

USG General Assembly Meeting

The Official Agenda of the Undergraduate Student Government General Assembly

On This Day, 11/18/2013

Room 308 BTSU

(Business Professional Attire Meeting)

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call
- III. Approval of Minutes
 - a. Minutes stand approved.
- IV. Swearing in of New Officers
 - a. Daniel Rosineau –Procedures & Appeals
 - b. Alex Ervin- Procedures & Appeals
 - c. Victoria Muniez- Procedures & Appeals
 - d. Page Bocaris- Procedures & Appeals
 - e. Jenn Romanin- Procedures & Appeals
 - f. Nick Horton- Procedures & Appeals
 - g. Matt Mazur- Academic Affairs Chair (Please see New Business)
- V. Open Forum
 - a. Dr. Rodney Rogers – Provost and VP for Academic Affairs
 - i. Thank you so much. I had the opportunity to be here about a year ago, and share some comments and observations. You may ask, how many have a clue what a provost does? In general, my role at the university as chief Academic Affairs officer is to ensure the experience our students have is world-class. Working on ways we can enhance the academic experience, as well as making it a great value for you. In that light, there are 3 divisions I oversee: The colleges, enrollment management (financial aid, registration and records), research and economic development.
 - ii. There's actually a long list of items we are working on. Aligned with the strategic plan. 7 specific initiatives. First initiative is ensuring we have a strong and connected undergraduate experience. We continue to work on LINK courses. Freshmen may be enrolled in LINK courses. This was the first class to enroll in them. The reason we do link courses is because it leads to a more engaged student community. Working on learning communities, ensure that the funding is there to provide all the learning communities comparable support for student involvement. Undergrad research is another. Institutions that have students involved in research projects have higher levels of student presentences of degree completion,

prepare students for graduate work, and career opportunities. Looking for head of undergrad research. Trying to do 3+2, and 4+1 degrees. Large array of graduate programs. Clearer pathways to graduate programs. If we have strength there, it makes sense to marry those programs, allow undergraduates to work on that. Geo-Spatial is one where we believe students can begin their masters while still an undergrad at BG.

- iii. Goal II is really around graduate programming. Accelerated Bachelor's/Master's. Research capacity of our faculty.
- iv. Goal III is about how we are linked in our region and beyond. Working with a lot of new programs, new partnerships. Partnered with Wood County for the Falcon Health Center. Talking closely with Owens, Lorain County, to create pathways for students who wish to come to Bowling Green. Continue to work on ways to be relevant to our region and beyond. Have a lot of students who participate in service-based learning projects. A lot of organizations do community service. Be able to articulate the impact that BGSU has on our community. Has a lot to do with the student and faculty involvement in above goals.
- v. "What have you done to ensure professors are accepting of diversity?", "What are your thoughts on the Call to Action?" Those two questions are linked to the strategic goal that asks to have a diverse and inclusive community. Last spring, we started the Not In Our Town initiative, kick-off event is tonight. City and university working together. There's a lot of different activities going on. Those activities are positive, but it's also the things that we do, the actions we take. The Call to Action that has been presented to Jill Carr, president, long discussions at Cabinet. One of the goals was curricular, making sure we have appropriate courses that deal with diversity and inclusion issues. Is the purview specifically of the faculty. Initial discussion has begun with Undergraduate Council. Call to Action asks for a more focused curriculum. Since Faculty control that curriculum, Undergraduate Council will be key group to have discussions.
- vi. Academic Honesty Policy
 1. It seems to me that we have two processes going on right now. One about academic honesty, and one of the Student Code of Conduct, in terms of social behavior. At the end of the day, we should have one approach that lists our expectations of members of this

community. There has been some work by many groups to move forward, more holistic approach, clearer about our expectations as a member of this community. Those expectations have an academic component. If those expectations are not met, how do we handle those. Ensure students have a fair hearing. I do think that with two separate processes running at the same time, I don't think it produces clarity to members of our academic community.

vii. There is not a list of programs to be added or deleted. However, we are constantly looking for programs in which Bowling Green can create a new undergraduate degree that would serve a student, serve the citizens of Ohio. New specialization in Forensics. Some work on analytics and data science. There's ways we can take existing strengths at BG, create programs that have great needs to society, serve the student well. Also looking for programs where there is not student demand. Any university would be looking at programs we can create and grow, programs that no longer serve their purpose.

viii. Questions

1. Chair Durkit- I understand there's a tightening of the budget.

Impact on number of degrees, automatic scholarships,

a. Dr. Rogers-We'll start with the scholarships. The commitments we make with scholarships will continue to be supported. Planning for new Fall class. Don't anticipate any cuts in budgets in regards to scholarships in those things. Reallocation of specialized scholarships. Made reallocations a year and a half ago. No significant change planned.

b. Dr. Rogers-With majors, we offer over 200 majors. U of M offers around 90. We're unusual in the amount of program we offer. Any university is constantly thinking about what array of programs do we offer, what programs do we need to develop. The problem in higher education is that we continue to think about new programs, do not think about if programs are coming to the end of its main purpose. Over time, if we decrease the number of majors, you might not see immediate savings. Constantly looking at those kinds of

things. Undergrad council, part of their charge is to look at the vibrancy of our programs.

- c. There's two groups of faculty. Tenure track faculty, and non. Each tenure track faculty goes through a yearly review that leads to tenure and promotion. Allows them to be promoted. Also have an important group of faculty. Instructors, lecturer, senior lecturers. Most enter as Instructors. Those instructors are on 3 year annually-renewable contracts. As our enrollment grows or shrinks, we have the opportunity to adjust the level of faculty. Another aspect of my role is to find a way to deliver this education, limiting future tuition increases. We're trying to keep BGSU affordable, keep it a good value. Appropriate number of faculty. Smaller classes change the need of teaching capacity. Those adjustments occur every year. In periods of large budget

ix. Motion to extend time by 5 minutes.

1. Moved by Chair Juzkiw.

- a. Seconded by Chair Puccio.

x. Questions

1. Senator Puffenberger- Heard issues with math labs. What's the best way for students to give feedback on these types of issues.

- a. Dr. Rogers- Step one is course evaluation at the end of the term. Cannot tell you how important it is for students to add comments. Encourage all students to actively participate in this process. I spent the last few weeks in the residence halls, asking about issues. Some concerned me. In any course, if there are concerns, bring it up to the faculty member first. They have the ability to immediately bring about change. If there's no satisfaction there, each department has a department chair. Each chair's responsibility is to oversee that department. That's the next step. If not satisfied, you need to go to the dean. If you reach that stage, hopefully you've been given a explanation or rationale, or what potential changes are occurring. If you

get no satisfaction there, you should come see me. Our approach for the Math Emporium...we've looked at the approaches of other universities. What we've learned at Bowling Green is that we didn't have enough support in the supplemental instruction side. David Neel is overseeing the implementation of the math emporium, been thinking a lot about spring term, make sure we

xi. Motion to extend time by 10 minutes.

1. Moved by Chair Durkit.

a. Seconded by Chair Juzkiw.

xii. Questions

1. Chair Juzkiw- Possible new courses. Music Business, pre-Student Affairs.

a. Dr. Rogers-Those are great ideas. With the music business degree, would it be 50-50?

i. Chair Juzkiw- It'd be 50-50. Students would have a recording tech realm under the Music side, take courses on the business side, to run a business.

1. Dr. Rogers- CMA added the BA in Music to allow more flexibility.

2. Dr. Rogers- We have a lot of strength in student affairs.

2. Senator O'Brien- I've heard some concerned with mixed honors/regular courses.

a. Dr. Rogers- As you probably know, we changed the name of the program to the Honors College. We have a dean for that college. Dr. Morgan-Russell decided to step out of Arts & Science, focus on Honors College. Dean Morgan-Russell and I have had many discussions on how best to ensure a strong curriculum, sustainable. Support faculty. In the past, faculty volunteered their time, or taught out of their load, to be a nice person. Want to formalize that. If faculty wish to teach honors courses, there's clear expectations. Could be in load, counts as one of their courses for regular workload. Could be out of load. Better process for determining faculty

who want to teach in that area. I'm not suggesting that this is starting over. There's an opportunity to formalize that program. Creating a college is the first step to having a formal budget, formal curricular process, involved Undergraduate Council. Expectations of growing that program.

3. Senator Mazur- You get a scholarship based upon your entering GPA. If students are succeeding, is there a change?
 - a. Dr. Rogers-The initial scholarships the university awards are based upon GPA and test scores. As a dean, I was constantly raising money for succeeding students. I think it would behoove of us to continue to raise funds. Raise philanthropy dollars to greatly enhance opportunities available.
 - b. Dr. Rogers-Talked about the paths students can take to receive scholarships.
4. Senator Mazur- Is there something done for students who don't find success in college?
 - a. Dr. Rogers-It is GPA based. To maintain that scholarship, you need to maintain a 3.0. Those are the general University scholarships. Other ones may have a different requirement.
5. Senator St Peter- There has been some talk about the potential for the addition of two additional minors: management, and coaching. Could you bring us up to speed?
 - a. Dr. Rogers-Business management and Sports Coaching. Both passed undergraduate council. Both have been recommended by CAA, recommended to go to SEC. We're in a position to launch those for fall 2014.
6. Senator Puffenberger- are there any more plans to extend the STEM offerings for students?
 - a. Dr. Rogers-The governor made it clear, board of regents made it clear that there needs to be an increase of students in the STEM field. There's some wonderful opportunities for the university. We have some fascinating research

going on, changes how we teach STEM fields, and shape curriculum around the world. I think in the STEM fields, we're interested in STEM education, forensic science, computer science, within that field, software engineering. We have a large biology program, quite strong marine biology program. Fascinating collaboration with Toledo Zoo, around the coast. We're constantly trying to find ways to grow programs in that area. Serves students in Ohio.

7. Senator Puffenberger- What are ways students can give feedback in terms of those programs?

a. Dr. Rogers-Send me an e-mail. Or send an e-mail within that department, meet with the department chair, discuss those ideas. If they are inter-disciplinary, maybe it would be best to start with the deans. Depending upon the area, department

xiii. Motion to extend time by 10 minutes

1. Moved by Senator Mazur.

a. Seconded by Chair Durkit.

xiv. Questions

1. Chair Juzkiw- Academic Affairs does a lot of on-campus students. What could AA do for off-campus students?

a. Dr. Rogers-One issue we're working on is academic advising. How do we provide our advisors and students with the tools to plan clear pathways to degree completion. Have we provided you with the tools to map out our degree completion. Provides us with information on what your plans are, we can do a better job of scheduling courses to ensure students can graduate efficiently. DARS, we've done multiple upgrades. Will have final upgrade December 31st, linking with Falcon Advising and Career Engagement System (FACES). What do you think?

i. Chair Juzkiw- I think there's some great things, but also a lot of loose end to tie up.

1. Dr. Rogers-The intent is to create a system for students to map out their program. Help

students think about graduate degrees, things students can be involved in that will position you to be successful in your first job. That's for all students, that AA is involved in. I'm happy to hear suggestions and ideas.

2. Senator Robison- Switch from paper to paperless surveys. There's significant drop in participation.
 - a. Dr. Rogers-I think the importance of those surveys is not acknowledged. They are all read. If we have a decrease in participation, it's a challenge for us. It's hard to get feedback to improve, evaluate faculty. My understanding is that it is linked to learning management system. When the course evaluation is linked to that LMS, Using that Learning Management System in a holistic way, participation seems to be fairly high. Clearly, I've not seen the specific data on that decline. Long-term, we have to have strong participation in that questionnaire. I didn't answer your questions, but it's an issue for us. We can tie it into Canvas, our learning management system.
3. Senator Robison- Is there a reason to switch to online, other than green initiatives
 - a. Dr. Rogers-Get feedback more quickly. Efficiency in processing those evaluations. Feedback that is early and often is important. The longer you wait, the less effective that feedback is. I think there's some efficiency, feedback to the faculty, allows us to do it much more quickly.
4. Senator Devereaux- I was talking to one of my professors the other day. She had discussed outsourcing some of the training, sexual harassment training.
 - a. Dr. Rogers-What I can say in that issue, office of Equity and Diversity has been involved there. In all of these decisions, we're trying to weigh those pros and cons. This company does this works with many universities. Designed for universities. For us to recreate those programs, in order to meet those requirements...there are legal requirements

on what needs to be included, legal exposure if we do not include. Using a company that has experience in this would be cost effective, and prudent.

- xv. As an undergrad, I was involved in student government. Great way to shape the direction of this institution. Taking on this leadership position, representing students of Bowling Green, want to thank you.
- xvi. Rrogers@bgsu.edu. Feel free to contact me. We are focused on student success here at Bowling Green. That's the great part of being apart of this faculty.

- VI. Lobby Time
- VII. Old Business
- VIII. New Business

- a. S.R. 2013/2014-04 – Eric Juzkiw and Matt Mazur
 - i. Hello everyone. Senator Mazur and I have put forth a resolution.
 - ii. On October 28th, a portion of USG attended a Call to Action meeting. After that meeting, some of Senate Leadership and individuals had a pow-wow to discuss our own plan of action. This resolution is directly stemming from where we stood. Support the overarching goals of what Call to Action was trying to do, without connecting to some of how they were working.
 - iii. Please see attached.
 - iv. Initial Reaction
 - 1. Chair Puccio
 - a. I really do like this resolution. You spent time wording this carefully, picking out some of the feasible qualities of Call to Action. Our job is to represent the students, make sure their voices are heard.
 - i. Chair Juzkiw- We've been trying to meet with the Call to Action leadership. Trying to have meetings with Chair Juzkiw, Senator Mazur, Speaker Post, and Treasurer Johnson. We could all sit in a room, and figure out what would be best for everyone.
 - ii. Senator Mazur- If you've been to a Call to Action, you understand the differences. We differ in how we go about making change. We support the multicultural and inclusive ideas behind the change. We decided to go about things from a different angle, utilize strengths within USG.

- b. What have been faculty and administration response?
 - i. Chair Juzkiw- Administrators are on-board. Good that USG is taking an interest. Haven't talked to faculty yet, on the
 - ii. Senator Mazur- Made a lot of preliminary meetings. We know a lot about their interest in listening to USG, to Call to Action. I think that what I've gotten is that they're taking an interest. A sense of pride in students for taking this step. No formal reaction yet.

2. Treasurer Johnson

- a. At the meeting in which USG was at, they discussed the feasibility of minority members of administrators and board of trustees. I do remember it being a point, they did research, and realized there is minority representation on BoT.
 - i. Juzkiw- Might be able to strike that from this.

v. Chair entertains a motion to table legislation.

- 1. So moved by Chair Puccio.
 - a. Seconded by Senator Devereaux.

b. Election of the Auxiliary Affairs Chair

i. The Chair entertains nominators for the office of Auxiliary Affairs Chair

- 1. Chair Durkit nominates Senator Mazur.
 - a. Accepts.
- 2. Senator Shearer nominates Senator Dudek.
 - a. Declined.
- 3. Senator St. Peter nominates Senator Shearer.
 - a. Declined.

ii. Senator Mazur

- 1. Hello. I'm Matt Mazur, I am an off-campus senator, and serve on academic affairs. I wrote the resolution supporting Ay Ziggy Zoomba as a full fight song. I sat through these meetings and observed. My role in USG has been defined by my involvement with the President's Climate Commitment. I serve on the working group for that piece of legislation for the university. I'm in constant contact with Bruce Meyer [Assistant Vice President of Campus Operations], Nick Hennessey [Sustainability Coordinator]. These are people I work with on a regular basis. Moving forward as a university, we can do a lot to improve our green initiatives. I created an organization called Future Education Leaders of America, quickly sprouted to 160 members. I do the organization and structure of

that group. I think I've laid the building blocks through my involvement. I'm asking you today to put me into a position to get a committee behind me.

iii. Questions

1. Chair Juzkiw- Have you worked with Dining?
 - a. Senator Mazur- Worked closely with Mike Paulus. Also met with Sara Meyer.
2. Senator Huggins- What other initiatives are you planning on working on?
 - a. Senator Mazur- I'm always open to new initiatives. We have a good structure in place with the Green Fund. Some initiatives include Dashboard, allow us to see data usage in building. Also looking into single-stream recycling. Looking into writing a resolution to support that. There's a number of things I have thoughts of, but the plastic bag initiative is the only thing I can claim as my own.

iv. Results

1. Senator Matt Mazur has been elected as the Academic Affairs Chair.

IX. Executive Branch Reports

- a. President – Alex Solis asolis@bgsu.edu
 - i. University Council
 1. Meeting with Cabinet, constituent presidents.
 - ii. United Way
 1. It is the University's official philanthropic organization. Lots of events, donations,. If you have any questions, Katie Post is a great resource. She'd be happy to help.
 - iii. Green Certification
 1. On step 8 of 9. Last step is a walk through our office.
 - iv. Not in Our Town Meet.
 1. USG collaborated with the Collective on this initiative. Tonight was the kick-off event in the ballroom. Flyer is posted in the office on my door, and on the office window. It's the everyday actions that keep
 - v. Accenture
 1. Brought in to discuss efficiency issues. Will be issuing a report in the second week of December. They're not official, they are recommendations to the President. The university committed to full transparency, with workshops and open forums to follow.
 - vi. Academic Honesty Policy

1. Keeping this on the senate's radar. Needs to be re-looked at. It's USG's role to look into that process.
- b. Vice President – David Neely dneely@bgsu.edu
 - i. President Solis
 1. Shoutout to Danielle Parker for filling her board so quickly. The Senate is at your service.
 2. Library Initiatives
 - a. Tying up the last details. Plays a factor into retention and student engagement.
 3. Simon Morgan-Russell
 - a. Switching to Honors College. Process to find a new Dean of Arts and Sciences has begun. There will be an undergraduate student on that committee.
 - c. Cabinet Reports
- X. Procedures and Appeals Reports
 - a. Chief Administrator – Danielle Parker dnparker@bgsu.edu
 - i. No report.
- XI. Treasurer's Report
 - a. Treasurer – Ebonee Johnson eboneej@bgsu.edu
 - i. Congratulations to Senator Billings on her marriage.
 - ii. SBC
 1. Will be having our last hearing December 3rd. Currently doing really well with funding organizations. Orgsync is becoming easier to work with.
 - iii. USG
 1. I encourage you all to attend the Not In Our Town events this week. This is something we have collaborated on.
 - iv. Collaborative Initiative Forms
 1. Have received forms. Currently working on those. Also, do not forget that our money is our way to work together in USG. We will be having Paint the Rock on Thursday. Something to get together. Continue to come with initiatives. Open to any suggestions.
- XII. Speaker's Report
 - a. Speaker of the Senate – Katie Post kpost@bgsu.edu
 - i. United Way
 1. More than welcome to answer any questions. If anyone is interested in serving on that board next year, please let me know, I'll take you along.

2. Our second guest, Sarah Swegan, was going to talk about different resources that students can use. If you know of anyone that is struggling financially, please let me know. We can get that started before Ms. Swegan comes in.
- ii. Senator Reports
 1. I've responded to the first half. I will finish the rest in the new few days. If you do not see comments there, please let me know.
 2. Penny Wars
 - a. We have a jar up in the office. All the money raised goes to the United Way.

XIII. Committee Reports

- a. Academic Affairs – Kasie Durkit durkitk@bgsu.edu
 - i. Hi everyone. Congratulations to the new Auxiliary Affairs chair, Matt Mazur.
 - ii. Provost Rogers
 1. Good questions!
 - iii. Section size
 1. .75% increase in class sizes. There are section sizes. There are sections from 0-24, 50-100, 100-150, and over 200. In 2012-2013, there was a decrease of 200 classes in the 0-24 classes. 50-100 there is an increase of 37 sections. In 100-150 student classes, there was an increase of 20. Only 5 sections now with over 250 students.
 - iv. Questions
 1. Senator Puffenberger- Meeting tonight?
 - a. Chair Durkit- No.
- b. Auxiliary Affairs – Matt Mazur mmazu@bgsu.edu
 - i. I want to thank everyone in USG.
 - ii. Committee Meeting
 1. Not going to happen tonight. Will e-mail everyone this week.
 - iii. Padfolios
 1. Received final approval. Please sign the sheet if you want one.
- c. Internal Affairs – Eric Juzkiw ejuzkiw@bgsu.edu
 - i. IA
 1. Check your e-mail. Do the Doodle that I sent out. Want to thank Boswell and Laddin for completing the Doodle. Will have to meet Friday.
 - ii. Harry & Charley
 1. Senator Timbrook- Harry will be going to Chair Juzkiw.

2. Chief Administrator Parker- Charley will be going to Chair Puccio. He sent out an e-mail about painting the rock. Really unique to start that initiative.
- d. Student Affairs – Nic Puccio npuccio@bgsu.edu
 - i. First, I want to congratulate and say happy birthday to Senator Billing. Also, congratulations to Chair Mazur.
 - ii. Paint the Rock
 1. We are having this this Thursday at 7:00 PM. Plan is to meet up in the USG office at 6:50, and walk down there together. Please dress warmly. This would be a great way for everyone to get to know each other.
 - iii. SA
 1. Will be meeting tonight in the GSS office.

XIV. Senator Reports

- a. Chair Juzkiw- I have a slew of things that needs to be said.
 - i. Green Fund
 1. The words have been thrown around the last few weeks. Wanted to shed some light on what it is. It is a student fee built into tuition, \$5 fee. Fund housed in the Department of Sustainability. Green Fund committee; Mostly students, Dr. Hennessey, Faculty Senate advisor. Determines how this fund should be allocated.
 - ii. Not in Our Town Week
 1. It's important for us to show that we care about NIOT. One of the important events is tomorrow at 7PM, at the Middle School performing arts center. It's the community version of tonight's initiative. I can take two people. There will be a bus in the union parking lot starting at 6:30 tomorrow.
- b. Chair Puccio
 - i. Thursday, 7PM. Meet in the office. Be there.
- c. Senator Dudek
 - i. Couple events in the IFC community. Tomorrow between 10AM-5PM, Alpha Sigma Phi will be hosting a build a bear sort of thing. Sending bears to mothers who just lost their children. Will be holding a philanthropy event. Can create a teddy bear, or a customized ribbon.
 - ii. Pi Kappa Phi is starting their annual cage sit tomorrow at 6AM. Will be raising money and awareness for those with disabilities.
- d. Senator O'Brien
 - i. This last week was the housing fair last week. If you know anyone who attended. Have them e-mail me feedback. liamo@bgsu.edu.

XV. Advisor's Remarks- Jodi Webb

- a. Behind me is Elizabeth Witter. Thanks to Elizabeth and Ryan for attending. Will be a great link between two important organizations on campus.
- b. AlertBG
 - i. Currently, to be a part of this, you must enroll yourself. What ITS is moving to do, is in January. If you have a cell phone on file with the university, you will be automatically enrolled in AlertBG. If you do not want to be enrolled, you can opt-out. Will be doing a campaign to register cell phone numbers. Will be activated sometime over break.
- c. Resolution
 - i. Important resolution on the table next week. We are still in session next week, don't take a USG break. I know what the culture is in regards to breaks.
 - ii. There is a reason why we didn't make this emergency legislation. We want people to talk about this legislation, and come back next week with questions and concerns. I encourage you all to think about this.

XVI. Closing Remarks

- a. Chair Juzkiw
 - i. To help facilitate this discussion, I am going to schedule open forum times Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday from 4:30 PM until whenever.
- b. Senator St. Peter
 - i. I am the Residence Hall Caucus chair. If I could borrow the residence hall senators for a minute or two after the meeting, I'd appreciate it.
- c. Senator Shearer
 - i. The residence Advisor application process is ongoing. I encourage anyone interested to apply.
- d. President Solis
 - i. Would like to extend an offer for senators to join me in the Pub following the meeting. Will have an open forum with Nicole Neely.
- e. Speaker Post
 - i. If you are involved in Auxiliary Affairs, please see me after the meeting.

XVII. Adjournment

- a. The Chair entertains a motion to adjourn.
 - i. So moved by Senator Devereaux.
 1. Seconded by Senator Laddin.