

# USG General Assembly Meeting

The Official Agenda of the Undergraduate Student Government General Assembly

On This Day, 09/23/2013

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. Aeden Timbrook- Founders Senator
  - b. Lucas Ladden- Kohl Senator
  - c. Cody Myers- Kreischer Ashley/Batchelder Senator
  - d. Victor Senn- At-Large Senator
  - e. Jessica Forester- Mac Senator
  - f. Dominic Adaya- Proxy for Senator Amir Huggins
  - g. Tirhohn Sanders- Proxy for Nicholas De Lorme
- V. Open Forum
  - a. Dr. Mary Ellen Mazey, BGSU President
    - i. Thank you for inviting me to be with you this evening. The first order of business is to say thank you for Vice President Jill Carr for being in her position, and for all that she does for this university
    - ii. Enrollment & Retention
      1. Within the last two years, we've done articulations with 22 different colleges. We've been working with community colleges, assuming that that's where most of our adult population comes from. Focus on hybrid learning. Strongly encouraging academic units to create such programs. BGSU has always had a long history of focusing on the traditional undergraduate student. If you look at the number of universities, 70% are the adult students are going part time, taking 1-2 classes per semester. It's very important for us. If you have any ideas, please tell Vice President Carr, or e-mail me: [mmazey@bgtsu.edu](mailto:mmazey@bgtsu.edu). I for one believe parking will become an issue. Never been on a campus where parking was perfect yet. All about serving the needs of the students. It's all about the students.
    - iii. Upgrade & improve life science building
      1. This was a very timely question. What we're doing keeps evolving. South hall will be renovated for communications program.
    - iv. Questions

1. Chair Juzkiw- Enough room in South Hall for the BG News, media programs?
  - a. President Mazey- Extension is planned. West Hall needs to come down. Within the next 2 years, take it down.
2. Chair Durkit- What are the plans/progress of the honors college? I know there was talk to expand the honors program. Where are you in that process?
  - a. President Mazey- I have a meeting with the Dean Simon Morgan-Russell and the Provost this week. We will put quite an emphasis on putting students in that program. There are students that could be a Rhodes Scholar, a Truman scholar. I want to see students nominated and supported for those national scholarships. Just to be nominated, and that training, is invaluable. My last institution hadn't had one in 30 years. Had the captain of the swim team apply, and he got it. Once you determine how best to prepare students for these competitions. It will be on recruiting students for the Honors programs. Last year, the Presidential Honors students had the opportunity to talk about leadership in their meetings, wanted to shadow administrators on campus. They came back the following meeting, asked to describe the leadership style. Couldn't have described the learning experience better myself. Attend the national meetings. Put Dean in contact with those individuals.
3. Chair Durkit- Are we still maintaining the integrity for the Honors programs?
  - a. President Mazey- Of course. We invite students with high standards to special receptions in the fall. It's giving them special attention when you recruit them, special attention while they're here, special attention when they leave. Possible honors thesis.
4. Treasurer Johnson- What are the university's plan in enhancing the Study Abroad Program?
  - a. President Mazey- Programs need to be expanded globally. Find faculty members who want to take students abroad. I took a group of students to Brazil. Life changing experience for them, and for me. We need incentives to get faculty to take students abroad. Need to have a minimum of students to have a lucrative program. Need to partner with other universities. We have an

outstanding Russian study abroad program, other schools might want to be a part of our program, we may want to join some consortiums. Study abroad fair last week during power outage, 500 before power outage, got a total of 600 during the outage. We should guarantee you an international experience while you're here at BG. We had our first group go to Beijing. The world is large place. Need to bring students here, give students more opportunities to go abroad. When I got here, there were about 400-500 students going abroad. Should be 1,000. We have 640 international students here. That should be 1,500. It will help you in your future career.

5. Senator Huggins- What will happen, in reference to Harshman Residence Hall?
  - a. President Mazey- The next major housing project is retiring of Greek Housing. This summer will start demolition. In the interim, Harshman will need to be used to house those students. Once that construction is complete (Fall 2016), we will take Harshman down. Probably in the summer of 2017.
6. President Solis- Retention initiatives, what you're most excited about?
  - a. President Mazey- I was at an event last Saturday with Provost Rogers. He guaranteed me we'd be in the top 100. When I looked us up, they had it ranked through 98, and we, Ball State, East Carolina, University of New Mexico, we are tied at 101. If you take it alphabetically, we're in the top 100. The most important this is to keep moving up. Retention is important to that. We've admitted the most academically-prepared class, in terms of GPA and ACT scores. Setting up a program with Owens Community College, lets them be on campus, while dual-enrolling. If they succeed, admitted to BG their sophomore year. We want those we admit to be a success. We've come up with new advising. Successnet, another vendor to help us target students to intervene in class choices. All about using technology to help students. Another one I've seen previously is a common Professor Evaluation Form, same form for every professor. Additional questions for specific colleges. But a uniform form. As a Dean, I had this done to me. My Provost brought once a semester a list of the "Killer Courses" (D, F or Withdraw courses). Why one professor does a good job, the next professor

did not. We have to start looking into the courses where students aren't learning, aren't doing well,

7. Vice President Neely- Fairly aware of the lowering of state funding. What sort of initiatives are going on with Alumni?
  - a. President Mazey- Our alumni giving went from 9% to 7%. Again, the greater use of technology, able to give online. Must give them a reason to want to give. Are we going to ask our scholarship recipients to give towards scholarships? There's much to be done. But we can have an impact. I had a dean that developed a student advisory committee to help with funding. The Development Officer couldn't get someone to call them back. Student visited, walked away with a \$350k check. You can touch the heart of a donor. We have 170,000 alumni out there. Many are capable of giving, have not been contacted. "I'd wonder when you'd ever catch up with me." Most people give. What can be better than having an impact on a student's life.
8. Chair Juzkiw- Cooperation program. Articulation with 22 universities, have you talked to Armed Forces?
  - a. President Mazey- Teach them on this campus. We're 20<sup>th</sup> in the nation in terms of dealing with Veterans. We got an e-mail from the VA unit in DC, wants to name BGSU as one of 250 universities named by President Obama as one of 8 keys to success through the GI bill.
9. Senator Devereaux- As part of your strategic plan, inclusion is a big goal. Could you elaborate on specifics
  - a. President Mazey- Need to make one correction. It is not my strategic plan. It's the university's. It's a revision. [The old plan] did not have graduate initiative. This one is outward looking. Diversity and inclusion is all-inclusive. One of the factors I've looked at is the diversity in faculty and staff. Each college has a diversity plan. We have a long way to go. Last year, we had an incentive program in the faculty ranks. In terms of gender, if you look at the disciplines, it's 55% male, 45% female. It's higher than what you'd expect, what you see at other universities. One of the suggestions I've had to Vice President Carr is have a spring initiative, celebrate the diversity on this campus, in terms of ethnicity, of county of origin, in terms of gender. We have a lot to be very proud of, but there's always ways to do it better,

10. Chair Juzkiw- Do you know if that database [Equity and Diversity] is being used?

a. President Mazey- You'd have to ask Barbara Waddell. Serving on a search committee really help with that.

11. Chair Durkit- I thought it was really clever to put the stickers on the ground. I thought that was excellent.

a. President Mazey- Thank Jill Carr for that. I'd love to see something similar for a bike path on the campus. The number of bikes on this campus is just great.

v. If you have a question, let us know. Vice President Carr deals with a lot of issues, and Dean Jodi Webb. If you have concerns, we're all in this together. Questions, comments, concerns, let us know.

VI. Lobby Time

VII. Old Business

VIII. New Business

IX. Executive Branch Reports

a. President – Alex Solis

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

i. Want to thank President Mazey and Vice President Carr for attending. You've seen 3 members of the cabinet attend USG. Robin Gerrow [Director of Marketing and Communications] came into Exec. If you have questions, comments, concerns, let them know. Dean Webb is our connection. We want to make sure you have the same connection to these administrators.

ii. Cabinet

1. There's usually a main administrator in charge of main projects. Outlined 4-5 admins to meet with concerning issues. Meeting with Steve Kampf for building renovations. Scheduled meetings with all academic deans. With Morgan-Russell. 2 searches for HHS and Tech.

iii. M&C

1. Two pieces affect retention. Rolling out a new campaign "It's all about U", the BGSU Experience.. That's the new direction they're heading.

iv. Technology

1. Met with John Ellinger. Currently 116 projects. Ranging from apps to website. One is the website, looking to roll it out in January. M&C will be coming into GA. Another piece is the new portal for Canvas and MyBGSU. Over fall break, the new MyBGSU portal will be taking over. The new prototype is currently available.

v. Student Trustee

1. Westmeyer will be meeting with Board of Trustees October 4<sup>th</sup>. Any issues you want addressed, feel free to e-mail him.
- b. Vice President – David Neely [dneely@bgsu.edu](mailto:dneely@bgsu.edu)
- i. Just want to echo President Solis, thank President Mazey and Vice President Carr. Make sure you introduce yourself to Vice President Carr. She's a valuable resource.
  - ii. Academic Honesty Policy
    1. Meeting with Chair Wells-Jensen next week. Forming a committee. Making sure all are represented.
  - iii. Library
    1. Meeting with Dean Bushong, and an Actuarial Science Major (Ben). Still planning to extend their hours to 2AM following Fall break. Still working on survey on 24 hours.
  - iv. Standing Committees
    1. Thank you. Fastest it's ever been filled. Chair will reach out to you to schedule meetings.
  - v. Greek Housing Constituents
    1. Meeting Thursday. Will have an update next week.
- c. Cabinet Reports
- i. No report.
- X. Procedures and Appeals Reports
- a. Chief Administrator – Evan Colyer [ecolyer@bgsu.edu](mailto:ecolyer@bgsu.edu)
- i. Hope everyone's doing alright tonight.
  - ii. Able to meet with Jodi last week in regards to P&A board. 2 names set in stone. Up until Thursday, if you have names, let me know. Will be spending the rest of the week locking that down.
  - iii. Election Process
    1. Only 1 ticket last year for President/Vice President. Anticipating having two tickets running. Will have a more detailed ticket. Will train board in Parking, start training in election procedures. Started 2-3 weeks before last year. Hope to start at the turn of the semester this year.
  - iv. P&A Board
    1. My job is two-fold. I have the responsibility like the judicial branch. Do internal reviews. Handles appeals for parking. Our board reviews +700. We review election procedures and guidelines. Runs election process, ensure there's no foul play.
- XI. Treasurer's Report
- a. Treasurer – Ebonee Johnson [eboneej@bgsu.edu](mailto:eboneej@bgsu.edu)

- i. Hi everybody. This is to help the new senators. As Treasurer of USG, I'm Co-chair of the Senate Budget Committee.
- ii. SBC Hearing
  - 1. First hearing last week. Want to make everyone aware of the process. Current process is entirely online. Just reminding those who are student orgs, forms must be completed before coming to meetings. If you need any help, there's plenty of people in the OCA
- iii. USG Budget
  - 1. Still looking for Collaborative initiatives. Things to reach out to the student body, reach out to student orgs, marketing for USG. Want to put it out there that we're here for them. If we can collaborate, and show our support, that's great. Last year we had a student appreciation week, handed out cards to those who liked our USG Facebook Page. Talk to President Solis, Speaker Post, or I about initiatives you'd like to propose.

## XII. Speaker's Report

- a. Speaker of the Senate – Katie Post [kpost@bgsu.edu](mailto:kpost@bgsu.edu)
  - i. Senator Reports
    - 1. Were due on Friday. Better late than never, be sure to send those in. To those of you who sent them in, thank you. Feedback within the next day or two.
  - ii. Dress Code
    - 1. You all look fantastic. Thank you for addressing the dress code
  - iii. Full Senate
    - 1. Really fantastic. For those of you who are new, please take the initiative to get involved. You will be assigned to a committee. It's a great way to get involved. Please take advantage of that opportunity.
  - iv. Generate Issues
    - 1. If you're at a point where you don't have things to work on, there's plenty of things to work on. You can hold Union tables, officers can reserve spots. If you hear someone talking about problems, ask them about it, see if we can help. Heard about bad Wi-Fi in Kreischer. CIO came into Exec, asked to be informed if there's any issues.  
Administrators want to hear issues, so if you hear any, let us know.

## XIII. Committee Reports

- a. Academic Affairs – Kasie Durkit [durkitk@bgsu.edu](mailto:durkitk@bgsu.edu)
  - i. Hello everyone. First, welcome to the new senators. Thank you so much for participating in USG

ii. Standing Committees

1. BG Perspectives and Undergraduate Council. Coaching minor passed the Undergraduate Council. Management minor passed for non-business students.

iii. Ziggy Points Collab

1. Ziggy points are rewarded for attending university functions. Is there any incentive for academics? We are thinking about maybe implementing an incentive programs for academic successes. If you possibly accrue enough points, can you earn enough points. Perhaps you can integrate this program into Ziggy Points. Wanted to bounce this off of Exec and GA.

2. Questions

- a. Senator Harris- How would you plan on monitoring library hours
  - i. The Learning Commons logs hours already for student organizations
- b. Senator Puffenberger- Great idea. Really in line with President Mazey's stance to improve
  - i. We can definitely
- c. Senator Dettrow- Academic Challenge Program current in place in the Quads. Academic Challenge is where students would go to the Learning Commons, give rewards to the floor with most hours, students with most hours.
  - i. Can you expand on that?

3. This is a major incentive for retention and student performance.

iv. Meeting

1. Will meet in 308 after GA.

b. Auxiliary Affairs – John Clevenger

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

- i. Good evening everyone. Welcome to all the new senators. You made a great decision.

ii. Committee

1. We have Senator Dudek working with ITS to see if we can prevent those [receipts from cash registers in dining halls] from automatically printing
2. Senator Mazur working on recyclable to-go bags.

iii. Code of Conduct

1. Serving on a committee for this. If you find any issues, please let us know. Looking at MAC schools to help update ours.

iv. Thank you



1. Thanks to chair Puccio and others who helped with union tables with the Library service. Planning to meet with Joe Campbell to set up an online survey.

c. Internal Affairs – Eric Juzkiw

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

i. Office Hours

1. Speaker Post will tell new senators about them. If you did them, please mark them! If you forget to mark them, please e-mail me.

ii. Caucus Chairs

1. Look into setting your first meeting times. Let me know when your meetings in.

iii. Senate Vacancies

1. Current vacancies in Falcon Heights and Conklin. 2 at large, 2 off campus, NPHC, MGC seat.
2. Please keep giving me senate recommendations. We like having lots of choices.

iv. Committee

1. Meeting in the GSS Office after GA. Any new senators are welcome to sit in.

v. Harry and Charley

1. Harry- Goes to Chair Durkit, has done a great job in taking this committee chair.
2. Charley- Charley will go to Senator Henry, has jumped into IA. He is the one that re-updated the bulletin board.

d. Student Affairs – Nic Puccio

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

i. Just wanted to say good evening.

ii. Library

1. Trying to get the library open 24 hours the week before, and week of finals. Many schools in the area have 24/7 libraries. Printed off a survey with 5 questions, yes or no. Goal of 100 fliers, ended up with 144 fliers.
2. The first question was “do you use the library often”, 109 people said yes, 34 said no, 1 thrown out
3. “Would you like the library “ 134 students said yes, 10 said no
4. Would you use the library more if the library was open 24 hours the week before, and the week of finals?” 130 said yes, 14 said no
5. Would you use the library more if outtakes hours were extended during those times?” 116 yes, 27 said no, 1 thrown out
6. Learning common hours extended, 117 said yes, 27 said no.

7. Meeting with Joe Campbell to create a survey. Will compile results with Union Table Results.

iii. Committee

1. Meeting in 308 after GA.

XIV. Senator Reports

a. Senator Frailly

i. Hi. If you got one of the half-sheets, please have that filled out by the end of the meeting. At the end of the meeting, put them by the name tag bin. Photos finished next week. You have been warned.

b. Senator Dudek

i. Greek Housing meeting, this is the most important one. Olscamp 113, 5:30 to 7:30 PM on Thursday.

c. Chair Juzkiw

i. If you have any issues pertaining to sustainability and Green fund, please talk to me. I am the USG representation on the Green Fund, please talk to me.

XV. Advisor's Remarks

a. Dean Webb

i. Good questions were asked tonight. Hopefully you feel that she was able to provide useful information. You came in well prepared, and hit on some key topics.

ii. Library Survey

1. A lot of progress has been made. An online survey will get more feedback. I think this is a good example of finding an issue, and a committee made progress.

iii. P&A Seat

1. It's really important that we get that group up and running. A lot of work to do. Elections will be really important. Should be a priority that we see an increase in election participation. Falls to you to get the word out about the role of USG. It might feel early, but the semesters goes quickly, and we want to have a plan.

XVI. Closing Remarks

a. President Solis

i. We see a lot of new faces around the table. If you ever want to chat, we'd like to get to know the senators. Though Speaker Post and the Chairs are your direct leaders, we can be resources. USG is a big part of our lives. We have an open door policy. Feel free to stop by. We were senators too. We don't want to seem intimidating.

b. Speaker Post

i. New senators please see me.

XVII. Adjournment

a. Chair entertains a motion to adjourn.

i. So moved by Senator St. Peter

1. Seconded by Chair Clevenger.