



Graduate Student Senate  
402B Bowen-Thompson Student Union  
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<http://www.bgsu.edu/gss>

**Graduate Student Senate General Assembly**  
**Friday, November 8, 2013**  
**3:00-5:00pm**  
**Gallery- McFall**

**Handouts: Minutes from GA 10/25/13**

**Agenda**

- Call to Order: Martha called the meeting to order at 3:03 pm.
- Roll Call: Liz called roll and, with 50 senators here, a quorum is present.
- Approval of Minutes. Sociology moved to approve, and Psychology seconded. Minutes approved unanimously.
- ***Reminder: Senators, when speaking, please identify yourselves and hold up your department/organization card whenever speaking in GA so that you can be noted in the minutes.***
- Guests
  - Vice President of Capital Planning & Campus Operations Steve Krakoff
    - VP Krakoff gave an overview of the Campus Master Capital Plan, including the academic core and other campus developments, as well as the \$200 million capital budget for these projects, pending various approvals (such as the Board of Trustees).
    - VP Krakoff focused on initiatives within the academic core, including the Traditions building, the North Campus Core, STEM buildings, active classroom space, and bolstering signature academic programs. VP Krakoff also mentioned departmental location moves that are possible, the Olscamp renovations, etc.
    - VP mentioned classroom developments and upgrades, including renovating lighting, AV/IT, and improved interior finishes, as well as active learning classrooms, and targeted improvements to come, including more active learning classrooms and undergraduate science labs.
    - Psychology asked about University Hall and the Psychology department. VP Krakoff said some classrooms will be developed in University Hall, in nearby buildings, and perhaps

the FHC; this is likely a few years out. Faculty and student representatives will be a part of this planning

- Applied Statistics asked about budget issues and how these projects will be paid for, and if these buildings are a wise use of money. VP Krakoff responded that the state capital, donations, and bonds will fund this. For BG to remain viable, the facilities must be improved. In terms of the Master Plan, we're focusing the \$200 million on targeted initiatives out of \$500 million worth of desired/needed updates. The format of these changes is a series of phased updates. The philanthropic component (donations) will also be essential – hopefully accounting for 25-30% of this budget.
- Applied Statistics asked if we will be competing for donations with endowed scholarships and faculty positions. VP Krakoff said not really, and efforts will be put in to tie everything towards strategic academic efforts on campus.
- MBASA asked about Firelads campus. VP KRakoff responded explaining BG Firelands and the programs carried there, including working with existing facilities instead of developing a new building.
- CSP asked about the new CBA building's location. VP Krakoff responded that it will be just behind where the education building is, perhaps connected to University Hall.
- HEADS asked about Phase 1, the BCI and the airport, and who will maintain the BCI building. VP responded that these are separately, state-funded projects. There may be a capital contribution to the airport, and the BCI building may be maintained by BGSU
- HIED asked where the College of Education is going. VP Krakoff responded that it might migrate to the old CBA building; it may remain where it is – this is not yet decided.
- Accounting asked about the parking spaces taken up by the new CBA building. VP Krakoff says it will be replaced, perhaps on Wooster Street, and lots may be shuffled in terms of permissions to park there.
- Academic Affairs Rep asked about Greek Housing and multicultural Greek organizations. VP Krakoff pointed her to Chris Bullens or Sarah Waters. VP Krakoff also mentioned that the OMA services will be moved closer to the Union soon. BOT clarified that Greek chapters all had the opportunity to go there, but everyone was offered the chance to be there.
- PD Chair asked about the BGSU Legacy campaign about returning the University to its older look and about initiatives to gain multicultural spaces. VP Krakoff talked about the new campus gateway near where the Administration building currently is, which will happen over the next 3-5 years. VP Krakoff says the Legacy campaign is a student initiatives. VP Krakoff said there is a current interest group to figure out new multicultural spaces, and it is on the radar.

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- Readmittance of German Department
  - Martha explained the readmittance process and answered PD Chair's question about what censure means, including department's students being excluded from Shanklin's, professional development funding. Treasurer said if you are approved but your department is censured after the fact, you still get the funding, since you are approved as of approval date. Martha explained that if a department is readmitted, they have to attend 2 GAs to get all rights back. Voting rights are reinstated immediately, and dates for Pro Devo funding, regalia awards, etc are all late enough that German should be fine.
  - Sam Hohneke, Senator spoke about the German department's planned system of two people splitting the meeting due to scheduling issues within the department and classes being taught. German is excited to come in and be full active members.
  - The GA voted (with German out of the room). Media and Communications motioned to vote him back in, and Pop Culture seconded. With 50 cards, the German department was readmitted unanimously.
  
- Officers Reports – no officer reports
  
- Committee Reports
  - Committee for Stipends, Fees and Tuitions – Accounting reminded senators to return form about departmental professional developmental funds. Martha will resend form, and it's also on orgsync
  - Shankin Committee – PD Chair reported that they met on Thursday
  - Dining Advisory Board – School for Teaching and Learning asked for any questions/concerns she can pass on.
  - Martha can add people to the agenda if they know they have reports
  
- Old Business
  - Health Insurance Questions (Jigar/Erin/Lingxiao)
    - Erin announced that Dick Sipp is speaking at the next GA. Please email Erin specific concerns and questions.
    - Lingxiao showed everyone the orgsync discussion page – under discussions in the navigation bar. Please post if you have questions and concerns.
    - Jigar announced some answers:
      - If you've signed up for the whole year of BG health insurance, you can switch before next semester and get your money refunded. You have to demonstrate your new insurance, making sure it fits BG's requirements for deductibles and premiums. Academic Affairs Rep asked for clarifications, Jigar re-explained.
      - English asked about if students have to prove this semester about one's new insurance. Jigar said you have to switch by the first of January.

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- New Business – no new business
- Issues and Concerns
  - CSP expressed concerns about crossing Thurstin to the back of the Union parking lot, asking why there isn't a crosswalk and if one can be put there. HEADS augmented, adding other Admin buildings near Wooster.
    - Martha will pass concern off to senator on Public Safety Advisory Committee
  - ASOR asked about issues with the Health Center, particularly international students and needing translators, or sensitivity training for Health Center employees. Lingxiao said that translation services should be being provided, but Jigar will look into it and address sensitivity training.
  - SGA expressed concerns about international students having a negative experience here overall, and asking for overall sensitivity training and better treatments for graduate students. Erin announced that ISS just underwent a transition that will hopefully address some of this. Jigar asked for concerns to be emailed to him at [jjpatel@bgsu.edu](mailto:jjpatel@bgsu.edu).
  - Technology mentioned that 80% of graduate students are international, and that international students are concerned that they have to pay more for housing, and are wondering about other social inequities for international students. Technology will address it. JSOR said that this discrimination is against the law, and suggests taking this to legal council on campus. Poli Sci and Lingxiao said we can take it to city council too.
  - APA said she's on the off-campus student advisory board, and can take specific concerns to her board. Please send them to her at [kbunner@bgsu.edu](mailto:kbunner@bgsu.edu).
- Announcements
  - Dr. Lisa Chavers, Assistant Dean for Graduate Studies and Director of Project Search:
    - November 15<sup>th</sup> at 5 pm – deadline date for this fund: Katzner Graduate Student Research & Professional Development: <http://www.bgsu.edu/gradcoll/page27096.html>
    - Nov. 14<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 – 1pm to talk about adjustment issues for multiethnic graduate students at BGSU. For more information on Project Search: <http://www.bgsu.edu/gradcoll/ps/>
    - **Grad Fair:** Wednesday, November 20, 2013, 3-7 pm in 101 Olscamp (Please sign up to help on the Sign Up Sheet!)
      - Please let the Graduate Council know if there is a table that should be added.
  - GCA – like the Graduate College Facebook page – information about events, the grad college, etc. Email events to post on [jlirgen@bgsu.edu](mailto:jlirgen@bgsu.edu).

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- **Next GA:** Friday, November 22, 2013, 3-5 pm in McFall Gallery (Guests: Dick Sipp will discuss health insurance issues and Barbara Waddell will do a presentation on the Title IX Policy)
  - **Winter Wheat: The Mid-American Review Festival of Writing:** November 14-16, 2013. Details here: <http://www.bgsu.edu/studentlife/organizations/midamericanreview/winterwheat/about.html>
  - **Grad Night:** Saturday, November 16, 2013, 6-8 pm, location TBD
  - **Ray Browne Conference on Cultural and Critical Studies:** February 21-23, 2014 at BG. Abstracts are due December 6, 2013 and can be submitted at: <https://orgsync.com/10612/forms/85238>. You can register for the conference at: <https://orgsync.com/10612/forms/81673>. This is an interdisciplinary conference to talk about the convergence of culture, open to graduate and undergraduate students.
  - Philosophy – Friday and Saturday of next weekend, Philosophy is holding a conference on Ethics in 121 West Hall. All are welcome.
  - PD Chair – Nov. 16<sup>th</sup> 6-9pm. ISA Senator has tickets for the Diwali Mela event, which will have Indian food and dancing. Tickets are \$12, \$15 at the door – convince your department to get tickets in bulk.
- Adjournment – GCA motioned to adjourn the meeting, HEADS seconded. Unanimous vote to adjourn at 4:20 pm.

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