

USG General Assembly Meeting

The Official Agenda of the Undergraduate Student Government General Assembly

On This Day, 9/15/14

Room 308 BTSU @ 7:30pm

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call
 - a. 20 Present; 8 Absent
- III. Approval of Minutes
 - a. Approved
- IV. Swearing in of New Officers
 - a. Collin Claywell-Macdonald
 - b. Ayanna Patton
 - c. Austin Hall
 - d. Meg Burrell-Kreisher
 - e. Aaron Menapace
- V. Open Forum
 - a. President Mary Ellen Mazey
 - i. College Rankings:
 1. We moved up four places; now 97th best college. Very good for recruitment.
 2. Admitted the best academic class this year and last year
 - ii. State of University:
 1. Will talk about accomplishments from last year and this year's priorities.
 2. How we will rebrand our programs and meet the demands.
 - iii. Accenture Report:
 1. Will be working with alumni
 2. Had 50% participation with family and all funds go to student scholarships.
 3. Students and their success are most important to the university.
 - iv. Relationships with other universities and companies:
 1. Partnering with people to build aviation program and with the people who built the health center.
 - v. Questions:

1. College of Education: When will the education building come down?
 - a. Our goal is to first build a new business building. Will be about a \$50 Million dollar building and fundraising must cover about half the cost. It will take about 2-3 years to get built. The old BA building will be renovated and temporarily house the College of Education.
2. Will new dorms be built to replace Harshman?
 - a. It's a wait and see. Harshman will come down after Greek housing is finished in 2016. Kriesher will be decided after that depending upon demand. As we increase quality, we have lowered head count. So it's a wait and see for student housing.
3. Retention numbers are around 75%. What are the projected numbers for the future?
 - a. Factors that have an effect on retention: better advising, freshman seminar, quality of freshman class.
 - b. Goal is to soon get 82-85% retention.
 - c. Trying to recruit transfer students and international students to get more SSI funding.
 - d. Only 24% of NW Ohio has received a college education.
4. What is your daily agenda as President?
 - a. 7:30 morning meeting along with more meetings.
 - b. Preparing for the State of the University speech. Started it in July.
 - c. Always thinks about strategic planning and that all constituencies are with the University as it moves forward.
 - d. Constant travel to and from conferences that she is invited to. Also traveling to meet alumni.
 - e. Each day is different and there is no such thing as a typical day. Tries to take it day by day.
5. How has her vision changed since being President?
 - a. Not a lot.

- b. New Pathways Program; do well first year at a community college like Owens or Firelands branch campus and then you can be admitted here to main campus.
 - c. Still wants to boost enrollment to 25,000 students.
 - d. We haven't told our story like we should. Wants to talk about the academic quality of our school and show that BGSU is the place to be.
6. Chair Puffenberger: In which ways are you looking into increasing the adult learner population?
- a. As we speak, there is a request for proposals out that are to come up with ideas to increase academic programming for the nontraditional student. Need more focus groups to give ideas on how to help recruit non-traditional students.
 - b. You will find that the traditional students' lives will be enriched by going to school with non-traditional students. We learn from each other. BG has been very accepting.
7. Chair Timbrook: What are programs in place to make sure the recruitment of better academic students continues?
- a. Trying to advertise in SW Ohio and all over the country to recruit students.
 - b. Attend more college fairs to advertise our programs.
 - c. Up 17% for the number of admits in the Fall class.
 - d. Recruiting students through alumni who are high school teachers.
 - e. Focusing on advertising in big cities as well, like in Windsor, Canada.
 - f. We are ranked 5th best college in Ohio. We are #1 in Northern Ohio schools. Trying to use our ranking momentum to recruit better students as well.
8. Senator Vaughn: Looking back at past events concerning racism, are there initiatives going on to make sure students feel safe and welcome on campus and in the community?
- a. What happened here on campus is appalling, but what needs be praised is the grass roots organizations that put

together the NIOT campaign to combat racism and other forms of hate.

- b. We are coming together as a community to change and sensitize others to how we live together.

9. Chair Oehler: What are ways we have students going off campus to recruit for Bowling Green?

- a. Pushing to have grass roots organizations to help share their passion for our school and recruit for Bowling Green.
- b. Suggests talking about your experiences to prospective students.

VI. Lobby Time

- a. None

VII. Old Business

- a. None

VIII. New Business

- a. Bylaw Revisions:

- i. Speaker Durkit: Motion to suspend bylaw stating that we must have bylaws passed by a specific date

1. Seconded by Chair Devereaux for one week.

IX. Executive Branch Reports

- a. President – Brian Kochheiser

briantk@bgsu.edu

- i. Ball State Applications: Due Friday to go to the conference.
- ii. Dining: Commuter appreciation week the week of the 22nd. Need volunteers to help pass out coupons to off-campus students.
- iii. OSGA Vacancies: If interested, please check that out. It's more on a state level.

- b. Vice President – Nicole Neely

nneely@bgsu.edu

- i. Standing Committees: Still have a couple people she will contact via email to fill vacancies.
- ii. Recruitment of the senate: Please fill out recommendation forums.
- iii. AROC Committees: Please give a short update on your committees if you're on a committee. It is the Accenture Report Committee.

- c. Cabinet Reports

- i. None

X. Procedures and Appeals Reports

- a. None
- XI. Treasurer's Report - Reece Timbrook reecet@bgsu.edu
 - a. Budget proposal next meeting.
- XII. Speaker's Report
 - a. Speaker of the Senate – Kasie Durkit durkitk@bgsu.edu
 - i. Committees: Chairs will give a brief overview of what was accomplished previous years and let you know what they are wanting to accomplish this academic year.
 - ii. Associate Dean Chris Bullins: will be here next week. Under Department of Fraternity and Sorority Life.
 - 1. Send questions no later than tomorrow by noon.
 - iii. Don't hesitate to ask guest speakers questions. It's always appreciated.
 - 1. Senator Huggins: When are Senator Reports due?
 - a. Changes are happening, that's why we suspended bylaws so we can make necessary changes that might be coming to senate and make it more modern.
 - 2. Chair Devereaux: Do all senators have to be on an internal senate committee?
 - a. YES!
- XIII. Committee Reports
 - a. Academic Affairs – Amy Puffenberger apuffen@bgsu.edu
 - i. Committee focuses on issues revolving around academics such as: Posthumos Degree, Ziggy points and incorporating academics, wanting to see increased recognition to Deans List students.
 - ii. Meeting in BTSU 308 after General Assembly.
 - b. Auxiliary Affairs – Aeden Timbrook atimbro@bgsu.edu
 - i. Try to avoid what other committees specialize in such as: green initiatives, Student Legal Services, outreach to other organizations to make sure they know that USG is there for them as a resource, and strengthening bonds within the senate.
 - ii. Meeting in USG office after General Assembly.
 - c. Internal Affairs – Jeff Devereaux jdevere@bgsu.edu
 - i. Survey going around the senate: wants to gauge what senators think needs to be changed in the bylaws.
 - 1. Asks to think of organizations that meet weekly or biweekly.

2. Do you have an administrator (dean, hall director, etc) that they can work with and is in their constituency?
 3. What can you, as a senator, do to be more involved with your constituency?
- ii. Mentoring Program: Identifying individuals who can time manage and write good resolutions so that new senators have a person to go to for guidance and help.
 - iii. ByLaws: Still have internal and extern office hours. Will be keeping track of these via Orgsync. Going paperless and more modern.
 - iv. Handles: Bylaw revision and all internal functions and workings of the senate.
 - v. Harry and Charlie Award:
 1. Harry: Senator Vandevort
 2. Charlie: City State Liaison Juzkiw

- d. Student Affairs – Nadia Oehler noehler@bgsu.edu
 - i. Committee Accomplishments thus far: extended library hours, extended Rec Center hours, gauged interest in new bus stops, had a diversity celebration day.
 - ii. Green Fund: have any great ideas? Send them Nadia's way!
 - iii. Meeting in GSS office after General Assembly.

XIV. Senator Reports

- a. None

XV. Advisor's Remarks

- a. Dean Jodi Webb jwebb@bgsu.edu
 - i. Did an awesome job asking quality questions tonight. Encourages the senate to send questions in advance to Speaker Durkit.
 - ii. Conference Room between GSS/USG offices: is used by event planning when the Student Governments do not use it. Ask Kathy Newman, our secretary, if you need to reserve that space.
 - iii. Acknowledges Chair Devereaux for suspending the Bylaws to pull together all necessary revisions. Take time to read the revision so that you know what changes have been made. Approval of changes will more than likely occur the following week.

XVI. Closing Remarks

- a. Chair Puffenberger:

- i. September 24th from 9a-4p there is a non-traditional student open house.
- b. Director of Communication Woodburn:
 - i. Homecoming parade is now 1.2 miles instead of .4 miles. It goes through downtown BG to get more people involved. Looking for volunteers to help with the parade.

XVII. Adjournment