



**Undergraduate Student Government**  
The University of Akron

**Undergraduate Student Government**

**Senate Agenda**

**March 21, 2024**

- I. Call to Order**
- II. Roll Call**
- III. Pledge of Allegiance**
- IV. Guest Speaker**
- V. Adoption of the Agenda**

Dr. Juanita Martin

Senator Gardner: Motion to amend the agenda from Chief Justice Fleming to Associate Justice Papatonis to deliver the judicial report.

Senator Cameron: Second.

Senate Chair Cosgrave: I will entertain a motion to adopt the agenda.

Senator Machar: So moved.

Senator Martin: Second.

**VI. Approval of the 3.7.24 Minutes**

Senator Pastoria: Motion to approve the 3.7.24 minutes.

Senator Machar: Second.

**VII. Open Student Expression**

Senator Pastoria: This will replace my committee report, but there is still time to join the spring-cleaning event. It is Saturday, April 20<sup>th</sup>. I know some of you are planning to show up, but haven't signed up, so please do that so we know how much food to get.

President Baig: About how many people do you have signed up right now?

Senator Pastoria: I think there are about 2 organizations, 5 from environmental action, and about 5 from Sigma Lambda. So about 20 people. We could always use more.

Senate Chair Cosgrave: When is the deadline to sign up?

Senator Pastoria: Ideally, tomorrow. But if you still want to come let me know.

Senator Cameron: What is the time commitment?

Senator Pastoria: Great question. There are two different slots you can sign up for. You can do it in the morning or the afternoon. The morning will be 8:30-12, then a 30-minute break for pizza, then 12:30-2. You can sign up for both.

Chief Justice Fleming: I saw Dr. Messina before I came up here. He is very sad he can't be here tonight, but he gave me a message. "Go to class tomorrow, go to spring break, don't get arrested, and come back to school."

### **VIII. Branch Reports**

- Legislative Report

Senate Chair Cosgrave

Senate Chair Cosgrave: You might notice some new faces in the room because we have some new senators in the room tonight. If you pass those senate bills, we can do some swearing in. I'm going to pass it off to Vice Senate Chair DeWitt for just a minute.

Vice Senate Chair DeWitt: Overall you guys are doing well on project trackers. For those of you that weren't at senate last week, I sent you all an email about your individual project trackers. These contain two main pieces of information. One, whether you were good on your last updated entry. Then two, I added suggestions if I had any. Overall, you guys have been doing good. I've been looking at them this week and will continue to do that in the future. Try to keep those a few weeks recent. I know actions can sometimes take a while. I'll probably send an email next week about whether you're good on that.

Senate Chair Cosgrave: Ok, check ins. We sent out that form and everyone filled it out, so go us. If you do change your mind about wanting a check in and want an in person, check in, just shoot us an email. Also, thank you for check-ins and how we operate in LB. Retreat planning. I and Vice Senate Chair DeWitt have been busy for today's retreat, so we hope you love it and feel amazing afterwards. LB transitions, we will be going over that a little bit at the retreat, but you know the drill. If you want to take over the position and act like us, it's kind of fun to do. I think everyone should try it at least once. Any questions?

- Judicial Report

Associate Justice Papatonis

Associate Justice Papatonis: Time for the JB report. Advocacy week is the week after spring break, so the week of April 1<sup>st</sup>. We have events going on all week. Monday, we

have the wellness wheel where students will learn about financial wellness and academic wellness. Tuesday and Wednesday we have the food drive. Wednesday, we have an event called student essentials. Friday virtual scavenger hunt. There are prizes for a lot of these events, so if students participate, they can earn some gifts. The other thing I wanted to say about advocacy week is that we will need volunteers, so be monitoring the sponsored event and engagement hour sign-up sheets. I know some of you still need to complete your membership requirements. Now onto elections, our election survey will be sent out tomorrow, please fill that out. The feedback is helpful, it improves election efficiency and helps for future cycles. If you have any suggestions, reach out to Chief Justice Fleming. We are going to be doing self-reflections to find ways to improve elections and the election board. For transitions, we're going to try to fit in another round of the associate justices before the end of the semester, so you'll be seeing more of us. The transition material is very helpful for the transition to new leadership, but also seeing who is wanting to be a part of JB leadership is important so we're going to be having conversations ahead of time with people who are interested in JB leadership so we can be better prepared. We want to continue representing the student body in the best way we can. And the meme. Thank you.

- Executive Report

President Baig

President Baig: Is everyone excited for break? This week, we had the Pots of Positivity event and the learning perspective event girl talk, which was fun. We had round table discussions on a bunch of different topics and students also got to make sugar scrubs. In April, Roo's with many views is a collaboration with the sociology department, it's survey about campus and students come to the room and participate in the survey. We're also doing Zips sip and paint at compass coffee; everyone should be there because there is a special surprise for this event. We're collaborating with Compass Coffee to encourage students to experience downtown. This is a collaboration with USG, UA ambassadors and the Panhellenic Council. The Mental Health Task Force has another event called balance and boundaries, they're planning on writing letters to future selves, along with some other things. The diversity committee is working on cultural night, focusing on performances by cultural organizations on campus. Any questions? Student trustee app closes tomorrow. If you helped me hang up signs, please take them down because the application is closing. I know I had this up last week, but make sure these dates are on your calendar. Remembrance Day, and then regular senate meetings. Any questions?

- Finance Report

President Baig

President Baig: We've had a good amount of expenses from the UAF. It looks like it's slowed down a little bit because it's getting closer to the end of the semester, but I'm sure

we will get some more expenses as student organizations try to spend all their allocation before the end of the year. And then we had some USG expenses. That's about it.

**IX. New Business**

- SB 8-23-24
- SB 9-23-24

Luke Juengel  
Jeremy Sanfrey

Senator Machar: Motion to blanket read SB 8-23-24 and 9-23-24.

Senator Martin: Second.

Senate Chair Cosgrave: SB 8-23-24 and 9-23-24 will be blanket read. Vice Senate Chair DeWitt, please proceed with the reading.

Senate Chair Cosgrave: I want to speak on behalf of both candidates here. Both came into interviews with Extensive experience in helping their community, with a passion for the undergraduate student body on campus, and with projects that they are ready to start on and have passion for. It's only their first year in the university. I would urge you to confirm these candidates as they are both great candidates for this role.

Senator Pastoria: Motion to vote on this bill.

Senator Machar: Point of order. It needs a second reading.

Senator Gardner: Motion to dispense second reading.

Senator Cameron: Second.

Senator Machar: Motion to second question.

Senator Pastoria: Second.

Roll call vote.

It passes.

**X. Swearing In**

Chief Justice Fleming

Chief Justice Fleming swears in new senators.

**XI. Adjournment**

Senator Gardner: Motion to adjourn.

Senator Machar: Second.

## **XII. Discussion**

- LB Retreat!