

COUNCIL ON STUDENT AFFAIRS: Meeting Minutes

Date and Attendance

3:30 PM – 5:00 PM

February 16, 2026

Attendance: Maia Gardner, Kirsten Myers, Gabe Myers, Ryan Lovell, David Miller, Kimberly Pachell, Harpreet Singh, Jack Meyer, Jennifer Wolfe, Matt Couch, Ashley Swisshelm, Chayce Bell, Sheri Klatt, Aryav Yadapadithaya, Shaun Russell, Darren Nealy, Joe Malinger, Jeff Pelletier, Peter Carrera, Mohamed El Hamahmy, Mike Abito, Kenneth Madsen

Absent: Jessica Asante-Tutu, Hanniel Diaz Elizarraga, Jeffery Liu, Phil Yackee, Brittany Crall

Old Business

1. Approval of Meeting Minutes (January 12, 2026 and February 2, 2026)
2. Motion to approve by Anya / Seconded by Joe M

New Business

1. Approval of Agenda
 - a. Motion to approve by Joe M / Seconded by Gabe
2. Committees: Issues & Allocations
 - a. Issues – Joe Malinger
 - i. Met last Monday to review the first two articles of procedures. Will be going over articles 3&4 next. Talked prep about meeting with advocacy regarding counseling & consultation services and came up with questions.
 - b. Allocations – Gabe Myers
 - i. There was a total of 462 spring requests, denied 123 requests.
 - ii. Will review appeals next. Any second-round requests will be reviewed March 9-13th.
 - iii. Stu org & reg guideline, will review actual changes next.
 - iv. Registrations reviewed and updated, will meet with Sheri to review funding.
 - v. During March 23rd meeting, will hope to finish guidelines and vote on final by April meeting.
3. Student Government Updates
 - a. USG – Peter Carrera
 - i. Black History Gala coming up on the 26th.
 - ii. Buckeye budget review upcoming.
 - b. CGS – Gabe Myers
 - i. Hayes research fund review coming up March 6th.
 - ii. Officer transitions will happen on March 13th, followed by senator delegations.
 - iii. Removed VP following investigation after not completing duties required by delegate body, and interim has been placed.
 - c. IPC – Joe Malinger

- i. Annual Drag Show coming up with attendance of 300-350 expected.
 - ii. Funding of about \$13,000 being allocated in the spring semester.
- 4. Office of Student Life – Ryan Lovell
 - a. Buckeye Thon raised over \$800,000 this year.
 - b. Still seeing positive results for over half of flu test being rendered. Encouraging everyone to consider flu shots, wash their hands, be cautious!
 - c. Reiterated that Student Advocacy is a great resource for students to help with whatever needs they may have.
 - d. Student Advocacy Center Presentation (3:30-4PM) – Kimberly Pachell
 - i. Established in 1995, to specifically serve students; staff needs moved over to HR offices.
 - ii. It started with an all-volunteer group and two staff members but quickly saw that students needed more assistance, and has now grown to a staff of eight people.
 - iii. Connecting students to resources in the university – from academic, judicial, health, housing, legal issues and more to ensure the students need are met.
 - iv. Offices can be found in Drackett Tower in a separate, secure space - convenient for students to find.
 - v. Staffed with a director, assistance director, five coordinators, and funding specialist.
 - vi. Can contact student advocacy via online request for assistance form, walk-in (M-F 10-2), phone, or email. They don't take appointments (unless requested) but can usually be seen/response either the same day or within one business day, which is helpful to the student who is in crisis.
 - vii. What does Student Advocacy do?
 1. Helping to ensure students needs are met – big picture view.
 2. There to help reduce/remove institutional barriers.
 3. Working for the most fair and appropriate outcomes, and discussing what next steps might be for each students' situation.
 4. Provide timely and accurate information.
 5. Work with all offices at the university – they do not duplicate services, but are knowledgeable enough to help connect the dots for students. Ranging from students being hospitalized to students that may need to adjust their class load for the semester.
 6. In 2024-25 there were over 6,500 unique issues that they helped students with.
 7. Serves as campus/area emergency response – the point of contact for events such as fire, flood, student deaths, or first responder situations, and more.
 8. Work with students who indicate difficulty connecting to resources, may need help understanding/navigating university policies and procedures, managing complex issues, needing

additional time & attention, or those who may feel they have been treated unfairly.

9. Also, a resource for emergency financial assistance – rent, utilities, auto care expenses, mental health (transportation, therapy, and more).

10. 2024-2025 Emergency Funding Overview: Awarded funds to 413 students in the amount of \$426,876. Students who received assistance were: 40% graduate students and 60% undergrad students.

- a. Mental health was & is the largest funded request to students.

11. If you have any questions, reach out to an advocate!

viii. QUESTIONS:

1. What are the class percentages of students who are requesting services?
 - a. The student requests are generally, equally distributed among freshman, sophomore, juniors, and seniors.
2. Any students who have expressed concern for ICE being on campus? How were those requests addressed?
 - a. The office has not had any concerns from students as of yet regarding ICE's presence on campus.

5. Brainstorm Questions for next presenter

- a. Counseling and Consultation Services
- b. Issues Committee:
 - i. Explain breakdown of services for main vs regional campuses.
 - ii. What is the volume of telehealth services for main vs. other campuses?
 - iii. Any increase of use in services/requests?
 - iv. Breakdown how students use CCS services.

6. Code of Student Conduct Update

- a. Made changes for if pepper spray is allowed on campus.
- b. Reviewing if there should be any AI related changes needed.
- c. Hopefully by next full council meeting, all language should be finalized.

7. Open Floor/Announcements/Questions

- a. What was the trend for the number of appeals being that were denied?
 - i. Majority of the denials were for requests for events that were not open to all students.

Adjournment

- b. Motion to adjourn by Aryav / Seconded by Sheri