SECRETARY’S REPORT NO. 18, February 15, 2006
REPORT OF ACTIONS TAKEN AT THE MEETING OF THE USG SENATE

The Student Senate met in Regular Session on February 15, 2006 at 6:30 in the Ohio Union, Grey Suite K. Speaker of the Senate Nick Benson presided.

Present: 39   Absent: 8   Alternates: 2
Allie Baker Barylak Benson Bhatt (A)
Brin Bullard Capone (UAC) Cropcho Dodovich
Evangelista Fogt Fuquen Hoque Hornsby
Howell Innes King Knoepfler Lawson
Lockshin Luby Marconi Martin Noon
Nystrom Pineiro Pittman Reed Rothacker
Samuels Seger Singla Smith Steele
Surovjak (A) Valentine Wallace Webb Wireko
Wiseman Yeh Byerly Sprinkle
Rosen Tan Jones Aten Carona

OPEN FORUM FOR THE PUBLIC
-Ms. Deborah Schipper, Sexual Violence Education and Support Program: She was asked to speak here this evening by Ms. Evangelista to talk about the “Safe, Sane, and Sexy” program, which is something that has been offered for the past few years. This is something that could be offered through the First Year Survey Course. They are trying to introduce sexual activity as a choice between abstinence and actually having sexual activity (using responsible birth control, contraception, and STI protection, responsible consumption of alcohol and maintaining sobriety, and consent). They try to introduce sex as more enjoyable if both people are into it. This is a 45-minute program and it’s very well received. Ms. Schipper doesn’t believe that the program does a lot to change a person’s mind but it does introduce them to all sorts of resources and services that they could possibly use in the future. With the hopeful passage of Ms. Evangelista’s resolution, then all students would go through this program. It is in no way an anti-male program. QUESTIONS:
-Mr. Knoepfler: If this is conducted during the survey courses, then who would be conducting it? She would like for her peers and for older students to facilitate it. If any of you are interested, please let Ms. Schipper know.
-Mr. Martin: Some of the students that he’s talked to have viewed the material as objectionable. If it was offered during freshmen survey, then would people be able to opt out of the program? She has never had luck getting anything mandated for the students. If there are problems, then maybe the program can be previewed and those who find it objectionable can share their concerns with Ms. Schipper so that changes can be made to make it less objectionable or not objectionable in any way.
-John Hoffmeister, President of the OSU Men’s Glee Club: The Men’s Glee Club is the oldest organization at Ohio State and was founded around 130 years ago. There is a strong amount of pride among members about their status. They strive for excellence and
tradition in everything that they do. Their new director has tried to get them in a position of competition and excellence. They are making their first trip to a vocal conference for the first time in many years this spring. However, while they have done a ton of fundraising on their own and have asked the Department of Music for funding as well, they would also appreciate support from USG. **QUESTIONS:**

-Mr. Baker: Can we hear you all sing? They would like to sing for us with the Speaker’s permission. Permission is given and the Men’s Glee Club sings for us!!

**6:50, EXECUTIVE REPORT, PRESIDENT SCHARER:**

-Community Summit: She is working with IPC and CGS to have a full student front about how we can address the issues in the University District. They’ll be having a Community Summit concerning this issue in the beginning of April.
-Graduate & Professional Board Member Selections: Last week, candidates for the Graduate Trustee were interviewed and four candidates were chosen and sent to Governor Taft.
-State of the University: Tuesday, Feb. 21 @ 7pm, Conference Theatre
-Underground MOU: Last spring, we voted to support THE UNDERGROUND for the next five years for $20,000. Added to the Memo is a clause that allows for USG to discontinue its relationship if THE UNDERGROUND is taken up by an academic department or donor. It will probably be signed next week. Furthermore, we will make sure that the funds are used properly through the CSA Allocations Committee.
-Parking Forum: The UAC will be hosting a forum concerning parking issues this week. It is scheduled for this Thursday at 7pm at Campus Partners.
-Metro School Town Hall Meeting: Friday, Feb. 17 @ 1pm at their location on Kenny Road.

**QUESTIONS:**

-Mr. Noon: What is the address of the Metro School? She will find out for us.
-Mr. Dodovich: The MOU talks about a liaison to the student radio. What does this mean? The Ohio Union will appoint a liaison to connect USG with THE UNDERGROUND through a third party.

**COMMITTEE/CONSTITUENCY REPORTS**

-Policy & Governance met last Wednesday and tabled the Tuition Commission resolution to tomorrow night.
-Academic Affairs met last week and discussed 38-R-73. They unanimously approved it and she encourages us to do the same.
-Budget & Finance met on Monday and considered 38-B-20 and 38-B-24, which were cut a little bit, and the other bills were passed in the amount that they asked for.

**QUESTIONS:**

-President Scharer: Can you talk about why the Men’s Glee Club bill was cut? They asked for $5700, which is a quarter of our funds for the rest of the year. Most every bill gets cut right now. Furthermore, there was the opinion that the participants could pay a nominal fee to participate in the discussion.
-President Scharer: Can you talk about why the Buckeyes on Bourbon Street program failed? The committee members felt that there had been a lot of programs that were very similar to this. They also felt that the wrong cabinet committee, the Outreach Committee, was putting this program on.

**OLD BUSINESS**

38-R-78, *A Resolution to Approve Mr. Drees for Judicial Panel, Vice President Kreiner*

-This is a recommendation to approve Mr. David Drees as the final member of the USG Judicial Panel. Seventeen applications were submitted for Judicial Panel and several candidates were interviewed. Mr. Drees was a noteworthy candidate throughout the entire process. Mr. Drees has involvement with OSU Mock Trial and was their “MVP.” This suggested to Vice President Kreiner that he has experience in trying judicial cases. Furthermore, Mr. Drees volunteers his time with Young Life in Dublin, Ohio and this impressed Vice President Kreiner. He submits Mr. Drees to us for approval.

-Mr. David Drees: He is a sophomore History major with a concentration in Law. He has done Mock Trial since his sophomore year of high school. He would appreciate our support. **QUESTIONS:**

- Ms. Innes: Have you read the bylaws and constitution? Yes he has.

- Mr. Baker: What type of justice will you be? He tends to lean more towards strict constructionalism in his judicial philosophy.

**DISCUSSION:**

- Mr. Howell: Policy & Governance approved Mr. Drees and feel that he is a good candidate.

- Mr. Baker: He sounds like he knows what he’s doing.

- Mr. Marconi: He calls to question and it is seconded.

WE MOVE INTO A HAND VOTE AND MR. DREES IS PLACED ON JP

38-R-75: *A Resolution to Fill Senate Vacancies, Mr. Samuels*

Speaker Benson would like to note that Adam Rosen is also included here for USAS.

**CANDIDATE SPEECHES:**

-Mr. Matthew Carona (Off Campus): He is a third-year political science major. He is asking for our support to fill this seat. He has lived in the university district now for two years and wants to be one of the people that constituents can come to. He is concerned with the disconnect between the off-campus community and the on-campus community. He believes that he could be an adequate voice for the off-campus area. **QUESTIONS:**

- Mr. Rothacker: Where exactly do you live off-campus? He lives near 15th and Summit.

- Mr. Noon: Have you ever attended any off-campus organization meetings? He has been unable to attend those meetings at this time. He would like to work towards publicizing these meetings more.
Mr. Martin: How do you feel about allowing for concealed carry laws in the off-campus community? His initial thoughts are that he does not have a stance on that issue at this time but does not believe that he'll completely support the resolution.

Ms. Stephanie Tan (Business): She’s a second year in Accounting and Finance and is in the Honors Accounting program. She’s also applying for the Honors Cohort program. She would like to alter the reputation of the major as a “blow-off” major. She feels that this could be done through offering business courses in the GEC. She is also an RA in Mack Hall.

Mr. Donald Jones (West Campus): He requests for our support for the West Campus seat. He feels that one of the main problems on West Campus is that the organizations out there don’t do anything with each other and are not in anyway involved with USG. He would also be the first West Campus Senator from Morrill Tower in five years. He would like to hold monthly meetings with the organizations that deal with West Campus issues. He has also served as an alternate many times for Mr. King and Mr. Sprinkle.

Mr. Andrew Aten (West Campus): He is a first year in Lincoln Tower, Pre-Med major. He is a Senator in Lincoln Hall Council. He is really interested in getting more involved in USG and is a very approachable guy. He feels that residents would really be able to come to him with their issues. He feels that there is not a lot of inter-tower communication. He would like for the towers to communicate more towards each other. He would also like to put together a West Campus Social or Formal. Furthermore, he would like to make it cleaner. He is also involved with the Chemistry Club and the Running Club.

Mr. Adam Rosen (USAS): He is a second year in the Honors College in Sociology. He was made aware of the open position from Mr. Samuels. He would like to work on GEC Reform and the McHale Report and on advising issues. He is also involved with Hillel. QUESTIONS:

- Mr. Dodovich: What is your major? It is sociology, which is part of USAS.

- Mr. King: What is your view of the USAS seat and who you serve? He feels that he should be working on advising issues, freshman surveys, etc. for students. He has definitely benefited from his relationship with his advisor.

DISCUSSION ON THE COLLECTIVE CANDIDATES:

- Mr. Dodovich: He really likes the idea of having one West Campus senator from Lincoln and one from Morrill.

- Mr. Howell: He motions to call to question. It is seconded.

WE MOVE INTO A HAND VOTE AND THE RESOLUTION PASSES 29-2-0.

SPEAKER BENSON GIVES THE OATH OF OFFICE TO ALL

38-B-20: A Bill to Support The Ohio State University Men’s Glee Club, Mr. Marconi
The Glee Club is made up of 70% non-Music majors. They have 68 people going on this trip, which is far more than many of the other programs that we fund. They are going to a National College Chorus Association Competition. It is important that they attend to keep their name out and keep the Glee Club’s prestige out there. The Glee Club is an effective recruitment tool. The amount that it has been cut to is $2,000 and the group is an excellent representation of Ohio State.

DISCUSSION:
- Mr. Noon: With the amount of money that it’s been cut to, how much will each person need to pay out of pocket? Probably around $80.
- Mr. King: What was the Budget & Finance Committee’s viewpoint on this bill? Chairman Luby feels that it is an exceptional group and the committee felt comfortable cutting it to $2,000.
- Mr. Rothacker: He moves to suspend the bylaws. Bylaws, though, cannot be suspended on the floor.
- Mr. Dodovich: He would have liked to have seen more money go towards the program but he would recommend that we just pass this bill right now.
- Mr. King: He likes the fact that the bill calls for the use of the USG logo everywhere possible. He calls to question and it is seconded.

WE MOVE INTO A HAND VOTE AND THE BILL PASSES

38-R-72: A Resolution to Ensure Proper Compliance to the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act, Ms. Evangelista
- This resolution calls for a few things. The Jeanne Clery Act is a federal law that requires all public universities to disclose campus crime and security information a few times a year. As most of you know, the recent campus crime statistics have not included statistics from the off-campus or University District. Ms. Evangelista thinks that this is wrong. In the past two years, there have only been 34 crime reports released and Ms. Evangelista thinks that this is too low. This resolution would call for the university to issue more crime reports. Furthermore, concerning the Crime Log, most students are not aware that this even exists. So, Ms. Evangelista would like for USG to have a link to the Crime Log on its website and to encourage the university to make it more public.

QUESTIONS:
- Mr. Knoepfler: Does the act make clear what is considered off-campus and what is not? No, it does not but the university has worked on this.
- Mr. Noon: Are you going to be submitting this to University Senate? Yes she will.
- Mr. Cropcho: Calls to question, it is seconded.

WE MOVE INTO A HAND VOTE AND THE RESOLUTION PASSES 35-0

38-R-73: A Resolution to Enact a Mandatory Rape Awareness Program in All Freshman Survey Courses, Ms. Evangelista
- This would basically encourage all colleges to mandate the “Safe, Sane, and Sexy” program in all freshman surveys. She feels passionately about this. Statistics say that 1 in 4 women will be sexually assaulted. She will also send this to University Senate.

QUESTIONS:
- Mr. Dodovich: He calls to question. It is seconded.
WE MOVE INTO A HAND VOTE AND THE RESOLUTION PASSES 29-4-1

38-R-76: A Resolution to Amend Article I Section B of the Bylaws, Mr. Reed
What this will do is insert a statement that all legislation that is passed by a current USG Senate will only be effective through the time that the USG Senate is in its term. This is somewhat stated right now in our bylaws but this resolution will just clarify this much more. Mr. Reed does not feel that it is our right to mandate actions of future senates.

QUESTIONS/DISCUSSION:
-Mr. Noon: So anything we passed that does not change the bylaws will not affect next year’s senate? That is true.
-Mr. Fogt: How will this affect our Memorandum of Understanding with THE UNDERGROUND? The MOU will already be signed by the time that the next legislative senate takes office and it will last for five years, no matter what future senates think about it. Mr. Reed feels that it can only be rescinded through an appeal to the Judicial Panel.
-Mr. Brin: He is opposed to this idea so that some resolutions are made permanent.
-Mr. Dodovich: He disagrees with Mr. Brin. Things like budgets that we do each year would not make sense to be mandated for next year. Ad-Hoc Committees, for example, are only for a year and then can be approved again the next year.
-Ms. Innes: She feels that a lot of things happen in a year that should not have to be placed on the burden of future senates.
-Mr. Reed: He agrees with Mr. Dodovich and Ms. Innes. This is why we have the bylaws.
-Mr. Howell: Calls to question and it is seconded.

WE MOVE INTO A HAND VOTE AND THE RESOLUTION PASSES 33-2-0.

38-B-21: A Bill to Support the Alpha Zeta Partners, Ms. Lawson
-She wrote this bill to support the Agricultural Honorary in the College of FAES and their Alpha Zeta Partners group in their hope to travel to a national organizational conference. Currently, it stands that each member will pay $410 for the conference. However, if we approve this bill for $500, then each member will only have to pay $380.

QUESTIONS:
-Mr. Steele: Calls to question. It is seconded.

WE ADOPT THE BILL UNANIMOUSLY

38-B-22: A Bill to Support “Late Night at the Columbus Zoo” Program, Ms. Lawson
-She was approached by Ms. Amanda Hardesty, who is planning this program with the FAES Student Council. This is the fifth year of the program and it’ll offer free food, free entertainment, and a free pass to the zoo. Last year, over 4600 people attended the event. It’s a fairly big budget and she is asking us for $2500.

QUESTIONS/DISCUSSION:
-Mr. Noon: How many members are in the CFAES Student Council? There are about 32 members on the council.
-Mr. Cropcho: Who is DJing the event? Ms. Lawson does not know but you could talk to Ms. Hardesty about it. He is concerned about the DJ price.
-Mr. Martin: How many people usually attend? Last year, there were 4600 attendees.
-Mr. Fogt: This was an easy approval for him in Budget & Finance.
-Ms. Innes: Calls to question and it is seconded.

WE ADOPT THE BILL UNANIMOUSLY

38-B-24: A Bill to Support Success is in Your Hands, Speaker Benson
-He would like to encourage us to table this bill as the sponsor is not here.
  -Mr. Marconi: Moves to table. It is seconded.
  -Ms. Singla: Is there enough information for us to approve it without the organization’s contact being here? There probably is but the sponsor has asked for us to table it.

WE GO INTO A HAND VOTE AND TABLE THE BILL 27-6-2

NEW BUSINESS
-Please look at the resolutions and bills in New Business. Furthermore, there will be a resolution concerning travel for regional campus senators.

OTHER BUSINESS
-He would like to bring to the floor a bill to add the Men’s Glee Club an additional $1,000 for expenses for their trip. It is seconded. DISCUSSION ON BRINGING IT TO THE FLOOR:
  -Mr. Dodovich: Is this a bill for $1,000? Yes it is.
  -Mr. Fogt: Budget & Finance just did not feel that it was responsible to give so much for only 60-70 people to attend. The committee discussed this in depth.
  -Mr. Steele: We already made a decision and should stick to it.
  -Mr. Luby: Why $1,000? There is some logic behind it.
  -Mr. Martin: He calls to question. It is seconded.

WE GO INTO A HAND VOTE AND FAIL TO BRING THE BILL TO THE FLOOR BY A VOTE OF 10-18-5.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/REMINDERS
-President Scharer: If you’d like to speak with her about the MOU at the end, please talk to her afterwards.
-Mr. Brin: He encourages us all to apply for the Beanie Drake Scholarship.
-Mr. Sprinkle: The Council on Enrollment and Progress will meet on Tuesday. If interested in attending, please talk to Patrick.
-Mr. Fogt: Apply for class honoraries!
-Mr. Couch: There is a privately-endowed scholarship that he encourages us to apply for. For more information, please talk to Matt Couch about it. There will only be one scholarship awarded.
-Mr. Samuels: Happy birthday to Ms. Singla and Mr. Webb and congratulations to Mr. Knoepfler and Mr. Howell for being accepted as John Glenn Fellows.

SENATOR OF THE WEEK IS MS. LIZ EVANGELISTA. YAY!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Meeting Adjourned at 7:55pm
Meeting Minutes Submitted by Eric A. Samuels, Diversity-at large Senators