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50th General Assembly
Spring 2017, Session 5
August 30, 2017

I. Opening

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

II. Open Forum for the Public

- a. *Matt Couch*: My name is Matt Couch and I am the Director of Student Activities in the Office of Student Life, and I am the USG Advisor. I was just in the neighborhood and wanted to make sure that you knew, as the members of the General Assembly. If you have any ideas about your projects or policy points that you have been working on, feel free to discuss them with me. Typically how I serve USG is through historical context. I've been here at Ohio State for more than 20 years, and I have been USG's advisor for 14 or 15 years. I have seen a lot of great projects, and I have also seen a lot of great 'attempts' at projects. I can also be a great resource for you in terms of identifying people to talk to about ideas that you have. Please do not hesitate to just stop by! My office is here at the Ohio Union. I also check by email frequently — couch.28@osu.edu. if that's more convenient. I would be happy to meet with you!

III. Updates

- a. *Sophie Chang*
 - i. I'll talk a little about some policy that Andrew and I have been working. One of them is a scholarship registry that we are trying to get started through the office of the chief information officer.



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Currently there is not a list of all of the scholarships at the Ohio State University. That's something that we are trying to gather from all of the colleges, but first we need to get it through a few administrative channels.

- ii. The second update is about free tampons and pads in all womens' restrooms around campus. We are trying to start in all academic buildings, and then try to build out from there. Right now, we are really building the frame work for that. That involves quite a bit of legwork and a lot more meetings just because it involves a lot of different entities at Ohio State.
- iii. DACA has been a huge issue — President Trump needs to make his decisions on DACA by September 5th, so we have been speaking with administrators about that. Especially today and yesterday, we discussed how that would affect students at Ohio State.
- iv. We have also been discussing financial aid and how to serve students with increased financial aid. This past summer the office of financial aid has increased affordability grants by approximately \$32 million. We are trying for completion grants as well. Once you get to your third and fourth year, and have some modest financial barrier, they can help you out.
- v. This week Andrew and I have our first university senate steering meeting, and that will be very interesting! We will be reviewing



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parts of the Student Code of Conduct. If you have any questions feel free to ask.

IV. Executive Report

a. Andrew Jackson:

- i. So if you remember from last year, I am just going over to the big 3 from cabinet. The Renter's Guide will be coming out soon. It should be coming out early November, and has a lot of good information about students that will be moving off campus. We got a really good sponsorship for sustainability, and we are working on coming up with good projects to work on. From academic affairs, we have textbooks opinion awareness. This is about really working with freshman students about what their options are when it comes to textbooks — not just going to Barnes & Noble to buy them, but also looking on Amazon and stuff like that. We also have a tweet of the week about the textbook option awareness. If you go to the USG twitter — its @USGOSU, retweet that! Make sure you follow USG on twitter. We will follow you back because you are a part of us — if that's what you are concerned about.

V. Committee Reports

a. Allocations Committee

Averi Townsend: We have funded the following organizations:



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- i. Gamma Rho Lambda, in the amount of \$500.00, for their traveling expenses to the Gamma Rho Lambda National Convention
- ii. Global Health Initiative, in the amount of \$1,500.00, for their traveling expenses involved in their summer service trips
- iii. Survivor: Time and Change, in the amount of \$1,000.00, for for their Season Two Kick-Off Event
- iv. Yesplus Club, in the amount of \$1,500.00, for their Leadership Training Program and De-Stress Campaign.

Allocation is 2:15 on Sundays!

b. Oversight Committee

Michael Swaggerty: Our first oversight meeting will be September 10, after steering. I will send out in the GroupMe the specific time. We will be going over basics of Roberts Rules, just so we can make sure everyone in the committee is familiar with them. If anyone has any questions about the meeting or governing doctrines, I'll be around.

VI. Old Business

- a. *Sophie Chang:* We technically don't have any. I am just going to circle back around to the GA retreat from this past week. Thank you to everyone who came to the GA retreat. I hope it was enriching for you. I am really excited to work with you all this year as you learn Robert's Rules and get in the hang of GA.

VII. New Business

- a. Resolution Brainstorming Session



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- i. *Sophie Chang*: We are going to move into a brainstorming session for about 10 minutes. If you have your directors here, just go with them. If not, you can brainstorm with your constituency groups. Just get in your groups, and we'll be walking around.

Dispersed into groups at 6:42pm

Reassembled at 7:01 pm

- ii. *Chang*: Is there anything you want to share, anything you want feedback on, or anything you want to discuss with the rest of the chamber?
- iii. *Sockwell*: Off-campus was talking about possibly doing something with student and fraternity life since they are off-campus, and we were wondering if you guys had any advice as to what we could do.
- iv. *Chang*: I would say try to work with off-campus and commuter student services, and try to contact student life about it.
- v. *Humayun*: Our resolution idea is a board band. It wouldn't be a band but rather a guideline as to what you can put up and what you can't.
- vi. *Dennen*: So the John Glenn College of Public Affairs changed our degree name without asking the students what they thought about it. The census is that students don't like it. I think we are going to talk to administration about it.
- vii. *Sami*: What's the degree name change?



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- viii. *Dennen*: They changed it from a BA in Public Affairs to a BA in Public Management, Leadership, and Policy.
- ix. *Kanas*: I will be enforcing a pedestrian and safety task force to address the number of students and pedestrians that get hit every single year on non-intersection crosswalks and High street. Legislation will be coming soon!
- x. *Quadri*: Engineering was talking about the medical marijuana research, and seeing what OSU could do about that.
- xi. *Tyson*: I would like to have a bathroom in the Morrill Tower dining hall. It is the only dining location on campus without a bathroom.
- xii. *Hao*: I am trying to come up with a resolution for the international students. The international student fee is increasing each year, and this year. I would like to talk to administration and try to make it more transparent and trying to figure out where the fees are going. I am looking for a cosponsor if anyone would like to help.
- xiii. *Barnett*: We talked about writing a resolution for a standardized absence policy that would be used by all of the professors across campus. Right now it is basically up to the professor's discretion.

VIII. 5-Minute Recess for Prayer

IX. Announcements

- a. *Chang*: GA Vacancy apps close on Saturday at 11:59 pm. I realize that this is Labor Day weekend, but please encourage you friends in social work, and social and behavioral sciences, and dental hygiene to apply. Education



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and Human Ecology will be coming out in the next few weeks after we confirm those people.

- b. On September 13th, we do have GA on the Oval. We will have a lot of Papa Johns on the Oval! We will also have options for dietary restrictions such as vegan and gluten-free.
- c. *Buss*: For those that couldn't make it to the GA retreat, I am sure you saw my email. Like I said, feel free to ask me questions or set up an appointment once you get time to look over it. Also, if you are holding any kind of constituency event, I understand some are already happening — which is fantastic — I just need a note letting me know it is going to happen. It's not like an approval, you can do whatever you want. Just let me know!
- d. *Chang*: Steering will be reviewing applications over the weekend, and you will be getting an email from me on Tuesday about the applicants that we choose. All applicants that steering chooses have to go through GA, and we have to go through an elections process if there is more than one candidate. If you have any legislation that you want to bring forward, send it to me by Saturday at 11:59 pm.

X. Adjournment

- a. Meeting adjourned at 7:14 pm.