



**George Bernard
Speaker**

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

57th General Assembly
Autumn 2024, Session 16
November 20th, 2024

I. Opening

- a. Call to Order
 - i. 6:34 pm
- b. Land Acknowledgment
- c. Attendance
 - i. 27/30 Senators Present
- d. Swearing in of Alternates
 - i. Roy.457 For Senator Hutton
 - ii. Thaploo.2 For Chaudhary
- e. Approval of Minutes
 - i. Minutes Approved

II. Open Forum for the Public

- a. Schmidt.1318: Hi, I am the chief staff of the internal side and the former speaker. I wanted to talk about the rivalry rally in the Archie Griffin rally. We need people to be there and plenty of people as well as some free stuff like beanies. We will have arts and crafts like coloring and some shirts. If you want let me know if you want to volunteer or at the very least please show up. Feel free to text me
 - i. Migliore: Can you explain what that is?
 - ii. Schmidt: It is just to hype the student body up for the big game. It is supposed to be a fun time, even Cardele Jones will be there.
 - iii. Martel: Can you volunteer for particular spots?
 - iv. Schmidt: We will just need help in general and if you have a specific thing I am more than happy to try and figure it out

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III. Executive Report

a. President Bobby McAlpine and Vice President Justin Robinson

- i. McApline: The March on the Short North and the disgusting rhetoric this past week has attracted a lot of attention with the nazis and such. As black leaders, it is hard to come in front of you all with a smile and I want to let you know that we will continue to fight no matter what. We have talked to the university and they were overprepared for if that march came to campus. Another thing is if students did experience any of that they can report it to OIE and get some accommodations. If you know those affected, just go to OIE. Updated for library live occupancy, we are pursuing a pilot program and will benign hearing that in the next budget. Another huge announcement, we have been working on getting people food with their buckis after 9 or 10 pm. They are bringing a pilot program for late-night vending machines. It has been a long time coming. USG and CSA are going to hear from our CFO but we have some great money coming in. We gave 10,000 of that money to buck-i-serve. Happy Thanksgiving y'all.
- ii. Robinson: December 5th is the new focus group date, please send it out to people that you know. The other thing is please fill out the asynchronous election day survey.

IV. Updates

a. Speaker George Bernard

- i. No updates

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b. Parliamentarian Oliver Griffith

- i. There will be some highlighted portions for the bylaws, we can amend them and they have to be Germaine.

c. Secretary Lily Evans

- i. No updates, please send your constituency report if you still need to. We are not meeting next week.

V. Committee Reports

a. Allocations Committee

- i. Approved 2368 dollars and have 2339 dollars left. The last meeting is this Sunday.

b. Oversight Committee

- i. Passed the bylaws

c. Issue Committee Reports

i. Academic Affairs

- 1. Met this Sunday to launch the GE Launch resolution

ii. Black Caucus

- 1. No updates

iii. Health and Safety

- 1. Met with associate vice president for health and well-being. Meeting this Sunday

iv. Governmental Relations

- 1. Exec for GR and I met with some admin to talk about follow-ups for the resolution we saw

v. Justice and Equity

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- 1. No updates
- vi. Student Affairs
 - 1. The dining resolution was passed
- vii. Sustainability
 - 1. No updates

VI. Old Business

VII. New Business

a. 57-B-5: A Bill to Amend the Undergraduate Student Government 2024

Autumn Semester Budget

- i. McAlpine: Me, my CFO and SDA were able to come up with a plan to fight for USG to get more money. USG uses a lot of SFA funds as with other organizations. We won the biggest amount from CSA and we are trusted and get things done. Off-campus safety products, we got 50,000 for that, New York Times expansion and accessibility testing, and test prep resource library. If you vote no, all of this money goes back to the Council of Student Affairs. You cannot amend it. Please vote yes, we have to send all the money back. I yield my time to the CFO.
- ii. CFO: This is an easy decision, if you guys have any questions, please ask away
- iii. Migliore: What brand are these off-campus safety devices?
- iv. McAlpine: Ring doorbells and want to get it to students or landlords that have students
- v. Hardison: Will regional campuses be able to get the doorbells?

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- vi. McApline: I do not think so because regional students do not pay the student activity fee
- vii. Bernard: Any questions?
- viii. Dobres: Motion to the previous question
 - 1. Motion seconded
 - 2. Motion passes
- ix. Bill passes unanimously

b. 57-R-9: A Resolution to Approve the Election Bylaws for the 2024-2025 Academic Year

- i. Mahey: I am the Chief Justice and the portions in yellow are recommended by the CBRC and the portions in green were my amendments
- ii. Bernard: Any questions?
- iii. Mason: My name is Madison Mason and I was VP last year this is my 5th year in USG and I started in the black caucus. I was on senior staff as well. As VP I was tasked with the CBRC, which updates important documents. As VP, I have to form a committee of at least 7 people of people inside and outside USG. Came before GA in the fall of '23 to get membership worked out. Our commission was comprised of mainly seniors who have graduated and I talked with previous people in USG. We met a lot of times and passed bylaws. Nothing could be passed without a person from every constituency being there. It was unanimously passed. I was non-voting and was the chair. We decided that they were

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amendable for changes. We discussed a lot of these changes in meetings and only voted when everyone could be there. It was all by hand voting. All of our meetings were recorded. Happy to answer any questions

- iv. Migliore: In article 1, subsection d 1 I believe. On the digital petitions, what does that look like?
- v. Mason: It should not look different than what has happened in the past. The difference is that it would make students log in with their .edu email.
- vi. Hardison: Can we amend this?
- vii. Bernard: Only the portions highlighted in yellow
- viii. Hickman: Article 4, section e about chorus meetings for candidates. Is there any process in place for candidates who may not be able to attend if the dates are not posted in enough time?
- ix. Mason: It is an accountability mechanism, JP will have to rectify their actions if they cannot do what the bylaws intend.
- x. Cade: Under Article 5 Section D, the GA can amend the bylaws, where did that come from because the previous resolution did not see it?
- xi. Mason: Other Big 10 schools have amendment powers so it made sense to allow that in here. For flexibility's sake, it would be easier.
- xii. Dobres: Article 1, the part about the map, was this attached?
- xiii. Mason: I cannot find it on the website and it is not in the GA files. I am welcome to take it out. But Mahey can easily make the map.

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- xiv. Dobres: On knowingly creating signatures, can you explain how that came about?
- xv. Mason: When you are running as a candidate, sometimes you do not have your hands on the petitions. The knowing part is that if other people collect signatures and they present on their behalf, it is a liability thing.
- xvi. Cade: Under article 4 on penalties, where do those fines go?
- xvii. Mason: Every campaign gets 2000 dollars to spend because bylaw infractions cost money. It is just money that is deducted from what you are allowed to spend. No one is getting charged any money
- xviii. Hardison: IS there anything in here to accommodate for those that want to run for the position?
- xix. Mason: You have to be a degree-seeking student, so yes any person from any regional campus can run for president.
- xx. Hardison: I motion to amend the part about sessions to include a Zoom session to accommodate for regional campus.
- xxi. Mason: A majority of our sessions have been on Zoom, but we can specify that but it is already implied
- xxii. Hardison: Can I include “and at least 1 virtual session” after publicly?
- xxiii. Mason in article 4, sub e, vi does already say that one session must be on zoom
- xxiv. Bernard: That makes the motion moot. Any other questions? We will move into a discussion

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- xxv. McCann: Thank you for your work. I think all of the changes are reflective of a hopefully smooth election process. I urge my colleagues to get this done
- xxvi. Migliore: I motion to eh previous question
 - 1. Second Heard
 - 2. Motion passes
- xxvii. Resolution passes unanimously

c. 57-R-13: A Resolution to Increase the Efficacy of the GE Launch Seminar

- i. Cade: This resolution is to do what it says. A lot of students do not enjoy the class and it does not address all the points it intends to. The resolution we think can give good feedback to the university and help the student experience in this class. A lot of students think this class is busy work and that is not what we intend
- ii. More: This is a well-written resolution, please vote yes
- iii. Bernard: Any questions?
- iv. Liu: What do you imagine this looks like?
- v. Cade: We have talked about restructuring some assignments and putting more professionalism and getting people to learn how to write emails, set up a LinkedIn, etc. A lot of students do not like pebble pad and have not touched them since they left which is not good because of the money invested in it
- vi. Hickman: I am in the GE reflection, did you talk to any students about the reflection course

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- vii. Cade: I have not talked about any students about reflection. Admin has told me that anything changed in the launch must be changed in reflection. As we move across these changes, we will work to change the reflection
- viii. Bernard: We will go into discussion. We will go into voting
 - 1. Resolution passes unanimously

d. 57-R-14: A Resolution to Revise Dining Options and Plans at OSU

- i. Cade: The swipe system we have had since 2015 and it was worth 8 dollars back then. What we have seen is that the cost of meal plans has increased but our student's buying power has not. A lot of suppliers have changed and lots of foods are not farm-traceable, which is why we allude to healthier food. This resolution wants to tell the university that they are not happy about dining and that the food is not up to par with other universities. This might not be something that the university could do, and dining is already incorporating steps to cut costs.
- ii. Bernard: Any questions?
- iii. Hardison: What is a visit exchange?
- iv. Roy: You can take swipes and exchange them for a retail location and get 8 dollars to spend instead of a swipe at the dining hall
- v. Hardison: It focuses on the Columbus campus, have you thought about including the regional campus
- vi. Cade: Students on the regional campus are not eating a lot and a lot of the data we have is from the main campus

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- vii. Roy: There is not as much of an inequity in the funds students are given. If you look at Appendix 2, when you divide the lowest cost of meal plan, it costs you about 14.29 collars per meal. On the regional campus, you do not have that same meal plan. This applies to all of the campuses because it is a separate entity, just not the visit exchange part.
- viii. McCann: Does this seek to increase the buying power of the consumer or to lower prices or does it do both?
- ix. Cade: It seeks to do both. I do not see them lowering costs, but making it so that they are able to buy more with what they are given.
- x. McCann: If we increase buying power it could increase dining plan cost correct?
- xi. Cade: Prices will increase regardless every year. But making up that difference is important.
- xii. McCann: Is there a value you believe should be set instead of 8 dollars?
- xiii. Cade: I yield to McKenna
- xiv. Roy: We did not put a number on this so that dining services can see that we are pushing for change. The document also looks at other universities and shows that other universities are giving more meals for less to show that it is possible.
- xv. Cade: There will be an increase in buying power, one of the cost-saving measures is on food lockers

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- xvi. Ahmed: On the lockers, what about the jobs?
- xvii. Cade: That will not change the job market overall
- xxviii. Liu: You said the university is running on a deficit, has there been an analysis?
- xix. Cade: Only about 60 percent pay the prices on meal plans that include inflated costs. Over time, many items have eliminated the dining reserves. Retail locations might be shut down and replaced with traditional locations. Students primarily eat at Scotts, Union Market, Curl Market, and places like that.
- xx. Liu: How are they going to reallocate student jobs?
- xxi. Cade: They are not going to shut down retail locations and then build traditional locations so those jobs are not going to be lost all of a sudden
- xxii. Hensley: About the lockers, how are you maintaining the same level of staffing and decreasing costs?
- xxiii. Cade: Places have a higher volume and can produce more. Lockers can reduce theft.
- xxiv. Griffith: Do we have the financial info on the losses per sight at all?
- xxv. Cade: She did not share the hard numbers with me
- xxvi. Hardison: Does this focus more on the swipes or every dining location?
- xxvii. Cade: I would say for everywhere
- xxviii. Hardison: Could I specify that OSU should do a comprehensive review for regional campuses as well?

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- xxix. Cade: I think that is a good idea
- xxx. Liu: have you talked to the senior initiative counselor?
- xxxi. Cade: I have not, but have talked to the admin and managers
- xxxii. Roy: I put a lot of research on this and there is a psychiatrist who blogs about nutritional fitness and it explains the nutritional deficits of college students. OSU needs to reevaluate its meal plans and include the costs. It is important for every student. It is calling for a lot of change so that dining services can do a lot. We are representing a lot of constituents who want this to happen.
- xxxiii. Dobres: it is a great first step. I like that we support small businesses and I want to motion to the left if further be resolved clauses on sustainability to include small businesses. 2nd to last after sustainable sourcing practices.
 - 1. Motion taken as friendly.
- xxxiv. Griffith: I enjoy this resolution, I am interested in making it more clear. On other universities, I am not sure how they operate in that fashion. I am not sure if hiring a lot of students or a lot of bureaucracy. I am keen on tabling the resolution to
- xxxv. Cade: About the food truck, after COVID-19 students were not getting a lot of money back on their meal plans. That is why we have a lot of food trucks to get more students variety. To break even the university would have to increase meal plans by 10 percent for the next 5 years. We need to shut down the locations that waste resources.

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- xxxvi. Liu: On the first resolved clause, I want to add on “dining services crucial role as a student employer”
 - 1. Motion taken as friendly.
- xxxvii. Hardison: I want to amend the first resolved clause. I want to add another clause “Let it further be resolved that Ohio State University include regional campuses in the comprehensive review of meal plan offerings ensuring that dining options and services at regional campuses are assessed and improved to address the unique challenges faced at these locations, and”
 - 1. Second Heard
 - 2. Roy: I think that this is a complex issue that needs its resolution. The Columbus campus has issues and OSU dining services encompassed everyone I think this is a great cause that needs its resolution.
 - 3. Motion rescinded
- xxxviii. McCann: I think we need substantive changes and need more nutritious options. It helps us do that all together and revisit an issue which is part of the reason I got into GA. I hope the university takes this seriously and that we protect students. I move to the previous question
 - 1. Motion passes
- xxxix. Resolution passes unanimously

VIII. Announcements

- a. No announcements

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IX. Adjournment

a. 8:03 pm

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