



Legislative Branch

Undergraduate Student Government

Undergraduate Student Government

Senate Agenda

April 16th, 2026, 5:00pm – 7:00pm

I. Call to Order

II. Roll Call

III. Pledge of Allegiance

IV. Adoption of the Agenda

Senate Chair Kasik: Now onto the adoption of the agenda. Senator Swaminathan.

Senator Swaminathan: Motion to adopt the agenda.

Senators Spears and Messmer: Second.

Senate Chair Kasik: Alright, all those in favor of adopting the agenda, please say aye.

Senate: Aye

Senate Chair Kasik: All opposed nay.

Motion to adopt the agenda passed: The ayes have it.

V. Approval of the 02.26.26 Minutes

Senate Chair Kasik: Okay, onto the approval of the 4.9.26 minutes. Senator Spears.

Senator Spears: Motion to approve the 4.9.26 minutes.

Senator Simas: Second.

Senate Chair Kasik: All those in favor of approving the 4.9.26 minutes, please say aye.

Senate: Aye

President Shaw: Point of order, um, Senator Shelton is not here to deliver the F.A.S.T. Committee Report.

Senate Chair Kasik: Uh, can we get anybody else that's presenting for her since she... is there anybody else in the F.A.S.T. Committee to do that?

Senator Messmer: Motion to ammend the agenda to change the person presenting the F.A.S.T. Committee Report to Senator Prough.

Senate Chair Kasik: Senator Prough-

Senator Messmer: Or, uh, Pence.

Senator Spears: Second.

Senate Chair Kasik: All those in favor of amending to have the F.A.S.T. Report given by Senator Pence, please say aye.

Senate: Aye.

Senate Chair Kasik: All opposed, nay.

Motion to amend the agenda passed: The ayes have it.

Senate Chair Kasik: Now onto open student expression. President Shaw.

VI. Open Student Expression

President Shaw: Hi, everybody. Just another quick reminder, um, it's in everybody's calendar—it should be, it's in the USG calendar—um, but UA Remembrance Day is this Tuesday, the 21st, from, um, 12 to one is the speaking portion. Um, that is kind of—it's an annual event that kind of commemorates, and, um, yeah commemorates some of the losses that we've had on campus, um and just a time to reflect with any losses we've each individually personally had this year. Um, it's a great event. It happens every year. Um, Bethel and I will be speaking at it, along with GSG leadership, um, and some university administration, um, and they urge USG to have a strong presence there every year, so I'm just bringing that word to you here. Um, and then afterwards, there is a, um, service project, um, portion of the event, as well, I believe, for two hours, maybe for just an hour. But if anybody's interested, I know that's in the middle of the day, I know some of you have classes, but if any of you are able to stop by for any portion of that, that would be fantastic. So, um, it is in the Remembrance Garden which is, um, in the tree area, sort of, behind BCAS. Between BCAS and, um, Bierce. So, um, rain area will probably be here, 335. So, weather permitting, but I encourage all of you to be there. Thank you.

Senate Chair Kasik: Senator Simas.

Senator Simas: Um, I would like to thank Advisor Ferguson-Mike for, um, donating blood at the FIJI and ZAB blood drive yesterday. Um, we all appreciate it.

Senate Chair Kasik: Senator Spears.

Senator Spears: Uh, I believe it's next Saturday is the, um, Spring Game for Akron Football, uh, they—it's not open to the public, but it's open to students, so if you have free time and you want to see what it might look like next season, come on out.

Senate Chair Kasik: Director Damson.

Director Damson: Is this open student expression? Okay, I have two events. So, this Friday, UA Latinos is having a fundraiser for [unintelligible] if you guys are interested, check on Event Bright for Latin Night. Um, and, uh, Francophone Student Association is having an international cultural night the Friday right after at seven to nine PM in the Honors Common Room, where everybody's going after this for End of Year Awards.

Senate Chair Kasik: Thank you. Uh, if there's nothing else for open student expression, we'll move onto the Advisor report given by Advisor Ferguson-Mike.

VII. Advisor Report

Advisor Ferguson-Mike: I don't have a report.

Senate Chair Kasik: Alright.

Advisor Ferguson-Mike: I'm just giving you your time back.

Senate Chair Kasik: Uh, we will now be moving onto the Branch Reports, then, starting with the Legislative Report.

VIII. Branch Reports

a. Legislative Branch Report

Senate Chair Kasik

Senate Chair Kasik: Alright, so, as I said before, we will not be filling our Senate Clerk vacancy this year. If anybody's interested or anyone knows anyone who's interested, please let them know they can apply for next year. Uh, next week's All-USG meeting is the last day for legislation to be considered. So, if you don't submit any legislation, uh, if you don't submit your project legislation by uh, next Wednesday at noon, it will not be considered this academic year. But, if your project—if you would still like your project to be worked on in the future, uh, if it's mostly done, then you can, uh, put it in your transition form for your successor to take a look at and have them continue with it. Uh, if you are a Senator-elect, uh you and the LB leadership, Megan and I, will be meeting on April 23rd at seven PM in the USG office. That's next Thursday at, after the—after Senate. Uh, we will be discussing the Inauguration Ceremony and what you're guys' roles will be during that. If you can't make it, please let us know, and we will schedule a

different time to meet with you one-on-one. Uh, and as always, when sending emails, remember to CC Advisor Ferguson-Mike, so she can stay in the loop. We will now be moving onto the JB report, given by Chief Justice Stillion.

b. Judicial Branch Report

Chief Justice Stillion

Chief Justice Stillion: And what if I wasn't here, Ryan. What would you do?

Senate Chair Kasik: Um, this would all crash and burn.

Chief Justice Stillion: That's what I thought. All right, we've got a couple things for you guys here. We are running close to the end of the year for JB, so we're finishing up a lot of our stuff as, uh, is in New Business for later this meeting, we have finalized the Fall Election Rules for 2026. Uh, we will be going over a majority of those changes that we've made, uh, for the body today and hopefully voting on them next week at the All-USG. Uh, we are completing our transition reports internally, but we're doing it a little bit, uh, doing it a little bit differently than we have in the past where each of the—in the past we had each Justice fill out an Associate Justice transition, uh, just a general one for their position. But, considering a lot of them do very, very similar work, uh, because they're not as varied as positions in the Executive or Legislative Branch, we're switching that up and having each do a dedicated transition document for their Records Coordinator position, and then having the Judicial Branch Records Coordinator compile all that information into a more general Associate Justice-Records Coordinator—Associate Justice Transition. So those will be finished in the coming weeks. We have finalized one student organization through our SOuRCe, uh, collaboration. Woo, yay! Uh, hopefully, Ryan will be reaching out to them soon. Cool. Cool, cool, cool. We have four more student orgs that are in the queue. Uh, we're waiting on them to get their documents in to us, uh, and before we're able to review, and hopefully approve some more student orgs before the end of the semester. But, just a reminder with parking, as well, the portal is closed for at least another week. Um, so, the 27th is when the new portal opens, and, uh, parking permit purchases for the summer will open, um, as well as the fall sometime after that. There are several flyers up around campus and in the USG office that outline ways to contact the UAkron Park office right now while their portal is down, so if you get any questions, if you yourself have any questions, please take a look at that flyer. Any questions about JB? Awesome. This report was made by Associate Justice Groen, and she also made the meme. There you go. We barely finished on time, and that's for all of you. We did it for you. Remember that.

Senate Chair Kasik: Thank you Chief Justice Stillion, we will now be moving onto the, uh, EB Report, given by President Shaw.

c. Executive Branch Report

President Shaw

President Shaw: Hello, everybody. I will try to make this quick, as we have a lot on our agenda. Um, some of the same updates and reminders: um, All-USG email this week, find that hidden question. Um, it's a fun one, it was stolen from the Elections Board, from specifically, Audrey Riemer, so, thank you Audrey, for this question. Um, uh, vacant EB positions, of course, we are no longer hiring for this academic year; however, the EB application for the 26-27 year is currently open, um, for our cabinet next year. So that initial application closes Tuesday April 28th at noon, um, prior to the Inauguration so we can get everybody's EOs written, and everybody sworn in at the Inauguration who have been selected for positions. What are you giggling at?

Chief Justice Stillion: "Can be found in."

President Shaw: Can—I don't even... that's really funny. Um, it can be found in. Can be found in. Can be found in, um, the, now you have me screwed up. Can—the application can be found in, um, the bio in the Instagram and will be posted in the Teams, um in the USG Teams, so. Sorry, that threw off, threw off my, my groove. Anyways, um EB end-of-year reviews and transitions, um so reviews for EB members begin next week, and transition materials have been sent out as well. So that's very exciting, get that rolling there. Um, again, receipt clarification, um, as the end of the year, um, approaches, um, the finance team may be reaching out to some people if they don't have any receipts or documented, um, like proof of purchase for things that we have ordered this year. Um, but also, as a reminder, um, as things are being purchased for these last few events, make sure receipts are obtained and sent to the finance team for a proper documentation. Um, events. So, of course, I will kind of spare you some, but we have the Akron Small Business Series, um, going through the end of this month, still, End of Year Awards is tonight, so I'm very excited for that. Um, Day at the Akron Art Museum is Wednesday the 22nd, next week, um, same for the Exchange Street Safety Walk is next week on Wednesday, as well. Annual Reports All-USG Meeting is next Thursday, um, more information to come out about that. Um, it is, of course, required for all members, um, and hopefully everybody has been sent the Annual Report Presentation to be filled out, if not, you will be soon. Um, Spring Campus Cleanup is Friday April 24th from 11 to one. Um, sign-ups can be found—I'm not sure where sign-ups can be found, but we have a sign-up sheet. It will be shared. Um, it's--I know it's been shared externally to other organizations. I'll be sure to share it her, so we have everybody documented. Um, the Tunnel Tour is also the 28th from 5 to around, like 6:30 or seven, depending on how big our group is and how long we take, how many questions we ask. Um, the sign-ups for that can be found in the, um, sponsored event sign-up in the Teams or the SharePoint. Um, and lastly, USG Inauguration is, of course, the 30th. Um, that Thursday from five to seven. Um, location, I love how I keep forgetting to change the location. But it is in College of Business room 120. So, um, kind of a hike from here. I apologize. Um, but please feel free to invite guests. Um, you can invite your family members if you are being sworn in—even if you're not being sworn in—anybody you want to bring: friends, family,

supporters, classmates, professors, anybody, um, can come to that meeting. We encourage that there. Um, but that is split into two meetings, of course—I, again, didn't change it from last week—but the last meeting of the 25-26 year and the first meeting of the 26-27 year. Um, so, like I said, required for both outgoing and incoming members, whether you're being sworn in, or not sworn in. Everybody has to be there. So, any questions—I apologize for my typos. Yes?

Executive Justice Riemer: Um, would you like the new application to be put on the website as well?

President Shaw: Sure, that would be great.

Executive Justice Riemer: Can you send me the link?

President Shaw: Yeah, I can do that, absolutely. Um, yeah, that'd be great. Anybody else? No? I do want to clarify that application, like I said, is only for EB. The general application, um, for the other two branches for, um, LB and JB will be coming out at the conclusion of this year. So, early in the summer, that will be disseminated, along with any remaining EB positions that we need to fill. Anything else? Alright, cool, thank you guys.

Senate Chair Kasik: Thank you, President Shaw. We will now be moving onto the Finance Report given by Director Damson.

d. Finance Report

Director Damson

Director Damson: Hi, everybody, I hope you're all doing well. Okay, so for the finance report, um, this week, um, we've allocated \$175 to the student organizations on campus. And we went a little crazy for USG, we've allocated over \$2,500 for the Presidential Event, all the ceremonies, the Inauguration, the End of Year Awards, and LIFE Awards. If anybody won any awards, congratulations. Um, and we are really excited. We used some of the platform more for AshBelt and we helped them with their literary journal, \$572. Any questions? Thank you.

Senate Chair Kasik: Thank you, Director Damson. We will be moving onto the DLT Report given by Executive Justice Riemer.

e. DLT Report

Executive Justice Riemer

Executive Justice Riemer: Hello, everyone. I'm giving the DLT Report this week, woo! Clap for me! Thank you. Alright, so we had DLT outside this week because it was way to hot in here, so that was really fun. We skipped our bonding activity for a super fun DLT plus Senator Spears picture! Oh yeah! Um, and then we went through some branch updates. I'm not going to bore you with it because we already did that. We also had the discussion about USG finance, and we landed on a proposal for summer pay for DLT—

I'll get into that a little bit later, don't worry about it. Uh, and it will be voted on tonight, by all of you. Uh, we also talked about transitions: every member of every branch must complete transition documents. So, I have a little timeline there, I'm not going to read it to you, you guys can read—you should be reading these anyways. Um, end-of-year reviews will be soon. You should already know about these. End of Year Awards Ceremony tonight. There's superlatives, speeches, awards... super fun. The Inauguration Ceremony: I don't really need to talk about it. This one is cool. There is going to be senior envelopes for all of your USG seniors who are graduating. There will be little notecards, and you will have to fill out at least five notecards for the different seniors. Um, so that way we can give them little nice notes to thank them for the work that they did in USG. And it will be tracked, so we will come find you if you haven't actually done five. So actually do it. Um, and that's it. Any questions? Wonderful, thank you. Oh, did you have a question, Garin? You were raising your hand.

Senate Chair Kasik: Thank you, Executive Justice Riemer. We will now be moving onto the, uh, F.A.S.T. Committee Report given by Senator Pence.

IX. Committee Reports

a. F.A.S.T. Committee Report

Senator Pence

Senator Pence: So, this is totally impromptu, I was not expecting to be up here. Um, uh, yeah, so we talked about UA Remembrance Day. Uh, the Dine and Discover. I-I'm just... I see that there's a little quote. Alright, cool. Uh, yeah, so, F.A.S.T. Tour in the residence halls, uh, April 17th at three PM. If you don't show up, Senator Shelton is going to be very upset, and we're all going to have to hear about it. Um, Senator Flickinger had some legislation to look at, and that was kind of cool. We pointed at each other and made sure that we had some end-of-year requirements happening. Um, Senator Blankenship and I went to the Myers College of Art on Wednesday, and it was a much more fruitful venture than it was the last time we tried to do that in February. We actually got some emails, just sent to people, that was cool. Um, Senator Flickinger, uh, is sending an SR to the floor this week. We met with people again on Thursday. Uh, Senator Messmer is getting end-of-year stuff turned in. And Senator Shelton is working on an annual report thing. Um, here's the meme.

Senate Chair Kasik: Thank you, Senator Pence. Uh, now we will be moving onto the A.P.S.S. Report here, given by Senator Gnap.

b. A.P.S.S. Report

Senator Gnap

Chief Justice Stillion: Point of order, the agenda says that the next report is the—oh. Guys, I rescind my point of order.

Senator Gnap: Alright, so, for this week's report, Senator Swaminathan is waiting on the State for approval for the cubbies in the bio lab project, um, and is working on

membership requirements, and is doing a new project called the Honors College Study Hub Project. Um, Senator Prough is meeting with Capital Planning for outdoors courts on April 27th, and is working on statements of support for that, and membership requirements. Senator Sterns is writing legislation and sending out emails for the cameras in the Knight Chemical Lab. Um, he's also sending emails for meal swipes in Qdoba and Panda, and he's also working on membership requirements. And then I am looking to get in contact with Amy DeChambeau, um, for Bierce Library, and just to see if there's any projects with that. I've been editing my project maps and trackers. Um, and I worked on last week's Senate minutes, and I'm looking at the end-of-year reports. And I don't think we have a meme for this week. Any questions?

Senator Bass: Um, for Swaminathan, what is the study room project?

Senator Swaminathan: So, basically, I went with Professor [someone] to this conference in Columbus in February, and there's a lot of different vendors, and one of the vendors had this like kind of study room kind-of thing going on, and Tom is trying to get that for the EL penthouse, and he told me that it would be a great idea and talked to Dean Nicholson-Swevel about it. So, I've been trying to get all of the data compiled up to set up a meeting, and hopefully that will be able to transition over to next semester as I get into my position as the Williams Honors College Senator.

Advisor Ferguson-Mike: I don't know—I'm just providing an update. I got that approval.

Senate Chair Kasik: Thank you, Senator Gnap. We will now be moving onto the S.E. Committee Report given by Senator Spears.

c. S.E. Committee Report

Senator Spears

Senator Spears: So, this week, uh, we had a pretty quick meeting. We talked about, uh, the inaugural Consent Campaign that was completed, uh, this week. It went phenomenally. Uh, thank you Senator Kleinschmidt and Senator Bass for spearheading that, and Senator Simas for running and grabbing the large sheet of paper right before. Uh, but thank you to everybody who participated, uh, and helped us on that. Senator Roskam, um, is obviously not here, but our Bill is on the floor tonight, and Senator Simas is emailing admissions, and trying to set up a meeting with them—hopefully before the end of the year, but if not, uh, will place that in his transition report. And then our Q of the D sparked some great conversation: What Mario Kart character would you be and why? Uh, and there's some pretty fun answers, I mean, it's a great discussion. Any questions? Thank you.

Senate Chair Kasik: Thank you, Senator Spears. We will now be moving onto the, uh, Election Rules Presentation given by Chief Justice Stillion.

X. New Business

a. Election Rules Presentation

Chief Justice Stillion

Chief Justice Stillion: Hi. Hi, guys. There we go. We're going to go fast. But, we're still going to go over it here. So, um this is something we're doing a little bit differently than we have in years past, typically, the Fall Election Rules are not presented to the Senate until the beginning of the Fall Semester. Um, we're trying to get a little bit of a jump on that, because otherwise, we can't really get started with planning the Fall Election Rules until, like, halfway through the Fall Semester. So, we're going to try to start that a little bit early, get started a little bit earlier, have a longer application period have a little bit of a longer campaign period, um, and get everything planned sooner. So, this is a typical Election Rules Presentation. If you have any questions, jump in, or save 'em 'til the end. But, per usual, a lot of the changes in the Election Rules are rollover from either the Fall election cycle, um, this past fall, or changes that we made to the Spring Election Cycle just last week. Um, so, most of those are pullover. They are—we don't have one continuous document because there are enough changes that we can't have one single—one exact document, so it makes it a little bit difficult to pull everything over, but a lot of the changes are just things that have already been presented to this body and improved on. But first, in that first section, well, section one is the, um, general section that talks about what an election is and how we do election pursuant to the Constitution. That never changes—it shouldn't, unless the Constitution changes. But, section two goes a little bit more in depth, so we have some changes there. Section 2.A.i and 2.B.i we remove of—we removed the language specifically talking about “will be elected on a ballot.” We felt it was a little confusing because what if you don't get elected? Uh, the purpose of that language is to simply specify that if we have a first-year senator election and a special election at the same time, there have to be two separate ballots. Those candidates cannot be elected on the same ballot. So, we try to clarify that with the language down here. If, say, they both occur in the Fall Semester, they must have their own unique ballots. And then in section B, there, we removed the word general because there are not General Elections in the spring or in the fall. I'm sorry, there are only General Elections in the spring. That is what just happened. It is a special election, if occurs—if it occurs in the fall, which can only happen at the discretion of the Senate Chair if they determine they have too many vacancies in the Senate, that they don't want to fill via appointment, the can decide to run and fill those positions via an election in the fall. Continuing on, we capitalized the Election Cycle. Yay. But, we also changed—uh, pulled a lot of changes from the spring talking about the passage of the Election Rules process because it was a little bit vague, uh, before, but it's just essentially talking about what happens right here, especially because the election rules are in that weird middle space where they're not voted on like governing documents or like regular legislation. They're voted on by everyone in the room at the—at a regularly scheduled Senate meeting. So, if we were to vote on them right now, you would all get to vote, but so

would all of the members of DLT. It's weird. Continuing on to the breakdown of the Elections Board, uh, once again, most of these changes are pulled from the spring, talking about when the Elections Board meets, um, and who specifically makes up the elections board. So, typically, it was a little but vague about when the Elections Board started, because do they exist before the Election Cycle? Do they exist after the Election Cycle? How does that work? Because we didn't really meet as an Elections Board before or after an Election Cycle—only during when the actual election was happening. Um, and even though the Elections Board is made up of primarily the same people as the Judicial Branch, there's always the chance that it isn't. So, we need to have those two as two separate bodies in the event that a justice is running, and also to accommodate for, uh, our liaison positions from the Executive Branch, so, we're clarifying how those two bodies need to be separated and when, uh, the Elections Board starts existing and stops existing, as well as the requirements of the Elections Chair specifically, right here. Continuing on with essentially the same thing, we go into depth about the liaisons required at our discretion, as well as the responsibilities and limitations of the liaison, and then removal of unnecessary language. Uh, kind of like here, but I also didn't put one big chunk where we just talked about, essentially, why we need to have liaisons. We don't need to justify that in the governing document, the governing document is not for justification. It is for outlining the rules. That is a lot of extraneous language.

Application procedures: grammar. That's it. Uh, general grammar corrections, which were pulled over from last fall and spring. Section five: talking about candidates. We clarified the restrictions on the candidates that are also USG members, so, just stating that the specific membership requirements up here, and then over in that other section, if they apply for candidacy, they can't work on election sponsored tasks. That, once again, is a change that's pulled from both the spring and the fall. But when it was pulled from the spring and the fall, it was also just moved—it was already in the rules, it was just moved to this specific section. And then talking about the constitutional requirements. Typically, they're—in the past, these requirements weren't in the Election Rules. It was just a reference to the Constitution stating, "you have to be in line with what the Constitution says," but, we're adding here, um, so that people don't have to check an entirely separate document. That's a little bit scarier. Continuing on, we moved campaign requirements up to the above section. That's what I just said. And then clarified when specifically, the candidates list will be released. Uh, previously, it just said, "will not be released until the deadline for consideration set by the Elections Board." We clarified that a little bit clearer, so it's not just, like, whenever we want. It's now, "upon commencement of campaigning on USG sponsored social media and the USG website." So, when campaigning opens, the candidate list comes out. And then clarifying of the definition of a first-year student. This is always something in the fall that we go back and forth on, especially with the IT department, because they are the ones that send out the ballot. Uh, they have to send it out only to first-years, so we have to define what a first-year student is. Uh, this year, we have decided the specific

language is going to be, “students enrolled in their first undergraduate semester at the University of Akron at the time of the First-Year Election at the discretion of the Chair.” Always like to throw in that little last section in case we change our mind. All right, the candidates meeting: we did replace “potential candidate” with “applicant” throughout this section. That’s something that we, uh, changed in the Special Election that just ended, um, adding that language because you’re not really—sure, you’re a potential candidate, but then everybody’s a potential candidate in the world, really, because they could. So, it’s a little bit clearer to call them an applicant for this time frame, instead of a potential candidate because then you actually filled out the application and are not just somebody anywhere. And then we separated the definition of the candidates meeting. This—these sections here were all in one big paragraph, so we broke them down into each of their own bullet points so we had a little bit of a clearer understanding of what the candidates meeting is, and then we added these two points down here, um, to pull in discussion of elections events and, uh, talking about campaign staff information because previously, those were things we talked about at the first candidates meeting, but they were not listed as specific things we needed to talk about at the first candidates meeting, so, adding those in. Continuing on, adding when we notify candidacy and language about potential sanctions pulled directly from the Spring Rules—not going to go too in-depth on those. Elections events, though, it’s a little bit differently, but once again, mostly pulled from the Spring Rules. In the spring, if you remember, we changed this section to allow for eight meet and greets. Um, the spring is obviously a little bit of a longer, uh, Election Cycle, so we only have four in the, uh, fall, particularly because we don’t have a petitioning period. Um, but, uh, mirroring that language, in terms of four dates, uh, down here and up here, and then clarifying that you can only attend one of those dates either in person, or with your materials in your absence, campaigning rules and guidelines, general grammar corrections, replacing “potential candidates” with “applicants,” once again, we remove a redundant section in A to C, which is over there, at the very bottom. Uh, you can’t really see it, it’s that section at the very bottom, but in this top paragraph here, it’s the last sentence as well. They said the exact same thing, so, we got rid of one. And then we simplified this section here, which actually took a while to figure out specifically what we wanted to say here. It was a very long section, but now it just says, “Postings of any kind on campus property, as defined in section nine of this document, is strictly forbidden, except for on chalkboards, whiteboards, bulletin boards, sidewalk, and ‘the rock.’” So it was both a comma splice, a run-on, and just, like, had eight different things we didn’t need to say, so, clarifying that. Continuing on, removing a section talking about the pre-election phase, which is a pull from the fall. Many of you do not remember the pre-election phase, but it was, um, passed, it passed Elections Boards’ attempts to clarify what the Election Cycle is. We don’t really like it, so we got rid of it. There is no pre-election phase. It never existed. Campaigning material: Uh, this is also something that took these next couple sections are conjoined in the changes we made, uh, with one of our—with the mock grievance we got for the Spring Election

Cycle. It pointed out that there was some discrepancy in how we define how supporters and endorsers make campaign material and whether or not they can be used by candidates. So, we needed to update the definition of what campaign material is to remove that ambiguity—that is that top section over there. And then, uh, right below it, we forbid use of materials not made by candidates or their staff from being used as official campaign material. So, essentially, what that means is, campaign material can only be made by a candidate or their staff. If material is made by someone else that isn't a candidate or their staff, and used in any way in the election, the candidate or their staff cannot use those for their individual campaign. So, you can have a student org post, "Hey, I really like this candidate. Vote for them." But, the candidate themselves cannot repost that same post. They have to make their own separate post that is made by them. You cannot use things that someone else has made, uh, with these changes, and then general grammar and spelling corrections. Uh, we removed the, like, the simple word "inappropriate" there when talking about how we reserve the right to require candidates to remove material because we just want to reserve the right to require candidates to remove material with a little bit more ambiguity, just in case something bad happens. And then, uh, this section down here, "otherwise unable to display the disclaimer," to allow materials without the disclaimer to be pulled, um, that's not what that says. Uh, I think this might have just been something that I forgot to remove. But, this is what it's supposed to be. We just added a section down there talking about "outlined in section 14." Sorry about that. Campaign staff: once again, updated the definition of campaign staff in particular, which is "campaign staff is defined as undergraduate students who assist in running the campaign of a specific candidate," instead of "who assists in the creation of campaign materials outlined in section nine." So, giving them a little bit larger purview, they're not—their sole responsibility isn't just making campaign material. They can help the candidate in other ways, and then serving as campaign staff forbids from working on other elections tasks, which is just a change pulled from the spring and the fall. Continuing on, we reflected changes once again from the candidates meeting section that I talked about, uh, so we just have that deadline outlines at the first candidates meeting is now the deadline for when the candidates have to submit their campaign staff. Support: we updated the definition as I've mentioned, to "recommending a candidate without financial or material assistance," uh, and then we also, in the endorsement section, added TikTok and changed "Twitter" to "X" in our discussion on social media. For the voting section, we simplified the voter process to reflect earlier language discussing student emails. Previously, it said—the picture's on the next slide, but I'm going to go over them. Previously, it said, something, uh, along the lines of like "a UANet ID is required." We just changed that to "student email" because it's the same thing. It's a little bit clearer. We changed the sanctionary responsibilities for voting from the Elections Board to the Judicial Branch because that is correct. The Elections Board does not do anything with sanctions. It is entirely the Judicial Branch because they are the Judicial Branch. And then an adjudication: very

similar changes for those sections in 14A through C and 14 D, just swapping out “Elections Board” for “Judicial Branch,” and then in 14C, remove the language saying the “senior most associate presides” to the “Executive Justice presides” in the absence of the Chief Justice because that is how it is outlined in the Constitution. The Constitution specifies only the Executive Justice or the Chief Justice can preside over cases brought before the Judicial Branch. You can see those here: student email up there, Judicial Branch, Judicial Branch. Uh, this is just a language correction from the “Chief Justice” to the “Chair,” similar to the Judicial Branch stuff. Uh, grievances filed with the Executive Justice right there. This right here is also the same thing with the senior-most Associate Justice. All right, questions? Cool. Talking fast.

Senate Chair Kasik: Alright, motion to enter debate?

Chief Justice Stillion: Point of order.

Senate Chair Kasik: No, wait. I’m sorry, yeah, moving on. Yes, that’s right. Thank you, Uh, you will be voting in favor. Uh, you can vote for this—this is for everybody in the room.

Chief Justice Stillion: Point of order, we are not voting on the Election Rules this meeting. We are voting on the Election Rules at the next meeting, unless the senators motion to change—to amend the agenda to vote on the Election Rules this week.

Senate Chair Kasik: I’m sorry, I thought we were doing it this week. Um, unless you guys...

Chief Justice Stillion: Point of privilege, can I have a brief recess?

Senate Chair Kasik: Yeah, um, Senator Spears.

Senator Spears: Motion for a two minute recess.

Senator Simas: Second.

Senate Chair Kasik: All those in favor of a two minute recess, please say aye.

Senate: Aye.

Senate Chair Kasik: All opposed nay.

Motion for a two minute recess passes: The ayes have it.

Senate enters a two minute recess.

The meeting is called back to order by Senate Chair Kasik.

Senate Chair Kasik: I call the meeting back to order. Uh, next on our agenda is the DLT Summer Wages Finance Proposal. Uh, Executive Justice Riemer is here to explain this.

b. DLT Pay Finance Proposal

Executive Justice Riemer

Executive Justice Riemer: Hello, everyone. You're seeing me again. So, I do want to preface this, uh, financial proposal with letting you guys know kind of where we're at financially right now and why this is even coming to you. Um, so, at the current moment, we do not have enough in our administrative account to pay DLT for the rest of the semester and also give you all your stipends at the end of the semester, um, and so, we've had conversations in DLT about what to do about that. So, the decision that we came to to get through the rest of this semester is to take money from our discretionary account and move it into our administrative account, so that way we can continue to pay DLT for the rest of this semester. Um, but we don't get our new budget until September. So, if you guys didn't know, DLT usually gets paid over the summer as well. And so, this is a proposal, basically, to, um, move some money out of some of our other accounts, to give DLT enough money to, um—or, sorry, give that administrative account enough money to pay DLT over the summer. Uh, so, it's due to the increase of our hours worked during this year from the DLT. There's currently a lack of funding for the remainder of this fiscal year. Although the remainder of the academic semester will be covered by the discretionary amount in the President's account, there is no money left for over the summer. To remedy this, the financial proposal is to move \$7,200 from various accounts within USG to pay the DLT for the work done over the summer. There are multiple conditions to this: one, every member may only work the maximum number of hours under 'Summertime Hours'. Any extra hours worked will not be compensated, two, the 'Summertime Hours' will be in effect from May 4 to September 6, which is 18 weeks, and three, the 'Total Summer Pay' assumes that each member works the maximum number of hours each week for the entirety of this period. Um, so this isn't going to be entirely accurate to, um, you know, how much money we'll actually spend on DLT pay over the summer, but we want to make sure that we're, you know, like, pretending like everybody's at the maximum in case there were to ever be a situation where that would happen. So basically, what this first table is, is the capped hours for everyone over the summer. So you can see here the President would make—uh, would only be able to clock eight hours a week. The Vice President, Chief of—or, sorry—Chief Justice, and the, um, Senate Chair would only be able to clock four hours a week, and the rest of DLT would only be able to clock two hours a week. Um, and then, we also went through and adjusted everyone's hourly rates, uh, because, uh, prior to this, Dr. Messina was setting our hourly rates, um, and just, kind of, in some way—some sort of formula, he doesn't even know. Um, he uses tuition, but the only person on DLT that actually needs to get paid based on incoming tuition is the President per our Constitution. Everybody else can get set wages that, uh, transfers from year to year. So, we went through and adjusted those wages, you can see that there. It's pretty much in line with, um, office hours. The only discrepancy is Chief of Staff and Director Finance, uh, which were lowered, um, below the Vice Senate Chair and the Executive Justice

because they're not voting members of DLT, um, and, uh, it's kind of also how I had to make it work with only \$7,200. Um, and so, you can see you with that on this form, this is the right side column, you can see the total amount of pay that of these—um, each would get over the summer, if they were working the maximum number of hours. So, um, you may be wondering where we're getting this money from, so to do this, \$4,000 would be moved from the marketing amount in the president's account and \$3,200 will be moved from the long-term initiatives account. Although almost \$2,000 was spent on marketing materials last year, the majority of the materials can be reused and do not need to be repurchased due to, obviously, we're going to be under the same platform as this past academic year, and the long-term initiatives account was selected due to the current lack of long term initiatives, and that need to be funded. And although almost \$2,000 was spent on different projects last summer, those projects were the pride flag frame and the plaque and the Rooclusive space frames, so those were one time expenses and should not be expected to be repeated over this upcoming summer. And then down here, you can see all of the different accounts and the distribution amounts here. I will preface this also, I didn't make this, our Deputy Director of Finance made this, so if I don't sound like I know what I exactly am talking about, it's because I did not actually make it. I'm just presenting it for him. And then the redistribution funds will be \$1,181.42 for marketing, and \$2,403.69 for long-term initiatives until the fall of year 27 budget is approved. So, this is our formal price to redistribute \$4,000 in the marketing budget of the president's account and \$3,200 on the long-term initiatives account to fund the summer wages of the Directional Leadership Team at reduced hours before the year fall year 27 budget is approved. So does anyone have any questions, things that they would to have ask me, anybody in the back of DLT, our advisor? Oh, Owen, I saw you first.

Senator Bass: Do you know who created the budget or for this current fiscal year and why it's not adding up? Why are we in the deficit?

Executive Justice Riemer: Yeah, uh, Madi, back there.

President Shaw: Yes, I'll happily answer. So, the initial budget this year was a discussion in DLT, but it was mainly working with myself, Dr. Messina, and the Director of Finance and Bethel, of course, as well, and Brittany. The way that we allocated money into our initial accounts this year was based on percentages of what we used last year. So our rollover was lower coming into this year than it was going into last year, but we had a tiny bit more allocated from us from the university. So with that, we took the percentage of how much was in reference, I guess, ignore the other accounts for now, but this applies to them, in reference to the admin accoun—took the percent of how much money we used in there and allocated that lump sum of money that we got to the beginning of the year and put it in that account. based on what DLT took out pay wise last year. Effectively, with that, of course, you all voted on this, you're all aware that we've lowered

the volunteerism and service award monetary, like, awards, I guess, so we can fit that into the budget as well, since the monetary amount that we allocated was a little bit lower than last year because we based on percentages. With that, the reason that we have been running out, like it was kind of mentioned in here, is we have, I mean, clocked more hours than we did last year a little bit. But also, we—I don't get the numbers for everybody's hourly wages, which is another reason why we want to have set hourly wages for DLT members, as well. So that way, whenever my intention of going into next year with bylaw amendments is setting clear language as to this is the maximum amount of hours each position can work, or maybe like a range of hours, each position can work. So having that range plus some of the set wages, we can calculate more accurately going in the next year how much we need to allocate into that account, so this doesn't happen again, if that makes sense. Because again, I, as of maybe two weeks ago, for example, learned what Bethel was making hourly, I had no idea. That was not communicated to me whenever we were allocating money into the budget. So that was kind of something that we didn't think of, so that's something I guess we can take accountability for as well. Didn't really think that much into it because this hasn't been a problem in the past. So this is just a solution that we've been discussing of how to avoid this problem going forward and to accurately allocate funds better in the future. If that answers your questions.

Executive Justice Riemer: Any other questions? Yeah?

Senator Simas: I'm not necessarily looking for specifics, but I guess for hourly rate wages, I guess they were inconsistent before, and I guess, with this change now, is that a general, like raising or just...

Executive Justice Riemer: Like, in terms of, like, did I bring them up or down?

Senator Simas: Yeah.

Executive Justice Riemer: They generally went down, I'll go back up to that so I can tell you more specifically. So obviously the President's, I couldn't move up or down, the Vice President's as well as the Chief Justice and the Senate Chair, that went down. The Chief of Staff went down. The Director of Finance actually went up because there was a discrepancy between how our Chief was Staff and Director of Finance was paid, so now they're the same. And then the Executive Justice and the Vice Senate Chair also, I believe, went up but only in contrast to the Chief of Staff and the Director of Finance if think that makes sense.

Senator Simas: Yes, thank you.

Executive Justice Riemer: Yeah.

Director Damson: I just want to add, basically the way the hours, I think you can kind of already guess it, the president's is based on tuition, but everybody else is basically on the amount of hours. Chief of Staff and Director of Finance have the same amount of hours, and everybody else basically gets me the same because they have the same amount of hours. So Vice President, Chief Justice, Senate Chair and then you have Vice Senate Chair and then Executive Justice. So we just wanted to make it fair for everybody. We missing a lot of hours.

Executive Justice Riemer: Yes.

Senator Spears: So are the summertime hours go in the first two weeks of next school year?

Executive Justice Riemer: Yes, the reason I did that is because I'm not exactly sure when we're going to get our budget. As soon as we get the budget from Dr. Messina, we can start pulling money out of that so we don't even necessarily, I believe, correct me if I'm wrong, need to get our budget passed in the Senate before we can start doing the normal pay for DLT, so that was really just in case just to make sure that we can get through that stretch, have enough money to pay everyone.

Acting Vice Senate Chair Sterns: Regarding the summertime hours, I'd like to know a bit more about what DLT would be doing over the summer...

Executive Justice Riemer: Like the work that gets done?

Vice Senate Chair Sterns: Yeah, yeah, that like, President's eight hours, Senate Chair's four hours, Vice Senate Chair's two hours. Like, what's the reasoning behind those?

President Shaw: I can start. I went back and looked at my clocked hours last semester, and the summertime hours is about half of what I worked weekly over the summer. I attended many meetings, I spent many hours in the office. This includes like retreats, University Council, meetings with admin, meetings with advisors and meetings with the source office for finance. It's a lot of admin work, a lot of us. I think I can speak on behalf of DLT. It's mostly, if not all admin work behind the scenes. Bylaw amendments, getting things ready form wise, meeting with—we met with directors. So those different things. It's more like strategic planning behind the scenes, things over the summer. And I guess we also attended breakout sessions for orientation, so that's like a half hour every so often. So the summertime hours proposed here is way below what usually all of us worked weekly over the summer. But that's just because the compensated—like the hourly rate in the position that we're in and we don't want to allocate too much into this account for us over the summer because we think that wouldn't be fair for next year's administration and next year's budget. So we eventually probably will be working more than the summertime hours, but that's only what we'll be clocking, if that answers your question.

Chief Justice Stillion: To break it down a little bit, just from the perspective of not the President, who has a lot more work over the summer and just more work in general. Working two summers so far, a lot of the direct meetings, we have a biweekly DLT meeting. For the Budicial branch, we had a biweekly one on one, which usually went for about an hour. The DLT meeting is about an hour and a half. And then outside of that, like President Shaw mentioned is the irregular orientation meetings, which are usually about like 15 minutes to a half hour. Those really pickup closer to the beginning of the fall semester, but yeah, really outside of that, I don't believe that I put in more work than four hours a week over the past two summers. If I did, it was not mandatory work or work that was required for the Judicial Branch. It was work that I wanted to pick up in terms of special projects, like from amending bylaws and things like that. I do believe there's some discussion—the one large meeting we have is the DLT retreat that usually goes about five hours plus, that only happens once over the summer, but I do believe there's a discussion about making that not paid because we, at least in the past, have gotten a compensated dinner from that. That's the breakdown that I have seen over the past two years, and I believe this amendment would fit into that pretty easily.

Executive Justice Riemer: Any other questions from anyone?

Senate Chair Kasik: Thank you, Executive Justice Riemer. I'll leave this up. So, uh, we will be voting—you guys will be voting on this. Your options are in favor, oppose, or abstain.

Chief Justice Stillion: Point of order. This can still be debated and amended as regular legislation so you'd have to enter debate

Senator Spears: Motion to enter debate.

Senator Prough: Second.

Senate Chair Kasik: All those in favor of entering debate, please say aye.

Senate: Aye.

Senate Chair Kasik: All opposed, nay.

The motion to enter debate passes: The ayes have it.

Senator Prough: Motion to close debate and move to the previous question.

Senator Simas: Second.

Senate Chair Kasik: All those in favor of closing debate and moving to the previous question, please say aye.

Senate: Aye.

Senate Chair Kasik: All opposed, nay.

The motion to close debate and move to the previous question passes: The ayes have it.

Senate Chair Kasik: Yeah, like I said, your options are in favor, oppose, and abstain.

Acting Vice Senate Chair Sterns: Um, sorry, I'm getting an update notification.

Acting Vice Senate Chair Sterns Calls the roll

Senator Bass: In Favor

Senator Blankenship: In Favor

Senator Gnap: In Favor

Senator Kleinschmidt: In Favor

Senator Messmer: In Favor

Senator Prough: In Favor

Senator Simas: In Favor

Senator Spears: In Favor

Senator Sterns: In Favor

Senator Swaminathan: In Favor

Senator Prough: Point of order, Senator Pence was not called in the roll.

Senator Pence: In Favor

DLT Pay Finance Proposal has passed: All in favor.

Roll-Call

Senate Chair Kasik: Excuse me, we're going to be moving on with the agenda. The next piece we've got is for Senate Bill 18-25-26. Vice Senate Chair Sterns, if you would please read Senate Bill 18?

c. SB 18-25-26

Active Vice Senate Chair Sterns recites the rationale for SR 18-25-26

Senate Chair Kasik: I welcome the sponsor of the bill to speak on behalf.

Senator Spears: Um, first off, ignore my mistakes. But overall, the bill is to recommend, obviously, for senators who are basically not At-Large to reach out to someone who represents their constituency group. I've learned throughout my time here at the university, not just only in the Senate, but throughout my other involvements on

campus that, it is essential to know the people that you need to work with, uh, have an open dialogue with them. This bill does not require, or the amendment proposal does not require you to have a meeting with them, because that's not up to your control, just to reach out to them, possibly through email probably what everyone will do, but really keeping it vague, so it's not requirement to do too much, but just to start open dialogue, a lot of people I hear say, we don't know how or where to start or what to do. You know, maybe—maybe there's a dean or an officer or someone that sees something that can be fixed in their departments and you can really help with that. But with that, I know Senator Roskam had some things to say, but I's kind of summed it up for her.

Senate Chair Kasik: Thank you. Can I entertain a motion to enter debate? Senator Swaminathan.

Senator Swaminathan: Motion to enter debate.

Senator Simas: Second.

Senate Chair Kasik: All those in favor of entering debate, please say aye.

Senate: Aye.

Senate Chair Kasik: All opposed, nay.

The motion to enter debate passes: The ayes have it.

Acting Vice Senate Chair Sterns: I'd like to motion for a general correction of some grammar issues. Is that possible?

Chief Justice Stillion: Is there a pre-made list of the grammar corrections?

Acting Vice Senate Chair Sterns: No.

Chief Justice: Then it would have to go amendment by amendment.

Acting Vice Senate Chair Sterns: Um, for the last whereas clause, should there be a “now therefore?”

Senator Spears: Motion to amend SB 18-25-26, the last whereas clause to “now therefore.”

Senator Simas: Second

Senate Chair Kasik: All those in favor of that change to the bill, please say aye.

Senate: Aye.

Senate Chair Kasik: All opposed, nay.

The motion to amend the whereas clause passes: The ayes have it.

Chief Justice Stillion: Point of order, that is not where the amendment was made. Point of order, the amendment was only for “now therefore,” please remove the “be it resolved.”

Senate Chair Kasik: Yes, yes. Senator Swaminathan?

Senator Swaminathan: Motion to amend “respectively” in the be it resolved clause to be spelled accurately.

Senator Spears: Second.

Senate Chair Kasik: All those in favor of correcting the spelling of respectively, please say aye.

Senate: Aye.

Senate Chair Kasik: All opposed, nay.

The motion to correct the spelling of “respectively” passes: The ayes have it.

Senate Chair Kasik: Yes, Senator Prough?

Senator Prough: Motion to amend SB 18-25-26 to remove the “; and” at the end of the be it resolved clause.

Senator Simas: Second

Senate Chair Kasik: All in favor of removing the “; and,” please say aye.

Senate: Aye.

Senate Chair Kasik: All opposed, nay.

The motion to remove the “; and” passes: The ayes have it.

Senate Chair Kasik: Anything else? Senator Swaminathan?

Senator Swaminathan: Motion to close debate and move to the previous question.

Senate Chair Kasik: Before that, actually, I entertain a motion to waive the second reading? Senator Prough?

Senator Prough: Uh, motion to suspend the rules and waive the second reading.

Senator Swaminathan: Second.

Senate Chair Kasik: All those in favor of waiving the second reading, please say aye.

Senate: Aye.

Senate Chair Kasik: All opposed, nay.

The motion to suspend the rules and waive the second reading passes: The ayes have it.

Senate Chair Kasik: Senator Bass?

Senator Bass: Request for information from Senator Spears.

Senator Spears: I accept.

Senator Bass: Um, do you know when this bill would go into effect?

Senator Spears: Well, this is just a request to a bylaw amendment, so I'm assuming when DLT meets in the summer, that this could be something that they bring up in their meetings, and just saying this is something that we believe should happen, and uh, they can set—if they want to set a timeline to it, that it has to be by this date or not. Uh, just a request—just to ask.

Senate Chair Kasik: Senator Sterns?

Acting Vice Senate Chair Sterns: Close debate? Move to the previous question?

Senator Spears: Second.

Senate Chair Kasik: Alright, all those in favor of closing debate and moving to the previous question, please say aye.

Senate: Aye.

Senate Chair Kasik: All opposed, nay.

The motion to close debate and move to the previous question passes: The ayes have it.

Senate Chair Kasik: Alright, you will be voting on Senate Bill 18-25-26. Your options are in favor, oppose, and abstain.

Acting Vice Senate Chair Sterns Calls the roll

Senator Bass: In Favor

Senator Blankenship: In Favor

Senator Gnap: In Favor

Senator Kleinschmidt: In Favor

Senator Messmer: In Favor

Senator Pence: In Favor

Senator Prough: In Favor

Senator Simas: In Favor

Senator Spears: In Favor

Senator Swaminathan: In Favor

Senator Sterns: In Favor

SB 18-25-26 has passed: All in favor.

Senate Chair Kasik: Alright so we have a stop time at six for today's meeting in order to prepare—

Chief Justice Stillion: Point of order, can you scroll to the top of the document? There is no stop time outlined in the agenda. With business still being on the floor, that business needs to be voted on or tabled before we can adjourn.

Senate Chair Kasik: Senator Spears?

Senator Spears: Request for information from Chief Justice Stillion.

Chief Justice Stillion: I accept.

Senator Spears: Um, in a motion, can I—I can't say something else other than the direct motion, correct?

Chief Justice Stillion: If you're recognized by the Chair to freely speak, you can freely speak.

Senate Chair Kasik: Senator Spears.

Senator Spears: Uh, with Senator Flickinger not here, I would rather her be here for her own resolution, and, um, we can set up for the awards ceremony. So, motion to table SR 08-25-26.

Senator Simas: Second.

Senate Chair Kasik: All those in favor of tabling SR 08-25-26 to the next meeting, please say aye.

Senate: Aye.

Senate Chair Kasik: All opposed, nay.

The motion to close table SR 08-25-26 to the next meeting passes: The ayes have it.

Senate Chair Kasik: Alright, with that being tabled for next week's meeting, and we have nothing else on the agenda, we are adjourned.

XI. Adjournment

