



Undergraduate Student Government
The University of Akron

Undergraduate Student Government

Senate Agenda
December 5th, 2024

I. Call to Order

II. Roll Call

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

III. Pledge of Allegiance

IV. Adoption of the Agenda

Senator Breon: Motion to amend the agenda to strike the SE, APSS, and FAST committee reports.

Senator Cameron: Second.

Senator Schuhart: Motion to amend the agenda to change the delivery of the finance report from Director Howell to President DeWitt

Senator Cameron: Second.

Senate Chair Feezel: I would like to entertain a motion to amend the agenda to add discussion after adjournment.

Senator Cameron: So moved.

Senator Breon: Second.

Senator Raymond: Motion to adopt the 12.5.24 agenda.

Senator Cameron: Second.

V. Approval of the 11.21.24 Minutes

Senator Breon: Motion to approve the 11.21.24 minutes.

Senator Schuhart: Second.

VI. Open Student Expression

Chief Justice Stillion: Go to the holiday party! It's right after this and if you're not planning on going on going, you should go.

Senate Chair Feezel: I would like to recognize our special guest Pepper the cat.

VII. Branch Reports

- Finance Report

President DeWitt

President DeWitt: We have some UAF allocations given to various student organizations for different reasons. That was about \$700. We had some USG expenses, just a couple of events totaling around \$150. No SAF expenses.

- Legislative Branch Report

Senate Chair Feezel

Senate Chair Feezel: Last week, we met with Residence Life and Housing administrators and RHC to discuss the additional residence life and housing senator. That was really productive and we have some good ideas for how that role can be more collaborative with the department than in the past. Project trackers were due last Sunday. If you haven't done any, we will reach out if they're missing but please do those. That includes committee projects if you were a committee chair and individual projects. Anything that you started or had ideas for can go in those. It's really easy and it's just one or two sentences on what you did. Next semester, make sure you update your outlook calendars, which we'll be going over in discussion, and we'll be scheduling committee meetings for next semester.

- Judicial Branch Report

Chief Justice Stillion

Chief Justice Stillion: Last night in student union room 310, we had the first of our spring election cycle info sessions. We talked about what USG is and what the spring election cycle is to both the student body and members of Undergraduate Student Government. We are in the pre-election phase of the spring election cycle in which all senators and Vice President and President positions are up for election. If you know of anyone that would be interested or you are interested, that next info session will be January 21st, the Tuesday of the second week that we are back, from 6-7 pm. That is in the USG calendar. The USG newsletter is completed. There are a few little things to complete but it will be out and released at the very beginning of the spring semester. That will celebrate and spread the word on all of our accomplishments. We also work with Uakron park and for parking passes, the fall parking pass continues until December 31st. Spring parking passes are already available on the Uakron park website and that will last for the entirety of the spring semester.

- Executive Branch Report

President DeWitt

President DeWitt: Not much for EB this week. We're planning our spring events and projects now instead of waiting because we had a lot of events at the end of the semester so we're trying to spread that more evenly. We had the Ronald McDonald charity blanket making event that Project Manager Salvatore planned. Thank you to everyone that came to that.

- DLT Report

President DeWitt

President DeWitt: Reminder that working over break is not required or expected but if you want to get some things done, you are more than welcome to. Vice President Kozma and I will be periodically checking our emails, but it will not be super quick because it is the holidays. The holiday party is also happening with a white elephant and food. For our meeting recap, we had brief branch reports and then we went into our mid-year award selections. Five people were selected and then we also have a winter retreat for DLT. As always, we have our meetings on Mondays from 6:30-7:45 pm.

VIII. Committee Reports

- O.S.G.S. Committee

Chief of Staff Lane

Chief of Staff Lane: You guys heard a lot more about this when I was asking for representatives. This is happening February 1st and 2nd. You all have to be there except for work and family exceptions, which should be communicated to your branch heads. I will send something out over break and its like 4 questions to sign up for the event. You all get to go for free. The other thing is that OSGS takes a bunch of volunteers to put on. If you do one to two event slots, that will be one sponsored event, and for 3 or more, that will be two sponsored events.

Senator Schuhart: If people signed up for these, do they have to go to the conference?

Chief of Staff Lane: Preferably yes but if you can't that's okay.

IX. Director Reports

- Project Management Report

Director Sudhaharan

Director Sudhaharan: Last Tuesday, Project Manager Salvatore's event was a great success. APSS committee held their event "Warming Up for Finals" today and there are leftover hot chocolate packets in the office so feel free to grab some. Yesterday was also course evaluation tabling by APSS and we're looking to plan more events for the spring semester so if you have any ideas let me know.

- Events Report

Director Mahaney

Director Mahaney: The most important thing I have to say is if you have meetings in the spring and you know what time they're at and what space you're using, email me or submit an event form so that can be submitted. On the events spreadsheet, we had 29 events and I think that's great.

- Membership Development Report

Director Leipold

Director Leipold: I am working with Olivia to get connected with all of the schools coming to OSGS on LinkedIn. If you want to put that on your own page to promote that, that would be great. I'm going to be working on planning for the spring retreat over winter break. I'll have more updates in the spring.

President DeWitt: Do you have an estimated month or date for the retreat?

Director Leopold: Probably February. Probably a Thursday or Friday.

- Campus and Community Outreach Report

Deputy Director Walter

Deputy Director Walter: I don't have too much. Health and Safety Officer Ruffin will be conducting the safety walks next semester and he'll be planning mental health week, mental health task force, and mental health Mondays. He's also working on an event with Project Manager Salvatore. Also pay attention for future updates for a downtown Akron partnership with hopefully a downtown Akron small business tour and maybe something for the Akron Bicentennial. For me, look out for another prepping for professional event on contract negotiation.

- Marketing Report

Director Shafer

Director Shafer: We're done with marketing requests for the year. We completed 32 so that's exciting. We already started getting some for next semester so if you have ideas, let

me know so they're on our radar. We want to post more fun stuff on the Instagram so let us know.

- **DEI Report**

Director Minard

Director Minard: Recap on Rethinking Race. It all went really well so hopefully you all went to some of those. We had two people in the room that won the prizes. If you're interested in any of the info or resources I will be happy to supply those. We're interested in doing the reclusive space revamp and we're still looking to do the gender inclusive clothing drive. Also, for the women's empowerment summit, we invite women in the community to share their experiences and their successes. If anyone is interested, we need all hands on deck to form a committee, gather speakers, get food, etc. That's in March. The cultural night and cultural fashion show was a huge success last year and we did a cultural attire fashion show, so if anyone has any ideas or would like to hop on, that would be awesome.

X. Representative Reports

- **Faculty Senate Report**

Senate Chair Feezel

Senate Chair Feezel: In faculty senate today, there was discussion from the faculty senate chair to discuss the budget cuts. They are working with the union committee and faculty senate to review budget cuts that get rid of programs. There's already departments stopping admissions for those if they get cut. The provost discussed how enrollment is up 15% and that will help the budget issue. Also, they mentioned hat billing is working now in Workday so if you experience issues again, talk to me and President DeWitt to show that it's not fixed. There was also a report passed by the curriculum review committee to change over 70 programs and to change how interim grades are reported from satisfactory to unsatisfactory to letter grades.

Senator Raymond: Do they have knowledge of when the program cuts are going to be made public?

Senate Chair Feezel: They haven't discussed that. They mention polymer being cut a lot but they know that program is number one nationally so they wanted that fact considered in the restructuring. The process will probably be drawn out a little bit.

President DeWitt: I was told that it will continue into the spring semester for sure. It shouldn't continue past that though.

XI. Adjournment

XII. Discussions

XIII. Holiday Party!