

3150 Ohio Union 1739 N. High Street 614.736.2390 fechtel.1@osu.edu

49th **General Assembly** Spring 2016, Session 2 April 13, 2016

I. Opening

- a. Call to Order
- b. Attendance
 - i. Polavarapu.4 for Yacoub
 - ii. Flanagan.183 for Branum
 - iii. Randolph.173 for Nitta
 - iv. Miller.7772 for Brobst
 - v. Griffith.823 for Williams
 - vi. Edsall.10 for Fechtel
- c. Swearing in of Alternates
- d. Approval of Minutes

II. Open Forum for Public

III. General Update:

a. *Danielle:* There will be Deputy Director Elections tonight for the six committees listed on the agenda. Elizabeth Fries will work with the senators this upcoming year to plan constituency events so that you can meet with your constituents. I understand that everyone has commitments that can delay your arrival, but please try your best to arrive at General Assembly by 6:30pm.

IV. Executive Report

a. Mariah Stepp (on behalf of Gerard Basalla): For those of you who don't know me, I am Mariah Stepp, Senior Counselor to the President here in USG. Gerard wants me to update the General Assembly about last week. Gerard, Danielle, Emmy, and the Abby's went to the BTOH (Big Ten on the Hill) conference. The administration advocated for more Pell Grants in the RE-Authorization of Higher Education Act as well as financial literacy for first year students with the Department of Education and discussed the current situation with the higher education secretary at the White House. Gerard also worked with other student body presidents on the Mental Health Reform Act. He went to the Statehouse downtown yesterday with Abby Waidelich and advocated on behalf of the student body for the Capital Budget Bill. This bill will provide Ohio State \$90 million for the restoration of Postle Hall (the Dentistry School) and engineering buildings. Gerard expects that bill to pass within a week.



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V. Committee Report

- a. Allocations—Derek Whiddon
 - i. The Allocations Committee met this past week and funded the following organizations:
 - 1. Alpha Phi Omega \$920 for Founder's Day Celebration
 - 2. Korean Student Association \$466 for KSA Cookout
 - 3. Chinese Student and Scholar Society \$1115.90 for their 12 Citizens Drama event
 - 4. Indian Students Association \$1088 for USTAV event
 - 5. Club Baseball \$918 for Notre Dame series trip
 - 6. Enzo Technology \$870.54 for Innovation and Entrepreneurship Conference
 - 7. Collegiate Council on World Affairs \$1500 for the Chicago Model United Nations Conference
 - 8. Committee for Justice in Palestine \$1500 for an event; however the event has been cancelled and rescheduled for the fall.
 - ii. On Tuesday, four members met after Cabinet for a special session to review an application for the following organization:
 - 1. Organization of Arab Students \$250 for OAS Hafle
- b. Oversight—Mario Belfiglio
 - i. The Oversight Committee did not meet this past week.
 - ii. There will be elections later this meeting to determine the new members of the Oversight Committee.

VI. New Business

- a. 49-R-1: A Resolution to Approve the Senior Staff and Operation Team
 - i. Motion to enter committee on the whole. PASSED.
 - 1. The General Assembly is now the Oversight Committee.
 - ii. Stepp: This resolution essentially approves the senior staff and operations team for the new administration. The senior staff and operations team appointments, as decided by the President and Vice President, will be as follows:
 - 1. Annie Greer Chief of Staff
 - 2. Jenna Gravalis Deputy Chief of Staff
 - 3. Mariah Stepp Senior Counselor to the President
 - 4. Elizabeth Fries Senior Counselor to the Vice President



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- 5. LeRoy Ricksy Senior Inclusion Advisor
- 6. Samuel Whipple Senior Delegate to University Senate
- 7. Margaret Wydman Chief Financial Officer
- 8. Derek Whiddon Deputy Chief Financial Officer
- 9. Emily Clark Communications Director
- 10. Stephen Post Internal Affairs Director
- 11. Zawaar Khan Outreach Director
- iii. *Warnimont*: If the person is here, can we have a short statement from them?
- iv. *Greer*: Hi everyone! I have been appointed as Chief of Staff for this new administration. I have been in USG for 3 years. I was a Deputy Director for Student Affairs during my sophomore year and then Director of Student Affairs during my junior year. This past year I headed up the Dining and STEP Task Forces, both of which now have University Senate legislation about them. As Chief of Staff, I hope to do efficient and fun work!
- v. *Gravalis*: Hi, my name is Jenna Gravalis. I was appointed Deputy Chief of Staff. Last year, I was the Deputy Chief Financial Officer so I have a financial background which I believe will help me in this position. I also previously served as a senator and during my term I worked a lot on off-campus safety. In my position, I will make sure that our organization stays on track and meets our goals.
- vi. *Stepp*: As I said earlier my name is Mariah Stepp. I have been appointed to serve as the Senior Counselor to the President. During my second year, I served as a Deputy Director for the Health and Safety Committee. This past year I served as the Chief of Staff for USG under the last administration. I am excited to have the opportunity to be involved with different committees and policy points through this position. Lastly, I have worked with many administrators over the past two years and I believe that knowledge will serve me well in this position.
- vii. *Fries*: Hi, I am Liz Fries. I was appointed as Senior Counselor to the Vice President for this year. I joined USG my freshman year as a committee representative in Health and Safety; and this



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past year I became a Deputy Director for Diversity and Inclusion. Being on Diversity and Inclusion, I have seen many problems that students have with USG. Currently, I serve on the Demographics Task Force, which I think will be very important for your constituency events as senators. I have an excellent relationship with Danielle and I will keep her focused on the important issues facing USG this upcoming year.

- viii. Wydman: Hi guys! I am Emmy Wydman. I have worked with the outreach and public relations committees during my first two years in USG. This past year I was a Fisher College of Business Senator. I worked last year on the Sexual Violence Task Force and the ItsOnUs campaign as well. I am excited to serve as the Chief Financial Officer this upcoming year. With a background in business, I am fully confident in my ability to serve as the CFO.
 - ix. *Khan*: Next year will be my third year here in USG. I worked on the Sexual Violence Task Force with Emmy last year as well. This upcoming year will be critical for outreach, but I don't believe it will be too difficult for USG to develop relationships with outside organizations. So, I want to develop accountability for the organization.
 - x. *Glass*: I believe that the administration did an excellent job when it comes to the appointment of their senior staff. I want to let other senators speak on this, but I don't believe this resolution will need much discussion.
- xi. Warnimont: Friendly amendments
- xii. Motion to call the question PASSED.
- xiii. Motion to rise and report PASSED.
- xiv. Motion to move into discussion PASSED.
- xv. 49-R-1 PASSED with UNANIMOUS CONSENT.
- b. 49-R-2: A Resolution to Approve the Cabinet Directors
 - i. *Abusway*: Hi, I'm Samer. I was a Committee Representative my first year and a Deputy Director this past year. I worked on the STEP Task Force Report as well. I worked a lot with advising, affordable textbooks, and the professor dinners. I look forward to making progress with the Academic Affairs committee.



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- ii. *Warnimont*: What do you see as the biggest room for improvement?
- iii. *Abusway:* Communication. I don't know the exact answer to that problem right now. But definitely communicating with others will be the place for improvement.
- iv. Buss: Hello, I was a regional campus student at Wooster my first year. When I came here my sophomore year, I got involved right away. My second year, I asked what USG was doing for LGBTQ students. No one really had an answer, which pushed me to do work for those students. I started as a Deputy Director and I explored what BART was. When the Director of Diversity and Inclusion left, I was appointed to fill that seat. I hit the ground running. My committee had many, many events and we facilitated discussion with lots of students. As the year went on, I realized how big of a disconnect we had with students of minority backgrounds. I think we are poised to fix that. With the relationships we made in the past few weeks. I am confident that we can get our advocacy going and make great changes.
- v. *Chang:* Hi everyone, my name is Sophie Chang. I have been appointed as Health and Safety Director. I started last year as South Campus Senator and the Secretary of the General Assembly. I worked with the Diversity and Inclusion committee, helping with the EndHateOSU campaign. Next year, I am really excited and honored to help students with their health and safety. For projects, I hope to work on mental health, off-campus safety, and sexual violence.
- vi. Warnimont: Do you have any specific ideas?
- vii. *Chang:* I want to work with the administration to bring the Therapist Assisted Online program to campus as well as bystander awareness training. Working with student safety services to make them better.
- viii. *Liu:* What kind of plans do you have regarding the trauma brought to international students? Particularly to address general discrimination towards international students.



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- ix. *Chang:* I plan on working with CCS to help streamline their processes for international students. Also, let's work on transitioning a lot of the resources to accommodate their languages. I want to advertise the BART system better towards international students.
- x. *Merchant:* I worked in Student Affair this past year. I believe my experience with Annie Greer has given me the knowledge on how to be an effective leader. I want to work on affordability and accountability, STEP and Dining project as well as other committees.
- xi. *Reed:* Hi everyone, this will be my third year as Director of Sustainability, which should be the longest serving director in USG history. Within my committee, I will make sure the Deputy Directors and Committee Representatives have a role to play in this. Policy-wise, I plan on working on the Energy Management Plan. I want to make sure we have plenty of programing and projects for the student body.
- xii. Liu: Do you plan to work with other student organizations?
- xiii. *Reed:* There is a council of presidents from various student organizations that deal with sustainability. Really the sky is the limit when it comes to what we can do as a student body.
- xiv. *Warnimont:* For Buss, last year was the first year that USG did an internal demographics report, where's the room for improvement and how?
- xv. Buss: USG needs to do better with regards to race. We want to make sure that the process is not simply based on their race, but a genuine desire to work with USG and better the student body. The Demographics Task Force is currently making a recommendations list for the organization to make sure we are hitting as many communities as possible. USG needs to reflect the student body as a whole. Another process is that USG needs to be more inclusive as a whole. Little things like hashtags that we use on Twitter that may not seem friendly or welcoming. We need to make USG as inclusive as possible.
- xvi. *Liu:* For Merchant, can you talk about any programs for international students?



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- xvii. *Merchant:* I plan on working with Buss on many of those programs. Specifically, I want to make USG more accessible for those student groups.
- xviii. *Glass:* Like I said before, I think this is an all-star group of director. So, great job.
 - xix. Warnimont: Friendly amendments.
 - xx. Motion to call the question.
 - xxi. Motion to rise and report.
- xxii. Motion to move into discussion.
- xxiii. **Motion to call the question.**
- xxiv. 49-R-2 PASSED with unanimous consent.
- xxv. *Swearing in of the new directors*

VII. Old Business

- a. Deputy Director of the Committee on Academic Affairs Election
 - i. Nominations: Zach Clark
 - ii. Zach Clark elected as the Deputy Director of the Committee on Academic Affairs.
- b. Deputy Director of the Committee on Student Affairs Election
 - i. Nominations: *Kurt Shaffer, Kimmy Sullivan,* Noah Bidna (declined)
 - ii. Entered Executive Session.
 - iii. Kimmy Sullivan elected as the Deputy Director of the Committee on Student Affairs.
 - iv. Motion for a three minute recess. PASSED.
- c. Deputy Director of the Committee on Health and Safety Election
 - i. Nominations: *Michael Frank, Win Adissem,* Maria Vargo (declined), Melissa Chimé (declined)
 - ii. Entered Executive Session.
 - iii. Michael Frank elected as Deputy Director of the Committee on Health and Safety.
- d. Deputy Director of the Committee on Diversity and Inclusion Election
 - i. Nominations: Noah Bidna, Nick Prayner, Rebecca Serfozo, Vincent Liu
 - ii. Entered Executive Session.
 - iii. Nick Prayner elected as the Deputy Director of the Committee on Diversity and Inclusion.



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- e. Deputy Director of the Committee on Governmental Relations Election
 - i. Nominations: Mikayla Bodey, Joseph Warnimont (declined), Kurt Shaffer (declined)
 - ii. Mikayla Bodey elected as the Deputy Director of the Committee on Governmental Relations.
- f. Deputy Director of the Committee on Sustainability Election
 - i. Nominations: Connor Dorony (declined), Carla Gracia, Kyle Dorony (declined), Zach Kauffman (declined)
 - ii. Carla Gracia elected as the Deputy Director of the Committee on Sustainability
- g. Steering Elections
 - i. Motion to suspend the rules.
 - ii. Nominated: Kimmy Sullivan, Michael Frank, Nick Prayner, and Sophie Chang
 - iii. Motion to close nominations.
 - iv. Kimmy Sullivan, Michael Frank, Nick Prayner, and Sophie Chang appointed to the Steering Committee
- h. Oversight Elections
 - i. *Belfiglio*: I need eight senators to join me on Sundays at 3pm. The Oversight Committee reviews resolutions about appointments, censures, and changes to our governing documents.
 - ii. Motion to suspend the rules.
 - iii. Nominated: Ryan Moore, Zach Clark, Tony Buss, Joe Warnimont, Kurt Schafer, Noah Bidna, Bertha Kim, and Win Addisem
 - iv. Motion to close nominations.

VIII. Announcements

- a. *Di Scala*: Congratulations to everyone elected tonight. Look out for an email from Derek Whiddon for an update on the Allocations Committee. Steering, please see me afterwards.
- b. *Clark*: When is the deadline for resolution submission?
- c. Di Scala: Sundat at 12pm.
- d. Belfiglio: Oversight, let's meet afterwards.

IX. Adjournment