

# USG General Assembly Meeting

The Official Agenda of the Undergraduate Student Government General Assembly  
On This Day, 11/19/2012  
(Business Casual Attire Meeting)

- I. Call to Order
  - a. 7:00
- II. Roll Call
  - a. 10 Absent
  - b. 3 Proxy
- III. Approval of Minutes
  - a. Minutes Approved
- IV. Swearing in of New Officers
  - a. Stephanie Padula [spadula@falcon.bgsu.edu](mailto:spadula@falcon.bgsu.edu) Cecelia Williamson at large
- V. Open Forum
  - a. Fraternity and Sorority Housing- Mr. Chris Bullins
    - i. I have a very short presentation for you this evening. About fraternity and sorority housing. I want to start with the beginning. The project actually started in Oct. of 2010, we actually entered into phase one of the project. We were trying to figure out what other campuses were doing about building new housing, and how the entrance rates were growing across the country. What we found from that is while BGSU has seen a decline in membership, across the country universities have seen numbers grow. Other universities weren't looking at stand-alone houses, but more like town-houses or residence halls to make the housing more cost-effective. We did make a decision to build new and demolish current facilities. We entered phase 2 of the project last summer. Goals for this phase were what we will do with BGSU to remedy our housing problem. We had many partners in this project. We knew that we could have to spend a significant amount of time on this. Some of our largest chapters are in our largest houses, and we needed to come up with a plan that would remedy that. We needed to end this phase on making a recommendation for the board of trustees on how to move forward. We've reached out to get feedback from many different sources, and we have come up with recommendations for that. We want to make sure that when we build new we put the right number of beds and the right common size, so that the organization has no more than 24% of its members required to live in the unit, but the common sizes are large enough for recruitment and all of the members to use. We are currently looking at town-home options, which is what we have decided to use. As we look at sight location, option A is property where the current sorority row is, including west across Thurston Street. Option D is the next location we looked at, which is a site on Wooster where fraternity row, as well as Conklin and Harshman spaces. We've done some polling on this site location, and 60% ranked the Wooster street sight as their number one choice for the location. As we look at the building types, the first option is more modern, and the second is more tradition. Moving forward, our next step is to come up with a timeline. We will go back and have another constituents meeting to talk about the project, we meet with the board of trustees on the 7<sup>th</sup> to ask for

permission to move into phase three. We will be talking about displacing options, securing debt, house closing, and talking about demolition and construction. That is where we were in October.

1. Pokorny- What are some of the transition relocation options?
  - a. Bullins- Sarah Waters is on this committee and is looking at those options, and when we come close to having those, we will present them to you.
2. Kochheiser- When are you looking at as far as demolition time?
  - a. Bullins- No earlier than fall of 14. We will go at least another school year in the current houses, and we want to announce that in time for homecoming.
3. Post- Will this increase or decrease the total number of housing beds?
  - a. Bullins- It will decrease. This projected number is to come in just under 420 beds.
    - i. Post- Why?
      1. Bullins- We are not meeting capacity, at this time.
4. Puccio- Are Sororities and Fraternities that have houses guaranteed a house?
  - a. Bullins- We didn't go in guaranteeing a house, and those that have facilities would prefer to have a facility, currently 27-28 are housed, and we are looking to house 32-34.
5. Sosa- Will this change price of housing?
  - a. Bullins- We would be looking at comparable to falcon heights or centennial in terms of price.
6. Pokorny- Will there be a preservation of current buildings?
  - a. Bullins- We are looking into a demolition of all of them, but of course there will be phasing, so some will not need to be torn down until new buildings are in place.
7. Puccio- Will there be bed fines still?
  - a. Bullins- Yes, and those rates will actually be at the market rate of the room, rather than the discounted rate.
    - i. Puccio- Where to bed fines go to?
      1. Bullins- They go to the Office of Residence Life's budget.
8. Solis- There has been talk about a central office for mail, keys, and things like that. What is going on with that idea?
  - a. Bullins- If possible, we would want to integrate that with residence halls, rather than building our own centralized clubhouse. We will have to rethink the staffing options for these new units, and possibly build a new unit that will house a few grad assistants, rather than having one in each unit.
9. Pokorny- Any discussion on traditional versus modern housing?

- a. Bullins- We are getting closer. My thought is the traditional buildings have more class, and we can do more with it than the modern buildings.

10. Juzkiw- I think if you were doing to make it fit more with the BG campus, a more modern look may fit more.

- a. Bullins- With the Wooster site, the Greek property would be the first thing that people coming into the university see.

11. Kochheiser- What are the pros and cons for option D

- a. Bullins- Pros would be everyone being on the same side, in the core of the university, and being one of the first things that people see. There were really no cons, except being farther away from the union.

b. Graduate Student Senate- GSS President David Sleasman

- i. This is my second year as president, and my 3<sup>rd</sup> involved. I started as professional involvement chair. My roll for GSS is to advocate for graduate students. Our GA meetings are to provide info for students and connect with key administrators on campus. I think that our collaboration has provided really good advocacy for all students. Graduate education has gone through significant changes. The previous two years, graduate education has had funding cut, reorganization of graduate college, and loss of programs. With the leadership of Rodgers and Mazey, we have started to move forward in creating a strategic plan. The current strategic plan says nothing for graduate education. GSS also has been working with many groups and committees on similar issues as you have been working on. We have many issues in common, and some that are now. We are working to formalize grievance issues for non-academic issues for graduate students. Within the last few weeks there has been no formal definition of what the roll of graduate assistants are in the university. We have a brown-bag series that is open and welcome to anyone that we hold once a month. By all means, attend if you can. Our biggest event is our Shanklin Awards. Charles Shanklin was on the board of trustees, and he advocated for student representation on the board of trustees. We are happy to be linked to the Shanklins. Over the course of the past 30 years, we have something unique here to bowling green, it is very rare to have someone sponsor and advocate for graduate education and recognition for research excellence. Those are sort of what we have going on in GSS, we are working to make this university more diverse and inclusive, and we want to make all students successful and make everyone's experience positive.

VI. Lobby Time

- a. N/A

VII. Old Business

- a. N/A

VIII. New Business

- a. N/A

IX. Executive Branch Reports

- a. President – Alex Solis

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- i. I wanted to recap the last two weeks. I wasn't here the last meeting. Last meeting I was at I touched on two things; we met with Dr. Rodgers and Dean Carr.

Created an advising summit, and a lot of good things came from that. We talked about getting student input on future talks about advising. They actually presented to Dr. Rodgers this week, but we really want to get the student voice involved in those talks. We talked about major facilities problems, Olscamp will be renovated and completely gutted to make it a completely interactive learning space, starting fall in 2013. Kraikoff wanted to talk about the new business building on campus that will be here in the next 2-5 years. The location is set, which is going to be in the parking lot where carillon is. We met with President Mazey, spoke about housing, rec center renovations, etc. Last thing was the car rental program, we are down to 2 companies and we had interviews with both. We are going into more details and specifics on those.

1. Juzkiw- About the Olscamp renovations, anything on computer lab or printing access?
  - a. Solis- I believe that's considered, but that's not what they are really looking at. Printing is a possibility.
2. Post- Do you know how car rentals will be address as far as insurance goes?
  - a. Solis- We ran into a bug as far as international students, but one company will be offering an exemption as far as the 21 year limit. We are following up with both companies on details.
3. Puccio- What about students who have to student teach or have an internship off campus?
  - a. Solis- You can still rent a car if you are 21.
4. Post- Did they do a survey or a poll to identify student need?
  - a. Solis- No. The student aspect is kind of a part of the contract with the university, so it's just common to integrate that into the contracts.
    - i. Post- will this cost the university more?
      1. Solis- It will not raise student fees any more.
5. Durkit- Where will they house the cars?
  - a. Solis- They have different strategies. One would place them strategically around campus, the other would find spots.
    - i. Durkit- Is it just some sort of kiosk?
      1. Solis- It would be some sort of magnetic card that you would swipe to get into the car.
6. Post- How many cars will there be?
  - a. Solis- One company said 6-15, the other proposed 4-12
7. Gale- I don't understand how this wouldn't increase student fees.
  - a. Solis- You will be renting the car as you use it, so the amount you pay will have to depend on the situation. We will not be adjusting the current student fees to pay for this program.
8. Puccio- Will these cars just have parking passes?
  - a. Solis- They will be validated to park on campus.

- i. COSGA applications were due last Friday, those will be announced before winter break. If you ordered a polo, please turn in your money to Alice or Jon. Have a great Thanksgiving.

c. Cabinet Reports

- i. Preidis- Apply to be an RA, there are info sessions happening all over campus, and it's a really great leadership opportunity. Talk to me for more info. RSA voted on gender neutral housing. This is going to be an option for male and female students to live together. Hoping that USG will also support this initiative in the future.

1. St. Peter- Any thought on where this would be?

- a. Preidis- They are looking into Founders hall because of the suite style living.

X. Procedures and Appeals Reports

- a. Chief Administrator – Evan Colyer [ecolyer@falcon.bgsu.edu](mailto:ecolyer@falcon.bgsu.edu)
  - i. N/A

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. Goldsberry- Committee competition is going until 3<sup>rd</sup> of December, winners will get cookie jar. The week of 26<sup>th</sup> you can pay off office hours 3 for one office hour, 5 for both. All that money will go to St. Baldrick's. Caucus day is on the 26<sup>th</sup>, Davey will be coming in to speak on gender neutral housing.
    1. Pokorny- Can people pay off their deficits?
      - a. Goldsberry- Sure, 5 dollars for each deficit hour.

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. N/A
- c. Internal Affairs – Benjamin Goldsberry [btgolds@falcon.bgsu.edu](mailto:btgolds@falcon.bgsu.edu)
  - i. No office hours this week, but you can use this time to fill your deficits. Office of Sustainability is doing an office sustainability program to make sure that our office fills the requirements for that program.
    1. Clevenger- Harry to President Solis
    2. Gombash- Charley to Post
  - ii. Faces of USG binders will be rolling out sometime next week.
- d. Student Affairs – Jordan Sanderson [jmsande@falcon.bgsu.edu](mailto:jmsande@falcon.bgsu.edu)
  - i. We talked to parking services about a parking ticket issue, talking about people getting an e-mail whenever you get a ticket. They are working on that software at

this time, and the goal is to have this happen by next semester. Last week we had union tables set up to ask students about issues that they have, and a lot that came up were issues that we were already working on or had worked on.

1. Juzkiw- What if a car is ticketed that doesn't have a parking pass?

a. Sanderson- I can ask, because I can see how that would be hard if it wasn't registered.

XIV. Senator Reports

a. Post- Director of international services search committee is reviewing applications, conducting phone interviews for those candidates, hopefully will be completed by the end of the semester.

XV. Advisor's Remarks

a. N/A

XVI. Closing Remarks

a. N/A

XVII. Adjournment

a. 8:27