



The Official Agenda of the Undergraduate Student Government  
On This Day, Monday, February 24th, 2025  
BTSU 308 at 7:30pm

- I. Call to Order: 7:31
- II. Roll Call
- III. Open Forum- Sheri Stoll
  - a. CFO for Budget and Finances
  - b. Budget is heavily dependent on tuition and enrollment.
    - i. Internally, we have a chart that has a ten year enrollment rate, showing graduate and undergraduate enrollment.
    - ii. In the Midwest, the pool of 18-year-olds has been steadily declining. Not to mention, the pandemic hit the trend hard too. Potential undergraduate students did not want to go to school.
    - iii. For graduate students, the numbers go up because there's an economic decline.
    - iv. When we have lower undergraduate numbers, we get a few less million dollars in revenue.
    - v. This is an issue because enrollment has the biggest impact on Ohio's funding for us.
  - c. Fiscal year starts July 1 2025 – June 30 2026.
  - d. Retention progress, specifically freshman to sophomore progress
    - i. We only receive funding from the state with outcome progress.
      - 1. To put it simply, they go through how many courses and graduation rates (along with a lot of other things) to figure out how much funding we get.
      - 2. BGSU has been working on its retention rates to get that rate higher. If BGSU wants to move to the top tier academically universities, it needs to get over the 80% retention rate and keep it.

- a. It's incredibly difficult, considering we've been at around 77% and slowly moved up to 80% for 2023. We'll see how it goes for 2024
- e. Ohio has a 2-year budget. The governor has introduced the next state budget. Many of this pertains to state financial aid
  - i. Introduced by the governor very early February. He proposed it for fiscal years 2026 and 2027
    - 1. Provides flat funding in state share of instruction for both years
      - a. As BGSU retention and performance improves, this could mean getting more funding from Ohio
      - b. The state budget does not get bigger. That means we get more money while another university gets less money
      - c. The House may be looking to do something larger than zero, but there's no promises
    - 2. Allow tuition increase for incoming freshmen class (36-month average increase)
      - a. Since the Falcon Guarantee, this only effects the freshmen class
    - 3. Provides 12% increase in OCOG in FY2026: Reduction of 7% in FY2027
      - a. When this happens, it generally only impacts the incoming freshman. Will affect a significant number of prospective students, and they are working with the House to potentially get that change
    - 4. Provides 107% increase in Governor's Merit Scholarship in FY2026; provides 49% increase in FY2027
      - a. It applies to the top 5% of any Ohio high school. The governor has a massive increase for these, probably to account for the potential increase in the interest in it
    - 5. The Department of Higher Education only got 1% increase in both FY2026 and FY2027

f. Campus Master Plan 2024

- i. Explains the major roadmap over the next 12 -15 years of major plans and initiatives happening within that time frame
- ii. Founders: building upgrades starting in summer of 2025
  - 1. Host of building system upgrades. Mostly plumbing and humidity related issues.
  - 2. Will be executing summer projects for the next five years (only during the summer). Can't take Founders fully offline because it's too important for housing.
- iii. Kriescher: chilled water lines starting in the summer of 2025
  - 1. Because of enrollments they cannot take it fully offline, so it will be done in phases as well
  - 2. Sundial / Phase One of Kriescher will begin planning and designing during early 2026
- iv. Summer projects will consider as well: roofs (mostly Fine Arts building & Ice Arena), parking lots, sidewalks, and other outdoor spaces.

g. Q: We have an Advocacy Day. How should we approach legislators about S.B. 1.0, specifically about the budget?

- i. A: As the future of the state of Ohio, remind them of this. We will be the people who support Ohio in the long run. If we do not get invested in, then the future of Ohio will struggle.
- ii. A: Ohio has always been at the forefront of retention of the future, and we are still being considered because of our future workforce. We need to remind the legislators that universities are incredibly important at preparing the next workforce – as well as the economy in Ohio too.

IV. Swearing in of New Officers

V. Lobby Time

a. Legislative Student Commission Fellowship

- i. She works in state government, for this post-graduate fellowship (you need a bachelor's degree)
- ii. Is in Columbus, mostly OSU alums

- iii. You work in the State House, with the members of either the House or the Senate
  - 1. Such as constituents' correspondence
  - 2. Lot of legislative research. When your representative is interested in something, you might do research on it
  - 3. A lot of writing, such as press releases, testimonies, and all writing related for legislations and whatever your representative needs
- iv. That's really what a job in state government looks like. It's a good introduction to working in politics.
- v. It runs from September of one year to September to the next
- vi. Q: Do you get to choose which representative you work with?
  - 1. A: You declare what party you will be with. Then you will be internally placed from there, hopefully with someone who is the rep for the interests you have
  - 2. A: There are 24 Fellows in a cohort. 22 are partisan positions and 2 that are not.
- vii. Q: When you graduate and go on to this program, can you go to school or something like that?
  - 1. A: It's a full-time job. You don't have to work or go to grad school at the same time. You should probably focus on the Fellowship if you get this career.

- VI. Old Business
- VII. New Business
- VIII. Senator Reports
- IX. Committee Reports

- a. Academic Affairs – Madeline Freyhof
  - i. Midterm grading has just started. Will be finalized on March 26<sup>th</sup>
  - ii. Will continue working on with Medical Protocols Initiative & Body Doubling Initiative
- b. Internal Affairs – Abby Burger
  - i. Tie Blanket event is on Wednesday from 6:30 – 8

1. Need volunteers from 6 – 6:30 and 8 – 8:30 to set up and tear down

c. Student Affairs – Will Hattery

- i. Will be continuing with all of the initiatives
- ii. Will be meeting with Parking Services to talk about the Affordable Grocery Route Service & Shuttles
- iii. First outing is on Saturday March 15<sup>th</sup>
  1. It's dinner
  2. Fill out the QR code, it will be in the follow up email

X. Speaker's Reports

- a. Speaker of the Senate – Gyllien Anderson

XI. Executive Branch Reports

- a. President – Elyse Adrian

- i. Advocacy Day is on March 11<sup>th</sup>
  1. Workshop on Feb 28<sup>th</sup> from 9 – 10 am
- ii. Cold Weather Meeting will be this Wednesday
- iii. Top Soil (taking over Eco-Bricking) is working together right now to make plant pottery. It will be placed in the USG office for a little bit
  1. If you're good at art, please help with making this stuff
- iv. University Council is soon. Elyse will be talking about our S.B 1.0 & S.R. 1.0
  1. If there is anything else to add, please let Elyse know
- v. Creating a temporary committee to deal with the hate flyers (advertising the KKK) being posted in off-campus residential areas.
  1. We will decide what USG's process for this and prepare for the future
  2. If you are interested in this, tell Elyse to join
- vi. The sponsorship guidelines page outlines how we will decide when to co-sponsor an event.
  1. Goes through how we can say yes and no.
  2. We can now co-sponsor events effectively.

b. Vice President – Madison Jefferies

- i. Tonight the Trustee Committee will finish up final recommendations. It will be sent to the President's office this week
- ii. The Kuhlin Hub and USG will collab to do career development. It will be multiple events spread over a week.
- iii. Banquet Committee
  1. The QR code was not really working so there will be a link in the follow-up email
  2. A timeline video will be created to showcase the events we've done
  3. A video for the seniors will also be created
- iv. Class selection shopping carts are available. You can make your schedule for next fall. Registration will be mid-March. You will get an email about your specific date.

c. Cabinet Reports

i. Sydney

1. Starting this week, the standing committees have two forms.
  - a. You just fill it out about your current standing committees.  
It shows that you're paying attention in your committee
  - b. There is a second form about requesting to change your committee
2. Internal Committees have a QR code for signing in
3. Please add your achievements and initiatives to the Teams

ii. Ava

1. Two initiatives working on, anyone is invited to join. There is an interest form for both of those
  - a. Town Hall Planning.
  - b. Revamping the tabling materials

XII. Advisor's Remarks

- a. Sarah Jurden [sjurden@bgsu.edu](mailto:sjurden@bgsu.edu)

- i. Make sure to start planning your fall schedule next year. It is open and be sure to talk with your advisor if you need to
- ii. Midterm grading has started and will be put in by March 16<sup>th</sup>
- iii. Text Frieda is also a good resource to ask questions
- iv. If anyone wants to see the PowerPoint from Stoll, it can be put in the follow up

### XIII. Closing Remarks

#### a. Pinwheels for Prevention

- i. It's a service event. Will be on April 2<sup>nd</sup>
- ii. You help plant pinwheels.
  - 1. They are the national symbol of child abuse. Each pinwheel represents a case.
- iii. It's a combination of CPS and CASA supporting the people in it.
- iv. It's planted in the Methodist Church, which is across the street from the Stroh Center

### XIV. Adjournment