PAST

- **SOSO Roundtables**
  We’ve had three roundtables this quarter: International Student Orgs, Service Orgs, and the CLS Roundtable. Thanks to all Senators that came!!

PRESENT

- **Thompson Library – Extended Hours!**
  USG’s Academic Affairs committee has organized promotions to get students to the library from 12AM-2PM. Buckeye Donuts and Coffee! Tell your friends! Nom nom nom...

- **Zoo Lights Saturday!**
  Take a study break, and join USG for Zoo Lights at the Columbus Zoo. Meet in the USG office on Saturday at 6:30PM!

- **Buckeye Alerts – Opt Out**
  Our safety committee is working on this issue. When you first come to Ohio State, you will be able to click “yes” or “no” for receiving Buckeye Alerts. This should be in place by Autumn 2011.

- **Kasich Letter in the Dispatch**
  Our Dear Kasich campaign is receiving great press! Keep getting your letters in!

- **IOSC: EGB Application Out**

- **Winter Budget**
  In Old Business this week!!

- **Buckeyethon**
  USG will help Buckeyethon in a larger role this year. Let Liora Friedman.196 know if you would like to help! USG will definitely have a team this year!

- **Coke Freestyle**
  Laura had discussions with Coke representatives over the past few weeks to assess the possibility of bringing the machine to Ohio State. Coke is currently gathering data about the college campus market, and we may get the machine by early Spring Quarter.

FUTURE

- **Academic Enrichment Grants**
  Laura, Kelsey, and the AEG team finalized the application before Thanksgiving. We are looking for five more readers in both Exec and Senate to help! Let Laura know if you’re interested!

- **University of Cincinnati / Ohio State Retreat**
  Save the Date! January 22, 2011 – Want to help plan? Tell Laura!

- **USG A Cappella Choir**
  Micah is starting one. We need 4 guys and 4 girls. Let us know if you’re interested!!
'Dear Kasich, Please don't cut higher ed'
Columbus Dispatch Online Edition, 30 November 2010

Well aware that the state is facing a potential $8 billion budget shortfall next year, Ohio State University student government leaders plan to lobby Gov.-elect John Kasich to spare higher education from the worst of any future cuts.

OSU's Undergraduate Student Government launched a statewide letter writing campaign a week ago to urge Kasich to continue to strongly support the state's public colleges.

The group has collected letters from about 3,000 students and hopes to gather more than 10,000 by March to deliver to Kasich before he releases his recommendations for the state's next two-year budget.

So far, the OSU students have enlisted the help of student-government leaders at the University of Cincinnati. And they hope to have the support of the student leaders at all 14 public universities in Ohio in the coming weeks.

USG President Micah Kamrass said bipartisan support for higher education the past 3 1/2 years has helped keep tuition low. Still, tuition at Ohio State has risen a combined 7 percent for the past two quarters, bringing the costs to $8,994 for an in-state undergraduate student.

Investing in higher education equates to investing in "Ohio's future, it's college students," he said. "By producing talented, capable graduates, higher education will play a significant role in our state's economic recovery," Kamrass said.

He said despite strong legislative support, Ohio remains well below the national average in per-student state funding. "A large increase in tuition or a decrease of any kind in state sponsored financial aid would be a devastating blow to many of our students, especially to those already struggling to pay for school," he said. Kamrass said a large decrease in state aid would act essentially as a "back-door tax increase on Ohio families." The result could lead to more Ohioans leaving the state to get an education, hindering the state's ability to recover from the recession.