



**Council of Graduate Students**  
The Ohio State University

**Date:** November 6, 2020  
**Location:** Zoom Meeting

Ohio Union Rm 2088A | 1739 N. High Street | Columbus, OH 43210 | (614) 292-4380 | [cgs@osu.edu](mailto:cgs@osu.edu)

**Delegates Present:** Luke Andrejek, Selasi Attipoe, Ada Barach, Blake Barnett, Rob Barry, Om Prakash Bedant, Polina Berezina, Jessica Blackburn, Anthony Bowersock (ALT), John Bundschuh, Yu-Chun Chang, Steph Charles, Jacob Compaleo, Carrington Conerly, Katherine Conner, Paul Consiglio, Adam Culiver, Robert Dahlberg-Sears, Archit Datar, Riley DeBacker, Austin DeGroff, Todd DeRose, Kendra Dickinson, Ty Drayton, Benjamin Duran, Story Edison, Megan Espana, Steph Fanelli, Caroline Fitzpatrick, Brandon Free, Bethany Frick, Jahmour Givans, Annedra Gladney, Robin Gordon, Colby Gregg, Jenna Greve, Sarah Haines, Keira Hambrick, Jordan Hartman, Nathaniel Heiden, Lindsey Hernandez, Morgan Heyde, Christian Hines, Sarah Hyman, Gregory Jameson, Shontiara Johnson, Ashwin Kane, Noor Khalayleh, Ellia La, Yifan Li, Javonte Lipsey, Xinyue Lu, Alan Lujan, M. Dominique Magistrado, Zari Mahmoudi, Matthew Maynard, Doricka Menefee, Benjamin Mertus, Alexander Milder, Aviva Neff, Wanderson Novais Pereira, Brian O'Rourke (ALT), Felipe Pacci Evaristo, Maritza Pierre (ALT), Kelsey Pinckard, Swetha Rajasekaran, Lauren Riley, Marie Rineveld, Morgan Ross, Mary Sagatelova, Akanksha Sahni, Ashweta Sahni, Erik Scaltriti, Michelle Scott, Karla ShockleyMcCarthy, Daniel Smith, Juman Somnath, Kye Stachowski, Goran Stevanovski, Matthew Stuckey, Garrett Tatum, Greyson Teague, Ekaterina Tikhonyuk, Jamie Utphall, Andrew Varnau, Ana Maria Velasquez Giraldo, Derek Walton (ALT), Brett Wedding, Yitong Xin, Megan Zib

**Delegates Absent:** Ali AsghariAdib, Fouad Choueiry, Kacey Clark, Joanna Claudy, Meaghann Dynes, Paul Gregor, Jake Hausmann, Pouya Kousha, Ho-chieh Lin, Madeleine Lomax-Vogt, Krutant Mehta, Armando Roman, Melika Shahhosseini, Ericka Velez-Bonet

**Senators Present:** Aaron Beczkiewicz, Tyler Beauregard, Jenna Greve, Gala Korniyenko, Laine Rumreich, Conner Sarich

**Senators Absent:** Shawar Ali, Akshay Asaithambi, Dustin Servello, Utkarsh Shah

**Executive Committee Members Present:** Katherine Conner, Caroline Fitzpatrick, Colby Gregg, Jenna Greve, Abigail Grieff, DaVonti' Haynes, Kathryn Holt, Rania Khamees, Sarah Light, Raven Lynch, Nick Messenger, Aviva Neff, Wanderson Novais Pereira, Stephen Post, Conner Sarich, Michelle Scott, Leila Vieria

**Executive Committee Members Absent:** Madeleine Lomax-Vogt, Melika Shahhosseini

**1. CALL TO ORDER: Meeting called to order at 3:30pm**

**1.1. Statement of Purpose**

- 1.1.1. To effectively advocate and program to ensure that The Ohio State University graduate student experience is the best it can be.

**1.2. Land Acknowledgement**

- 1.2.1. CGS acknowledges central Ohio as the traditional homeland of the Shawnee Nation, Miami, Wyandotte and other Indigenous nations who have strong ties to these lands. Today, individuals from a broad range of Indigenous backgrounds call Columbus and central Ohio home.

**2. ROLL CALL**

**2.1. Carmen log-in**

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**3.1. Minutes from October 2, 2020**

- 3.1.1. Minutes approved.

#### **4. NEW BUSINESS**

##### **4.1. Resolution 2021-006: A Resolution To Establish a Campus LGBTQ+ Center**

4.1.1. Presentation time yielded by authors.

###### **4.1.2. Questions:**

- None.

###### **4.1.3. Discussion:**

- Beczkiewicz.1 proposes an amendment to Line 71-73 to read “having an LGBTQ+ center at Ohio State would allow for more focus to be dedicated to the specific needs of...”.
  - Amendment accepted as friendly by authors.
- Drayton.18 proposes an amendment to clarify language in Line 34 to read “WHREAS all LGBTQ+ efforts are currently being housed in the Multicultural Center, and they have one full-time staff member to specifically focus on the needs of all LGBTQ+ students on OSU’s campus, and this position is not currently filled; and”.
  - Amendment accepted as friendly by authors.

4.1.4. Resolution is voted on via Carmen survey.

4.1.5. Resolution passes (78 Yeas, 1 Nay, 4 Abstentions).

##### **4.2. Resolution 2021-009: A Resolution Advocating for Adequate Instructional Breaks To Support Graduate Student Mental Health and Scholarly Productivity**

4.2.1. Presentation time yielded by authors.

###### **4.2.2. Questions:**

- None.

###### **4.2.3. Discussion:**

- Post.144: Just a note- spring break plans are still in flux and the current academic calendar may still change.

4.2.4. Resolution is voted on via Carmen survey.

4.2.5. Resolution passes (82 Yeas, 1 Nay, 2 Abstentions).

##### **4.3. Resolution 2021-012: A Resolution for Increasing Black Student Enrollment and Retention Through Supportive Networks**

4.3.1. Sagatelova.2: OSU’s numbers for black student enrollment and attrition rates have been historically bad. This resolutions aims to address this by creating a university-wide support system for all black graduate students.

###### **4.3.2. Questions:**

- None.

###### **4.3.3. Discussion:**

- None.

4.3.4. Resolution is voted on via Carmen survey.

4.3.5. Resolution passes (77 Yeas, 1 Nay, 2 Abstentions).

##### **4.4. Resolution 2021-010: A Resolution for Demilitarization of The Ohio State University Campus and Surrounding Community**

4.4.1. Dickinson.130: CPD and OSUPD possess and use military-style equipment acquired through the 1033 program. This resolutions calls for the removal of this type of equipment to promote a safer environment for students.

###### **4.4.2. Questions:**

- Barnett.615: Where is the evidence that OSUPD has equipment from this program?
  - This information came from a list put together by the ACLU. Will add a reference to this document in Lines 17-18.

###### **4.4.3. Discussion:**

- Dahlberg-sears.1: Should we include a stipulation that they should not be allowed to simply sell this equipment to another police department in Line 34?

- Because of the way the program is set up, this is not something that could happen.
- Free.41: Has OSUPD gotten other things from this program like sandbags or flashlights that we would be then taking away?
  - Possible, but this type of equipment is easily purchased from other vendors.
- Velasquezgiraldo.1: The language of the resolution is very broad, and an across-the-board ban so might be better to try to be more specific.
  - Holt.351: We can't predict what other types of equipment might become available in the future so using the phrase "military equipment" hopefully covers the type of equipment we are actually concerned about.
  - Conner.280: Other non-military equipment is available through other venues so this resolution would not prevent OSUPD from purchasing these things.
- Lipsey.25: Have the authors considered a third-party team to oversee purchasing rather than a ban of this equipment?
  - Post.144: It's unlikely that this resolution will be fully accepted by the university so it's possible this type of review board might be a middle ground.

4.4.4. Resolution is voted on via Carmen survey.

4.4.5. Resolution passes (61 Yeas, 9 Nays, 13 Abstentions).

#### **4.5. Resolution 2021-011: A Resolution for the Integration of Black Student Support Staff in all Ohio State University Colleges**

4.5.1. Presentation time yielded by authors.

##### **4.5.2. Questions:**

- Debacker.2: How do the requests of this resolution in Line 46 align with the legalities of employment practices?
  - Khamees.5: The administration would be the ones to figure out the logistics of how to carry out this program, so this is not a concern in the context of this resolution.

##### **4.5.3. Discussion:**

- Haynes.242 proposes an amendment to add "Dr Moore, Vice Provost for the Office of Diversity & Inclusion" to the last BE IT RESOLVED clause.
  - Amendment accepted as friendly by authors.
- Drayton.18: OSU has historically underserved many populations so does the committee have plans to address other groups?
- Haynes.242 proposes amendment to change language in Line 46 to say "preference will be given to Black applicants".
  - Amendment accepted as friendly by authors.
- Scaltitri.1 proposes amendment to change language in Line 47 to say "student" instead of "client".
  - The word client was chosen because it is used in the research that supports this resolution.
- Sahni.16 proposes an amendment to add BAL in parentheses in Line 42.
  - Amendment accepted as friendly by authors.
- Haynes.242 proposes amendment to add regional campuses to Line 42.
  - Amendment accepted as friendly by authors.

4.5.4. Resolution is voted on via Carmen survey.

4.5.5. Resolution passes (65 Yeas, 5 Nays, 8 Abstentions).

#### **4.6. Resolution 2021-007: A Resolution Advocating for University Support for Communities Negatively Impacted by the Combined Heat and Power Facility**

4.6.1. Sagatelova.2: The CHP will reduce the energy costs for OSU but utilizes fracking, which has many negative environmental, economic, and social consequences for the surrounding community, especially those who are disenfranchised. This resolution asks that OSU allocate funding to address and mitigate these negative effects.

##### **4.6.2. Questions:**

- Drayton.18: Did OSU share specifically that they are planning to use natural gas as a fuel source? Would it be more effective to ask for them to rethink the design?
  - This project has already started construction so unfortunately, it would not be effective to make this ask now.
- Barnett.615: Do we know if this plant will comply with the new ballot initiatives passed by the city of Columbus about moving toward green energy?
  - Novaispereira.1: Info shared by the Sustainability Institute was that OSU is not going to be able to meet the requirements of that initiative, with or without this new plant.

**4.6.3. Discussion:**

- None.

**4.6.4. Resolution is voted on via Carmen survey.**

**4.6.5. Resolution passes (71 Yeas, 1 Nay, 1 Abstention).**

**4.7. Resolution 2021-008: A Resolution Against Future Use of Fossil Fuels**

**4.7.1. Authors waived time.**

**4.7.2. Questions:**

- Velasquezgiraldo.1: How does the previously discussed resolution complement this one?
  - Novaispereira.1: This resolution is focused on any and all future projects since we know that CHP is already underway.

**4.7.3. Discussion:**

- Greve.41: The construction of this new plant allows the university to move away from contracts with AEP, which uses 30% coal power. It will also mitigate some energy risks for the hospital. Right now, renewable energy isn't feasible for campus and making this transition to the new CHP plant now will still reduce our carbon emissions.
  - Novaispereira.1: This encourages future decisions and policies that are moving toward renewable energy. Line 54 has this specific language about future projects.
  - Dahlberg-sears.1: The Sustainability Institute has admitted that the CHP is a quick and dirty solution to the campus' energy problems, especially with the new construction of the medical tower.
- Haynes.242 proposes amendment to replace Bertone with Vice President for Administration & Planning Jay Casey in the final BE IT RESOLVED clause.
  - Amendment accepted as friendly by authors.
- Jameson.61 proposes amendment to change the language of Line 51 to say "SERC" instead of "CGS".
- Discussion suspended for our guest speaker.
- Discussion resumed.
- Jameson.61 proposes amendment to Line 51 to say "THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that CGS is in opposition to the prolonged reliance on power plants utilizing fossil fuels, such as the CHP; and".
- Velasquezgiraldo.1 proposes amendment to Line 51 to say "BE IT RESOLVED that CGS recognizes the need for immediate energy solutions but disapproves of some of the environmental and social implications of the Combined Heat and Power Plant that has started construction"
  - Dahlberg-sears.1: There is no end date for the CHP project so while this is a stopgap, it will continue to operate far into the future.
  - Milder.3: This statement in outright opposition does not need any qualification and should stand as written.
  - Novaispereira.1: Proposed amendment to the amendment to say "THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that CGS is in opposition to the prolonged reliance on power plants utilizing fossil fuels, due to some of the environmental and social implications of the Combined Heat and Power Plant; and"
  - Amendment approved.

**4.7.4. Resolution is voted on via Carmen survey.**

**4.7.5. Resolution passes (72 Yeas, 7 Nays, 3 Abstentions).**

## **5. GUEST SPEAKER: Bruce McPheron, Executive Vice President and Provost**

- 5.1. Alicia and Bruce are still monitoring all the aspects of the pandemic and the situation is changing all the time.
- 5.2. Spring semester is scheduled to start January 11 and the first week will be completely virtual. The plan right now is for finals and the semester to end a week early. Spring break will not be reinstated because we do not want students to travel and then return to campus. Several options are still being considered to include smaller breaks throughout the semester.
- 5.3. Grad students now have broader access to testing and the university is still working to expand testing capacity.
- 5.4. Grad students should see the stipend increase reflected in their paycheck at the end of November.
- 5.5. Questions:
  - Conner.280: What is the admin doing to curb the bar attendance and belligerent behavior of students during football Saturdays?
  - Korniyenko.1: Constituents who have applied for emergency grant funding have not gotten timely responses and were ultimately denied funding without cause. Additionally, fees charged to post-candidacy students have increased since March.
  - Greve.41: When the admin is telling departments to extend graduation clocks for students but not providing extra funding to departments, how is the university planning to support departments through this deficit?
  - Zib.1: The reporting system is now anonymous but there is no actual consequence for those who are violating the social health guidelines.

## **6. OFFICER REPORTS (as submitted in Delegate Meeting Packet)**

### **6.1. President (Post.144)**

- 6.1.1. Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory grading option will be available for grad students this semester.
- 6.1.2. Verdaynea and Jack have both resigned. Nick Messenger has come on as Chief of Staff and Colby Gregg and Caroline Fitzpatrick have taken over as interim chairs of DEI.
- 6.1.3. Both ad-hoc committee charges extended into the spring semester to allow more time for the committees to complete their work effectively.
- 6.1.4. Over 1 million dollars has been awarded in emergency funding so far.
- 6.1.5. Questions:
  - For departments that already pay students more than the current minimum stipend, what will happen?
    - Those departments are likely to increase funding if they prefer to stay at a certain level above the minimum. Regardless, all students will receive at least the new minimum.

### **6.2. Vice President (Haynes.242)**

- 6.2.1. Hayes Forum will take place April 9<sup>th</sup> in a virtual format.
- 6.2.2. DaVonti<sup>1</sup> is stepping down and the new VP will be elected at the December delegate meeting and begin January 1.

### **6.3. Treasurer (Lynch.389)**

- 6.3.1. 3 Graduate Student Engagement Fund awards have been given to applicants.
- 6.3.2. The application window has now closed for funding period 3 of Ray (activities between January 1 and March 31, 2021). 6 applications are now being judged.

### **6.4. Secretary (Light.109)**

- 6.4.1. The application window has now closed for funding period 3 of CDG (activities between January 1 and March 31, 2021). 16 applications are now being sent out to judges for review.

## **7. COMMITTEE CHAIR UPDATES (as submitted in Delegate Meeting Packets)**

7.1.1. **None.**

**8. SPECIAL ORDER ITEMS**

**8.1. Delegate Concerns**

8.1.1. **None.**

**9. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**9.1.** Next meeting is December 4, 2020 @ 3:30pm.

**10. Meeting adjourned at 5:42pm.**