



## The Official Agenda of the Undergraduate Student Government

On This Day, Monday, October 13th, 2025

BTSU 308 at 7:30pm

- I. Call to Order 7:30 pm
- II. Roll Call
- III. Open Forum – Director of Athletics, Derek van der Merwe
  - a. It's a great time to be on campus, as it is currently a very supportive campus and community. In athletics, this is definitely being shown throughout the department.
  - b. We are part of a leadership team that is shaping the future of BGSU. Sometimes it feels that our contributions are small, but over time these contributions become much grander than what we can currently see.
    - i. How we approach people, and the spirit we have, can change everything.  
How leaders approach people define how an organization feels
  - c. Every sport has to be competing at a very high level. Don't feel that something is impossible, even if it's sports club. The experience of believing that anything is possible allows us to move outside of the box of cultured possibilities.
    - i. We saw this last Saturday when we were down 21-0 and then came back and won the game.
  - d. We have a former student (not a student athlete) is currently serving as the president of Pepsi-Co North America. He met with this alumnus, who started at entry level and earned his way up. He was bested by people who were from Cornell, Harvard, etc, and now he has outworked those people because he has a great work ethic. The people that were hired now work for him because BGSU helped shape his heart and kindness within business.
    - i. This is a process of inspiring kindness and knowing that you cannot limit yourself to what you think could be possible but instead knowing that you can achieve big. You need to believe in yourself and know that what you're doing is the right thing.

- e. Q: In your time as a college athlete, what are some of the most valuable lessons that you've taken away from it and still hold close in your current career/life?
  - i. The most important thing is that the people who choose to do the little things right are the people who will succeed over all else. Life gets tough, but choosing to do the little things right and getting up every single day is how you will succeed.
    - 1. Choosing to reach out to your friends is a way to do this. Taking care of yourself, no matter how hard it is, is so necessary to success. How you treat people.
    - 2. It's the little things that add up, where you get up and do good.
  - ii. Talent doesn't get you anywhere without you choosing to get every day and do the small things good. It's daily discipline.
- f. Q: What are some of the ways that you interact with students who aren't directly involved in athletics?
  - i. Athletics has to support the university.
    - 1. Making sure that we create a sense of community. Like Falcon Fanatics, most are not athletes. Creating relationships and giving opportunities for students to have great experiences is a great way to do so.
    - 2. Recruitment is all important. Students want to have a good overall experience in college, so embracing that everyone feels comfortable.
      - a. Like making sure that the band feels like this is their home too. Athletics prioritizes that the band also has a great experience.
- g. Q: What is the turnover for coaches currently, specifically with club soccer?
  - i. As the numbers are ballooning in club participation, we are starting to stretch the capacity to effectively support that.
    - 1. They are looking at ways to increase the stability of the payment given to the club coaches (they do pay the club coaches). They are looking at the financial stability of it and are actively working on it.

- ii. Q: For athletics, what would you like USG to do to help you out with events and other things?
  - 1. Would love USG to help communicate out events. But also, how can we create a spirit of community? Prioritize the little things, like wearing orange on Fridays.
    - a. It's like an identity of us being proud of who we are. It's the little things to point to the pride we have in our community.

IV. Swearing in of New Officers

V. Lobby Time

VI. Old Business

VII. New Business

VIII. Senator Reports

a. Mitchell Edgecomb – At Large Senator

- i. Has been going around to log the appliances at the communal kitchens at the residence halls. Most don't even have toasters or coffee pots. A lot of students have requested these appliances, and these work orders are not being added to the kitchens.
  - 1. In McDonald Hall, he was told that multiple work orders have been submitted and most of those have not gone through.
  - 2. Will be approaching Resident Life to see what's going on there.
  - 3. Looking to do a fundraiser to buy more appliances for the resident halls
- ii. Spoke with a Kreischer resident in Batchedel, and they were being told they cannot keep skateboards in their own rooms, so he will be speaking with the RAs about it soon.
- iii. Notes/Comments: if it has a motor on it, the skateboards/scooters cannot be inside because it's a fire hazard. If it has a hotpot, it is also a fire hazard, so normal coffee pots are not allowed, nor are air fryers.
  - 1. For the appliances: doing an appliance drive instead of fundraiser. Doing like a local drive that encompasses the community.

- a. Maybe reaching out to the ReStore as well. There's electronics drive once a year.
      - i. They don't have a lot more than just microwaves and coffee pots, but they can still be talked with
  - b. Elias Young –
    - i. Been meeting with commuters. Did a survey for commuters:
      - 1. Can still feel impacts with parking. And having issues with transparency with the university
        - a. Planning to create a bill about transparency between the university and commuters.
      - 2. Also doing a rewrite on the book bill. If you want to collab with that, please let him know

## IX. Committee Reports

- a. Academic Affairs – Madeleine Freyhof
  - i. Body Doubling Initiative: goal is to get it done by Thanksgiving Break. Working on how we are going to run it and ideas for items on it tonight.
  - ii. Medical Protocols: planning on the timeline and the meeting on Ben Batey will also be shared during the meeting.
- b. Internal Affairs – Sydney Gourley
  - i. Tonight we will be narrowing down the service ideas.
  - ii. If you're a new senator, thank you for coming to the one on one and filling out that form.
  - iii. Will also put the senator one on one form in the teams.
    - 1. If you already filled out the form, you do not need to fill out the form again
- c. Student Affairs – Avie Housholder
  - i. For those attending the meeting, we will be in room 427. It's a lounge in the corner.
  - ii. Emails have been released for all seven projects. Waiting on responses.
    - 1. There might be more initiatives soon.
    - 2. If you eat on campus, fill out the form in the teams/follow-up meeting. Especially if you're an athlete.

- iii. They made an onboarding document. It gives a run-down of everything about the Bylaws and Constitution, and what you're responsible for as a Senator. It goes in order of who everyone in exec is and who they are
  - 1. If you do a senator one on one, you will get a copy of this printed out.

#### X. Speaker's Report

- a. Speaker of the Senate – Madison Jeffries
  - i. There is a project with the Kuhlin Hub that involves a collab to create a career building week in the spring semester. If you are interested in helping with that, let her know.

#### XI. Executive Branch Reports

- a. President – Tiago G. Gaboardi
  - i. Two open exec positions:
    - 1. Director of Inclusion and Belonging
    - 2. Director of Accessibility and Wellness
    - 3. Exec will support your initiatives and plans in these positions, including connecting you with the offices and giving you resources. Sarah can also help you.
    - 4. Q: Are there any limits within the Director of Inclusion and Belonging?
      - a. No, SB1 does not affect it.
  - ii. He is on Faculty Senate & the Pathify Committee. If you are interested in asking questions to either of those groups, please let him know.
  - iii. Due to timing and classes concerns for Exec members, USG will be changing its meeting times to 7:30 pm on Thursdays instead of Mondays.
    - 1. Tried not to change it too much. If you have any concerns relating to this, please let someone in exec know
- b. Vice President – Abby Burger
  - i. The supplies to make name plates are up in the USG office. Please make one.
  - ii. The Mixer is next Monday at 7:30
    - 1. It replaces GA. You are still required to go.

2. Dress code is business casual.
3. We will have tables around the room: Office of Campus Sustainability, Office of Campus Wellness, and Life Design. The PAWS Team will be in the corner.
  - a. Will have three USG activity tables (photo booth, guessing jar, and friendship bracelets) and a check in table where members will be staffing
  - b. There will be a raffle and a prize jar.
4. There will be food in the back
  - a. Fruit tray, veggie tray, mozzarella sticks, meatballs, and cookies. And water.
5. What to do when present:
  - a. Plan to arrive about 10 minutes early. Get your nametag too
  - b. Engage with staff and students who are also here. They are here to talk with us. We will have important faculty members and student groups.
  - c. We need people to staff all of the stations.
  - d. Make sure you act professionally and be respectful and kind.
  - e. Invite your friends and the people you know.
6. Tips to engage in conversation:
  - a. When talking with a staff member, introduce yourself. Ask what they do at BGSU, how USG can support them, and follow through with them.
  - b. When talking with a student, introduce yourself. Ask about them as well. Ask what USG can do to support who they are and what they are representing. If it's relevant, follow up with them after the Mixer.

c. Cabinet Reports

- i. Anna – Director of Civic Engagement and Service
  1. Collaborating with Rock Our Vets and BGSONG for a service event.

2. From the sign-up: Volunteers will be assigned to work sites based on their skills and interests and will trim shrubs, rake leaves, pull weeds, wash windows, paint and, at some homes, do repairs that require skills. Volunteers with construction or home repair experience should let us know about that when you complete the registration form.
    - a. Wear comfortable clothes, closed-toed shoes, and bring a water bottle.
  3. Time slots in the morning and afternoons of October 24<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>, and 26<sup>th</sup> (Friday, Saturday, and Sunday). They are 4-hour shifts (or one all-day shift).
- ii. Ispiro – Chief Outreach Officer
1. The Monster Mash tabling event is this Thursday. You will get an email tomorrow if you signed up.
    - a. You can still sign up if you want.
  2. Been working on a USG video trailer. Planning to meet right after GA for 10-15 minutes. We need some people to talk during the trailer. It will be filmed around the 27<sup>th</sup>, with part of it being filmed during the Mixer.
    - a. The video is a “who are we, what do we do, and what’s our impact” type trailer. It’ll be used to promote USG and what we do to the student body.
  3. Meeting with Sarah later this week to talk about Resident Hall representation.
- iii. D’Mya – Chief of Staff
1. Make sure you’re filling out the utility hours form. If you’re doing utility hours, making sure you fill it out. Make sure you’re filling out your constituency report form too if you’re meeting with students in it.
    - a. Make sure you are also filling out your standing committees and internal committees.
- iv. Emily – Director of Sustainability

1. Thank you all for tabling at the sustainability event. The next one is on Halloween in the Union. The next one will be more interactive, and the sign-up will be in the follow-up email.
2. The date for the tree planning is 1-4 pm on October 23<sup>rd</sup>.

XII. Advisor's Remarks

- a. Sarah Jurden [sjurden@bgsu.edu](mailto:sjurden@bgsu.edu)
  - i. It's great that we're talking with out constituency groups.
  - ii. Midterm grades are being posted right now, so look out for that.
  - iii. Course registration starts next Monday. If you haven't looked at the schedule for next semester, please do so now.
  - iv. If there's ever a time where you are emailing faculty members, CC her onto the email so she can help create those conversations and lead them forward.

XIII. Closing Remarks

XIV. Adjournment