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**50<sup>th</sup> General Assembly**  
Fall 2017, Session 4  
August 23, 2017

**I. Opening**

- a. Call to Order
- b. Attendance
  - i. Kurt Shaffer.518 for Donnelly
- c. Swearing in of Alternates
- d. Approval of Minutes
  - i. Minutes approved

**II. Open Forum for Public**

**III. Updates**

- a. *Sophie Chang:*
  - i. Certificates, name tags, and business cards are all in! We are checking in about the USG office access forms, and will keep you updated. Mark your calendars for this Saturday, the 26th, from 11am to 1pm for the GA Retreat in Page Hall, room 0010. Please be sure to bring something to write on, and something to write with.
  - ii. Also, please be mindful that item 8 on our agenda is a 5-minute recess for prayer. This can be excised at any time during our session, including between items in New Business, as long as someone motions to move into our 5-min recess. Today, it will be at 8:30pm.

**IV. Executive Report**

- a. *Andrew Jackson:*
  - i. Hi everybody! Hopefully everyone had a good summer. Sophie and I have been working a lot on policy over the summer, and we are really excited to get things started this year. If there's any specific questions, just let me know. I am always in my office! All of my office hours are posted on the use website. Same goes for Sophie as well as Samer. Any questions? Great.

**V. Committee Reports**

- a. Allocations Committee



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*Averi Townsend:* Allocations did not meet over the summer, and therefore there are no updates.

b. Oversight Committee

*Michael Swaggerty:* I don't really have a time for our meeting set up yet. I am waiting to see what happens with another meeting we have on Sundays. It'll probably be on Sunday afternoon, I am not sure what time but we won't be meeting every week so don't worry about that. We will just be meeting mostly as needed. I will keep you updated!

**VI. Old Business**

**VII. New Business**

a. 50-R-4: A Resolution to Appoint 3 Justices to the Judicial Panel

- i. *Chang:* According to Article III of USG's Constitution, the Undergraduate Student Government Judicial Panel shall be composed of at least 7 but no more than 9 justices. Last semester, the JP was not full, and it's my job to ensure that the JP is fully staffed. I released the JP vacancy application on April 10th, and the application window lasted for 2 weeks. The application stated that no prior experience in USG is required to apply for or be appointed to the Judicial Panel. I received 23 applications, reviewed them blindly with my Senior Counselor, and selected 9 applicants for in-person interviews. Ultimately, 3 were selected out of the pool of 23 (2 of which had not been involved in USG in the past) and were offered the position of Associate Justice on the Judicial Panel. This resolution was written and is being introduced to confirm these 3 students as Associate Justices of the JP. According to the Constitution, they must be confirmed by  $\frac{2}{3}$  of the General Assembly. These candidates were selected out of the most highly competitive pool of applicants the JP has seen in the past. Feel free to ask them questions, I will not yield to Chief Justice Connor Greenwood, but I hope you'll see the same passion and dedication to upholding the goals of the JP as I do.



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- ii. *Greenwood*: Hi everyone, my name is Connor Greenwood, and I am the Chief Justice of JP. The candidates that I bring for you today are Mady Fulger, Namrata Pujara, and Theo Randolph. If you have any questions, please feel free to ask each one.
- iii. *Chang*: Just so you know, if you have any questions, please direct them to me, and then I will direct them to whoever you wanted to. Are there any questions for Chief Justice Connor Greenwood, or any of the 3 applicant?
- iv. *Davis*: Why did you apply?
- v. *Randolph*: I can start since I have been on the judicial panel. I was formally a clerk of the court, and I have a lot of experience doing that. I was the only person, excluding Connor, that was in every single hearing that occurred last year — and if you don't know, there are a lot of hearings. Although, I enjoyed doing that, I enjoyed being on the panel. I realized that wanted to make decisions. Because as clerk you have to leave when the actual decision is being made, you just serve as the liaison between the different parties. So that's why I applied.
- vi. *Pujara*: I can go next! I'm Namrata. I just wanted to make sure elections are fair for the students and the candidates that I running.
- vii. *Fulger*: Hi, I'm Mady. I am really involved on campus, and seeing as the Judicial Panel is like something I would like to go into in the future, I thought this was a good opportunity.
- viii. *Chang*: Okay, are there any other questions? Seeing none, we will not move into executive session, so I am going to ask the judicial panel to leave, with the exception of Tony.

***Entered executive session at 6:37pm***

***Ended executive session at 6:40pm***

***50-R-4 passed with unanimous consent***



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- ix. *Chang*: Now we will confirm you on the floor. You can just stand up on the floor wherever you are, and repeat after me. This is the judicial panel oath of office.
  - x. *Randolph, Pujara, and Fulger*: I promise to faithfully execute the office of Undergraduate Student Government Judicial Panel Justice, and to render fair, impartial decisions, based on evidence presented.
- b. 50-R-5: A Resolution to Approve the Elections Bylaws
- i. *Chang*: This was also introduced by me on the behalf of Chief Justice Connor Greenwood since he is not a part of our general assembly. So Article III, Section C, Subsection 2 says that “The Judicial Panel shall maintain the Undergraduate Student Government Elections Bylaws.” Article III, Section 6 of the Constitution states that “The JP shall have sole jurisdiction of amending the Undergraduate Student Government Elections Bylaws and Procedures.” GA may suggest changes, but may not amend the USG Elections Bylaws. At the beginning of every GA term, the Chief Justice is required to submit the USG Elections Bylaws in the form of legislation. 50-R-5 is the legislation attached to the amended USG Elections Bylaws. Please be mindful that passage of this requires a simple majority of GA members present. I will now yield my time to Chief Justice Connor Greenwood to speak on this if he would like, and we’ll move into questions after.
  - ii. *Greenwood*: Has everyone had a chance to read over the bylaws? Does anyone have any specific questions or concerns?
  - iii. *Tyson*: The highlighted sections are the one that have changed?
  - iv. *Greenwood*: Yes, that is correct.
  - v. *Smith*: I wanted to go over the things that are struck through, and was wonder if you could give a run down of why these no longer needed to be stated in the bylaws.



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- vi. *Greenwood*: Is there anything specific you are referring to?
- vii. *Smith*: Yes, candidate conduct, section B, campaigning. Why is it necessary to remove “Candidates, candidate teams, and slates may ask, verbally, electronically, or in writing, for assistance in campaigning from individuals or student groups at any time.”
- viii. *Greenwood*: The rationale behind moving that clause from the bylaws, was that we felt like it was almost invitation to try to skirt the bylaws. It’s happened before, I’ve been on the JP for 3 years. It noticeably, and publicly happened this past election cycle, but it has happened before in a variety of ways.
- ix. *Smith*: So now, only in the campaign period can you ask for assistance?
- x. *Greenwood*: Yes, that is correct. If you notice, we did not mention anything explicitly about a GoFundMe page. And if something like that happens again, we will deal with it on a case-by-case basis.
- xi. *Kanas*: Are there any changes on spending limits?
- xii. *Greenwood*: The CBRC made changes to the spending to the limit, and I believe that changed from — don’t quote me on this — \$4,000 to \$2,500. Those changes from last year will go into affect this school year.
- xiii. *McKenzie*: Is there a reason why in Article IV, we are taking out the Judicial Panel’s responsibility to compile a webpage with information about each candidate, candidate team, and slate?
- xiv. *Greenwood*: To be honest with you, that clause is from back when candidates didn’t make their own website. Even though it has been in the bylaws, in the past few elections, we haven’t even made or maintained one of those websites. This is because everything they needed was already on those websites. The reason why it was taken out was because no one felt strongly that it needed to be there at this point in time.



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xv. *Chang*: Any further questions? Okay, we will now move into discussion.

***Moved into Discussion***

xvi. *Clemmons*: As far as Article 4, part E, I have noticed a lot that when it come to elections time, people prefer to have one place to go to so I personally don't think that that part should be taken out.

xvii. *Humayaun*: **Motion** to unstrike Article 4, part E, subsection c

***Motion passed***

***Moved into Discussion***

xviii. *Sami*: I wanted to touch upon how Connor mentioned that they don't really enforce that, but I feel like in the future we should. If anything, it should be easier for people to access these websites and make an informed decision. Honestly, I didn't even know that was a thing — granted I don't know a lot of things — but I do think it should be easier.

xix. *Davis*: The only reason why I thought it doesn't matter was because like Connor said, they don't really do anything. I think we should try to enforce it more this year.

xx. *Mckenzie*: I think links to the website should be sufficient. I don't think we need to have a list of every single senator.

xxi. *Humayun*: Although I agree with what she just said, if it is coming from the website directly it could be biased. I feel like an unbiased opinion coming from the JP would be the best way to go about it.

xxii. *Clemmons*: I don't think we need a list of all the senators, but we should have some of the hot ticket policy points on there. I think it will help because some people will just go off of decision or the names, and not really look at policy. Honestly, some people are just lazy and don't want to go to all of the different websites. It needs to be a one stop shop, let me see what's important, and keep it like that.



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- xxiii. *Long*: So I am kind of like in the middle in between the two. I think we should just include the president and the vice president's link along with the website link. Even though it is the JP's job to be as unbiased as possible, since that is what they specialize in, I don't think we should leave it up to them to also highlight policy points.
- xxiv. *Sami*: Yeah, I agree. I don't think you need a lot of information, especially because it is the JP.
- xxv. *Greenwood*: We already have the president and the vice-president's name on there. All we would be adding to that would be the link to their websites.
- xxvi. *Weller*: I think we should be keeping the interaction between JP and Campaign to a minimal.
- xxvii. *Tyson*: I agree with just putting the website links on there instead of adding all of the extra information because that will lead to a lot of issues. I do however think it is important to add the names of the senators because the senators do not always run with president and vice president campaigns.
- xxviii. *Greenwood*: We do already do that just so you know. We list all of the senator candidates as well.
- xxix. *Davis*: In my opinion, what was done last year is sufficient. I don't think a whole website is necessary, because I think that is part of campaigning. If you want to earn someone's vote, you have to get out there and actually earn their vote. Also someone was saying, just list president and vice president — well that doesn't really work for me. I didn't run on a slate, I ran by myself and I won because I out-campaigned my competitors.
- xxx. *Ferguson*: Do you know how many people actually visited that website?
- xxxi. *Greenwood*: Well we didn't have a website. What we did have, and what we've always had is a pdf that is posted on the USG



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website through the elections page. That's how everyone knows who's running.

xxxii. *Smith*: I agree a website might not be necessary if it is already in a pdf. I think we could just add links to different pages on that pdf. You can still press it and get redirected to the website.

xxxiii. *Tyson*: I did not realize there was a pdf, which is why I motioned to unstrike this. The only thing that needs to be changed is adding a link into the pdf.

xxxiv. *Mckenzie*: **Motion** to end discussion and pass with unanimous consent.

***Motion passed***

***50-R-5 with the unstricken clauses passed with unanimous consent***

- c. 50-R-6: A Resolution to Approve the Standing Rules of the Judicial Branch
- i. *Chang*: How this works is pretty much the same. The JP is required to bring this to general assembly in the fall. I wrote this on the behalf of Chief Justice Greenwood. I will now yield to Justice Greenwood.
  - ii. *Greenwood*: We can do what we have been doing, we can start with if anyone has any questions.
  - iii. *Humayun*: **Motion** to end discussion and pass with unanimous consent.

***Motion passed***

***50-R-6 passed with unanimous consent***

**VIII. 5-Minute Recess for Prayer**

**IX. Announcements**

- a. *Sophie Chang*:
- i. The last two USG info sessions are going to be held tomorrow night and Friday night. Tell your friend or anyone who might want to join USG that there is going to be a meeting in the





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- RPAC Meeting Room 1 at 6:30 tomorrow night, and the Union's Creative Arts Room at 6:30 on Friday night.
- ii. GA Vacancy apps are live at [go.osu.edu/GAapp](http://go.osu.edu/GAapp). We're missing 1 senator each for Dentistry, Social Work, and Social & Behavioral Sciences. Please tell your friends, RT on Twitter, etc -- if you think of anyone in those areas who would represent constituents in those areas well, please direct them to the app. No prior experience in GA or USG is required -- freshmen can technically apply, too! Apps close at 11:59pm on Saturday, September 2nd.
  - iii. I know we just got back to school, but please speak to your constituents. I am trying to set a culture where members of GA actually stand for the people they represent. You ran and were elected for a reason. We're here to be the undergraduate voice dedicated to the betterment of higher education and student life. In order to be that voice, you have to speak to the people you serve and the people who elected you. I believe in you and I'm so excited to begin this academic year of work and outreach with you.
  - iv. I know that you got an email about GA on the oval. The dates are going to change. We are going to have our first one on the date that we were supposed to have our second. I'll send out an email in the next few days. We will probably have our second one more towards the end of the semester so that you have that opportunity to talk to a variety of people. That is it for my announcements. Would anyone else like to be added to the announcements list before we move into Shaffer's dog update?
- b. *Tony Buss:*
- i. We mentioned GA retreat earlier, and we are going to have a guest speaker. Our guest speaker is Dr. J, so please come on



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time because she will be speaking right at the beginning. We want to respect her and her time because she is putting us into her busy schedule. So that's all I had to

c. *Kurt Shaffer:*

- i. Hi everyone. My name is Kurt and I am not actually a senator this year, but I am here for Erin today. I've had this job for 2 years, and I always update people about my dog at the end of the meeting. I figured I'd tell you guys that she had a great summer, and she was incredibly excited to see me. She slept with me every night, and as soon as I left, she started to have very bad panic attacks. However, my dad showed up and alleviated those pretty quickly, and now she's okay. With that being said, make sure you read your legislation before you come in — I never did. Make sure you reach out to your constituents — I never did. Make sure to show up every Wednesday — I did that, other people didn't. With that being said, I motion to adjourn the meeting.

d. **Adjournment**

- i. **Meeting adjourned at 7:09 pm.**