

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. 12 present – 2 absent
 - i. Berry Berrion – absent
 - ii. Paige Reinhart-Anez – absent
- III. Approval of Minutes
 - a. Approved
- IV. Swearing in of New Officers
 - a. Avery Dowell – Diversity Affairs
 - b. Laura Francisco – At-Large
 - c. Melissa Dureiko – At-Large
 - d. Luke Grabski – Diversity Affairs
- V. Open Forum
 - a. None
- VI. Lobby Time
 - a. Jeff Devereaux – Gender Neutral Bathrooms
 - i. Good evening, USG! First time standing in front of you not as a member of USG. Talking about Gender Neutral Restroom Implementation. Present this as an initiative so that someone else will take this on in the current assembly.
 1. Need for Implementation: Ultimately Safety and Security of all students. Various populations that would greatly benefit – Trans* and Gender Non-Binary will no longer have to decide which restroom is meant for them – culture of acceptance and inclusion. Physically Disabled Individuals – making sure that these spaces adequately accommodate these students (large enough, etc.). Students with Young Children – We do have students that are parents! Space to use the restroom privately. Mental Health – a safe, secure and isolated space for students to truly collect themselves or be alone if that is what is needed.

2. Background – USG Resolution 2012-13 07 – Gender Neutral Housing in Founder Residence Hall; USG Resolution 2013-14 01 – Gender Neutral Restrooms in the Falcon Health Center; Devereaux, Irvin, and Mullins worked with Campus Operations and Capital Planning, who has begun an audit on single stall restrooms. These offices are also looking at where Gender Neutral Restrooms will be located within their regulations to make sure that all buildings are following such guidelines on providing these spaces. As well, we need to determine what we want to call these spaces to be the most welcoming (Family restrooms, Gender Neutral Restrooms, etc.).
3. Current Status – Not Gender Neutral Restrooms within all spaces on campus and most are not adequate for many students. Example, University Hall is within a janitor’s closet and is not handicap accessible. There is currently no official policy and Steve Kraikoff would need to have additional conversations which led to a meeting with Bob Waddle in Capital Planning.
4. Strategic Plan – the three senators made these small goals to continue to push on this initiative. (Please see the slides provided). Unfortunately this was where their work ended as their time in USG ended.
5. Next Steps: Senators will need to step up! Follow up with Capital Planning! Familiarize yourself with the educational material and resources provided so that you can be the best representative of this initiative. Make the initiative your own while build off the work of previous individuals! Initiatives are only as strong as the passion of the senator behind it!
6. Resources: Devereaux, Bob Waddle, Steve Kraikoff, the annotated bibliography that Devereaux has put together to help the new senators taking this on. (These can be found in the powerpoint provided)

ii. Thank you so much for your time!

VII. Old Business

a. None

VIII. New Business

a. Senator Murray – Plant a Tree with USG

i. Hi! So in the last assembly carrying into this one, I took on representing USG for our participation in Earth Week. Tomorrow we are planting a tree and this is a great time to reach out to constituents and to talk about why it is important for us to be a green campus. It's an Oak tree to represent USG. It will be by the Spirit Rock and it is so important that you be there.

1. Woodburn – Please be there, we have been asked to provide 6 people

2. Puffenberger – I have class until later than then, can I come late?

Will we be planting it ourselves?

Where is the spirit rock?

Murray – you can absolutely come late! We will be planting ourselves, so even more reason to come! We will have some help, and we will primarily just filling in the dirt! The spirit rock is over by Kriescher!

IX. Executive Branch Reports

a. President – Victor Senn

vsenn@bgsu.edu

i. Thank you so much voting! It's so important to vote. We are so lucky to be serving you. We just wanted to walk through cabinet restructuring so that you would be informed on how and why that came about.

Applications are out, if you have any questions let us know. Chief of Staff, very important, needed to keep it. Chief Administrator, crucial to parking appeals and elections and needed to keep it. Treasurer, as well. So important. So Outreach position is from their desire to reach out to the student body but also to continue on the work of the Director of Marketing and Communication. Director of Student Safety will work with issues of diversity and inclusion, as well as the It's On Us campaign, etc. We talked a lot about this in our campaign. Director of Campus and Governmental Relations – a combination of City, State, National Liaison and Residence Life Liaison to fully utilize those positions in a collaborative manner. A lot of what we wanted to change was assuring that they could promise their campaign would go through, positions that were kept were kept because they were crucial.

ii. So I am Victor Senn – please reach out to me at any time! I'm really excited to work with you all!

- b. Vice President – Danielle Parker dnparke@bgsu.edu
 - i. Good evening, everyone! So, I'm Danielle Parker, a junior, Last year Chief of Staff, History and Political Science Double Major. Thank you for voting! 17.11% is so incredibly! Tomorrow Victor and I are meeting with President Mazey for the first time and later this week (on Thursday) we are completing the transition between the last President/VP and ours. If you need anything, please feel free to contact me!
- c. Cabinet Reports
 - i. None
- X. Procedures and Appeals Reports
 - a. None
- XI. Treasurer's Report
- XII. Speaker's Report
 - a. Speaker of the Senate – Ebonee Johnson eboneej@bgsu.edu
 - i. Detroit, Junior, International Studies, Political Science and Business. 4th year involved in USG and very excited to be in USG. Speaking of excitement, we are making great strides in getting qualified people into USG. 5 interviews coming up! Thank you for those who are recruiting people! 5 more inquiries today alone! So excited to see the University getting excited for USG. Please send people who are interested to IA Woodburn and myself. Planting a tree is super important! After closing remarks tonight, we will have orientation and a planning session. Lobby Time is open next week, so if you have organizations or students who want to bring up issues here in GA, please tell them next week is a great time to come.
- XIII. Committee Reports
 - a. Academic Affairs – Seth Bumbaugh apuffen@bgsu.edu
 - i. Completely appropriate to also call me Bubba. Afterwards, come to talk to me about being in academic affairs!
 - b. Internal Affairs – Jeff Devereaux jdevere@bgsu.edu
 - i. Hi! I normally don't sound like this. There will be no senator reports this month! Please send people interested in USG my way, so that we can start the ball rolling with a minimal transition process next fall. If you know anyone interest, send them my way so that we can see how they fit in. We will definitely have a USG retreat next year! It will be late September!

c. Student Affairs – Nadia Oehler noehler@bgsu.edu

- i. So, I have a couple of things. For those who do not know me, I am Keith Johnson, a junior. So the KINGS (which I am in) are having a kickball tournament this Saturday, registration starting at 4:30, games at 5 at the Perry Field House Turf Field. Collaboration with different organizations is important and we need to start doing that. So, this will be a great first collaboration. We need a team of 9 to 10 individuals. If you are interested in student affairs, see me after the meetings.

XIV. Senator Reports

- a. Amy Puffenberger – updates on some standing committee (Academic Affairs), program changes – course changes to Nursing Program (the joint program with Toledo); New Masters programs and bachelor programs are and have been passed through here and to the state level. Graduate Certificate programs will be approved here, and some changes to different programs here as well. So, interesting to just see how accreditation, programs, etc. change with the changing job field. So take some of these committees you take on seriously because this is an important way for us to really represent our constituents. If you have any questions about those committees when they start up, please ask me. I have been in USG, going into my 4th year now, so please talk to me about any concerns.
- b. Woodburn – Lunch with USG is continuing, Wednesday April 29th from 11 – 1 in the Falcon’s Nest in the middle of the eating area – by where the performances take place usually. Senator Puffenberger will be there, she started this last year. Also, we do have summer government. So, if you will be here and interested in that, it’s very laid back, 1 meeting a month. Go ahead and let Speaker Johnson know if you are interested in that. If you would like to be in internal affairs, please talk to me!

XV. Advisor’s Remarks

- a. Dean Jodi Webb jwebb@bgsu.edu
 - i. Good to see some familiar faces and new faces! I am the Dean of Students but also the USG advisor. I have the most contact with the Executive group, but Senators, if there are ways that I can help you, please let me know. Any ways I can be a sounding board, a resource, anything. Had our first Exec Board meeting tonight. Very excited for the ideas happening there. So, the transition is always a little out of sync. Take advantage of these next couple weeks to set yourself up for starting up in the Fall.

However, don't overwhelm yourself with that. Jump right in! So, Summer Government was talked about, I will add some pieces on that. That was started a couple of years ago when some crucial things were happening during that time. I have some issues with just how that is ran, simply because of the lower amount of pressing issues coming to us. So, we will work out that as we go. We will have a sign up probably next week. Really use the summer as a great time for planning. It's okay to call me Jodi, I prefer it.

XVI. Closing Remarks

- i. None.

XVII. Adjournment

XVIII. New Senator Orientation

- a. Speaker of the Senate –Ebonee Johnson
- b. Internal Affairs Chair – Alexa Woodburn

*Planning Session Breakout will be moved to after next meeting!