SECRETARY’S REPORT NO. 20, March 1, 2006
REPORT OF ACTIONS TAKEN AT THE MEETING OF THE USG SENATE

The Student Senate met in Regular Session on March 1, 2006 at 6:30 in the Ohio Union, Grey Suite K. Speaker of the Senate Nick Benson presided

**Present:** 37  
**Absent:** 9  
**Alternates:** 2

- Allie Baker
- Barylak Capone
- Benson Cropcho
- Bhatt (A) Dodovich
- Brin Bullard
- 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) Sprinkle
- Wallace Webb
- Wireko
- Wiseman Yeh
- Byerly
- Rosen Tan
- Jones Aten
- Carona

**OPEN FORUM FOR THE PUBLIC**

-Mr. Rich Hollingsworth, Acting Vice President of Student Affairs: He would like to thank all of us on behalf of Bill Hall’s family. Furthermore, he would like to share something about his background and speak for a few minutes about student government and our role within Ohio State. This is Vice President Hollingsworth’s 32nd year working here and he got his degree here as well. He grew up in Columbus and his mother worked here. His very first job was to create an Off-Campus Student Services. He eventually became Dean of Students. He has worked with Greek Affairs, many of the multicultural offices, Judicial, Counseling, Disability Services, etc. He has served for many years as Associate Vice President of Student Affairs. Along the way, he also received a law degree from Capital University. Therefore, he also works with Legal Affairs. He also chairs the Student Affairs Diversity Committee and the Sexual Assault Committee. He also teaches Education courses and advises a few student organizations (Ohio Staters Inc. and Mortar Board Senior Class Honorary).

He would like to congratulate us all for our hard work this year. We accomplished a lot this year and Student Affairs would like to thank us for it. He hopes that we have an appreciation for how important student government is within the entire university. There are very few universities where student government has as much influence and is as interwoven as USG here at Ohio State. Students, faculty, and the administration truly work together here. It is also important for us to realize that our experiences in USG are not just about ourselves. Our big job is to be the caretaker of USG and this gives us an additional responsibility to act responsibly. Furthermore, a few bad impressions from a few people can undue all of the hard work that we have done this past year. As we approach our elections next quarter, we will be particularly scrutinized. It is important to keep these campaigns positive and follow the rules so that we can support the legacy of USG. Lastly, the impression has been created that the
administration is anti-party; however, this is definitely not true. They are concerned, however, about irresponsible behavior.

-Mr. Don Stenta, Associate Director of the John Glenn Institute: Prior to moving to the Glenn Institute three years ago, Director Stenta was the advisor of USG for many years. They would like to speak to us about the proposed merger between JGI and the School of Public Policy & Management. JGI was set up to be an interdisciplinary center to engage young people and to teach them about what it means to be a good citizen and does this through several programs and projects. The School of Public Policy & Management currently offers three programs for Masters and a doctoral program. They are actually housed in Page Hall with the John Glenn Institute, so they are under the same roof. This was done to offer students in the School of PPM with programming opportunities to enhance their education. The idea was to put both under the same roof and explore the idea of a merger. This process has been going on for around two years now. They would like to create the John Glenn School of Public Affairs. This has been discussed around campus and with OSU’s academic leaders. This year, they have been able to negotiate with campus leaders and last month, they had a successful vote from the Faculty Council to support this. Furthermore, the Council on Academic Affairs approved the idea today. They will be going before University Senate next Thursday to seek their approval so that they can then go on to the Board of Trustees. Public Affairs problems are best dealt when people come together and work together to solve problems. They would like to create the John Glenn School to be a center that would directly report to the provost. They will not be creating undergraduate majors but will begin an undergraduate minor in Public Policy. However, they’re also going to be starting a 3-2 system to get person a masters and PhD in five years.

The pattern, however, is to have schools report to colleges and then colleges report to the provost. This proposal, then, is a bit controversial. However, reporting directly to the provost will only enhance their operations. An academic unit like this, that will be interdisciplinary, needs to be a stand-alone unit. The majority of the public policy programs that are ranked the best in the nation report directly to their provosts. The direct reporting line will be critical to the school’s success. Financially, this merger will not cost the university anything.

Mr. Ryan Meadows: He is still a student in a dual degree program with the Law School and the School of PPM. He has noticed a huge difference between the law school and the School of PPM. The law school has a high academic ranking and a lot of resources. However, the School of PPM is totally the opposite. He was amazed by the huge difference between the schools. Furthermore, he is also an employee of the Glenn Institute where he coordinates the living learning program. This is a great program that has grown in membership over the years and will continue to grow. The School of PPM has interested students but lacks a lot of prestige. QUESTIONS:

-Mr. Martin: Would it be possible to cut administrative costs as the merger is put together? Director Stenta believes that some of the administrative costs will be consolidated and redirected through Human Services. He also believes, though, that there will be additional Student Services people coming on board as the faculty increases.
Two-thirds of the operating expenses of JGI come from outside fundraising. As expenditures would increase, the percentages would decrease.

-Andrew Taylor and Michelle G. from the Exercise Science Club: They are putting on a 5K race in May to raise money for diabetes research. This is a program that has been done many times in the past. However, they have organized the race this year through a professional company, which means that they have added costs that they need help for. There is $1000 that needs to be paid to the OSU Police and hope that USG will support them for this effort. They hope to donate $7,000 for American Diabetes. They are hoping and working towards a much bigger race this year. QUESTIONS:
  -Mr. Noon: When is the race? It is on May 13th.
  -Mr. Martin: Could you list the other websites where the race will be advertised? It will be advertised through the Run Wild Racing Company. Specific websites where they are publicizing the race include localsport.com, ohiorunner.com, runohio.com, runrace.net, and the USATF calendar (usatf.org). These websites reach out to a ton of runners. It will also be advertised in the newsletters “Run Ohio” and in THE LANTERN.

EXECUTIVE REPORT, PRESIDENT SCHARER
-IFC Expansion: There are seven fraternities competing for one spot on our campus next year.
-Provost's Targeted Investment in Excellence Initiative (TIEs): President Scharer and Speaker Benson have just submitted their proposals for this.
-Buckeyes on Bourbon Street: It was last night and WENT VERY WELL! They planned for 200 people with food and there were almost that in attendance. Around $1500 was raised for Habit for Humanity. A lot of community members were there.
-City Council Event: Just happened this evening and two city council members were there, Ms. O’Shaughnessy and Mr. Mentel, along with two safety coordinators, were there answering questions about off-campus safety.
-Gender Chip Screening: This is a documentary on women in stem fields that are male-dominated. This film is being shown tonight and there is a panel at 8pm at Mershon. QUESTIONS:
  -Speaker Benson: What was the attendance tonight? There were around 31 people there. The attendance was lower than thought but the discussion was excellent.

COMMITTEE/CONSTITUENCY REPORTS
-Policy & Governance met last Thursday and approved 38-R-79.
-Budget & Finance and considered the two bills being considered tonight. QUESTIONS:
  -Ms. Innes: Was there any cutting done? Yes there was.

OLD BUSINESS
Elections for Policy & Governance Chair and University Senate Liaison
-We will have nominations and then each candidate will speak alphabetically for three minutes and will pose three questions maximum to each candidate. Once each person has spoken and is out of the room, then we will go into a vote on the candidates.
CHAIRMAN OF THE POLICY & GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE
-Mr. Reed: Nominates Mr. Dodovich. It is seconded.
Mr. Rothacker makes a motion for unanimous consent to approve. There is none and Mr. Dodovich is elected. CONGRATULATIONS

UNIVERSITY SENATE LIAISON
-Mr. Byerly: Nominates Mr. Marconi. It is seconded.
-Mr. Reed: Nominates Mr. Sprinkle. It is seconded but he does not accept.
Mr. Dodovich makes a motion for unanimous consent to approve. There is none and Mr. Marconi is elected. CONGRATULATIONS

-Speaker Benson asks Mr. Baker to remove himself from the senate chamber.

38-R-82: A Resolution to Fill the Lima Campus Senate Seat, SPEAKER BENSON
-Mr. Paul Fisher has expressed interest in becoming the Lima Campus Senator. MR. PAUL FISHER:
-He is a third year student and is very involved on the Lima Campus. They have a rather severe commuter mentality, which means that they do not have much community, and they do not have much of a connection with the Main Campus. He found out about this through OSU Connect. He would like to create a student government at Lima that is functional. He has talked with the Lima Campus Dean, Dr. Snyder, and he as well has expressed interest in creating a stronger bond with the Main Campus. QUESTIONS:
-Mr. Knoepfler: What are your ideas to build that connection between the Main Campus and the Lima Campus and for community on campus? The biggest thing is to have himself become engaged in USG here. Once there is some respect and knowledge that student government can accomplish things and put on wonderful programs for students, students will then become engaged in the process. DISCUSSION:
-Mr. Martin: Motions for unanimous consent. It is seconded and there is no objection. MR. PAUL FISHER IS THE NEW LIMA CAMPUS SENATOR.

SWEARING IN OF MR. PAUL FISHER AS LIMA CAMPUS SENATOR

38-R-79: A Resolution to Support the Merger of the John Glenn Institute and the School of Public Policy & Management, SPEAKER BENSON
-He does not have a whole lot to add after the extensive conversations that Mr. Stenta and Mr. Meadows had with us during the Open Forum for the Public. It is a very good idea to start up this program and will allow for greater flexibility. DISCUSSION:
-Mr. Knoepfler: After discussion with some faculty members, he originally had some issues with how PPM and JGI would not have to report to a college. However, after listening tonight, he no longer has any reservations.
-Ms. Yeh: This was discussed this afternoon at the Council of Academic Affairs and the directors of both were excited about this idea. She motions to adopt with unanimous consent and it is seconded. THE RESOLUTION IS ADOPTED
38-B-26: A Bill to Support the Pan-Hellenic Council Step Show, MR. SAMUELS
This is the most updated budget. The PHC Step Show has become a traditional part of the African-American Heritage festival and also starts Greek Week. It’s a tremendous event, and is usually held at Mershon. It was initially going to be held in May but because of concerns about other schools getting out before that time and coming down to OSU and possibly creating a riotous atmosphere, it was moved to an earlier time. However, only the Schott was available at this time. Having it at the Schott has increased the price, and while they’ve gotten support from Student Affairs, they still need more help, and have asked USG. QUESTIONS:
  -Mr. Noon: In the budget, they’ve received money from Dialect Marketing. Do you know what that is? It is probably a marketing organization.
  -Mr. Sprinkle: Will the executive branch match what we give? The executive branch will give some funding, but may not match our funding exactly. They may give more.
  -Speaker Benson: I think there will be budget readjustment, and they might get up to $2000.
  -Mr. Dodovich: Is that $2000 more? It is in addition to what is in this bill.
  -Ms. Hoque: What was the initial asking price? They asked for $4500 because the price of using the Schott is $45000. However, Budget & Finance cut it, but then added more money.
  -Mr. Carona: Is there any way the Schott could lower their cost? I don’t think that’s possible. However, Student Affairs is trying to work out a five-year agreement with the Mershon Auditorium to hold it there for the duration of the contract.
  -Ms. Hoque: can someone from Budget & Finance please tell me why you cut it so much?
    -Mr. Marconi: He is not sure why. He was happy with it at $2000, but he believes that the concern was that we’re approaching the end of our term and are possibly running out of money.
    -Mr. Martin: There were also some safety concerns. The committee didn’t want the event to turn out bad and have our name attached to it.
  -Mr. Samuels: Safety is an interesting issue, but also an irrelevant one. The safety issues stem from five years ago and the reason that it was moved to the Schott was to alleviate safety concerns.
  -Mr. Carona: Were any other venues considered? Mr. Samuels believes they looked at the French Field House, and some other venues. Those would have been cheaper to rent for the night, but the cost would have been more when combined with the production costs to put on the event.
  -Mr. Rothacker: Did they look at St. John’s? Mr. Samuels believes so.
WE GO INTO A HAND VOTE AND PASS THE BILL 33-0-1

38-B-29: A Bill to Support the Exercise Science Club, MS. ALLIE
-Senator Smith is also a co-sponsor. The Exercise Science Club has been putting on this event for the past five years but there has been poor attendance in the past. Therefore, this year, they are going through a professional company to market the race, which will create better attendance but also costs the organization more. This year, a lot of the
expenses come from the OSU Police as well. Furthermore, it will be required this year that certain streets are cut off. The race will be at 8am on Saturday, May 13th.

QUESTIONS/DISCUSSION:
- Mr. Martin: It is very obvious that they know what they are doing concerning publicity on racing websites. It is very reasonable to expect around 200 runners this year, even more. There are already forty signed up online.
- Ms. Singla: What kind of marketing is planned for on-campus? They are doing all the typical stuff (chalking, flyering, etc.). They will also be doing a ton of fundraisers on campus. Paninis and Camille are two huge sponsors.
- Mr. King: Will there be any publicity in campus newsletters? They will definitely have something in THE LANTERN and potentially in THE DISPATCH.
- Mr. Carona: Is it at all possible to set up a physical registration, perhaps at the RPAC? There are some drop spots around campus where people can register.

WE MOVE INTO UNANIMOUS CONSENT AND THE BILL IS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

OTHER BUSINESS
38-B-33: A Bill to Cover Travel Expenses for Senator Tim Hornsby, MR. REED
- This is something that we discussed in steering this week but it was not on our agenda because we were not entirely sure about its legitimacy. This bill would help us support branch campus senators in their transportation to our meetings. DISCUSSION:
  - Mr. Knoepfler: Is Mr. Reed utilizing the Other Business category? Yes he is, but not by choice.
  - Mr. Smith: Moves for unanimous consent. It is seconded.
  - Mr. Marconi: He finds it very admirable that Mr. Hornsby makes the drive every week.
  - Mr. Noon: Are there any plans to do anything for Mr. Fisher? Yes there are.
  - Mr. King: Where do you exactly live? He lives in Waldo, Ohio, halfway between Marion and Delaware.
  - Mr. Jones: Moves for unanimous consent. It is seconded.

THE BILL PASSES

- Mr. Rothacker would like to bring a bill to the floor to give the Mock Trial Team more money in the amount of $2250?
  - Mr. Dodovich: Is this time sensitive? Could it go to Budget & Finance? It is time sensitive. They will be leaving very soon.
  - Ms. Innes: What was the amount that was given last week? We funded for $500.
  - Speaker Benson: We will need the actual text of the legislation, do you have it? No, he does not but it is very similar to the bill we passed last week.

- There is a second on the motion. DISCUSSION TO BRING IT TO THE FLOOR:
  - Mr. Marconi: Many members of Mock Trial that he has spoken to seem open about submitting another bill. It could be sent to Budget & Finance.
  - Mr. Dodovich: Calls to question to bring it to the floor.

WE GO INTO A HAND VOTE AND VOTE 28-6-3 TO BRING IT TO THE FLOOR
-Mr. Rothacker: If it were to go to committee on Monday and be approved next Wednesday, would they have enough time to get the money? We could definitely expedite the process if we needed to.

-Mr. Marconi: Moves to send it back to committee. It is seconded.

DISCUSSION:
- Mr. Marconi: There is still plenty of time for them to receive money and the committee can debate it.
- Mr. Rothacker: He feels that it is not in the best interest of the Mock Trial Team. He believes that many members of the committee have hostilities against the organization. It is found to be not germane.
- Mr. Martin: It sounds like the amount seems to be contentious and would be better to be discussed in committee.
- Mr. Rothacker: He feels that we could just as effectively discuss it as a whole. Many member of the committee are here. If they have any problems with it, they could discuss them right now.
- Mr. Capone: Calls to question and it is seconded.

WE DO A HAND VOTE AND THE BILL IS REFERRED TO COMMITTEE 29-6-1.

-Mr. Brin: Would like to bring a resolution to the floor to amend the constitution that would be sent to committee. There is a second to bring it to the floor. There is a motion for unanimous consent to bring it to the floor and it is seconded. There is no dissent.

-Mr. Rothacker: He moves to refer it to the Policy & Governance Committee. It is seconded.

DISCUSSION:
- Mr. Reed: He questions whether or not to send it to Policy & Governance. He feels that it would be better to send it to Steering.
- Ms. Innes: If sent to steering, would it then go back to P&G? No it would not.
- Mr. Brin: He believes that it should go to Policy & Governance.
- Ms. Innes: They can handle it.

WE GO INTO A VOICE VOTE AND THE RESOLUTION IS SENT TO P&G.
- The number on this will be 38-R-83.

-Mr. Rothacker: He has a bill to support Hempfest that should be referred to committee. We move to bring it to the floor with unanimous consent. It is on the floor for discussion. We move to send it to Budget & Finance and agree to it without objection.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/REMINDERS
- Ms. Innes: Speaker Benson conducted himself very well today.
- Mr. Martin: He has a petition to get an initiative on the ballot, asking the university to change their positions on concealed carry laws.
- Mr. Dodovich: Policy & Governance will meet tomorrow at 6pm. Please send any comments to him.
- Mr. Singla: Tonight at 8pm, there will be a panel on Asian American Life. This Friday is the Asian American Nation Formal. Next Wednesday, there will be panel at 7:30 on minority life after September 11th at Saxby Auditorium.
- Ms. Yeh: Academic Affairs will meet on Sunday at 7pm in the USG Office.
Mr. Knapp: The GEC Reform Commission will meet this Friday at 5pm in the office.

Mr. Dodovich: Will there be a rush put on the recommendations so that we can vote upon the recommendations next week? Yes there will be.

Mr. Knoepfler: He was displeased by senate’s attendance at the City Council Panel this evening.

Mr. Marconi: The Labor Advisory Committee met and we are the only university meeting with apparel industries on issues of apparel advertising.

Ms. Allie: In six weeks, if you would like some pets, please let her know.

Mr. Samuels: Hillel will be having a Casino Night next Wednesday at 7pm. GO!!!!!!!!!!! Mr. Samuels may be auctioned off for a date.

Speaker Benson: Constituency Reports for this quarter are due by next Wednesday at 11:59. If you’re a new senator, then do not worry about it. Please put them into the format that we have asked you to put them in so that it is less work for Ms. McGrath.

SENATOR OF THE WEEK ARE MR. BRENNAN HOWELL AND MR. STEVEN KNOEPFLER. GOODBYE AND WE WILL MISS YOU!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!