

# USG General Assembly Meeting

The Official Agenda of the Undergraduate Student Government General Assembly  
On This Day, 1/23/2012  
(Business Casual Attire Meeting)

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call
- III. Approval of Minutes
- IV. Swearing in of New Officers
  - a. Joseph Donovan – Kohl Senator
  - b. Genna Muriello – Panhel Senator
  - c. Devin Neal – Off Campus Senator
  - d. Matt Thacker – Off Campus Senator
- V. Open Forum
  - a. Associate Dean of Students: Christopher Bullins – Greek Housing
    - i. Tried to divide project into three phases
      1. Getting Smart: How BGSU compares to other Greek houses at other campuses. Interested in how to grow the community.
        - a. Ex: Emory University has 10 townhomes with basements. Chapter room is located in the basement, living room/dining area with kitchen are on the first floor, and bedrooms for 102 persons with adjoining bathrooms.
        - b. San Diego State University Model: Free standing Greek houses. Very little students live in chapter houses but rather in the middle where there are apartment buildings about three stories high. Contains kitchen area, living room, bathroom.
        - c. Auburn University Model: Create a system where there is a courtyard and each house has it's own entrance way into the chapter room. First floor has chapter rooms, kitchen, bathroom, and storage. Floors 2-4 are individual apartments, etc.
      2. Stakeholder Input: Trying to figure out what the product would be at BGSU in terms of housing to build in order to meet the needs of students. Also address issues of budget and programming. Including both students and alumni in the phase.

- a. Suverys – Students think living in a chapter facility allows them to bond with other members; Proximity to classes and resources is important; Older members would likely stay in chapter facilities if provided with the right amenities. (Looking at similar setup to The Enclave).
    - b. Focus groups to certain chapters.
    - c. Surveys to students of the community both on and off campus.
    - d. Policy review to living standards to figure out how to maximize occupancy.
    - e. Presenting to alumni and national headquarter staff.
  - 3. Phase III (If approved in Oct. 2012) will involve securing funding, architects, and builders, as well as site preparation and construction. Timeline will depend upon decisions made in Phase II.
- ii. Priorities for Success:
  - 1. Members – Chapters Must:
    - a. Increase their size (IFC about 50-60 and Panhellenic about 75-85)
    - b. Improve recruitment/intake practices and new member education.
    - c. Offer membership development initiatives to increase retention rates.
  - 2. Alumni/Alumnae Support:
    - a. Update contact lists.
    - b. Increase volunteer enlistment/engagement.
    - c. Obtain “friend raising” and fund raising education and assistance so chapters know how to get financial help from their alumni.
    - d. Funds will be necessary to customize chapter common spaces.
- iii. Looking at researching why non-Greeks are not going Greek.
- iv. Staffing model will have to be structured based off the construction time.
- v. Funding could be through University or through organizations. Possibly come up with a partnership with companies such as Capstone. Majority of ones down south were funded. Alumni may be asked to help fundraise to some extent.
  - 1. Would not be through state funding.
- vi. Have not looked at townhouses such as Copper Beach or Campbell Hill.

- vii. Have staff at disposal to contact and work with the alumni of Greek Chapters.
  - viii. Depending on where product is built, could be implications for needing to stage it in.
    - 1. Facility audit of current facilities recognized issues with current state of houses.
  - ix. If existing sites are not used then might want to pull them into a larger pool and allow the university to decide what to do with them in terms of dining, housing, etc.
  - x. Timeline working on is to wrap up with phase II and to consult with the board on details as to where to build, how to pay, etc. If there is no existing structures where the housing would go, then construction could be expedited.
  - xi. Primary mode of repaying the Greek Housing debt would go to the users (not the non-Greeks).
    - 1. Housing could make institution more aesthetically pleasing.
    - 2. Hopefully help retention.
  - xii. Free Standing options are much more expensive. Requirements are going to cost hundreds of thousands of dollars.
    - 1. Students were less interested in separate fraternity or sorority row but more interested in fraternities and sororities to be closer together.
  - xiii. How to maximize residential spaces for most chapters? Community standards could be the benchmark to see who gets the spaces.
- b. Director of Residence Life: Sarah Waters – Campus Cable TV Options
- i. Looking at a new Cable TV provider.
    - 1. BGSU's contract with Time Warner expires in the summer.
    - 2. This is a campus-wide contract.
  - ii. Need student input especially with how the TV lineup should be.
  - iii. Different providers (4)
    - 1. Time Warner (Cable)
    - 2. Buckeye (Cable)
    - 3. Campus Televideo (Dish)
    - 4. INC (Dish)
  - iv. At least half of standard channels will be offered in HD.
  - v. Trying to get premium package to students
    - 1. Choose to buy in or buy up.

- a. Example: Get NFL network or show time.
    - b. Will enter into a separate, discounted deal with the provider.
  - vi. Basic lineup needed are local broadcast networks and local stations such as WBGU.
  - vii. Interest in learning from the student body if there are stations that would be of interest to bring in that are foreign language or from other countries.
  - viii. There are 119 options that need to be narrowed down. There are some logical and obvious ones that people will pick. Run these surveys past organizations and people on campus.
    - 1. Fill out top picks, maybes, and absolutely nos.
    - 2. Certain stations that are exclusive to vendors.
  - ix. Hopefully will know by the end of February which provider will be chosen.
  - x. Would there be sub committee with new provider?: Should be able to and will write it into the terms of the new contract.
  - xi. Movie channels are inserted local channels.
    - 1. RSA Movie channels cost about \$40,000 a year.
    - 2. Might be able to offer something such as Encore or Starz to the campus with a lesser cost.
  - xii. Idea of how long contract will be?: 5 year contract with an option of 1 year extensions after that.
- c. Michael Paulus - Dining Services: The Union
  - i. Here to share the change of the meal plans that will initiated for 2012-2013 school year.
    - 1. Past year has been a selection of 3 meal plans to 9.
    - 2. Slightly altering meal plans for enhancement.
  - ii. Meal Plans:
    - 1. Taking a look at finding out what was working and what wasn't working.
    - 2. Old meal plan was either retail, AYCE, or a combination of both.
  - iii. Changes to meal plans:
    - 1. Looking at top two meal plans: Retail or AYCE.
      - a. Traditional: Adding the amount of meals per week.
      - b. Custom: Half meals per week and half for retail.
        - i. Meals themselves would expire before the end of the week.

- ii. Students having troubles keeping track of meal plan swipes.
    - iii. Hope to have system where students can look at how many swipes they have left per week.
    - iv. Custom has been created into blocks so rather than them expiring every week, students have a set amount of meals for the semester.
      - 1. Will provide flexibility and knowledge of knowing they will not lose meals before end of the week.
      - 2. Help them manage with one block.
  - c. Traditional:
    - i. Will expire by the end of the week.
  - d. Retail:
    - i. Expire by the end of the semester.
- 2. Dining services has experienced a great number of efficiencies this year.
  - a. AYCE dining centers have allowed to lower food costs, no royalties, no franchises, there is no paper waste.
  - b. Proposed to board of trustees to not increase meal plans for the following academic year.
- iv. Dining services is modifying the food court (The Nest)
  - 1. Current franchise, Wendy's, contract expires May of this year.
  - 2. Dining realizes that there are bad congestion issues at The Nest.
    - a. Poor design for flow, visibility, etc.
  - 3. Asked to allow dining services to blow out the floor in order to reconstruct and upgrade The Nest for more efficient flow and brands.
    - a. Looking at the best way to have the least footprint.
  - 4. Also looking at expanding the Black Swamp Pub in order to allow quicker food orders.
  - 5. Have only approached trustees for a green light to move further.
    - a. Need to gather data, financials, foot print, and impact.
  - 6. Determining what brand portfolio will be implicated.
- v. Starbucks would remain in the same area.

- vi. Would allotted time for places to be open allow for better income?: Not necessarily. Some places have added on hours, some have been taken away.
- vii. 7pm at the Dial on Sundays should not be in effect. Under the impression that it was still open until 12am.
- viii. Looking at having a light night function at the other side of campus (harshman, kreischer, etc.)
- ix. Creating footprints of places that could be in the union. Plan passed out of proposed food places are not established.
- x. Brand selection consisted of a list of 64 different brands to see what would be unique to the market place and to Bowling Green as well. Also need to make sure it will fit in and the financial profile will work for Dining Services.
  - 1. Goal is to take it to the student body for input.
  - 2. Chick-Fil-A was a possibility but directing of their funding is being question and could come to be controversial.
    - a. Chose as an institution not to have Chick-Fil-A be an option.
- xi. Later Dining Hours or more late night questions?: Open to offering services if the patronage will be there. For example, Founders is at 40% capacity of what it used to be historically.
  - 1. Founders could be shutting down possibly.
- xii. Expanding Steak Escape's Capacity to Serve Food?: The design for Steak Escape is not the most ideal setup. Looking at expanding it to become more efficient and expanding menu selection as well.
  - 1. Steak Escape's spot was not meant to be a Steak Escape.
- xiii. Vegetarian or Vegan options?: Have to weigh the balance to see what that menu item(s) would be. The franchises are wanted but they may not have the best options of vegetarian or vegan meals.
- xiv. Challenge in trying to track the population trends.
- xv. Will new places accept Falcon Dollars?: Wendy's is a standalone franchise without any agreement. The new franchises to come in will be through dining services and WILL be on meal plan.
- xvi. Can Pub be open later?: Based off of traffic and location. Trying to bring the computer lab out so traffic can see their options and flock to those options.

- xvii. Considering with remodeling in Falcon's Nest placing more homestyle options if Founders is closing?: Looking at brand portfolio, looking at what needs are necessary to incorporate. Focusing on variety.
- xviii. Fruit and yogurt bar back in the Union?: Challenge in doing that is the space, having the right equipment, and the price point at which to serve. The sheer footage of where to put it in The Nest is tough to determine. Could possibly incorporate it into Wild Greens and add more options such as a fruit salad.
- xix. Consider making a survey for students to see where they would be willing to go at night?: Surveys have gone through residence life last year as to where people would go, when they would go, and how they would use it. Have to look at demographics and getting the right amount of sampling.
- xx. Decisions of what may happen to the Greenery?: Potential option of marrying the Greenery with the Pub. Neither of them are at full capacity and would like to combine them to allow more options.
- xxi. Final say as to what brands are picked?: Ultimately want the decision to be made by students.
- xxii. How long are the contracts with companies?: There is no cap to the contracts. Franchises are at the discretion of the University.
- xxiii. Any talk of putting a franchise location in the potential expanded area?: Not an option as of right now because part of it is where the computer lab would go. The need for a 24 hour computer lab in the Union has to stay.

VI. Lobby Time

VII. Old Business

- a. Derek Sword – Bylaw Revisions

VIII. New Business

- a. Robert McEvoy – Election Guidelines
  - i. Nothing has changed dramatically from last year.
  - ii. Important dates
    - 1. 4 information sessions – Cannot make one then provide Robert with written documentation as to why.
    - 2. Friday Feb 24 – Petition, candidate platform, signed back page of election packet, and campaign budget is due by 5pm.
    - 3. March 30<sup>th</sup> – Budget changed, turn in final copy.
    - 4. Elections begin April 2-5.

5. Results will be April 10<sup>th</sup>.
  - a. Any complaints are to be filed 48 hours within the completion of the election.
6. Any deadlines are due by 5pm in Robert's mailbox.
7. Requirements for Candidacy:
  - a. Attend one election information session.
  - b. Full time undergraduate students in good academic and discipline standing and have at least a cumulative of a 2.5 GPA.
  - c. Senators must have 50 signatures and P/VP tickets must have 100.
  - d. Senator positions – Candidate must reside among the constituents or be a member of the college he/she wishes to represent.
  - e. A platform state is NOT required, but is recommended. Due at the same time of the petitions.
8. Rules and Procedures
  - a. Campaigning starts after going to an info session and getting the right amount of signatures.
  - b. Posting flyers or posters on University kiosks and bulletin boards is limited to one flyer/poster per bulletin board or side of kiosk.
  - c. Door-to-Door in res. halls must be conducted in accordance to University and Residence Life Policy.
  - d. Quid-pro-quo is prohibited.
  - e. Budgeting is Pres/VP \$300 and Senator \$100.
  - f. Group campaigning allowed
    - i. If candidates combine their spending allowances, all ticket members must be advertised on materials.
  - g. Only allowed to run for one position.
9. Voting and Elections
  - a. Only students registered for spring semester 2012 are eligible to vote in the elections.
  - b. Voting will occur online.
    - i. Refrain from being around a campus computer with an internet connection.



10. Debates

- a. Debate among the President/Vice President candidates.
- b. Debate will arrange at time and date that is convenient for candidates.

11. Campaigning Violations

- a. Complaints of violations must be turned in to the Chief Administrator.
- b. Must have seen the action.
- c. Significant sanction could be removal from ballot.

IX. Executive Branch Reports

a. President – Emily Ancinec

[eancine@bgsu.edu](mailto:eancine@bgsu.edu)

- i. Get involved fair will be Wednesday. Sign up sheet going around.
  1. Half hour slots from 11am-3pm.
  2. Like a mini campus fest.
- ii. Thank you for all that came to the retreat.
  1. Recognize accomplishments so far and look finishing strong.
  2. Any roadblocks in what you're doing, come to the exec. members for help.

b. Vice President – Rob Orians

[rorains@bgsu.edu](mailto:rorains@bgsu.edu)

- i. Thank you for coming to the retreat.
- ii. Working on 21<sup>st</sup> birthday emails to get set up.
- iii. Two standing committees looking to fill
  1. Homecoming
  2. University Rebranding committee.

- a. Interested in either, email or see Rob after the meeting.

c. State and National Liaison – Ryan Albrecht

[jralbre@bgsu.edu](mailto:jralbre@bgsu.edu)

- i. No report.

d. Cabinet Reports

X. Procedures and Appeals Reports

a. Chief Administrator – Robert McEvoy

[rmcevoy@bgsu.edu](mailto:rmcevoy@bgsu.edu)

- i. No report.

XI. Treasurer's Report

a. Treasurer – Cory Tuttle

[coryat@bgsu.edu](mailto:coryat@bgsu.edu)

- i. No report.

## XII. Speaker's Report

- a. Speaker – Benjamin Goldsberry [btgolds@bgsu.edu](mailto:btgolds@bgsu.edu)
  - i. Thank you all for sending in the senator reports, currently looking over them.
  - ii. When by-laws, minutes, and channel survey is sent, please read and understand everything for next week.
  - iii. Think about people, topics, etc. that you want to see in USG.
  - iv. Thank you for those who came to the retreat.

## XIII. Committee Reports

- a. Academic Affairs – Tabitha Timbrook [tabiht@bgsu.edu](mailto:tabiht@bgsu.edu)
  - i. Talked a lot about Q.
    - 1. Not using term Q anymore, but Undergraduate Reform is still going around.
  - ii. Withdraw and Withdraw/Fail policy is being worked on.
  - iii. Advising is being looked at and worked on as well.
- b. Auxiliary Affairs – Alex Solis [asolis@bgsu.edu](mailto:asolis@bgsu.edu)
  - i. Mention to Dan Johnson and TJ Supinger
    - 1. Completed green fund proposal for hand dryers to McDonald Hall.  
Looking at a funding for \$9,000.
    - 2. Rec. Center project is going very well.
      - a. Looking at a market research fundraising plan.
- c. Internal Affairs – Derek Sword [dsword@bgsu.edu](mailto:dsword@bgsu.edu)
  - i. No meeting tonight.
  - ii. Haven't gotten picture taken, come to the USG office tonight.
  - iii. Sheets for Office Hours are still up from the last two weeks so mark down your hours.
  - iv. Harry – Passed from Zachrich to Orians.
- d. Student Affairs – Jared Pokorny [jpokorn@bgsu.edu](mailto:jpokorn@bgsu.edu)
  - i. No report.

## XIV. Senator Reports

- a. Senator Zachrich
  - i. Moderately disappointed in the questions asked towards Michael Paulus.

1. Questions can and should be directed towards those who work with dining services or are on standing committees with dining services.

- ii. Use your resources to direct your questions.

XV. Advisor's Remarks

- a. Extended welcome to all the new members.

- b. Thank you Rob for all the hard work you put in this weekend.

- i. Enjoyed the speakers present at the retreat.

1. Great resources for our organization.

- c. Obligation as senators of USG to take what you learned and share it with your constituents.

XVI. Closing Remarks

- a. President Ancinec

- i. Panhellenic is showing a film on Thursday at 7pm in the Union theater.

XVII. Adjournment