



## **George Bernard Speaker**

2094B Ohio Union  
1739 N. High Street  
Bernard.306@osu.edu

**57<sup>th</sup> General Assembly**  
Autumn 2024, Session 13  
October 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024

### **I. Opening**

- a. Call to Order
  - i. 6:36 pm
- b. Land Acknowledgment
- c. Attendance
  - i. 29/31 Senators Present
- d. Swearing in of Alternates
  - i. Chomicki.2 for Senator More
- e. Approval of Minutes
  - i. Minutes Approved

### **II. Open Forum for the Public**

- a. Rossing.1: My name is Chay and I am in charge of the justice and equity committee. We as a community are making a lot of decisions about what type of community we have around us. We are charged with representing all types of people. Queer people's existence for a long time has been politicized. A GLAAD study has found that LGBTQ hate crimes have gone up by 189 percent. What did USG do? We got our hands on duty. Queer week was a success. We had a health meeting, an LGBTQIA involvement fair, a community night, and a queer and community night which saw more than 100 people in attendance. It was fun and a night that was queer and excellent. I remind you of the promise Bobby made which was to bridge the gap. Bobby has bridged that gap and when I ran for director I wanted to work on the ground and he has allowed me to do that. I am so



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glad I was able to do that and thank you for passing the budget to allow me to do this. Are there any questions?

- i. Cade: Do you know how many people we have reached overall?
- ii. Rossing: At least 115 students opened the brochure. We were able to get 3000 interactions and 12,000 impressions with the justice and equity account.
- iii. Ahmed: Any changes that you would make? What would you like us to do?
- iv. Rossing: I was not a good politician, but I am someone who is in the community and I think that is something that is what made the week a success. There were some events that were not as successful, but I would not change that so we can platform those voices.
- v. Saini: I am happy this was successful. Can you talk about your experience?
- vi. Rossing: A lot of people in student government because they have that charismatic quality in a certain major. The work I was attracted to was with community involvement. Most people who I interacted with I almost did not see myself in them. I wanted for others to see themselves in me. I think that if you are going to put your money on who to work with it is that polished people. I thanked Bobby for giving me a chance as a nervous person and allowing me to do the work I had done.
- vii. Hensley: How much money was allocated and used?



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- viii. Rossing: I do not have that number on me. I know that I did not go over budget and that Aryav was not angry at me.

**III. Executive Report**

*a. President Bobby McAlpine and Vice President Justin Robinson*

- i. McAlpine: I would like to ask everyone to use their microphones in the spirit of justice, equity, and inclusion for those who may not be able to hear that well. Queer week and homecoming week was last week and it was a lot of success. We were able to partner with many organizations and hear from a lot of students that we have not represented well in the past. The work that we are doing this year personifies bridging the gap, it is something that we commit to consistently. We had 2 members of USG on homecoming court, myself and Nigel Gore and our former vice president was crowned as homecoming royalty. I want to give a special shoutout to Malachi and talk a little bit about Newark.
- ii. Robinson: We want to leave it better than we found it. We are actively bridging the gap. We laid the groundwork for USG to be on the regional campuses and got a lot of feedback. They feel like they are separate and do not have a voice. We wanted them to feel like they have a voice and if they come here they have a home with us.
- iii. McAlpine: We were able to meet with the Dean the President and student organization leaders. My heart is so full and we part ourselves, and buckeye donuts, and just shared. Just seeing their faces and being like “Thank you that makes them feel like a



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buckeye.” We were doing the bare minimum and what we did was big. Huge thank you all for allowing us to do this.

- iv. Robinson: We did not think about all the resources we could provide them and that they could provide to us. We wanted to share information about our newsletters. If you guys have information you want to get out, just talk to us. Information is not being shared properly.
- v. McAlpine: I was able to speak at queer excellence night and it was a wonderful experience. I spoke about pride and expression. Representation matters because my younger self needed it something that stuck with me. It is why we are here, to help. We made 3000 postcards that were signed by us and we are going to be distributing them in dorms to remind people to go out and vote. Another thing, the election is going to come up. Any election is hard, at the end of the day we do not tell people how to vote, but we do tell people to vote. There will probably be some backlash. If you ever feel unsafe, please let us know. Last time we had an election, it was a lot. Wall Street Journal and the New York Times are live and we are going to create some materials to spread the word. It would be great if you guys could share them during the consistency report.
- vi. Robinson: Thank you to everyone who came out to the dining focus group we are going to be having a GE focus group to talk about the new program.
  - 1. Cade: What is your name and number?



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2. Robinson: It should be on the USG website
- vii. Dobres: I was wondering if there was any progress with the mayor's team.
- viii. McAlpine: It is this Monday and a few members from USG. It is 4 right now, but we might bring more.
- ix. Evans: Do you know if the university has anything in place in case there is any backlash from the election?
- x. McAlpine: There will be heightened security due to the violence we have seen in other places. With the ballot boxes, a lot of big cities have seen ballot boxes have been burning. There is an election board that makes sure everything is straight. Listen, learn, and Discuss was designed for these next few weeks.

#### **IV. Updates**

##### *a. Speaker George Bernard*

- i. I know most people have office access, but sign one of these forms and get access from that. I know a lot of you are working on resolutions, talk to other people about those. Senator Rothgery has reigned. I wanted to clarify about emergency resolution, which can be directly to the floor but only if it is something that cannot wait until the next meeting or could not have been addressed by steering. Besides that, you have to work with your committees. Thanks to those that dressed up too.

##### *b. Parliamentarian Oliver Griffith*



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- i. The CBRC happens every 5 years and looks over all of our documents and stretches to the election bylaws. Although the chief justice submitted the election bylaws without thinking about the changes the CBRC made, so we will see these later.

*c. Secretary Lily Evans*

- i. So consistency reports are coming up again. For those of you who were vacancy applications, the consistency report is going to be due by our last meeting at the beginning of December. As I have previously said, you will just have an event to reach out to your consistency and report it on the report I should have sent out previously. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out to me and I can help you with whatever you need.

## **V. Committee Reports**

**a. Allocations Committee**

- i. We have 8393 dollars left for the semester

**b. Oversight Committee**

- i. We will see the election bylaws most likely 2 weeks

**c. Issue Committee Reports**

**i. Academic Affairs**

1. We had a meeting on Sunday and will have a meeting with Dean Jones and anyone else who might want to go can just talk to me.

**ii. Black Caucus**

1. No updates



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- iii. Health and Safety
  - 1. No updates
- iv. Governmental Relations
  - 1. We met on Sunday and have a resolution today
- v. Justice and Equity
  - 1. We passed out bylaws and are looking at a resolution currently
- vi. Student Affairs
  - 1. We met this weekend and looking to have a resolution about Lyft next week. There has been more movement in regard to the dining resolutions.
- vii. Sustainability
  - 1. We had a meeting yesterday and are working on the bylaws. We passed a resolution about sustainability reports.

## **VI. Old Business**

## **VII. New Business**

### a. 57-R-7: A Resolution to Support Enhanced Civic Engagement Efforts by The Ohio State University

- i. Dobres: Hello. I am excited to support this resolution. I would like to thank my cosponsors and the committees. I have waited to vote in a presidential election and I am very excited. Civic engagement is something we should advocate for. This resolution encourages the university to continue asynchronous elections for even years. We also want to collect feedback from the student and staff body in the



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form of a survey. The resolution also calls for a program that would help students work at the polls and calls on every student to cast a ballot. It is about continuing with the follow-up after the election. Matt is connecting us with the associate dean of students and the associate director of community engagement. I am happy to hear any questions or amendments.

- ii. Bernard: Any questions?
- iii. Sanchez-Reich: What kind of barriers are you referring to?
- iv. Bernard: That was from a previous election, it is referring to classes that may be stopping people from voting
- v. Benard: Any discussion points?
- vi. McCann: Good job on this resolution. We notice our elections are important and having this resolution allows us to see the impacts of having an asynchronous day. This resolution does a great job of keeping our students engaged and I hope this will pass easily.
- vii. Hickman: I want to float out an idea about an amendment. I think that calling upon the university to do asynchronous classes and to spread the word is better. I will not make that an official motion for now.
- viii. Liu: I have worked on the polls, it was important work but there were not enough people. You would be shocked by the amount of people who do not vote. I think poll workers are incredible and stressing this point is great.





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- ix. Musa: Looking at the title, I think I would change it to a resolution to call on the university to support civic engagement efforts.
- x. McApline: I am confused about the resolution's overall point. USG has been pushing for a long time to do this and it finally happened this year. Is this resolution to support that or to call on them to do this? Would it be wise to wait until asynchronous election day to call on the university to do this?
- xi. McCann: I think reading the resolution, emphasizes what has already been done. Looking at the last line, what you are getting at is right, but this resolution helps to ensure those surveys figure out how much this helps.
- xii. Hickman: I was going to speak to that point. If we collect this data and they see students didn't vote, I don't know. I think that the data may not be fully reflected because as we have seen the admin did not do a good job of sharing this information about election day.
- xiii. Saini: I think the work you are doing with administration that they will be really excited about. But passing this resolution today, I really do not know what changes. I support an amendment to make the language stronger, but am also open to tabling for now.
- xiv. Ahmed: I think asking for feedback is important and we cannot get this data for the next 4 years. Formalizing a survey and then adding more resolutions would allow the work to be better. I think the basic goal is because people are engaged right now so that we know what needs to be changed.



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- xv. McApline: If this resolution was passed, I would sign it in a second. I see the need for it and can put people in contact with the chair to ensure this works out.
- xvi. Cade: I wanted to state that I am in support of an amendment to make the language stronger. It is also important that we pass this to reaffirm our stance.
- xvii. McCann: I do not think this resolution is redundant, it expands upon the work done in the past. I understand the point, just not that terminology. I would be more than happy to hear an amendment.
- xviii. Saini: I appreciate the discontent. Frankly, I think I want to know what you are going to talk about to make sure that this happens. I want students to know that we have an asynchronous day. I think with the tight timeline we need to have a plan to ensure that this happens.
- xix. Liu: Hang with me for a second. I am seeing that it is doing a lot, it is calling on the university to collect data and enhance poll worker programs and civic engagement. I think that we can cut out the part about poll workers until we have the data about the poll workers. That is the motion I am going for.
  - 1. Second Heard
  - 2. Motion taken as friendly.
- xx. Hickman: I make a motion to the third to last let it further resolved clause to “calls upon the university” and then add on and “to



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appropriately market that to all students.” USG calls upon The Ohio State University to require asynchronous classes on further election days, and appropriately market it to all students.

- xxi. Dobres: I agree a lot with Senator Liu’s point. I think we need to get the data fast and that students are not going to remember how it impacted them. I think that the program for poll workers will not happen in the next 5 days and that is something we could work on for 2025
- xxii. McCann: I would like to motion to end the discussion
  - 1. Vote 22-5-0
- xxiii. Bernard: Ok we will move into voting
  - 1. Resolution passes unanimously

### **VIII. Announcements**

- a. Bernard: Any other announcements?
  - i. McApline: The bid table event is going to happen on November 12th and we will be talking about the listen, learn, and discuss the program. There will be a free taco bar. This is meant for students.
  - ii. Ahmed: Post-thanksgiving we will be having a meeting with the city council president
  - iii. Saini: I now chair CSA issues, we are working on a lot of the same issues. I want to build off the work you guys have done. Reach out if you want to work.
  - iv. Swartly: Please fill out this survey. I am gathering market validation and am starting an app called FOMO.



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**IX. Adjournment**

a. 8:02 pm