

12 February 1998

Regular Meeting

Chad Tanner, President

Presiding Officer

Greg Mergen

Recording Secretary

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:07 PM by Mr. Tanner.

The agenda was agreed to: I. Call to order; II. Roll Call; III. Additions to the Agenda; IV. Student Speakout; V. One Minutes; VI. Presentations; VII.

Adoption of the Minutes: 5 February 1998; VIII. Officer's Reports: A President-Chad Tanner, B. Vice President-Ann Charles Watts, C.

Treasurer-Erik Roush; IX Executive Cabinet Reports: A. Kara Schroyer, Chief of Staff, B. Staff not on the agenda; X. Advisor's Report-Mike

Sostarich; XI. Senator's Reports: A. Academic Affairs-Amanda Wiebold, B. Black Affairs-Natalie Barnes, C. Environmental Awareness-Fern

Weaner, D. International Affairs-Sako Eaton, E. Legislative: City and County-Matthew Ciske, F. Legislative: State and Federal-Laura Stubbs, G.

Lesbian/Gay/Bi/Transgendered Awareness-Dale Edwards, H. Minority Affairs-Mia Coleman, I. Off Campus Housing-Ron Minto, J. Residence

Life-Jason Barron, K. Student Activities-Jay Cohen, L. University Life-C.J. Arrington, M. Women's Affairs-Eleni Zulia; XII. Committee Reports;

XIII. Old Business; XIV. New Business; XV. Roundtable & Announcements; XVI. Roll Call; XVII. Adjournment.

Roll Call

Mr. Tanner ordered the roll call.

Executives present

Mr. Chad Tanner, President of Senate
Ms. Ann Charles Watts, Vice President of Senate
Mr. Erik Roush, Treasurer of Senate

Senators present

Mr. Jason Barron, Senator for Residence Life
Ms. Jennifer Boyden, Senator for the West Green
Ms. Anna Kay Brokaw, Senator for the College of Business
Mr. Ryan Cary, Senator for the College of Arts & Sciences
Mr. Matt Ciske, Senator for City and County Issues
Mr. Jay Cohen, Senator for Student Activities
Ms. Camille Coleman, Senator for Minority Affairs
Mr. Jim Davey, Senator at Large
Mr. Sako Eaton, Senator for International Affairs
Mr. Josh Kopp, Senator for the East Green
Mr. Kyle LaClair, Senator for the College of Engineering
Mr. Mike LeHoty, Senator for South Green,
Ms. Molly McCabe, Senator for Greek Off Campus Housing
Mr. Jim Maczko, Senator for the Honors Tutorial College
Mr. Mike Michetti, Senator at Large
Mr. Keith Milless, Senator for the College of Education
Mr. Ron Minto, Senator for Off-Campus Housing
Mr. Joseph Nusairat, Senator for Off Campus Housing
Ms. Kish Rutledge, Senator for the West Green
Ms. Karen Sager, Senator for the South Green
Ms. Heidi Schoener, Senator for Off-Campus Housing
Mr. Matt Sonneman, Senator for the College of Communication
Ms. Laura Stubbs, Senator for State & Federal Issues
Mr. Grant Swemba, Senator for the College of Health and Human Services
Ms. Fern Weaner, Senator for Environmental Awareness
Ms. Melissa Wervey, Senator at Large
Ms. Amanda Wiebold, Senator for Academic Affairs

Senators not present

Mr. C. J. Arrington, Senator for University Life [personal proxy]

Ms. Natalie Barnes, Senator for Black Affairs [personal proxy]

Mr. Dale Edwards, Senator for Lesbian-Gay-Bi -Transgendered Awareness
[personal proxy]

Mr. Tony Eufinger, Senator for Off Campus Housing [personal proxy]

Ms. Eleni Zulia, Senator for Women's Affairs [personal proxy]

Staff present

Mr. Steve Carlino, Parliamentarian

Mr. Ben Groban, Special Assignments

Mr. Joel Koch, Media Relations Director

Mr. Greg Mergen, Graduate Student Senate Liaison

Mr. Joseph Nusairat, System Administrator

Ms. Kara Schroyer, Chief of Staff

Ms. Laura Zollars, Faculty and Administrative Senate Liaison

Staff not present

Mr. Tony Eufinger, University Committees Coordinator [personal proxy]

Ms. Annemarie Grassi, The Residents' Action Council Liaison

Student Speakout

No students wished to address Senate.

One Minutes

MR. EUFINGER, SENATOR FOR OFF CAMPUS HOUSING-I was extremely touched by last week's resolution "Eufinger-ed Me for the Last Time" appointing me to the Off Campus Housing Commission. (And you can all go to hell!) Unfortunately, I was unable to attend last week due to the SAC funding interviews. I am also obligated to attend the Mayor's Task Force for a Clean & Safe Halloween meeting, so I am unable to attend tonight as well.

And, in case you didn't hear. I won my legal battle with the city parking office. Your donations to my legal defense fund will be donated to the Center for Student Advocacy.

Presentations

There were no presentations.

Adoption of the Minutes

Without objection, the minutes of the 5 February 1998 meeting of Senate were agree to.

Additions to the Agenda

There were no additions to the agenda.

Executive Reports

Mr. Tanner said that he attended the University Life Commission meeting and found things to be going well. He said he is especially interested to see the progress on GRASP (Generating Reasonable Administration Support for Programming). He said Ms. Wervey is doing an excellent job with the Health Services Committee, especially in regard to the anonymous HIV testing proposal.

Mr. Tanner announced a contest in which he will pay admission to UPC's Singled Out in which Mr. Roush is the desperate boy trying to get a date. The first person to forward to him Mike Sostarich's correct title at the university will win.

Ms. Watts said she enjoyed everyone's company at the Senate social this past Saturday. She thanked the interns who organized the event. Ms. Watts said the Executive Officers have gone over the evaluations with Ms. Schroyer and they will work to address the issues raised in the evaluations. She announced that there will be a Commissioner's meeting immediately following the Senate meeting. Anyone who has an excuse had better make it a good one as Ms. Watts said she announced the meeting last week.

Ms. Watts, stating that she is now standing to create an imposing and menacing presence, reiterated that it is Senate policy to never leave the offices unlocked and unattended. She suggested that if there is someone new to Senate who does not understand this, then that person should see one of the Executive Officers. She said the Circus of Service planning is going well and asked that anyone interested in helping to please see her. Senate will do a children's carnival in Baker Center as its service project.

MR. ROUSH, TREASURER OF SENATE-Since my last report, revenues total \$85.00, expenditures total \$189.94, and the current balance is \$17,093.14. This report is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

Executive Cabinet Reports

Ms. Schroyer reminded members of the staff that e-mail reports are due by the end of the week. She noted that she has reviewed the Executive Officer Evaluations with the executives. Ms. Schroyer said the evaluations contained many suggestions for ways Mr. Tanner could improve, but few suggestions to remedy the deficiencies identified for Mr. Roush and Ms. Watts. She asked that anyone who has suggestions for ways for them to improve to e-mail her. She reminded the body that Angie Pugh will be graduating at the end of the quarter and Christy Gundrum has resigned to take a new job at the Post. She said the selection process for new secretaries will begin before the end of the quarter.

MR. EUFINGER, UNIVERSITY COMMITTEES COORDINATOR-The Space Advisory Committee divided into two subcommittees: the Space Management Advisory Group and the Capital Planning Advisory Group. We need one student for each subcommittee. Please let me know if you're interested.

Ms. Sager [Intern Director] announced the assignments for the interns: Jim Hintz-Residence Life; Luke Ellwood-System Administrator; Amanda Hobson-Lesbian-Gay-Bi-Transgendered Awareness; Molly Nevuis & Andrienne Budich-Media Relations; Megan Kelly-Executive Officers; Upendri Gunasekera & Beth Rawe-Student Activities; Jami Brinkdopke-Black Affairs; Deshawna Curtis, Shanel Noll, & Zac Redmon-Off Campus

Housing; Brian Kruse-Academic Affairs; Amy Jenkins-Health & Safety Committees; and Sarah Radke-Women's Affairs.

Advisor's Report

Mike Sostarich said that he is in charge of the Space Advisory Committee, and anyone who wishes to be on it should see him.

Senator Reports

Ms. Wiebold [Academic Affairs] thanked Mr. Tanner and Mr. Mergen for cleaning out a file drawer for her. She said that in this drawer will be departmental book requests for the Alternative Book Exchange.

Ms. Weaner [Environmental Awareness] said her commission met Monday to discuss plans for Earth Week. She asked that anyone who knows of a student organization that might be interested in participating to please talk to her.

Mr. Eaton [International Affairs] said that Texas A&M University has a scholarship program for study abroad programs. The scholarship fund is funded by a \$1.00 fee per student. Mr. Eaton said his commission is interested in bringing a similar program to OU.

MR. CISKE, SENATOR FOR CITY & COUNTY LEGISLATIVE

AFFAIRS-This quarter we've met four times. For the remainder of the year, we plan to work with Off Campus Housing on the City of Athens Sector Meetings. Finally, we plan to work with Councilman Pat Lang on parking-related issues.

Ms. Stubbs [State & Federal Legislative Affairs] said the next Ohio Student Association meeting is on Saturday.

Amanda Hobson, personal proxy for Mr. Edwards [Lesbian-Gay-Bi-Transgendered Awareness] said that the commission is working on the schedule for the Chicago conference and plans for Pride week.

Ms. Coleman [Minority Affairs] said she has no report.

MR. MINTO, SENATOR FOR OFF CAMPUS HOUSING-Mr. President, I have no report at this time.

Mr. Barron [Residence Life] said his commission will meet on Wednesday at 8 PM. He said that he will be meeting with Joe Burke and Sam Hanson to

discuss the future of MicroFridges at OU.

Mr. Cohen [Student Activities] said the SAC Raffle tickets are on sale.

Ms. Wervey, a member of the University Life Commission, gave Mr. Arrington's report. She said the commission met on Monday and talked about GRASP and plans to have a proposal for the Board of Trustees at their April meeting. Mr. Davey is working on a letter to the administration regarding minority recruitment. Finally, the commission plans to send an e-mail to all student organization presidents to solicit their opinions on various university issues.

Sarah Radke, an intern for the Women's Affairs Commission, presented Ms. Zulia's report. She said a movie titled warrior Marks will be shown at 7 PM on Monday in Baker 332. The movie is about female genital mutilation.

Committee Reports

Ms. Wervey [Health Services Committee] said the committee will gather information on Hudson Health Center policies, especially regarding gynecological services. She said the committee hopes to have evaluation forms for patients to fill out. The committee is exploring with Hudson administrators Saturday hours, keeping the center open during lunch hour, and increasing the staff. Ms. Wervey said that she was interviewed for a possible story on National Public Radio regarding the anonymous HIV testing proposal.

Old Business

There was no old business.

New Business

There was no new business.

Roundtable & Announcements

Ms. Stubbs asked people to buy SAC Raffle tickets from her.

Mr. Cary wished Ms. Wiebold happy birthday.

Mr. Cohen said he is available as a graduation speaker if Senior Class

Council President Ben Hunter can't find one. He said that the article on UPC was good, but the editorial showed the Post has a complete lack of understanding of UPC and clearly pulled that editorial from their collective butt. Without objection, the article and editorial are included in the record.

Thursday, February 12, 1998

UPC runs low on funding

by Ryan Alessi

THE POST

The University Programming Council will not be able to draw many big acts to OU for the rest of this year because it is running out of money. UPC, which was allotted \$63,000 for 1997-98, has about \$8,000 to spend on programs and activities for the rest of the year, said Rick Danals, associate director of student activities and UPC's adviser.

Generally, UPC has about \$12,000 to \$15,000 at its disposal per quarter, said Michelle Hill, UPC president.

But the increased cost of holding programs at Grover Center and low attendance at shows have drained this year's funds, she said. UPC also did not receive as much funding as it requested from the Student Activities Committee last spring.

By the end of Fall Quarter, UPC had already sponsored \$150,000 worth of programming. In a typical year, based on starting funds of \$63,000, UPC can put on between \$200,000 and \$300,000 worth of programming, Danals said.

If UPC cannot cover the cost of holding programs with ticket sales alone, it must draw from the \$63,000 SAC allocation.

"Sometimes (the UPC board) intentionally decides to subsidize a program to keep the ticket prices low for students," Danals said. "This fall, UPC ended up subsidizing more programs than expected."

Where is the show?

This year, the university began renovations to Templeton-Blackburn Alumni

Memorial Auditorium. OU arranged for UPC to use Grover Center as a temporary auditorium until the renovations are complete.

OU spent more than \$150,000 to build a stage, mount sound equipment and set up seating to transform the Grover Center gymnasium into an auditorium, Danals said.

But UPC shares the building with the OU athletic department. One-half of the auditorium remains an auditorium while the other half is used as an athletic practice facility.

A large program, like Greg Louganis' Sept. 22 speech, requires full usage of Grover Center. UPC must pay between \$1,100 and \$1,700 per program to set up more seats and a video projection system and staff the event, Danals said.

where are the people?

Some events simply are too big to fit into Grover Center's 1,600 seats, Danals said.

The largest programs UPC has sponsored this year were the Rusted Root concert Oct. 29 and George Carlin Sept. 27, which both were held in The Convo.

Although the two shows attracted more than 5,500 people combined, Danals said UPC took risks by scheduling two events in The Convo. "I've been here seven years, and we've only done two Convo shows. This year we attempted two in one quarter," he said.

Hill said the Rusted Root concert did not attract as many students as expected, costing UPC \$16,000.

"We took a big hit on that show," she said. "We thought it was an appropriate show and a lot of fans would attend."

Hill said the UPC officers try to predict the number of people who will attend a show before setting the prices, in order to keep them low.

"We usually plan on taking a cut for low prices, or try to break even," she said. "We could eliminate this problem with higher prices, but we try to keep the costs down because students usually don't make much money."

Rusted Root was not the only UPC sponsored event to have empty seats.

The UPC films series, which drew sell-out crowds at Mem Aud for movies such as "Jerry Maguire" and "The Lion King," generated revenue for UPC in the past. But this year students rarely fill Seigfried Hall's Mitchell Auditorium, which seats fewer than 200 people, said Alice Shoemaker, UPC officer in charge of films.

"I don't think we've broken even yet," she said. "Even if we show a movie three times in Mitchell Auditorium, we don't get close to what we did at Mem Aud."

Where is the money?

UPC was looking for money before students left for summer break last year.

Last year, SAC, a division of Student Senate that allocates money to more than 300 OU student organizations, requested \$80,000 from the university, in addition to its \$248,000 budget.

The \$80,000 would have been dispersed among the organizations, and UPC would have been slated to receive \$82,000 instead of \$63,000, according to a 1998 Student Senate budget report.

"Without an \$80,000 increase, SAC will be unable to fund even half of its fiscal year 1998 fundable requests, and student programming will undoubtedly degrade. When programming suffers so does campus and student life," according to the request.

The University Planning Advisory Council rejected the request last spring. UPAC ranked SAC as a low priority, said Darryl Winefordner, associate provost for budget and planning, in the Nov. 6, 1997 edition of The Post. At the OU Board of Trustees meeting Saturday, OU President Robert Glidden told the board he thought student organizations, such as UPC, were going to receive more university funds this year, but "obviously we just didn't provide enough funding."

"It's hard to get an increase in student organization funding through UPAC," he said. "I think we're going to come up with a proposal for next year to try and produce funds. I'll take the responsibility for this year." UPC started this year without the full \$63,000 because they "went into the

hole" after last spring's Violent Femmes concert, Hill said. The show was subsidized by the 1997-98 funds.

Meanwhile, UPC has four more months of events to organize.

This winter UPC will sponsor "smaller scale programs," such as collaborating with the Charles J. Ping Student Recreation Center and the Residents Action Council, Hill said.

Plans are in the works for a comedian for Mom's Weekend, but UPC will not sponsor another concert this year unless an outside promoter covers the costs, she said.

- Michelle Olney contributed to this story

Thursday, February 12, 1998

Editorial

THE POST

Panning the UPC process

Someone is going to pay, and it looks like it will be the students again - if not from their pocketbooks then from their social lives.

The University Programming Council, which sponsors various events on campus, announced it has only \$8,000 left to pay for programs for the rest of the school year.

UPC said its small budget is because of lack of student support for previous events, such as the Rusted Root concert which lost \$16,000.

Another glitch in programming this year is the renovation of Templeton-Blackburn Alumni Memorial Auditorium. Movies and other programs usually shown in Mem Aud are being shown in smaller venues, such as Mitchell Auditorium in Seigfred Hall or Grover Center. In these places UPC pays between \$1,100 and \$1,700 per program for seats, a video projection system and staffing. These venues also have less seating, which means less revenue.

Either way UPC loses - and so do the students.

The university needs to give UPC a break on these high prices. But UPC needs to do their part to solve their monetary woes. One solution might be a

financial advisor - an outside voice who could guide UPC from year to year.

The group lacks year-to-year stability. Each year the UPC committee heads change, along with their ideas about what are the most important events for the university. Chairpersons of the various committees need to sit down together to choose the best programming possible for the students. A lot of give and take is needed. If the concert committee can secure an outstanding band, then the movie committee must be willing to give up some of its programs.

Another suggestion to help UPC get back on its feet is to cut back on small events that bring in less money. Focus on the most important events. Give us a quality concert, a cheap movie and a fun activity for us to take our moms, dads and siblings to on their respective weekends, and we'll be happy.

UPC programs that have competition from other university sponsors, such as UPC lectures and the Kennedy Lecture Series, need to be re-examined to see if the competition is worthwhile.

Until some sacrifices are made to save money and some assistance is offered for guidance, UPC will remain in the same position it is now - without enough money to serve students.

Ms. Wiebold thanked certain people for supporting her habit on Tuesday.

Ms. Wervey thanked the interns and Ms. Watts for the social on Saturday.

MR. LACLAIR, SENATOR FOR THE COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING-

There will be a forum to discuss the possible technology fee for engineering students on Monday, February 16th at 5:15 PM in 103 Stocker.

Ms. Rutledge said the Student Alumni Board is selling tee shirts for Sibs' weekend.

Ms. Dikis said Congressman Ted Strickland will announce his bid for reelection Tuesday at 11 AM on the first floor of the Athens County Courthouse.

Mr. Mergen asked that the following articles be included in the record.

Friday, February 6, 1998

Grads question Ping fee

by Meghan Aftosmis

FOR THE POST

Mara Vucich, a fourth-year student in OU's College of Osteopathic Medicine, is on rotation in Mechanicsburg, Ohio and has visited Athens once this school year.

Though she has lived two hours from Athens for almost two years, she still pays a \$65 recreational fee for facilities she cannot use.

Vucich said she used the Ping Center regularly when she was on campus, and she did not mind paying the fee then. But in addition to the Ping Center fee, she now has to spend extra money to use a gym in Mechanicsburg.

"It's ridiculous. (Paying the fee) takes money away from paying for a gym I could actually use," she said.

Many graduate students who do not use the Ping Center question why they pay a fee for a service they do not use.

OU President Robert Glidden receives a question a month about this topic, he said in an e-mail. Some from graduate students, some from medical students, he said.

"I understand those concerns, but there isn't anything I can do about them except to explain the situation," he said. "I do not have the authority, nor does anyone else at the university, to make exceptions to that fee policy."

Graduate and undergraduate students enrolled at OU through the Athens campus do not have a choice about paying the fee, he said.

"The bonds on the building (essentially, the mortgage) were issued as revenue bonds, meaning that the university pledged to make the bond payments from the revenues collected, in this case, student fees," Glidden said.

"The bonds were sold with the commitment from the university that all students would pay this fee . . . This is therefore a legal matter- the university is legally obligated to charge all students the Ping fee as part of its

bond agreement," he said.

This agreement stemmed from a 1992 Student Senate resolution pledging student support for the center.

In 1991, OU officials circulated a survey to students to determine student needs, he said. Students strongly expressed the need for a better recreation facility.

At that time, Gary North, vice president of administration, said the university would not build a new recreation center unless students pledged support for the center and agreed to pay a recreation fee, according to the March 5, 1992, edition of The Post.

Student Senate met with students to discuss the subject before committing to a fee acceptance, said Greg Mergen, the 1992 Student Senate city commissioner.

"It was very clear that a rec center would be very valuable to OU," he said. But the senate resolution supporting the center did not include a specific quarterly cost.

The OU Board of Trustees approved the construction of the facility in April 1992 and issued the \$65 quarterly student fee for all full-time students enrolled on the Athens campus, said Doug Franklin, assistant dean for recreation and wellness.

The fee pays for Ping Center operation costs and programs, intramural sports and employee salaries, he said.

The fee also helps support operating costs of the Aquatic Center, Bird Arena, the OU golf course and the driving range.

"That (\$65) fee generates \$3.3 to \$3.4 million dollars," Franklin said. About \$1.8 million of that is used to pay for the bond debt, \$680,000 for maintenance costs and \$600,000 for operation costs, employee salaries and office supplies.

Tamara Jarrett, director of Ping Recreation Center, said she empathizes with graduate students' complaints, but feels the fee is the result of being part of a community.

"When you become part of a community, you have to pay fees for the

greater good," she said.

Students will have an opportunity to voice their complaints about the fee through a Graduate Student Senate questionnaire.

GSS will distribute a questionnaire to graduate students in March so they can voice their concerns, said Terry Tullock, chairwoman of the GSS questionnaire committee.

Friday, February 6, 1998

THE POST

Senate cuts funds, makes room for other projects

To free up money for other projects, Student Senate's budget committee cut funds for dues to the Ohio Student Association, a collection of student senates from state-funded universities.

"In my personal opinion, every year we think that OSA will do good for us," said Ron Minto, budget committee chairman. "We've gone through half a year and they haven't done anything for us."

The senate usually pays \$1,500 a year to belong to the association, which allows member senates a chance to voice opinions on issues such as voting rights of student trustees.

Although the senate voted to stop paying dues to the association, Laura Stubbs, state and federal affairs commissioner, said she might continue to attend the meetings.

The committee also cut funds from promotion, office supplies and computer supplies.

In other senate business, the health services committee is still waiting for Hudson Health Center counselors to agree to counseling changes before obtaining funds for free and anonymous AIDS testing on campus, said Melissa Wervey, committee chairwoman.

To receive funding from the Ohio Department of Health, counselors must attend a three-day training session to learn behavior modification counseling, which teaches students how to change their lifestyles. Hudson now offers educational counseling, which educates students on AIDS and

how to prevent it.

Mr. Tanner asked everyone to go see Mr. Roush at UPC's Singled Out and said it is Singles Awareness Day at the Pub

Roll Call

without objection, the rule requiring a roll call at the end of the meeting was suspended.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:27 PM.