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**49<sup>th</sup> General Assembly**  
**Spring 2017, Session 17**  
**January 25, 2017**

**I. Opening**

- a. Call to Order
- b. Attendance
- c. Swearing in of Alternates
  - i. La Pointe.17 for Kennedy
  - ii. Dennen.2 for Reed
- d. Approval of Minutes.

**II. Open Forum for Public**

- a. No one.

**III. Updates**

- a. *Danielle Di Scala*: I'll be quick and yield my time to Tony [Buss] to talk about the demographics survey.
- b. *Buss*: Every year we've started this thing called the USG Demographics Report. We send the results to the student body with graphs and charts to see the racial makeup, college, living area--that's not there, residency is. If you haven't taken it, take it now. Your name does not connect with the responses and the link was sent in the GA Groupme. We really need all your responses.
- c. *Di Scala*: I know we have a lot of resolutions and I know these may take a long time and someone can move to table, but I recommend that they all get their due diligence.

**IV. Executive Report**

- a. *Gerard Basalla*: I'll be short, but next week I'll give you a full update on each cabinet committee and it will be as comprehensive as possible. If you have any thoughts about the High Street construction, come talk to me because we'll have meetings this week about that.

**V. Committee Report**

- a. Allocations—*Michael Frank* for *Derek Whiddon*
  - i. We have funded three organizations:
    1. Operation Smile Club- \$600
    2. OSU Running Club- maximum amount (TBD)
    3. Academic Team-\$511



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**VI. Old Business**

- a. No old business.

**VII. New Business**

- a. 49-R-30 A Resolution to Include Resource Stewardship in Ohio State University's 2017 Strategic Planning Proposal
  - i. *Lovejoy*: This was one of the sections we worked on last week as a group and you can see the co-sponsors. The things included in this resolution are what we believe fall into this category; affordability and operations management. We gave them a few suggestions in terms of scholarships in how they are given out and to whom, like upperclassman. We suggested changing the fees for international students and the online resources --condensing them because they are sometimes hard to find. I think that is it.
  - ii. **Moved to questions.**
  - iii. **Moved to discussion.**
  - iv. *Frank*: Friendly amendments.
  - v. *Frank*: I am pleased with how this resolution looks and the affordably details are there.
  - vi. *Clark*: This is a great resolution.
  - vii. **Motion to pass with unanimous consent.**
  - viii. 49-R-30 A Resolution to Include Resource Stewardship in Ohio State University's 2017 Strategic Planning Proposal **PASSED** with unanimous consent.
- b. 49-R-31 A Resolution to Recommend Changes to the University's Research Programs
  - i. *Chang*: We are introducing 49-R-41. Senator Shaffer and I had a robust discussion and if you have any questions about the content of this resolution or our discussion, you can ask me.
  - ii. **Moved to questions.**
  - iii. **Moved to discussions.**
  - iv. *Frank*: Friendly amendments.
  - v. **Question is called.**
  - vi. 49-R-31 A Resolution to Recommend Changes to the University's Research Programs **PASSED.**



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- c. 49-R-32 A Resolution to Advocate for the Advancement of Teaching and Learning at The Ohio State University
- i. *C. Dorony*: Like the previous two [resolutions], this was brought out from the break-out sessions and the main points are what we can do to promote teaching and learning.
  - ii. **Moved to questions.**
  - iii. **Moved to discussion.**
  - iv. *Frank*: Friendly amendment.
  - v. *Bidna*: I have a general question; does USG supports SEIs? What jurisdiction does USG have to do this with graduate students?
  - vi. *Belfiglio*: USG does not have jurisdiction on anything; we can just make recommendations to the university to make the departments recommend the SEIs. We can recommend anything.
  - vii. *Abusway*: For my class, for example, the graduate students have SEIs as well. So I don't know- I think this is already happening.
  - viii. *Frank*: With what director Abusway says, I move to strike that clause from the resolution.
  - ix. **Motion to strike clause.**
  - x. **Moved to questions on amendment.**
  - xi. **Moved to discussion on amendment.**
  - xii. *Belfiglio*: I understand all grad students get an SEI, but I'm not sure if graders also have SEIs. I can see how this is unclear so I'm fine with striking it.
  - xiii. *Abusway*: In my experience, this is already there.
  - xiv. **Amendment passes.**
  - xv. *Abusway*: In the clause regarding STEP, is this- could one of the co-sponsors explain how the topic of this resolution relates to STEP?
  - xvi. *Belfiglio*: STEP is a collaboration between student life and education so it is co-circular. It falls most in this category and it has a significant academic function.
  - xvii. *Frank*: Friendly amendment.
  - xviii. **Motion to pass with unanimous consent.**



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- xix. *49-R-32 A Resolution to Advocate for the Advancement of Teaching and Learning at The Ohio State University **PASSED** with unanimous consent.*
- d. *49-R-33 A Resolution to Improve Outreach and Engagement by Increasing Access and Improving the Experience of Diverse Students*
- i. *Fecht*: So this resolution is basically the same thing as the last. It focused on diversity and transfer students. We focused on looking specifically at the climate of campus after the attack and the election. We have made some recommendations to acknowledge that diversity could be improved and micro aggressions are problematic.
  - ii. *Liu*: How were international students included?
  - iii. *Fecht*: We are looking to make campus more inclusive for everyone.
  - iv. *Liu*: I see this as specifically for domestic students (not a question).
  - v. *Bodey*: Who was involved in helping put together these points?
  - vi. *Fecht*: The senators who worked on it last week and the discussion we had with the strategic planning administrator.
  - vii. *Bodey*: Outreach to student organizations?
  - viii. *Fecht*: No.
  - ix. *Bodey*: Regional campus students?
  - x. *Fecht*: David Glass was a cosponsor.
  - xi. ***Moved to discussion.***
  - xii. *Liu*: I still think there should be something that mentions international students. Like the 5<sup>th</sup> whereas clause supporting minorities. I just figured international students should be more integral to this.
  - xiii. *Chime*: The point of this resolution is to not separate everyone; international students are then included. Diversity is important, but inclusion is extremely important.
  - xiv. *Abusway*: Friendly amendment.
  - xv. *Liu*: I would like to see a resolution clause about international students.
  - xvi. ***Motion to amend.***



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- xvii. *Glass*: I have had the opportunity to visit the Brazil gateway, and I didn't see it as a way to recruit students, but instead to create partners in those communities. What's the purpose of international gateways?
- xviii. *Liu*: There are South American and Chinese ones. Those ones are for purposes of reaching out and establishing connections. The Chinese gateways look to recruit students for the University. There are events held to market OSU to potential students. OSU has sister schools as well.
- xix. *Vargo*: For us senators who aren't aware, could you elaborate on what gateways do and how they promote diversity?
- xx. *Liu*: They serve as a bridge between the two countries and their educational systems and potential students. Besides that, I only know about China gateways. They connect alumni with current and potential students. There are study abroad exhibitions and expos to market to those students who want to attend OSU. It boosts the reputation of OSU in China.
- xxi. *Gracia*: I got more about the climate on campus from this resolution. How is this line relevant to the resolution?
- xxii. *Liu*: You can see that there is a line about recruits within the country so we should expand this to include international students as well. There's a benefit of making international students become life-long Buckeyes and such. This ultimately helps diversity.
- xxiii. *Glass*: So, I actually thank Liu for bringing this up. I first questioned its placement, but in the way we wrote this resolution it's to expand on the diversity and inclusion of our campus, not only to expand our relationship here at home in Ohio and the USA, but the placement of OSU in the globe. In all honesty, building partnerships across the world and building diverse relationships would ultimately help us build strong inclusion here at campus and, furthermore, around the world.
- xxiv. *Vargo*: I want to reiterate Glass's comments. I know we talk about how this was to be overarching, but this hits on a point that we can overlook. I'm very supportive of this amendment.



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- xxv. *Merchant*: I think that it's great to put special attention on international students.
- xxvi. *Clark*: If that's the case, shouldn't we just add amendments to the present resolution's resolve clauses?
- xxvii. *Liu*: Sending recruiters internationally is not relevant; OSU has to pay more in international recruiters and gateways consist of domestic—they all speak Chinese and that is better way to market to students who are Chinese instead of having a 6-foot-tall guy in a suit speaking in English.
- xxviii. *Bidna*: I agree with Senator Clark; I think this new amendment singles out international students. I would like to rethink the clause and have it say 'recruit internationally' because that would be more pertinent to the resolution.
- xxix. *Belfiglio*: The issue I see here with this specific point is that it needs research and citations and we can say 'let it further be resolved...'. I think we need research and it would be better to send recruiters internationally. These are broad areas with specific themes and action consequences. This is not a full researched resolution, but broad ideas from this body. We can go with diverse and international students. I think it should be a resolution on its own.
- xxx. *Clark*: This is by no means saying that we are sending domestic recruiters.
- xxxi. ***Speakers list capped.***
- xxxii. *Glass*: I understand some of the questions senators have with questions on the strategy and the last three resolutions have had that and it already has specific recommendations to what the university should have. This is not meant solely for a requirement to have a partnership with a specific place and it is a holistic look and this fits with those plans with the problems we face all over the world. Whether that means making our student body more inclusive, what it says is that we are committed to a global diversity and these are all broad terms, it could be students from Ohio and across the globe. I don't feel this gets too specific because it benefits the student



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body. While I understand some of the concerns, I don't think they are rooted in enough fact.

xxxiii. *Frank*: I second Senator Glass.

xxxiv. **Question called.**

xxxv. **Amendment passes.**

xxxvi. *Buss*: I have a lot of thoughts. There is a lot going on in one resolution and that is something I am concerned about. The first one is asking the university to try harder and then we jump to campus change, and recruitment, and success series, and this has a lot of issues into one resolutions. Some of these are really great points that should have their own discussion. It all makes sense, but it hard to throw things together that don't connect. I don't want to vote against this, but I might motion to send it back to committee. I don't think there is a clear intent here.

xxxvii. *Fecht*: I understand where you are coming from, but I want to make it clear that this resolution was just based on the discussions we've had in the chamber in the last sessions and that the purpose of this resolution is for the strategic planning process. I would encourage senators to take the points in this resolution and make their own resolutions with more details so we can have a more specific discussion on that topic. I am happy that we have added to this resolution and I encourage more change to make it better. It was not my intention to leave anything out and this is just a starting point.

xxxviii. *Glass*: This fits under the subset we talked about in Outreach and Engagement and they are all interconnected topics and they are all tied to improving our engagement as a university. This is what we want the University to see. Whether this is through the gateway and transition experience and staying true to our mission, that is improving our outreach and what we talked about. I guess I would challenge the idea that they are unrelated.

xxxix. *Frank*: I would like to second Senator Glass' comments and to address some of Director Buss' comments, I would like to remind the body that we were under time restraint with these



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resolutions and it is a start with pointing to diversity and inclusion. I don't think resolutions will ever be perfect, but this points in the directions that we see fit and I encourage students to introduce resolutions that they see are fit and goes in the direction we want to see the University going.

- xl. *Liu*: Friendly amendment.
- xli. *Buss*: So I am not going to address some earlier things we've said. One thing that seems pertinent: I met last week about introducing programs into FYE series about training. We decided not to pursue that because his research shows that those programs don't work because students are forced to go to a seminar one time and the students are less engaged and those students are already hostile to those. It would need to be a longer course and the way it is set up right now, it's not going to happen. I motion to remove this clause until further notice and that this wouldn't do anything for the body.
- xl.ii. ***Motion to strike clause.***
- xl.iii. *Frank*: If we strike this, and just changed FYE and just put "University sponsored programs", would that be okay?
- xl.iii. *Buss*: I'm not sure. These programs don't work, but I would be more open to it if we got rid of the FYE and we wouldn't be able to get something good. I think we need more time to discuss this, so... maybe.
- xl.iii. *Bidna*: How would you feel about the First Year Bias Assessments? Don't you feel that this proposed program in the past falls into this 'let this further be resolved clause'?
- xl.iii. *Buss*: I was talking about that policy and we decided not to continue this and we spoke with Gerard and Danielle about this.
- xl.iii. *Basalla*: It has been removed from our platform after conversations and we trust Tony's judgement.
- xl.iii. *Belfiglio*: You are saying that as the Diversity and Inclusion Director-- the work you have done is saying that that would be bad for students?
- xl.iii. *Buss*: Yes.
- xl.iii. ***l. Moved to discussion on the amendment.***





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- li. *Liu*: I personally had FYSS and there are not many people interested in that and because they chose what they wanted to attend that would not be what we have by now.
  - lii. *Chang*: I think we should strongly consider striking this amendment. They have decided this and they have the qualifications to make this decision.
  - liii. **Question is called.**
  - liv. **Amendment passes.**
  - lv. **Moved to discussion on the whole.**
  - lvi. **Question has been called.**
  - lvii. 49-R-33 A Resolution to Improve Outreach and Engagement by Increasing Access and Improving the Experience of Diverse Students **PASSED.**
- e. 49-R-34 A Resolution to Support Safety Awareness and Active Threat Protocol
- i. *Glass*: This is a conversation I had with Director Chang, the Director of Health and Safety. These are our suggestions on what we can do to improve the safety protocol because a lot of students experienced different things during the November 28<sup>th</sup> attack with teachers not knowing what to do in class or what to do in a residence hall. After the attack, Sophie, myself, and Senator Williams spoke with the Director of Public Safety and we thought the undergraduate population's ask is to define a protocol so that professors know not to keep teaching. If it's run, hide, fight, we need to know what that means. Watch the active shooter video if you haven't seen it. It just won a Grammy, or an Oscar, or-
  - ii. *Williams*: An Emmy.
  - iii. *Glass*: Yes. It is such an impactful video and it benefits everyone in the Buckeye community. It follows the allocation of resources and if it were to happen again—Ohio State is a leader. If you are a leader, you are a target. Things could have ended much worse on November 28<sup>th</sup>, looking at what we can do to support this and what is a consensus among undergrads, it is a fairly easy resolution and I'm proud to bring this to them today.



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- iv. *Chang*: David and I spoke about the knife attack and there was no support in Res Life and as an RA; there is not protocol for it. Nothing has happened yet and I think this would be a powerful tool.
- v. *Kaufman*: What times would you have them watch this?
- vi. *Glass*: I kept that broad because I am not the expert and to give people like the Director of Public Safety discretion in the way that is most fit, whether that is during orientation and that is still in disunion. I think there is a consensus and we watch a lot of videos that are simple mandatory trainings and if watching a quick five-minute video is another tool. I don't have specifics.
- vii. *Merchant*: To some extent, there is a way to help this. One of the things that is overlooked is that it should be left up to the jurisdiction of public safety.
- viii. *Vargo*: Is there anything in place for what happens during an exam? How do you address that in the resolution?
- ix. *Glass*: I yield my time.
- x. *Basalla*: If there is a shelter in place, you do not have to go to class and that is protocol. In the Teaching and Learning Summit they are going to stress that and you are supposed to shelter in place.
- xi. *Glass*: Overall, there is a broad protocol. You have to avoid being specific because there is a broad set of circumstances because those are decisions you have to make simultaneously. As far as policy, they are widely unknown to faculty, staff, and definitely students.
- xii. *Chang*: One thing we discussed is that lots of faculty don't know what shelter in place means. I know of some students in exams that were told to take this for the next hour and a half and that is why we kept it general because it will be different for each department.
- xiii. *Belfiglio*: I am very impressed with this resolution and we had discussions about this at University Senate caucus a few weeks ago. This is a great first step because this will go to the University Governance level as it will appear on the agenda this year. The protocol during this shelter in place is that the that



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classes are cancelled, but it is hard to say what the right protocol for [exams] is. For me, the professor said that students can make up the quiz we had if they said they felt distracted, but this could go a lot differently. And this has to be addressed to make sure that students aren't graded unfairly. I think it is a great resolution.

- xiv. *Liu*: I am in full support, but my office in the Off Campus and Commuter Students Services, we put together a video and I just hope when that video comes up we can mandate this in the future.
- xv. *Frank*: Friendly amendments.
- xvi. *Frank*: Great resolution.
- xvii. *Clark*: I think this is a great resolution because the TA in my class didn't know what to do in recitation so he just dismissed the class and this was a safety protocol.
- xviii. *C. Dorony*: I had no idea what to do as an RA on North Campus and this is a great resolution.
- xix. **Motion to pass with unanimous consent.**
- xx. *49-R-34 A Resolution to Support Safety Awareness and Active Threat Protocol* **PASSED** with unanimous consent.
- f. **49-R-35 A Resolution to Support the Implementation of "Bird Safe" Building Practices**
  - i. *Gracia*: This resolution is to stop birds from flying into windows- on the sidewalk next to the RPAC. We are in a main state for birds migrating.
  - ii. *Clark*: How many birds die each year because of this?
  - iii. *Gracia*: I would say 30-50 birds die.
  - iv. *Clark*: Has any undergrad student been hurt by birds?
  - v. *Gracia*: I don't believe so.
  - vi. *Belfiglio*: What kind of birds?
  - vii. *Gracia*: There is a link in the resolution with pictures of dead birds.
  - viii. **Moved to discussion.**
  - ix. *Buss*: I would like the record to reflect that myself and Speaker Di Scala have a disgust for birds, but I will be voting for this resolution.



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- x. **Motion to pass with unanimous consent.**
- xi. *49-R-35 A Resolution to Support the Implementation of "Bird Safe" Building Practice **PASSED** with unanimous consent.*
- g. **49-R-36 A Resolution to Support the Inclusion of a Bias Assessment and Response Team Statement on All Course Syllabi**
  - i. *Prayner:* So this was introduced last year by Caroline Gonzalez and passed with unanimous consent. She commented on this last year because so few students comment on BART and I would like to go on record and commend Res Life for getting BART out there. People can report incidences of on campus instances and the BART team evaluates and responds to this. It is used as a tracking resource and it is used to respond to bias on campus and evaluate campus climate. One of the reasons why I want to bring this back since its expiration-- I think it is important to be brought to the classroom because it only really goes through Res Life. The one thing everyone has in common is that they take classes so to continue that with how to respond to this, I look forward to questions on this.
  - ii. *Buss:* Nick hit the nail on the head. Another reason for doing this is our past precedent and with Senator Frank and his mental health statement on syllabi and how this can be back to the same capacity. More students need to know about this, but he still is in full support and hopefully we can pass with unanimous consent once again.
  - iii. *Frank:* Can one of the sponsors or co-sponsors elaborate on this?
  - iv. *Buss:* Once it is submitted, whether it is anonymous or not, the committee decides where the students or person goes next. It may go to an academic conduct board, but it is decided in the report. It is recommended to the students and sometimes it goes to department heads and they go from there.
  - v. *Clark:* Do you have access to the resolution that was passed last year and the statement of support?
  - vi. *Di Scala:* The resolution should be in archived resolutions form last year.



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- vii. *Belfiglio*: Looking at the resolution from last year where myself and Director Chang cosponsored this, why were we not reached out to before?
- viii. *Prayner*: That is an oversight and I apologize.
- ix. *Chime*: I thought this was just a way to report information and is just used to estimate the climate. In the last clause, it refers to BART as a program. I didn't know this was a program. When I hear program, I thought this had students involved?
- x. *Buss*: That is the correct word, but it has been referred to as a program before, we can change the word if you aren't comfortable with it.
- xi. *Chang*: It is just a response team and there are certain individuals that respond to the situation.
- xii. *Buss*: If you want to reword this it is fine.
- xiii. *Frank*: In the mental health statement resolution there was a sample statement. Has that been drafted for this resolution or is that still in the works?
- xiv. *Belfiglio*: I'm not sure, you might want to email Caroline to see if it was ever written. There are some departments that have one and I have a class with one so I can forward that to you. The way the university does this is they cannot require this on syllabus so the right place for this to go is on the Office of Undergraduate Education and there is a list of recommendations for a lot of different ones. After we draft and email this, I'd love to see this on the website.
- xv. *Frank*: I'm a huge fan of statements and I'm in support of this.
- xvi. *Glass*: I was here last year and it's great to see how this has grown. 2016 was a pivotal year for these issues and to see this again and change it is great and I am in support of this.
- xvii. *Vargo*: Coming from an RA perspective, I have a complaint with BART in general. When we have submitted reports, we have not received a confirmation email. We need to make sure that this program is not faulty and that is my main concern. Increasing awareness of this is important, but I am concerned about this in general and with that I say writing another resolution to improve this in general would be great.



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- xviii. *Clark*: I would like to have a sample of the statement before this is passed.
- xix. ***Motion to table this resolution.***
- xx. ***Motion fails.***
- xxi. *Frank*: Considering the motion we just had, does anyone think the sponsors would be able to prepare a statement for this? I think it might be beneficial to have this on the resolution and I would like to yield my time to the sponsor.
- xxii. *Buss*: We can have that done and we would work with the office and the colleges who have one already. I think we are fine to pass without because there is already something out there, but I do understand—yes, we will have this soon. We—to Senator Vargo’s point, that is not the experience I’ve heard, but the Diversity and Inclusion committee would be happy to look at that.
- xxiii. *Belfiglio*: In the future it is better to have the supporting document concerned in the proposed legislation, but I think we can still pass this.
- xxiv. *Frank*: If one of the sponsors can talk about this and what departments have those statements and to add this to the resolution. The director of CCS supported the mental health statement and adding more to the resolution would make this better.
- xxv. *Prayner*: The Women’s Gender and Sexuality Studies department and Gender Studies department have this and that list is not exhaustive, but it would be better to have this statement.
- xxvi. *Liu*: There are a number of instructors who have this in their syllabi.
- xxvii. ***Motion to pass with unanimous consent.***
- xxviii. *49-R-36 A Resolution to Support the Inclusion of a Bias Assessment and Response Team Statement on All Course Syllabi*  
***PASSED*** with unanimous consent.



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- h. 49-R-37 A Resolution to Oppose the Implementation of a Concealed and Carry Policy at The Ohio State University
- i. *Frank*: So this resolution is about having an undergraduate statement that we oppose this policy. The last Ohio General Assembly made it legal to carry fire arms in daycares and educational areas. This is an opt in program and this is a large concern of theirs and their main concern is that that it threatens education. When you're in classrooms and contentious topics come up, there's a thing called the freeze effect where people will no longer say what they want to because they're fearful of someone with a weapon and that's exactly opposite of what the university would be going for because here at the Ohio State University we should have a free flow of ideas and expression. We want dialogue with no fear of personal safety and that it should be maintained. Students should have the right to feel safe and concerned and this would allow weapons in our buildings, like in dorms. You can think of someone with a gun on the second floor of Smith-Steeb and someone on the 11<sup>th</sup> floor has no say in that. One thing that concerns me is the rate of mental health problems with suicide rates—I cannot stand for that as a mental health advocate and allowing a weapon into student's homes is not okay. I know this is contentious topic and I know it warrants a lot of discussion.
  - ii. *Gracia*: I agree with everything Senator Frank said and President Drake has already said this isn't a good idea and he said this again last week during the State of the University Address.
  - iii. *Vargo*: I don't agree with having guns on campus and express concerns of my constituents. If students who are walking back from the library, how would you talk about concerns with safety off campus?
  - iv. *Frank*: I am not discrediting their entirely valid concerns about off campus safety, but we have services already, like Student Safety Services. Coming from off-campus to campus, there are better ways to address this without people threatening



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- education. Whatever the route may be, there are better concerns that are better than canceled carry.
- v. *Bidna*: Why did you think this is the duty of the General Assembly to address?
  - vi. *Frank*: Considering we are at an educational campus, I feel like we no longer have the idea of what we are. If students feel too unsafe to go to class, I feel this would interfere with the university too much to allow this to go into practice.
  - vii. *Glass*: I'm looking at the second to last whereas clause and I'm wondering if I can ask a question. Do you believe that that resolution is commenting directly on the law or the policy at Ohio State?
  - viii. *Frank*: My logic with that clause is with that above it. Police officers handle this more than the average civilian. The smaller amount of training brings up how this would affect the effectiveness of this.
  - ix. *Glass*: So you are saying it is a comment on the law and not a comment on university policy?
  - x. *Frank*: If the university were to implement this, it is to put a student in a high stress situation that would create a problematic mess in the university.
  - xi. *Maneval*: Isn't it correct that you have to be 21 years old as well as the training? Have you considered adding this to the resolution?
  - xii. *Frank*: No, but I would be open to adding that.
  - xiii. *Bodey*: Are there other college campuses that can be compared to having concealed carry or to things that can also be included in that definition?
  - xiv. *Frank*: From my conversations, pepper spray—students have expressed their want to carry that because it allows them to feel more safe and I can feel myself contradicting myself... The lethality of firearms is worse. Pepper spray is something I would propose removing from the list of weapons, but firearms are something that should not be allowed in this.
  - xv. *Belfiglio*: USG is currently working on adding this to the code on student conduct based on something passed last year.





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- xvi. *Buss*: I love the idea, and I agree, but I'm confused on why we need this and many members of the board have needed this. Why do we need to make a statement?
- xvii. *Gracia*: We had a university senator talk about this in our last caucus session. Sam Whipple said it would be best to start at the GA level and make sure students are on both sides of this.
- xviii. *Buss*: Do you think—between your sponsors, are you confident that enough of the students would agree with this?
- xix. *Gracia*: Yes.
- xx. *Frank*: Likewise.
- xxi. *Glass*: Do you believe it is the place for GA to comment on laws like this that have been passed through the Ohio General Assembly and that is not specific to university policy?
- xxii. *Frank*: We have a right to comment on the law and it is something we can do; we can challenge laws and change them. The clauses you are referring to are just talking about the number of hours and training, the individuals with just this license would see a lower hit rate. The hit rates would be different in this.
- xxiii. *Vargo*: Would it be possible to table this to next week and talk to our constituents?
- xxiv. ***Motion to table.***
- xxv. ***Motion failed.***
- xxvi. *Colvin*: I know OU has just sent something out to their body to vote on this and go from there. Have you considered doing something like that here?
- xxvii. *Frank*: I did not think about that, but that is something to consider.
- xxviii. *Belfiglio*: To interject, the only way to do this is a referendum in the USG election because our election isn't like [OU]. That's the only way we can get a vote from students and we are fast approaching those deadlines.
- xxix. *Liu*: If we don't oppose implementing concealed carry, those who carry a gun to campus would be imposing that on the rest of us and if we are against it--if I point a gun at you and if the campus allows weapons I know that someone can point a gun



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at me. That will affect my social life and wellbeing and I don't want to see this on campus.

- xxx. *Glass*: I touched on the first concern in question. I believe this body is to advocate for students, not to comment on issues of law and political affiliation. My next address is what Senator Gracia said and that she doesn't believe that there is a consensus. I am being told to pass this and it is to say that most of us know there are students on both sides of this issue. To agree with Director Buss, this already has significant opposition in the Board of Trustees so there is not a threat of this happening. I am not questioning the intent of the senators who sponsored this, but I am concerned about the impact and you are needlessly targeting students who are on other sides of a political ideology. I am against there being guns on campus and to say that we should comment on that- those are my concerns.
- xxxii. *Clark*: Correct me if I'm wrong, but didn't GA decide Mirror Lake jump was a contentious issue and not everyone went on what they thought, but what they thought was best for all students. I'm all for concealed carry, but a college campus is not the place. I yield my time.
- xxxiii. *Glass*: To preface that, I was opposed to that last year and to say that we represent all issues and to know fully that all students support this when I can say that a considerable number do not support this. I was not for it then and you can expect me to be not for it now.
- xxxiiii. *Frank*: In response to commenting to Ohio law; it was put into the hands of the university and I would like to derail from that argument as we have a right to influence the policy decisions of the university.
- xxxv. *Bodey*: I think this is disgusting that someone would say that we are not an advocacy organization as we are a group of students that come together to protect students at the university. If it means we have a way to keep students safe, and that was his intent, then this is an advocacy group for students. This doesn't stop the trustees. Not all constituents will agree



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and I move to table this. I favor this being a ballot initiative because I think it is too close to call and there are students who have differing needs. However, I am strongly opposed to firearms on campus. I would like to table this and move this to an initiative.

xxxv. ***Motion to table.***

xxxvi. **Bodey:** If I could continue, and in light of the realization that the deadline is Monday, I would stand with the resolution. There are more avenues to withdraw this and I would hate for this to be voted down, but I would ask to table this indefinitely if I were a senator who is not comfortable with this.

xxxvii. ***Motion withdrawn.***

xxxviii. ***Belfiglio:*** I would like to interact with two things. We have commented on law before in GA and we commented on national law and Ohio law. The most recent example is seal of biliteracy, we've talked about Title IX because the university regularly deals with Ohio law and it is okay to talk about this. Even the women's center was controversial. It is our duty to pay attention and reach out and it is more important to take a stand on this.

xxxix. ***Kaufman:*** Senator Belfiglio said it all.

xl. ***Buss:*** I hate the word echo, but I would like to echo the persistence of Senator Bodey. If you haven't talked to your constituents, then that's on you. The agenda was sent out Sunday night and you should have consulted your constituents and you should already know what they think. I think we should pass this and it is clear this is what should happen and if you feel differently, you can vote against it, but I would recommend voting for this.

xli. ***Liu:*** I would echo Senator Buss as well and I would like to say that that is not an excuse to not pass this as well. There is a large number who support racism, sexism, and other things on campus, and to say that we should think for them and not support them? No, that is on a larger level beneficial to all and some people endorse people who I don't agree with and we



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- should think for the good of all. And not just constituencies; a small number of people.
- xlii. *Glass*: Two things I'll address: this body, and because we are bringing in precedent, those have been from a proactive stand point, but this is about something that has already passed. It was brought up that adding gateways was an overreach; how is this not? There have been politically contentious issues, but they are connected to an internal argument in a student led tradition. Divestment failed because it was a political issue and they didn't feel they could comment on something political. If you think this should be a ballot initiative, and if you don't know if your constituents support this, why would you pass this as a representative body? If this is too close to call, you have no business passing this and that's something I've supported on my time as a senator, and that includes the bipartisan letter that was brought to the floor.
- xliii. *Gracia*: I would like to thank Senator Bodey for bringing up this issue. Not everyone will agree with this, but this body is made to speak for the majority and advocate for the minority and we are speaking on our constituents' opinion as a whole. And it is good to be informed by our constituents and I agree that you should have looked at this prior to today. I did say there are people opposing this and they are a minority in my experience.
- xliv. *Clark*: This is not too close to call and I've seen support from this. I am a fan of concealed carry and my constituents have told me that this resolution should happen. To comment on things that were said earlier, this state law invites us to comment on it because it is up to the university to comment on this. We are the undergrad students.
- xlv. *Chime*: Okay, so I am in full support of this for many reasons, but I'll touch on a few. From an RA's perspective, for concealed carry, there are students who are over 21 who live in residence halls and that is another factor to this. Can you imagine having a roommate who may be suicidal or commit an act against them, while their weapon it is concealed, the gun goes off on you? Senator Bodey mentioned being fluent with students with



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different needs. You don't need a gun to chop onions or put on pants, but guns are ultimately used against others and I don't think that is appropriate for college campuses. It is not up to students to be the heroes and we are not here to act before police; it is not up to us to be the savior. We have to see the unintended consequences of this. Who would primarily be targeted? After the attack I had a discussion with my residents who are also my constituents and someone mentioned—one of my black students wanted to conceal carry. If he were to pull it out, and looking at a white male, who is the officer going to shoot? I am in full support of this resolution to say that it is not safe for the general body.

xlvi. *Bidna*: I am in full support of these resolutions. We are the center of Ohio, and we as the governing body of the students, we should be commenting on this and issues such as divest should be brought to this body. Part of this is our own belief and consideration. Most people I speak to support the resolutions, we have to take this into consideration. I think it is okay—let me back track. If you haven't spoken to your constituencies, I would be okay with tabling this because it is 8:44pm and because it is the last of eight resolutions and if you feel this would be more beneficial I would second this.

xlvii. *Dennen*: I understand what Senator Glass is saying, but this is an opt in policy by the university; the student voice should be represented. I understand this is contentious, but it is also an issue of gun violence. 33,000 Americans die each year from gun violence. There have been 3,942 injuries so far this year and 1,025 resulted in death. I know this is for safety, but I would like to note that only 175 deaths have been in defensive use, showing that most of the time is not for self-defense. I think this resolution is completely necessary for this.

xlviii. *Belfiglio*: USG should take a stance because the university has said stuff before and changed it. From a shared governance perspective, USG has to take a stance and in a year from now any resolution can be appealed, but the idea that because this



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is contentions we should not be working on this--I don't understand this.

- xlix. *K. Dorony*: This is even more a reason to address this.
  - l. *Bodey*: I feel like everyone feels a certain way about this resolution.
  - li. ***Motion to cap the speakers list.***
  - lii. ***Speakers list capped.***
  - liii. *Liu*: I did get a donut thrown at me, and if it were a bullet, I cannot support that. In 2015, there were 7,000 victims of hate crimes in the U.S. and 60 were based on race or ethnicity and if you support this, it could be even more. Can you imagine someone rushing at you? That's what will happen if you support a concealed weapon.
  - liv. *Frank*: I would like to thank everyone for the debate and discussion. It is contentious and it warrants this discussion and talking for over an hour is perfectly normal for determining which way to fall. It is enjoyable to have this dialogue and debate with everyone here and I would like to thank those who vote in support
  - lv. *Glass*: I hope I am not the only senator who would like to be informed before voting. That is not to say that I don't think that the university should not opt in to this, I feel we should be informed and I'll leave it at that.
  - lvi. *Belfiglio*: I am proud of the discussion and I like that we took the time. It feels like what GA is meant to feel like and to those who show up and take notes: our work is not going unappreciated.
  - lvii. **Question is called.**
  - lviii. **Roll Call Vote.**
  - lix. 49-R-37 A Resolution to Oppose the Implementation of a Concealed and Carry Policy at The Ohio State University  
**PASSED** 28-2-2.
- i. *Di Scala*: Before we move onto announcements, is there any new business?
- j. *Bodey*: I would like to introduce a resolution. This resolution is to oppose President Trump's nomination of Betsy DeVos. It has six



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cosponsors namely from student organizations and I feel it is necessary to bring it to the floor.

- k. *Frank*: Why was this not introduced to steering?
- l. *Bodey*: I was marching on Washington and I shut myself out of email because I was working with a group that brings underprivileged youth to Washington to see the inauguration. I had many discussions with people and I felt I had to introduce this resolution. I returned home Sunday night.
- m. *Gracia*: Seeing as this is time sensitive, what do you plan on doing with the resolution?
- n. *Bodey*: I plan on sending it to the Senator Portman and Senator Brown's offices tomorrow.
- o. 49-R-38 A Resolution to Oppose the Nomination of Betsy DeVos as Secretary of the U.S. Department of Education
  - i. *Bodey*: I will walk through the resolution and talked through it together and the second clause is "Whereas President Donald J. Trump has nominated Betsy DeVos for Secretary of Education to be confirmed by the United States (U.S.) Senate next week". I will recognize that she is not the first pick but she is who was nominated and at her hearing she said it would be good to have weapons in classrooms as the body has just recently voted against. Essentially, she declined to this guidance and has said that she will not stand up to violence on college campuses. I know for myself that I am fully funded due to Pell grants and my expected yearly contribution is 3 dollars; I would not be able to attend this university without them and I am proud to be graduating this spring. Devos has stated numerous statistics and that troubles me as she will be overseeing these loans unless we have something to say about this. She has a number of political donations that she was spearheading and a number of other civil rights issues. She has not made known her key issues. I encourage you to look at link ten. Students have voiced opposition and now her numerous corporation conflicts would influence her performance. She has done little to address college affordability. She neglects to help student with the



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financial burden of higher education. This resolution will be forwarded to the two Senators of the Great State of Ohio.

- ii. *Buss*: The resolution speaks for itself. She read it all, spent plenty of time on it. One thing I wish to highlight: DeVos believed that states have the right to enforce IDEA. In her opinion, states have the right to discuss disabilities services and not make that a nationwide standard. She should not represent us at the federal level.
- iii. *Gracia*: Friendly amendment.
- iv. *Kachnowski*: I'm a future educator and a product of the public schools and thank you for bringing this to the floor.
  - v. ***Motion for a five-minute recess.***
  - vi. ***Motion failed.***
- vii. *Glass*: I don't think there is a question where we all fall. It's not my ideology and it's my belief on what I am. I am not a DeVos fan or Trump supporter. I sound like a broken record, but I would say passing this is blatantly saying we are a liberal body. You are taking an ideological position with this.
- viii. *Prayner*: I have spoken with a wide range of students studying education and I have noticed a bipartisan concern.
- ix. *Vargo*: Yeah, touching on what Senator Glass said and since this was brought to the floor, I don't see how this can be spoken with constituents and I feel this is a partisan issue. Passing this would be based on personal beliefs and not the university as a whole.
- x. *Liu*: My constituents don't care about this because we are not Americans, but this affects those who want to continue education in America. This says that you can trade anything with money and this is not a good example for your future and the future generation.
- xi. *Belfiglio*: I will just say that we should not comment egregiously. Commenting on presidential candidates is out of scope, but we have a right to say that we should do this.
- xii. ***Motion to call the question.***
- xiii. ***Question is called.***





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- xiv. *Gracia*: I think this is a great resolution to do what is best for the body.
- xv. 49-R-38 A Resolution to Oppose the Nomination of Betsy DeVos as Secretary of the U.S. Department of Education  
**PASSED** 23-2-7.

**VIII. Announcements**

- a. *Buss*: Do the survey. I won't be able to see your answers, but I will know if you don't do it. Love you.
- b. *Merchant*: If anyone wants to help write resolutions, come talk to me.
- c. *Liu*: if anyone wants to cosponsor a resolution about international fees, send me an email.

**IX. Adjournment**

- a. *Meeting adjourned.*