I. Call to Order
II. Roll Call

Vice-Senate Chair McConnell calls the roll

III. Pledge of Allegiance
IV. Adoption of the Agenda

- Senate Chair Pichette entertains a motion to add member of the month after SR 2-20-21
  - Senator Swanson: So-Moved
  - Senator Roberts: Seconds
  - Senate Chair Pichette:
    - All those in favor of adding member of the month after SR 2-20-21
    - All opposed
    - Member of the month is added to the agenda
- Senator Swanson motions to change the Academics and Finance Committee report from Senator Mirelez to Senator Swanson
  - Senator Stump: Seconds
  - Senate Chair Pichette:
    - All those in favor of changing the Academics and Finance Committee report from Senator Mirelez to Senator Swanson
    - All opposed
    - The Academics and Finance committee report is changed from Senator Mirelez to Senator Swanson
- Senate Chair Pichette entertains a motion to adopt the agenda
  - Senator Kasunic: So-Moved
  - Senator Stump: Seconds
  - Senate Chair Pichette:
○ All those in favor of adopting the agenda
○ All opposed
○ The agenda is adopted

V. Approval of the Minutes

● Senate Chair Pichette entertains a motion to approve the minutes
● Senator Stump: So-Moved
● Senator Kasunic: Second
● Senate Chair Pichette:
  ○ All those in favor of approving the minutes
  ○ All opposed
  ○ The minutes are approved

VI. Open Student Expression

Project Manager Marsh: Thank you to everyone who helped with #SpintoVote. We made it in the top 10% nationwide. We are also the only campus to do early voting with spin.

Senator Bouchard: Sings-ups for USG Secret Santa end Sunday (11/8) at 11:59pm

Director Beverly: Engagement hours opportunities
  ZPN- 11/10 at 4pm Native American Legends
  Friendsgiving is on 11/17 6-8pm
  Casino Game show is 11/30 at 7pm

VII. Guest Speaker

● President Miller
  Thank you and all the students for working with us and keep us in school
  Think we’ll make it through the semester
  Currently in a spike, Summit county in Red. Tomorrow going to up the restrictions, residence halls.
  Seeing a correlation between student cases and the summit spike
  About 800 students staying on campus over thanksgiving break
  Please be careful. Test before leaving and coming back
  Hopefully a vaccine comes out over spring semester
  University campuses not the source of current outbreaks
Planning for spring semester. Commencement depends on the situation. Hopefully some in-person commencement
Please get a flu shot.
Restarted strategic planning process. Undertaking reorganization of academic affairs. Service-Orientated.
Meeting with donors. Meeting with people all over the country who are proud that we are still open.
Able to attend the homecoming court event. Met with two groups of student ambassadors.
Strategic planning focusing on downtown area. Civic commons initiatives. Speaking to the arts departments on campus to see how we can move some of that over into the area.
Welcoming new chief financial officer and senior vice president for business and finance: Dallas Grundy
Appointed Dr. Sheldon Rice to interim vice president, search for a permanent replacement chief diversity officer
Financial situation is stabilizing (think). On track to have a budget that will allow growth.
Ohio legislature talk of a bill to finance project 24M Ayer and Crouse project
Receive a letter from NAAUP to reinstate laid-off faculty. No authority over any organization. National level not completely affiliated with our local chapter. Should not be concerned with local AAUP.
New negotiating team with AAUP for new contract.
Discussions about how to revitalize enrollment

Senator Bouchard: I'm an economics major and so I was wondering, normally when countries go into recession, universities would see an uptake in enrollment. If the University were to see a large uptick in enrollment, do you believe that in our current situation, the University could handle that?

President Miller: In the last recession most enrollment went to community colleges. Also, there is no funds in the current relief efforts for students. However, any huge enrollment increase brings revenue and and the ability for us to grow our resources, so I can guarantee you will be able to take care of any and every student that comes to the University of Akron in the
Project Manager Marsh: Thank you for your transparency. Will students be included in discussion for the new Chief Diversity Officer?
President Miller: Oh no, we'll definitely have students involved. We haven't started thinking about the search committee yet, but it will have students. It will not be a closed search in that it will be a national search and I expect it will be fairly open.

Senator Roberts: Worried about murder of Brian Powers near campus, a black transgender man. Any news on investigation?
President Miller: Off campus event. Not handled by our Police. Anne, do you have any news? (Anne Bruno has not heard anything) Ask our chief to look into it with the city.

Senator Roberts: 2020 vision
President Miller: Provost has restarted. A lot of work has been done in the last fall so hopefully we do not have to start over. Make sure USG is involved.

Senator Hyneman: Stress of online learning and covid. Ways to combat stress. What are some ways that you have combated stress?
President Miller: Incomprehensible the amount of stress that you are under. Hardest thing to get right now is the thing we all need, close contact to family and friends. Last thing you should be is alone. Ask for help. Interested in any suggestions that you have to help.

Director Beverly: What are you in your staff doing as far as retention for right now and then you know how do you think that we can better help you guys as far as to keep retention and you know I know that we want to worry about getting students and recruiting students. But what are you doing for the students that are already here. So those are my main 2 questions.

President Miller: Have the Provost and maybe Kim Gentili come in and talk about our new opportunity model of student success and access, which we're applying to University of Akron. Our goal is to give opportunities and
provide resources to make sure students have the best chance to take advantage of that. So in the area of retention, we really have worked pretty hard to start wrapping services around students of not just undergraduates, but we have a lot of adult students that need support too, and we’re pretty good at that. Then we're going to need to continue that particularly right now, because student needs around this hybrid model are really different. We want everybody to stay. There's no reason for anybody to come here and leave because of an academic challenge. We think we everybody we take can make it.

Director Beverly: Students of color say that there is no one on campus like us. No black professors or counselors. Black students don’t feel like they’re wanted here.

President Miller: One of the subcommittees in the in the faculty and Staff Diversity Group is hitting that pretty hard. We need more people of color everywhere. Number of African American faculty in the country is smaller so you have to be willing to take the time and effort to recruit them. Have to do this for women as well.

Senator Hustak: What is being done for course consistency for spring semester?
President Miller: Across this hybrid delivery model that is, that's our number one challenge and objective for the spring semester, and the Provost has done some survey work and is working with faculty leaders on that. I'm probably not the one to talk to about exactly what's being done, but I will acknowledge that we agree with you that that's a key challenge that we have that we need to rise to the occasion on. There are a lot of reasons for the unevenness, most of it has to do with just the age structure of the faculty. You know they're a lot older than you. They’re not as often inclined toward technology. Need a lot of encouragement to do it. We’re finding really bright spots in some of these, but there are some weaknesses we know about them. We're going to work on it. I think it really helps us for you to continue to remind us where the weak spots are, who they are and we will start dealing with it.
Senator Kasunic: Is credit/no credit going to be offered next semester? The inconsistency affects students' grades and by extension their scholarship money.

President Miller: I believe the Faculty Senate took this up today and I am not sure of the outcome. Asked for Kim Coles fundraising efforts to go toward direct student support. Hoping to see more resources available. Encouraging to see this much conversation around this topic.

President Miller email: garymiller@uakron.edu
Answers his own email, don’t send to president email

VIII. Branch Reports

- Legislative
  Senate Chair Jonah Pichette
  - Fill the Branch!
    - Send out the link to applications to roommates, classmates, etc.
  - Huddles – Great job! First week we have gotten them all in on time. Let’s keep this forward progress up. When are they all due?
  - Ask Questions, it’s okay and how we learn! Last week’s meeting was a testament to your ability to work together, and I’m very proud of that.
  - Senators of the Week.
    - Senator Bouchard
    - Senator Pugh

- Judicial
  Chief Justice Emily Starkey
  - Records Keeping Assignments
    - Legislative Branch: Associate Justice Freeman
    - Executive Branch: Associate Justice Pillar
    - Judicial Branch: Executive Justice Mainzer
    - Transition Records Coordinator: Chief Justice Starkey
    - Electronic Records Coordinator: Executive Justice Mainzer
  - Retreat
    - Discussed takeaways from Parking Retreat
• Began discussing possible second retreat

• Parking Updates
  • Discussed our role as the appeals board
  • Associate Justice Freeman gave update about her project/meetings
  • Associate Justice Pillar and Executive Justice Mainzer discussed

• JB PARKING TRIVIA EVENT
  • Friday, November 6th 2p-4p outside SU Starbucks doors
  • Come participate in parking trivia with JB! (there will be Zippy cookies)
  • Complete an Engagement Event

• Executive

  • Shout out to Project Director Marsh for SpintoVote
    • Only one in country to use scooters to promote early

• Semester Review Sessions begin week of the 16th

• Active Minds
  • Former mental health advocacy group no longer active
  • Need 10 members and leadership to re-register for next semester

• Support & Resources Available to Students

• UC: Physical Environment
  • Senator Bouchard: Meets 4th Thursday of every month at 2pm on teams

• Q2 Report
  • Retweet and repost

• Cancelled: Diversity Week USG-Sponsored Event
  • Diversity week begins next week

• Directional Leadership Team

  • Spoke about Dr. Miller in Senate
Membersh requirements sidestep

i.

Attend another branches meeting and that will count as a USG sponsored event

IX. Committee Reports

- Student Engagement Senator Grace Kasunic

Edited SR 3-20-21

Senator Stump: Finalized SR 2-20-21; Created a mock resolution with Senators Sicurezza and Haberman for a future mock debate; looking to contact the WHC about addressing student concerns over the Honors Research Project.

Senator Kasunic: Looking to get a psychiatrist for the University Counseling and Testing Center, as well as bringing back testing for ADHD and health insurance for domestic students; looking to ; is working to strengthen advising at CAS, including increasing the length of advising visits, meeting with Dr. Messina, as well as looking into changing different general education requirements.

Senator Plaza: Working with Senators Shotts and Byerly to reach out to various student organizations on campus.

Senator Hustak: Reviewed responses from the dining services survey for resident students and is looking to bring those responses to his UC Committee; helped review and edit SR 2-20-21.

Senator Williams: After talking with Senator Sicurezza, decided to team up to help improve the mentor/mentee program. Want to improve the program, by creating a set of "guidelines" for both the mentors and mentees, so both parties get the most positive experience out of the program.
Senator Vineyard: Increasing the number of diversity events on campus. Going to work with Senators Gruich and Haberman.

- F.A.S.T.  
  Senator Skylar Haberman


  Senator Byerly: Working on getting students (especially first year students) the opportunity to know who their RA is. Contacted Cadyia Pugh and hopefully will be getting a response from her soon about approving the plan.

  Senator Gruich: Received a response from Andrew Henry, setting up a meeting for before or after thanksgiving to talk further about the information he wants to put on the website, he is also going to contact the web developer to see what all can be done. He is going to work with his team in the meantime to go through the current website and see if anything needs to be updated. Working with Senator Pugh to come up with a virtual diversity event, planning to have another meeting soon. If anyone has any ideas on how we can make this event virtual let us know!

  Senator Haberman: Completed legislation to extend library hours with Senator Sicurezza, reached out to constituents about receiving written statements, helped with other Vice Committee Chairs to write Mock Legislation.

  Senator Pugh: Trying to brainstorm a new idea virtually with Senator Gruich, because there will be no tabling after this week. Still want the idea to be diversity related though.

  Senator Roberts: Continuing to work with Associate Justice Freeman. Volunteered the Spin to Vote event.

- Academics and Finances  
  Senator Jasmin Mirelez
Senator Hyneman: Thinking about getting in touch with university about bringing back campus tours for new students’ orientation. Also thinking about doing outreach for UA ambassadors.

Senator Mirelez: Still expecting to meet with the Office of Accessibility sometime in the future.

Senator Shotts: Continuing outreach to academic clubs, in contact with Senator Plaza about coordinating those efforts and possibly including Senator Byerly.

Senator Sicurezza: Worked on mock resolution with Senator Stump and Senator Haberman for today’s meeting. Discussed developing a guidebook for the mentor/mentee program with Senate Chair Pichette, and will be working with Senator Williams on such.

Senator Swanson: Gathering research and information regarding other schools’ resources for having syllabi available to students. Hoping to meet with administrative and faculty personnel soon to discuss their impressions of having a similar resource at the University of Akron.

- Mental Health Task Force   Vice-President Stevie Allen

   Senator Greg Hustak is reviewing the mental health education software titled Kognito and working with Dr. Martin on implementing a variety of training programs for professors and students.

   Senator Grace Kasunic is investigating the possibility of having a psychiatrist on campus to help students with more specific mental health issues.

   Marketing Strategist Riley Furey and Vice President Allen are advocating for social media accounts on behalf of the Counseling and Testing Center to raise awareness for mental health-related services and events for students who may be struggling during this time.
Project Manager Gayatri Srinivasa is looking into improving communication and collaboration between university departments, specifically communication with the Counseling and Testing Center.

Sasha Huston and Vice President Allen are consistently looking for ways to collaborate with mental health services and organizations throughout the City of Akron, as well as seeking volunteer opportunities to encourage engagement, awareness, and the value of establishing connections between Undergraduate Student Government and others.

Vice President Allen is actively searching for students interested in Active Minds, a former mental health advocacy group at The University of Akron; the Mental Health Task Force is looking forward to re-registering this organization and expanding on its current potential.

X. Advisor’s Report
- Advisor’s Report  Advisor Anne Bruno

Thank you for being prepared and thoughtful for President Miller. Took notes on things that I can help with. “Parent Hat” If your parents were here they would be proud of you and how you handled yourselves. We will be here after thanksgiving break for you. The University will be open even though classes will all be virtual.

XI. New Business
- S.B. 9-20-21  Committee Name

Senator Swanson speaks as the main author of the bill. Main rationale of bringing this bill forth being the Bylaws goes further in describing the committee and the personnel on the committee have engaged in initiatives outside the scope of just academics and finance.
Senator Roberts speaks in favor of the bill, especially in favor of the “student success”.

Senator Kasunic: Request for information from Senate Chair Pichette
Senate Chair Pichette: Agrees
Senator Kasunic: Isn’t Senator Mirelez title Senator of Off-Campus Living?
Senate Chair Pichette: Yes, that should be fixed

Senator Kasunic: Motion to change Senator Mirelezs title from Senator of Off-Campus Housing to Senator of Off-Campus Living.
Senator Hustak: Seconds
Senate Chair Pichette:
  ○ All those in favor of changing Senator Mirelezs title from Senator of Off-Campus Housing to Senator of Off-Campus Living.
  ○ All opposed
  ○ The title change is approved

Senator Swanson states that he placed Off-Campus Housing on the Bill because that is the title that was in the Senate Contact List

Senate Chair Pichette entertains a motion to temporarily suspend the rules and dispense the second reading
Senator Stump: So-Moved
Senator Kasunic: Second
Senate Chair Pichette:
  ○ All those in favor of temporarily suspending the rules and dispense the second reading
  ○ All opposed
  ○ The second reading is dispensed

Senator Stump: Motion to have an affirmative vote instead of a roll-call vote
A Senator Seconds
Senate Chair Pichette:
  ○ All those in favor of having an affirmative vote instead of a roll-call vote
  ○ All opposed
- Have an affirmative vote

Senate Chair Pichette entertains a motion to move the previous question
Senator Bouchard: So-Moved
Senator Swanson: Second
Senate Chair Pichette:
  - All those in favor of moving the previous question
  - All opposed
  - Motion passes

Senate Chair Pichette:
  - All those in favor passing S.B. 9-20-21
  - All opposed
  - S.B. 9-20-21 Passes

- S.R. 2-20-21 Student Privacy

  Senator Stump speaks as the main author of the resolution.

  Senator Hustak: Motion to change the period to a comma in the first whereas clause.
  Senator Kasunic: Second
  Senate Chair Pichette:
    - All those in favor of changing the period to a comma in the first whereas clause after emails
    - All opposed
    - Motion passes

  Senator Kasunic speaks in favor of the resolution.

  Senator Hustak speaks in favor of the resolution.

  Senate Chair Pichette entertains a motion to lay the resolution on the table until next week
  Senator Bouchard: So-Moved
  Senator Swanson: Second
  Senate Chair Pichette:
○ All those in favor of laying this resolution on the table until next week
○ All opposed
○ Motion passes
The resolution is layed on the table until next week

XII. Member of the Month

Director Beverly nominates Project Manager Marsh
Senator Stump: Seconds
Project Manager Marsh accepts

Director Beverly nominates Senator Kasunic
Senator Swanson: Seconds
Senator Kasunic accepts

Senator Stumps nominates Senator Hustak
Senator Kasunic: Seconds
Senator Hustak accepts

Voting is done through a poll in Microsoft teams. Only Senate Chair Pichette can see the results and Vice Senate Chair McConnell will verify. Senator Kasunic is elected member of the month for October

XIII. Unmute the Mic

Unmute the mic is like “popcorn” reading. Senate Chair Pichette starts and says how he is doing and when he is done he will say “Go Zips, Go USG, Unmute the mic fill in name”.

XIV. Adjourn

Senate Chair Pichette entertains a motion to adjourn the meeting
Senator Swanson: So-Moved
Senator Stump: Seconds
Roll-Call vote to adjourn the meeting
Vice-Senate Chair McConnell calls the roll
Meeting adjourned

XV. Discussion