# **USG** General Assembly Meeting

The Official Agenda of the Undergraduate Student Government General Assembly
On This Day, 12/8/14
Room 308 BTSU @ 7:30pm

- I. Call to Order
  - a. Meeting is called to order at 7:32
- II. Roll Call
  - a. Senators not in attendance
    - i. Burrell
    - ii. Burrow
    - iii. Deans
    - iv. Dortch
    - v. Grohe
    - vi. Harrison
    - vii. Peterson
    - viii. Zitko
- III. Swearing in of New Officers
  - a. Senators
    - i. Megan Murray- College of business
    - ii. Amanda Shavo- Athletics Seat
- IV. Open Forum
- V. Lobby Time
  - a. No one spoke during lobby time
- VI. New Business
  - a. Call to Action "Letter to USG"
    - i. Call to Action demands:
    - ii. Senator Vaughn: Call to Action is a student movement formed in October of 2013. The students thought that the university was not doing enough to support diversity. There are demands for a multicultural space or multicultural building from the group. The ethnic student center in the math/science building is way too small to accommodate ethnic students' needs. Multicultural lounge doesn't get used because there isn't a lot of

awareness of it and when there is people in there it's mostly people not of color.

#### iii. Questions

iv. Senator Wood: Do they want the university to build them a building, I'm not entirely sure what they are asking for.

Senator Senn; They don't necessarily want a building, but rather a place where they can feel comfortable expressing their needs without feeling pressured. This would be great for USG to support because this is what one of the things that USG was made for, to support student's needs. Senator Matt Mazur- They could potentially be found a space once the campus renovations occur also.

Chair Puffenberger- Would anyone consider having a center for non-traditional students as well? This is also something that no one in the university generally supports.

Senator Chavo- It would be a good idea to include non-traditional students in this too.

Chair Devereux- In the past the USG has not supported Call to Action, this is a different Senate which must support this sort of thing.

Senator Baumbaugh- the University talked about how the university recruits people to this school based upon that the university is somewhere where students can feel included in a small town. This is a way to make people feel more included in this small town.

Senator Wood- Where will we put them? We can't just demand a place without knowing where to put them.

Chair Devreux- We will work with administration to find them a place, it is true we can't just throw this on the floor and demand that the university finds a space. Finding a space for them will be part of the process of supporting this demand.

## VII. Executive Branch Reports

a. President – Brian Kochheiser

briantk@bgsu.edu

- Board trustees meeting, they approved renovations in old campus, Eppler and various buildings in campus. They approved the Greek housing project.
- ii. January 12th, the chair of the board of directors is coming to talk to USG

## b. Vice President – Nicole Neely

nneely@bgsu.edu

- I want to gauge interest in a new conference at University of Akron,
   February 28<sup>th</sup>, which is a coalition of all Student Governments. Talk to me after the meeting if you have any interest in going.
- ii. Sunday, SOS and USG are providing snacks for students at the library that are studying for finals, from 8-10 pm. There will be two shifts from 7:45 to 8:45, and then 8:45 to about ten.
- iii. We are electing a board of Trustee member for USG. This is a two year role, this is the USG voice for the board. This is a great role to have as they do a lot of things on campus.

## c. Cabinet Reports

- i. Alexa Woodburn- Head of Marketing-
  - 1. Next semester, we will be asking members of USG to give presentations to them about why USG is important to them. If you have questions let me know. We want to be available to these organizations, and also let them know what we do for them.
  - 2. Today is also the last day to sign up MLK day of service, which is on MLK day: February 19<sup>th</sup>
- ii. Residence Life Liason- Tess Janczarek-
  - 1. Jeff Devereux has won OTM award for his hard work in the senate.

# VIII. Procedures and Appeals Reports

i. No Report

## IX. Treasurer's Report

Reece Timbrook

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ii. No report

# IX. Speaker's Report

Speaker of the Senate – Kasie Durkit

durkitk@bgsu.edu

- i. Welcome to the new senators.
- ii. Wednesday's email I would love to see as many responses as possible
- iii. At the conclusion of formal agenda, we are having committees break out and discuss spring events.

- iv. Be sure to say goodbye to Matthew Mazur, as this is his last USG meeting before he goes to Brazil this spring.
- v. Have a safe break and good luck for finals week.

#### X. Committee **BREAK OUT SESSION**

a. Academic Affairs – Amy Puffenberger

apuffen@bgsu.edu

- If you have work study, and are interested in being a tutor. There is an
  opportunity to become a tutor and earn work study. Talk to me if you are
  interested.
- b. Auxiliary Affairs Aeden Timbrook

atimbro@bgsu.edu

i. No report

c. Internal Affairs – Jeff Devereaux

jdevere@bgsu.edu

- i. There have been a number of senators that have been absent from USG. From this point forward, once a senator has missed three meetings, the senator will be given an email to meet with me to set up action steps to make sure they will be at meetings. Disciplinary action will potentially be enforced upon those who don't follow the emails and meet with me.
- ii. Questions?

Chair Puffenberger: What types of Disciplinary action are you referencing?

Chair Devereuax- Procedures and Appeals will determine if action is necessary. If they find that action needs to be had, they will send the report back to internal affairs who may strip the person of their position.

d. Student Affairs – Nadia Oehler

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i. No report

#### XI. Senator Reports

 Senator Baumbaugh- A lot of IFC chapters are transitioning their new executive board positions. IFC has been talks to vote to change its voting process.

## XII. Advisor's Remarks

a. Dean Jodi Webb

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i. At the exec level we have been spending the last couple of weeks talking about how to move the group forward, having a more engaged senate is

necessary for that. Take advantage of the committee meetings tonight to help plan for the spring semester. We need to hit the ground running with a lot of the initiatives that some of you have been talking about.

ii. On January 20<sup>th</sup> we will be holding a MLK event in the BGSU Ballroom. The former president of BGSU, Sidney Ribeau is coming back to be the Keynote speaker. This will be his first official visit back to the campus since he departed in 2008 to become the President of Howard University. He was involved in founding the PLA, so he is very in tune with student leadership so be sure to talk with him about that.

# XIII. Closing Remarks

a. None

# XIV. Adjournment

a. Meeting is adjourned at 8:15