

COUNCIL ON STUDENT AFFAIRS: Meeting Minutes

Date and Attendance

3:30 PM – 5:00 PM

March 23, 2026

Attendance:

Guest Attendance:

Absent:

Old Business

1. Approval of Meeting Minutes (March 2, 2026)

a. Motion to approve by Gabe/Seconded by _____

New Business

- 1) Approval of Agenda

a) Motion to approve by Gabe/Seconded by _____

- 2) Committees: Issues & Allocations

a) Met March 9th had a small turn out. Working through CSA procedures doc 3-6.

b) All 14 appeals voted on and wrapped for the spring.

c) Registration funding guidelines completed and got all language completed, will review funding today and voting next week to be ready for Fall One.

d) Registration process document taken from 30 pages in one document to two docs, 30 pages each (separating funding & registration).

- 3) Student Government Updates

a) USG

i) New leaders elected

b) CGS

i) Officer transition is complete

ii) New VP & Treasurer elected.

iii) Next meeting in April, will have President and Secretary voting

c) IPC

i) Candidates for election, completed on March 29th.

- 4) Office of Student Life (Updates from Doc Shivers)

a) Leadership Transitions - What's next?

i) Not much deviation from university strategic plans but will make sure the group is updated if there are any.

ii) Framework 3.0 Plan

(1) University took deep dive/masterplan for Ohio State – across other campuses too.

(2) Housing played a huge part – a facilities masterplan was in the plan as well.

(a) Leveraged a firm to help

- (3) Due to challenges with Taylor Tower, the board expedited the approval of renovation/plumbing project in Drackett & Taylor.
 - (a) Will be taken offline for 2 years beginning this summer.
 - (b) Getting master leases with campus properties adjacent to campus as a replacement.
 - (c) Due to makeup of Taylor Tower, being very intentional that first year students are living on campus, and second year get to do the off campus options. It creates a better foundation for first years and their plan for their academic career. It also helps second year to prepare for “real life” after college. The plans are very strategic moving forward.
- (4) It also included dining and recreation. A new residence hall is in the plans. Jones Tower will be offline as well, and sunsetting other halls as well in the future.
- (5) Housing & Dining & Rec will also need to be increased as well.
- (6) South Campus – Jesse Owens will need to be elevated as well as rec space. Nothing is being considered in isolation – the entire framework is being considered.
- (7) Board approved Drackett & Taylor – and the support is appreciated.
- b) Student Legal services contract has been extended to 2031 and fee will remain \$40. Students will also have the right to opt out of this as well.
- c) BuckID reframing (Josh – present at meeting) has helped to move this plan forward.
 - i) Providing student/staff to use touch/tap capabilities as opposed to needing the card itself.
 - ii) Josh & Jen Vandemark are working together with a team to help tackle any “issues” to see the project through. Target is August 2026.
 - iii) Communication went out to all who still have the swipe cards to go in and update their ID’s before the summer.
 - iv) Many of the readers will be swapped to TAP ONLY this summer.
- d) Monda Resource Center is almost at one year of being open
 - i) Have seen/help 1500 unique students
 - (1) Health & well-being
 - (2) Career help
 - (3) Will start renovations on the space to open it up – begins this summer and hoping to be done by September.
- e) Students, faculty, staff are invited to come back & remember students were lost. Remembrance Day is on Monday, 7pm at the Fawcett Center.
- f) OUAB Ball is Sunday at 10pm.

- g) Buckeye Family Day is Sat March 28th.
 - h) Student Life Alumni Advisory Board is at the end of year 2. Bringing alums back on the 17th & 18th will get to tour spaces on campus, visit with senior leaders, enjoy lunch with students, and will hear about the housing/dining/recreation masterplan.
 - i) Extends a THANK YOU for all of the hard work with the student code of conduct.
 - j) Don't forget to take care of yourselves and those around you. People need support and grace!
- 5) Dining Services Presentation (3:45-4:15 PM) - Abby Hertfeld
- a) Employs 2300 students on payroll! Highest number of students in a couple of years. Fell off after the shutdown.
 - b) Cut million\$ out of their budget to get students back in positions.
 - c) Average hours are about 10-12 hours per week.
 - d) During last 5 years, student wages have increased 30% - ultimately helping with filling student positions.
 - e) Full-time staff is about 10% vacancy rate (after 40% rate past few years). With a 25% salary increase.
 - f) Swipe equivalency
 - i) Looking at what they can do to address concerns about increasing buying power. Struggling with food cost going up the past years -doesn't allow giving more buying power with the plans.
 - ii) Review to 200 items and go thru to compare alternatives to decrease cost and still give great substitution.
 - iii) Working hard to negotiate food cost with the tuition guarantee. Doing what they can.
 - g) Sustainability still at a 99% return rate for containers – great!
 - i) Concerns about togo use. Less students are taking food home, and it creating problems with managing costs that it takes to keep the sustainability containers.
 - h) Streamline
 - i) New waste tracing program. Visual AI – food service software. Before a pan of food goes out, visualizes the item, size & weight of pan and calculates cost of the pan and what comes back and how much food / money is lost based on what is left.
 - ii) Can see the cost impact and helping to not waste by cooking more food than needed.
 - iii) Been in pilot for 18months. Next phase is for plate returns, in addition to the pans of food.
 - iv) Helps to reduce waste.
 - i) Compost Services

- i) University initiative – composting pre and post consumer waste. Some locations have pulpers, biodigesters, dehydrators, and other things to help reduce waste.
 - ii) How can students be more engaged?
 - (1) Contamination in bags – students need to sort it right. It’s better to put it all into waste instead of contaminating other sorted items. Education needs to be increased.
 - iii) Pricing? EspressoOH
 - (1) If you see a discrepancy, please bring it to someone’s attention. All systems have to be programmed individually – don’t assume they know and all things “talk” to each other.
 - (a) Who should they tell?
 - (i) Any manager or dining@osu.edu email to report.
 - j) Dietary Needs
 - i) Two staff members that can help with dietary/religious needs.
 - ii) Can accommodate religious practices, just needs to be requested.
 - k) Statewide Campus Dining Operations
 - i) Ran by Columbus campus team.
 - l) Moving to kiosk & mobile ordering options to allow them to be more efficient.
 - i) 93% come through mobile options
 - m) As a vegetarian, is there a process for why some options cost more?
 - i) They do cost review and it usually costs more as to not compromise quality.
 - ii) If there are other options, they are open to suggestions and nutritionists.
 - n) What can we do to communicate price increases to students for awareness?
 - i) Decisions are done by June 1st, so they should be able to communicate any increases to returning students before the new year. Or at least have something in the marketplace to make them aware.
 - o) FUN FACT: Made a French fry switch! Processed potatoes went up 38% in cost within 18 months. Negotiated to use same fry across campus, and saved \$207,000 based on 2025 numbers.
 - p) Also switched the lids that were being used – to save hundreds of thousands of dollars.
- 6) Code of Student Conduct Targeted Update Review/Vote
- a) Got a little bit of feedback and will review and update to vote on it.
 - b) Membership & quorum changes wanted.
 - c) Pepper spray to be moved to reduce confusion about firearms.
 - d) Add info into “academic activities” definition.
 - e) Confusion about “holding student employment or graduate associate position” are also included.
 - f) Will send changes back for approval to vote.

- g) Most feedback were requests for additional information/clarity.
 - h) Motion to approve – Gabe. Second – Aryav. Changes to code were approved by majority vote.
- 7) Student Organization Guidelines Update Introduction
- a) Reformatting the guidelines with headers and bullet points to make things more clear and easier to read.
 - b) Should still be posted as a “set” even though there are two documents now.
 - c) Tracking the changes with a key at the top of the document: regular text, gray highlight, yellow highlight, or green highlight.
 - d) All changes can be reviewed in the document itself.
 - e) No limit for non-employee or non-student honorarium at the moment. If limits need to be included, inform Sheri or Gabe.
 - f) There will be a video of all the details sent out.
- 8) Open Floor/Announcements/Questions
- a) Megan Rinard reached out to inform that BuckeyeSERV trips were canceled and want to reschedule for the summer. Larger cost due to changes and requesting additional funds.
 - i) Brittany: Nicaragua trip was canceled due to issues with airlines. Weren't sure that lodging would allow them to keep the lodging. Funds were requested if they couldn't keep the lodging. Will need to find out the total amount. Per guidelines, \$75,000 is kept to help with issues like this. Also have staff vacancies that aren't filled – if CSA wants to provide the funds to the students to take their trip in the summer.
 - b) Questions/Comments
 - i) What funds is this from?
 - (1) Student Activities fees partly goes to operating & programming funds.
 - ii) Is the surplus only for BuckeyeSERV?
 - (1) BuckeyeSERV is a beneficiary, but there are guidelines so that others can request help but within a certain budgeting window.
 - iii) Can this be voted on today, so there isn't an issue moving forward?
 - (1) YES – that can be voted on today.
 - iv) What window does CSA have to vote? Can voting be delayed?
 - (1) Not sure, but it would be best to vote asap. If there are issues voting or with the amount it can be tabled.
 - v) Is the total trip completely lost or do they still have some funds to use?
 - (1) Understanding is that they're getting their money back but the cost is increasing due to the changes.
 - vi) Ryan Lovell suggests a more detailed proposal should be presented to CSA before voting since all of the answers aren't readily available.
 - vii) Will discuss more the next meeting.

9) Adjournment

- a) Motion to adjourn by Gabe/Seconded by Aryav