



Undergraduate Student Government
The University of Akron

Undergraduate Student Government

Senate Agenda
September 18th, 2025

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

Senate Chair Kasik: Moving onto the adoption of the agenda; are there any additions or edits to the agenda tonight? Yes, Senator Moore?

Senator Moore: Motion to adopt the agenda

Senate Chair Kasik: Alright, can I get a second?

Senator Spears: Second.

Senate Chair Kasik: All in favor of adopting the agenda please say aye.

Motion to adopt the agenda passed: The ayes have it

- V. **Approval of the 9.11.25 Minutes**

Senate Chair Kasik: Moving onto the approval of the 9.11.25 minutes. Yes, Senator Spears?

Senator Spears: Motion to approve the 9.11.25 minutes.

Senator Sterns: Second.

Senate Chair Kasik: All those in favor of approving the 9.11.25 minutes please say aye.

Motion to approve the 9.11.25 minutes passed: The ayes have it

- VI. **Open Student Expression**

Senate Chair Kasik: Now onto open student expression.

Nathan Parish: Good afternoon, everybody. My name is Nathan Parish. I am the commissioner of the Black Excellence Commission. We are a black student, African descent, organization on campus that supports the community. We also advocate for many other orgs as well as our own.

Before we get started, we just want to say thank you for opening our space up for us. As you know, times are very interesting right now, just wanted to express some of the things that are going on within our communities and just hopefully you all get a glimpse of what we got going on. If you can help out, are open for any collaborations, any ideas, new projects, please reach out to any of us. So like I was saying, we are an on-campus advocacy group. We help out wherever its needed. Of course our biggest thing is community. We are heavily involved with things that are going on campus. We represent black orgs such as Black Students United, African American Sisterhood and Brotherhood, and many other orgs such as African Students Association. But a current issue we have going on right now is the community is mourning the loss of a student down in Louisiana, I believe. Please fact check me if I'm wrong. He goes by the name of Trey Reeds. He's a 21-year-old student from Delta State, who previously had a tragic death, and some of us are just really hurt by this loss. We just wanted to bring to your attention. There will be a candle lighting for him in the Coleman Commons on September 23rd at 6:30pm. If you would like to show your solitude, please come by, please support. It's just something that hit home for a lot of us. As a whole it's been rough hearing this story. Like I said, times are just rough right now, and it just affects us in certain ways, I just want to make sure that we have updates for this because it's something that's not really spoken about much, but, you know, were trying to change the way and the path of that. Like I said, I thank you all for everything that you do and if there is anything you would like to learn about from us, we'll be here, present certain times throughout the meetings every so often. So, if you have any questions, please let me or Representative Darius know.

Darius Richardson: My name is Darius Richardson. I'm one of the delegators within the organization so if you have any questions, you can come talk to me also.

Nathan Parish: You'll also see another delegate from our organization named Deja Meekins. So, of course, if you all have any questions, please let one of us know, thank you.

Senate Chair Kasik: Thank you. Anyone else for Open Student Expression? No one else? Alright then, we are going to move on to our Advisor Reports.

VII. **Advisor Report**

Advisor Ferguson-Mike

Advisor Ferguson-Mike: Hi, nice to see you. So, the only thing that I'm going to touch on because we think Madi is going to touch on this later. is just as a reminder that you should've received a personalized email yesterday about voting for Homecoming royalty. I know that there is a few in USG, probably several that you know outside of USG, so you can vote up until Sunday. And again, if you need me or Abby we're here to help.

John Messina: How many candidates do you have this year?

Advisor Ferguson-Mike: Fifty-eight.

John Messina: Is that the highest ever?

Advisor Ferguson-Mike: That is the highest ever.

John Messina: Congratulations to all our student organizations on campus, this is an amazing achievement.

Senate Chair Kasik: Alright we'll now move on to Branch Reports starting off with the Legislative Branch.

VIII. **Branch Reports**

Legislative Branch Report

Senate Chair Kasik

Senate Chair Kasik: So, this week, I just want to let everybody know that next week, we have our second speaker. It will be Jim Gilbride from the UAPD. So, please come prepared to have questions for him. They'll be here next week. So, we also have planned our LB retreat, to be on October 16th, at Applebee's. Late night apps. We have it planned for just after our meeting. And also, Moch Debate is tonight. And please, just do not be nervous about Moch Debate.

You will be point of orderd by Sam. Everybody will be, so there's nothing to be nervous about, and it's a stress-free debate, hopefully. Alright, now moving on to the Judicial Branch report by Chief Justice Stillion.

⌘ Judicial Branch Report

Chief Justice Stillion

Chief Justice Stillion: A little bit of a shorter report again because we had an abbreviated meeting this week. We have more abbreviated than normal during the election cycle. Because in place of our election board meeting, we had the candidate meeting for first year senator candidates, so there won't be an election board report, and that is why. But at our abbreviated judicial branch meeting, we did go over some very fun debate prep. I say very fun, I designed the activity, so I hope it was very fun. I had fun designing it, but that's what we spent most of the meeting on as well as just making sure we're updating on all of our records coordination, responsibilities, those of you that are committee chairs should have gotten an email from your designator records coordinator. I believe I've seen that most if not all of those have been happening. And setting up meetings with; if you're in the legislative branch that would be with Associate Justice Howell. We're working on those both in the legislative branch and in the executive branch as well. We're meeting with all of the directors in the executive branch so we can coordinate the records for all of the executive branch teams. I do want to add something on here for the elections board report. Next week, Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, the 22nd, 23rd, and 24th from noon to 1pm, downstairs in the Student Union Concourse, we will be having our first year Senator candidate meet and greets. So I definitely encourage all of you as current senators to head down there, talk to some of the potential people who may be in this room with you in a couple weeks, see, who maybe you'd be interested in voting for or, just what they're all about. It'll be fun times, there might be cookies. Questions.?

Senator Moore: When is this taking place?

Chief Justice Stillion: That is next Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, from Noon to 1pm in the Student Union concourse.

Senator Moore: Thank you

Chief Justice Stillion: Of course, any other questions? Okay.

Meme:

Senate Chair Kasik: Thank you Chief Justice Stillion. Now moving onto the Executive Branch Report Given by President Shaw.

Executive Branch Report

President Shaw

President Shaw: Hello everybody, I hope everybody's had a good week. So same reminders.

Office hours, please keep submitting those to the weekly office hours reporting form as you complete them throughout the week. Additionally, all USG email, of course, answer the hidden question. It's always a little highlight to my day whenever I go through and read some of the funny responses. So highly recommend taking a look at those and answering if you have not already. And then, like Advisor Ferguson-Mike said, Homecoming voting. So, we have five USG members that are nominated through different departments and orgs throughout campus. So, I highly recommend looking into voting for them. If you haven't already, you could vote for four queen nominations and four king nominations, and voting is open, and you should get a personalized links sent to your UAkron email. So again, like we said, vote if you haven't already. Additionally, we have finalized our executive branch committees, and when they will be meeting, what times. So just for reference, all of these committees are open to everybody. So, you can be in USG already, you can be external to USG. These committees are open to all students on campus. and they are, if you haven't heard of them already, the Campus Dining Experience, Diversity Committee, and Mental Health Task Force. Campus Dining Experience or CDE that we call it for short, are biweekly on Wednesdays from 6pm to 7pm, starting next

Wednesday. Diversity Committee are biweekly Fridays from 3pm to 4pm starting next Friday, and Mental Health Task Force are Tuesdays from 4:30pm to 5:30pm, which started this past Tuesday. So not next Tuesday, but the Tuesday after will be their next meeting. Like I said, those are all biweekly. All will be in the USG office, room 307A. Reach out to me if you have any questions about any of those. So, some upcoming events that we have, EB retreat. This is internal to the executive branch, only required by executive branch members. We're in the process of planning this for September 26th. I believe we just got that day finalized, yes. So that'll just be a branch bonding sort of retreat event going on. Speaking of retreats, we have an all-USG retreat, which will be required for all USG members to attend. That will be on Friday, October 24th, so the end of October. So, I recommend looking at your calendars very soon. And if you are unable to attend, I believe we are saying 5pm to 8pm, yes. So 5pm to 8pm, Friday, October 24th. If you have a prior conflict that you cannot avoid, please let me know ASAP, so we can get you excused from that for sure. But that will be just a big organization bonding event. It's one of my highlights every semester. We have some very fun things planned. I don't want to spoil anything, but very fun things planned for this year. Additionally, make a difference day. If you haven't heard of, Make a Difference Day before, it is ran by, I believe, ServeAkron, right? Yeah. It is an opportunity for students at the university to go out in the community and volunteer. So, I know that it is Saturday, October 25th, so the day after the USG retreat. USG, we are planning on having a group to go volunteer together that is being put on by our Deputy of Community Outreach Director Nick Senko. We are orchestrating that and this is also a great opportunity to fulfill your volunteering hours if you have not already. So again, more information will be coming out on that next week in my all-USG email. just to get interest for just for how many people we expect to go. Additionally, Deputy Seno is also planning an event with the Akron Art

Museum. We do this every year to highlight their different exhibit that they changed. They change an exhibit every year. Last year, it was a glow exhibit. This year, it is slipping my mind, what it is called, but it should be a very, very cool event. We do this every year again to promote students to get downtown. Everything would be free for students. And we are planning for a Wednesday night in late October or early November. So of course, more information will be coming out on that. I believe that is all I have, but does anybody have any questions about anything? No? Okay, thank you.

Senate Chair Kasik: Thank you President Shaw. Now moving onto the Finance Report given by Director of Finance Damson

€ Finance Report	Director of Finance Damson
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Finance Director Damson: Hello everyone! I hope you're all doing well today. So, for the finance report, most of our allocations went towards travel conferences for student organizations and the different general body needs. We allocated a little over \$1,800. And crumble cookies did meet on Monday, if you guys still wanted to go every Monday at 7pm. And no expenses for USG because we just had a Student Leadership Summit on Monday that went well. We'll have a lot of new allocations in the future. Any questions? Thank you.

Senate Chair Kasik: Thank you Director Damson. We'll now be moving onto the DLT Report given by Vice Senate Chair McCracken.

€ DLT Report	Vice Senate Chair McCracken
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Vice Senate Chair McCracken: A lot of this will be repeated, but please keep submitting your office hours once a week. Submit shout outs and Mid-Year awards. Those are super cool. Everyone likes to see their name in a shout out, and they like to know they're doing good. So please shout out other members whenever you know they're doing something good. And then please submit your membership requirements, when completed. Onto our meeting recap, we did

branch reports, position offers, so we offered three positions to one to Deputy Chief of staff, two social media strategists, and then one will be sworn in today in our branch, so \ that well finally have a full branch today. Remaining vacant positions, there's one in the executive branch still for IOC Greek life liaison. And then Monday we had the Student Leadership Summit. That was from 5pm to 7 pm. That went really great, so thank you to everyone that attended. Committees. OSGS Committee, once again, if you'd like to learn more, please talk to Chief of Staff Kelly. And then I know we have a legislative branch representative, but yeah, we do need one representative for each. And then upcoming USG events, candidates first year meeting happened. All-USG meeting on the second, President Nemer will be coming to that, so that is very exciting. University of Akron Blue Out is September 25th, and then the ZAB mocktails event is October 3rd, and that is always super fun, so please come to that. Any questions? Cool.

Senate Chair Kasik: Thank you Vice Senate Chair McCracken. We'll now be going onto the Committee Reports starting off with the F.A.S.T report given by Senator Shelton.

IX. Committee Reports

- F.A.S.T. Committee

Senator Shelton

Senator Shelton: Hey guys! So, we had two special guests at our meeting on Tuesday which I was very excited about. We had Maggie Mahaney and Kendall Gnap. You guys are the first people to know about our F.A.S.T tour times and dates. Those are in the books now. So, if you read them out, we have Thursday, September 25th, we have a variety of times and days. So, you can make at least one of them. Please? Yeah, but you can read those out. Take a picture. It might last longer, Hint. And then onto our individual updates for our committee members. Senator Moore met with her dean, which is the dean of the Health and Human Science College, and they started talking over potential projects there. Senator Pence began working on emailing issues like issues with emails, not emailing about issues to be clear. Senator Messmer wants to focus on

dining changes and dining issues, so wheels are in motion for that and for our final thing, we played Roblox. It's our bonding activity. So, if you'd love to be a guest and love to sit through a meeting and give your ideas about facilities, amenities, services, or transportation, there might be a fun little event at the end. Any questions?

President Shaw: Have these dates for the F,A,S,T accessibility tour been shared with Chief of Staff Kelly to be put on the USG calendar?

Senator Shelton: Not yet. That's why I said you guys were the first to know. So, it is in my thing to do. Anybody else? Cool.

Senate Chair Kasik: Thank you Senator Shelton. We'll now be moving onto the A.P.S.S. report. Yes, Senator Spears?

Senator Spears: Motion to change the agenda to reflect that A.P.S.S. committee report be given by Senator Swaminathan

Senate Chair Kasik: Is there a second?

Senator Swaminathan: Second

Senate Chair Kasik: All those in favor of changing the A.P.S.S committee report to be given by Senator Swaminathan, please say aye.

Motion to change A.P.S.S committee report to be given by Senator Swaminathan passed: The ayes have it.

- A.P.S.S. Committee

Senator Swaminathan

Senator Swaminathan: Hi everyone! My name is Senator Swaminathan. I'm a freshman. I am the Vice Chair for the A.P.S.S Committee. We actually had our second meeting today. It was a very fun time. We are working on our printer bill, a little recap on that. Basically, we are attempting to increase the printer budget for every student, every student gets \$3. We're attempting to up that budget. So, we are still working on that bill. It's almost in its final stages. We're also thinking of

putting through an initiative to work with the social media team and be first to your forefront programming team to create a video so that new incoming actress students can figure out how to use myAkron, workday, and pulse. Coming in as a freshman, me and my friends were very confused, so we were hoping that this initiative is put through into a fun video, that's going to be shown to all incoming students. So that's one of the initiatives that we were talking about at our committee meeting. If you guys want to drop by the A.P.S.S. meeting, it's Thursdays from 12:45pm to 1:45pm in the USG office. If you guys have any ideas in terms of academic student success, please, be sure to visit.

Chief Justice Stillion: Two things, was a digital report made for this committee?

Senator Swaminathan: Yeah, basically Senator Gnap has it. Shes running late from class, but she has the minutes, she has the report, and all of that fun stuff.

Chief Justice Stillion: Second thing. Students receive \$3.75 with printing per semester not just a flat \$3. I work in Bierce Library.

Senator Swaminathan: Okay, so \$3.75. Sorry about that. Anything else? Alright.

Senate Chair Kasik: Thank you Senator Swaminathan. We're now moving onto the S.E.

Committee report given by Senator Spears.

- S.E. Committee

Senator Spears

Senator Spears: Projects. The Syrian flag situation was resolved. The Union, Advisor Ferguson-Mike and Advisor Ernst all did a great job to get that resolved. Senator Simas is working on a plan, a memorial to political violence. We've seen a lot of that recently in the coming year, in the last few years. So, he had a fine idea to make an on-campus dedication to such a cause.

Consent education is continuing, to be pursued by Senator Kleinschmidt. Shes doing an amazing job of connecting with the people that do that work. I'm continuing my work for summer employment parking; I'm meeting set up with Dr. Grove. I thank President Shaw for putting me

in contact with her and our representative for UAkron Park as well. Updated the committee on the USG things and the most fun thing is always the Q of the D. The question of the day. So, the question of a day for Wednesday was if you were thrown on stage and you were told you had to karaoke one song, what would that song be? I said, "Wagon Wheel" as a proud Akron Zip, who is looking forward to November 11th, as the days come on. Senator Kleinschmidt said "Romeo" by Conen Gray. I'm not familiar with that song. Senator Simas said American Pie, specifically the whole version. Executive Justice Reimer said, Vienna by Billy Joel. Senate Chair Kasick said My Life. A lot of Billy Joel fans here. And then we had Director Cliff, say Pink Pony Club. Senator Messmer said anything Darius Rucker or Morgan Wallen. And then finally, second special guest, that should be a record here. But Coordinator Mahaney said 22 by Taylor Swift. Some things coming up this weekend, student engagement wise. at least for the sports realm is soccer game tomorrow. There'll be a giveaway, and then we have a home football game against Duquesne. Any questions? All right, if you have any ideas, please come stop by and see us.

Senate Chair Kasik: Thank you Senator Spears. We will now move onto New Business with Senate Bill 11-25-26.

X. New Business

SB 11-25-26

Andrew Nees

Senate Chair Kasik: Is there any debate?

Chief Justice Stillion: Point of order. You have to read the bill first.

Senate Chair Kasik: That's right we do. Thank you.

Vice Senate Chair McCracken reads the bill

Senate Chair Kasik: Yes, Senator Spears?

Senator Spears: Motion to end debate and move to previous question.

Senator Moore: Second

Senate Chair Kasik: All those in favor of ending debate and moving to previous question to vote on the bill please say aye... All appose nose

Chief Justice Stillion: Point of order. All bills require a second reading for a number of requirements.

Senator Shelton: Motion to dispense second reading

Senator Sterns: Second

Vice Senate Chair Kasik: All in favor of dispensing a second reading please say aye

Motion to dispense second reading passed: The ayes have it

Vice Senate Chair McCracken Calls the role

Senator Kleinschmidt: In Favor

Senator Messmer: In Favor

Senator Moore: In Favor

Senator Pence: In Favor

Senator Prough: In Favor

Senator Shelton: In Favor

Senator Simas: In Favor

Senator Spears: In Favor

Senator Sterns: In Favor

Senator Swaminathan: In Favor

11-25-26 Passed: All in favor

- XI. Swearing In**
- XII. Adjournment**
- XIII. Discussion**
 - ∉ Mock Debate

