

USG General Assembly Meeting

The Official Agenda of the Undergraduate Student Government General Assembly
On This Day, 9/24/2012
(Business Casual Attire Meeting)

- I. Call to Order
 - a. 7:28
- II. Roll Call
 - a. 30 Present
 - b. 8 Absent
 - i. Tyler Appt, Dylan Burley, Ayo Ellis, Kelly Frailly, Travis Harbauer, Eric Juzkiw, Joe Lampton, Kathleen Schnerer.
 - c. 1 Late
 - i. Jordan Dettrow
- III. Approval of Minutes
 - a. Minutes approved.
- IV. Swearing in of New Officers
 - a. Proxy for Emily Double - Bridget Gouker
 - b. Proxy for Caitlyn Buelsing - Sarah Patrick
 - c. Proxy for Jessica Scherer - Sherilyn Klatt
 - d. Alyssa Stauffer- At large Senator
 - e. Brianna Sosa- Panhellenic Senator
- V. Open Forum
 - a. Mr. Michael Ginsburg, Ms. Faith Yingling and Mr. Eric Teske- University policies and initiatives on tobacco
 - i. Teske- On the behalf of DASO, we are here to talk about the Tobacco Free Ohio Campuses Initiative. The current profile that we have as of 2010- a National Health survey talked to 777 students who were randomly selected, and they went through a 35-40 minute interview about different health topics. 5.4% of students were daily smokers, 68% had never tried smoking, and 23.5% were what we call 'current users' which means that they have smoked at least one cigarette in the past 30 days. 8.8% of the people surveyed were current smokeless tobacco users, and 1.7% were daily smokeless tobacco users.

The current tobacco policy was established in 1993. This made all of the indoor public spaces of the university smoke free. In 2006 Ohio voters pass the Ohio Smoke-Free Workplace Act banning indoor smoking in public spaces. All residential units on our campus are smoke-free, as well as a 35 foot perimeter around each building.

By 2006, 35 colleges in the US were smoke-free. By 2012, 711 colleges are smoke-free, and 281 are completely tobacco free. It is important to pass things like this because of the changing social norms on campuses, the increasing health care costs across the nation, and increasing our campus exposure, among other

things. The cost of tobacco is \$6.25 for a pack of cigarettes, but it costs the state about \$9.15, and every year the people pay 4.37 billion dollars in smoke-related health care expenditures.

In Ohio there are 8 institutions that are smoke-free, and 5 that are tobacco free. The Board of Regents, who are appointed by the governor, gave a resolution advising institutions to vote tobacco free. That's all the state-level information we have. It just so happens that we looked into this issue in the spring, and we had a survey in place that we could gather information from. We have results from both undergraduate and graduate students. 690 students were surveyed in all, and we randomly chose the classrooms that these surveys were given to, so the students selected to participate in the survey represent a pretty good cross section of the students of the university.

When asked if they believe that BGSU should be a smoke-free campus, 43% said yes, and 17.6% said yes, but only if BG increases support for this, and 39.4% said no. So 60.6% of the students surveyed said yes, but some had some conditions of BG providing other services.

Next steps, taking into account all of the info we just presented, we are asking USG to draft a letter to the president to voice the opinions of their constituents on behalf of a smoke-free campus.

1. Pokorny- The state law is currently a ban on smoking 35 feet away from the buildings, correct?
 - a. Teske- The State put in place the law about smoking inside of buildings. The perimeter is established by Bowling Green State University.
2. Pokorny- I see a lot of signs about this perimeter policy, but they aren't really enforced. How would this new act be enforced?
 - a. Teske- That is a good question, but it is hard to answer without an actual policy in place, but we can look at data from other institutions. If the entire campus is smoke free there will be less of a grey area. If we see smoking at all, we know that they are breaking a policy. 67% of other institutions with this policy reported no issues, and the others only had minor issues.
 - i. Pokorny- Were these other schools the same size as ours?
 1. Teske- I don't really know the answer to that.
3. Solis- Would a violation of this policy fall under student conduct or an issue with University Police?
 - a. Ginsburg- It would depend on who it was. If it is a student, they would be put through the student conduct process. If this is a faculty or staff member, or a non-student, that will be handled by university police.
4. E. Johnson- What exactly are the initiatives that you are proposing?
 - a. Teske- If you are asking if we have drafted a policy, we have not.

5. E. Johnson- How do you plan on getting student support without an actual policy to show them?
 - a. Ginsburg- One of our first steps is coming before you all. This proposal is based on the strong recommendations of everyone, and we want to get the opinions of many other student groups. It is difficult.
6. Chair Durkit- You said that 17% would be for this if BG provided support. How would BG do that?
 - a. Teske- We already have those programs in place. Students are welcome to work with drug and alcohol councilors. There have also been sessions in the past that have fallen away because people weren't attending. It's not that the university isn't willing to help, because the university does want to help.
7. Wilson- In regards to residents who live on campus, how will they be able to smoke if that is what they want to do? This is their home, and they should have somewhere that they can go.
 - a. Ginsburg- We will look into that when we actually create the policy.
8. Dzienny- That's time.
 - a. Pokorny- Motion to extend time by five minutes.
 - i. Clevenger- Seconded.
 1. Dzienny- Time extended by five minutes.
9. Pokorny- What are the benefits of going completely tobacco free?
 - a. Teske- A number of the issues are public health care costs. Most of the tobacco users are under 26, and if we can delay that use at all it can result in a reduction of health care costs. We want to prevent people from being exposed early on.
10. Clevenger- What should we tell people who are smokers if this is passed? How should we communicate with them?
 - a. Teske- At other campuses there is usually a very long period between when it is signed and when the policy is actually in affect to allow for signage, and it is also a time to allow people to quit if that is what they are trying to do, and to give people information on the policy.
11. Solis- Do you foresee an impact on enrollment?
 - a. Teske- 58% of other schools had no change in enrollment, others saw their enrollment increase, and none saw a negative change in their enrollment. This was an institutional study.
12. Kochheiser- Have the students generally liked this policy at other universities?
 - a. Teske- I don't have any data on that.
 - b. Ginsburg- It is very difficult to create a policy, or any change at all, where every single person likes it.

b. Ryan Sowers- Student Capital Campaign

- i. My name is Ryan Sowers and I am the chair of the Legacy Campaign, which is a new initiative this year. The Legacy Campaign kicked off on the 7th of September, and the idea was formed last April, and we basically were trying to create student philanthropy. The committee is made of myself, Solis, Neely, Colyer, and a few others. Each of us were targeted because we have fundraising experience, leadership experience, and a wide reach with the students on campus. Our mission is to foster a culture of giving on campus, and we want students to give as undergrads, as well as alumni.

The Capital Campaign has a goal of raising \$250,000 in two years. This money would be going towards the gateway project, in which we plan on tearing down the current administration building and making a new gateway. We want to inspire the old traditions of Bowling Green.

The keys of this campaign are to inspire philanthropy, and let students know that it is important to give back. We want to give students the opportunity to be inspired, boost Falcon spirit, and engage the BGSU supporters – that is anyone who is involved with BGSU in any way. We also want to foster donor appreciation, and why the money that those donors give is important. We want a 50% student participation rate, and we are reaching out to every organization on campus to get people inspired.

USG is the second organization that we have presented to. Our next step will be to go to residence halls with trash for cash, the money from which will go towards our campaign. We want to recognize student donors via Facebook and Twitter, and whatever you or your student organization gives we will try to come out to your chapter or organization and recognize that. We also will have a Thank fund, and we will set up cards to sign in the Union to show donors that we do care about money being given.

To raise money we plan on incentivizing people, essentially sweetening the deal for people to give. We want them to come out, give, and let them know that they will also receive. We have things like President for A Day, where you can enter a raffle and if you win you will be President of the University for the day. We have a benefit dinner this spring, and we also have a vending card, so we can get students involved by selling food outside the Education building or other buildings on campus. President Mazey is backing us 100%, and she truly believes in us. Jill Carr is also on board. We have raised \$10,000 and we just started in September.

1. Chair Durkit- I noticed that the rendering of the new gateway has more of a modern feel. Why was that decided on aesthetically? Why not go for a more traditional feel?
 - a. Sowers- We are trying to modernize campus, and we are trying to modernizing the gateway to be the new face of the university. We want to hold onto that tradition while still pushing towards the future.
2. Post- Students are giving X amount of dollars already, why should we tell students to give more?
 - a. Sowers- About 90 million dollars of the university expenses aren't covered by tuition dollars. That is why it's important.

3. Chair Durkit- With this being a new gateway; are there also plans of changing parking, because most people don't enter on that side of campus?
 - a. Sowers- It will probably be more of a metaphorical gateway. It used to be a road, but we don't have enough information now to know what it actually will end up looking like.
4. Chair Durkit- Can you explain 'Free Tuition' day?
 - a. Solis- Febuary 22nd is the day when our tuition dollars go out, so it will be more of an education day. With state funding dropping, it is a gauging of this is where we are at, and this is where your dollars take us to.
 - b. Sowers- Once the initial project is finished, we will also be establishing a scholarship, but that is way off. If anyone would like to give today, I have pledge cards, and they are also online. You can turn them into Alex or to me.

VI. Lobby Time

- a. N/A

VII. Old Business

- a. Constitution Revisions- Senator Goldsberry

- i. From here, we will discuss options 1 and 4 primarily, and we will vote on the final option. Once we choose that, it will be a 51% vote for one of the options, and we will need to vote on the passing of the constitution and the bylaws, which both need $\frac{3}{4}$ vote. I hope that you all read what I sent out.
 1. Adamski- Looking at the two options that were chosen, right now there is only 1 P and A member. In order for there to be an investigative body they need to have 4-5 people, so there are not enough people right now. If we were to choose option one, any investigations that would come up would go to exec board, so option 1 is really option 4.
 2. Wilson- Aren't we working on P and A? I will assume that in 2-3 weeks we will have a P and A board, so that point is redundant to me. We should be looking at that, rather than where we currently are.
 - a. Goldsberry- That's one thing that was discussed, because this is a change in the constitution, it should be a solid thing that you should only have to look at once in a while, so when we make this decision it should be for the long run.
 3. Taylor- Colyer is actively getting a P and A board right now, and it is a requirement for the Chief Administrator to have a P and A board, so we shouldn't have to worry about that in the long run. If for some reason he isn't fulfilling that requirement, that's why we have a system of checks and balances.
 4. Chair Durkit- There has been a problem in the past with P and A, but Colyer is doing well currently. While it is a requirement, it has been a problem in the past getting members to P and A, and people haven't been meeting that requirement. It is hard for us to see what P and A is going to be because we haven't actively tied it in with us. If we have 4 people in P and A, then there would be enough people to make it work, but there have been some problems with that in the past.

- a. Goldsberry- Option 1 does have that contingency plan that exec board would take over if P and A can't do their job, but P and A does need 4 members with the Chief of Staff to function.
5. E. Johnson- If option 4 was chosen, would you change the constitution and bylaws so that Colyer wouldn't need a board?
 - a. Durkit- They also handle voting and parking, so this wouldn't be diminishing their power in any way. If we went with number 1, it could be seen as strengthening the board and may increase membership.
6. Puccio- Would you say that option 4 would give exec too much power?
 - a. Goldsberry- Investigation is not a judicial process, and they don't have the power to say whether a person is guilty or not- that still goes to the senate. It is just investigation, and that is the only thing we are taking about right now.
7. Foster- when is the last time charges have been brought against someone? It is has been 6-7 years, I don't see why we are doing this right now.
 - a. Goldsberry- The last time was 3 years ago, and the time before was 5 years ago.
8. Chair Durkit- The idea of moving it to exec board is that each individual has a reduction, because each member has a different place that they are coming from. This would dilute the power. They are also more in tune with the process of the senate, and you also have representation from P and A with Colyer.
9. Puccio- Considering that everyone on exec board would be more or less on the same page, I wouldn't see it as a reduction or power because they would probably be all in agreement. I would see it as a little biased. We need people who are open-minded, and are looking at things without bias.
 - a. Chair Durkit- Half of the exec members are elected, and everyone on P and A is appointed, so there may actually be more of a consensus of opinion when they are appointed.
 - b. Goldsberry- Bias will be present one way or another. P and A is a bit more separate, and there can be pros and cons for that. Things to think about are, like Chair Durkit said, the Chief Administrator is appointed by the president, and everyone on P and A is appointed by the Chief Administrator, so there is no voice of the students there. 7 people on exec are voted in by the students. They already have the voice of the students and the senate, and they know how USG works. In P and A there is no requirement that they have to know what is going on in USG.
 - i. Dzienny- Remember that appointed positions must be approved by the senate.
10. Pokorny- There wasn't always a lot of consensus in the way we think of things when I sat on exec board. I don't want you all to think that exec board just always agrees with each other, because they don't.

- a. Chair Durkit- Today even there was a lot of debate on this subject.
- 11. Wilson- Why fix what's not broken? We trust P and A with elections, why shouldn't we trust them with investigation if we trust them with electing everyone else?
- 12. Foster- Jill turned down the legislation because she thought there was a conflict of interests.
 - a. Chair Durkit- It was turned down because all of internal review was in internal affairs, and she wanted a separation of the two functions.
- 13. Adamski- It could be opposite with biases because P and A has no involvement and they may not know what actually happens in a GA meeting, or they may not know the rules of the governing documents.
- 14. Pokorny- When you say that the Chief Administrator worked with parking, wasn't that greatly reduced? Why is that such a big issue? Maybe we should rewrite his powers.
 - a. Goldsberry- There used to be a lot more work in P and A, and it was kind of a requirement that there be more people to do more work. A lessening of the responsibilities of the board caused less members.
- 15. Foster- Even though P and A is elected, they would be investigating based on facts, not on knowing who people are.
 - a. Goldsberry- I think the point was them not knowing how USG works, not them not knowing the specific people being investigated.
- 16. Wilson- Why was P and A formed, then? Was there an issue with IA last time? And when were they given that responsibility? Clearly before we thought that investigation needed to be handled by an outside body.
 - a. Goldsberry- I have no information on that, it was before my time.
- 17. Goldsberry- Remember we are voting on option 1 or option 4. I will read the descriptions one more time. Option 1 means keeping the documents as before, adding a just in case plan giving power of investigation to exec board if P and A cannot fulfill the duties. The bringing of charges would still be in Internal Affairs. Option 4 would mean giving power of investigation to exec board, and bringing of charges would still be in Internal Affairs. We can approve the documents tonight because we have the exact articles and sections already.
 - a. Dzienny- We will move into a vote.
 - i. Option 1- 15 votes
 - ii. Option 4- 7 votes
 - iii. 4 abstentions
 - b. Dzienny- Option 1 has it.
- 18. Dzienny- We will move into the passing of the bylaws and the constitution. Senator Goldsberry will simply paste in the new wording.

We will vote on applying and implementing these new changes. We will now open it up to discussion.

a. Foster- Move to put the constitution to a vote.

i. Chair Durkit- Seconded

1. Votes

a. 25 ayes

b. 0 nays

c. 1 abstention

b. Dzienny- The amendments to the constitution are passed.

19. Dzienny- Move into voting on the amendments to the bylaws.

a. Foster- Move to put the bylaws to a vote

i. Clevenger- Seconded.

1. Votes

a. 25 ayes

b. 0 nays

c. 1 abstention

b. Dzienny- The amendments to the bylaws are passed.

VIII. New Business

a. S.R. 2012/2013- 01- Senator Dettrow

i. Dettrow- This is a resolution that formally supports the official passing of a new constitution.

ii. Dzienny- The floor is now open to initial reactions.

1. Dzienny- Seeing none, the legislation will be let out for discussion for one week.

a. Chair Durkit- Move to put to emergency legislation

i. Foster- Seconded

1. Votes

a. 26 ayes

b. 0 nays

2. Dzienny- We will have a voice vote on the call to previous question. All in favor will say aye, and not in favor will say nay.

a. Majority ayes.

3. Dzienny- Chair would like to motion to vote on the passing of the legislation.

a. Pokorny- Seconded

b. Clevenger- Seconded.

i. Votes

1. 26 ayes

2. 0 nays

4. Dizenny- The resolution is passed.

IX. Executive Branch Reports

a. President – Alex Solis

asolis@falcon.bgsu.edu

i. Ben Goldsberry has put in a lot of work and he deserves recognition. Just a quick plug for homecoming, there will be a list of events online at homecoming.bgsu.edu. Friday is the first board of trustees meeting of the fall, and there are very few action items on the floor. They will be voting to move forward with the President's strategic plan, and it will allow Mazey's committee to move forward with its green initiatives. The new health center, the recreational center, and Greek housing will also be brought forward.

Smoke-free campus was brought up, and Mazey is looking for a letter of support from us. There was a poll posted today through social media, and we also had a Union table to gauge students' opinions on this. In December we will have a letter from us supporting or not supporting this initiative. Wednesday there will be a strategic planning session in the Student Union Theatre at 7:30 P.M, and there will be people there speaking about the plans for the university.

b. Vice President – David Neely

dneely@falcon.bgsu.edu

i. N/A

c. Cabinet Reports

i. N/A

X. Procedures and Appeals Reports

a. Chief Administrator – Evan Colyer

ecolyer@falcon.bgsu.edu

i. N/A

XI. Treasurer's Report

a. Treasurer – Jon Zachrich

jdzachr@falcon.bgsu.edu

i. N/A Report will be e-mailed this week.

XII. Speaker's Report

a. Speaker of the Senate – Melissa

mdzienn@falcon.bgsu.edu

i. We did deliver the pizza to Toledo, and that was completed successfully. We need to arrange times for new senator orientation, so I need all the new senators to see me after the meeting. If you want to be at the union tables, I brought a form so you can sign up for times, and that will be this Friday. The Fly with a Falcon program is now up and running. This program allows for incoming students to have an extended visit here with a BGSU student, and they can meet 1 on 1 with someone who will take them to classes or lunch or both. This program dates back to 2012, and they are testing the pilot program out this fall. Hopefully we will have answers on that this spring.

1. St. Peter- How do students get involved in that?

a. Dzienny- It is done though the Your Fellow Falcon program, and I will be meeting with the head of YFF and he will be coming here to see what you all would think about getting involved with this program.

XIII. Committee Reports

- a. Academic Affairs – Kallie Durkit kdurkit@falcon.bgsu.edu
 - i. No Report.
- b. Auxiliary Affairs – Katie Post kpost@falcon.bgsu.edu
 - i. No report.
- c. Internal Affairs – Benjamin Goldsberry btgolds@falcon.bgsu.edu
 - i. I just want to touch on the Faces of USG. Last week didn't really work out. I will be working on getting a camera to take pictures, and we are working on getting the info you all gave us into a document.

16 people are on my uh-oh list, and you will be receiving an e-mail about office hour deficits and attendance problems. The office hour list is up. I take them down on Mondays, mid afternoon, so please mark your office hours before that, and make sure that you are doing those because they are important. A three hour deficit means no voting rights, a 4 hour deficit means censure.

Finally, we have Harry and Charley to give away. Harry will be given out by Senator Durkit.

 - 1. Durkit- I'd like to give Harry to Senator Post because she has been working really hard on ROC-U, and it turned out to be really awesome, and she is awesome.
 - ii. Goldsberry- Charley will be given out by Speaker Dzienny.
 - 1. Dzienny- Charley will be given to Secretary Banham.
- d. Student Affairs – Jordan Sanderson jmsande@falcon.bgsu.edu
 - i. The Enclave meet and greet is this Wednesday at 7. Union tables were today, and thank you to everyone who showed up. We had an outstanding participation. 68 total students voted, out of those 68- 43 said they were for smoke-free campus, and 25 were against it. So please keep those numbers in mind, and please sign up for Friday's tables.

XIV. Senator Reports

- a. Supinger- Fly with a Falcon is an awesome program, and I know that Speaker Dzienny and I are very excited about it.
- b. Post- I wanted to talk to you for a second about United Way, which is an umbrella non-profit that gives money to other, smaller organizations. Typically students don't have a big affect in this organization, but we are having a penny war with UAS. You will see that jar pop up with instructions on how to participate in that competition.

XV. Advisor's Remarks

- a. Webb- I wanted to take a minute to give the group some info related to Obama's visit on Wednesday. I serve as a student affairs representative for the logistics team. We ask you to please remember that while this is a great opportunity, and it is very positive, please keep in mind that they are renting a BGSU facility, and our goal is really to help manage the event- it is not our event. While they are interested in our input, it was never our call who would be featured. We will not be taking any stance on who should be included. I hope you all had the opportunity to get a ticket.

I know there were a lot of questions on why the students were not involved. This was run very much by White House Officials. I just wanted to clarify that. We are not looking at significant road closures, but there will be some on Wooster and Mercer. There will be many police officers that will be helping the flow, and you should not feel like your

regular day is being interrupted. Dr. Mazey will be at USG next Monday. If any of you have been a part of the discussions with her, she will probably have some prepared comments, but she loves q and a. She will be interested in your thoughts and ideas, and this is an exciting opportunity.

XVI. Closing Remarks

XVII. Adjournment

a. 9:06 P.M.