**Minutes of the public meeting of the Undergraduate Student Government of the Kent Campus of Kent State University held in the Governance Chambers on the 2nd floor of the Kent Student Center in Kent, Ohio**

**on Wednesday, April 24th, 2019 from 5:39 pm to 7:04 pm.**

**The President, Mr. Vala Zeinali, chaired the meeting for its entire duration.**

**Miss Waligura served as acting secretary.**

**Call to order: @ 5:39 pm**

**Roll call:**

**President Zeinali present**

**Chief of Staff Weihe present**

**Assistant Henneman present**

**Director, Parliamentarian Kierstead present**

**Director Wartman present**

**Director Novick present**

**Director Tabbaa present**

**Director Dingey present**

**Director Waligura present**

**Director Moore present**

**Director Lax present**

**Senator, Vice Chair Farhat present**

**Senator Daniel present**

**Senator Sajjady present**

**Senator Springer present**

**Senator Wolford present**

**Senator Robinson present**

**Senator Beeler present**

**Senator Meehan present**

**Senator Braunlich present**

**Senator Stumpf present**

**Senator Tidke**  **NOT PRESENT**

**Senator McCrea present**

**Senator Niepsuj present**

**Senator Klein NOT PRESENT, arrived late at 5:53 pm**.

**Adoption of Agenda: no objection, the agenda was adopted by unanimous consent.**

**Public Contributions:**

**Dr. Little:**

-Excited about upcoming USG visions and here to support us and Mrs. Factor-Page. Doctoral student introduced and is a new member of Dr. Little’s office. Goal is to provide programs and initiatives that enhance the students goal to graduate.

-Dr. Hylton is working on an initiative to support parenting students and how to enhance their needs.

-Preparing for the May 4th 50th Commemoration when it comes to prospering free speech and open dialogue and encouraging students to learn and remember to what happened on this day. Congress Campus program is where retired Congress Men and Women will visit campus and help inspire this crucial discussion to carry on the essence of May 4th.

**Dr. Hylton**

-Looking forward to engage with USG student leaders and the upcoming events throughout the year.

**Approval of Minutes** [**07/10/19**](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Vgp7JBVJ_5XR8Fr5A5bQyUhVjlg0wb5mK1NqyBvNHqY/edit?usp=sharing)**: no corrections. Minutes that were presented are approved.**

**Reporting and Approval of Absence:**

1. Aditi Tidke absent on Wednesday, April 24th 2019
2. Thomas Beeler absent on Wednesday, July 10, 2019
3. Laith Tabbaa absent on Wednesday, July 10,2019
4. Lauren Novick absent on Wednesday July 10, 2019
5. Micheal Klien late Wednesday August 28, 2019 (Class)
6. Aditi Tidke absent on Wednesday August 28, 2019 (Class)
7. Director Wartman absence on Wed, July 10

**Director Kierstead moved that the absences of Senators Tidke and Beeler and Directors Tabbaa and Novick as specified be excused, and that Senator Klein’s lateness as specified be excused, and that Director Wartman’s absence on Wednesday, July 10th, 2019 be excused. The Motion was seconded by Director Tabbaa. The motion was carried unanimously.**

**Officer Reports:**

**President Zeinali:**

* Last week I met with Dr. Little, Dr. Hylton, Dr. Daniels, and Ms. Factor Page to discuss what we have done as a USG. I talked about our training, our committees, our newly updated infrastructure, and have invited them to come speak to us today. Chief of Staff Weihe and I spoke to City council last week about the quality of some off campus homes.
* This week I talked to Director Novak about a USG tailgate party in september . The tailgate party has been done years in the past, however, last year was the only discontinuity in the tradition. A USG contribution of a tailgate party gives USG an opportunity to connect with students and draw more participation.
* This would be a great opportunity to recruit students, market our social media, and sell more tickets for our Fall concert.
* Thank you to those who were at the booth this last weekend. I am so excited for this year, these past couple weeks have been amazing vibrations and will push to keep it vibing. Good work everyone!

**Chief of Staff Weihe**

* The past few weeks I hosted the USG summer training week, attended the Culture of Care retreat hosted by CSI. I also attended Blastoff, Provost Ice Cream Social, and Convocation to represent USG. I had a conference call with the founder of PERIOD.org to discuss funding for my Period Project.
* I am working on writing my grant proposal for the Seeds of wellness grant from the Kent State of Wellness. I hope to have my legislation passed, and move forward with the collaborative funding for the Period Project.

**Assistant Henneman**

* Wow, what a busy week! We survived training week! Here's a recap on some of the things I've done during the past week. I ordered the business cards of new members and those with mistakes on them. I printed out the paper for the plaque but couldn't remember how we got them the credit card information. Meghan and I also were locked out of getting new nametags that is also yet to come. I've also began to compile a list of emails from Blast Off who were interested in committees. I'll be sending that out hopefully by Tuesday. We will also have to that list in case anyone wants to send out info on other committees or events (like ElectHer).
* Coming up, I have a few projects to help work on. Director Waligura and I are brainstorming ways to advertise Judicial Advocates and how to also expand the program. We're beginning that Tuesday. Senator Springer and I are going to the dining halls this week with our swipes. I also hope to begin research and begin working on how to make "One Kent" between the main and regional campuses viable and realistic.

**Director, Parliamentarian Kierstead**

* I chaired the nine (9) meetings so far of the Committee on Rules held from Wednesday, May22nd, 2019 to Friday, August 23rd, 2019. I think we have been able to produce three (3) great codes for the USG. Although I was the primary draftsman, I could not at all have done it alone. I would like to thank my team, the Committee on Rules, most of all, the honorable Director of Business and Finance.
* On Thursday, April 18th, 2019, I attended the Community Meeting at the Office of Student Conduct with various officials. I was able to secure from the Director of Student Conduct, the right of USG to be represented by 2 students at these meetings. Pursuant to this new right, the honorable Director of Student Advancement accompanied me to the next meeting on Thursday, May 16th, 2019. I was unable to attend the next meeting on Thursday, August 15th, 2019 due to USG Training Week, but I was represented by Miss Megan Milam.
* In addition to the Association for World History, the Intercultural Communication Society, KSU for Andrew Yang, and KSU for Tulsi Gabbard, of which I am president, I have reached out to the following groups, which have accepted me as their USG ambassador: (several ksu orgs)

**Director Wartman**

* I have been in contact with the all of the senators and created a #senators Slack. I advised the senators to meet with the deans/directors of their colleges/departments (if they have not already). I spoke with many of the senators regarding how their Dean's Welcome went.
* I have also reached out to Melody Tankersley, Interim Provost, regarding scheduling monthly meetings for this academic year. I am currently waiting for Jennifer Butto (per Melody's instructions) to schedule us a meeting.
* I scheduled myself to be at all of the Faculty Senate meetings this academic year. I also scheduled myself and/or Janki Desai, Senator for the College of Arts and Sciences, to be at the Educational Policies Council Meetings this academic year.
* I am currently working on writing legislation to receive funding for confidential suggestion boxes for each KSU College. The suggestion boxes I am currently looking at have the ability to be locked with a key and have an attached area to display what the box is for. I am also currently investigating FlashBooks and if there is anything USG may be able to do about it for the Spring semester.
* In the next few weeks, I have hopes to pass my legislation and order the suggestion boxes. After they arrive, I'd love to distribute them to the senators and hear feedback on how they are doing. I am also looking to continue legislation regarding textbook scholarships from KSU Alumni. This is something Morgan Marshall, previous Director of Academic Affairs, and I have discussed.

**Director Novick**

* This week I have been working on a couple different projects. The first project that I am working on is called Street Team. Street Team is going to be a marketing committee that is managed by me where the individuals on the board will spend 1 hour a week each going on campus and engaging with students about what USG is. I will be making marketing cards that have our social media info and a few bullet points about the services we offer for students for my team to pass out on campus. I have reached out to 3 people about being on this committee, those three people being Annelise Stopar, Harrison Storm and Dylan Berkshire. I hope to get this committee finalized within the next few weeks.
* Along with putting the Street Team back together, I am also working on our Homecoming plans. Homecoming this year is September 22nd and USG is going to have a float in the parade. I am planning on either buying cookies or candy to give out to parade attendees with USG stickers on them. We also will be wearing our new USG T Shirts for the parade. This week and next week I will be finalizing a lot of details for it and getting stuff ordered for it like buttons that say "USG Alum" and some new stickers. When I have more info about the exact homecoming plans I will make sure to share!

**Director Tabbaa**

* Since Elected I have been working diligently on the "Code of Standing Rules" with Director Kiersted and Meghan Factor-Page. As well as getting everything in check for the new fiscal year's Budget with Meghan, President Zeinali, and Barb Spencer. I helped setup and work the USG booth at blastoff, and volunteered at the KSU Kickball Tournament. I have been reaching out to professors to encourage adding to their syllabus a section about being able to receive funding for individual conferences from Undergraduate Student Government. I am currently working with Director Novick to change the allocations tab on our website to make it much more student friendly especially with the new KSUEngage. In the near future I will be hosting a Training session with my allocations committee on the 28th of August before our first meeting on the 4th of September**.**

**Director Dingey**

* In the past few weeks I completed training for USG, attended convocation, blast-off, and volunteered at movers and groovers representing USG. I have had meetings with the Women's Center regarding Elect Her and The Center for Student Involvement. I am currently working on marketing material for the Elect her program with Cassie the director of the Women's Center. I am also working on a proposal for the Reimagined KSU sub-committee with Senator Wolford about what to do with the space of Kent Market 2 once it closes. In the following weeks I hope to present our proposal to the committee. I also hope to begin writing legislation for a new Committee on Outreach.

**Director Waligura**

* Training Week, freshman Day of Service, Provost Ice Cream Social, Blastoff
* Judicial Advocate Committee
* Matching students with judicial advocates

**Director Moore**

* Past: Learned about the Engage add-on extension: Turbo Votes. Also, meet with the Kent State Votes Committee and the 2020 Census Committee to discuss USG involvement.
* Currently: I am excited to introduce Undergraduate Student Government’s newest initiate, which is aimed at increasing voter registration on our campus: Kent State Votes.
* Upcoming: Applications for the Committee on Governmental Affairs will be sent out Thursday morning to all Political Clubs on campus. Also, the date for Kent State Advocacy Day at the Statehouse should be added to the calendar this week.

**Director Lax**

**No Report**

**Senator, Vice Chair Farhat**

* This week, I am working on multiple things. To start, I am working with various officials from the Dean's office to send a college-wide email inviting students to join my senatorial committee. I am also beginning the first ever EHHS Staff Appreciation program this week, something that my committee planned out last year. Furthermore, I am brainstorming various committees I want to form this year (Stay Tuned!).

**Senator Daniel**

* Leading up to this school year, I attended our USG Training Week. This experience enabled me to get closer to my fellow USG senators, directors, and our president. While we built our camaraderie, I enjoyed learning about our mission, Kent's campus resources, and our collective vision to impact the faculty, staff, and students around us. Additionally, I had the opportunity to participate as a speaker during the Dean's Welcome for the College of Public Health. I shared a quick overview of my role with USG and how they can utilize me, while establishing myself as a contact for the incoming students. Afterwards, I was able to connect with a small group of freshmen to mentor and guide them as they start their journey at Kent.
* At our Blastoff, the President of the Public Health Club and I discussed collaboration opportunities - we are currently attempting set up a working session. I have currently been in communication with the Ohio State Public Health & Public Administration Master's team to organize an Information Session at Kent State for Public Health students interested in continuing their education.
* Senator Sajjady and I plan to create an international Student Mentorship program involving junior and senior ambassadors to welcome and guide incoming freshmen and developing sophomores.
* Waiting for Office of Global Education and the Division of Student Affairs to review our implementation plan and to subsequently gain access to the international student listserv.

**Senator Sajjady**

* As International student senator I have been posting inquiries for international students that want to join my committee and have so far 5 non USG students interested to join my Committee.as of now I am working on one of my projects for my student Ambassador international students. the Idea is to have experienced international students volunteer to be an ambassador for new freshmen international students ( Ideally from same country or same first language) and get them situated on campus.( show them KSU resources and engagement opportunities , shops in Kent Area and essentially pointing them in the right direction for any basic college life needs that are usually taken for granted as a domestic student). Senator Tidke, senator Daniel and Director Waligura also decided to partner with me in this project. I am in contact with the office of global education as well as division of student affairs and expecting to meet with Eron Memaj, International student affairs director to discuss and find ways to execute the project efficiently.
* I am also meeting with Mr. Memaj to discuss advertising for the international homecoming event which is an incredible event and opportunity for international and domestic students to get to know each other and share culture.
* In following weeks I am going to focus on International student project and also get inquiries about my next project which is having legal services speaker for international students and it is going to be explained more about in next public meetings,

**Senator Springer**

* The past few weeks I attended USG summer training week, movers and groovers, blast off, KT village closing ceremonies and Convocation to represent USG. I also spoke at my dean’s welcome and at the CAED’s all college meeting. I am currently working on forming the college of architecture and environmental design senatorial committee,creating a cheat sheet for Robert rules with Peter, and creating a calendar for the office. In the following weeks I hope to work with my committee on improving issues within my college.

**Senator Wolford**

* During the past few weeks, I attended our USG training and the Culture of Care retreat hosted by CSI. Additionally, I volunteered for Movers and Groovers and Blastoff to help incoming freshmen get acquainted with Kent State and all it has to offer.
* On August 22nd, Director Dingey and I attended the first meeting of the Reimagined Kent Student Center sub-committee, where we discussed potential plans for the space that will be opening up on the second floor of the Student Center once Kent Market 2 closes at the end of this academic year. Possible options for the space include a new lounge, individual and group study spaces, a tranquility room, new space for student organizations, and relocation of some of the operations of the LGBTQ Center or the CAVS office. I plan to attend the next meeting of the sub-committee on August 29th, at which point we will present formal proposals for the space.
* Going forward, I plan to continue exploring options for ways to improve the experience of off-campus students. I am staying in contact with representatives from Rent College Pads in order to learn more about the possibility of having a university-sponsored website to compile resources related to off-campus housing. I will keep my fellow USG members informed about this process and what it uncovers so that we can have a constructive discussion about the idea in the coming weeks.

**Senator Robinson**

**No Report**

**Senator Beeler:**

* For my first piece of legislation, I would like to write a resolution with Senator Robinson that mandates that when interviews are held for the Senator of Diversity position an invitation must be sent to the Student Multicultural Center, LGBTQ Student Center, and the Women's Center. This is not to force them to come but to allow them to come and have input in the decision of this important position. I am trying to get in contact with the organization Global Fashion Citizens to host an event with them and the Senator of the College of the Arts to teach students how to sew, mend, and upcycle their clothes.

**Senator Meehan**

* This past week I was able to meet briefly with Dean Spake, the Dean for the College of Business Administration, prior to the Dean’s welcome. Also I was able to introduce myself to the incoming freshmen and let them know about my position. I got to talk with the president of the Business Professionals’ Round table and let them know I plan to be present at all their meetings. Lastly, I was present at Blastoff helping with USG and talking to some Business Organizations’ tables. I have gone ahead and scheduled a formal meeting with Dean Spake for Friday September 6 to meet and discuss ideas for this upcoming year.

**Senator Braunlich**

* During the past two weeks, I met with my Dean to discuss the upcoming semester. I attended the Culture of Care, blastoff, and convocation. I also introduced myself to the new freshmen college of nursing students at my Dean's welcome.
* I am currently talking with the advisors in my college about speaking to all of the FYE classes. Dr. Broome and I both think this would be beneficial for them to ask questions to me about nursing and their classes.
* In the next few weeks, I'm going to reach out to the organizations in my college and the people that signed up at blastoff about the senatorial committee.

**Senator Stumpf**

**No Report**

**Senator Tidke**

* Attended the training week for USG, volunteered at USG table at the Blast Off. Spoke at my Dean's welcome during the convocation and attended the convocation at Mac Annex as a USG representative.
* Currently working with Arian Sajjady on the project for international students. Talking to Mrs. Cassandra from Women's Center in regards to a meet on Feminism with Men.
* Also, working on forming my Senate and talking to students from different departments of my College.

**Senator McCrea**

* The past few weeks we had USG Training, but whenever that was not going on I was working in the Exploratory Advising Center helping getting things prepared for EXCEL Mentor Training, varying from preparing to facilitate some training sessions to preparing some prizes for EXCEL students at events. I had EXCEL Mentor training throughout KSU Kickoff which went well, and I also volunteered at Blast Off for the USG table and I volunteered at the KSU Kickball Carnival. I also was fortunate enough to represent University College at Convocation and carry the UC flag. It was an honor to represent them and speak to all the Exploratory students at the Dean's Welcome.
* Currently I am working with the Exploratory Advising Center on their Major Action Plan Start To Finish program. I want to try to have Handel's ice cream for the students if they come at a certain time. The goal is to provide Ice Cream at the weaker time's from the previous year so maybe more students will participate in the event.
* In the coming weeks, I hope to figure out how much money I would like to propose to get the ice cream for the event, as well as meet meet with the Director of the EAC and discuss logistics for getting UC students graduation cords.

**Senator Niepsuj**

* This past week I attended USG training and learned the ropes to better serve in my position. I also spoke to the freshman honors class to make myself known to them for future interaction. I have also linked up with Erin Arhns to discuss community engagement within the honors college to starting programming events for the year to come.

**Senator designate Desai**

* PAST WEEK: I recently got appointed as the Senator of the College of Arts and Sciences. I have contacted the College Dean. I attended Blastoff this past week. I set up my office hours and have begun my transition into USG.
* CURRENT: I am currently contacting the various department heads of my college to set up meetings and talk to them about the upcoming changes in the semester. I am doing a makeup training session on Tuesday.
* FUTURE: I have set up the meeting with my college dean and will be meeting with him and his assistants.

**Senator designate Taylor**

* In recent weeks I attended the USG summer training week with the other USG members. Meeting with President Diacon, Vice President of Student Affairs, Dr. Little, and Dean of Students, Dr. Hylton. We attended convocation to welcome the Class of 2023. In the next few weeks,
* I plan to work with the Senator for the College of Architecture and Environment Design to see what we can do about organizing a Living Learning Community for their college. Another task that needs tackling in the next few weeks or months is RA compensation.

**Senator Klien (arrived in time to give his report)**

* The College of Aeronautics and Engineering is happy to announce the opening of the new building on the grounds of Andrew Patton Airfield (Kent State University Airport) sponsored by FedEx. I am still attempting to reach out to the Dean of our college, Dr. Christina Bloebaum. I have reached out multiple times throughout the past month in the form of emails and voicemails without response. I will continue to pursue her contact as I wish to align our goals and create a system of reaching out to the students of the college.

**Advisor Factor-Page**

Lauren shared a list of university committees and everyone should take a look at them. Another request for the veteran’s committee. Encourage USG to continue to diversify with the US body. Megan’s assistant who is a GA assistant and will be helping work with budget and allocations. Dr. Little spoke about the story of student engagement and how we’re able to qualitatively review this

**Unfinished Business:**

**General Orders:**

1. **The proposed Code of Bylaws** 
   1. Mr. Kierstead moved to adopt the proposed Code of Bylaws. Seconded by Mr. Farhat. Mr. Kierstead spoke about what it was about and that it will be nice to finally have a Code of Bylaws to refer to. The motion was adopted by a vote of 22 to 0.
2. **The proposed Code of Special Rules of Order** 
   1. Mr. Kierstead moved to adopt the proposed Code of Special Rules of Order. Seconded by Mr. Tabbaa. Mr. Kierstead spoke about what it was about. The motion was adopted by a vote of 22 to 0.
3. **The proposed code of Standing Rules** 
   1. Mr. Kierstead moved to adopt the proposed Code of Standing Rules. Seconded by Mr. Tabbaa. Mr. Kierstead spoke about how it is similar to the bylaws. The new rules for allocations are included and there will be more new changes coming soon. The motion was adopted by a vote of 22 to 0.
4. **Appointment of a Senator for the College of Arts and Sciences** 
   1. Director Kierstead nominated Ms. Janki Desai to be the Senator for the College of Arts and Sciences. There were no other nominations. Director Kierstead moved that the Senate appoint Ms. Janki Desai as the Senator for the College of Arts and Sciences. Seconded by Ms. Waligura. The motion was adopted by a vote of 22 to 0.
5. **Appointment of a Senator for the Residence Halls**
   1. Director Kierstead nominated Mr. Brandon Taylor to be the Senator for the Residence Halls. There were no other nominations. Director Kierstead moved that the Senate appoint Mr. Brandon Taylor as the Senator for the Residence Halls. Seconded by Ms. Waligura. The motion was adopted by a vote of 22 to 0.

\*\*\* The President administered the oath of office to the newly appointed senators and they took their seats.

1. **Proposed Special Revision of the Code of Special Rules of Order** 
   1. Director Kierstead moved to adopt the Proposed Special Revision of the Code of Special Rules of Order. This proposed revision allows Ms. Henneman and Ms. Weihe to speak during debate on motions so that they each get each 3 minutes to speak. Mr. Wolford moved to have a secret ballot for YES- they can participate during debate or NO- they can’t participate. Ms. Factor Page served as the teller and reported: votes cast in favor were 16, votes cast against the motion were 6, the number of votes cast in abstention was 1. The motion was adopted by vote of 16 to 6.
2. **Proposed Special Revision Number 1 of the Code of Standing Rules** 
   1. Director Kierstead moved that proposed Special Revision Number 1 of the Code of Standing Rules be adopted. Seconded by Director Wartman. Director Kierstead explains items of this document. The motion was carried unanimously by a vote of 24 to 0.
3. **USG FY 2019-2020 Budget**
   1. Director Tabbaa explains general Budget. New York Times funding was cancelled. 5,000 and 5,000 will each be split to senator initiatives and student initiatives. Miss Henneman encourage 16,000 to 18,000 for club sports. 303,000 including money carried over from the previous year to serve the student body and encourage USG to use that money.
   2. Director Kierstead moved that the 2019-2020 budget as presented by Director Tabbaa be adopted. Seconded by Director Lax. The motion was adopted.
4. [**Period Project Resolution**](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1QWJUFaYERKxHbzAEIJCiTqiaVPHzbza2_Kw_qsXXeEo/edit?usp=sharing)
   1. Director Wartman moved that the Resolution be adopted. Seconded by Senator Springer. Recognizing that division affairs will help fund the project. Wanting to expand the project from 8 to 16 and make it a priority on campus. The motion was adopted by vote of 24 to 0.
5. **Proposed Special Revision Number 2 of the Code of Standing Rules** 
   1. Director Kierstead moved to adopt Special Revision Number 2 of the Code of Standing Rules. Seconded by Director Tabbaa. If this motion is adopted, we meet at 5:30 pm. If it’s not adopted, we meet at 6:00 pm. It was moved and carried to vote by secret ballot vote. Mrs. Factor-Page served as the teller. She reported: 23 ballots cast. 5:30 pm had 5 votes. 6:00 pm had 18 votes. The motion failed. Let everyone know the meeting time is now changed to 6:00 pm.

**Programming Update**

Sold out lower level of DaBaby tickets. Show on Nov. 20th. Help Vala with support for tailgates.

1. **Senator Wolford RentCollegePads**

**Announcements:**

1. [Slack: Notifications](https://get.slack.help/hc/en-us/articles/201355156-Guide-to-desktop-notifications)
   1. Link to have desktop notifications
2. Committees
   1. Governmental Affairs : Kent State Votes
   2. Green Dot: Rewriting the legislation
   3. Women’s empowerment meetings.

**Adjournment: A motion was made to adjourn. The motion was adopted and the Senate adjourned at 7:04 pm.**