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50th General Assembly
Spring 2018, Session 20
February 7, 2018

I. Opening

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

II. Open Forum for the Public

III. Updates

- a. *Sophie Chang*
 - i. It is important for everyone for the people for be there on the 28th of March. The inauguration will be on April 3rd. Starting on April 4th you will no longer need to be here on Wednesdays.

IV. Executive Report

- a. *Andrew Jackson*
 - i. For those of you that weren't at cabinet, Sophie and I were at the Apple headquarters in California this past week and we talked to then a lot about the new iPad deal. The goal is to get the scholarship registry stuff is up and open by the end of this semester — almost done! Recommendations for changes to SEI. Come to my office hours which are on the website.

V. Committee Reports

- a. Allocations Committee
Jacob Catron
- b. Deputy Director Updates



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- i. Academic Affairs - We've been working on the scholarship registry, textbook affordability. We got 34 applications for SEGs, and 804 responses on the Access Code Survey.
- ii. Diversity and Inclusion -
- iii. Governmental Relations -
- iv. Health and Safety - Working on a Spring break safety flyer for safety while traveling to warmer places
- v. Student Affairs - Campus change orientation, first generation learning community, Buckeye road trip, Clean up Columbus, Block out hunger.
- vi. Sustainability - Gearing up and getting ready for time for change.

VI. Election

- a. Parliamentarian of the General Assembly
 - i. Micheal had to resign because he is not a student anymore. We need to elect a new parliamentarian. If there are more than one nominees, then we will have an election.
 - ii. Jordan Malpass elected as new parliamentarian.

VII. Old Business

- a. 50-R-28: A Resolution to Decrease the Price of Student Basketball Tickets
 - i. Humayun: If you guys have been to basketball game, the games are 15 dollars. Athletic council is going to decrease that price to \$9 and improve attendance.
 - ii. Donnelly: Hard to see why we would not like to do this. Lock on football ticket prices. Now that students are finally getting a better deal.
 - iii. Davis, Imani: Very cool resolution. Davis, Nick:



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iv. Moved to questions

1. Malpass: Is that going to be a big strain to the basketball?
2. Humayun: More students will go.
3. Donnelly: Why block O came to us is because student section is not filling up.

v. Discussion:

1. Humayun: Motion to change the let it be resolved from 10 to 9. Also, let it further be resolved that USG supports the locking of ticket prices.
2. Amendment PASSED
3. Dennen: Motion to pass with unanimous consent.

b. 50-R-28 passed with unanimous consent

VIII. New Business

a. 50-R-29: A Resolution in Support of Creating a Middle Eastern/North African (ME/NA) Category on University Documents

- i. Quadri: This resolution is pretty straight forward. This is a problem bc these students still have to identify as white. If we track students who are middle eastern. It could help with recruitment. It could help meet our goals. This category would help us create programs. Considering we don't know who they are. University of Michigan passed a similar resolution. Has helped create programs for people who are labeled .
- ii. Donnelly: Vote for this bill.
- iii. Greer: Ditto.
- iv. Malpass: Same.



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- v. Sockwell: Ditto.
- vi. Sami: I agree
- vii. Humayan: Ditto.
- viii. Tyson: Same.
- ix. Slavik: Please vote in support of this resolution.
- x. Hao: Ditto.
- xi. Shire: Everyone should support!
- xii. Question - no question.
- xiii. Discussion:
 - 1. Malpass: Pass with unanimous consent.
- xiv. 50-R-29 PASSED with unanimous consent
- b. 50-R-30: A Resolution to Encourage Faculty to Differentiate Between Required and Recommended Textbooks in the Course Syllabus
 - i. Shire: Textbook affordability!! There is no much uncertainty about textbooks. Many first year students don't know whether to buy the books or not. This resolution will help clearly differentiate between required and optional learning material.
 - ii. Sullivan: Pass.
 - iii. Greer: Recently became a student rep in syllabi committee. There are certain statements that everyone needs to put on resolution.
 - iv. Nadeem: I agree.
 - v. Judge: I also agree.
 - vi. Smith: If we are to buy books, we should do that really quickly.
 - vii. Humayun: Pass with unanimous consent.



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viii.50-R-30 PASSED with unanimous consent.

- c. 50-R-31: A Resolution to Condemn Anti-Semitism at The Ohio State University
- i. Malpass: Hey everyone. I want to start by thanking all of my cosponsors on this resolution- you did amazing work, and I appreciate y'all. You consistently show me that you care about this organization, and that you are not afraid of the hard work this office bestows upon us. I want to start by going through my intentions behind this resolution, and discuss why I believe it is pertinent. I don't have to tell any of you how uncomfortable, intense, and lengthy our last session was. But what struck me the most was not the length of the session, it wasn't the fierce debates, it was the 40-something students that stood before us, and poured their hearts out to us. The majority of those students belong to a historically marginalized community- the Jewish community. These students came before our body, and expressed their deep, honest concern for 50-R-27, and what implications it might have on their community. On top of their words about 50-R-27, I saw students who have had to fight their whole lives to be accepted, represented, and heard; all because their religion is misunderstood, and often times misrepresented. As I sat in my seat and listened to these students, I was physically uncomfortable, as I am sure many of us were. Regardless of where you fell on the debate, or which way you voted, I believe we can all agree discrimination of any kind is gross, disgusting, and has no place on this, or any other campus, across this country. So I decided to act. I heard my constituents, and immediately after our last session was over, I began writing this resolution. With the



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sole purpose of condemning hatred towards a community of students we all took an oath to protect. And THAT is why I wrote this resolution.

However, it has come to my attention in the past week that my intentions behind this resolution have been misconstrued, misguided, and misunderstood. In writing this, I reached out to every member of the Jewish community that I knew of. Some were very respectful, and offered to help me with this; others took their frustration of the outcome of the vote from 50-R-27 out on me, and refused to work with me- which is not how fellow senators, and fellow student should act towards each other.

With that being said, the individuals that would speak with me landed on both ends of my resolution. Meaning, some were for it, others were not. And that struck me as odd. Why a community of students would look me in the face and tell me they did not appreciate what I was trying to do, and would not support this. I naturally became frustrated. However, it wasn't until I had a lengthy conversation with Senator Slavik, and with Andrew's senior counsler Sarah Spain- who is also Jewish- that I understood why.

So let me make this abundantly clear tonight to the Jewish students who are in the room with us tonight, this resolution serves one purpose, and one purpose alone: to protect you, to make you aware that USG supports you, and to let you know that I am your ally. However, even with my intentions being made clear to those who opposed this resolution, the feedback was still the same. I do not bring this to the floor tonight to fix a bullet hole with a bandaid; I don't bring this tonight to "ease my conscious" as someone implied I was doing; I bring this to the floor



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tonight to reaffirm our position that we stand with the Jewish community in solidarity. I hope that my intentions behind this are clear to those who had reservations about my resolution. Yet, I understand if it is still unclear, and you feel it was misguided. I make it no secret that I belong to a marginalized community myself. I make no apologies for that. I live my life the way I want to, and if that bothers someone, they can kiss my ass. However, I don't know what it's like to be ripped from my family, thrown on a train, and taken to a prison camp to be beaten, starved, and ultimately killed in the most egregious ways imaginable. While I myself have been the victim of hate crimes, of mistreatment in the workplace, and even ostracization from my own family, I won't insult the Jewish community that is here tonight by attempting to equate my pain, with yours. I wrote this resolution to put words behind my feelings. I was raised in the deep, conservative south, in an almost miserably conservative household. We went to church 3-5 times a week. In doing so, I wasn't just raised to respect the Jewish community, I was raised to fight alongside them, and to never waver in my beliefs in doing so. I was taught that they are our brothers and sisters, and that Israel will always be our ally. But even with my best intentions behind this, it is still starkly opposed by many within the Jewish community. While I know that this resolution would pass tonight, after further conversation I have realized that actions speak much louder than words on a paper. Instead of a resolution we must take actions



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to make every person in this community feel comfortable. So this time,, I have to put my constituent's best interest, before my own pride. In closing, I want to speak directly to the Jewish community that is here tonight: You have a friend in me. You have an ally in me. After this GA, I will stick around afterwards if anyone- specifically the Jewish students that are with us tonight- would like to talk. I was a consistent voice in the discussion and I made my feelings about 50-R-27 clear last week. If you want to see what I said about it, you may read our minutes from last session. I understand that last week was uncomfortable for many, so I want you to know I am here for those who have concerns if they want to talk to me. Either after this session, or any other time. I would like to now speak to those in this chamber, and to the 54,217 students of the undergraduate population: For those who willfully and knowingly entertain sentiments of anti-semitism, anti-African-American, anti- Muslim, anti-LBGT, anti-anything, then you are no better to me than the shit-laden snow on the bottom of my shoes. With that being said, I would like to motion to withdraw my resolution tonight, and yield my time back to the Speaker.

ii. 50-R-31 withdrawn

- d. 50-R-32: A Resolution to Provide Free Influenza Immunizations to All Undergraduate Students



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- i. Meersman: This is also a pretty straightforward resolution. A lot of students don't get flu shots because they can't afford them. Saves money for treatment later.
 - ii. Sami: Reiterate. I think it this is something that should support.
 - iii. Nadeem: Healthy and happy people, healthy and happy campus!
 - iv. Moved to question:
 - v. Donnelly: Have you talked directly in terms of expense?
 - vi. Meersman: There is a cost bc it is not built into the health fee. A lot have not been defines that flu vaccines are made more available.
 - vii. Bowles: How high will those long term costs be?
 - viii. Meersman: Thousands upon thousands. Academic Impairment. Ohio residents would like us to go to class.
 - ix. Humayun: Pass with unanimous consent.
 - x. 50-R-32 PASSED with unanimous consent.
- e. 50-R-33: A Resolution for the Prevention of Opioid Overdoses and Saving of Lives
- i. Davis: The opioid epidemic is something that we should all be familiar with. It is a problem ravaging our country and especially our great state. 30,000 people died in the US in 2015 from opioid overdoses. This number rose to 64,000 in 2016. The number for 2017 hasn't yet been released by the CDC but it's expected to be even higher. In Ohio alone, about 11 people die everyday from opioid overdose. College students are at an especially higher risk for opioid drug abuse because of social pressures, extreme stress, and increased availability of prescription drugs. 50% of



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college students are offered a prescription drug for nonmedical purposes by their sophomore year. Prescription drug abuse has been a widespread problem on college campuses and is only getting worse. Members of Greek life are at an even greater risk of drug use and abuse. In fall of 2016, three students died at Washington State University from overdosing, a student died right here in Columbus at Columbus State from an overdose in a university bathroom, and another student died of an overdose at State University in New York. University of Texas has also seen multiple students die of opioid abuse both on and off campus. Four students overdosed at a fraternity house at Johns Hopkins University but were able to be saved. It is unknown how many Ohio State students have overdosed or died because the annual Alcohol, Drug Use and Student Wellness report put out by the Center for the Study of Student Life does not include it. My resolution addresses that. One drug is able to reverse these overdose symptoms: naloxone. This is a medication designed to rapidly reverse opioid overdoses. It is a simple nasal spray and it begins working within two minutes. It wears off in 20-90 minutes which gives the victim time to be treated. It has no pharmacological effect, no potential for abuse, and produces no effect if opioids are not present. If you or I took it right now, nothing would happen. But if we gave it to someone overdosing on opioids, it would save their life. This is what saved those four students at Johns Hopkins. Universities around the country are trying to tackle this issue. Idaho State and Indiana University of Pennsylvania has started offering training to students for naloxone. University of Washington has



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started placing naloxone kits next to fire extinguishers. University of Texas has been a leader on this front with a very successful program. They require mandatory training of all RAs in overdose response. Naloxone is also available at every resident hall front desk on campus for any student or RA to use. Many university student governments have passed similar legislation to this one, including Alabama and Colorado State. The grassroots non-profit organization Students for Opioid Solutions is working on passing similar measures at at least 50 other schools and was my inspiration for this resolution. I come to you today with a solution for our campus for these problems we are seeing all over the country, especially in Ohio. This resolution I have presented to you seeks to accomplish many things. First, the main objective, to train all Resident Advisors, Resident Managers, and Hall Directors in the recognition of an opioid overdose and the administration of naloxone, and equip all RAs, RMs, and HDs with a dosage of naloxone for emergency situations. Second, equip all fraternity and sorority houses with a dosage of naloxone and have at least one resident of each Greek house trained in the recognition of an overdose and the administration of the naloxone. Third, include the number of opioid overdoses and deaths in the university's annual Alcohol, Drug Use and Student Wellness report. This would allow us to see just how bad the problem is on our campus and better address the issue as it changes and develops. Fourth, give amnesty from charges to students who report or are involved in an opioid overdose. Fifth, create a Good Samaritan clause in the Student Code of Conduct to protect those



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students who step in to help their friends and fellow classmates in the case of an opioid overdose. Sixth, and finally, that USG will help find alternative avenues of funding if funding cannot be found in the university's budget. I've spoken with OSU Police Chief Craig Stone who told me that the police officers already carry naloxone and theirs was paid for through a grant from Franklin County Public Health. The drug company Adapt Pharma Ltd., which produces the brand named version Narcan, has previously offered 40,000 free doses to college nationwide that reach out to them. There are potential avenues if for some reason the university cannot fund this. Let's not wait until someone we know has their life taken by this epidemic before we do something about it. People always think it's not their problem, until it becomes their problem in the worst way. It is in the best interest for the health of the students we represent to get ahead of the problem. I strongly urge you all to vote YES on this resolution. Thank you.

- ii. Patel: As a pharmacy major, most people are not taught to recognize the signs of an overdose.
- iii. Dennen: Imperative to Ohio.
- iv. Ahmad: Has no side effects. A lot of us don't know what it looks like/
- v. Bennet: I agree.
- vi. Ratliff: motion to pass with unanimous consent
- vii. 50-R-33 passed with unanimous consent.

IX. Announcements

- a. Dennen: I want to know what civic engagement means to you!



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- b. Humayan: Co-sponsor for resolution about how the university handles sexual assault cases.
 - c. McKenzie: If you are interested in being on the lighting task force hit me up.
- X. Adjournment
- a. Meeting adjourned at 7:40