



## SENATE AGENDA

09/14/2021

Joslin Senate Chamber

- I. Call to Order
- II. Two Minutes of Silence
- III. Roll Call
- IV. Announcements from the Chair
  - a. Student Body President Jett: There is an exciting event happening: the Hueston Woods Bus initiative. This was started last year and based on student interest. On Saturday, we will have a pilot program to Hueston Woods, and we will hopefully pass a resolution to make it a weekly occurrence. The bus leaves from Goggin and I will send marketing materials in Slack.
  - b. Speaker Villanueva: Special elections are happening next week. This will happen before the senate, where candidates will present and senate will vote on who fills the seats. Packets are currently out, please share them with your friends. I've gotten a few packets already, so that's awesome. Pro Temp Payne sent this in the Slack: please email him Monday before noon if you know you will miss. Please find an alternate as well. A friend is more likely to vote the way that you would vote.
- V. Consent Calendar
  - a. Approval of Student Senate Minutes from April 27th 2021
  - b. Approval of Governmental Relations Minutes from April 29th 2021
  - c. Approval of Infrastructure & Sustainability Minutes from May 2nd 2021
  - d. Approval of Cabinet Minutes from July 7th 2021
  - e. Approval of Cabinet Minutes from August 15th 2021
  - f. Approval of Cabinet Minutes from August 27th 2021
  - g. Approval of Cabinet Minutes from September 5th 2021
  - h. Approval of Cabinet Minutes from September 12th 2021
  - i. Motion to approve consent calendar by unanimous consent
  - j. Motion is seconded
  - k. Motion is approved
- VI. Student Concerns
  - a. Secretary Waugh: I am reporting back on a concern from the last session of last year. The concern pertained to why a treasurer's request was not approved by F&A. Please tell organizations they have access to approved and unapproved funding requests on the Hub.
  - b. Senator Tiefenthaler: On the walk back from Armstrong to Elliott Hall, the walk is very dark. The lights are out and I was wondering if there was any info.
  - c. Secretary Sutton: We were planning on doing a lighting audit this semester.
  - d. Motion to commit concern to the Safety committee

- e. Motion is seconded
- f. Motion is approved
- g. Senator Stein: An off-campus student said that their dumpsters were overflowing and they are not picked up often enough,
- h. Motion to commit concern to the Off-Campus committee
- i. Motion is seconded
- j. Motion is approved
- k. Senator Davies: My fellow students have had issues with professors being very strict with absences. Other bugs are going around and I've heard professors are supposed to be more lenient.
- l. Senator Stein: Send Sec. Pal information about the class
- m. Motion to commit concern to Academic Affairs Coalition for academic purposes
- n. Motion is seconded
- o. Motion is approved
- p. Senator Crone: Some professors are not enforcing the mask mandate. My professor does not wear a mask.
- q. Senator Twigg: There is a policy that says professors do not have to wear one if they are lecturing.
- r. President Jett: The policy is still in effect.
- s. Motion to commit concern to Academic Affairs Coalition
- t. Motion is seconded
- u. Motion is approved
- v. Senator Tiefenthaler: If you are a UA in the Farmer School, you are unpaid and if you want credit you must sign up for a class. You must pay the business course surcharge.
- w. Vice-President McKeon: It is the same case in CCA.
- x. Senator Bakshi: I'm a FSB UA, I have not been charged from my knowledge, but that could be because of the class I'm in.
- y. Motion to commit concern to Academic Affairs coalition for purpose of students not being burdened by financial fees
- z. Motion is seconded
- aa. Motion is approved
- bb. Senator Hughes: I've gotten concerns about gender-neutral bathrooms, specifically the fact that lots of them do not have showers in residence halls.
- cc. Senator Dooling: I wanted to second that. Ogden Hall has no shower and it is frustrating.
- dd. Motion to commit to DEI committee for purpose of improving resources
- ee. Motion is seconded
- ff. Motion is approved
- gg. Senator Morton: I've gotten some concerns about the lack of a stage for performing arts.
- hh. Motion to commit to On-Campus committee for purpose of student organizations on campus
- ii. Motion is seconded
- jj. Motion is approved

- VII. Reports
- VIII. Old Business
- IX. New Business Item A: Approval of Opportunity I Funding Allocations
  - a. Secretary Waugh: I am the Secretary of Finance and have been in ASG for four years. One of the most important things ASG does is we provide funding for all other student orgs to carry out their initiatives. It helps make campus lively and makes it a better place. These are our funds for 2021-2022. We get an allocation every year from student fee dollars. Typically, that is between \$700,000-\$800,000. We have a surplus from last year as well. Student orgs barely spent any money last year because they couldn't. In that surplus, some of it is sitting in an account that is for excess funds. We have about 1.77 million dollars. \$90,000 is for ASG initiatives and Cabinet stipends. That will leave us with plenty of money to allocate to student orgs. We have 2 funding cycles this semester and 3 next semester. We allocated \$117,480 to student organizations. Our first funding hearings were last Monday.
  - b. Senator Grabow: One of the most common student concerns is a lack of transparency with F&A. How much is allowed to be allocated and how much is actually granted?
  - c. Secretary Waugh: I don't have an exact answer. I could tell you the trend, but I have not pulled out the amount. Generally it's about 70%, but I'm not entirely sure what it was pre-pandemic. I can look into that for you.
  - d. Senator Ogunnowo: What is the maximum amount that can be allocated?
  - e. Secretary Waugh: Organizations have to go through Red Brick Rewards; they can complete certain initiatives and increase the amount of funding they can receive. There are four tiers, and the amount goes up the higher tier you are. Unity funding is one exception to that.
  - f. Senator Davies: Was there a trend for the reason why the funding was not allocated and how are you working to make sure that goes down?
  - g. Secretary Waugh: The number one thing orgs ask for that we cannot give is food. Some of the funds we derive is from the state of Ohio, so they are technically liable for the funds we go out. If a student org uses money for food, and someone has an allergic reaction, they are able to sue the state. Organizations sometimes do not put their events on the Hub. Please tell your organizations to put events on the Hub!
  - h. Senator Gaquinto: I heard from their treasurer last year that they don't have everything they need now. Is there anything they can do if they messed up?
  - i. Secretary Waugh: The tier requirements are governed by Student Activities. I would encourage them to speak with Student Activities. Once the tiers are set for the semester the tiers are set, except in rare cases. I would encourage them to fundraise, and use their agency accounts to do so. There is also a Student Activities Initiative Fund they can apply for.
  - j. Secretary Sutton: Are there any trends in orgs that are not requesting funds?
  - k. Secretary Waugh: I get the list of who requests funds but not who doesn't require funds.

- l. Secretary Morris: It's mostly new orgs. We try our best to make ourselves approachable.
- m. Senator Stein: Secretary Waugh did his due diligence and answered questions well. I would encourage everyone to approve the IOB.
- n. Motion to end debate and call to question
- o. Motion is seconded
- p. Motion is approved
- q. Opportunity I Funding Allocations are approved.

Item B: Approval of the Internal Operating Budget

- a. Secretary Morris: This is my first year serving in cabinet and I served on F&A last year. This is the summary for the amount being asked by the cabinet this year. President Jett is asking for \$100. Chief of Staff Wu is asking for \$110. Secretary Walter is asking for \$275. Secretary Stephens is asking for \$375. Secretary Waugh is asking for \$100. Secretary Pallant is asking for \$400. Speaker Villauneva is asking for \$800. Secretary Morris is asking for \$500.
- b. Senator Parker: Can you explain the discretionary fund?
- c. Secretary Morris: Should something happen where something was not asked for during the IOB, the money for it comes from the discretionary fund.
- d. Senator Madrigal: How many times in the past ASG years have discretionary funds been used?
- e. Secretary Morris: It varies from year to year, but usually there is about \$2,000 in the discretionary fund.
- f. Senator Crone: For the On-Campus districts, why is it only four?
- g. Secretary Pallant: Four will have their outreach events in the fall, and four will have outreach in the spring.
- h. Senator Grabow: Where does all the money go when it is not used?
- i. Secretary Waugh: If the money is not spent, it will roll over to the next year.
- j. Senator Crone: How often does a roll over happen?
- k. Secretary Morris: Technically there is a rollover every year.
- l. Secretary Waugh: Before last year, there was never a roll over. A surplus in the budget is very unusual.
- m. Senator McLaughlin: I'd like to commend Secretary Morris for doing such a good job. It is clear, accessible, and transparent. I'd encourage everyone to vote.
- n. Senator Davies: I second the words of Senator McLaughlin.
- o. Senator Stein: I also agree that we should approve.
- p. Motion to end debate and call to question
- q. Motion is seconded
- r. Motion is approved
- s. Internal Operating Budget is approved

X. Special Business of the Day

XI. General Announcements

- a. Speaker Villanueva: Please do your committee preferences!

- b. Secretary Sutton: Today was the opening of the Student Dining Hall Advisory Committee application. Please apply if you are interested!
- c. Secretary Manley: Tradition in Oxford is community walk-about. We like to welcome the off-campus kids to Oxford and give them information about ASG. This will be happening next Wednesday the 22nd and we need lots of volunteers.
- d. Secretary Stephens: Tomorrow is the Multicultural Mega Fair. It is a collaborative event and I would like ASG members to be present. The UniDiversity festival is coming up on Friday and we could use volunteers. The Inclusion Forum is on September 29th in the Wilks Theater. Please spread the word.
- e. Parliamentarian Elghazawi: I am the president of the Middle Eastern Student Association. We are doing an event tomorrow.
- f. Vice-President McKeon: Four seats are opening on the Armstrong Student Center Board. Please spread the word about the Hueston Woods event this Saturday.

XII. Adjournment

- a. Motion to adjourn
- b. Motion is seconded
- c. Motion is approved



# Cabinet Agenda

9/19/2021

ASG Office (ASC 2012)

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call

*President - Madelyn Jett*

*Vice President - Aidan McKeon*

*Chief of Staff - Jakin Wu*

*Secretary of Finance - Ben Waugh*

*Secretary of the Treasury - Cortlin Morris*

*Secretary for Government Relations - Austin Tyree*

*Speaker of the Senate - Victoria Villanueva*

*Secretary for Communications and Media Relations - Jenna Walter*

*Secretary for Safety - Harper Sutton*

*Secretary for Academic Affairs - Ruku Pal*

*Secretary for Off-Campus Affairs - Connor Manley*

*Secretary for On-Campus Affairs - Becca Pallant*

*Secretary for Diversity and Inclusion - Vada Stephens*

*Secretary for Infrastructure and Sustainability - Alia Agee (Virtual)*

*Parliamentarian - Omar Elghazawi*

*Pro Tempore - Wes Payne*

*Faculty Advisor - Scott Walter*

- III. Chief of Staff Announcements

- A. COS Wu: Please notify me at least 24h in advance if you need to miss cabinet meetings! Most people have been pretty good about this. Slack is the best way to do this. Let's hold each other accountable.
- B. COS Wu: Please try to utilize the cabinet shared drive. I'm sure you all have your own ways of organizing, but for the sake of transparency I'd like to encourage



using that. Whatever you may be working on is free to go into the folders. An example would be the IOB spreadsheet for F&A.

#### IV. Faculty Advisor Announcements

#### V. Open Floor for Group Updates

- a. Speaker Villanueva: We received over 20 packets for special elections to fill 14 seats. If elections go well, we should only have 4 open seats, so we won't have to have another election. I tried to split up a lot of the elections; special elections and steering elections will be this Tuesday, whereas SLC and judicial council elections will be the following Tuesday.
- b. Sec. Manley: I talked about Walkabout last week, we are having a second push for volunteer signups. If you know any groups that might want to sign up for it please get them to sign up.
- c. Sec. Stephens: This was a very busy week. This was the first week of the Council of Diversity and Inclusion. They are working on changing the function of the committee from being advisory to being able to propose policy. The change would make CODI able to suggest policy changes to University Senate. They are also looking, in conjunction with the Provost, to release a sense of the university about HB 22 and HB 27. I want to work with you all to see what ASG can do, whether it be potentially releasing a statement or something else. These affect teacher compensation and people could lose their jobs. The Inclusion forum is coming up on September 29th!
- d. Sec. Tyree: The GRN has set Statehouse Advocacy Day for October 19th. I'm not sure if Randi will want to tread into those waters, but the best method would probably be to bring it up there.
- e. Sec. Agee: Becca, Harper, and I had the first Student Dining Advisory committee this past Friday. We need more students to sit on the committee, so we need your help to push this out.
- f. COS Wu: Becca recently notified me that she would not be able to sit on the Academic Policy Committee (8:30-9:30 on Fridays). Dan Bosworth has been suggested, but I wanted to see if anyone wanted to sit on it first.

#### VI. Cabinet/senate connection discussion led by Jakin Wu and Victoria Villanueva



- a. Speaker Villanueva: I have already gone over most of this with senators, so they are already on the same page. Some overarching things to keep in mind: no one is above anyone else in ASG. Just because we are cabinet members does not mean we are above senators. I really encourage you all to keep that mindset. Another big thing is calling people in versus calling people out. The big thing every year is executive sessions, and every year it feels like people air out dirty laundry during these sessions. To get started in this environment, we should call people in versus calling people out. The ASG take on this would be calling out being immediately sending someone to Oversight for trivial reasons. If you have an issue with someone, please try and talk to them first. Most of the time it is miscommunication and someone not realizing what they're doing.
- b. Pro Temp Payne: Oversight committee last year had too many members with similar interests. Working to try to prevent that this year
- c. Sec. Walter: How do I make sure senators are feeling valued on the committee?
- d. Speaker Villanueva: Delegating is one of the most important things you can do. Engaging them in that way is really helpful.
- e. COS Wu: This is the first time you will be working through this stuff, as it will be for the senators. Last year I was on Sec. Small's committee, and he really knew the ins and outs of ASG, so he didn't know what it was like to be a new member.
- f. Speaker Villanueva: Be patient with senators on committees, as most senators this year are new. Be that support system so that they feel like they are on an equal playing field.
- g. Sec. Sutton: Scheduling 1-on-1s was really helpful for me.
- h. COS Wu: I found it helpful last year from Harper and Brandon that they would have direct action items for the next week at the end of meetings. If senators have action items to work on, it can help guide them in the right direction.
- i. Sec. Morris: For F&A last year, we had an expectations sheet. It was helpful in measuring progress.
- j. Sec. Stephens: Finding different ways to cultivate leadership is also really helpful. Trying to develop the leadership (making workshop days) of senators is a wonderful way to level the playing field.
- k. Speaker Villanueva: With Steering and Elections, I'm asking what their goals would be for next year. I also ask them what I can do to help them. I really encourage that.





- l. COS Wu: Building off of that, setting expectations and goals for ASG is important but setting personal goals is important as well. Having these two sets of goals is very important.
- m. Speaker Villanueva: The next thing I want to discuss is inter-committee collaboration with senators. When you're on one committee, that does not mean you cannot have the focus of another committee on your mind. I'm going to really encourage this collaboration and all of cabinet will be important in pushing this. Don't monopolize initiatives!
- n. Speaker Villanueva: As secretaries you will be guiding senators, and I want you all to know the difference between guiding and doing their work for them. The number one thing is ghostwriting legislation, and I have an issue when senators spend the Q&A session yielding to the secretaries. Something that steering will be doing this year is not only approving legislation from the floor but giving them tips to present as well. I'm not sure if this was an issue last year but really educate senators on how to interact with administrators. Teach them how to disagree respectfully and to respectfully find other avenues.
- o. COS Wu: Simple things sometimes get overlooked. Last year someone did a short template on how to write emails. Don't be afraid to really drill down into those details. When I first started out, I didn't realize that the time you have with administrators is extremely valuable. Your information needs to be together going into these meetings.
- p. Sec. Stephens: When you talk to your committees, being cognizant of your biases is really important. Make sure your committees are flowing in an inclusive manner.
- q. Speaker Villanueva: In the bylaws it says we have to make a comfortable working environment, so keep that in mind.
- r. Sec. Stephens: I'd love to do bias training with ASG as a whole. I was thinking sometime in October for a DEI training. A climate survey is also important.
- s. COS Wu: ASG is a nonpartisan organization. I know everyone is generally good about this, but people have toed the line in the past.
- t. Speaker Villanueva: This year, there may be things that come up in your committees regarding certain Miami policies. Please use research to discuss any of these issues.



- u. COS Wu: If anyone ever needs help with addressing this, feel free to come forward to Victoria or myself.
- VII. Set Action Items
- A. COS Wu: Come up with discussion topics for the meeting with Dr. Cho next week. Her research centers on critical social justice through institutional accountability.
- VIII. Additional Secretary Updates
- a. SBVP McKeon: Last week I sent out a document about the new weather closures policy. If you could take a couple minutes to read it I would really appreciate it.
  - b. SBP Jett: I got several messages saying that the Hueston Woods event went well, and the bussing company will send me the info later this week.