

# USG General Assembly Meeting

The Official Agenda of the Undergraduate Student Government General Assembly  
On This Day, 10/15/2012  
(Business Casual Attire Meeting)

- I. Call to Order
  - a. 7:30 P.M.
- II. Roll Call
  - a. 1 Absent
  - b. 2 Late
  - c. 1 Proxy
- III. Approval of Minutes
  - a. Minutes Approved
- IV. Swearing in of New Officers
  - a. Joe Gallo - Proxy for Senator Moyer
  - b. Justis Davis - Proxy for Senator Morrison
  - c. Senator for Harshman Christian Fensterman
- V. Open Forum
  - a. Ms. Patricia Donnelly- Student Money Management Services
    - i. N/A
  - b. Mr. Nicholas Kulik- United Way Campaign at BGSU
    - i. I am the director of the United Way campaign in Wood County. I was here at BG just a few years ago, and I worked on many things. I was part of Pi Kappa Phi, I was on the Greek Leadership Team, the Springboard Program, and I was also very active on campus. I am here to talk to you about United Way at BGSU. Katie Post is one of our representatives, and she informed me that it may be a good idea to tell students what we do. We are always involved in the large campus service days, such as the MLK day of service.  
  
Today I want to talk to you about the BGSU campaign. The BGSU campaign every year works with faculty and staff to raise money for the community. We end up raising about \$100,000 each year that is put back in the community. I won't get too much in the giving end, because you are probably more interested in how we are giving back to the community. Our mission is to help improve the lives of people in the community by helping families and kids reach their potential. We plan to achieve this goal through three dimensions- education, family, and health. If you can help someone in each of these areas, you can make a big difference in their life.  
  
In education, we are making sure that each student from birth to 6<sup>th</sup> grade has a good educational foundation that they can build upon for the rest of

their education, and we are helping families to give them a good foundation to work with their children on their education. Most of these families are single moms, parents of children with disabilities, ect. who don't know quite how to teach their children the way they need to be taught. Once they hit elementary school we don't stop, however. We provide in and out of school services, and strategies to help students understand the importance of working with their fellow students and teachers. Children with problems spend too much time outside of the classroom in the hallway or in the principal's office, and we want to increase the time that they spend in the classroom actually learning.

The health aspect of this would include access to health care. We work with the Wood County Health department to make sure that there is at least a nurse that can take care of the people who may not have insurance. We also work on providing in-home health care to the elderly or people who may have disabilities to help them complete day-to-day tasks. We also have a center for child development at wood County Hospital where they treat behavioral issues and developmental delays for children in the community, and we have the only center in Northwest Ohio. If it wasn't here, a family would have to go to Cleveland or Dayton for those services. We want to eliminate barriers for families and children to give them the chance they need to succeed.

We are really trying to provide essential services and basic needs. We work with the Salvation Army. We also have a tree tax preparation program, in Wood County if you are an individual who has an income of \$50,000 or less we will do your taxes for free. These people get roughly \$125,000 back into their pockets every year, and they also save some money by not having to pay for someone to do their taxes. That money can help people to stay in their homes, and not have to make a decisions between buying school supplies for their children or paying for utilities. That's the difference we make. We have a program called 2 on 1, which is a 24/7 info and referral line. It's like our own Google for resources. If you are in a situation where you need help, all you have to do is dial the number. We want to make it an easy one stop shop for people in the area.

1. Pokorny- When you are talking about taxes, can they just use that or do they have to be using other services?
  - a. Kulik- Nope, they can just use that if they meet the requirements.
2. Durkit- Do you have volunteer opportunities right now?
  - a. You can volunteer in a variety of ways. We have a database for all the non-profit orgs and they give us all their opportunities. We do small and large projects where you can get involved on a large scale or a more personal basis.

c. Mr. Adam Preidis- St. Baldrick's

- i. The event is happening on BGSU's campus this year. The St. Baldrick's Foundation began as a conversation between two friends in 2000, but it has grown into the largest volunteer run organization that helps those with cancer.

Every year people shave their heads for donations, and over 53,000 events have happened so far raising over 138 million dollars for cancer research. This is a volunteer driven charity committed to funding the most promising research to find cures for childhood cancers and give survivors long and healthy lives. These children have not had the same opportunities that you and I have had. They lose their sense of identity- their hair. They lose the opportunity to express themselves through their hair, they don't get to put their hair in pig tails or grow it out if they want, or anything like that. The point of this is to shave your head to show these kids that your hair isn't the only thing that defines who you are.

Cancer is the number one disease killer of children in the US. Even if they survive, they live with the effects of their treatments for years afterwards. This is not just in the US, this is a global organization. Developing countries are struggling to provide the same treatments that we are. One in five children in the US that is diagnosed with cancer will not survive. There are 12 major types of cancer, and each requires a specific treatment. In 20 years, only 2 drugs have been developed to treat children with cancer, and less than 4% of the National Cancer Institute's budget goes towards that.

St. Baldrick's selects ambassador children to represent the campaign every year. St. Baldrick's is also the largest private funder of cancer research. Since the foundation first gave a grant as a private funder of cancer research it has awarded more than 101 million dollars for cancer research.

The first St. Baldrick's event is on December 2<sup>nd</sup>. We have a growing number of shavers for this event. Since 2000, 244,000 people, including 24,000 women, have shaved their head. We are just trying to fund childhood cancer research. The money goes towards clinical trials, survivorship, supportive care, and other things. A lot of media coverage goes into these events. Campus police and the fire department will come. We also invited the Mayor, as well as president Mazey, and some other prominent community members.

I suggest that you shave your head. It is a once in a lifetime experience, it is an awesome photo opportunity, and you will be able to stand in solidarity with children with cancer. You can also donate money. I set a goal for USG to raise \$2,000. If you raise \$500, Jon Zacharich will shave his head. If you raise \$1,000 he will shave his body, if you raise \$1,500 he will wax his body, and if you raise \$2,000 he will video tape it- just to add some extra incentive. Spread the word about this event, tell your friends, your family, everyone you know. We want everyone to Volunteer. Locks of Love will also be there if you can't bear to part with all of your hair. We don't really have any room for major organizational help, but if you know anyone who is willing to sponsor us or anything, let me know.

I created a team for USG. We also have a challenge against RSA to see who can raise the most money, and we are losing right now. We are expecting 10 people to be on our team by the end of the week. RSA is winning by 160 dollars right now. Go to your other organizations; tell them about this, because we want as many people involved as possible.

1. Double- How do we donate money to USG?
  - a. Preidis- If you go to St. Baldricks.org you can sign up on their website and then search for USG, and you can donate from there.
2. Pokorny- Is there a way on the day of the event to donate and get your head shaved?

- a. Preidis- Yes, you can come in and donate the day of, but to get your head shaved, you have to sign up on the website as a shavee beforehand.

VI. Lobby Time

- a. N/A

VII. Old Business

- a. President Solis- Smoke Free Campus Initiative

- i. We told you to take this issue to your committees, and we talked about this with Michael Ginsburg this week. We have had a few developments on the University end. They are considering the Hub Theory behind this, so there will be smoke-free hubs if this does go through. Also, Ohio and Kent State did commit to a smoke-free campus, and their USG is still debating the tobacco free aspects of this. We will be meeting with Ginsburg again, and we are starting to draft the letter. That in draft form will be discussed in exec, so you will have a chance to get your opinions into that through your committee chairs.

- 1. Pokorny- What are smoke free hubs?

- a. Solis- Hubs will be labeled zones where smokers will be able to smoke.

VIII. New Business

- a. N/A

IX. Executive Branch Reports

- a. President – Alex Solis

[asolis@falcon.bgsu.edu](mailto:asolis@falcon.bgsu.edu)

- i. Solis- This week Max Filby came to me with the idea of hosting a congressional debate for our district. We brought it up at exec today and we want to gauge your feedback. BG News is taking the lead and contracting candidates. Tom Brown and Kelly Wicks, also Zinnman and Bob Latta, and the libertarian candidate will be participating. The debate is set for October 30<sup>th</sup> in the BGSU student union theatre pending the conformation of the candidate. We will be getting questions for the debate from constituents beforehand. 5 candidates have already committed to the debate.

- b. Vice President – David Neely

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- i. Neely- I've been getting a lot of e-mails about standing committees. Please be patient with the chairs of those committees, because they only meet once or twice a semester. Before this, Exec was able to meet in Hayes hall. Deb Wells set that up for us, and it's a great facility. They wanted us to give it a kind of test run, because it is the format that they want to use in the traditional buildings. I also came up with 2 options for polos, but I am still waiting on final pricing on those as well, but I will have those for you next week.

- c. Cabinet Reports

- i. N/A

X. Procedures and Appeals Reports

- a. Chief Administrator – Evan Colyer

[ecolyer@falcon.bgsu.edu](mailto:ecolyer@falcon.bgsu.edu)

- i. Solis- I know Evan had two items he wanted to bring up. The draft application for P and A will be sent out within the next week, and he will be looking to take

4 people. The first round of parking appeals came in last week, and he is working on sorting those out right now.

XI. Treasurer's Report

- a. Treasurer – Jon Zachrich [jdzachr@falcon.bgsu.edu](mailto:jdzachr@falcon.bgsu.edu)
  - i. N/A

XII. Speaker's Report

- a. Speaker of the Senate – Melissa Dzienny [mdzienn@falcon.bgsu.edu](mailto:mdzienn@falcon.bgsu.edu)
  - i. Thank you for the successful workshop week, we had near full attendance. Senator reports are due tomorrow night at 11:59 P.M. Please get those into me.

XIII. Committee Reports

- a. Academic Affairs – Kallie Durkit [kdurkit@falcon.bgsu.edu](mailto:kdurkit@falcon.bgsu.edu)
  - i. N/A
- b. Auxiliary Affairs – Katie Post [kpost@falcon.bgsu.edu](mailto:kpost@falcon.bgsu.edu)
  - i. I would just like to echo what Nick said about United way. They provide critical services in our community. United Way in Toledo raises even more money than we do. They fund most of the non-profit organizations in the area. Last year I participated in the tax program, and there are any kinds of volunteer opportunities that you could think of. We don't just have to throw our money at them, because as college students we don't have very much, and we can get involved by advocating and volunteering. Whether this is through one of the major volunteer days on campus or in a more personal way, it is a great way to make an impact. I cannot quantify the benefits that I have gotten from this, just seeing the gratitude people express for the help you give them, it can't compare to anything. This week we just started the fall BGSU campaign, and we will be setting pumpkins in the union. I have a sign up sheet if you would like to sell them, we will be in the union from 11-2 P.M. on Wednesday and Friday. These pumpkins were all donated by the Pumpkin Peddler on Main Street. We will be selling them for any change that anyone is willing to give us. We raised about 100 dollars last year, and our goal with this is to get people thinking about United way and making an impact.
- c. Internal Affairs – Benjamin Goldsberry [btgolds@falcon.bgsu.edu](mailto:btgolds@falcon.bgsu.edu)
  - i. About Faces of USG- get your pictures taken before your committee meetings. Also give me your info. I just want to say that last week's attendance at the info sessions was phenomenal. It is really important for the organization that you attend these events. Make sure you do office hours, as well as outside events. Need health and human services, musical arts, off campus, at large, Panhenellic, and Mac seats.
    1. Dettrow- Harry to Chair Sanderson
    2. Preidis- Charley to Senator Juzkiw
- d. Student Affairs – Jordan Sanderson [jmsande@falcon.bgsu.edu](mailto:jmsande@falcon.bgsu.edu)
  - i. I just want to touch on some projects that we are working on. Senator Moyer is working on freshman involvement. Croft is working on diversity block party, showing that USG is listening to student issues. Johnson is working on the commuter lounge. Student affairs committee is running out of issues, so please pass them on to us if you have them.

- XIV. Senator Reports
  - a. N/A
- XV. Advisor's Remarks
  - a. N/A
- XVI. Closing Remarks
  - a. N/A
- XVII. Adjournment
  - a. 8:16 P.M.