



END OF THE YEAR REPORT

Undergraduate Student Government, 2016-2017

The Ohio State University

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Introduction

It has been an absolute honor to serve our fellow undergraduate students under Gerard and Danielle this past year. We hope that this document can begin to capture the sheer effort that USG has invested in the student experience in this past year, and we hope that this document is a catalyst for all of the work that lies ahead for the next administration.

This document will walk through the policy points initially established under Gerard and Danielle's campaign platform, providing a status update for each individual point so that students can understand the steps that USG took to address each point. Additionally, both our Issues and Operations committees completed incredible amounts of work outside of the campaign platform, and those accomplishments are also highlighted. Finally, we want to commend the General Assembly for their 62 resolutions, advocating for necessary change on campus in their role of speaking the voice of all undergraduate students.

We could not have accomplished anything this year without the fantastic team that we have served alongside every day, including each and every Senior Staff member, director, senator, deputy director, coordinator and committee representative. Thank you, all of you, for your tireless work ethics and your inspiring passion. We know we are leaving USG in capable hands. Here's to another year of progress.

Annie Greer

Chief of Staff

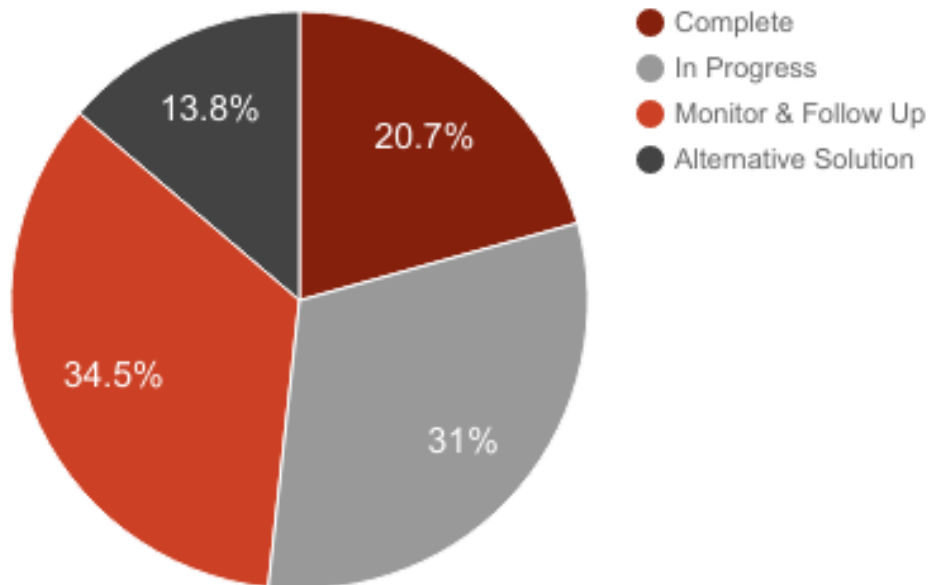
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For further information, please visit USG's website at <http://usg.osu.edu> or contact us at usg@osu.edu.

Gerard & Danielle Policy Update

PROGRESS BREAKDOWN



Complete: This policy has been accomplished.

In Progress: This policy is currently being worked on by members of USG. While it is not complete, there has been work done to accomplish the policy goal.

Monitor & Follow Up: USG has worked on this policy point to the fullest extent the organization is able, leading the policy to the "phase-in" stage of implementation. At this point, future administrations should make sure that these policies are truly taking effect, but they require no further research.

Alternative Solution: USG has found a solution to an issue that is different than the one(s) initially proposed in Gerard & Danielle's policy platform

POLICY STATUS REPORT

Academic Affairs

1. Study Abroad

Status: In Progress

During summer 2016, the Academic Affairs committee met with the Director of Education Abroad, Grace Johnson, to discuss how to make study abroad more affordable for OSU students. Gerard and Danielle's main policy to make study abroad more affordable was to ensure summer study abroad will have OSU tuition waived if no portion of the study abroad experience takes place on campus. This policy was already completed before Gerard and Danielle assumed office. Director Johnson is very interested in working with students to come up with additional solutions to make study abroad more affordable and accessible to students. Gerard and Danielle recommend that future administrations work with Director Johnson to come up with concrete solutions.

2. Advising

Status: Monitor & Follow Up

Gerard and Danielle wanted to improve OSU's advising in three key ways: implementing a uniform online scheduling system, shortening the wait times to meet with advisors, and implementing an online video call program. Many of these issues were brought to light during Ohio State's Advising Summit, where administrators, advisors, and students came up with action steps to improve advising.

Implementing a uniform online scheduling system: Ohio State is currently phasing in EAB, a uniform universal online advising system that will replace Advising Connect.

Shortening wait times: The Academic Affairs committee recognizes that wait times vary across colleges, and a variety of solutions must be implemented to alleviate the issue. Colleges such as Fisher are currently hiring more advisors in order to see more students. Additionally, the Advising Summit recommended that colleges put "Frequently Asked Questions" pages on their websites for advising so that students can find answers to simple questions quickly instead of setting up a meeting with their advisor. This would provide more advising appointments for students that have more complex issues to discuss with their advisors.

Implementing an online video call program for advising appointments: This policy has been well-researched, but the Advising Summit ultimately did not include it in their list of action steps because it is difficult logistically. A main issue is that advisors would have to extend their hours late into the night, which is not fair to a salaried employee.

Gerard and Danielle recommend that future administrations monitor and follow up on the implementation of EAB and FAQ sections on websites, but they do not suggest that future administrations continue to advocate for an online video call program.

3. Online Syllabi

Status: Monitor & Follow Up

Gerard and Danielle wanted to ensure that course syllabi are posted to BuckeyeLink so that students can have a better understanding of what to expect from the course before they schedule. USG worked with administrators to create syllabus.osu.edu, a website where

professors can upload past course syllabi for students to view. The website is currently available to students, but the amount of course syllabi uploaded to the site varies by department. Gerard and Danielle recommend that future administrations follow-up with Curricular Deans to increase the amount of syllabi uploaded to the site by professors.

4. Same-Day Thompson Reservations

Status: Complete

The Academic Affairs committee worked with University Libraries over the summer of 2016 to implement a pilot program for same-day room reservations at Thompson Library. The pilot program launched in the Autumn 2016 semester, and students were allowed to make same-day reservations in six rooms. Because the program was successful, University Libraries has all expanded it so that all reservable rooms in Thompson are available for same-day reservations.

5. SEIs

Status: Monitor & Follow Up

At the beginning of their term, Gerard and Danielle wanted to advocate for mid-semester SEIs and for SEI results to be posted for students to view. Many professors proactively give informal mid-semester SEIs in order to evaluate their courses, and many professors are open to implementing a formal mid-semester SEI. The Registrar has agreed to extend their infrastructure for SEIs in order to implement mid-semester SEIs. The last question on the SEI (overall course experience) is already posted. Gerard and Danielle recommend for future administrations to follow up with administrators to make sure formal mid-semester SEIs are implemented, and that results to all questions are made available to students.

Affordability

1. Fee Transparency

Status: Complete

One of USG's main goals in the 2016-2017 academic year was to make fees, specifically course fees, more transparent for students when they sign up for classes. Many students are unaware that certain courses necessitate lab or program fees, which can cost students hundreds of dollars in addition to tuition. Starting in the 2016-2017 academic year, course fees have become available for students to see on BuckeyeLink so they know how much a class costs before the schedule.

2. STEP

Status: Monitor & Follow Up

The Student Affairs committee this year worked with administrators to enhance STEP to make the program even more beneficial for students. As of this year, USG now appoints two undergraduate students to the STEP Advisory Board in order to present the student perspective and experience. The Advisory Board is working to expand themed cohorts due to student feedback, and it is also exploring different campus resources to link into the program. USG is specifically interested in including career-oriented resources that can help student achieve their professional goals. Additionally, the Advisory Board will be re-structuring the Welcome Event to be modeled after a career fair where students can pick from the resources that will be most relevant to their experience.

Gerard and Danielle recommend that future administrations continue to monitor the success of the STEP program and implement necessary changes through the Advisory Board.

3. Scholarships for Older Students

Status: In Progress

Ohio State currently offers many scholarships for incoming freshman that help alleviate the cost of tuition; however, students must apply for these scholarships before their freshman year during the admissions process. USG passed a resolution through General Assembly advocating for the necessity of expanding scholarship opportunities to older students who may not have qualified for these merit-based scholarships going into their freshman year, but have excelled at the university in academics during their time at Ohio State. Expanding scholarship opportunities for older students is a reasonable goal because scholarships such as the National Buckeye and Eminence already do not come out of college's budgets, so an expansion would not affect specific departments. Gerard and Danielle recommend that future administrations continue to work on this initiative to come up with solutions alongside OSU administrators.

4. 21 Credits

Status: Monitor & Follow Up

USG recently passed a resolution advocating for the implementation of a policy that would allow high-achieving students to take up to 21 credit hours without incurring additional fees after surpassing the current 18 credit hour maximum. USG also submitted a proposal to University Senate, which is going to be reviewed by the Steering, Senate Fiscal, Council on Academic Affairs, Council on Enrollment and Student Progress, and Rules committees. Senate Fiscal is currently forming a working group to generate budget impact estimates based on different requirements for participation.

Gerard and Danielle recommend that future administrations monitor and follow up on this policy as it progresses through multiple University Senate committees. Students sit on all of these committees, so USG has an excellent opportunity to help shape the finalized policy.

5. Textbooks

Status: In Progress

The average Ohio State student spends \$1,168 on textbooks. USG's Academic Affairs committee recently created a comprehensive report on how to make textbooks more affordable for students. The steps included improving timely textbook orders, clarifying the distinction between required and recommended textbooks, replacing expensive online access codes with Carmen quizzes, reviewing the necessity of newer textbook editions, reevaluating the merit of OSU special edition textbooks, and expanding the Affordable Learning Exchange.

USG submitted a resolution that passed unanimously through University Senate in March that encourages timely textbook ordering through Barnes and Noble by the store's prescribed deadlines. If between 70-90% of faculty submit their textbook orders by Barnes and Noble's deadline, students can save \$2.5 million due to an increased supply of used textbooks in circulation. The resolution also called for the Distance Education, Libraries and Technology committee and the Affordable Learning Exchange to present to the University Senate on textbook affordability during Fall 2017 in order to promote affordable initiatives.

Gerard and Danielle recommend that future administrations monitor and follow up to see ensure that textbooks are being ordered in a timely fashion. Additionally, they recommend

that future administrations continue to work on other policies outlined by the Academic Affairs committee to increase affordability for students.

Diversity & Inclusion

1. Bias Training

Status: Alternative Solution

Gerard and Danielle wished to implement bias training as a requirement for the First Year Success series; however, after talks with Dr. Suddeth in the Multicultural Center, USG decided not to pursue this idea per his recommendation. For its own membership, USG's Internal Affairs committee implemented a requirement that all members complete Open Doors Bias Training through the Multicultural Center. Future administrations should keep in mind that General Education requirements are currently being reviewed, and there is an opportunity to advocate for a diversity component to the GE platform.

2. Student Organization Forums

Status: Complete

One of USG's goals this year was to foster better relationships with student organizations and student leaders across campus. To accomplish this, USG started to host monthly forums for the public, which give students information on the different policies and initiatives that USG is working on, as well as a place to voice their opinions. Additionally, USG hosted a President's Dinner, which convened the presidents of different student organizations around campus in order to foster discussion. Gerard and Danielle recommend that future administrations continue these policies and attempt to increase participation from students.

3. USG Recruitment Plan

Status: Monitor & Follow-Up

USG worked to increase the diversity of our organization to better ensure a better representation of the student body. Reaching out to student organizations that represent marginalized communities at OSU was one of the ways that USG tried to increase the representation in the organization. Through these initiatives, USG was able to increase the diversity within the organization and become a more representative student government.

4. Diversity Discussions

Status: Complete

USG's Diversity and Inclusion committee hosted a successful Diversity Discussion on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. The discussion was well-attended from students who take a stance on both sides of the issue. Participants learned about the history of the conflict at the start of the event, and then engaged in discussion with people who held opposing viewpoints for the last part of the event. USG's Diversity and Inclusion committee also hosted an International Student Diversity Discussion. EndHateOSU will return and be reevaluated in the form of a task-force out of the Diversity and Inclusion committee.

5. Gender-Inclusive Housing

Status: Monitor & Follow Up

USG worked with Trans*Mission to write a resolution calling for more accessibility to GIH options. The committee met with Dr. J and other administrators on this topic, but moving forward this type of work will be handled by the new LGBTQ Task-Force President Drake is forming. USG will continue as a facilitating role whenever this group sees fit. The new Director of Diversity and Inclusion will be on this Task-Force so USG will have a contact in this area and will be continually updated as progress is made.

6. Faith-Friendly Dining Options

Status: In Progress

The Student Affairs Committee collaborated with University Dining to help ensure that students with dietary restrictions, such as students who follow Kosher or Halal practices, were having the best experience possible while living on campus. USG is currently working with Dining to better market the option for students with dietary restrictions to opt-out of the meal plan requirement.

Health & Safety

1. Online Mental Health Counseling

Status: Monitor & Follow Up

Conversations throughout the year confirmed that Counseling and Consultation Service (CCS) is actively working towards implementation of online counseling at Ohio State. Funding for such a program requires many efforts on behalf of CCS; currently they are in the process of applying for a federal grant in order to implement such a resource. Since this procedure is through university administration, Gerard and Danielle recommend that future USG administrations follow up with CCS to ensure that these efforts continue into next year.

2. Sexual Assault Awareness

Status: In Progress

In April of 2017, USG actively recognized Sexual Assault Awareness Month through programming and events on campus, including a presentation from Heather Marlowe for The Haze. Additionally, the Health & Safety committee interfaced with representatives from the national organization It's On Us to begin preparing for how their advocacy can reach incoming freshmen classes in order to work towards awareness for all Ohio State students.

3. Sexual Violence Center Initiative

Status: In Progress

After conversations with university administrators, USG concluded that the best way to advocate for a Sexual Violence Center is alongside the university's Strategic Plan, coinciding with changes outlined in Framework 2.0. Currently, the Sexual Civility and Empowerment Program does not have adequate funding for a program of this scale, so the program itself must first grow in resources and in reach before such a center would prove effective for students. Future USG administrations are encouraged to continue advocacy for growing that program.

4. Police Officer Presence

Status: Monitor & Follow Up

Following a General Assembly resolution from the previous year, USG witnessed supported the addition of 3 OSU police officers to OSUPD, an initiative resulting from the new alcohol sales policy in Ohio Stadium. Additionally, USG believes that on- and off-campus safety remains a prominent issue for students, and it is recommended that future administrations focus on solutions for this issue outside of direct growth in number of police officers on campus.

Student Life

1. Oohlala

Status: Alternative Solution

Oohlala was originally proposed for its comprehensive capabilities regarding student event marketing and networking on college campuses. However, this specific software did not align with the university's budgeting needs, so USG's Student Affairs committee turned to the university's OSU Mobile Application team in order to make event calendars more accessible to students on a previously existing platform. The mobile app team agreed to begin with implementing large student organizations' events into the phone application.

2. Preservation of Off-Campus Businesses

Status: Monitor & Follow Up

This year, the Outreach committee of USG partnered with Campus Partners to release a survey in order to gauge what students want their new High Street to look like during the fall of 2016. 2,322 students participated, and top results included "Bars" at 72% and "Restaurants" at 54%. On this survey, students also specified their top vendor choices for the renovated High Street locations. The top restaurant choice was Chick-Fil-A, and on March 12, 2017 it was publicized that Chick-Fil-A submitted a storefront design, pending approval, for a High Street location. Future administrations of USG will need to continue monitoring this situation as the renovations progress.

3. Meal Plan Reform

Status: In Progress

During the Autumn semester of 2016, students had the option to choose a brand new declining balance meal plan option as a result of the USG Dining Report, released in January of the same year. This means that the work of USG alongside University Dining successfully provided a more transparent option for student meal plans. However, next steps include data analysis of how successful this declining balance plan was among students to see if the plan requires either growth or redesign in future years.

4. Regional Campus Transfer Orientation

Status: Alternative Solution

Further research revealed the previous existence of a "Campus Change Day" where transfer students have the option of taking tours and participating in programming, all specifically targeted towards transfer students. USG's Student Affairs committee worked with administrators over the year to improve resources and content for this day, and this relationship can continue to work towards the improvement of transfer student opportunities regarding the transition from a regional campus to main campus.

5. *Game-Day Transportation*

Status: Alternative Solution

For the second year in a row, USG provided free bus transportation for students from campus to the Schottenstein Center during the week of football ticket pick-up windows.

Sustainability

1. *Water Bottle Filling Stations*

Status: Complete

USG's Sustainability committee worked with Student Life this year to double the water bottle filling stations on Ohio State's main campus in the past year, and more expansion is planned in the future. Additionally, USG worked with Ohio State administration to confirm that the university is investing \$130,000 in these filling stations to encourage sustainable water bottle practices on campus.

2. *Reusable Coffee Cups*

Status: Complete

This year, the university created a program where, for every time a student uses a reusable cup, they earn a free coffee. Additionally, communications with USG have indicated that signage in dining locations is increasing, advertising the price of coffee purchased in reusable cups matches the price of a small coffee.

3. *Recycling Options*

Status: In Progress

The Sustainability committee worked with Ohio State's Sustainability Council to participate in a waste audit, organizing 3,280 pounds of recycling and 660 pounds of organics out of approximately 5,500 pounds of waste. Audits such as this one provide insight as to how much organic, recyclable, and landfill materials are produced at various locations on campus, information the university can utilize in future development of recycling programs on campus.

4. *Alternative Energy*

Status: In Progress

Throughout the university's continuous work on the new Comprehensive Energy Management Plan (CEMP), the Sustainability committee and Shared Governance members provided continuous input on how the plan can promote alternative energy use on campus. In this process, USG's overarching recommendations on CEMP were published on December 5, 2016 (see "Press Releases" for more). USG hopes to continue participating in the conversation and process as CEMP becomes a reality for Ohio State, especially through Shared Governance.

Independent Projects

ISSUES COMMITTEES

Academic Affairs

Director: Samer Abusway

1. *Seal of Biliteracy*

A Seal of Biliteracy is an award given to graduating students who have proven to be proficient in more than one language. This can benefit students who may have become fluent in a language, but did not major or minor in a language. The Academic Affairs is currently working with administrators that would ensure students could take a test to get a Seal of Biliteracy on their transcript should they meet certain requirements.

2. *Survey Course*

The Academic Affairs and Student Affairs committees convened a task force and issued recommendations on how to best improve and enhance the freshman year survey course so that students learn and retain necessary information about academic and campus life better. One of the main goals is to make sure that Scarlet & Gray Financial training is a component of the course, as well as making sure that all information given in the course is relevant and helpful to freshmen. USG is currently working with administrators to implement these changes.

3. *Student Nominated Teaching Awards*

Professors have an important impact on the student experience at Ohio State, and great professors deserve recognition when they are making positive change at the university. The Academic Affairs committee compiled a list of all student-nominated teaching awards so that they are more easily accessible for students who would like to recognize the work of a professor.

4. *GE Reform*

The General Education Requirements were last reviewed over 30 years ago and since then, Ohio State has grown and evolved as a university. Because of this, members of USG have been invited to be a part of a university-wide committee of faculty, administrators, and students that is re-evaluating the General Education Requirements at Ohio State. The committee will last through Autumn 2017. USG wants to advocate to standardize the requirements across colleges, extract prerequisites, promote flexibility, ensure clarity, revisit honors requirements, consider outside interfacing, and preserve time to degree for the new general education requirements.

Diversity & Inclusion

Director: Tony Buss

1. *EndHate OSU*

The Diversity and Inclusion committee released a video this year outlining the aims of EndHate. The next administration plans to restructure the campaign so that it reaches more people.

2. *Interfaith and Prayer Spaces*

The Diversity and Inclusion committee has been working to expand interfaith and prayer spaces on campus, as well as restore carpet to the Interfaith and Prayer Room in the Ohio Union. The committee passed resolutions through the General Assembly in support of both of these policies. The committee also has pushed out a survey to the student body to gather data on if and where interfaith and prayer spaces are needed on campus; they will take the data obtained from the survey to administrators. Additionally, the committee is working with Student Life to get carpet back into the Interfaith, Prayer and Reflection room in the Union.

3. *Exercise Class for Students With Disabilities*

While there are many free classes that students can take at the RPAC in order to stay fit and healthy, there currently are not classes for students with physical disabilities. The Diversity and Inclusion committee is working with the RPAC and the Office of Disability Services to bring one to campus.

4. *Flint Water Drive*

The Diversity and Inclusion committee has organized a water drive that will benefit the residents of Flint, Michigan, as they continue to suffer from lack of clean water. The event will be held during Time for Change Week in the first week of April.

5. *BART on Course Syllabi*

The Bias Assessment and Response Team is a valuable tool that students may use to report hate-based incidences; however, it is believed that the tool is under-utilized by the campus community. The Diversity and Inclusion committee passed a resolution through the General Assembly encouraging professors to put a statement about BART on their course syllabi in order to create and spread awareness about BART. The committee has been working with BART to discuss the implementation of this policy with different departments.

Governmental Relations

Director: Evelyn Kennedy

1. *Vote BIG Initiative*

USG's Government Relations committee participated in the Association of Big Ten Students' Vote BIG voter registration drive in anticipation of the 2016 election. The committee worked with student organizations such as OSU Votes, College Democrats, and College Republicans to register over 1,000 students on campus.

2. *Government Greets*

In order to connect students with their local government, the Government Relations committee organized two Government Greets events that bring students together with governmental officials and legislators. The first event in Autumn was centered around

Columbus City Council members. The second event, set for early April, aims to promote women in the political sphere.

3. *D.C. Trip*

The Government Relations committee planned a trip to D.C. for USG members to meet with government officials and other political groups in the capital. The main topics covered in the meetings were mental health and college affordability, including discussions about pell grants and the difference between the overall cost of attendance versus the cost of tuition.

4. *Federal Laws*

The Government Relations committee has been tracking a few state and federal laws that have the potential to impact students in a large way. HR 3861 is a law about student loan repayment that, if passed, would create tax benefits for employers who either directly assist employees with paying off their students loans, or who reimburse their employees to cover their student loan payments. The Ohio Fairness Act would ban discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity in employment, housing or other areas. These bills are currently stalled in Congress and the Statehouse, respectively, but future administrations should continue to monitor them and lobby for them because they can greatly benefit students.

Health & Safety

Director: Sophie Chang

1. *Cakes & Conversation*

A week after the 2016 presidential election, USG hosted a dialogue on how students were feeling after the election, especially with regards to their sense of security. The outcomes of this event were then passed along to administrators so that they had a greater understanding of what students were going through at the time.

2. *Lifeline Response Application*

To build off of USG's partnership with the Lifeline Response App from past years, the Health & Safety committee pushed out the updated version of the application, which students can download and use for free both on- and off-campus, especially when walking home late at night and/or in the dark.

3. *Mental Health Focus Groups*

The committee hosted a number of informal and formal groups with minority groups and organizations to focus on mental health in minority communities. As a result, Health & Safety communicated takeaways with CCS and with administrators to clarify mental health stigmas in different communities with the ultimate goal of improving and personalizing pre-existing counseling services for these minority students.

4. *Mental Health Event with BSA: A Conversation on Mental Health Awareness & Stigma Reduction*

This event was an outcome from the mental health focus groups. There was a dialogue about mental health advocacy within and outside the black and African American communities,

coupled with presentations from Active Minds and Ohio State's Counseling and Consultation Service.

5. *Mental Health Statement on Course Syllabi*

The first student-sponsored resolution in decades was passed through University Senate encouraging all faculty to include a mental health statement on course syllabi. The statement seeks to increase awareness of CCS resources for students as well as reduce the stigma surrounding seeking care. This policy was rolled out on course syllabi for the Spring 2017 semester.

6. *University Good Samaritan Policy*

USG contributed to the edits of this policy to include increased amnesty for students. In the future, USG is hoping to add a sexual assault component to the policy in order to protect students who have been sexually assaulted while possibly under the influence.

7. *USG Wellness Week*

To help USG members focus on taking time for themselves rather than overworking themselves, Health & Safety put on USG Wellness Week to encourage self-care. Over-involved students at Ohio State tend to forget about taking care of themselves, so USG used this week to set an example for those who don't take time for their own health and wellness.

Student Affairs

Director: Shamina Merchant

1. *Block Out Hunger*

This previously existing project was expanded to a year-long push for donations in continuous partnership with OSU Dining. Block Out Hunger is a program where students can donate their unused swipes to a local food bank. Peak utilization of the program prior to Thanksgiving and Christmas breaks meant that students took the opportunity to give back to local food banks during the holiday season.

2. *Buckeye Road Trip*

BRT provides affordable rides to students over Thanksgiving and Spring Breaks, historically to Cincinnati, Toledo, Cleveland, and Pittsburgh. This year, USG successfully expanded the bus routes to include Philadelphia and Chicago, providing more students with access to affordable transportation over breaks. The Philadelphia and Chicago buses dropped off students at train stations to create connections to extended destinations.

3. *Clean Up Columbus*

Undergraduate Student Government has overseen this project for 4+ years. Through CuC, once a month Ohio State student organizations volunteer to clean up trash in the off-campus community in exchange for \$75 towards their organization's funding, combining principles of sustainability, community service, and funding access for OSU organizations.

4. *Housing Information Sessions*

In response to changes in university housing assignments, USG worked with University Housing to create and market a list of FAQ's about the process, as well as host several information sessions for students with additional questions.

5. *Housing Website Improvements*

At the beginning of this year, members of USG noticed inaccuracies on the OSU Housing website, such as the listing that Taylor Tower had a gym facility inside the building. The Student Affairs committee individually examined each dorm's description, and worked with housing to correct any inaccuracies.

6. *OSU Mobile App Development*

This year, the Student Affairs committee grew USG's relationship with the OSU Mobile App team, allowing student representatives to provide better input on the application's features. The largest recommendation from USG this year, which the team is working on implementing now, is to create push notifications for the Buckeye Alert system so that students who are on WiFi can receive these emergency updates on more devices. USG also worked with the team throughout the application's redesign process to recommend additional features; the new design will be released in the coming months, and additional features will be added throughout the year.

7. *Renter's Guide*

As in previous years, the Renter's Guide was produced to assist students with their off-campus housing search through review of local area landlords and their performance. This year, USG limited printing on the guide to promote eco-friendly practices. The Renter's Guide can be found on the USG website, and a more detailed version can be found on the Off-Campus and Commuter Student Services website.

8. *Spring Housing Expo*

To ensure that upperclassmen who did not receive spots in the OSU Housing lottery were able to find housing off campus, USG worked with Off Campus and Commuter Student Services to host the first ever Spring Housing Expo, with over 500 students in attendance.

9. *Student Legal Services Information Sessions*

USG collaborated with Student Legal Services to host two sessions for students with questions about their leases or about off campus living in general.

10. *Thanksgiving Break Traditional Visits*

USG worked with Ohio State Dining to ensure students would be able to keep their full weekly visits for Fall Break as well as Thanksgiving. This helped to accommodate for students who stayed on campus during those breaks, as well as for students who were planning to use their visits throughout the week.

11. *Virtual Tours of Residence Halls*

These virtual tours for students who wish to preview specific residence halls will tentatively be implemented on Ohio State's housing website in June prior to move-in. The Student Affairs committee worked closely with OSU Housing administrators to ensure that this would happen on a timeline that benefits students.

Sustainability

Director: Sam Reed

1. *Before the Flood Early Screening*

Leonardo DiCaprio's climate change documentary was shown at a free early screening in the Wexner Theater, where 300 students attended the educational viewing.

2. *Co-Sponsoring REI's VP of Sustainability Vikram Sahney along with the Environmental Professional's Network*

3. *Environmental Beat in The Lantern*

USG worked with The Lantern to establish an environmental beat and selected a reporter to cover sustainability events on campus and around the country. This allows for students within the sustainability community to market their events or causes within The Lantern with greater ease.

4. *Friends of the Lower Olentangy Watershed Executive Board*

A Committee Representative in Sustainability was granted an appointment on this board. This is an important step towards elevating the student voice through involvement and partnership with Columbus entities outside of the university in order to promote and preserve the health of our local watershed.

5. *Green & Clean Eating Event*

Approximately 35 students attended this event to learn how to cook and eat with an environmental ethic.

6. *OutGreen the Wolverines*

This event, after four years of existence, finally included concrete participation from The School Up North to promote a friendly competition between schools where we attempted to collect the most single-use bags to be properly recycled.

7. *Plastic? Fork it Over*

The Sustainability committee collected plastic utensils from OSU dining halls to estimate average campus use, and displayed the usage of plastic utensils in the Ohio Union, totaling 1,223 utensils per week. To counter this waste, the committee distributed 400 free reusable bamboo utensils for student use.

8. *Sustainable Living Guide*

This guide was released in January 2017 to teach students how to live with an environmentally-conscious attitude during their time in the residence halls.

9. *Time for Change Week*

This week-long project was the first-ever result of over 15 student organizations partnering with USG's Sustainability committee to organize over 15 projects and generate \$70,000 of funding targeted towards environmental education and activities from April 3-9. USG contributed by leading four different projects as a part of Time for Change Week: the Third Annual Sustainability Fair, the Sustainability Fashion Showcase, Below the Surface: Uncovering Environmental Justice, and Seeds of Service.

OPERATIONS COMMITTEES

Communications

Director: Emily Clark

1. *Lantern Communication*

This year, a representative from The Lantern sat in on all of USG's Cabinet and General Assembly meetings to increase transparency in communication.

2. *Website Redesign*

Over the Summer of 2016, USG overhauled their website to create easier navigation for important topics as well as to fully update the website's information.

Internal Affairs

Director: Stephen Post

1. *Demographics Report*

The 2017 USG Demographics Report reflected an improvement of the diversification of USG's recruitment objectives and strategies.

2. *Improving USG Culture*

Internal Affairs took numerous steps to focus on USG's culture to create a better sense of community among our members, increase inclusivity and acceptance, and improve the retention rate from year to year. Meeting attendance at Spring Cabinets increased from an average of 70 in 2016 to 120 in 2017. The first-ever full organization Fall Retreat emphasized relationships among members to create effective work, as well as gave members the opportunity to participate in Open-Door Bias Training, courtesy of the Multicultural Center. This emphasis on member development led to a higher number of Committee Representative-led projects and better collaboration among committees.

3. *Spring Recruitment*

For the first time ever, USG accepted a spring recruitment class of 27 new members, compared to 108 new members during fall recruitment in 2016. This new member class contributed greatly to the success and energy of the organization to close out the year.

Outreach

Director: Zawwar Khan

1. *Bi-Weekly External Newsletter*

Every week, the Outreach committee produced a newsletter for all OSU students to learn about the work that USG is doing.

2. Collaborative Recruitment

For the first time ever, Outreach collaborated with Internal Affairs to run USG's recruitment process. Outreach took an active role in ensuring USG presence at a variety of student involvement fairs in order to encourage underrepresented students to join the organization.

3. Monthly Forums

Every month, the Outreach committee puts on a forum, inviting students to a space in the Union where they can ask USG any questions they might have about their issues, as well as to learn about the progress USG makes each month.

4. Presidents' Dinner

The Outreach committee hosted a dinner with multiple presidents of student organizations across the university to discuss what problems their members are facing and how to build better relationships between USG and student organizations.

General Assembly Resolutions

All resolutions are provided in hyperlink format. Click on the resolution's title to read the full resolution.

[49-R-1: A Resolution to Approve the Senior Staff and Operations Team](#)

[49-R-2: A Resolution to Approve the Cabinet Directors](#)

[49-R-3: A Resolution to Approve University Senate and University Level Appointments](#)

[49-R-4: A Resolution to Support Increased Transparency of Investments at the Ohio State University](#)

[49-R-5: A Resolution to Commend President Drake on Freezing In-State Tuition](#)

[49-R-6: A Resolution to Appoint a Member to the Judicial Panel](#)

[49-R-7: A Resolution to Support the Establishment of a Student Wellness Center Endowment](#)

[49-R-8: A Resolution to Approve Changes to the Organizational Bylaws](#)

[49-R-9: A Resolution to Approve Changes to the Standing Rules](#)

[49-R-10: A Resolution to Support the Increased Use and Accessibility of Student Evaluation of Instruction Assessments](#)

[49-R-11: A Resolution to Approve the Senior Director of Operations](#)

[49-R-12: A Resolution to Support the Increase of Maximum Credit Hours Undergraduate Students Can Enroll In Without Additional Fees](#)

[49-R-13: A Resolution to Implement a Feedback Form for University Dining Services](#)

[49-R-14: A Resolution to Support the Passage of H.R. 3861 and S. 2457 The Employer Participation in Repayment Act of 2016](#)

[49-R-15: A Resolution to Support the Inclusion of a Mental Health Statement on Course Syllabi](#)

[49-R-17: A Resolution to Support the Creation of a Temporary Campus Core Bus Service](#)

[49-B-1: A Bill to Overturn the Allocations Funding Decision for the Asian Business Student Association](#)

[49-R-18: A Resolution to Further Improve the Academic Programming of the STEP Program at The Ohio State University](#)

[49-R-19: A Resolution to Appoint Members to the Constitution and Bylaw Review Commission](#)

[49-R-20: A Resolution to Advocate for Increased Accessibility to the Second-Year Transformational Experience Program](#)

[49-R-21: A Resolution to Advocate for Affordable Textbook Solutions](#)

[49-R-22: A Resolution to Advocate for Multilingual Resources at The Ohio State University](#)

[49-R-23: A Resolution to Support the Addition of a Farmer's Market to the Goals of the University Panel of Food Sustainability](#)

[49-R-24: A Resolution to Appoint Members to the Judicial Panel](#)

[49-R-25: A Resolution to Support the Judicial Panel's Implementation of Ranked Choice Voting in USG Elections](#)

- [49-R-26: A Resolution to Appoint a Member to the Judicial Panel](#)
- [49-R-27: A Resolution to Support the Inclusion of a Seal of Biliteracy on Collegiate Diplomas and Transcripts](#)
- [49-R-28: A Resolution to Encourage the Adoption of Affordable Practices Regarding Textbook Selection](#)
- [49-R-29: A Resolution to Approve the Elections Bylaws](#)
- [49-R-30: A Resolution to Include Resource Stewardship in Ohio State University's 2017 Strategic Planning Proposal](#)
- [49-R-31: A Resolution to Recommend Changes to the University's Research Programs](#)
- [49-R-32: A Resolution to Advocate for the Advancement of Teaching and Learning at The Ohio State University](#)
- [49-R-33: A Resolution to Improve Outreach and Engagement by Increasing Access and Improving the Experience of Diverse Students](#)
- [49-R-34: A Resolution to Support Safety Awareness and Active Threat Protocol](#)
- [49-R-35: A Resolution to Support the Implementation of "Bird Safe" Building Practices](#)
- [49-R-36: A Resolution to Support the Inclusion of a Bias Assessment and Response Team Statement on All Course Syllabi](#)
- [49-R-37: A Resolution to Oppose the Implementation of a Concealed and Carry Policy at The Ohio State University](#)
- [49-R-38: A Resolution to Oppose the Nomination of Betsy DeVos as Secretary of the U.S. Department of Education](#)
- [49-R-39: A Resolution to Request a Better Transparency of the International Fee](#)
- [49-R-40: A Resolution to Amend the Organizational Bylaws](#)
- [49-R-41: A Resolution to Amend the Elections Bylaws](#)
- [49-R-42: A Resolution to A Resolution to Defend the Rights of International Students at The Ohio State University](#)
- [49-R-43: A Resolution to Encourage the Expansion of Gender Inclusive Housing Options on the Columbus Campus](#)
- [49-R-45: A Resolution to Support Dining Inclusion at The Ohio State University](#)
- [49-R-46: A Resolution to Support Installing Comfortable Flooring and Reasonable Religious Accommodations into the Interfaith Prayer and Reflection Room in the Ohio Union](#)
- [49-R-48: A Resolution to Support the Implementation of an Excused Absence Policy](#)
- [49-R-49: A Resolution to Recognize the Strategic Value of Waterman Agricultural and Natural Resource Laboratory](#)
- [49-R-50: A Resolution to Support the Extension of Campus Dining Location Hours](#)
- [49-B-3: A Bill to Overturn the Allocations Funding Decision for Animal Science Community Alliance](#)
- [49-R-51: A Resolution to Approve the Standing Rules of the Judicial Branch](#)

[49-B-4: A Bill to A Bill to Overturn the Allocations Funding Decision for John Glenn Civic Leadership Council](#)

[49-R-52: A Resolution to Advocate for the Implementation of Dialogue Spaces](#)

[49-R-53: A Resolution to Support the Implementation of Reusable "To Go" Containers at The Ohio State University Dining Services Facilities](#)

[49-R-54: A Resolution to Support the Increased Implementation of More Merit-Based Scholarships](#)

[49-R-55: A Resolution to Support the Reduction of Food Waste at The Ohio State University](#)

[49-R-56: A Resolution to Support the Improvement of Ventilation and Air Conditioning in Campus Dorms](#)

[49-R-57: A Resolution to Support the Implementation of Additional Water Bottle Filling Stations at The Ohio State University--Main Campus](#)

[49-R-58: A Resolution to Support Future Expansion of the International House Learning Community](#)

[49-R-59: A Resolution to Create the Samuel Whipple Award for Excellence in Shared Governance](#)

[49-R-60: A Resolution to Solidify the Specific Requirements of The Ohio State University Seal of Biliteracy](#)

[49-R-61: A Resolution to Support the Implementation of a Recycling Center in Framework 2.0](#)

[49-R-62 A Resolution to Provide the Adjournment Sine Diem of the 49th General Assembly of the Undergraduate Student Government of The Ohio State University](#)

Conclusion

When we decided to run for President and Vice President of USG, we created a 77-page policy document with the intention of making tangible change for students across all areas of campus. Thanks to the tireless efforts made by every member of our administration, we are proud to say that we have achieved many of our goals and put several others on the path to completion. This report is truly a testament to our team's passion for serving Ohio State students, and we could not be more excited to share the progress that has been made this year.

We set out to make student government a place that encourages our members to serve as accurate storytellers of the student experience. Our initiatives in USG this year were all rooted in this belief; the belief that by sharing the student experience and focusing on well-researched policies, we would effectively use our passion and the knowledge of administrators, faculty and staff to help Ohio State reach its highest potential. By revamping our internal structure and making our organization more transparent to the student body at large, we have created a foundation that fosters collaboration, inclusivity, and productivity.

The ability of student government to shape our University and represent all undergraduates is a point of pride for us. It is not just important, but fundamental to actively engage students in the policy that USG pursues. We have worked to become an organization that not only works on behalf of students but also works with them to face challenges and overcome obstacles. It has been a life changing experience working with such talented and well-respected peers this year to enact meaningful policies across the university.

We are thankful to everyone, both within and outside of student government, who have helped us achieve our vision of inclusivity and excellence. Though there is undoubtedly more work to be done, we believe that the next USG administration is up to the task of boldly pursuing these important initiatives together. Finally, it has been a privilege to serve as Ohio State's Student Body President and Vice President, but even more importantly, we are so grateful that we had the opportunity to spend the year working for our fellow students while alongside our best friends. We wish our great school and student body the best of luck as USG continues to work together to make Ohio State the best place it can be. Thank you for joining our journey.

Go Bucks,

Gerard Basalla

President

Danielle Di Scala

Vice President

Press Releases

June 18, 2016 – A Message in Solidarity with the LGBTQ+ Community from the Undergraduate Student Government

November 11, 2016 – 2016 Post-Election Response

November 14, 2016 – A Response to an Assault in the Ohio Union

November 15, 2016 – Mental Health Statement

November 28, 2016 – USG's Statement on Today's Public Safety Incident

December 5, 2016 – Comprehensive Energy Management Plan Contractual Recommendations



June 18, 2016:

A Message in Solidarity with the LGBTQ+ Community from the Undergraduate Student Government

Dear Students,

The Ohio State University Undergraduate Student Government was incredibly saddened to learn of the tragedy that took place at Pulse Nightclub in Orlando, Florida on Sunday June 12. It is with heavy hearts that we extend our most sincere condolences to those impacted by this horrific act of violence and hatred. Our thoughts are with the victims and their families.

Pulse Nightclub was a place full of love, life, celebration, and acceptance. For many, it was a sanctuary. Targeted attacks against the LGBTQ+ community are far too commonplace and will not be tolerated. As leaders of the undergraduate student body, we stand in solidarity with the LGBTQ+ community and offer support to all of our LGBTQ+ peers.

Pride celebrations will take place across the country throughout the month of June, including a celebration in Columbus this weekend. At a time when it is most difficult, we must, as a community, show that in the face of violence and hatred, we respond with love and support. We want to wish all of our Buckeye peers and the Columbus community a safe, happy, and enjoyable Pride weekend.

Regardless of race, religion, age, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, nationality and culture we are all members of the Buckeye community, and we must support and protect one another in times of violence. As leaders and representatives of the Ohio State undergraduate student body, we promise to never allow such acts of hatred to prevent us from moving our campus and community forward.

The Ohio State University Counseling and Consultation Services will be available for those affected by this tragedy. If support is needed, please contact CCS at (614) 292-5766.

Sincerely,

The Undergraduate Student Government
Gerard Basalla and Danielle Di Scala
USG President and Vice President



November 11, 2016:

A Message to the Ohio State Student Body from the Undergraduate Student Government

Dear Students,

The Undergraduate Student Government at The Ohio State University would like to extend our support and solidarity to all students who have felt unsafe and unsupported on campus in the days following the recent election. Our community should feel like a home to everyone; no one should ever feel in danger because of who they are or their political affiliations, regardless of political party. We refuse to tolerate hate speech and violence on our campus. We stand in solidarity with those who peacefully protest, and condemn those who would use violence to further their views. We will continue our work towards creating a campus environment that is inclusive and supportive, and that environment must ensure the health, safety, and physical and mental well-being of all students.

The Ohio State University Counseling and Consultation Service is available for any students who need support during this time. CCS is available at <http://www.ccs.osu.edu> or (614) 292-5766. CCS After Hours, a support service offered 24/7, can be reached by calling the phone number and pressing option 2. Further resources and hotlines can be found at tinyurl.com/osuccs.

The Bias Assessment Response Team (BART) at Ohio State defines a bias incident as any act or behavior motivated by the offender's bias against age, ancestry, color, disability, gender identity or expression, genetic information, HIV/AIDS status, military status, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or veteran status.

We encourage all students to learn how to effectively respond to incidents of bias, as well as better understand issues involving bias and discrimination. BART is available to any student looking to learn more or to report an incident of bias. Incidents that occur in a residence hall, any library, a student organization, the classroom, or any other space on campus can be reported. Students can visit <http://go.osu.edu/bias> for more information. We strongly encourage any student who has witnessed, suffered, or survived an incident of bias to report it at goo.gl/FKIVsV.

Elections often bring great divide, but we must remember that in order for Buckeyes to unite as a family, we must promote discourse and dialogue and treat our fellow students, especially those with different identities than ours, with the respect and dignity they deserve. Next Friday, November 18th, from 5pm-7pm, the USG's Health and Safety Committee will be hosting "Cakes and Conversation," an open dialogue about the election in the Baker Hall East Rec Room. All students are welcome. Furthermore, if students have any concerns that they would like USG to address, please do not hesitate to reach out to President Gerard Basalla.⁶, Vice President Danielle DiScala.¹, Director of Diversity and Inclusion, Tony Buss.⁴³ or Director of Health and Safety Sophie Chang.¹³¹⁰.



November 14, 2016:

A Message to the Ohio State Student Body from the Undergraduate Student Government

Dear Students,

The Undergraduate Student Government at The Ohio State University vehemently condemns the assault that occurred on our campus tonight and supports the right of all students to protest peacefully without fear of attack. USG is committed to protecting the First Amendment rights of our students to ensure that they have the ability to freely express their opinions. Acts of violence, like what occurred on our campus this evening, contradict the environment we strive to create: one that is accepting of all opinions, identities, and backgrounds. The Ohio Union is a space dedicated to creating an extraordinary experience for students; they must feel safe and be able to voice their opinion without the risk of harm.

We will continue to work tirelessly to ensure that students are protected on our campus. We strongly encourage all students who experience incidents of violence to immediately contact OSU Police at (614) 292-2121. Utilization of BART reports is also encouraged for students to report incidents of bias on campus. For more information on these resources, please reference our previous statement: https://usg.osu.edu/posts/documents/doc_11112016_142121825.pdf .

In solidarity,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Gerard C. Basalla'.

Gerard Basalla (.6)
President

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Danielle M. DiScala'.

Danielle Di Scala (.1)
Vice President



Last Thursday, the University Senate of The Ohio State University passed “A Resolution to Recommend the Inclusion of a Mental Health Statement on Course Syllabi.” This resolution, authored by undergraduate student senators Michael Frank (lead sponsor), Zack Clark, Lauren Todd, Varsha Challapally, Vikas Munjal, Laura Hammerstein, Mario Belfiglio, Sunder Sai and Sam Whipple, Council of Graduate Students President David Bowers, and Inter-Professional Council President David Gorenz, showcases a commitment by the student governments at Ohio State to the importance of mental health.

The University Senate was created by action of the Board of Trustees on July 7, 1972. The Senate is a body of one-hundred-thirty-seven members representing three constituencies: faculty, administration, and students. The seventy faculty members, comprising the Faculty Council, represent faculty of the eighteen colleges, the University Libraries, the Military Sciences, and the four Regional Campuses. The twenty-six members of the Administration include the President, who serves as presiding officer of the Senate, the eighteen college deans, the Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost, the Senior Vice President for Business and Finance, the Senior Vice President for Research, the Executive Dean of the Colleges of the Arts and Sciences, the Executive Dean of the Regional Campuses, the Dean of the Graduate School, and the Director of Libraries. The forty-one student representatives include twenty-six from the Undergraduate Student Government, ten from the Council of Graduate Students, and five from the Inter-Professional Council. The voting majority rests with the faculty. In any year, sixty-four new members are seated. The Senate is therefore a continuing body. The actions and resolutions adopted in Senate continue to be effective until superseded or amended.¹

The leadership team of USG is proud of the tireless work and immaculate intent these university senators put into this resolution. The Ohio State University’s Counseling and Consultation Services offers exemplary resources, and we are thrilled that they will be made more accessible to students through their course syllabi. At Ohio State, Undergraduate Student Government wants students to know that “#YouMatter.” We hope this resolution will be a catalyst for reduced stigma and increased awareness as we work to grow as a community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gerard C. Basalla".

Gerard Basalla
President

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Danielle M. DiScala".

Danielle Di Scala
Vice President

¹ http://senate.osu.edu/?page_id=3



Dear Fellow Students,

Being a Buckeye has always meant having resilience and resolve in the face of immense challenges, and today was no exception. The Ohio State community experienced an attack that shook our campus to its core, bringing the place we know and love into the national spotlight and pulling Buckeyes from across the world together in mutual concern and unity. As many witnessed the events unfolding before our eyes in Columbus, our community showcased what true Buckeye character was all about.

The thoughts and prayers of the Undergraduate Student Government are with the victims and families of those involved in the attack. We encourage students to utilize Student Life's Counseling and Consultation Services during this difficult time. CCS is providing emergency support at the following locations:

B145 Recreational and Physical Activity Center;
Ohio Union Performance Hall;
Younkin Success Center - fourth floor;
and 1030 Lincoln Tower
After hours, call 614-292-5766

Our ability to come together in so many ways as a university brought light to this dark day. The Undergraduate Student Government extends its sincerest thanks to all students and university officials for their tireless efforts to keep our community safe. Furthermore, we commend our law enforcement personnel, including Ohio State Police Officer Alan Horujko, for taking swift action to protect our campus in the face of danger.

As classes resume tomorrow, we must continue to band together and be "#BuckeyeStrong." Let us continue to answer the call of servant leadership towards one another and be a community for all people in the face of adversity.

With Buckeye Love,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gerard C. Basalla".

Gerard Basalla
President

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Danielle M. DiScala".

Danielle Di Scala
Vice President



Undergraduate Student Government CEMP Contractual Recommendations

The Comprehensive Energy Management Plan (CEMP) has been an unprecedented catalyst to elevate discussion on sustainability and energy. The Undergraduate Student Government offers the following recommendations concerning potential concessionaires and use of funds generated. USG understands that the CEMP will not be the silver bullet that meets each of our Sustainability Goals or achieves complete carbon neutrality, but we believe it should serve as a vehicle leading our university to make smart environmental investments in the future.

With regard to potential concessionaires, USG believes that certain electric utilities have a conflict of interest due to their near-complete reliance on fossil fuels. During the warmest year on record, climate change must be a foremost interest of the company. USG expects that they have an extensive history of pursuing renewable energy, rather than primarily investing in “clean coal” technology or carbon capture and storage. In addition, we believe there cannot be a history of funding climate-denial organizations or spokespeople propagating the false narrative that global climate change is not caused by human greenhouse gas emissions. These large utilities would not be well-suited to Ohio State’s commitment to carbon neutrality and fighting climate change.

If an agreement is reached between the university and a potential concessionaire, USG holds that proceeds remaining after paying for campus energy costs should be directed towards achieving the Sustainability Goals, as well as affordability objectives. In order to accomplish this, we provide the following 6 recommendations:

1. We encourage a campus “Investment Campaign” written into the affinity portion of the contract with concrete, binding commitments. Revenues generated from the



concessionaire ought to support a major investment in sustainability projects.¹ Some of these revenues should be used to implement a revolving fund at Ohio State, similar to that of Harvard University. [Harvard's fund](#) started with \$1.5 million and is now valued at \$12 million. Their Green Revolving Fund invests in projects that have clear environmental returns within 10 years. CEMP revenue presents an opportunity to launch the largest revolving fund in the nation, from which students, administrators, and faculty can apply for research or academic grants. Further revenues should be invested in other initiatives that might not have clear monetary returns but that will nonetheless propel our university towards its Sustainability Goals.

2. We believe that CEMP revenue should supplement previous sustainability funding, rather than simply displacing our current commitments. The CEMP has been advertised as an environmental initiative; therefore, it should be used to significantly increase our funding for sustainability. USG feels that further capital expansion, unless explicitly meeting the above definition of a sustainability project, should not be funded by CEMP revenue.
3. We believe the concessionaire should provide extensive student scholarships of equal or greater value than what was provided by the CampusParc agreement. In addition, the concessionaire should provide competitive research funding for those interested in sustainability, natural resources, or renewable energy.
4. Student employment should be a major priority for the concessionaire. USG believes that the company should actively hire OSU students from a variety of backgrounds to work on issues related to sustainability and renewable energy. Renewable energy is the future; thus, the company should actively assist students seeking to enter the field.
5. Ohio State's unique relationship with the City of Columbus is critical in enhancing our collective sustainability goals through outreach and engagement. Columbus recently

¹ We define a "sustainability project" as an initiative that raises campus awareness of environmental issues, increases environmental research, reduces our natural resource consumption, or cuts harmful emissions.



received the “Smart City Grant,” which will stimulate innovative sustainable practices. We recommend that there be a concrete strategy to deepen our partnership with the city through the CEMP.

6. Because the CEMP will significantly influence the campus community, USG expects that the university will commit to the highest standards of financial transparency. Drawing precedent from the CampusPARC deal, the Senate Fiscal Committee and the University Senate should receive an annual report from the Office of Business and Finance concerning how any revenues from the partnership are being managed. Such a report could include: (1) balance of partnership revenues available, (2) interest earned through investment, (3) sustainability projects funded through CEMP revenue, (4) progress towards achieving the Sustainability Goals, and (5) a list of personnel that are overseeing the concessionaire. After it is presented to the Senate, this report should be made publicly available to all members of the university so they can easily track the use of funds. This report should be prominently advertised and conveniently accessible.

The Comprehensive Energy Management Plan has been marketed as a large-scale sustainability project that aims to cut energy costs and significantly reduce our carbon footprint. These recommendations reflect USG’s stance on how to most effectively build an infrastructure at The Ohio State University in order to achieve our Sustainability Goals, confer extensive benefits to students, and further our national leadership on climate action.



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gerard C. Basalla".

Gerard Basalla
USG President
Basalla.6@osu.edu

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Samuel Reed".

Samuel Reed
Director of Sustainability
Reed.1275@osu.edu

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Danielle M. DiScala".

Danielle Di Scala
USG Vice President
DiScala.1@osu.edu

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Samuel J. Whipple".

Samuel Whipple
Chair of the Undergraduate Caucus
Whipple.55@osu.edu