SECRETARY’S REPORT NO. 10, OCTOBER 27, 2010
REPORT OF ACTIONS TAKEN AT THE MEETING OF THE USG SENATE

The Student Senate met in Regular Session on October 27, 2010 at 6:32 PM in the Senate Chamber. Speaker of the Senate Andrew Mikac presided.

Present: 34 Absent: 2 Alternates: 4

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Open Forum
Mikac: O.k. we are now moving into Open Forum for the Public where members outside of the Undergraduate Student Government get two minutes to speak in front of our senate chambers and I believe we have a couple of people here to do that today so if anyone would like to volunteer to speak? Yes Farinaci?
Farinaci: I would like to introduce Megan I read the lantern and a lot of people including her are expressing concern for I guess the route we took on that.
Megan: Hi guys I’m Megan Cyrus I’m the president of the College Republicans here on campus and just to kind of go off of what he said. I’m sure you all read the lantern and the college of republicans expressed some concerns in some the recent events such as the president coming to campus for the democratic rally this past week. I just wanted to on behalf of my organization and students that have expressed concern to me and not just student’s conservative students but moderate, liberal and students of all kind of political
backgrounds. They have all expressed concern in USG taking a partisan role in recent events. We would like to see USG take a more nonpartisan role not even necessarily bi partisan. We felt alienated by having such a huge important rally, a rally for a particular party and we would just like to see some sort of measure taken so this doesn’t happen again. So if you have any questions about my stance and the organization feel free to talk to me after.  

Mikac: O.k. thank you Megan does anyone have any questions for Megan?  
Cyrus.28

Brandi: If the current president were a Republican in office would you not want Student Government to promote your student organization in terms of helping. Like that’s our role to support Student Organizations and Undergraduates here at Ohio State. You would want USG to not support your student government.  

Mikac: Make sure that your keeping it a question that can be answered easily and without any sort of opinion as we are not in an opinionated session right now. So please rephrase your question.  

Brandi: Would you not want USG to support your organization in any way shape or form if the current president was a Republican?  

Megan: I have no problem with the organization even supporting the current president if it hadn’t been a campaign rally. I think our only problem was that it was here on behalf of democratic candidates here in Ohio and if the current president had come to speak on things like youth involvement or education or something of that matter we wouldn’t have a problem with that it was just his nature of being here we had a problem with.  

Mikac: O.k. any other questions for Megan? Seeing none O.k. thank you Megan. Any other members?  

Matt: Hi my name is Matt Cafferty and I just want to speak about the same issue.  

Mikac: O.k. if you want to come up to the front of the room or whatever is most comfortable for you.  

Matt: Hey folks my name is Matt Cafferty I am the president of College Democrats here at Ohio State. I’ve got to say I’m a little bit annoyed that we have to address this issue with how busy I am right now since we are less then a week away from Election Day. I think this concern is pretty ridiculous, if the college Republicans really objected to partisan that’s on campus they would of objected when Josh Mendel came to campus sponsored by USG just a few weeks ago. It’s ridiculous that were talking about this right now and everything that the Undergraduate Student Government did was completely appropriate they did not participate in any partisan content what so ever. We handled all the partisan stuff. Trust me it was an incredible amount of work I know exactly what we did and what the Undergraduate Student Government did. I don’t believe anyone acted inappropriately and I don’t really have a whole lot more to say to that other then the sitting United States President is a sitting United States President regardless of what party they are in. When the visit a campus they should be welcomed by the University and the Student Government. I think that’s the role that USG played and I appreciate that they were willing to do that and it was not at all inappropriate. I can take any questions you have. Lets understand that the College of Republicans have benefited from the same exact thing this year their candidate for treasure was given the exact same treatment. So does anyone have any questions?  

Mikac: Questions for Matt? O.k. let me get a speakers list going.
Messenger: Just to clarify USG didn’t bring a democratic candidate for Treasure the same time we brought Josh Mendel? Correct?
Matt: Correct.
Mbagwu: I didn’t read the lantern what exactly did USG do?
Matt: They were co sponsors for the event
Mbagwu: so what did we do?
Matt: I think there was some logistical support in making that happen especially on the admin side the university side. Because the USG has relationships with a lot of the University structure that the College of Democrats might not have.
Mbagwu: So we helped reserve the space and that’s partisan?
Kamrass: would you like me to help answer the question?
Matt: Yes.
Mikac: O.k. so the question was what was USG’s involvement in the Obama Administration event Micah is a representative of that event.
Kamrass: We provided support to the College of Democrats in terms of who to speak with and who to meet with and the proper people in the University to speak to to make sure we did this safely. The only other thing that we did was during meetings that we sat in on was to get the University to included students as much as they could. We had a student sing the national anthem I would like to think that was part of USG’s involvement. We lobbied for things like that.
Matt: And I would just like to say that from a constituent I think its great that USG is bring people from both parties to campus.
Mikac: That does not answer the questions. Antani.
Antani: withdrawn
Mikac: Any other questions for Matt? Schmitt.
Schmitt: This is the first time I’ve heard of this being any kind of controversy was there any specification to any senators or part of USG that were being partisan?
Mikac: Who are you directing the question to?
Schmitt: Matt or Micah?
Matt: You know I don’t know if there was a specific concern about any representative of USG being overly partisan I believe that Megan’s concern and the college of republicans concern was that the organization seemed to be acting on a partisan matter I guess that’s why I would particularly like to I just don’t see any partisanship because anything that was remotely partisan was handled by our organization.
Collins: My question is for Micah is that inappropriate?
Mikac: What is your question?
Collins: You were asked to speak at the event what were you asked to do?
Kamrass: Yes the University asked me to speak at the event as someone who would welcome them on behalf of the Ohio State student body. They asked me to talk about the importance of voting and those are what I did I actually am going to address this in my exec report and brought a copy of my remarks if you would like to see them.
Jason: I just want to make a quick announcement that as of 6:06 today your documents were online!
Mikac: any questions for Jason? Seeing none. O.k. we are now moving into exec report Micah what do you got.
Exec Report
Kamrass: So you have the sheet in front of you I’m actually going to direct this issue that we have been talking about tonight and then touch upon the rest of these items. This one may be a little longer then usual. So a few people have brought up this issue of partisanship, non-partisanship, or bipartisanship and USG’s involvement. It’s something that Brett and I have put a lot of time into and making sure it’s in the best interest of the students. So I want to explain to all of you the journey we’ve had since we’ve been elected so that everyone fully understand moving forward. To begin with as many of you know we entered with a little bit of a challenge with OSU votes the organization it had always been a part of USG that was run out of the government relations team out of Cabin, which is how it is now. Last years USG administration attempted to make it a free standing organization that was a partnership between the college of Democrats and the college of republicans, two academic groups and USG. Sort of as Brad and I were stepping in that organization fell apart the college Republicans chose to withdrawal from the organization, the academic groups said they wouldn’t participate unless the college Democrats withdrew as well. The college Democrats refused to withdrawal so basically it came down to we were asked by the University Administration if we were going to run OSU votes as a part of USG again or were we going to let it collapse and just not register students to vote as Ohio State has done for so many years. So Brad and I said we would certainly take this on and return this back to cabinet so we could register students to vote. You have all heard me say many times this is one of the most important elections for higher education in the state of Ohio. There are a lot of different views out there and it is important students have their voices heard in these elections. So I view that as my role to help students be heard in the political arena. Brad and I took that on and are running it through cabinet. So the two things from our platform that is relevant. We wanted to make OSU votes a priority and I think we certainly did that, and we registered thousands of students to vote. The other thing we had on our platform was collaborate with College Democrats, College Republicans and College Libertarians to bring state and elected officials to campus. We sort of the took the opinion from very early on that any candidate who might hold elected office we wanted them to come to Ohio State to hear students, to meet students, and to be asked questions. Even if you know only a couple people show up the hope that that would effect if they became a legislator and would think about those students. We very openly said we were going to invite every candidate we could think of that represented this area and that is what we did. I have all of my documents saved for you guys and we have been meeting with the OSU government’s affairs team and OSU legal affairs team to make sure we were doing things correctly. We invited every single statewide candidate to campus of republicans and democrats party and we got responses back from a few of them. On July 23 I sent both Matt and Megan updates on OSU votes letting them know that we were going to work to bring every single candidate we could and that if anyone from their party or organization was work with chose to come we would love to work on the event together and they both responded that this was great. Megan had a question about which candidates we invited so I clarified that for her. So we let them know from very early on that that was our goal and we wanted to have as many potential candidates as we could. So unfortunately we got some responses and some saying they couldn’t come and some saying they would get back to us and never letting
us know. We do have documents that we invited every single candidate, the only republican that expressed an interest in coming after our e-mail was Josh Mendel as you know he came and was sponsored by us. We e-mailed Megan about the event and we worked with them on it. USG booked the space and filled out a grant so we would have refreshments for the event. Josh was USG president, we had the event and it went very well. We had a few of the democrats lined up that were interested in coming and in the end this Obama thing happened so they came with him instead of something else. Just to clarify the only person that came to campus that we actually didn’t invite was President Obama I didn’t think to e-mail the president of the United States and ask him to come. President Obama his team and him wanted to come to Columbus and when we saw that it was a possibility we wanted to make it here at the University. We supported the college of democrats in that decision just as we would have done if it were a Republican president. I think that the President of the United States is a once in a lifetime opportunity and I’ve heard from many students that it was a once in a lifetime opportunity. the message of the event was partisan that’s true but my opinion on that is if the President wasn’t to come the President can say as he or she pleases there’s not a whole lot we can do to tell the President what they should or shouldn’t say. I think that it certainly was partisan just as the Josh Mendel visit. And we invited these people with the understanding that what they would be saying was about why they should vote for them. Megan expressed some displeasure about how we had been involved in the Obama event on her facebook which I caught and sent her an e-mail just sort of clarify so its not like we let that go. I think that the event was a very successful one for students getting to meet the president. I heard many students say I’m a lifelong Republican but it was great getting to see the president thanks for helping with that. I’m proud we helped with that and I will never apologize for bringing any candidate especially the President of the United States to campus. I’m proud of that we got letters from all sorts of University Administrators saying how proud they are of the OSU votes in general and about how the event turned out. So that’s sort of been our involvement in it all we have registered thousands of students and I’m hoping that our students will be very engaged in this election and I’m almost eager for it to be over with. Any one that has asked me a question I’ve taken the time to clarify I’ve even spoken to people that don’t have questions and are just voicing concern. I’ll take any questions on that and then we’ll finish the exec report.

Micah.kamrass@gmail.com

Mikac: any questions for Micah and this topic?

Liles: Did anybody from USG welcome Josh Mendel to campus?

Kamrass: Yes. I introduced him.

Fitzpatrick: I guess I have two questions. One is involving OSU votes since you’ve brought that up too. Was that really as bipartisan as it was set up to be?

Kamrass: OSU Votes wasn’t set up to be bipartisan it was set up to be non-partisan.

Fitzpatrick: Well was it as non-partisan as it was set up to be?

Kamrass: To my knowledge there was no partisan in anything with OSU votes it was for registering students to vote and we set up tables when students moved in we tried to get letters to resident’s halls.

Fitzpatrick: My second question is I guess whether it was proper or improper do you understand how it could be construed that by you speaking at a democratic rally that it
could be seen that we were taking a sponsorship of the event and the ideas behind the event.

Kamrass: Sure, I mean everyone’s always entitled to their own opinions. I would say that in my head the University asked me to welcome students to an event with 35,000 people and it was a great opportunity for the Undergraduate Student Government to get some face time with 35,000 people. I don’t think that how I personally choose to aliquot my time is necessarily a reflection of the organization. I don’t think a place I eat dinner is a place that USG likes or a place that I got party is a play USG enjoys. I don’t really think that it you know I guess people have different expectations of who I am and what my job should be. But you know if the president was Democratic or Republican or anything I would still welcome them to The Ohio State University on behalf of the students.

Mikac: Any other questions for Micah? Ok. I have a question, Micah did you make any attempt to clarify USG’s position on this event outside of these chambers or otherwise outside of USG?

Kamrass: Like talking to other people?

Mikac: Or like writing a letter to the Lantern.

Kamrass: Sure I spoke to the lantern reporters about all of it and letting them know it was the College Dem efforts we were supporting just like we support other student organizations and as I said I e-mailed Megan when she expressed her frustration on facebook as well.

Mikac: O.k. my recommendation would be to make that clear outside of these chambers and USG as a whole what our position were so there is no confusion. Any other questions for Micah? Seeing none. Micah has some more like the regular updates.

Kamrass: All right so in a timely manner remember to vote November 2nd make sure you do that. Things in the past we have the intern program that began they had their first meeting last week. We have 30 new interns and they are all fantastic. There second meeting is this evening as well. If you have any questions about the program or how it will be working feel free to discuss it with Ashley. Next item is thanks for all of those who helped out with the homecoming parade Niraj, Mason, and Caroline were all very helpful. Also we had Cabinet Inductions last night, President Gee spoke it was a nice way to welcome 45 people who have met our membership requirements already so we are very pleased with that. So as far as what we have been doing recently we had a meeting this week and many of you have heard us talking about the Pelican. The recycling machine that will pay students to recycle their cans. We have a meeting with Brett and Kyle they work with sustainability and student life they said it was a great idea and want to partner with us on it. They are using contacts they have and we don’t’ to make this a reality, so good news with that as we progress forward. The new renters guide is almost finished we are going to release that via e-mail to the entire student body. One thing we said we really wanted to do was to release it when people start looking for housing which is right about now. So we are excited that that will be out and we hope that will make a lot of student’s decision about housing a little easier. Also we met about Thompson library about their hours and extending them. We learned that for a full years worth of extending the library for about two hours it would cost a little over 100,000 dollars. People at the library that report to the provost office said that they really like the idea and would like to find a way to make it work but until the state budget has been worked out which will be worked out January or February that we don’t know how much money they
will have for the upcoming year. So they said they would wait and see when elections are over and when the budget is hashed out they will let us know how to find a way to work with us on this. We will wait and see and hopefully we can make this happen. However the libraries are open till 2 am on finals week and we really want to have a lot of students go at that time and show them that there is a need to be open at that time. As you talk to friends and students make sure you let them know about this. Also on Friday we are releasing applications for USG judicial panel and press secretary and for the buckeye advocates program formally known as the student defenders program. We will be putting out applications for all three of those this will be headed up by Brad. Press Secretary is an IOSC group that will be headed up by Mikac, Lindsey and Laura. And the Buckeye Advocate process is through cabinet that will be by Brett. So if you have any questions we will get back to you on those or try to clear them up. Winter Sports kick off event is coming up and another thing there are three issues that are sort of on the horizon that I want to make you aware of one is the sexual violence policy. We have been meeting with a group of women called WAR they are having a rally I believe its tomorrow. It’s about not having a good enough sexual violence policy in the University in their opinion so we are working with them. So when the code of conduct is taken up in the Winter we have a clear understanding on what they want to see and we are working on what we believe would be the best sexual violence policy for the university. Brad is heading up that team we are going to try get together some people from cabinet, senate, and other student organizations. So if you have interest in that talk to Brad, our preliminary meeting is with them this evening after senate and from there we will put together a working group. Another thing is we have been working on cabinet on evaluating all of the members, I feel like its an important thing to touch base and to keep people honest and make sure that everyone is being held accountable with the responsibilities they are charged with. Laura and Lindsey are working with the directors on their evaluations and then the directors are going to be evaluating the associate directors by the end of the quarter. We are making sure we are figuring out what we are doing well so we can continue that as well as finding out where we are going wrong and see how we can fix that. The next thing that is not here but I want to bring to your attention we have discussed the issue of about the Christian Legal Societies court ruling and how there is a handful of student organizations and religious groups that currently have an exemption, that they are allowed to discriminate membership of their groups. The vice president of Student Life Dr. Jay has asked that CSA take that up as an issue and review if we want to make that change and eliminate that so that all groups have to be open to all students or do we want to keep that as is. So CSA is going to be looking at that we are going to have lots of representation for that and as you all know Brian Ashton is the chair of CSA and a member of Cabinet so if you have questions on any of that I’d like to help you out. I’m not an expert by any means on the legality of the case, but I’ve tried hard to educate myself on it all. I think it would be a very interesting issue for us to look at. Fun stuff is at the bottom we have a few birthday including Andrew’s birthday this evening so Happy Birthday Andrew.
Mikac: Any questions for Micah on the Exec Report?
DeFrance: Where might the Pelican go?
Kamrass: Two things that were mentioned was put it at 15th and high by Longs Bookstore or near 15th and Indianola.
Mikac: Any other questions for Micah? Seeing none. We are now moving into Committee Constituency reports you guys actually had event reports due today so unless I heard from you or have discussed this with you I except those to be received by Keely who will be getting me that list soon. And if you did not get the chance to get out and get to an event please communicate with me.

**Committee / Constituency Report**

Mikac: Any Committee or Constituency Reports?

Fitzpatrick: COPE the Council on Physical Environment last week and we talked about signage of getting things up to date. The Signs are currently being made they just haven’t been put up yet. We talked about trying to get the construction map up to date more often because there is a lot of construction going on obviously. Especially project 1 around the Med Center. Also we are going to be putting in an elevator at the Faculty Club, which I know everybody cares about. There is a move on try to get more bike racks on campus and expanding bike lanes. We are also currently working on looking over the old sustainability goals from a couple of years ago that the president council came out with and seeing how COPE is matching up with those goals. The other good news is that Deferred Maintenance is starting to work so a lot of buildings on campus you are going to start to see get cleaned up. You can see that in SEL already. There are a lot of little construction projects going on and they have all been put off and now are getting to go. The final thing I learned about is a way finding map it will literally tell you how to go from one place to the other on campus. This is walking direction, its awesome and you should all go check it out its on the MAPS page. Fitzpatrick.135@buckeyemail.osu.edu

McFarland: This is just an update on how we are doing on our spending and our budget. This quarter we have 2,270 dollars of the 12,800 that we have. So we are doing really good on funding, if you have groups you still want to reach out to or are able to be reached out to. If everybody looks at the paper it is a sheet that Mikac came up with to guide you on how to reach out to organizations. There are a couple of things that I want to talk about, number one is make sure the organization is funded through CSA or has applied to be funded through CSA. In our B&F bylaws one of our major clauses is that they have to apply for CSA funding if they are able. CSA focuses on campus. Also another big thing is make sure you follow up with the group and are getting the receipts and after the event has happened make sure they spent what they said they were going to spend. I think those are the only two big areas. McFarland.338@osu.edu

Mikac: this is attached in your e-mail as well and its exactly what Brett said a little bit of a guide for you guys to use when you are trying to get people money through USG. Step by step we looked through it last night it may be amended later on but look at this when you are trying to get people funded and it may answer some of the questions you may have had. atmikac@gmail.com

Mbagwu: Just to be clear if it’s off campus I do not have to go through CSA correct?

Mikac: correct.

Duggineni: Is there a time constraint on how long before you have to turn in the bills. What if its like over a month before you need the money. Is there a date that is too early?
Mikac: You cannot turn it in to early but the problem is your budget may change between now and then and whatever you pass the budget for is what the money needs to go towards.

Fitzpatrick: Point of information it would also come out of the current budget cycle we are under.

Duggineni: If we don’t use our money will it roll over?

McFarland: I’ve heard that it rolls over and that it goes to a pot that we would be able to use in a later date. Micah could you clarify on that one?

Kamrass: Sure it doesn’t like roll over per say if you have 1000 dollars that you didn’t use this quarter I would just add that to whatever Andrew and me had said you wanted for the following quarter. So yes that money is yours to spend and if you don’t spend it now we will add it to next quarter but no it doesn’t exactly roll over.

Messenger: Does the event have to occur during the senate that approved it. Can we approve an event that would actually take place under the 44th Amendment?

Fitzpatrick: No

Messenger: So there is a time constraint to far

McFarland: Based on accounting principals you just have to make sure it’s a couple weeks and same quarter.

Mikac: Just as a clarification guys I’m going to have our Treasurer Paul to come in and speak to you guys about these questions. He has the best answers for all of these and is the one that is actually approving all of our spending. This will just be a helpful guideline. Any other questions?

McFarland: For CSA Funding if anyone asks the window for winter quarter was Oct. 8th so if anybody wants that they can come to USG it would have to be for spring unless they can come up with something with CSA.

Mbagwu: so your saying the CSA deadline has already passed for this quarter and next quarter?

McFarland: correct.

Mbagwu: So your saying that if someone wanted to they can’t request CSA funding?

Mikac: Correct they can’t for winter quarter.

McFarland: So currently the B&F bylaws are being recalled we still operate under them but they are being reconsidered so maybe in the next couple of weeks we will have something. One of the major things was that for extenuating circumstances we can fund them without them going through CSA and that provision was taken out so one thing that will be questioned is should we put that back in. So everyone in B&F and everyone as a whole we are just trying to make sure we are more effective.

Farinacci: Two things with the bylaws that I would like to be seen done there would be to get rid of the 1500-dollar limit and make it so you can only apply once a year.

Mikac: We are going to discuss this when it is brought up all these things will be discussed.

Farinacci: O.k. I have a question for Micah and Brad are you going to fund Emily DeDonatos Bill?
Mikac: We are at committee constituency reports we will talk about that when it comes up. 

Fitzpatrick: Just as a point of order right now you can only be funded once a quarter anyways as it stands right now. 

Mikac: any other committee or constituency reports? James DeFrance

DeFrance: Presidents Council of Sustainability actually is changing their name to Presidents and Provosts Council of Sustainability. We are going to look at funding the Pelican at our next meeting and there will be an announcement at filling out a quick 10 to 15 minute survey about sustainability the group at fisher is hoping to get 3000 responses so it would be helpful if you would help out with that when that came about. James.DeFrance@gmail.com

Kamrass: Just so everyone knows Andrew and I sit in on the University Senate Steering Committee and we are currently looking at amending some rules of University Senate so there is as good of attendance as their can be. The rule that is likely going to happen is that if any representative on U Senate whether student, faculty, or administration if they go an entire quarters meeting without attending or sending an alternate they will be removed and are to be replaced by whoever is their constituency head. That hasn’t occurred yet but if it was to and I have a feeling that it will. Micah.kamrass@gmail.com

Mikac: Any questions for Micah?

Messenger: How many meetings is that exactly?

Kamrass: It varies and its about to change during semesters as well. I believe we are canceling the Nov. one so there will be 2 this quarter. I think there are 3 in winter and 2 in spring. But like I said that would change when we switch to semesters.

Fitzpatrick: Sorry, I forgot to add this one earlier in The Committee of Curriculum Instruction this week we are looking at the leadership minor which has been an extremely big topic in arts and sciences so if you have comments please let me know also especially for the arts and sciences senator we are discussing the advising roles this week. So interesting stuff so if you’d like to see that or give me your opinion I’d like to hear it. Thanks.

Mikac: Any questions for Sean? Any other committee or constituency updates?

Antani: CSA met yesterday we talked about a variety of issues including the Transparency of fees and making sure that students know where their Rec fee goes and where their union fee goes and that kind of thing. The majority of the discussion was on the Christian Legal Society Case there is going to be a 13 member ad hoc committee of CSA including membership from the three student governments, affected parties, faculty, staff etc. They will make recommendations to the Vice President of Student Life. Niraj.antani@gmail.com

**Project Updates**

Fitzpatrick: I have two my first one is Mark, Jessica, and I are going to start working on the ESAID program for those of you who don’t remember or don’t know this is one of things we worked on with Micah and Brad it’s a text message and internet service for your laundry. We are just going to try to figure out what that entails and then get
something started. My other thing is something that came up in steering, anybody that sits on Student Life or Academic Affairs and will be graduating at the end of next year and is interested in serving on the elections bylaws commission it came up that we have 2 members of P&G and 2 members of B&F in the bill as it stands. So if you fit those requirements and are interested in sitting in on one of these committees please let me know. If you are interested please let Andrew or myself know and we will discuss that.

Fitzpatrick.135@buckeyemail.osu.edu

Flis: our meeting last Wednesday just ended up being a committee meeting but we found out that talking about drop dates even just numerically is going to be a little more complicated than we expected so in the event that any of you decided to have an opinion on drop dates please let me or one of the other people let me know.

Flis.4@buckeyemail.osu.edu

Mikac: thank you Jen any other project updates? Seeing none. Going into Old Business.

**Old Business**

**43-R-36 (Kamrass) A Resolution to Approve Associate Director of Student Life**

Kamrass: We had a student who had that role confirmed by you all and they are gone for the whole quarter I believe and this is a very big position in student life. As I told you all we met with the senior dining director and we wanted someone who was specifically in charge of them from our student life team. We interviewed Jenny just as we had done for all of the other people that you had confirmed earlier on and we think she is the perfect person to do it. Looks like P&G did as well so I hope you would confirm her as well.


Messenger: We passed it we think Jenny is great. I would like to move for acclimation.

Moved and seconded.


43-R-36 Acclaimed as amended.

**43-R-37 (Mikac) A Resolution to Approve USG Senate Committee Appointments**

Mikac: this is for the new senators who just entered our senate two weeks ago so this is basically giving James, Maria, and Jackie various spots on committees. This came up in steering last night we approved it. Are their any questions? Seeing none. We are now moved into discussion.

Fitzpatrick: Move for acclimation.

Moved and seconded.

43-R-37 Acclaimed.

**43-B-8 (Tomack) A Bill to Support Sigma Phi Epsilon’s Very Share-y Halloween**

Tomack: Bryan Ashton approached me a couple weeks ago about seeing if I would help them out with this big food drive, they had it last year. A lot of information is already in the bill I don’t know a lot of extra information. It’s just for transportation.
Mikac: Any questions?
Antani: Our wonderful new active cabinet member Jason here brought up a good point that in line 27 it says the total cost will be 4,850 and then you go to line 45 it says 3,350 I did not add up the numbers. Which one is it?
Tomack: I told Bryan he needed to go to B&F to clarify because he sent me both numbers.
Mikac: the total is wrong
McFarland: the total is wrong on the bill is should be 4,850.
Mikac: so to clarify the budget will now read 4,850 where it says total. O.k. any other questions for Tomack?
Messenger: Where is the other $1,000 coming from.
Tomack: I think that they are funding they are expecting to get money from CSA. I defer my time.
That 1000 dollars was theirs for prizes
McFarland: I’d like to add on that one we can’t give out money for prizes and they said that when you give out prizes it helps increase the turn out and the grand prizes are going to orgs that have multiple participation. They are doing big advertising and push for freshman on campus to get involved. To make sure they get a lot of people out to participate.
Fitzpatrick: Do we know how much participation they are expecting?
McFarland: They guy came in and said they are expecting between 3 and 400 people.
DeFrance: is any one of aware of the nature of advertising because I have not seen or heard anything.
Collins: they have actually been placing flyers in a lot of surrounding cities and neighborhoods. I know for a fact they have been giving flyers to 2000 plus homes.
Mbagwu: I think they want to flyer the places they are going to hit up for cans so they have the cans ready.
Tomack: I was also just told they went out to Greek houses yesterday and handed out flyers.
Hutchison: It says they are expecting 2000 from CSA do we know what the final total was? Do we know if they got the 2000.
Mbagwu: is it on the back?
Mikac: if no one can specifically answer the question we have to differ with what the budget says.
McFarland: I don’t know if they have received that money or not so I’m going to have to go with what Andrew said and just read the budget as it says.
Brahm: When your approved you get an e-mail to the client that put the application in so I’m not sure they know I’m assuming they already have this was already in the first week.
Mikac: Any other questions.
Kamrass: This is just a procedural question and Brett I don’t know if you have the answer to it or not but when someone has to submit receipts to us and they are submitting them to CSA as well is there a way to make sure that they are separate and are not using the same funding for both? Because my only concern is they are accounting from 2350 from CSA on the back and on the front they say they are only getting 2000 so I don’t think that this is the intention but it would be possible that they use the same receipts for both and then
put some of that money to prizes which we don’t’ fund. So the math is wrong there and I don’t’ know if there is a way with receipts that if we say hey we are only paying for busing that we get busing receipts
McFarland: yes and one thing we expressed to the representative was that the 1500 was only going to busing and that the amount would be up to 1500 and if they don’t use the full 1500 we only fund directly what the receipts are showing.
Smidt: I’m just curious if anybody in the room knows what does $600 in advertisement look like?
Mikac: Any other questions. Since it doesn’t really look like anyone knows definite answers to these questions. Seeing none we are now moving into discussion. Any discussion?
Fitzpatrick: I just have some concerned with it not being as polished as it could have been coming out of B&F. That said I know it’s a fairly well attended event I know we funded it last year for the same amount it does have a lot of impact and a lot of people do participate regardless of their budget we stipulate that is only going to transportation there for it can only go to transportation. I feel pretty safe in the receipts I think we should pass this.
Brahm: I just pulled up what I have on it they said they will be marketing this event but buckeye net news, facebook, flyers, student organization insider.
Mikac: Any other discussion? Tomack.
Tomack: I just want to add what Bryan sent me and they are expecting over 750 participants.
Mikac: Any other discussion on this bill? I will say that it will be amended to include a vote count that I did not include in this copy of your agenda.
Antani: I mean I guess for me there is a lot of like technical errors and human miscalculations. When I talk to past senators from past senates and we look at organizations I don’t necessarily that every single letter needs to be correct. We can hold student’s organizations accountable. I would like to think the far majority of them would be honest and not try to cheat the system. Especially one that is so public. So when I look at student organization funding I like to look at the spirit of the bill is this student organization fulfilling their mission is this event going to benefit students? Is the event going to benefit the mission of the Ohio State University? And so as much as we get hung up on the technical things. I don’t like to punish someone just because they made a human error or there may have been a miscommunication and so I’ll be voting yes because I think this is a legitimate organization and they have tried to get funding other ways and I think this will benefit the students so just keep that in mind when we are talking about this because I know its easy to get hung up on the details and keep in mind the spirit of the bill.
Mikac: Flis.
Flis: Call to question.
Mikac: Cap the speakers list at DeFrance. Does anyone else want to be added? Seeing none.
DeFrance: We got hung up on the format of this bill which is fine because it’s important but I think we did not look at the actually importance of the event, which its great to be collecting but nearly 5000 on an event to bus people out and go collect can food goods that could have just simply bought a heck of a lot of canned food goods. Which is an
interesting twist on this whole thing but I just am not really sure if the money being paid out is worth the value that is going to have occurred as the result of this event. And as I said I’m just not sure about the fact that they did not bring anybody and no one familiar with the issue was here to speak on this. That said it could absolutely be excellent who knows.
Mikac: Thank you we will now vote.
Fitzpatrick: I’m going to call a division.
Mikac: ok we are now going to do a formal vote. Emissaries you cannot vote on bills. 43-B-8 13-2-19 passes.

43-B-9 (McFarland) A Bill to Support the members of the Undergraduate Black Law Student Association
McFarland: This is a bill from the Undergraduate Black Law Student Association they are taking a trip to Chicago and are going to be looking at several of the law school in Chicago and talking to faculty and staff. They are also trying to get a good idea of the admission process of the schools and doing some networking. This is something they feel will really help out their membership and benefit the undergraduates. They requested 1360 but we brought that down a little bit because they didn’t know exactly how many people were going. The final number is 1060.
Mikac: Are there any questions?
Pandey: the food is that like what kind of food are they getting?
McFarland: I don’t know but they are going to try being as cost effective as possible. They will only be there 2 days and traveling most of the time. They are taking Mega Buses down there again to try to reduce the cost of the trip.
Kedia: I just have a point of information this passed 7-0-0
Fitzpatrick: 1060? Why 1060? I was looking at the budget on the back.
McFarland: yea so what we did was originally when this came it didn’t have a final number of who was going and we knew it was going to be between 15 and 20 people. The math that we did was we took the 15 people for both transportation for bus and public and we took the incremental difference between the 15 and 20 people and divided that out so we could see how much per person the change of cost would be then we added that in.
Fitzpatrick: My only other question would be, there pricing is closer to 15 people right I just don’t want to make sure that we aren’t overfunding and that that money is going to like tips for bus drivers and stuff like that. Because I could see how that could get added into this overall thing.
McFarland: These prices are the prices that they looked up online and as I said we will make sure we keep the receipts and keep in touch with them and only pay for what was budgeted.
Hutchison: withdrawn
Mikac: Any other questions?
Antani: have the Undergraduate Black Law Student Association ever received funding before?
McFarland: No they have not this is the first time they have applied.
Fitzpatrick: how many law schools are they going to?
McFarland: So they mentioned three but they also said they might go to Northwestern.
Mikac: O.k. any other questions? Seeing none we are now into discussion.
Flis: Moritz College of Law?
Mikac: Any other discussion? Hutchison.
Hutchison: I would just like to say that anyone writing a bill needs to take a close look at this because this is what want to see in $B&F$ compared to some of the others we have seen. Take a look at that and that’s what we want to see.
Antani: Brett can you send this out so we can kind of use it and second thing is I call to question.
Mikac: o.k. the question will be called after the speaker list is over with Messenger does anyone want to be added? Seeing none.
Messenger: this is awesome.
Mikac: All in favor of supporting 43-B-12 please say aye. All opposed? Any abstentions? 43-B-12 passes as amended

**New Business**

43-R-38 (Fitzpatrick) A Resolution to Establish the Independent Commission on Bylaws

43-R-39 (Fitzpatrick) A Resolution to Amend the Undergraduate Student Government Senate Standing bylaws

43-R-40 (Fitzpatrick) A Resolution to Amend the Undergraduate Student Government Bylaws

43-R-41 (Antani) A Resolution to Amend the Undergraduate Student Government Organization Bylaws

43-R-42 (Pyle) A Resolution to Appoint Saul Pandey and Jasmine Perkins to the University Judicial Panel

**Announcements**

DeFrance: An organization that I’m in Circle K we were challenged by the University of Michigan’s club to have a competitive food drive so we are going to sending out flyers to all organizations on campus and this goes all the way up until the Michigan game. This is a beat Michigan event and we are going to try to get it on the Calendars.

James.defrance@gmail.com

Fitzpatrick: I have two events to talk about from Arts and Sciences Student Council 1 was a great constituency event Dr. Herman speaking a week from Monday he is awesome. The other is a week from today is meet the deans with the Arts and Sciences it’s starting at 6 o’clock right downstairs in the grand meeting hall.

Fitzpatrick.135@buckeyemail.osu.edu

Kamrass: I just want to mention that as a graduating senior and this is part of my role I feel like I can say I’m sorry more being discussed about USG campaigning and election for this spring. I understand it is something that has to happen and something I did myself I just want to make a couple reminders that one these things should not be happening in the USG office and two please don’t let it affect your work in any way. My final announcement is I have had a lot of great meetings with some of you individually some of you have expressed interest or heard a rumor and it makes it a lot easier for me. It’s hard for me to know what exactly is going on and if some of you know something or
have questions I’m always willing to meet with you and please let us know what it is. Micah.kamrass@gmail.com

Hutchison: How many people abstained? I learned a good lesson from a good friend last year that we were chosen by our constituency’s to represent them and to abstain is not far to your constituency in my opinion I think you should always make a decision. I understand the reason behind abstaining I used to abstain all the time as well but after understand what it really means in the realm of voting I don’t believe in it. To have had 19 people do that I hope we don’t have that again. I hope you understand where I’m coming from its not an attack but that’s to many people to abstain. Hutchison.127@osu.edu

Mikac: usually announcements aren’t used for that but I thought it was pertinent because it’s not something that can be addressed on a personal level with 19 people.

Collins: this Saturday Ohio State takes on Minnesota Block O is having free canes and coke products. Doors open at 7 games at 8 even if you come for a quarter just come in the door and hang out. In the Grand Ball Room collins.996@osu.edu

Messenger: P&G is meeting 4:30 on Sunday messenger.37@buckeyemail.osu.edu

Pandey: Tomorrow the Iron Chef is happening and I’m competing in it and it’s from 6-9. Pandy.23@osu.edu

Mcfarland: B&F Sunday at 3. Mcfarland.338@osu.edu

Mikac: Event Reports due today and a lot of you have submitted them and that’s awesome be sure to stay in contact keep up to date with them and I’m expecting to see a lot more legislation from those people and that’s the purpose of those events. I want to see some background the other item is senator of the week. If you don’t think we are serious about senator of the week your wrong. We are very insightful and we have very serious discussion. This week we chose someone who is really stepped up both inside and in committee and volunteering as alternates and being very welcoming to all senators. Saul Pandey. atmikac@gmail.com

Adjournment