



Undergraduate Student Government
The University of Akron

Undergraduate Student Government

Senate Agenda
September 12th, 2024

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

Senator Breon: Motion to amend the agenda by changing the Advisor's Report to document the Senate.

Senator Cameron: Second.

Senate Chair Feezel: I will entertain a motion to adopt the 9.12.24 agenda.

Senator Cameron: So moved.

Senator Sanfrey: Second.

V. Approval of the 9.05.24 Minutes

Senator Cameron: Motion to approve the 9.05.24 minutes.

Senator Sanfrey: Second.

VI. Open Student Expression

Senator Parish: I have somebody who is willing to fill NPHC positions.

Senate Chair Feezel: Absolutely; reach out to President Dewitt.

Chief of Staff Lane: Two things. First, the Student Leadership Summit should all be in your Outlook calendars now. If you're a part of a student organization that you want to register, do that before this Wednesday. If you want to attend on behalf of USG, you are welcome to; just don't use the form to sign up, just email me so I can make sure that everyone that wants to attend can attend. Additionally, UA Latinos is holding a Latin night fundraiser with El Patron. It's Saturday the 27th from 9pm to 1 am. The first 100 people get free tacos, and it's a fundraiser for Proyecto Raices, which is an organization to support Hispanic families in the Akron area.

Senator Rahman: Going off of Chief of Staff Lane, go to UA Latinos, it's super fun and you all should go.

Senator Parish: For leadership summit, how do we sign up to go?

Chief of Staff Lane: As an individual for USG, just email me. I will put it in the teams so that there is more information there.

VII. Branch Reports

- Legislative Branch Report

Senate Chair Feezel

Senate Chair Feezel: Pretty short report this week. We are working on committee chair interests and assignments, so I sent out an email – let me know if you didn't get it – about seeing if anyone is interested in the committee chairs, we have the APSS committee and the Student Engagement committee available. Everyone else is new except for Senator Cameron, so don't let that hold you back from applying. It's just two additional office hours, it's a really good leadership position, you learn a lot, and we'll help you with onboarding and everything. Even if it's your first time being a Senator, it's a good opportunity, so please email me – we'll talk to you after the Senate meeting. And then once we get that, we'll find out those committee assignments and hopefully get those finalized if not by the end of the week then by the end of today. And then onboarding is in discussion after this meeting; we have a nice presentation for you all to get you acclimated to your roles.

- Judicial Branch Report

Chief Justice Stillion

Chief Justice Stillion: The application for the fall election cycle closes tonight at 11:59 pm. If you know any freshmen that may be interested, please let them know. Next week, we will have our candidate meeting for everyone who has applied through that application, that is Wednesday, 9/18. The elections board will be there so that will be a pretty interesting time. Then the week after that, we will be having 2 meet and greets where the candidates will have the opportunity to campaign directly to the student body. For things happening this week and the past weeks in USG specifically, the bylaw review and bylaw amendments have passed in the judicial branch this Monday. They have passed in the Judicial Branch and they have passed in the Senate so they're now active. We have assigned our records keeping roles as well. For those that are branch coordinators, they will be reaching out already to their branch heads to just let you know who you are and what your position is, and these are the positions that all the branch heads will be sending their documents to, so that will be put into the teams. People who have chosen to be committee heads should also receive an email from our Legislative

Branch Representative Leader. That will be the person you are sending your minutes to, your agendas to, and all of the important documentation that you want to put into the teams regarding those committee meetings.

For the other things that we have been working on in the judicial branch, we've been working pretty heavily with the department of student conduct, we presented at a number of the Akron student seminars this past week, which are the classes that most freshmen have to take, where we went over the code of student conduct and advertised the first year election cycle. We also work with Uakron Park pretty heavily. If you haven't, it is week three, so make sure to get your parking pass as soon as you can. They asked us to advertise a collaboration with "A Band called Applesauce," which is a punk-rock band that Uakron Park is helping to put on before the football game this Saturday, 9/14.

There's a flyer in the teams, there's some in the USG office. There's going to be a Dunkin Donuts truck parked nearby I believe giving out free goodies. The Trunk or Treat is tentative for October 26th, but we're probably going to move it back to the Trunk or Treat that usually happens with University of Akron at Leggett Elementary and we're also going to be working with them in creating a parking town hall in the coming weeks and sending a parking survey to the undergraduate student body trying to gauge their opinions on what maybe parking can do better and specific issues they may have.

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- Executive Branch Report

President DeWitt

President DeWitt: If you have not filled out your office hour form, please do so because that deadline has passed. That is just so that everybody knows when you will be in the office so they can stop by and see you when they need to and creates a nice, collaborative space. Please also fill out the headshot and bio form because those due dates have also passed. We have a website if you haven't checked it out. Chief of Staff Lane updates that and puts a lot of work into that, so please submit that if you haven't already.

EB Committee is the next thing on the agenda. It is open to all students, not just executive or USG members, but anyone that wants to join. We have campus dining experience, also known as CDE. Definitely join that if you've looking into dining experience on campus. They currently meet on Wednesdays at 5 pm biweekly, but that is probably going to change based on member availability. We also have the diversity committee; they don't have a meeting time yet, but you can join and they will decide later on. We also have the mental health task force, which is chaired by our health and safety officer. They meet technically Wednesdays at 5 or 4:30, but that's not set in stone yet. If you're interested in joining, you can either reach out to me or the chairs. They should be on the membership list that our Director of Membership Development is sending out. And those are just biweekly commitments, so super low commitment.

And then events, USG had a presence at 10 events for welcome back activities. We also had Hooked on Healing event with ZAB on Tuesday from 12-2 in the Student Union.

Senate Chair Feezel: I would like to entertain a motion to amend the agenda to change the delivery of the finance report.

Senator Schuhart: I motion to amend the agenda to allow President DeWitt to read the finance report.

Senator Cameron: Second

- DLT Report

President DeWitt

President DeWitt: If you're doing those membership requirements, which are 2 service events, 4 on-campus events, and then 4 USG-sponsored events, to submit those, you click on the form link that was also sent out in the email. Your branch leadership will approve or not approve that. For the office hours form, please submit that if you haven't already.

As for a meeting recap, it was a pretty chill meeting for DLT. We did shoutout submissions because we want to make sure that we are recognizing you guys. Those will be displayed or sent out, but we haven't quite figured out how we're going to do that, but you'll see those pretty soon. We also talked about branch reports and sharing what's been happening lately. We also reflected on the all-USG summit. We talked about name tags, and I think Chief of Staff Lane is making name tags for everyone that we can wear at events and things like that. We also discussed upcoming events that we want DLT to have a large presence at, which is our Student Leadership Summit which is happening on September 24th, the International Lounge Dedication which is happening October 9th, and the Bridging Campus and Community event which is happening October 22nd. We want to make sure that we have a lot of USG people at those events for sure.

Finally, DLT meetings occur on Mondays from 6-7:30 in the student union room 318 which is right there if you want to stop by.

- Finance Report

President DeWitt

So if you didn't know, we have a finance report that we give every week. Typically the Director of Finance Matt Howell gives it, but this week I will be giving it. You can see our breakdowns, here we have our UAF allocations; most of these are funding that have been going to student organizations over the summer. Director Howell has been approving those. That total is \$10,000, which is awesome that we get to support student organizations. You can see our USG expenses was \$8,000. That's just for various things like USG merch that will be on there next week probably, our collaborative events that I

kind of talked about, so you can see the breakdown there. And then we have SAF expenses, which were \$0.

VIII. Advisor's Report

Advisor Alexander

John Messina: With due dates and midterms starting to come up, it is not unusual to feel a lot of pressure building up. It's normal to feel homesick and anxious, and I want you to know that there are resources across campus to help you. If you come across someone that needs support, there's 988 and plenty of other opportunities to help. Go to class. Register to vote. Know that even though there are people walking around campus, you don't have to give your information to anyone. The first home football game is this Saturday, and President Nemer has changed the lens on the President's suite. He's inviting young alumni and student leaders to be a part of that suite. This coming weekend, we have former and current student trustees, former ambassadors, and the homecoming court. Our military services and ROTC are sponsoring tailgates around the game. Before you know it, there will also be homecoming, which is like two weeks away. The theme is October Fest, and there will be a ton going on around campus as well.

IX. Adjournment

X. Discussion

- How to be a Senator Presentation

Senate Leadership