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48<sup>th</sup> **General Assembly**  
Fall 2015, Session 14  
December 2, 2015

**I. Opening**

- a. Call to Order
- b. Attendance
- c. Swearing in of Alternates
- d. Approval of Minutes

**II. Open Forum for Public**

- a. No one from the public spoke.

**III. Executive Report**

- a. *Abby Waidelich on behalf of Abby Grossman*
  - i. The first thing we want to touch on is the Mirror Lake incident, of course. Abby and I put a statement out last week on our stance. Our stance is very explicitly stated in the statement released on the USG website and on social media. Tonight's session is a chance for you to express your opinion, and as the chair, I will be conducting the discussion. For those unaware, we have had seven students pass away this semester due to illness or natural causes, and next Thursday there will be a memorial service honoring all seven of those individuals who passed away this semester. The memorial service will be next Thursday at 4pm on Reading Day in the Ohio Union.
  - ii. The next thing I'd like to discuss is Framework 2.0. First, a little background. Framework 1.0 is how we got the new North Campus District. Framework 2.0 is mainly directed towards West Campus, and is being developed right now. We've been having discussions with administration on USG's involvement in Framework 2.0, so please refer to Tim or Derek Whiddon if you have questions about or would like to get involved with it. Last year, there was a presentation to USG on Framework 1.0, but it was after the planning and budgeting were both secured, so this year we're looking to get more involved with Framework 2.0 early in the planning process.
  - iii. The Lifeline Response app is now completely secure. We have purchased as USG to offer it free to all students. Shout out to Michael Arato and his Health & Safety Committee for their incredible work! We have decided to roll out the app during



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spring semester, so we'll have more information for you at a later date.

- iv. I'd like to talk a bit about the Teaching and Learning Institute. Abby and I met with the people leading this initiative, which is basically a way for faculty to collaborate amongst themselves on how to better their teaching methods. The Institute would also be a way to reach out to new or old members, amongst University faculty. Currently, there isn't a centralized place on campus where teachers can learn how to be better teachers, but they are creating one university teaching center that they hope will help professors collaborate with each other on teaching methods, class materials, et cetera. Abby and I are looking to plan a dinner for students to connect with faculty about this institute, and we're looking to roll this out next school year. If you have any questions or would like to be involved, contact Emily Underation, who is our Director of Academic Affairs. Please also reach out to me and Abby, as this is a large platform point that we want to push through the University.
- v. We have previously discussed the Clery Act and the campus email alert system. Jenna Gravalis will be heading up the formation of a third University alert system to get information to students if a situation is not a Clery-reportable crime. If you're interested in working on that, contact Jenna Gravalis because she'll be leading the initiative.

#### **IV. Committee Reports**

- a. Allocations – *Jenna Gravalis*
  - i. We had our last allocations meeting two weeks ago, before Thanksgiving. We gave out the following from the various funding sources:
    - 1. Student Activity Fee
      - a. Chinese Students and Scholars \$200
      - b. OSU Dhadkan \$1,125
    - 2. Coke
      - a. Multicultural Greek Council (MCGC) \$562.50



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- b. Undergraduate Women in Business Administration (UWBA) \$800
- c. Chi Alpha \$956
- 3. Organizational Development Grants (ODGs), which are \$250 grants for new or recently new student organizations
  - a. Ethiopian and Eritrean Student Association
  - b. AIESEC Ohio State
  - c. GRIND
  - d. Real Food OSU (formerly Local Matters Student Ambassadors)
  - e. Arab Student Association
  - f. No Labels
- b. Oversight – *Daniel Marchese*
  - i. Oversight did not meet this week. We have something really big to discuss, so I'd like to discuss it here.

**V. Old Business**

- a. No old business.

**VI. New Business**

- i. 48-R-21 *A Resolution to Advocate for Student Safety by Ending the Mirror Lake Jump*
  - 1. *Warnimont*: For everyone new in the room, my name is Joseph Warnimont. I am a third year and an Engineering Senator. Let me preface by saying that the Undergraduate Student Government has historically been about maintaining campus traditions. Being the stewards of traditions of students and student life on campus, it has come time to realize when to end a tradition. The Mirror Lake Jump is an unsafe tradition. The Undergraduate Student Government needs to work with administration and the campus community to create a safer tradition for all students on campus. Vote yes on behalf of your fellow Buckeyes. Vote yes for the safety of all Buckeyes.
  - 2. *Cramer*: This is not a topic anyone in the room was hoping we'd be discussing at all. But we are the



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Undergraduate Student Government at THE Ohio State University, and this is what we have to do. For those of you that don't know, THE in THE Ohio State University is an acronym that stands for Tradition, Honor, and Excellence. We hold tradition to be in high regard, and rightfully so. It's what makes us Buckeyes. When we first get accepted to this University, we are literally handed a Buckeye at Orientation. When we come to campus, we are immediately accepted into the Buckeye family. At Convocation, we are handed a tassel to represent our future Commencement. We sing Carmen Ohio at every football game. We fight Illinois for the victory and possession of the Illibuck, and we battle Michigan during Michigan Week and the Blood Battle. During Finals Week, I guarantee that everyone has or has seen someone rub the head of the Thompson Statue. During Buckeyethon last year, we raised \$1 million. There's also Commencement, when we all come together as Buckeyes for the last time. For those that meet their future partner here, some may even complete the Long Walk down the Oval. These are the things that make us Buckeyes. We are not Buckeyes because of ChitShow or house parties. We are Buckeyes because we come together to unwind after classes, and to relax together. We are not Buckeyes because we join student organizations or are part of Greek Life. We are Buckeyes because we come together in these settings to express ourselves and better our society. We are not Buckeyes because we yell "Rip his f---ing head off" after a kickoff in the Shoe. We are Buckeyes because we support our fellow students in athletic victories. We are not Buckeyes because we jump into Mirror Lake. We are Buckeyes because we come together to share our rivalry with the University of Michigan. These events are not what make us Buckeyes. The camaraderie we experience every day as being students at the best



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university in the United States is what does it. Camaraderie is not achieved by jumping into a lake. It is not achieved by risking our lives, but rather in the protection of the well-being of our brothers and sisters. For that reason, we must see the end of an era. We must support the ending of the Mirror Lake Jump. I'll end with a quote from Albert Einstein: "What is popular is not always what is right, and what is right is not always what is popular."

3. *Poe*: I don't have a wonderfully well-crafted speech to give you guys, but how many people need to get injured or die before we cancel this event? I hope zero. It's time to end the Mirror Lake Jump.
4. **Move into discussion.**
5. *Warnimont*: I would like to amend line 21 and line 24 to add citations. Line 21 now reads: "Whereas the lake has been riddled throughout its history by accidents, and" and has the following citation:  
<http://thelantern.com/2005/11/mirror-lake-poses-a-real-threat-for-trespassers>. Line 24 now has the citation after "2015" of  
<https://news.osu.edu/news/2015/11/25/update-mirror-lake>.
6. *Warnimont*: I'd like to take this time to yield my time to anyone in the chamber who does not have speaking rights. Does anyone have anything to say? (No).
7. *Reed*: I will first say that I have jumped in Mirror Lake for the past three years. In fact, I just jumped last week. The two years prior to this, I would have objected to this type of resolution. But back then, I could not have conceived that someone would have died because of this. Looking back, I could have sacrificed one night of fun to save someone from dying. This boy has a family, and he was someone's baby boy, and this family has had to suffer knowing that he died as a result of a campus tradition. It's time to end the Mirror Lake Jump.



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8. *Glass*: First of all, my condolences go to Michael [sic] Singletary's family. It's unfortunate that a family on Thanksgiving had to go through the loss of their child. Personally, I agree with the resolution in the way that the Mirror Lake Jump is dangerous and jeopardizes the life of anyone who participates. My concern in supporting this resolution is the question of our role as the Undergraduate Student Government. I'm pretty well-connected on campus with students who are my friends and who are my constituents and who are your constituents. I have not heard a demand to end the Mirror Lake Jump. The overwhelming majority of students are in favor of continuing the Mirror Lake Jump. As the official representatives of the student body who say don't end the jump, I have a personal struggle in interpreting my role as their senator and representative. I'm not say that students should not work with administration to find a better tradition. My reservations are in making an official statement saying that the student body doesn't want the jump to happen. That's my reservation with voting yes on the issue.
9. *Rollins*: I'm concerned about voting yes on this issue because if the University tries to end the Mirror Lake Jump in some way and it's not successful, or they don't do what they should be doing, students may end up doing things that may harm themselves. I'm curious how it can be done without further injuring students in the process.
10. *Wydman*: I'm speaking on behalf of the Dayton community today. You never think it'll happen until the tragedy happens to you. You don't think it'll happen to you until you lose a community member, in multiple ways.
11. *Cramer*: As far as Senator Glass's point in our role as senators, I'd like to say that there are two types of representatives: a delegate and a trustee. Trustees



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wholly represent the views of their constituents and delegates act in the best interest of their constituents. I would encourage everyone tonight to act as a delegate. That is the reason I will be supporting this resolution.

12. *Ferzacca*: I'd like to take this time to read statements sent to me throughout the day. This one is from the President of the Inter-Fraternity Council. Statement 1: To the General Assembly of The Ohio State University's Undergraduate Student Government: I am writing you today in regards to the pending legislation, *48-R-21: A Resolution to Advocate for Student Safety by Ending the Mirror Lake Jump*, and specifically I am asking you to table or delay on this legislation until further conversations and critical discussions can be held. With additional time, I would like us to better understand the true causes of the tragic loss of life that occurred at the most recent Mirror Lake Jump on the morning of November 25; to better understand the risks and rewards that the Mirror Lake Jump brings to the Ohio State community, noting the risks which we are able to reasonably mitigate through our actions and which risks are inherent to the nature of this event and are considered acceptable by the student body; to better understand the benefits and risks of ending this tradition and beginning any number of possible new traditions; and what the proper course of action would be for developing a safer tradition that brings all or some of the benefits of the Mirror Lake Jump. I am asking you, the General Assembly, to table or delay and take additional time to fully assess where we as a student body are, where we should be going, what possible routes will get us there, and which course of action makes the most sense at that time. As a tradition on campus for at least 25 years and with an estimated over 10,000 people participating in the jump in 2014, I implore you to reach out to the student body in these



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discussions and work with them to build an equitable solution. Whether that solution is scrapping the jump for something new, channeling it into a new focus, adjusting security measures, or another response, let's take our time, work together, and create a lasting effect on our community. It has been 8 days since the last Mirror Lake Jump; we have 357 until next year's would presumably take place. There are many questions left to answer and we are fortunate to have time to address them. Let's get this one right. Sincerely, Robert Gomez.

The next statement is from the President of the Chi Phi fraternity. Statement 2: To the members of the General Assembly of the Undergraduate Student Government at The Ohio State University: The Brothers of the Chi Phi Fraternity, Iota Chapter, urge you to hold off from voting on the matter of *48-R-21: A Resolution to Advocate for Student Safety by Ending the Mirror Lake Jump*. It is our belief that not enough time and consideration has been given to this matter by this nor the Student Body as a whole. The tragic loss of our fellow student is something that is felt by all here on campus, but it may lead to a decision based in emotion rather than in reason. It should also be kept in mind that an action taking with such haste might be viewed by the Student Body as an action done to appease the administration of the university and not one that considers them and their wants. In order to avoid this we recommend a delay of voting on this matter until a time when the student body feels that their voices have been heard on this divisive matter. If this is done, the reaction of students will likely be more subdued when a decision is finally reached, no matter what it may be. We would like to make it clear that we are not supporting any side of this argument, only that it should be discussed more before a decision is made. With near a calendar year to address this issue we have plenty of





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time to figure out the best course of action. Sincerely,  
Richard Reis, President, Iota Chapter of the Chi Phi  
Fraternity.

13. *Ferzacca*: I do agree with them that this legislation happening a mere 8 days after the tragedy is a bit hasty. I urge us to consider whether we've actually spoken to the people whom we represent.
14. *Bodey*: I'd like to address the statements from Senator Glass and from the fraternity men. I think it's incredibly important for us to evaluate what kind of message this sends if this resolution is not passed. I think it would be incredibly distasteful for the Undergraduate Student Government to not pass this legislation. Some family had to spend their Thanksgiving without a member of their family. How do you think the family will feel if we don't pass this? Not passing this resolution shows that a few hours of fun are valued over the life of our student and their child. I think a lot of work can be done by the Undergraduate Student Government to address these issues and the proposal, but I think now in order for those conversations to happen, we have to resolve that the University's position should be our position. The status quo is not acceptable and it's not worth it to continue to jeopardize the lives of our fellow Buckeyes.
15. *Reed*: The only question that I need to be answered out of this entire resolution is that is a fellow Buckeye is dead, and the answer is resoundingly yes. There is someone who I went to classes with that is now passed away because of an event that we have the power to end. It is absolutely ridiculous to say that in the future there could be increased risk. That's the slippery slope fallacy. What we would be doing is preventing people from going to the hospital, and trust me, people do go to the hospital on Mirror Lake Jump night. I'm not acting in a knee-jerk fashion or because the University wants me to act this way. I am acting on conscience and what



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makes me a Buckeye, which is helping out others and just doing what's right.

16. *Glass*: I want to clarify my position on this resolution. Personally I agree with everything that's been said. That it's a tragedy. I don't agree with my fellow Buckeyes jumping in to a lake and endangering themselves for the sake of beating Michigan. I don't believe in the Mirror Lake Jump, but what I do believe is that it's not a popularity contest. Trust me, it's beyond politics and popularity. We're talking about a student who's lost his life. What I'm questioning is our role as representatives of the student body. I believe that to speak on their behalf without properly taking the time or due process of speaking with the people who we represent is beyond our role as representatives of the student body. I'm not declaring that we continue the Mirror Lake Jump. I'm opposed to the Mirror Lake Jump, but I'm also opposed to being the official voice of the student body when I do not know that the student body wants this. It's not about being a trustee or a delegate, it's about being a representative of the student voice. I just think that we need more time to hear the student voice before I can make a decision on this is what the students believe.

17. *Gonzalez*: A few of those letters sent to Senator Ferzacca mentioned that we have to find out the risk of the Mirror Lake Jump. We know the risks. The bottom line is that any student who participates in the Mirror Lake Jump is not 100% safe even if all safety precautions are followed, even if there are controls, and even if adults are there to supervise the event. From a diversity and inclusion standpoint, students with physical disabilities cannot participate in this event, whether their disability is major or minor. It's not a very inclusive tradition. I do agree with Senator Rollins that it will take time to find a safe way to stop the Mirror Lake Jump so that students



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don't hurt themselves trying to get into the lake, but we have a long time to figure out a new tradition and to make sure students are safe in the long run and to make sure a tragedy like this doesn't happen on The Ohio State University's campus again.

18. *Kaczmarek*: I was talking with a group of fellow Social and Behavioral Sciences majors earlier today. What I heard from 90% of them was that they don't want to see it go, and they enjoy it, but they realize it's time. It's the time to let the Mirror Lake Jump go, because they don't want to see another Buckeye dead. One is enough. One is *more* than enough. It's just time for us to find another tradition to celebrate our rivalry with that team up North.
19. *Cramer*: We are being accused of two things: appeasing the administration and forgetting the popular opinion of the student body. I agree with Senator Glass. I don't believe in the popularity contest. I believe we should represent the interests of the students we represent, but we should also represent them in the interest of their safety. Unfortunately, Austin is not the only one who has died as a result of the Mirror Lake Jump. In 2013, a student drowned during the Jump and passed away a month later because of his injuries. I don't care if the Inter-Fraternity Council wants to delay this now. I now yield to Ben Schulman.
20. *Schulman*: I have jumped in Mirror Lake now five years. If we're looking at this, it's risk versus reward. I see risk (students die), and reward (a night of drunken fun). I don't believe there's much more to say. That's all.
21. *Grady*: I am a fifth year, and I would like to echo a couple sentiments, especially what Senator Glass is saying. I am unequivocally for ending the Mirror Lake Jump. It's not something we should do. You mentioned the slippery slope argument, and I think there's some value in looking back at that issue. My concern is that if



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we do this eight days after the Mirror Lake Jump happened, there will be students who still do want to do the jump despite what we've heard here, and they will feel that someone is speaking for them without their consent. I look back at last year when more security and fences were put up without warning to the students, so they decided to jump a day before. I want to make sure it's done with the consent of the student body and they want to end this as well and won't oppose it.

22. *Wydman*: I'd like to read a snippet from the article called "Why I'm OK with ending the Mirror Lake tradition." "I don't support ending the Mirror Lake Jump because I'm angry at the world, which is probably what you're thinking. I support ending it because now that I've known this pain I don't want anybody else at this university or in the world to feel it, I don't want any families to have to go through the hurt that Austin's family is feeling right now, and I don't want more students at Ohio State to lose one of their close friends. If I would have realized earlier that accidents like this could so easily happen I would have supported ending the Mirror Lake Jump way before Austin's life had been taken away because of it. I don't want any student to die because of something that could be avoided with one simple decision to stop the tradition. A new tradition could easily be put into place that would be just as fun and could honor Austin's life as well. This being his first semester at Ohio State, he honestly had more love for this university than anybody I know. He deserves something in his honor and he deserves respect. He wouldn't want to be the cause of this controversy, but if this were to have happened to someone else I am confident Austin would be smart enough to know that the value of a life is greater than that of a tradition.
23. *Dixon*: I don't know if anyone else knows this, but Tuesday morning another student passed away from



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natural causes. That's something that we couldn't have stopped from happening, but the Mirror Lake Jump is something that we *can* stop. I don't believe that this resolution should be passed along saying we should hold this off because it's a hasty decision. I think that it's a decision that shouldn't have to be discussed to a further extent. We are here to represent our students and to protect them. We need to be able to stand up, take hold, and be leaders in that way.

24. *Bock*: For those of you that were in Cabinet yesterday, President Grossman spoke on this and she ended by saying that she was happy that she had gotten text messages from students and feedback from students who are not involved in USG but who are interested in moving to end the jump. She ended with saying that right now we're not necessarily working to take any action but that we need to mourn this loss of life before we try to politicize it. She didn't use that word exactly, but she was getting at it. Unfortunately I was there when that tragedy was happening. When you turn around and see a body dragged out of the water and you see medical staff giving him chest compressions, those are things you will never be able to unsee. I absolutely want nothing to do with Mirror Lake ever again. I dread the day I have to go back to giving campus tours. My first thought that comes to mind is not worrying about whether we are ending this tradition. I think that while it is very necessary, and I do not think this should continue, I think we should give people the time to mourn this loss before we try to take any action. Perhaps after winter break would be a much less premature time to do so.
25. *Shaffer*: I walked in here wanting to vote no and now I want to vote yes. I hear that first, you want to keep the tradition, but second, you think we'd be appeasing the University because of politics. The first issue has been



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addressed very well already. This tradition isn't worth it. If you think we're appeasing anyone, you should ask yourself who. We get nothing out of this. We have to go to the student body that will be angry about it. From what I can tell, most students want to continue it or want to delay it for a while. Can you really say you'll be comfortable with another dead student over being ridiculed over a month for voting yes?

26. *Singh*: It's clear-cut that we should pass this and end the Mirror Lake Jump. The conversation should be on how to form a new tradition or how to make it so that none of these accidents happen again. I think that's what the conversation is about, so it's pretty clear-cut, guys.
27. *Priest*: My argument for being against waiting to discuss this to build a better plan is a Plato quote: "Necessity is the mother of invention." If you want a group of people to build a better light bulb, you don't wait around. You take away their light bulbs. If you take away the light bulbs, we're forced to create a safer and more successful tradition that doesn't endanger student lives. I think that's what we do when we take away the light bulbs.
28. *Buss*: I jumped last year and I was on my way to jump this year when the tragedy happened. As student leaders, it is our job to do what is hard. What we know is that we have to end the jump. We don't know how we'll prevent students from jumping, but out of respect for Austin Singletary, we have to end this jump.
29. *Gravalis*: I'm a Buckeye from New Jersey and before I came here I hadn't heard of the Mirror Lake Jump. I heard of Carmen Ohio and Script Ohio. You can go anywhere and hear of those, but not necessarily the Mirror Lake Jump. I got many text messages from students before my flight back to New Jersey. Before I boarded my flight, Austin Singletary was alive, and when I got off the plane, he was dead. Every single one of these people, in person, say they think it should be



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ended. To people who say it can't be stopped: They stopped it at 12:20am when they found the body. It is very, very possible to stop this. It is our job to advocate for the best interest of the student body.

30. *Souders*: I think we have all had time to reach out to our constituents, and I think we as a body have somewhat decided, and do recognize that this Jump needs to end. I don't think that making this decision now versus later will change the course of action. I don't think that going to our constituents will change anything. I think we all recognize where we stand on this issue, but we should allow people time to mourn, and we should respect what has happened and not jump into an immediate solution.
31. *Ferzacca*: Echoing Senator Glass, I want to say again that we were elected by people who had faith in us. Senator Shaffer mentioned ridicule and anger we may receive from the student body. I agree. By signing this, we are saying that we agree with this. That the student body agrees. I think we should consider looking at this issue another time. I'll be voting against this resolution, but in the future I'll be open to discussion about it.
32. *Cramer*: We are here to promote what is best for the student body. I agree that we need to set aside time to mourn, but we need to pass this for the family, so that his death is not in vain. Some senators are saying it's only been 8 days. I would argue that it's 7 days too many. We need to end this tradition.
33. *Marchese*: I didn't think I was going to speak today. I wanted to stay out of this, but I think some of the discussion in this room has given me an opinion on this matter. I agree that one life is too many, but I think that we have the opportunity to prevent loss of life in the future, and I've heard statements that you're more likely to be killed in a car accident driving home for Thanksgiving. I think that's an absurd argument, and I



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see that more clearly now. We have the opportunity to save lives, and to protect the health and safety of our constituents. I am not in the opinion that I am voting against what my constituency thinks. I know some people think we're reacting too fast, but I can make the same argument for the people who want to protect the tradition. If it kills people, we need to end it.

34. *Kenyon*: I think somehow I've been having issues with this because I want to represent my constituents but I don't want to go above them. I want to respect what's going on here and mourn the loss of life, so I'm struggling with what the solution is. I think the student body needs to vote on this.

35. *Buss*: As a Director, I don't represent specific students. I am, however, on the Committee of Diversity and Inclusion. I believe their opinion is valid, so I'd like to yield my time to one of my committee members, Liz Fries.

36. *Fries*: Everyone has said they don't believe the jump should continue, and those that oppose this resolution say that we need to wait. I don't understand what waiting will do. I personally worked with Austin in the Department of Social Change, and I think the right thing to do is to end the jump, and I'm not sure what waiting will do. I don't think that students who are against it and who want to continue the tradition will change their minds because the death of a fellow Buckeye clearly wasn't enough to change their minds. I'm not sure what else will. That's all I have to say.

37. *Warnimont*: I still fully support ending the jump. If we wait a week or until next semester, nothing will change. We will still have lost a fellow Buckeye. We need to vote yes on this now and help prevent a future tragedy.

38. *Bratton*: I'd like to touch on our role as senators. I think it's important to not only represent the voices of the student body, but to protect those voices. Austin was in





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the College of Education and Human Ecology, so technically, we lost a constituent. Here we have the opportunity to protect voices and lives.

39. *Harper*: I came in here tonight being aware of the statements given to us tonight, and about our sentiments as a general body being up in the air. I wholeheartedly agree with ending the Mirror Lake Jump. The risks do not outweigh the reward. I've been thinking what this jump has been doing to our campus, and the reality is that Austin was also one of my constituents. I did come in very conflicted on what my role is, but tonight, I'm going to represent Austin. I'm leaving it at that.

40. *Touvelle*: For those of you who do not know, I'm a third-generation Buckeye. My mom went here, and her dad went here. The Mirror Lake Jump was started in the '90s. The previous Buckeyes in my family never had anything to do with it. The traditions that I cherish the most are the ones that make me feel connected to my mom and my grandpa. The Mirror Lake Jump doesn't connect me to them. I think we can have a new tradition that honors Austin and celebrates being one community and making things better and safer.

41. *Waidelich*: We are at the end of the Speakers List, so what we do now is at the discretion of the Chair. Since I am the Chair, I am announcing that tonight we will be doing a roll call vote.

42. *Marchese*: We've done a few roll call votes this year, but I'll explain again what we will do. When Senator Chang calls your name, say "aye," "nay," or "abstain," and nothing else. Your vote will be recorded next to your name in the minutes, and the minutes are of public record on the USG website.

**43. ROLL CALL VOTE**

Name	Constituency	Email	VOTE
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**44.48-R-21 PASSED 35-6-6.**

**45.10-MINUTE RECESS.**

- ii. 48-R-20 *A Resolution to Support Bringing a Women's Center to The Ohio State University's Columbus Campus*
  - 1. *Gonzalez:* I am going to make this less emotionally dense. As of now, ten out of fourteen Big Ten universities have women's centers. The representatives from the Women's Student Initiatives today have done a lot of research on the resources for women on this campus, and they've come to the conclusion that there aren't enough resources for women on campus. Bringing a women's center to the Columbus campus will be a way to centralize resources and provide a safe physical space for women to go. I talked to two of my friends from high school. One goes to Penn State and one goes to the University of Michigan. Contrary to what you may be thinking, they're not serious feminists and they're also not very involved on campus. I was excited to find out that both of them have gone to their women's centers on campus. One of my friends says her women's center is her favorite place on campus. Another of my friends said that her other friend felt most comfortable going to the women's center when she was sexually assaulted during the first week of college. The University of Michigan even has a women's center. They have been so successful on campuses across the country and this is absolutely what The Ohio State University needs. There are women at OSU who do



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not feel valued by this University and they do not feel safe. I think it's important for us as a student body to make sure that women feel safe. Creating this women's center will, for female students who feel that they're not valued, make them feel more valued, and empower them to be the best Buckeyes they can be. I'll let the representatives from the Women's Student Initiatives Leadership Cohort talk about their mission and their vision for this women's center. It's clear that the University needs a women's center.

2. *Buss*: First of all, I'd like to say that I give Senator Gonzalez a lot of credit and the women in the cohort for all the hard work they've put into it. She has put a lot of research into crafting the resolution, and it's eloquently put. I want to point out lines 48 thru 51 specifically. What this is asking is specifically for the USG to advocate that the administration work with this group of hard-working women. This isn't saying that we're doing the research and benchmarking. We're saying that the student body would like the administration to work with these women.
3. *Jackson*: Senator Gonzalez did a good job explaining why we need a women's center on this campus. There are many organizations that support this women's center, including BSA, Sig Phi Epsilon, and a host of others. I think it's a very good idea to empower our women because they are disenfranchised.
4. *Chang*: I wholeheartedly support this resolution and the passing of this resolution. The formation of a women's center will help provide a much-needed safe space for women to go to for resources, guidance, and relaxation on campus, especially for victims of sexual assault or for women who lack access to knowledge of on-campus resources. Frankly, I'm appalled that The Ohio State University does not currently have a women's center. We're one of the largest universities in the nation. I



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think that in order to have or even to begin to advocate for a women's center, we need to support this resolution. I'd like to remind everyone that voting yes on this resolution means that we, the General Assembly of the Undergraduate Student Government, support the Women's Student Initiatives Leadership Cohort in their mission, and that we encourage administration to work with them to formulate a plan for a women's center.

5. *Honaker*: This is an issue very close to my heart. As a sexual assault and attempted rape victim, I know how hard it can be to find a safe space and how long it takes to rebuild yourself after being a victim of something. It can be so much to deal with. Obviously the women's center would have more than the resources to deal with this. There are 7,000 women who have experienced sexual assault and rape, and I think we should give them a safe space to get back to their old selves. I yield my time to the women in the back.
6. *Taylor Cornelius*: My name is Taylor Cornelius and I am part of the Women's Student Initiatives Leadership Cohort. We are asking the University to provide a salaried staff and a Title IV representative, a mentorship program, a women's resource library (which OSU used to have but doesn't currently have), and centralized resources from CCS, the Student Wellness Center, and the Sexual Civility and Empowerment Program. We have these resources, but the problem is that students don't know they exist and don't know where to go. We are also asking the University for a childcare center and a designated lounge area to promote a proper work-life balance for women on campus.
7. *Warnimont*: I'm curious about the history of women's support on campus. We used to have a Dean of Women. When was the position removed and what's the story about it?



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8. *Abby Waidelich*: There used to be a Dean of Women and Dean of Men, and then the positions were combined in about the 1960s to be the Dean of Students.
9. *Shaffer*: Why specifically do you mention that we need to bring in Women's Student Initiatives?
10. *Gonzalez*: Senator Jackson, Senator Buss, the Vice President attended a session from the Women's Student Initiatives called the State of Buckeye Women. They had this whole thing planned out with the goals and mission for the women's center, and we were inspired by this to write a resolution and hopefully work with this in the future. We included Women's Student Initiatives in this resolution because this resolution wouldn't be here without them. We want to make sure they're as included in this process moving forward as possible.
11. *Harper*: When you use the word reported, are you using it in an official capacity, as it's mentioned in a survey in the footnote (not pressing charges, not officially reporting)?
12. *Gonzalez*: It's an anonymous survey.
13. *Ferzacca*: Regarding lines 14 and 15, how will directly avert those barriers?
14. *Women's Student Initiatives*: Wage gap. White women make 71 cents to a white male's dollars. Black women make 68 cents to the white man's dollar, and Latina women make 54 cents to the dollar. That's just one example.
15. *Ferzacca*: Can you speak to how this affects campus itself and how a women's center will directly impact those barriers?
16. *Women's Student Initiatives*: It all comes down to how the University chooses to value its women. It won't directly affect campus because students aren't getting paid at University level, but they're getting certain internships and they're getting told whether they're valued. There are things that the University can provide,



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like soft skills, which are not provided to women on campus here.

17. *Gonzalez*: I think that the best thing the University can do for all women on campus is to empower them to be leaders, to challenge them, to be great Buckeyes when they graduate. If you look at society and things in the media, lots of things about the media belittle women, but programs that the women's center will offer can empower women to carry on through the rest of their lives.
18. *Weisman*: I have a question about funding. Will OSU be funding this, or will it be from private funding?
19. *Gonzalez*: They have had meetings with administrators about this issue. There are alumni who are interested in funding this. This isn't a total stretch for the University. There is money available for a project like this. When you enhance women at the University, you also enhance the entire University as a whole.
20. *Women's Student Initiatives*: We are asking the University to fund this. They have the money and they can choose to allocate the funding. We would like the University to provide the funding, but if they choose not to do so, we are open to looking into other sources of funding.
21. *Harper*: Lines 30 and 31 1970s. Has OSU ever had a women's center in our recent history or even dating back to when the other universities started having women's centers?
22. *Gonzalez*: No.
23. *Women's Student Initiatives*: We would get more help from those other organizations. We have a lot of support from organizations that represent more than just women, including FemUNITY and Women in Engineering. I don't have the list, but we have a lot of support.





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24. *Singh*: I was wondering what is currently in place for all the students, not just women, as a sort of safe space. Is it just scattered across campus or is there anything that is comparable to what the Women's Center would offer?
25. *Jackson*: I would like to say that there is something, like the Multicultural Center. We have the Hale Center, which is for African American students, but I think that we should focus on the fact that this is for women, a disenfranchised group on this campus. This is for a specific group on campus: women. This is for women to feel that they deserve a safe space on campus.
26. *Hottinger*: If we centralized resources like CCS or Sexual Empowerment and Civility, would this scatter resources or prevent men from having access to them?
27. *Gonzalez*: Centralization would not prevent men's access to the resources, because the services would still be accessed in the same way.
28. *Women's Student Initiatives*: There will be representatives specific to the women's center, not taking away from services already in place.
29. *Grady*: Have you talked to Title IV coordinator? I work with the Sexual Civility and Empowerment Program, so I'm wondering if hiring another Title IX coordinator is accepted by the current one.
30. *Women's Student Initiatives*: Yes, we've emailed her and had contact with her, but we haven't had the chance to speak with her due to her recent marriage.
31. *Frank*: Are there specific names of people in CCS who have supported it?
32. *Women's Student Initiatives*: Currently, the campus resources are centralized for all female staff and faculty. We have the support of the Department of Women's Gender and Sexuality Studies, but otherwise no direct support.
33. *Ferzacca*: Would this center be solely for women?



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34. *Gonzalez*: It would be for women, people who identify as women, and allies.
35. *Ferzacca*: Can you define allies for me?
36. *Jackson*: An ally is one who feels that women are equal in our society, feels that women should have a representative voice in our society, equal to every person, every man in our society.
37. *Harper*: Senator Hottinger brought up a good point that was as directly answered as it could have been. If this women's center was centralized with CCS, where could men or people who identify as men go for these resources to make sure the perception is that these are still open to men?
38. *Jackson*: There will be resources FROM CCS at the Women's Center.
39. *Priest*: What does a women's center do? You say resources, but I guess I don't know what that refers to?
40. *Gonzalez*: There are plenty of examples on the resolution with the women's centers in the Big Ten schools. First of all, it's a safe physical space on campus separate from the discrimination that women face in society. It would offer programming specific to women, counseling, and a lounge area for women. We see so many examples across the country that have been successful.
41. *Women's Student Initiatives*: A women's center would promote awareness and empowerment of women. It would include a resource library, sexual and relationship violence resources, and a safe space for women to relax and unwind.
42. *Cramer*: One of the lines in this resolution talks about the goals the org has including the Title IV coordinator. There is a precedent for a women's center. Is there also a precedent to have another Title IX coordinator on campus?



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43. *Gonzalez*: This is not on the resolution. The Title IX coordinator was brought up in discussion with administration.
44. *Luther*: This may be repeating points you already made, but what are these resources specific to be centralized and which are the ones that are lacking?
45. *Gonzalez*: Resources that will be centralized are the ones that already exist. The women's center will make sure that female students who are on campus know about these resources. What we're lacking is programming and visible and open resources on sexual violence.
46. *Warnimont*: Lines 23 and 24 do you have a citation that students don't know the resources?
47. *Gonzalez*: A lot of women are unaware of the resources available them, so that's why we're pushing for centralization.
48. *Bodey*: I have a question about the Women's Place on campus. As of now, does the place not adequately serve female students or not adequately provide resources?
49. *Gonzalez*: I believe that's for faculty.
50. *Women's Student Initiatives*: We had a panel with administrators two weeks ago. The Women's Place is for faculty and staff. She clarified and said that it's only for female faculty and staff.
51. *Frank*: To clarify Senator Warnimont's question, is there is statistic for lines 23 and 24? I believe including a statistic would lead to a stronger resolution.
52. *Priest*: As someone who identifies as a male, if I am curious about a program that's going on at the women's center, if I'm genuinely interested, is that a program that I can attend or not?
53. *Gonzalez*: Those are details that haven't been sorted out. We don't have a list of rules of what you can or cannot do, but this is just a resolution to advocate for



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administration working with Women's Student Initiatives.

54. *Jennifer Eidemiller*: The purpose of a women's center is not to say men aren't allowed. If you are interested, we'd love for you to come participate in a dialogue on campus.
55. *Glass*: Friendly amendment to change "main" to "Columbus" campus wherever it is on the resolution.
56. *Harper*: Friendly amendment to change "programing" to "programming" wherever it is in the current resolution. This may turn into a motion, but I feel that the language in line 21 does not accurately represent what's in the footnote not in a way that's misleading, but in a way that weakens our argument. Not many people know that many women go through sexual assault, so I think we should clarify that many women go through this and do not report it.
57. *Chang*: I'd like to clarify to all the voting members in the chamber that the purpose of this discussion is not to determine whether or not we need a women's center. The purpose of this discussion is to decide whether we as the General Assembly of the Undergraduate Student Government support administration working with the hardworking women of the Women's Student Initiatives Leadership Cohort to discuss the feasibility of having a women's center on campus. That being said, since a women's center is not currently set in stone, there is no strict set of rules or combination of things that the women's center will have as of now, so that's why some of your questions and concerns cannot be directly answered. Again, I'd like to reiterate that we will be voting on whether or not we as the GA encourage administration to work with Women's Student Initiatives. Voting yes means that you encourage the administration to sit down and have a discussion with



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Women's Student Initiatives about possibly having a women's center, so let's please refocus our efforts.

58. *Bock*: I have an issue with lines 14 and 15 when it says that women are a marginalized group in society and on campus. I think that most women on campus don't see themselves as part of a marginalized group and I read it as kind of offensive. We have two women leaders as President and Vice President of USG, and we did last year as well. For me to support this, I think that we should change the wording of that phrase.
59. *Ferzacca*: No examples were offered on how a women's center could be built on this campus. This women's center would be for women, people who identify as female, and allies. I fear who may make these decisions and what that may look like for 50% of this campus. I don't think that the other 50% of this campus should be excluded.
60. *Challapally*: I want to preface this by saying that I support this resolution, but due to limitations on space, funding, and staffing, I don't think it's feasible. It already excludes a marginalized group of people including genderless, bisexual, etc, people. I think it also promotes further marginalization of that group of people, and ostracizes men. One out of sixteen men who experience sexual assault report it. There may be more who don't report it. Going to a women's center to get sexual violence resources, most men wouldn't go to a women's center to get sexual violence resources. Women are more often sexual assault victims, but men will not go to a women's center for those resources if they're victims. In terms of feasibility, it won't work out that way. Also, most students are not aware of resources offered on campus. If you think of most students, they are not aware of the resources being offered on campus. I think OSU needs to do a better job of making students aware of resources. We believe it needs to be more centralized



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and accessible to everyone because it's not just women that experience sexual violence.

61. *Jackson*: I would like to touch on multiple topics. Regarding Senator Bock's discussion about not feeling marginalized on campus, I'd like to relate this to myself as a member of the LGBT community, because I do not feel that as an LGBT member of the community, I can represent the entire community, nor do I believe that one female identifying community member can represent the female community. I would never speak to what has happened to me as a gay male compared to another gay male on campus. Everyone has a different backstory. What Senator Ferzacca said about the men on campus: This women's center is for women, not men. Men are not marginalized in our society. Women are. One example has already been given: the pay scale in our society. It is drastically different than what a man receives, not to mention the fact that race also goes into it. Another: Sexual violence resources will be offered in the women's center. The sexual violence resources will not just be in the women's center, but also in the places they already are offered. That's not where they're ONLY going to be. They will be in the same places they're offered now, as well as in the women's center. I would just like to say that if you are a male and you have a problem with a women's center and you feel that the men on this campus won't have a center to go to, I'd like to relate it to the protests about how there isn't a white student union. But black people in America are a marginalized group, just like women are in society. Saying that there's no space for men to go is outrageous. Everywhere on campus you can go as a male and not be marginalized.
62. *Touville*: I am in full support of this. I think this is a great idea. I'm a little bit flabbergasted that there has been so much pushback from this. I'd like to say that



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every one of you reps a woman, and at least one of your constituents would benefit from this. I don't see why we wouldn't pass this, it seems like a great idea. I don't know why anyone would be opposed to this. Thank you to everyone who put in work for this.

63. *Bodey*: I think the purpose of a women's center is for us to reflect on the way gender impacts all of our lives. Women experience systematic oppression and often have to fight for rights. This doesn't mean that men haven't suffered cruelty or violence related to culture, misogyny, expression, etc. Women continue to experience discrimination in voting, education, marital laws, religious institutions, social orgs, etc. Yes, men have had to fight for their rights for race, sexual orientation, socioeconomic status, etc, but not because they are men. I would like to commend the women sitting in the back on their work. It's great that the women's center will offer resources for sexual violence victims. This is about the resources and having a home for these women's programs. We have in the John Glenn College of Public Affairs a NEW Leadership Ohio conference every year for women who have been empowered. For OSU to continue being one of the best schools in the nation, we have to realize that women are a socially marginalized group in society. I fully support a women's center on the campus of the OSU.
64. *Warnimont*: I don't believe that women aren't aware of the resources on campus. I Googled it and a great list has come up. I don't know how this would pertain to a higher educational environment. I move to strike lines 23 and 24.
65. *Mubarak*: I'm in complete support of this resolution. In fact, I'm very shocked that we don't have one. I believe that a women's center would provide empowerment and safety for the Muslim women and all women on this campus.



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66. *Thomas*: I yield my time to the Women's Student Initiatives Leadership Cohort.
67. *Melissa Chime*: My name is Melissa Chime and I am a second-year student part of the Women's Student Initiatives Leadership Cohort. Senator Jackson touched on this, but saying that we have a female President and Vice President on this campus means that women aren't marginalized is like saying that racism doesn't exist because we have a black President. Just because you do not personally feel marginalized does not mean other women aren't or that you are not marginalized. The Sexual Civility and Empowerment Program in Morrill Tower serves all students on campus, including harassment, stalking, rape, domestic violence and abuse. The Program has been asking for additional workers and staff members for years now. As you can see on line 20 and 21, having a women's center would take a load off them as well. We would also be focusing on programs for new mothers, children, etc. We all experience different things that men don't have to go through, like menstruation. We have free tampons and stuff at the RPAC, but not many people know about that. We have a Condom Club. Where's the Tampon Club? Those are just some things that we would want to provide at the women's center.
68. *Weisman*: I have some concerns to add. I just want to preface by saying that I really respect the work that's been done. There seems to be a lot of shaky ground. Senator Ferzacca asked what barriers on campus. Senator Warnimont asked about awareness on campus. Not clear on that. Senator Harper asked about the 7,000 women statistic, and we haven't had answers. I'm not sure that as it stands, it's ready. I also have concerns about the Title IX coordinator and Dr. J's approval. I suggest we table this so that we can clear up a lot of the issues and confusion on this.





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69. *Wydman*: Weisman said a lot of the things I was going to say. I want to say this discussion has been really informational. Initially I was opposed, but now you guys have cleared things up, tampons and childcare. I will be abstaining today because if you bring sexual assault into the picture, you can't talk about centralizing resources for everyone. Bringing the 1 in 4 statistic into it, and I love it and I preach it all the time, but I think it's a separate issue from this. I know that this wouldn't be taking away from other centers on campus, but I oppose this due to the vagueness. I suggest tabling to clear things up. I have a lot of questions, I'd love to talk off-line, and I think there's a lot going on, so I think separating them and talking about separate issues is really important.

70. *Harper*: I will echo what Senator Weisman has mentioned. I'm open to the support of bringing a women's center to campus. This discussion has cleared up so many things for me, and I think the resolution needs to reflect what was discussed tonight, so that when a person looks at our resolution online, they can be completely clear on what we believe to be the issue at hand, that it's clear and concise, and that it puts our support behind the Women's Student Initiatives Leadership Cohort. I think it needs to be clearer. I think it would be unfair for the mission of this resolution to leave it in its current state. After this conversation, we're aware of so many differing opinions, so I want to make sure that we have enough research and information on the resolution.

71. *Cramer*: What Senator Weisman and Senator Wydman said are what I was going to say. The link for lines 20 and 21 is a dead link. If we vote on this tonight, I will be abstaining. I think it needs a bit of clean up. If it gets tabled, I'd be more than happy to support this.

72. MOTION TO SET A 2 MINUTE SPEAKING LIMIT.



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73. *Cramer*: The discussion is getting repetitive, so I'd like to set a 2-minute speaking limit.

74. *Warnimont*: Some people I haven't heard from yet, so I don't think we should set a speaking limit.

**75. 2-minute speaking limit.**

76. *Grady*: I am a fifth year, and I work with the Sexual Civility and Empowerment Program. It is severely understaffed and they have been asking for a long time for more help and more resources, and they don't have it. From my understanding, an ally is a person who doesn't belong to a marginalized group, but nevertheless supports the success and well-being of those in marginalized groups. Violence does happen against men, but it disproportionately happens against women. The way society treats people who experience sexual violence is very different from the way it treats people who are victims of other crimes. If you want to talk about the 1 in 7 or the 1 in 4 number, I can give you resources on that, but I think this is very sound and a very good resolution as it is.

77. *Gonzalez*: Many women do not feel discriminated against on campus, so that's great, but many other women feel discriminated on campus in different ways. Women are lesbians and can be bisexual, so it absolutely includes them as well. There will be counseling and consultation services specifically to them, and currently CCS doesn't have those for LGBTQ students. No one has told us we don't have enough money or resources, even in administration, so that's not valid. I'd like to clarify the stat that 1 in 4 women experience sexual assault, but it's not necessarily reported. I think overall it's a pretty solid resolution. There are lots of questions about the women's center, and I encourage everyone to go to discussions about the women's center that are being held on campus, but we



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could not possibly go through every single detail about the women's center tonight.

78. *Honaker*: I don't think anyone can say that women are not a marginalized group in society. I've walked into the ROTC building with makeup in regulations and gotten heat for it. I've walked into a math class and had my professor tell me that I was the first blonde female he had seen in that high of a math class. As a 15-year-old female, when my first crush tried to rape me, I was blamed. Most students on campus don't know the resources, and don't know what to Google even. A women's center will make resources easier to centralize and easier to find. We want part of CCS and part of some of these resources headquartered or stationed in the women's center in a safe place where women can be themselves and get help because these issues do exist in society.
79. *Buss*: I'd like to clarify that this is not a sexual violence center. It is a women's center, so it's not just focusing on sexual violence and abuse.
80. *Bock*: I would like to apologize if my previous statement offended or was insensitive or made it seem like no woman in society feels marginalized. It was more meant to applaud OSU as a place where not as many women feel marginalized. I was also not saying that I don't support this, because that's not the case. I appreciate the women from Women's Student Initiatives. My confusion had to do with the confusion and broadness that was presented in lines 20 and 21 and 23 and 24. A lot of questions that had to do with those lines were not specifically answered, so I still think that we should table this.
81. *Chang*: I sense some confusion amongst some senators about the resources we aim to offer at the women's center. Offering CCS, sexual violence resources, and other resources at the women's center doesn't mean



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that these resources will not be offered elsewhere. CCS will still be CCS, and the Sexual Civility and Empowerment Program will still run as it does in Morrill Tower. Centralizing the resources simply means that when a woman walks into the women's center and has a question, there will be a whole collection of information there with resources pertaining to women. Therefore, having these resources available TO women AT the women's center also does not preclude the resources from being offered elsewhere to people who are NOT women.

82. *Women's Student Initiatives*: Allies are welcome in the center. We have had multiple meetings with members of administration and also had The State of Buckeye Women, where we invited women to speak in their support. There, we received lots of support from women on campus, and we started the hashtag #wheredoWOMENgoOSU. We ask that you support administration listening to all the hard work we have done.
83. *Priest*: This has made me look up what marginalized means. I agree that women are marginalized. If at any point this seems sexist, I invite you to think about this resolution in that context. There are men who feel sexually assaulted. Soft skills not provided for men. If there were place for men to come together, there would be a stronger presence of men.
84. *Dixon*: I have lots of things to say. "Therefore, Let it Further Be Resolved that the Undergraduate Student Government encourages the administration to work with Women's Student Initiatives, and other student organizations that promote the needs of women to bring a Women's Center with programming and staff to the Columbus Campus." There will be work done to make it better. If we can make this resolution stronger, it would be awesome, but in response to other



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comments being made: how great would it be if we had a special organization or center for each group on campus? It would be great, but we have to start somewhere. This is a gateway to open up more identification support, so I'm not really sure why we're still talking about this. I think we need to support this to support other identifications as well.

85. *Singh*: Senator Cramer asked what the urgency of this resolution was, but I'd like to reiterate that the longer we wait to show our support of this resolution, the more time we waste not helping centralize resources and show support for women that are sexually assaulted and all women that are marginalized. I think we should pass this, or table it if that's the general consensus.
86. *Ferzacca*: I think the lines 14 and 15. I think there are marginalized groups, and some of them are men. I would support a center on campus for all marginalized groups on campus to come together, share stories, etc. I think a motion to table this at this time would be good.
87. *Luther*: I like what Senator Harper says. I think it's a great resolution at its core. As Senator Chang says, I think we should realize that we're voting to encourage administration to work with these women. I don't think anyone in our constituency would not support us voting to let the administration look at this bill. I am conflicted about some parts of this bill, but I don't think I should be considering its goals. I would also vote to table it, because I think it is weaker in its current form than it could be.
88. *Jackson*: I'm very disappointed in the room tonight. Men are not a marginalized group in our society. There are portions of the male community that are marginalized, me being an LGBT male. If you are a white, cis-gendered male in society, you have the most privilege in the world. In America. Even more than any woman.



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**89. Motion to send 48-R-20 back to the Committee on Diversity and Inclusion.**

90. *Gonzalez*: If it is tabled, it will be back next week in a better form. Please look at the links I provided in the resolution, because it might help you understand more about why we can't answer every single question being asked. Hearing other peoples' experiences might have an impact on you. Keep in mind, yes I would love to have a center for all the marginalized groups on campus, but this is 50% of our campus population.
91. *Harper*: My problem is not the 1 in 4 statistic. There is nothing shaky about the statistic. It is how it is worded in the resolution. I think it would be stronger if you clarified it. I wholeheartedly support tabling this so Senator Gonzalez can bring this back as a very strong resolution.
92. *Honaker*: This states that the Undergraduate Student Government supports the Women's Student Initiatives and encourages administration to speak with these women leaders. We want the conversation on the table and we want the plan started. We're not saying there are demands and there's no discussion. We are saying that we encourage administration to speak to them.
93. *Glass*: I apologize for my little outbursts tonight. It's been a challenging night. I believe as a young wealthy white Christian male, I have not been institutionally marginalized. I am supporting this resolution. I am not tabling, because it goes back to what our duty is as representatives of the student body. I believe we should pass this resolution because we just passed a resolution in its infancy because we believed as a group of students in that resolution. I believe that students believe wholeheartedly in this resolution, and we shouldn't even be having a conversation on whether we should have a women's center. It is our duty to represent the voices of the students. If the women of



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The Ohio State University are talking about having a women’s center, it is our duty to encourage administration to speak to them about having one. We’re just going to have this conversation next week if we table it. I believe this resolution should pass tonight. I believe it is our duty to listen to undergraduate students as the Undergraduate Student Government.

94. *Buss*: I would rather have this passed next week than have it not passed at all. If there is something so huge in here that you need corrected, by all means vote to table it.

95. *Weisman*: I’m confused as to why the co-sponsors are taking this so personally, because I think that tabling this legislation means that there are things that need to be adjusted. We just think that this needs some work and we want to pass this in its best form.

96. *Harper*: I respect the mission of this resolution, and I support it. I myself am a perfectionist, and I feel like I am preaching like Sam Whipple tonight. I think it should be completely 100% in its best form possible. It has nothing to do with the content. I’m looking into amendments and I’d love to help amend it.

97. *Frank*: I feel that if some senators have ideas of ways to change it, they should propose it. I currently have three ready to go, but I need to wait to fix it. You guys feel that instead of addressing it now, you are tabling it. It is straightforward legislation that can be fixed very quickly. I want to fix it quickly. I have a midterm to be studying for tonight, but I don’t care, because there are three ladies here from Women’s Student Initiatives tonight, but I think we should get it done tonight.

**98. Motion to send 48-R-20 back to the Committee on Diversity & Inclusion. Roll Call Vote.**

Name	Constituency	Email	Vote to Table 48-R-20



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**99. MOTION NOT PASSED.**

100. *Kaczmarek:* I'm wondering where USG goes with this if it's passed? I would like this to be passed. What would be USG's involvement in this?
101. *Gonzalez:* This would mainly involve the Committee on Diversity and Inclusion, and other groups that would like to be involved. We would like to work with the Women's Student Initiatives on this initiative.
102. *Harper:* I propose this as a friendly amendment: "Whereas roughly 1 in 4 of 7,000 women enrolled at The Ohio State University have ...."
103. *Wydman:* 1 in 4, and then correlate it to the number of 7,000 women. Separate it. "Whereas 24% of women enrolled at The Ohio State University (equating to roughly 7,000) have identified through an anonymous survey as being sexually assaulted at least once during their college experience."
104. *Harper:* 1 in 4 goes with the national survey, 24% goes with the on-campus survey.



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105. *Frank:* I've seen the hyperlink that I found the error. Deleting the space right after students\_, and then there's that invisible space that we don't see. It needs to be deleted. Friendly amendment to line 23: "Whereas 1 in 4 women (approximately 7,000 women enrolled at The Ohio State University) anonymously reported experiencing sexual assault at least once during their college career."
106. *Gonzalez:* I want to thank everyone who's working hard to amend this so it can pass tonight. I'd like to add a friendly amendment to include the fact that Ohio State has never had a women's center.
107. *Honaker:* I'm yielding my time to Frank.
108. *Frank:* I'd like to propose a friendly amendment to line 49. I'd like to strike the "and," and add "the Undergraduate Student Government" to the end of it.
109. *Women's Student Initiatives:* What role would you see yourselves as the USG playing in this?
110. *Frank:* I think that we would be a good resource and we could help in any way that the Women's Student Initiatives needed us to.
111. *Gonzalez:* We'll be working with them as well, but I do not take that as friendly.
112. *Marchese:* Entertaining is not what I would use to describe this conversation tonight, but it's approaching that. With the amount that we're changing the resolution right now, we might as well have tabled it. We can friendly amend it until our faces are blue, but we might as well have voted it down.
113. *Challapally:* I yield my time to Underation.
114. *Underation:* I yield my time to Elaine Cleary.
115. *Elaine Cleary:* I am a constituent and frankly, I am ashamed of all my senators. I'm ashamed that this hasn't passed unanimously.
116. *Abby Waidelich:* I'd like to speak on what this would mean for me and Abby. We've been asked a lot



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about this. The people who wrote this resolution were there and listening. There was a panel of discussion with Dr. J, CCS, etc. there was a crazy amount of support from administrators to be there and listen. What this resolution will help me and Abby do is take a stance on this with administrators. What we say is a priority to students on this campus. There can be amendments galore on this, but this has been on the agenda since Sunday. This came through the Committee on Diversity and Inclusion in the first place, so taking it back won't bring many more changes, because you're sending it back to the committee that wrote it.

117. *Ferzacca*: I'm not voting against the idea of this. I'm voting against the wording. The resolution deserves to be worth the paper it's written on. With all the amendments, I think that we could have tabled it and come back with a better resolution. I yield my time to Senator Souders.
118. *Souders*: I have a friendly amendment to line 17 "Whereas The Ohio State University has never established a Women's Center to create..." before "a safe, physical space..."
119. *Wydman*: I yield my time to Cameron Priest.
120. *Priest*: Adding "or ally" would be great.
121. *Souders*: "for female students and allies"
122. *Buss*: Earlier, an amendment was proposed in adding "The Undergraduate Student Government" in the resolution. We have had this discussion already with Women's Student Initiatives. We will assist, but we are not trying to micromanage.
123. *Jennifer Eidemiller*: I'd like to say that this is a women's center, so it's very important for *women* to be emphasized in this resolution. Of course, we can figure out the details later of allies being allowed in the center, but the word woman should be the main priority in this statement of support for the Women's Center.



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124. *Buss*: I want to quickly thank all the women for their clarification and their work on this.

**125. ROLL CALL VOTE.**

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**126. 48-R-20 PASSED 37-1-9.**

**VII. Announcements**

- a. *Marchese*: In the future, I caution against repetitions of previously iterated statements, because those are what lead to three and a half hour meetings, and hour and a half discussions on resolutions that basically pass with no opposition. By the way, Oversight will be meeting next Sunday.
- b. *Souders*: The next cycle of Academic Enrichment Grants are due by December 11th. The link is on the USG website.
- c. *Warnimont*: We won Blood Battle against Michigan, so thank you to everyone who donated.
- d. *Wydman*: If you have cool promo item ideas, come talk to Outreach.
- e. *Abby Waidelich*: We will be meeting next week. Steering will be meeting on Sunday at 3pm. Lastly, I want to thank you guys because



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this has been three and a half hours. There was lots of pressure from media, each other, and everyone. I appreciate you guys sticking through even if you had a million other things you could have been doing. It may not affect you directly, and I look at the women in the back row and that resolution was for them. There is a memorial service next Thursday for the seven students (six undergraduate, one professional) that have died this semester. It will be at 4pm in the Ohio Union in the Archie Griffin Ballroom.

#### **VIII. Adjournment**

**\*Any questions about the minutes can be directed to [chang.1310@osu.edu](mailto:chang.1310@osu.edu).**