

50<sup>th</sup> General Assembly Spring 2017, Session 6 September 6, 2017

# I. Opening

- a. Call to Order
- b. Attendance
- c. Swearing in of Alternates
  - i. Clyde Bennett III.1203 for Bennett.1055
  - ii. Cole Wallis.55 for Kanas.1
  - iii. Warda Jama.81 for Mohamed.287
- d. Approval of Minutes

# II. Open Forum for the Public

a. *Daniel Pohlod.2*: Hi everyone, my name is Danielle, and I am friend with Nick over here. I am here for the resolution to oppose the window art ban in campus residence halls. I think it's pretty self explanatory — we all live our first amendment freedoms. Generally, I think it is a really good move to support this resolution. As long as it does not harm the windows or is harmful to students, I don't really see it as a problem —75% transparency is what was in the bill. Wherever you stand on political issues, I think students should be able to express themselves. Overall, I think it would be a good move for the students on campus to express themselves.

### III. Updates

- a. Sophie Chang:
  - i. As of this week, Abu Rogers has resigned from his Natural and Mathematical Sciences seat because he is currently going through some immigration issues. He will not be with us for at least one semester. It is really unfortunate, and few send our thoughts over.



50<sup>th</sup> General Assembly Spring 2017, Session 6 September 6, 2017

I've offered my help in any way that I can. It is just an unfortunate situation that he wont be able to represent his constituents this semester. At this point, we have 4 vacancies: Education & Human Ecology, Social Work, Dentistry, and Natural & Mathematical Sciences. Vacancy applications will be coming out in a few weeks! We are working on a marketing plan right now, and I will keep you all updated on that. Abu was the Health and Safety GA Deputy Director, so we will be having elections for those next week. Just a heads up that the meeting might go a little long, and if you are interested in running for the position of Deputy Director next week please be prepared.

- ii. Next, we have attendance at allocations meeting. If you are part of allocations, just keep in mind that you were elected by this chamber for a reason. Make sure you are going to the meetings, and not just telling Averi the day of the meeting that you can't make it. Frankly, for an organization of our size and reputation, it is embarrassing for us to have to cancel on student organizations because certain Deputy Directors did not show up.
- iii. Lastly, steering will be having a meeting this Sunday at 1 pm.
  Make sure that if you are in steering, show up. We have a lot to do this week.

### IV. Executive Report

a. Andrew Jackson: Hey guys! I am going to tell you the big three from this week, and then tell you about some other things that we have been



**50<sup>th</sup> General Assembly** Spring 2017, Session 6 September 6, 2017

working on. One of the big three is coming out of sustainability, it's an off-campus composting pilot. If you have any questions about that, talk to Vikas in the back. He knows more information that I do — but pretty much, USG is funding 50 free composting for students that live off campus, and then \$10 for any other ones. Is that correct?

- b. Vikas Munjal: Yeah. It's going to be \$40 for this semester, if you are outside of that group of 50 that sign up. If you think about it, if you live in a house with 8 people, that's \$5 per person.
- c. Andrew Jackson: There is also the first USG forum tomorrow night from 5:30 to 6 in the Brutus Buckeye Room on the third floor. Just a really good way for you to keep up with not just GA, but also everything that is happening in each of the committees of cabinet. Then, we also have Clean Up Columbus coming up. You can sign up your organization to do clean up Columbus, and you just go down the streets on campus and pick up trash. Your student organization is eligible to get \$75 from that. It's a great way for student organization — especially smaller ones to get money to fund whatever your projects might be, and also helping clean up around campus. So those were the big three from this week! One other thing that I am sure we are all aware of is that the white house came out yesterday, and DACA has been eliminated. We are currently in the process of getting federal lobbying appointments set up for either lobbying in DC or the state house to lobby our congress people to keep DACA going for our students. We put out a statement this morning about that. If you have any questions about that, please feel free to come to either my or Sophie's office hours



50<sup>th</sup> General Assembly Spring 2017, Session 6 September 6, 2017

about what that means for students. I don't want to take up too much time because we have elections tonight. If you have any questions that we can't answer, we will direct you to Bowen Marshall who is the person who is in charge of the DACA students here at Ohio State.

### V. Committee Reports

a. Allocations Committee

Averi Townsend: There are no allocations.

b. Oversight Committee

Michael Swaggerty: Reminder that we are meeting this Sunday. We are going to have our first meeting and go over some highlights from the Bylaws, Constitution, and all that — make sure you study up on that. We also have out first orders of business that we will get to on Sunday. We will be meeting at 4 pm since steering is meeting at 1 pm. It will be in the Union, but I will let you know the specific room in the GroupMe.

# VI. Old Business

#### VII. New Business

- a. 50-R-7: A Resolution to Oppose the Window Art Ban in Campus Residence
  Halls
  - i. *Humayun:* Hi guys, I'm Maria. Basically the rationale behind writing this was because we didn't understand why there was an outright ban on the window art policy. I know from my experience last year, I did see the occasional things that were not the nicest. A lot of it though was just fun and allowed students to show their creative sides. I do believe that this is an infringement on out first



50<sup>th</sup> General Assembly Spring 2017, Session 6 September 6, 2017

amendment rights. Basically it is just a resolution outlining that as long as the students follow the student code of conduct, the art is 75% transparent, and isn't harmful or harmful to other students, it should be allowed. That's basically the reasoning behind the resolution.

- ii. Weller: In researching the new policy that the university passed, they did mention that other schools were doing this and they were following that example. However, by researching other Big Ten schools, only Nebraska has a clear policy against this, Purdue has an ambiguous policy. We also found that MSU, North Western, Wisconsin, Illinois, Minnesota, Iowa and Rutgers all did not have policies again it, while Indiana and Penn State both just had regulations. Essentially, what we found is that the university can't just be limiting our free speech. If they are passing this and they didn't specify why they passed it they can only do it under the grounds of safety or maintenance issue. So essentially, like Maria said, we outlined what we believe to be are fair regulations for window art. It can't be damaging towards the windows, and should comply with safety regulations, while allowing students to maintain the freedom of expression.
- iii. *Tyson:* I don't want to be an echo chamber here but the point of this resolution was not to allow the university to limit our free speech. I believe that students should be able to express themselves. I also believe that walking through North Campus,



50th General Assembly Spring 2017, Session 6 September 6, 2017

you could see the things written on the windows sometimes just made your day. The good outweighs the bad which is why we made a resolution.

- iv. *Bowles:* Having done some outreach on North Campus, I have come to find really quickly that the ban is something the students oppose. They are really excited about the fact that there is something being done to oppose that. It's the will of the students to get this overturned, and I think its our job to get that done.
- v. *Long:* Same thing! Being South Campus Senator, I wanted to make sure my constituents has their beliefs executed completely, especially those living on 10th, which is a big glass building. They really liked to express themselves. I just wanted to make sure that those who were in direct opposition, which was the majority, were able to get their voices heard.

### Questions for the sponsors

- vi. *Smith, Nate:* We mentioned that as long as it wasn't hateful and harmful I just had a question about where that line is drawn. I feel like there would be some people who would definitely push the limits if it wasn't almost explicitly stated. Will we have a specific line there, or will it be kind of nebulous? I would just like a little bit of clarification
- vii. *Humayun:* We have it in the bottom of the resolution that it is up to the discretion of the resident advisor. I feel as though if someone is walking down between Blackburn and Scott, and sees



50th General Assembly Spring 2017, Session 6 September 6, 2017

something that says "specific minority group sucks" You can bring that up with the Resident Advisor, and they'll be able to say "This is hateful — take it down." Last year was an interesting year for this because it was an election year, and a very dividing one in fact. But I think that this year, that is not going to be that much of a problem.

- viii. *Treglia:* My question was along the same lines. There are things that you cant put up. For example, if they are hateful or prejudice. But I guess, more of my question would be Actually, I guess that answers it.
- ix. *Sami:* If we keep it up to the RA's there is just no consistency. Some RA's might not think something is controversial while some others will. We need concrete guidelines as to what is appropriate and what isn't. Also, I don't know if I should get in this, but it obviously is a big concern politically. Some would argue that some political statements are prejudice. So would we ban all political statements at all?
- x. Weller: I would just like to point out that, fourth from the bottom, the "Let it further be resolved..." clause it states that all window art would be subject to the code of conduct. I think that should answer questions along those lines.
- xi. *Dennen:* My question was about resident advisors versus resident managers. I think keeping it up to the Resident Managers might be



50th General Assembly Spring 2017, Session 6 September 6, 2017

a more concrete way to keep this regulated. Like it was mentioned before, RA's vary a lot.

- xii. *Long:* So I am an office assistant, and my boss is directly the Resident Manager whereas with an RA, their boss is more of a Hall Director. Giving the responsibility to the Resident Manager to do it isn't really in their job description because their job is to run the desk. That would less fall on to the Resident Manager, as compared to the Hall Director.
- xiii. Virani: I have a similar question. An RA is also just a student at this university, rather than a Resident Manager. Also, I just wanted to ask, what would the repercussions be if someone violated it. Would it be in levels? Like if someone were to put a confederate flag, or just a political comment such as "Make America Great Again" that is not as aggressive. I just wanted to know what the repercussions might be and if there would be levels of repercussions.
- xiv. *Humayun*: The repercussions would be, if it is hateful speech, you would be written up, and have to have a discussion with your hall director as to why we shouldn't be saying hateful things. I don't think political states of like "Make America Great Again" is something that you can be written up for because that is simply your view. I think in our dorms we should be able to fully express our views. That comes with not being hateful, but also being able to say I support this candidate. I think last year you saw a lot of



**50<sup>th</sup> General Assembly** Spring 2017, Session 6 September 6, 2017

that. That was really the first year that all of this had occurred. But I think that since we are not in an election year, it is going to be slightly different than what we all experienced last year.

xv. *Smith, Nate*: I might want to add something to the resolution. I looked over it a little, and I'm not sure if there is something there already —

xvi. Chang: Uh, we're in questions right now.

xvii. Smith, Nate: Oh lol, I didn't meant to...

xviii. Chang: Do you have a question you'd like to bring up?

xix. Smith, Nate: Not currently.

xx. Chang: Okay. Just bring that up in discussion later.

xxi. Swaggerty: Were you open to the possibility of speaking with resident hall advisors to create a university wide policy on what would be allowed or what would not be allowed? Pretty much, what would classify as hate speech and what wouldn't in a sense. That way, people in different dorms don't have different regulations?

xxii. *Humayun*: I think that is definitely something we would do. I think that if this resolution passes, that is going to be the next step that we take. We will meet with he housing director and various hall directors and set guidelines. I think right now the main focus is opposing it and setting a baseline for how we want to move forward.



50<sup>th</sup> General Assembly Spring 2017, Session 6 September 6, 2017

xxiii.Leeder: Was this window ban an amendment specifically to the handbook or was it an amendment to the housing contract?
xxiv.Weller: It's in the residents' living handbook

infringement on out first amendment rights, however I think that there should be set guidelines. I don't want to make anything political right now, but to some people, someone putting up a confederate flag is a show of prejudice for some people. I understand that there are differences of opinions, but some people will take that as a sign of prejudice and that sort of thing. I know students don't feel comfortable with seeing that. I don't want to make it into a political thing, but there do need to be set guidelines. I guess I want to ask, would you be willing to make set guidelines for this because it is a subjective topic? What would be some set rules that you would provide, if you would provide any?

xxvi. Humayun: The set rules that we currently have now in this resolution are as long as it follows the Student Code of Conduct its okay. As long as the speech isn't hateful — that sort of thing. I think that again, that is a conversation for a later date when this passes — if it passes. Right now, we are just saying that we are not in favor of an outright blanket ban.

xxvii. Mensing: What are the repercussions? I know that regarding RAs, they are supposed to direct the things that are controversial to BART — the bias assessment team — and they are the ones



**50<sup>th</sup> General Assembly** Spring 2017, Session 6 September 6, 2017

that investigate it. I don't think it should be up to what the RAs think because it goest to BART anyway.

as to why this blanket ban was put in to place. Were there specific instances or problems in past years which made them think that this is necessary?

xxix. *Humayun:* From what I read, and my knowledge on this is that they didn't really give an outright example or reasoning as to why they did it. They just changed the policy and said that they have the ability to do that.

xxx.*Chang:* I will provide some background for this even though we are in questions. We have asked about this in our administrative meetings and from our knowledge, and what we have been told, the window ban was put into place because a swasitka was placed in a very public place on a window.

xxxi. Tyson: Motion to move into discussion

### Motion PASSED

#### Moved to Discussion

xxxii. *Smith, Nate:* I wanted almost to add a thought about how it's stress relieving. Honestly, as I walked around on campus last year, I would see signs that would make me smile. And you know, with the everyday rush, it kind of slows down your pace. Just seeing different peoples' creativity or expression. I would definitely like



50<sup>th</sup> General Assembly Spring 2017, Session 6 September 6, 2017

to add a bit from the viewers side. I don't have the exact wording, but it would be nice to show that it's also positive for the viewers.

xxxiii. *Chang*: You can actually propose a friendly amendment later, and if the sponsors approve, it will be taken as friendly. If not, it will be taken as unfriendly, and will not be added.

xxxiv.Leeder: I would like to propose a *friendly amendment* to the last clause. Instead of having it say "to the discretion of resident advisors" we can say "hall directors."

### Amendment to last clause taken as FRIENDLY

xxxv. *Bowerman:* I was actually going to make a point about resident advisors. They go through two weeks of training where they talk about what counts as bias when they talk about BART. That includes speech on whiteboards or pictures that are put up.

Resident Advisors are already trained on how to handle speech like that, so making them in charge of what's on the windows, I don't think, makes a difference. That can just be something that is added to the training.

xxxvi. *Davis, Nick:* This is a way for the university to say that some students here do not agree with the vast majority of the student body. I don't see a reason to pretend otherwise. This is a way for them to not have to worry about people putting up viewpoints that some students deem offensive. If I had it my way, there wouldn't be any art ban and there wouldn't be any regulations. I am a huge proponent of free speech. If your opinion offends me, I will try



50<sup>th</sup> General Assembly Spring 2017, Session 6 September 6, 2017

and understand why you have that opinion, but I am not going to say that you can't have that opinion. That's just not how this country works. I strongly agree with this resolution. I really do hope that it passes. As it has been mentioned we are not in the election year anymore, people should not be putting up a bunch of political opinion because that's just not the time that we are in right now. It should be more neutral, hopefully. But that doesn't matter. A lot of the Art makes peoples' day, and it makes them happy. It's fun to look at, and if you see something that you don't like, then move on with your day. It clearly states in our resolution that everything is subject to the Student Code of Conduct, and that is very clear. If there is any hate speech, or anything that is inappropriate, I understand the need to have a diverse and inclusive environment on campus, then if anything is against the Student Code of Conduct, then it can be taken down. "Make America Great Again" is not offensive. A swastika obviously needs to be taken down. I strongly urge everyone to vote "Yes" on the resolution.

xxxvii.*Cromes:* Can I propose a *friendly amendment* to add a meeting between the hall directors and the proposers of this resolution and to add guidelines as to what is and what isn't hate speech?

xxxviii. *Chang*: If you can draft up a "Let it further be resolved clause," and text it to me, we can see if it's friendly after that.



50<sup>th</sup> General Assembly Spring 2017, Session 6 September 6, 2017

the student body. Twitter is a platform that I use to reach out to people, and I did run a twitter poll on this to see where people stood. I got more than 400 votes, and 71% of people were against it. Only 8 people were for it, and the rest of them were indifferent. So in the end of the day, we represent the student body. twitter poll. 400+ we represent the student body. A lot of people don't agree with this, and I think that a blanket ban takes it a little too far. This is kind of just setting the guidelines.

- xl. Sockwell: Motion to move into voting.
- xli. *Chang*: We need the "Let it further be resolved" clause from Senator Cromes.
- xlii. *Tyson: Point of parliamentary inquiry.* Can an amendment be taken as friendly?
- xliii. Chang: Good point. We need a vote since it changes the content of the resolution. Once we have the wording done, we can vote on that.
- xliv. *Bowles:* I remembered something that President Drake sent out in an email the day after the presidential elections. His quote was, "As a university, we exist to create knowledge, explore ideas and welcome diverse opinions in an atmosphere that is open, collegial and safe for each of us." I think that is something that really speaks to what we are trying to do. We want everyone to be able to express themselves and how they feel. There's a fine line



50th General Assembly Spring 2017, Session 6 September 6, 2017

between what matters to them, and what is hateful. In the bill here, we tried to have the Student Code of Conduct be what that fine line is, and what defines the difference between free speech and hate speech. I think that this is something we will have to work with, but it doesn't start unless we pass this right now. In reality, it doesn't start unless we pass it unanimously. That's just something to think about.

xlv.*McKenzie:* Where in the Student Code of Conducts does it outline what counts as hateful speech? I can't find it.

xlvi. *Humayun:* To answer Senator McKenzie's question, it's difficult to find it in the Student Code of Conduct, but with Senator Crome's amendment, it would be covered.

xlvii. Sami: Because in the amendment it says "...refer to the Code of Conduct", we cant vote on it right? Because it [definition of hate speech] doesn't exist. I **motion** to remove it [the fourth to last clause "Let it further be resolved that the USG supports a policy change that all window art is subject to the Student Code of Conduct"].

### Motion to remove clause FAILED

xlviii. *McKenzie:* Can I ask for an amendment to replace the Student Code of Conduct part? I feel like we should try to find something that explicitly says that Ohio State does not condone hateful speech, and define what that hateful speech is. If we are saying



50<sup>th</sup> General Assembly Spring 2017, Session 6 September 6, 2017

"refer to the Student Code of Conduct" there is nothing to refer to so I think we should replace it.

xlix. Davis, Imani: That's what I was going to say.

- 1. *Humayun:* Could we motion to change it to if it doesn't violate BART? To the discretion of BART? Would that be sufficient?
- li. *Chang:* Just a point of information, BART is not an enforcement arm, BART is simply a depository for what happens on campus.
- lii. Sockwell: I kind of think it is misleading to say "Student Code of Conduct" when it says nothing about it. I think it was just an assumption that it was in there, instead of doing the actual research, and I feel like that is kind of messy. I feel like we can do better. I honestly do believe that the art should be allowed, but if we are going to take it seriously, we should actually take it serious Not just hope that people are going to believe. As you can see we have people challenging it for the right reason. How can you tell someone they are in the wrong when you can't point to something in the Student Code of Conduct.
- liii. *Long:* So I was scanning through the Student Code of Conduct to try to get more clarification, and for me, as one of the Co-Sponsors, although it doesn't say explicitly what is considered hate speech, it does have more broader phrasing in it that hate speech could broadly fall under. As in the Student Code of Conduct, on page 3, section B, subsection 1, where it says "Endangering Behavior" and this is "Taking or threatening action



50<sup>th</sup> General Assembly Spring 2017, Session 6 September 6, 2017

that endangers the safety, physical or mental health or life of any person, or a reasonable fear of some action." I feel like that is broad enough of a claim to you know. In the example of a swastika, a student could very easily argue that image has reasonable fear associated with it. Then, it says on page 5, under section O, where it says "Violation of University Rules," or federal state and local laws. Although I don't have the exact definition of "local laws," I do know that hate speech is defined somewhere in there. I do want to point out that in this Code of Conduct, there is broad enough statement that could be used to define hate speech.

- liv. *Munjal*: I yield my time back to the speaker.
- lv. *Donnelly:* I wanted to ask about a point that another senator brought about earlier this evening about RA training, and what is and what isn't appropriate. I was wondering if there are any specific aspects of the training that could be applicable to this resolution.
- lvi. *Bowerman:* I was the one who brought it up. There is nothing specifically written down. It's mostly what Micah was saying about BART. If it is something against a certain group of people, we qualify that as bias. I'm not exactly sure as to what constitutes as hate speech.
- lvii. *Mensing:* That's exactly what I was going to say. As long as it is something that is in concern, our housing coordinator always said



**50<sup>th</sup> General Assembly** Spring 2017, Session 6 September 6, 2017

that if it is in concern then automatically report it. It is their job to sort that through to determine if it as bias or not. So the RA is supposed to report anything that they think is in question.

- lviii. Sophie: I will say that from my perspective as an RA of two years, there is no specific training on what you can and cannot put on walls.
- lix. *Dretzka:* I was also a former RA and I just wanted to say that statements like theses are usually broadly written, and we shouldn't be bogged down to specifics. These things are broadly written to be referred to as needed. They are written in generalities for a reason.
- lx. *Long:* Although I very much agree that we already resolved this, but if there are questions, comments, or concerns, I looked up the RA expectations that are written out by the university, and one thing that does fall under this is inclusion which has been defined as: "Being committed to create an inclusive and safe environment for residents." And then in a subsection it says, "Address bias incidences (i.e. racial, ethnic, disability, gender, and/or sexual orientation) promptly" With a little asterisk next to "Contact hall director/housing coordinator immediately to report incident" which in turn comes back to our initial resolution. Thank you.
- lxi. *McKenzie:* Since Senator Long found that, I think something along those lines should replace the "Student Code of Conduct" line. Just because it is a little bit more explicit, and there is not



50<sup>th</sup> General Assembly Spring 2017, Session 6 September 6, 2017

really that much room for subjectiveness, I guess you could say. Maybe if we amended the "Let it further be resolved" clause to include that statement, or at least refer to where that is. So that if they look at this resolution, they can refer to that clause and that statement of what falls under bias or prejudice or that sort of thing.

lxii. *Sophie*: Just keep in mind that everything in discussion should remain to the conversation, and not be personal attacks.

lxiii. Dennen: What I was going to say is that I do support this resolution, I think it is great, and very well researched as well. But when you are dealing with hate speech at such a diverse school, and a time in our nation that is as divisive as it is. I do think we need to have specific guideline as to what is hate speech and what is not. I would urge to table this resolution until meetings have been made with administrators or hall directors to have some sort of guideline so that when students are told they need to take something down, there is substantial evidence -- something tangible — that we can point to and say "this is okay, this is not. This is offensive, this is not." And in no way is that meant to be an infringement n your first amendment rights. Obviously, I love the constitution. But I think that in order to preserve people's freedom, we need to make sure that we are also protecting them.

lxiv. *Tyson:* Is there a live version of edits that can be made? I did not hear the last further be resolved clause.



50<sup>th</sup> General Assembly Spring 2017, Session 6 September 6, 2017

lxv. *Chang:* Yes, I can make one right now. Just make sure that you are not making copies of the resolution within the folder. There are now 6 copies of 50-R-7. Just make sure you are not accidentally doing that.

lxvi. Humayun: To go back to the Senator that suggested tabling this and first defining guidelines and rules. We can't walk into a meeting with housing, and just say "Oh, we really oppose this, and we need your help to come up with some guideline." And then revise the resolution, and bring it back to you guys. I think the resolution is just to say that we oppose it, and we do think that if it falls within a certain range we should be able to. We can take this guideline to them, and then go into outlining specific rules. We can pass this, and it is just a guideline. It does not mean that rules change right after we pass this. Also going back to the Student Code of Conduct, there's actually a lot of things that could be an issue with window art. I see destruction of property as one. For example, if someone put tape on their window and it didn't come off, or something like that. I think having that blanket over it, and just saying if it falls under the Student Code of Conduct it's okay. Also, can I **motion** to cap the speaker's list?

#### **Motion PASSES**

### Speaker's list is capped

lxvii. *Swaggerty;* In regards to our discussion earlier, the part where it was "Let it further be resolved that USG supports policy change



**50<sup>th</sup> General Assembly** Spring 2017, Session 6 September 6, 2017

that mandates that all window art is subject to the Student Code of Conduct," Up for debate — this isn't a motion, just a recommendation for people to think about. The Student Code of Conduct is a part of the Office of Student Life, so that could also be clarified to say that it is up to the discretion of the Office of Student Life, and all governing materials, or something along those lines. So that way, it is clear that ultimately, the office of Student Life, which is in charge of on-campus living, does have the discretion to say "This is hate speech, this is not."

lxviii. *Chang*: It has come to my attention that we can actually vote on the motion to tablet currently, and if the motion to table succeeds, then we can bring this up again next week in Old Business. I can just go back to the current speaker's list. I would save the speaker's list, and you would continue that discussion if the motion passes. Since the motion has been seconded, we will now move into a vote for the motion to table. We need a 2/3 vote in order to table the resolution. Are there any questions for Senator Dennen regarding the table? Seeing none, we will now move on to discussion. Does anyone have anything they would like to say regarding tabling this resolution?

lxix. *Bowman*: Actually, I guess I do have a question. Is the motion to table specifically to set guidelines for what hate speech is?

lxx. Chang: The motion to table means that the sponsors will have the opportunity to work on the resolution, resubmit it to steering, and



**50<sup>th</sup> General Assembly** Spring 2017, Session 6 September 6, 2017

it will come up next week under "Old Business" in the agenda. So this would be the first item on the list to discuss. They can make edits if they want to. They don't have to, but either way, it has to go through steering again.

lxxi.*McKenzie:* At least personally, the reason why I would like to table the resolution is so that the sponsors of the resolution can take time to look at that one "Let it further be resolved" clause, and try to explicitly define hate speech. This is so that if something were to happen, the hall directors or RAs would have something to explicitly go to.

lxxii. Pierson: Regarding the hate speech part, I totally agree that we need to find better parameters. I think as a chamber, we are all confused in a sense to what is outlined in this entire resolution. I think we need to give the resident hall advisors a better idea of what we want to say before we say it.

lxxiii. Davis: I feel that tabling this resolution until next wee is completely counter-productive, and more or less detrimental to the fate of this resolution. It has been mentioned that they would like us to bring that resolution back after we've discussed with hall directors on what exactly hate speech is. How are we supposed to go to hall directors and say "Hey, these people support this resolution, work with us — when we can't even get it passed through here. I don't understand how tabling it helps our cause whatsoever. If we are going to go and talk to hall directors and



50<sup>th</sup> General Assembly Spring 2017, Session 6 September 6, 2017

define what hate speech is, we should have concrete proof that the undergraduate student population supports this resolution before we go and talk to them — Or else, they are just going to laugh in our faces.

lxxiv. *Chang:* I put myself on the speaker's list, and am yielding to Tony Buss.

lxxv. Buss: Hello. Alright, I did what you did for about three years, so I am going to offer a couple of options for you, and talk about tabling just for a second. So what tabling is going to do is it will send it back, and it does not give them any action items. They are going to have sometime to fix the thing so if you do decide to table, those of you that want changes do need to be working with Maria and the other sponsors so you can get the things on there that way. We don't want this huge discussion next week when they do bring it back, so make sure that you are active if it is tabled. Also, if you don't want to table, what you can do to solve this little thing is to add a clause that requires the sponsors to come up with an agreed upon definition when they meet with hall directors about what is and is not okay. It can't be defined in here. You are never going to get to a concrete thing that everyone is going to agree on. In my opinion, the easiest option for you all to finish this, and this can be done tonight, is to add in a clause that requires Maria and the sponsors, in their meetings with housing, to come up with an agreed upon definition of what is and is not



50th General Assembly Spring 2017, Session 6 September 6, 2017

okay. It'll be easier compared to defining it in this room. Housing might not like our definition, and it might not be something they put into place. So it's two-fold; it makes things quicker here, and it also makes things easier for them in their meetings.

lxxvi. Dennen: In response, I think this it is possible to go and ask hall directors. It doesn't have to be this formal. I think what Tony just said is a good idea. So I **rescind** the **motion** to table.

lxxvii. Chang: Now we are going to vote on Senator Cromes' amendment from earlier. It is on the very bottom of the document. It reads, "Let it further be resolved that sponsors of said resolution will meet with residence hall directors to interpret alongside the Student Code of Conduct what is and is not hate/unsafe speech. Are there any questions for Senator Cromes regarding this motion? Seeing none, we will move onto discussion.

lxxviii. *Donnelly:* I would just like to say that I am not entirely sure if this clause is even necessary. Although it is nice to have a very specific definition of hate speech, that can get very nit-picky, and could be argued to infringe upon free speech again. I think that it could be adequate to simply follow the guidelines that are currently in place. From what I understand, if a student find something offensive, they report it to the hall director, and it could be at their discretion to decide if whatever is written on the walls needs to be taken down.



**50<sup>th</sup> General Assembly** Spring 2017, Session 6 September 6, 2017

lxxix. *Chang:* Let's move into a vote. All those in favor to add this clause to the resolution would be a "yes".

### Motion PASSED

### Amendment added to the resolution

lxxx. *Humayun:* Can I propose a *friendly amendment* to instead of saying "residence hall directors" say "the Director of Residence Life"?

### Amendment taken as FRIENDLY

lxxxi. *Humayun: Motion* to vote on resolution.

### Motion PASSED

lxxxii.Leeder: Motion to vote with role call.

### Motion PASSED

50-R-7 passed with unanimous consent

- b. Social and Behavioral Sciences Senator Elections
  - i. *Chang*: Thank you both for coming. I am going to have to ask you both to leave the chamber while we come up with questions. We will have a break at 8:00 pm for prayer, and then will move on with the elections after the 5-Minute Recess. Also, anyone who is not a senator, with the exception of Buss, needs to leave for now and then you can come back later after we exit executive session.

Entered executive session at 7:48pm

Exited executive session at 8:00pm

Jordan Malpass elected as a Social and Behavioral Sciences Senator



50<sup>th</sup> General Assembly Spring 2017, Session 6 September 6, 2017

### VIII. 5-Minute Recess for Prayer

### IX. Announcements

### a. Chang:

- i. Steering, oversight, and allocations SHOW UP this week!
- ii. We have our first USG forum tomorrow from 5:30pm to 6pm. As senators, you all are in a committee. What we have been trying to do to increase transparency within USG, and figure out what each committee is doing is to have monthly forums. It's only going to be half an hour, upstairs in the Brutus Buckeye Room. Each committee is going to have different representatives who are going to be there to talk about projects that they are working on. What we are trying to do is increase the flow of information if you are working on a resolution that is relevant to two committees, that's a good time to talk to people. Amraha will have this in the minutes, and I will also post it in the GroupMe. It's our first forum of the year so Andrew and I will try to stop by!

### b. Dennen:

 Real quick! If anyone has cardboard boxes, hit me up. We are doing a clothing drive for the Victims of Hurricane Harvey, and soon to be Hurricane Irma, and maybe José.

#### c. McKenzie:

i. Hello everybody! So I started a student org on campus relating to diversity, individuality and fellowship. If you are looking for an



50<sup>th</sup> General Assembly Spring 2017, Session 6 September 6, 2017

executive board position, or to be a founding member, hit me up after, and I will tell you more information about it.

d. *Tyson: Motion* to adjoin the meeting *Motion PASSED* 

# X. Adjournment

a. Meeting adjourned at 8:36pm