
  + Motion
    - Media and Communications PhD
  + Approval
    - World Languages and Culture Studies

Prepared by Malachi Bailey.