



**Undergraduate Student Government**  
The University of Akron

**Undergraduate Student Government**

**Senate Agenda**  
**November 7th, 2024**

**I. Call to Order**

**II. Roll Call**

|                                  |         |
|----------------------------------|---------|
| Senate Chair Feezel              | Present |
| Acting Vice Senate Chair Cameron | Present |
| Senate Clerk McCracken           | Present |
| Senator Breon                    | Present |
| Senator Clark-Kelley             | Present |
| Senator Knapp                    | Excused |
| Senator Nichols                  | Present |
| Senator Rahman                   | Present |
| Senator Raymond                  | Present |
| Senator Sanfrey                  | Excused |
| Senator Schuhart                 | Present |
| Senator Shelton                  | Present |
| Senator Smith                    | Present |
| Senator Sterns                   | Present |
| Senator Winters                  | Present |

**III. Pledge of Allegiance**

**IV. Adoption of the Agenda**

Senator Schuhart: Motion to amend the agenda to change delivery of APSS report from Senator Knapp to Senator Schuhart.

Senator Breon: Second.

Senator Schuhart: Motion to change the delivery of the project management report from Director Webster to President DeWitt.

Senator Breon: Second.

Senator Raymond: Point of information. Will Advisor Alexander be attending?

Senate Chair Feezel: No.

Senator Raymond: Motion to amend the agenda to strike the Advisor's Report.

Senator Nichols: Second

Senator Schuhart: Motion to adopt the 11.07.24 agenda.

Senator Nichols: Second.

## **V. Approval of the 10.31.24 Minutes**

Senator Breon: Motion to approve the 10.31.24 minutes.

Senator Schuhart: Second.

## **VI. Open Student Expression**

Director Mahaney: Environmental Action is having a cleanup around town on Sunday at 11 am and we are meeting in the Spaghetti Warehouse parking lot.

## **VII. Branch Reports**

- Finance Report

Director Howell

Director Howell: Pretty much the same as past week. Some expenditures through the UAF allocations that we do for student orgs. Some of the bigger requests we had included Bangladesh night. Typically, we have a \$500 limit for events but this allocation came in around when we were changing the limits so we worked with them to get more funding since it was so unique. We also had 2 conference travel requests that we approved. For USG, it was primarily some office supplies and for the men's mental health awareness event.

Chief Justice Stillion: What does part 2 mean next to the USG TV?

Director Howell: So for the first one, we had an issue with Best Buy because they had a really convoluted way of doing the tax, so we just scrapped that and ordered it through Walmart because it was easier.

Senator Raymond: What is the current turnaround time for the approval of allocations?

Director Howell: It depends on fast it gets through the source office. I approve every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. Traditionally, we get through it, at the latest, 7-10 days. Are you talking about USG or UAF allocations?

Senator Raymond: UAF allocations.

Director Howell: So yeah, about 7-10 days. The Bangladesh night is probably the only outlier in that time frame. We still recommend the 30 days out so we can stay ahead of things.

Senator Sterns: Are we on track to not run out?

Director Howell: We are right on track. There was a lot of spending at the beginning of the year but we're at a point now where we're behind pace so we're pretty much running at zero or surplus at the end of the year.

- DLT Report

Chief of Staff Lane

Chief of Staff Lane: It was a pretty light week for DLT. We'd like to remind everyone to attend their office hours and if you have a conflict, let your leadership know. Semester review questions have been sent out and some leadership require you to answer those before the review session so if you're not sure, ask your branch heads. At our meeting, we talked about mid-year awards and nominations are open until Sunday, November 24<sup>th</sup> at 11:59 pm. Those will be given out at the holiday party. We're figuring out what food we're having, and we are doing a white elephant, and the signup is now open for that. If you don't sign up but bring a gift you'll still be included, but this is so we have an idea of how many people are participating. If you want to sign up, scan this code now. There is a \$15 cap, but you don't have to spend money.

- Legislative Branch Report

Senate Chair Feezel

Senate Chair Feezel: Senators, make sure you fill out the semester review questions. Send those to me and Vice Senate Chair Winters before your sessions. Do it as soon as possible so you have time to think it over. Next week's guest speaker will be from PNC bank and they will talk about their services. Make sure you are filling out your membership requirements and you should be about  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the way through so submit what you've done and if you're really behind, reach out to us. Opportunities coming up specifically are the delivery robots survey tabling on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday in the union next week. I highly recommend that, as senators, you go to those since you are familiar with the project. You could also go to academic buildings with a QR code and table in those so we can have diversified responses and reduce bias in the answers. Lastly, please complete your office hours and email me if you can't make them.

- Judicial Branch Report

Chief Justice Stillion

Chief Justice Stillion: The spring election cycle is quickly on its way. This Monday, we worked through the rules for that and changed a lot of language. Those were debated and discussed for almost the entire meeting Monday and were passed so you can look at those

and vote in Senate next week. We are also finishing up our timeline for when and where that will occur. On Monday as well, Executive Justice Bushen and I met with the Department of Student Conduct and Community Standards to go over one of their applicants for their hearing board. We used to have that responsibility in 2018 and years prior and it shifted away but it has come back to us so we're meeting with them again Monday to see how we can help with that. We are also hoping to fill the open Associate Justice position. We sent out an offer so hopefully we hear a response back soon.

- Executive Branch Report

President DeWitt

President DeWitt: Reminder that if you're a member of a UC subcommittee, you received an email from me requesting an informal report so we can see that you're attending those meetings and representing your constituents. For events, we have Prepping for Professionalism: Social Media in the Workplace that was planned by Deputy Director Walter. That was Wednesday, November 5<sup>th</sup> from 6-7:30 in the honors common room. That was a huge success. The Akron Art Museum event is Wednesday, November 13<sup>th</sup> from 4-6 pm at the Akron art museum. We want a large USG presence here so please go. We also might get a group together to walk down to this, but I don't know if that's happening. Pizza and other goodies will be provided. USG presentation night is also happening Thursday, November 14<sup>th</sup> from 7-9 pm in Student Union room 335. You just create a presentation on whatever you want, and I hope to see you all there. Make sure you have that to both of those people by Tuesday, November 12<sup>th</sup> at 11:59 pm. I was also told by Deputy Director Cosgrave to pressure you guys into making presentations.

Vice President Kozma: If you're not sure if you're going to the Akron Art Museum yet, you should because there's like 15 spots still open in the sponsored events sheet.

## **VIII. Committee Reports**

- F.A.S.T. Committee

Senator Cameron

Senator Cameron: FAST met this Tuesday in the USG office and we planned our fourth accessibility tour. This will be Monday, November 18<sup>th</sup> from 12:30-1:30. We're going over the jar, the rec, and InfoCision. For individual updates, I'm waiting for an email back from Brandon about bin placement and Senator Sanfrey is working on legislation regarding President Nemer's email and a new project.

Senator Raymond: For November 18<sup>th</sup>, is the campus cleanup still that day?

Senator Cameron: I'm not sure.

Deputy Director Walter: You'll hear about that later in my report.

- A.P.S.S. Committee

Senator Schuhart

Senator Schuhart: Per a new theme with APSS, we had another guest speaker, which was an event coordinator from USG. He is helping us plan a finals week goodie bag event in the union to help everyone relax before finals. Outside of that, we're waiting for internal communication for the reading days to see where that can go.

- Student Engagement Committee

Senator Breon

Senator Breon: As Senate Chair Feezel said, we are starting to table in the student union from 11-1. There are 4 or 5 different spots that you can sign up for and that's for the starship delivery robots. Senator Rahman is also contacting organizers for the Greek Life safety walk and we're meeting after this to talk about the car legislation if anyone is interested in being there for that.

## **IX. Director Reports**

- Community and Campus Outreach Report

Deputy Director Walter

Deputy Director Walter: I want to thank everyone who came to my event last night. I really appreciated seeing some of you there. Be on the lookout for another event coming soon. We're looking at Dr. Walter, the associate dean for the Buchtel College of Arts and Science, talking about contract negotiations. Sign up for the Akron Art Museum please. There are a ton of spots, and we need a ton of volunteers. We also have Mental Health Monday on November 18<sup>th</sup>. Cleanup is also that day from 11-3pm. There is a backup day on the 20<sup>th</sup> if weather does not permit. There are plenty of spots to lead groups or just get some service hours.

Senator Raymond: Is campus cleanup open to other students and student organizations?

Deputy Director Walter: Yes.

President DeWitt: Can you talk more about the activities at the Akron Art Museum?

Deputy Director Walters: I know that we have screen printing bags, buttons, a photo booth, and glow sticks.

Vice President Kozma: It's a really high-tech photo booth. Last year me and the president made a GIF.

- Marketing Report

Director Shafer

Director Shafer: I would like to take a moment to explain the marketing request form. On the form, there is big red text that says to submit your request 3 weeks prior to your recommended posting date so please do that. You can submit the request without having

the full amount of information. Also, for the Photocircle, if you plan an event and we can't make it to take photos, you should take your own photos so that I can use those to put on the Instagram. The last thing is that we have a post coming out every day next week because we have a lot of events going on.

President DeWitt: Is there any way USG members can submit a meme to be posted?

Director Shafer: There is a form for Meme Mondays, but no memes have been submitted yet.

Vice President Kozma: Since we have so many new members, is everyone following the Instagram? Follow that if you aren't.

- Events Report

Director Mahaney

Director Mahaney: As everyone has said, there are a ton of sponsored events to sign up for and a ton of empty spots. There are events every week for the rest of the semester pretty much every day of the week. For the events team, Julie is working on an event for the mental health taskforce and CDE, Brian is working on cleanup, I am working on the Destress and DIY event and Rethinking Race with Makayla, and AJ is here for emotional support.

Senator Raymond: Are there any planned events for the Wagon Wheel game?

Director Mahaney: I don't think so. Also, the student union can start taking room requests for the spring as of November 1<sup>st</sup>.

Associate Justice Shaw: Are there any other service events offered?

President DeWitt: Natalie's team takes that over so you can talk to Director Gardener or me.

- Project Management Report

President DeWitt

President DeWitt: Project Manager Salvatore is planning a blanket-making event and they're giving out the scarves from the soccer tailgate. That will be 6-8 pm on December 5<sup>th</sup>. Project Manager Tamin is doing an event with the Reclusive Space and they're doing a tabling event. The date and time are yet to be determined. There's also a candle making event in the works. Lots of things are happening.

Vice Senate Chair Winters: To clarify for the blanket making event, you cannot keep those, but they will be donated to the Ronald McDonald house.

Director Shafer: I wanted to ask about the date and time. Does that conflict with the holiday party?

President DeWitt: Yes. We'll let them know.

- DEI Report

Director Minard

Director Minard: Last week, we had our collab with LGBTUA. If you weren't there, you should go to one because they are very fun. We have Rethinking Race and we're doing Feeding Futures. It will be a great way to learn about local resources. We're also looking to hand out meal kits to the first however many people that go. If you get there early, you can go home with yummy food and we're looking at giving away gift cards for stores like Aldi and Giant Eagle. The following week, we're looking at doing International Education Week. I also want to take the opportunity to tell you to check on your fellow zips because I know that these are trying times so please reach out to your leadership or me if you or someone you know is struggling.

- Membership Development Report

Director Leipold

Director Leipold: I have a pretty quick report. I'm still working on getting the feedback survey out to everyone after the USG retreat. The only thing I have coming up is a veterans day service happening Sunday. Serve Akron has thousands of tiny flags that they're putting out to bring attention to Veterans Day. We'll get together in the student union in the USG office at 1 pm and spend an hour putting all of those out. On Tuesday during the day, we'll come back and pick those all up. It's super easy service hours and it goes toward USG requirements.

Associate Justice Shaw: What time is the collection on Tuesday?

Director Leipold: 4 or 5 pm probably.

**X. Adjournment**

**XI. Discussion**