

The Official Minutes of the Undergraduate Student Government General  
Assembly

On This Day, September 12, 2016  
Room 308 Bowen-Thompson Student Union at 7:35 pm

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call
- III. Swearing in of New Officers
  - Senator Aichele of Centennial
  - Senator Rosing of Kreisher Ashley-Batchelder
  - Senator DeWalt of Founders
  - Senator Shakespeare of Kreisher Compton-Darrow
- IV. Open Forum
  - a. Mary Ellen Mazey, 11<sup>th</sup> President of Bowling Green State University

I promise to give some brief comments and open up for some questions. Welcome to the Fall of 2016 and we plan on it being a great semester. We are extremely proud that in the third year in a row we added the most academically successful class in BGSU history. Van Wright has been absolutely the best recruiter here in the state of Ohio. This includes 36 different countries and an increase of incoming students from NW Ohio. Our number of 19,812 students is a 3% increase. We plan to one day have a population of 25,000 students.

Our MAC competitors have about these numbers and we plan to be there shortly. We are the only university in Ohio to have an online business program and it truly makes us unique. Plan to have more online enrollment added in the future. It was an exciting year in terms of renovations, campus is starting to look a little different. The main part being the new Greek Village.

The Sig Ep Fraternity did a ribbon cutting and I felt honored to be one of the members to cut the ribbon at the house opening. The Kuhlin Center is truly a state of the art building for Communication that even the college of Music will be

using. Jay Crawford was here for commencement and stated that he doesn't know anyone that could match the state of the art additions of the Kuhlin Center.

Another addition has been the parking lot on the other side of the Union. This past year we created a president's advisory council on athletics with the addition of student positions.

We are one of seventeen universities in the countries that have both Division I Football and Division I Hockey. We have done well in hockey and women's basketball and women's gymnastics. Athletics has been a strong point at this university and we certainly are proud of them.

Chair Burkholder: Over the summer, I was disappointed to learn Buckeye Boys State will not be returning. What are your thoughts on that?

President Mazey: We as an institution are sad to see them leave and are sad to see them move to Oxford. We certainly would love to see them return and we will work on getting them back to the university. Additionally, I would also like to add Buckeye Girls State. Transportation and the layout of the camp is certainly the two main points we need to address if we are able to bring those camps to our university.

There are also ideas of adding a STEM summer camp and an arts summer camp. Provost Rodgers is to develop a plan on how to add more summer camps. It is extremely important that we see them return to BGSU.

Senator Snyder: How do you plan to build upon adding more non-traditional students?

President Mazey: BGSU has the most supportive environment for non-traditional students throughout the major five universities here in Ohio. We have the veteran's center now. On Saturday we had Military Appreciation Day. It is important to have the accepting environment inside and outside the classroom. Both for military members and to all other non-traditional students.

Senator Ebersole: The Kuhlin Center is truly state of the art. We are excited for all of the equipment, though, not a lot of people know how to use it. Will there be a training program for it?

President Mazey: I will certainly get Provost Rodgers on it. My biggest fear is to see someone break it all. We can do better and that is in the plan within the upcoming months.

Senator Hasseltine: Is there a plan to have more open places for on-campus activities around campus, especially with the addition of the new parking lots taking away form.

President Mazey: One of the complaints, especially from the community was that they had to cross the road to get to the Union and the Oaks. We do not have a plan on how to provide more parking and fix the parking problem. I actually have the idea of a parking garage, but looking at the statistics we definitely don't need one. We have a great bus system, though, it can always use improvement. The golf course has definitely got a lot of green space to utilize and we might mention that idea to our folks.

Senator Tansey; First time commuter students have the poorest rates of nutrition among all of our students, as we are going through the semester plan... how are we going to try meet the unique needs of the commuter student. There is only one person who works with the off-campus population... Sorry, I keep losing my train of thought.

President Mazey: Here let me do the best I can to answer what you have mentioned. I've spent 26 years of my career at a university who was primarily commuter students. We certainly are looking for ways to better address the commuter students. Especially having classes together, as they have more people to relate with while taking classes. It is a strategy that has worked well before for me and I would love to see that implemented here as well. The number of first year commuter students has risen tremendously. Even my own son was a commuter student. We have the creed now and I love the creed. We have to live the creed and implement it into our daily life. Reach out and ask what strategies that would better suit them. We want to retain the commuter student population, we can do better and we want to make an 80% retention.

Senator Tansey: There are low levels of upper class mentorship, setting up a commuter advisor system would be a great way to reach their low level problems. Addressing to them about what opportunities they have here.

President Mazey: That certainly sounds like a great idea and I would love to see that implemented.

You can always reach me through email, messages and, of course, Twitter!

Senator Shakespeare: There are a few military members looking for a military support group. How is there a way to implement a support group for those new military students to help them?

President Mazey: I have worked with Barb in the Student VA office here and we are certainly working on ways to work on that.

Senator Davis: What construction plans can we for-see in the upcoming future?

President Mazey: I sat down with the administrators and what I would like to see in the near future would be the Doyt Perry stadium does look a little old. Turning 50 this year. What we need is to paint that stadium! It gets cold and weathers here in NW Ohio. After five years they are now in the process of painting it and we will see it finished by homecoming. Especially with the addition to some nice orange all around the lower levels of the stadium. This was not funded out of student fees but actually from a former football player who passed away and in his will donated money for the renovations.

Another would be the construction of a new business building. What we are going to do is take Hanna Hall and leave it on the quad side and put new Windows in it and put a new addition to it on the East side... this will be the new business building. We will be spending a lot of time raising the money as it is critical for the future of this university and completes the quad. We've done upgrades to Eppler and some to Education. Hayes Hall is another one. Park Avenue Warehouse is certainly a great piece of architecture that I love to admire.

Senator Kobbs: Any plan to add blue safety lights to the Greek Village?

President Mazey: I am prepared for that question! There were never blue lights by Conklin as well. Instead, we plan to add other safety feature including cameras

overlooking the area as well as buttons on the elevator to immediately call 911. Lastly, a new addition of lights to the increased lighting during the late night hours. They think that the blue light phones are the safety of the past and we are certainly looking for the safety of the future. If we think the blue lights are certainly a necessity, we can certainly look at placing a few throughout the community. We can look into all of the concerns and student safety is one of our top concerns. I used to tell Chief Mull that every night is a good night when I don't get a call from her as I sleep with my phone on right next to my bed as I sleep.

We are very proud of the NIOT and the Its On Us campaign and encourage all of their efforts in increasing student safety here at BGSU.

It is truly all about you. I have had the opportunity to live the American dream and want nothing more to see all of you accomplish this as well. I wish you all the bet and if you ever need me to come back I will gladly do my best to get back here as soon as I can

V. Lobby Time

VI. Old Business

a. Proposed Constitution and Bylaw Changes

\*Refer to the new Bylaws

\*Bylaws read by Chair Burkholder

Senator Tansey: Office hours, no one knows about office hours and it means we don't increase the outreach we have to our constituents. If we better use social media...

POINT OF ORDER.

Speaker Oehler: We need to stay on the task at hand and this statement can be addressed during Senator Reports.

VII. New Business

Bob Moosbrugger:

I represent the Athletic Department and we certainly appreciate your leadership here on campus and love to see the idea of the student council representing the student athletes.

Snyder: Are there any upgrades to the Ice Arena in the near future?

A new generator for the ice and videos boards would certainly be a great interaction device and advertising piece for the fans there at the stadium.

Senator Davis: What are some strategies in partnering with Walt?

Bob Moosbrugger: Great question, I am learning about that as we speak with the graduate student Mr. Yanich. There are a lot of topics going around nationally and we want to see our athletes address themselves professionally,

Senator Hasseltine: We have est. a new ticket system, but it's a pain in the butt. Is there a new and easier system in the works?

Bob Moosbrugger: I haven't completely dived into that yet. But so far its great on our end with the advancement of technology to let you know what events are coming up.

Ticketmaster has certainly been a great partner in working with on this and we look to better and advance on the partnership in the future.

## VIII. Executive Branch Reports

- a. President – Amanda Dortch adortch@bgsu.edu

I have a couple things and a lot of it needs participation with all of y'all.

Things that are big on our radar the Falcon Care Initiative. This is a USG initiative that started 3 years ago. It is an opportunity for student to receive donated swiped from students who have extra swipes. This is important as the focus of our students is based on their hunger and basic needs of survival are met. Standing Committees, how many of you are on standing committee? That's what I thought, all of you need to be on standing committees. They range from public safety to athletics. IN those meeting you learn about the universities daily functions. And if you don't go to these meetings I get a phone call in saying I have to be there on your behalf. So attending these meetings is very important. There will be an event in addressing voter registration. It will be held all around campus and at union tables within the upcoming weeks.

Senator Snyder: With the falcon care initiative, how does this system generally work?

President Dortch: There are a lot of outside donors as well as student donors for those students who are in need.

Senator Shakespeare: Is the voting for absentee ballot or just for on campus voters.

President Dortch: It will certainly address both.

- b. Vice President – Richie Racette [rracett@bgsu.edu](mailto:rracett@bgsu.edu)

We always have meeting with the administrators all the time and with that we have a way to address any of your needs, anything at all. So if you have an concerns or questions you can always bring it up to us to address to the administrators.

The semester is really starting out strong and we would like to see it continue for the rest of the semester. To keep it going strong we encourage you, we really do, to bring up anything you need. Thank you.

- c. Cabinet Reports

IX. Procedures and Appeals Reports

X. Treasurer's Report

\*Refer to the Budget

\*Read by Treasurer Quentin McKinnon

Senator Myers: What is the parking compensation?

Treasurer McKinnon: That is for the Chief Administrator to oversee Parking and Appeals.

XI. Speaker's Report

- a. Speaker of the Senate – Nadia Oehler [noehler@bgsu.edu](mailto:noehler@bgsu.edu)

Thank you so much for being great with this meeting. There was a lot of information thrown your way. I didn't see any phones so please keep this going by not using your phones. Please, if you are not going to be here you need to fill out the absentee senator form. The standing committee form will be coming around for you to rank the standing committees that you would like to sit on. We will review those and assign you to those standing committees. Senator reports should be done online and please do those throughout your time here to keep us updated on all of your accomplishments. I will send out an email later on about all of the forms you should be aware.

XII. Committee Reports

- a. Academic Affairs – Hannah Barnes [hanbarn@bgsu.edu](mailto:hanbarn@bgsu.edu)

We will be meeting upstairs after this meeting.

- b. Internal Affairs – Nathan Burkholder nburkho@bgsu.edu

Thank you for your participation and patience with passing the new updates on the Bylaws. Office hour participation was great last week but please be sure to note when you were in the office or it will be marked as an absence. My committee will be meeting in the fourth floor lounge.

Snyder: When is the deadline for the OrgSync office hour form?

Preferably during your office hour. If you do it, then you are less likely to forget.

- c. Student Affairs – Rachel Renou rrenou@bgsu.edu

My committee is a little different as we have three parts to it with Campus Life, Sustainability and Diversity. We will be meeting here right after this meeting.

### XIII. Senator Reports

Senator Hasenfratz: The greens space, there are areas around founder that will be torn down and opened up to add to the green space around that area. Feel free to get with me after this if you would like more information on this subject.

Senator Myers: Is there any news about the areas around Harshman?

Senator Hasenfratz: Within the next few years, they don't know exactly how to approach it, but they are working on a plan on how to update that area.

Senator Davis: Tomorrow I have a meeting with Dr. Gibson about Diversity spacing here on campus. Currently our goal is to have a large facility by fall of 2018. Look for updates in my next week's senator reports.

### XIV. Advisor's Remarks

- a. Dean Jodi Webb jwebb@bgsu.edu

The only thing I have to mention, next week Dr. Denardo will be here for the wellness connection. She has a big part in the Its On Us campaign, she is very knowledgeable in this subject area and this is an opportunity for all of us to ask a question about this area and expand our knowledge.

### XV. Closing Remarks

Chair Burkholder: I am a member of the Young Government Leaders and we are still looking for some new members. If you are interested, please let us know.

President Dortch: So Oehler, Racette and I have expressed some interest in the One Grey Dress campaign. It is a really amazing opportunity to build solidarity and awareness of



this campaign. September 25- October 25<sup>th</sup> is when it will be held. If you have any interest in this event, we would like to hear your thoughts and ideas about this.

Senator Davis: Yes, and for males, I have heard that other schools have used one grey shirt throughout the time. So you don't need to be wearing a dress to participate and to get more male participants in this event we can promote the grey shirt idea.

Senator Tansey: I have really appreciated all of the extra information and the senator reports were super stellar.

Chair Renou: If your name was not called for a committee please see Speaker Oehler after the meeting.

Senator Rosing: We are trying to start a college program for Youth in Government with all of the branches of the government to participate in an event here throughout all of the colleges in Ohio and I would like to start a program here at BGSU.

Burkholder: Looks like you need to come to Young Government Leaders!

Senator Sakairoun: We are looking for volunteers to help with voter's registration so if you are looking to participate feel free to see me after the meeting.

XVI. Adjournment