

# USG General Assembly Meeting

The Official Agenda of the Undergraduate Student Government General Assembly  
On This Day, 1/27/2014  
Room 308 BTSU  
(Business Casual Attire Meeting)

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call
- III. Approval of Minutes
  - a. Minutes stand approved.
- IV. Swearing in of New Officers
  - a. Aaron Menapace- Macdonald Hall Senator
    - i. Questions
      1. Chair Puccio- What are some projects you would like to work on in USG?
        - a. Maybe the recycling thing. I've talked to other students, they've had problems with the big boards in Dining Halls.
      2. Chair Durkit- What skills do you think you can bring to USG?
        - a. I have really good people skills. Make tough decisions. Getting things done that need to get done.
    - b. All officers were sworn in.
- V. Open Forum
  - a. Mr. Michael Ginsburg – Associate Dean of Students
    - i. Thank you for having me in this evening. We've been working this academic year on updating the Student code of conduct. Every 5-7 years, benchmark it against other universities. When we look at those, we look for ideas that other schools are using.
    - ii. Please see attached.
    - iii. In the review process, the review starts with a committee chaired by a faculty member (Phil Morrison), undergrad and graduate representation. I put together an ad-hoc student group for feedback. Next up is coming to you, presenting our ideas for changes. Then taken to the Student Affairs Advisory Board, where they can approve, deny, or recommend changes.
    - iv. Section 1: Wanted to match the non-discriminatory policy used by the university.
    - v. Section 2: Articulates when a person no longer is considered a student.
      1. Also defines what an incident report is. City reports, law reports as well.

- vi. Section 4: Adds language that deals with electronic acts of misconduct.
- vii. Section 6: What standard of proof the university should use. The standard of proof we use is “more likely than not”. In the introduction section, want to clearly state that the burden of proof is “more likely than not”.
  - 1. Added language concerning snapchat, other social media It is also a violation of sharing or storing the record is prohibited.
- viii. Section 6 Part B: Separated into 5 components. When charged with the code, students often think they were charged with the entire section. If you are familiar with the Violence Against Women Act and Title IX, they have encouraged the university to add definitions.
  - 1. Harassment policy taken from many sources.
  - 2. We looked at the local definition as well as other institutions. VAW act encourages universities to look at how stalking is criminally defined.
  - 3. Created a definition of sexual misconduct, made it a stand alone violation.
  - 4. Title IX has become a huge issue. Trying to become more compliant. policy language may have been lacking.
- ix. Consent Definition
  - 1. In the last part, added in a section that says that “an individual must be of legal age to give consent”, as defined by the state of Ohio.
- x. Hazing
  - 1. Being requested or required to engage in actions that could be harmful to the health, welfare, or academic progress of the person. Hazing can inhibit progress in academics.
- xi. Retaliation
  - 1. Added retaliation as a specific violation, to become more Title IX compliant.
  - 2. Also
- xii. Section 6 Part C: Added language that prohibits the use of BGSU emails to send spam messages.
- xiii. Section D:
  - 1. Added subject headers.
  - 2. Using materials for the purpose of an intoxicants section added.

3. Reworked section D, created a section on Demonstrations, celebratory riots, and riots
- xiv. Disorderly Conduct
  1. Hoped to make the language more clear.
- xv. Section 8
  1. Added in a section that clearly articulates how an investigation begins. What that first meeting will look like.
  2. Kent State, Ohio State, victims retain the rights of a complainant even when the incident report is filed by a third party.
  3. Every student is entitled to an advisor. Added
- xvi. Section 10
  1. Added who may be copied on sanction letters.
    - a. Those individuals must have a legitimate educational interest
    - b. Be a part of the sanctioning process
- xvii. Section 11
  1. Adds information on the process when an appeal is filed. Added the potential appeal outcomes.
- xviii. Section 14
  1. Added information on the Refund policy.
- xix. Chair Durkit motions to extend time by 5 minutes.
  1. Seconded by Chair Puccio.
- xx. Questions
  1. Chair Durkit- There is a two semester policy. Does that include that summer semester?
    - a. Yes, it does.
  2. Chair Durkit- Does celebratory riot include rushing the field? Is that language lifted
    - a. It is possible. That is a criminal definition. This law was applied
  3. Chair Durkit- The use of group charges. Is this becoming less of a problem? Becoming a real and tangible problem?
    - a. It is the hall directors' call. At least in first time, they are relying more on the conversation as an educational opportunity.

4. Chair Juzkiw- Would sanction letters include Greek presidents?
    - a. Students are asked to meet in person, let them know the outcome.
      - i. Juzkiw-Is there any way to add that for Greek Presidents?
        1. Does go to RSL staff.
  5. Chair Juzkiw- In testing this, there wasn't any representation for International students?
    - a. Our GSS rep, Lingxiao Ge, was intentionally chosen.
  6. Solis- What has your experience been when working with City police
    - a. We have a good relationship with the City police. Put the blotter online within the last two years. VP Carr was able to work on creating that role, so we can go through that blotter. Chief Connor insures that an officer is present in formal hearings.
    - b. There's a part of the hearing when they are asked "what do you think the committee should do", usually refers to the committees decision
  7. Solis- I think the Joint Responsibility clause is tricky. When a student is saying no, isn't that the behavior we're promoting
    - a. It's a case by case basis, still have that conversation. In my mind, that investigation would most likely
  8. Solis-
    - a. Can only go to a parent or guardian on second offense for alcohol, drug offenses
- xxi. Chair Juzkiw motions to extend time by 5 minutes.
1. Seconded by Chair Puccio
- xxii. Questions Continued
1. Juzkiw- If an offence occurs outside of the state?
    - a. Still under Ohio law
  2. Juzkiw- Was anyone from Equity and Diversity on this group?
    - a. Met with general Counsel, Sean FitzGerald. My opinion is that the office of civil rights will come investigate, will still offer suggestions.

- VI. Lobby Time
- VII. Old Business
- VIII. New Business
- IX. Executive Branch Reports

- a. President – Alex Solis

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- i. Good evening everyone. Want to wrap up things mentioned in previous reports
- ii. Accenture
  - 1. 6 student representatives. Every constituency group has a representative. David and I submitted recommendations,
  - 2. Meeting with Cabinet, constituent heads. Wanted to update those on that structure
    - a. Reoccurring Open Forum for every working group, every group outlined in the Accenture document. Open to the public, students. Members will be there to answer questions.
    - b. Will report on work done, communication between committees. Will report in every 3 months.
  - 3. For student representation for summer, they will be working through Skype, phone conversation
- iii. Padfolios
  - 1. In today. Great professional development piece. In this box, Mazur is taking inventory.
- iv. Arts & Sciences
  - 1. They are in the process with a dean search, sent three representative recommendations (Treasurer Johnson, Oehler, Puffenberger)
  - 2. Recommended 4 representatives. Reviewing the changes, will go up the faculty change
- v. State of the State Conference
  - 1. Is a diversity conference held each year. Great opportunity, very interactive. That conference is March 20<sup>th</sup>. On campus at BGSU. Discussion in Exec for opportunities for cabinet and the Senate. 30 dollar fee that USG will cover. If interested, please e-mail me.
- vi. Budget Meeting
  - 1. David, Brian, Johnson, and I met today. Budget due March 1<sup>st</sup>. Forms in her mailbox
  - 2. Budgeting money to the P&A Board to promote voting on campus
- vii. Weather

1. It's cold outside. Looking at tomorrow, looking how you interact with your constituents, remain a resource. Refer them to the officials that make those decisions. Policy is online.
    - a. Webb- I think Alex hit on the key points. The decision to close the university, or close classes, is made based on recommendations from Chief Moll. Sherriff's office. There's a lot of conversation. If a decision will be made, it will be made later tonight, or early tomorrow. Keep in mind that if classes are cancelled, normal functions are still in place. If the weather is bad, staff members might not be able to make it. It's never an easy process
    2. We have our monthly meeting with the President Friday. Have a conversation on the policy, decision making process.
  - viii. Shout out
    1. Wysocki accepted her internship with the Detroit Tigers.
  - b. Vice President – David Neely [dneely@bgsu.edu](mailto:dneely@bgsu.edu)
    - i. Nominations
      1. Will be sending out nominations for the 6 awards awarded at our end of the year banquet. Those are due February 3<sup>rd</sup>.
    - ii. Standing Committees
      1. Sign up sheet here. If you could put both of these down. If you are returning to the committee, put a star by your name.
  - c. Cabinet Reports
- X. Procedures and Appeals Reports
- a. Chief Administrator – Danielle Parker [dnparke@bgsu.edu](mailto:dnparke@bgsu.edu)
    - i. We are starting a marketing campaign for joining USG. If you have any ideas, please e-mail me.
- XI. Treasurer's Report
- a. Treasurer – Ebonee Johnson [eboneej@bgsu.edu](mailto:eboneej@bgsu.edu)
    - i. OCA
      1. Will be hosting one more annual funding help session. One more chance this Thursday at 6 PM. If you want annual funding, must have someone attend. Does not need to be the president or treasurer.
        - a. Dudek- In the theater.
- XII. Speaker's Report
- a. Speaker of the Senate – Katie Post [kpost@bgsu.edu](mailto:kpost@bgsu.edu)
    - i. Cohesion

1. Don't quite see the cohesion we'd like. I would like those who can to join us in the Pub at 5:30 on Friday. I'd love to see you all there.

### XIII. Committee Reports

#### a. Academic Affairs – Kasie Durkit

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##### i. Academic Affairs Committee

1. A certificate program is almost comparable to a undergraduate minor. In the Graduate School. Not quite a master's degree, does judge interest. Only 15 credits.

- a. Two new certificate programs. International/Intercultural Communication. Established to meet the needs of various organizations

- i. For anyone who might be an international studies major, or taking foreign languages. Specialized track.

- b. Graduate Certificate in Social and Interactive Media

- i. Looks at the rapidly changing social and interactive media. Anything that might be in the social media atmosphere. There is

- c. There is an Advanced Undergraduate Standing. You can take a certificate program, add something to your degree.

##### ii. Undergraduate Council

1. If you don't know, we have a joint program with the University of Toledo. Added to the applied Health field. Kind of a Segway to something Nursing in the future. It's going to be difficult to bring a nursing program here.

##### iii. Academic Affairs meeting

1. Upstairs in the office

##### iv. Questions

1. St. Peter- What was the name of the first program?

- a. International/Intercultural Communication

2. St. Peter- Progress on a TED talk?

- a. Will direct this to Chair Mazur. Might have to go through a different medium

#### b. Auxiliary Affairs – Matt Mazur

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##### i. MLK Day of Service

1. Saw a lot of people from USG there. I painted a house through Habitat for Humanity. Hope you all had incredible experiences.

##### ii. President's Climate Commitment

1. There's some pretty interesting progressions. The sightlines report had some things that came to light, some things were doom and gloom. 50% of our emissions come from purchased power. We may green up our profile, but that's out of our hands. People were not feeling good about that. We did get some really good data on Commuter data, fleet size, refrigerant data. 25% comes from heating and cooling. There are ways that the University is going about monitoring heating and cooling. Currently set at temperatures, without doing things efficiently, if the building is being used.
- iii. Renovations
    1. Unfortunately, with these buildings, our carbon footprint will most likely increase. This is a really critical time for the University to improve their climate footprint, do things the right way.
  - iv. AA
    1. Will meet in the back after GA.
  - v. Padfolios
    1. Are in. Come back and take them. I think they're a great perk. I'm glad that there's a professional aspect. But also, it's a little bit of a reward for the hard work you put in.
  - vi. TED Talks
    1. Extremely interested. Got in contact with a committee who shared my passion. Unfortunately, the way that we operate is too different for me to be a part of their working group. Was unable to go to any of their meetings. Can give you their e-mails.
- c. Internal Affairs – Eric Juzkiw [ejuzkiw@bgsu.edu](mailto:ejuzkiw@bgsu.edu)
    - i. IA Meeting
      1. Meeting in the USG office. Just updates and individual projects
    - ii. Harry & Charley
      1. Puccio- Working really hard, moving some mountains. Goes to Senator Huggins.
      2. Senn- Goes to Chair Durkit.
  - d. Student Affairs – Nic Puccio [npuccio@bgsu.edu](mailto:npuccio@bgsu.edu)
    - i. Currently working with Erin Baker, Student affairs rep for GSS. Meeting tomorrow to discuss issues Grads and Undergrads face. Currently working towards a diversity fest, something along the lines of Campus Fest. Just an idea floating around at this point.
    - ii. Rec Center



1. Recently, I sent a questionnaire to Amir Huggins to send to Hollinger, get the rec center hours extended. Looking at possible time extensions. Looking fairly plausible. Nothing set in stone. Would be one of those time slots.

iii. SA

1. Meeting in the GSS office.

XIV. Senator Reports

- a. Henry- How many of you would like to be serenaded? Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia sells Valentine's Day Serenades.
- b. Juzkiw- 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>, Broadway Cares is holding our biggest fundraiser, cabaret style performance. Around the World themed benefit. I will be Pumbaa from the Lion King. Will get the actual times for you this week.

XV. Advisor's Remarks

- a. The Leadhart scholarship is limited to USG and UAO members. Closes next Monday at 5PM.
- b. Elections packet sent out. If you are planning to run for a senator or President/Vice President position, must go to an information session. First one is February 17<sup>th</sup>.
- c. As the advisor to the Organization, please let me know if there are things I can do to help you. If you need a sounding board, or be a resource, please keep that in mind. Can always find a time to meet.

XVI. Closing Remarks

- a. Neely- If you didn't get the chance to sign up to a standing committee, I will have it in the office. Standing Committees are University committees that are run by a faculty member, meet throughout the year.

XVII. Adjournment

- a. Chair entertains a motion to adjourn.
  - i. So moved by Senator Dudek.
    1. Seconded by Chair Puccio.