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49th General Assembly
Spring 2017, Session 24
March 22, 2017

I. Opening

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

II. Open Forum for Public

- a. No one

III. Updates

- a. *Danielle Di Scala*: So this is the second to last week and next week will be our final meeting. We'll have a joint session with the new GA and I know you have resolutions to bring next week. April 2nd is the end of the year Cook Out and April 4th is inauguration, and that is in place of cabinet. I'll send this in a follow-up email. The banquet is April 18th in place of cabinet. That's all.

IV. Executive Report

- a. *Gerard Basalla*: Congrats to Andrew and Sophie who are the new leadership team. We have a transition process that happens every year and have meetings as a group. We will be working with them to formulate directors and we look forward to helping them. I have talked about textbooks and it finally happened and we will save student \$2.5 million and that's step one. I will be calling on Andrew and Sophie to follow through with this. I am hopeful this momentum will continue to next year. CEMP will go through the end of the year and is the most important decision in our time so be excited and I'll give props to Sam Reed for his work and it will come down to the next month. I'll let the directors talk at the end about their projects.

V. Old Business

- a. No old business.



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VI. New Business

- a.** *49-R-56 A Resolution to Support the Improvement of Ventilation and Air Conditioning in Campus Dorms*
- i. *Shaffer:* This is the first time in two years I've done this. I was asked by a committee representative in student affairs to advocate to add air conditioning to be installed in the on campus dorms. I cited a Harvard link to their website that had a paper that shows there is a correlation to having air condition and doing better on tests and we can improve the overall GPA. From a quality of life, no one likes sleeping in the heat. With requiring 2nd years to live on campus, a student can be forced to live two years without it and that's morally broken and weird. We would like to talk to the administration to add cooling to the rooms.
 - ii. *Merchant:* I wanted to say that this is a great resolution to stand behind the students in this room for academics and affordability and even if there was a way to provide fans, that would be better.
 - iii. ***Moved to questions.***
 - iv. *Clark:* where did you—how did you compile this list of dorms?
 - v. *Shaffer:* This is from the CRs in Student Affairs.
 - vi. *Merchant:* it is also listed on the website.
 - vii. ***Motion to move to discussion.***
 - viii. ***Moved to discussion.***
 - ix. *Glass:* This is a no brainer and as a government we should be advocating to improve situations on students. I don't want to move yet for unanimous consent, but I encourage a swift motion to advocate for students on their behalf.
 - x. *La Pointe:* I have spent both years without air and I'm a huge advocate for this resolution and it does impact your ability to study and sleep.
 - xi. *Clark:* I helped move someone into Baker last year and it is hot in there.
 - xii. ***Motion to pass with unanimous consent.***
 - xiii. *49-R-56 A Resolution to Support the Improvement of Ventilation and Air Conditioning in Campus Dorm* **PASSED with unanimous consent.**



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- b. *A Resolution to Support the Implementation of Additional Water Bottle Filling Stations at The Ohio State University—Main Campus*
- i. *Gracia*: I didn't submit on Sunday and I have two for next week.
 - ii. ***Resolution brought to the floor***
 - iii. *Gracia*: So this is a kind of green light to the Office of Energy and Environment and Student Life and we want to purchase and install more filling stations to keep bottles out of landfills and this is part of President Drake's 2020 Vision.
 - iv. *Reed*: There is really- for one there are many sustainably benefits. We are also doing things for students so they don't have to go out of the way and to show the administration some support that GA sometimes lacks.
 - v. *Gracia*: One of the citations-- we got those facts from the Chair of the Council.
 - vi. ***Moved to questions.***
 - vii. ***Motion to move to discussion.***
 - viii. ***Moved to discussion.***
 - ix. *Glass*: See this water bottle? I filled this up in MacQuigg and this is as full as I could get it because there was not a filling station and it encourages me to use an already filled plastic one. This is a no brainer and let's pass it.
 - x. ***Motion to pass with unanimous consent.***
 - xi. ***Motion fails.***
 - xii. ***Tyson: Friendly amendment.***
 - xiii. ***Motion to pass with unanimous consent.***
 - xiv. *A Resolution to Support the Implementation of Additional Water Bottle Filling Stations at The Ohio State University—Main Campus* **PASSED with unanimous consent.**
- c. 49-R-58 A Resolution to Support Future Expansion of the International House Learning Community
- i. *Liu*: I talked to the president of Graduate Admissions and when I finished it I was in the middle of the pacific crossing the water and I could not submit it in time. This is really for future reference for Student Life and Res Life and Resident Housing



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so the director of the learning communities and the Associate Director of Residence Life, Elizabeth Fines, would like to see support from the USG so they could expand the learning communities so they have support for this.

- ii. ***Resolution brought to the floor.***
- iii. Liu: In the meetings I've had, they support it. It is beneficial, tangible, and because it represents all undergrads it can be seen as a really good support and for International House Learning Community. It is on 4th floor of Morrison. It is an aged building and it is a struggle for international students who are already experiencing culture shock and nostalgia and because of its location, lack of maintenance and inconveniences, and shared restrooms and bedrooms. You don't see this in foreign countries like China, the largest group of this community. We shouldn't be limiting students who want to learn more culture and who want to develop themselves and that's why I talked to officials about expanding it on north, west, and south campus so students have more options. I said it doesn't not expire until the 51st GA because the resolution would expire in 2 weeks.
- iv. ***Moved to questions.***
- v. Chime: So I have a few questions. Do you mean creating multiple I Houses because I don't think there are other learning communities that do that? Do you want four across campus?
- vi. Liu: I want three. Not all price tiers, but all living areas and it is doable.
- vii. Clark: So do you, besides the reason before, is there any reason you chose the 51st? Because the GA can say that they don't expire at the end of session.
- viii. Liu: There are multiple ones that mention that it does not expire.
- ix. Clark: But why did you say 51st?
- x. Liu: I just want a one year durations.
- xi. Glass: How many international student undergrads are there?
- xii. Liu: 4400ish, I don't remember the 100 part. It is in total 6,086 and 3,400 are undergrads and I really apologize.
- xiii. Glass: I would assume only undergrads live in dorms.



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- xiv. *Dennen*: how many live there?
- xv. *Liu*: There are about 100ish students.
- xvi. *Dennen*: Doesn't that defeat the purpose of a learning community if it doesn't unite the students?
- xvii. *Liu*: That is interesting. It is still under the same name, but it is like an all I House community event and the three populations can have separate events and have smaller learning communities.
- xviii. *Chime*: But so you mentioned that they shouldn't be burdened with the aforementioned challenges, but don't all undergrad students have to deal with this, like normal college life? Why are you preferring this over others when they have domestic and international residents?
- xix. *Liu*: I don't agree that domestic students have the same problem as international ones. They all speak English.
- xx. *Chime*: I said they will be facing the same condition, like dorms.
- xxi. *Liu*: This might lead to more inconvenient life at Ohio State and they are already familiar with how to use the app, ask for help and life skills that people here think is completely normal but for international students, they determine that we are more introverted and less likely to be as open and social when we come to the states in a foreign country. I also think the current I House is not doing alright. Besides domestic students are more familiar with what is going on at the University.
- xxii. *Belfiglio*: In the sixth whereas clause I see why students would like the I House and how to expand it, but what I don't get it-- that is confusing because that is not the furthest hall and I don't know why we are adding that is it seems that Morrison is unsuitable and it would make sense that we are criticizing the location when it is not at all the furthest building.
- xxiii. *Liu*: But when you see where it is located compared to where they have English as Second Language classes, in the northeastern corner of campus, it is far.
- xxiv. *Belfiglio*: where?
- xxv. *Liu*: it varies.



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- xxvi. *Merchant*: Is there a specific way students would be placed? Is there a location who to decide who goes where?
- xxvii. *Liu*: This is just creating more options. It is the same application process, but more options.
- xxviii. *Merchant*: How would this play into the Care Ambassadors program?
- xxix. *Liu*: I failed to contact the creator of it, but I don't think that will be a problem; there is a need for more at different locations.
- xxx. *Clark*: How many current undergrads are participating?
- xxxi. *Liu*: 100ish.
- xxxii. *Clark*: Compared to other Learning Communities, how does it compare?
- xxxiii. *Liu*: it is pretty low and not as many students chose to come back partially because of the living conditions.
- xxxiv. *Clark*: Why do you specially think this community needs the additional space of three different halls if it is not overly burdened?
- xxxv. *Liu*: The community didn't chose to be little and underwhelmingly participated and the reasons are location and living conditions. They don't get in and res life didn't mark it enough.
- xxxvi. *Weller*: So it seems that you are advocating for an expansion of the program, but is there a large demand? It just seems like it would be spread out.
- xxxvii. *Liu*: This is for the future expansion of res life and they want support of USG and will expand when there is enough request, but it is under marketed. I think it will make it more popular and more people would like to participate and I have suggested marketing strategies to res life and we are using this to show support in the following years.
- xxxviii. *Tyson*: In the fifth whereas clause, why did you include it if all other buildings require sharing facilities?
- xxxix. *Liu*: The entire floor uses one or two bathrooms and if it is a single sex floor they just use one and that is unique for



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international students and coming from 1st tier cities, this is different.

- xl. *Colvin*: I don't know how many where in scholars here, but we were in Drackett and it is an international dorm and I think—I didn't live in Morrison and it has bad conditions and I think having more options will get more people involved and it doesn't cost anything to expand it. The rooms are going to someone so maybe give them the opportunity to mix with the south campus. We were divided but we had weekly meetings.
- xli. *Moved to discussion.***
- xlii. *Glass*: One of the things- I asked how many international students there were and there are 3,400. I represent Food Agriculture and we have 3,200 and we have one learning community. I think proposing three different ones for this specific population of students is not the best solutions and I am not in favor as it is in its current form. There were some proposals in marketing and moving the community to another situation or area- and I would be in favor of that, but as far as creating three different communities for one population is not something I will be supporting.
- xliii. *Chime*: I am in support of end goal of this, but I think there needs to be more work in getting to that point. I say this from an inside perspective because I was an RA in I House. We only had 58 residents and 12 of whom were forcibly put there because there weren't enough numbers. It wasn't just the location, but because of marketing. I think there should be more work in getting involved and when there is more interest. I don't see a reason to expand this now when there are students pushed in it; they didn't want to go to any of the programs I put on and I think that marketing should be expanded. Another problem is there weren't domestic and international students intermingling and the shared bathrooms forced them to talk. I would be willing to work with you on this and when there is a point when people are interested. There is not point to expand it if there is not interest.



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- xliv. *Liu*: I think most senators have mistaken the purpose of this resolution; it is for future expansion and it is showing support and there might be a need and if you'd like reference, they have agreed there is a need. It just says we have support. Also, 100ish is the number the directors gave me so I am nowhere near the actual number. It really is not to urge the University to expand, but show support for future in 2 or 3 years. Shared bathrooms encourage communication, but not all people want to use a bathroom shared by the entire floor even though there is cleaning on a regular basis. People don't want to share such an intimate environment with others and in north campus it is being shared by some people. There needs to be some support for more international communities for more options for students in study abroad and international affairs to be reached out to and participate. Regarding senator Glass' ideas, about 3,400 international students--it is not just for international students; students of different backgrounds participate. I think this program is for the entire undergraduate body and not just international students.
- xlv. *Belfiglio*: I agree with the senator with showing support, but this resolution doesn't do that. You are saying it shows support, but it says it should be three regions and if we want general support like more advertising and expanding as necessary. I agree with the other senators and we should wait. I personally believe this should be tabled because it needs to change to reflect the priorities of USG and supporting I House and how it is a priority.
- xlvi. *Liu*: Everyone look at the second let it further be resolved. It says it will be used in the future.
- xlvii. Fechtel: I think the intentions behind this are good, but I think this should be passed in the future when the numbers are there.
- xlviii. *Moved to table***
- xlix. *Motion failed***
1. *Clark*: friendly amendments.
 - li. *Motion to strike whereas clause.***



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lii. Motion fails.

liii. Motion to table.

liv. *49-R-58 A Resolution to Support Future Expansion of the International House Learning Community* **TABLED.**

VII. Announcements

- a. *Belfiglio*: Hi everyone. For next year I am the caucus chair for USG and I encourage everyone to apply and even if you think you aren't qualified, apply, it's not long and it is exciting and email me.
- b. *Abusway*: I am the incoming chief of staff for next year and I encourage you to apply to leadership for those of you who are not returning to GA next year. There are descriptions and if you do not understand something, my dot number is one, I'll make any time to meet with you.
- c. *Reed*: I am graduating next year, getting my PHD, but more importantly there is Time for Change week and if you haven't walked through the Union, look up. It is the biggest project USG has ever done. We need support from everyone and we'd love to see you there and sharing events and the whole idea is encompassing all of campus that environmentalism is not an ivory tower type thing; it is for everyone.
- d. *Liu*: The Big Spring Concert is coming up, there are still tickets. And I think we should spot potential problems.

VIII. Adjournment

- a. Adjourned.