



Meeting Minutes
Oakland University Student Congress
Thomas-Engnell Administration
Oakland Room, Oakland Center
Monday, September 26, 2016
4:00 P.M.



- I. Call to Order
 - Meeting was called to order on Monday, September 26th, 2016 at 4:00pm
- II. Pledge of Allegiance
- III. Roll Call
 - Legislator Fox, present and voting
 - Legislator Kubinski, present and voting
 - Legislator Mabrouk, present and voting
 - Legislator Nasry, present and voting
 - Legislator Poppe, present and voting
 - Legislator Sanders, present and voting
 - Legislator Rourke, present and voting
 - Legislator Seeger, present and voting
 - Legislator Harris, present and voting
 - Legislator Walton, present and voting
 - We had quorum
- IV. Approval of Meeting Minutes from September 19th, 2016
 - Vice President Engnell opened the floor to additions, changes, or suggestions to the Meeting Minutes from September 19th, 2016
 - There were no amendments to the Meeting Minutes
 - Show of Hands Vote
 - The Meeting Minutes from September 19th, 2016, were unanimously approved
- V. Comments from the Gallery
 - Ms. Hock, the President of the Student Program Board and a student liaison to the Board of Trustees said that they had their Toga at the Tower event last Friday, and it was extremely exciting and successful. This week tickets for the New York City trip go on sale at the CSA on Wednesday, at 9:00am. The tickets cost \$275 and it includes transportation to and from New York City and a three night stay at a hotel in Times Square. She continued onward to remind that the Congress that people who have overnight access to the Oakland Center cannot be in the building after 4:00am, and cannot wait inside the Oakland Center to purchase tickets for the New York City trip.
 - Vice President Engnell introduced Mr. Jesse Hearst, who is the new Assistant Dean of Students and coming to us from University of Michigan Flint.
 - Mr. Heart said that he will be serving as the new Assistant Dean of Students in the Dean of Students Office. He continued onward to say that if there is anything he, or the Dean of Students Office, can do to make our collegiate experience more memorable and pleasurable, then to please come seek their services; they are more than happy to help us resolve any problems that we experience, either with students or faculty. He said that he wanted to enrich his experience here and really get to know us not only as students, but as individuals, and learn about our passions.

- Ms. Billey, an Oakland University alumina and former OUSC member, said that she is serving on the Michigan Nonprofit and AmeriCorps System for the Oakland University/Pontiac Initiative, which is a partnership between Pontiac and Oakland University administered through the President's Office. This year her focus is working on workforce development, but the mission statement of the initiative is "advancing the vitality of Pontiac, while enhancing experiential learning opportunities for Oakland students. The initiative supports faculty research and promotes civic engagement in the community. In addition, it calls upon a broad network of individuals in organizations to achieve the initiative's goals by using appropriate infrastructure, human, and financial resources. The vision statement is to create sustainable, mutually beneficial relationships between Oakland University and the community of Pontiac."
- Vice President Engnell said, "The OU/Pontiac Initiative has been one of the crowning public/private partnerships in the area; they've really done a lot of great work." He continued onward to say that if anyone is interested in working with Ms. Billey, he has her contact information.
- Mr. Tyler Fox said that he works at the Oakland County Clerk Office, and that we have been doing a fantastic job with registering people to vote, for he actually sees the physical stacks of voter registration forms that we mail to the office.
- Vice President Engnell opened the floor to further Comments from the Gallery
- There were no further Comments from the Gallery

VI. Guest Speakers

- There were no guest speakers

VII. Old Business

A. Fall Budget, *Adam George*

- Mr. George said that the budget was circulated prior the meeting, so he will refrain from explaining every expenditure. However, there were a few relatively large purchases recently, including recycling bins and Scantrons for the Scantron Program. He continued onward to say that he will answer any questions regarding the budget.
- Vice President Engnell said that the budget will be circulated either biweekly or monthly to Congress, for the sake of transparency.
- Vice President Engnell opened the floor to questions and comments
- Mr. George said that his goal is to make the budget accessible to the student body, so that they know where a portion of their tuition money is going to.
- Legislator Fox said that we spent \$2,383.70 on Scantrons out of the \$3,000 allotted, and he's curious as to whether we're going to have enough Scantrons to provide to the students for the entirety of the semester.
 - Mr. George replied to Legislator Fox, saying that President Thomas, Ms. Walukonis, and himself had a meeting last Monday regarding Scantrons, and determined how many to purchase in this bulk order by determining how many packs of each type of Scantron we go through in a week, and multiplied this by the remaining weeks in the semester. Furthermore, there is money remaining in this line item to place another order later in the semester, but in lower quantity. In addition, only 4 or 5 Scantrons will be left on the front desk, rather than large stacks of them, or students will actually have to ask an OUSC member for a Scantron. Furthermore, we're

enforcing the policy of one free Scantron a day, and two only if they follow us on social media.

- President Thomas said that a bulk order was placed for all of the different types of Scantrons, and this order wasn't placed to simply "stop the bleeding"; this order is intended to last us through the semester.
 - Vice President Engnell opened the floor to further questions on the budget
 - There were no further questions
- B. C.B. 17-06 Readership Program Bill, *Erin Rourke*
- Legislator Rourke said that the Readership Program provides the newspapers seen on campus. This bill is to renew the Readership Program, under a new contract, and would cost \$2,500. However, we are only charged per newspaper taken, and it's a nonbinding contract, which we can terminate at any time as long as USA Today is given a month notice in advance.
 - President Thomas said the Readership Program is a fairly popular program, with about 80 newspapers taken per day. Since the three year contract has expired, we're renewing the contract, for at least the remainder of this year, because we are looking into an electronic app for this program, rather than physical newspapers. Additionally, he continued onward to say that they made a switch from The New York Times to the Detroit Free Press, which is less expensive by \$0.20 and less biased, because we want to remain nonpartisan.
 - Roll Call Vote
 - Legislator Rourke, yea
 - Legislator Fox, yea
 - Legislator Harris, yea
 - Legislator Kubinski, yea
 - Legislator Mabrouk, yea
 - Legislator Nasry, yea
 - Legislator Poppe, yea
 - Legislator Seeger, yea
 - Legislator Sanders, yeas
 - Legislator Walton, yea
 - The bill passed unanimously

VIII. New Business

- B. Approval of Environmental Health and Wellness Committee, *Lena Mishack*
- b. Joseph Winters, Anthony Clark
- Ms. Mishack said that she serves with both individuals on LEAP, Leaders for Environmental Awareness and Protection. She is excited to be working with both of them on her committee.
 - Vice President Engnell opened the floor to questions and comments
 - There was no discussion
 - Show of Hands Vote
 - Joseph Winters and Anthony Clark were unanimously approved

IX. Discussion Topics

- There were no discussion topics
- X. Legislative Updates
- A. Greek Council Representative, *Vicki Harris*
- Legislator Harris mentioned the following upcoming events:
 - Kicks for Kids (Phi Sigma Sigma) is taking place October 1st from 12:00-5:00pm at Auburn Hills Civic Center. Registration for participating has been closed, but you can still come and walk. There will be tacos and a raffle, and all of the money raised will go towards their philanthropy.
 - TKE's Push-Up Challenge: The event will take place at the clock tower on October 6th from 9:00am to 4:00pm. There are two buckets, one for TKE and one for OUPD. For each dollar donated into one of the buckets, the group will do that amount of push-ups. All money raised will go towards St. Jude Children's Hospital.
 - Sigma Puppies: On October 7th at 11:00am there will be therapy dogs at the clock tower. There will be a dog kissing booth, a puppy photo booth, and play pens. Furthermore, shirts and bracelets will also be sold and all money raised will go towards Canine Companions Animal Shelter, in Clarkston.
 - AST Boston Fundraiser: It will take place October 11th from 4:00-8:00 at the Boston Restaurant in Shelby Township, off of Hall Road. This event is to help raise money to send to a sister of Alpha Sigma Tau to convention.
- B. Tailgate Chair Representative, *Vicki Harris*
- Legislator Harris thanked everyone who came to the tailgate and helped. The tailgate went extremely well.
 - President Thomas said that Legislator Harris did a fantastic job on the tailgate, and that he had a blast.
- C. Updates related to Legislative Projects and Initiatives
- Legislator Kubinski said that she wants to have one-on-ones with the legislators, and that she hopes to be able to attend more of the E-Board Meetings. She continued onward to say that if anyone needs help with anything, to please let her know because she is more than happy to help and offer advice.
- D. Questions related to Legislative Reports
- There were no questions
- XI. Executive Reports
- A. Student Body President, *Zack Thomas*
- President Thomas said that Vice President Engnell, President Hynd, Vice President McIntosh, and himself met on September 22nd and discussed a variety of topics, but the most pertinent and relevant of them being parking. Currently, parking on campus is still 95%-97% full during certain parts of the day, including the gravel lots. Administration is looking into some possibilities as to how to address the issue of parking, including either maintaining the current system, adding in premier parking spots/lots, or incorporating permit parking into either tuition costs or

permit parking, in general. It seems as though the administration is currently wanting to implement paid, permit parking in order to both reduce the congestion and to finance further parking projects, such as another parking structure. He said that Vice President Engnell and him are in favor of other options and implementations to help reduce the parking problem, and are working towards other solutions. A survey will be coming out regarding the parking problem, and this input will be taken directly back to President Hynd and Vice President McIntosh. He continued onward to say that we have registered more than 300 people to vote, as well as said that he is undertaking a new project regarding the OU website. The OU website opens several tabs when you're navigating through the website, and registering for classes can be frustrating because the add/drop, student schedule day and time, and registering for classes themselves are not all on the same page, and you have to continuously navigate through several tabs. Thus, he will be working the University Communications Department to hopefully resolve these issues.

B. Student Vice President, *Anders Engnell*

- Vice President Engnell said that he is on a committee regarding scanning and evaluation, and they're looking into different ways and programs to evaluate classes. One of the programs they're looking into, called Akindi, could potentially replace Scantrons. The problem with Scantrons is that they're expensive, and highly specific, both in the test forms and the scanners that can read the form. However, Akindi have a system that allows professors to customize exams to their own needs and then send this test form as a pdf file to students, for them to print out on any printer. Additionally, whereas Scantrons require a \$10,000 for the forms to be scanned, with Akindi, any scanner can be used, thus reducing the cost. He said that the only disadvantage with Akindi thus far is that they're a new company, only 3 or 4 years old, whereas Scantron is 44 years old. However, Akindi replies to customer service issues much faster than Scantron. He continued onward to address parking, saying that they're talking about optimizing the Bear Bus to create different lines which take people to specific buildings at specific times, rather than circling.

C. OUSC Advisor, *Stephanie Jurva*

- Advisor Jurva was unable to make it to the meeting

D. Updates related to E-board Projects and Initiatives

- Ms. Polsinelli said that Legislator Fox has been amazing with helping her table for voter registration, and that she greatly appreciated his enthusiasm and efforts.
- Ms. Mishack said that her initial goal was to transform the roof of Kresge Library into a garden, with both garden beds and seating spaces, as well as utilize the terraces that are on the sides of the building. However, the Dean of Kresge had a meeting with Terry from facilities, and they were informed that this idea wouldn't be ADA compliant to have a meeting space on the roof because there's no elevator that goes to the roof, just a staircase. However, it may still be possible to utilize the terraces, if we can

get the funding for the project. She continued onward to say, “I would still like to push for having traditional green roof education on the top level of the library because [even if it’s not as a meeting space or for research, it] could still have a really significant environmental benefit [by] provide insulation to the library.” Furthermore, existing rooftop gardens have been discovered, but the Dean, Terry, and Ms. Mishack will be organizing a tour of these gardens and then afterwards have a meeting regarding the seating spaces for this initiative. She said if anyone would like to attend this meeting, to please let her know. The tour and meeting will take place either on Friday, October 14th from 1:30-3:00, or Monday, October 17th from 3:30-5:00.

- Mr. Queen said that he was able to get music and graphics to be displayed on the television in the office. He continued onward to say that anyone who will be needing graphics, or already has graphics and needs a television graphic, to please submit those graphic request forms as soon as possible, so that him committee and him can work on the designs.
- Ms. Polsinelli said that her Rock for Rights event is taking place next Monday, in between North and South Foundation Halls from 11:00-3:00. She is collaborating with the Mobile Secretary of State, and in addition to registering people to vote, she wants people to pledge to vote. Everyone who pledges to vote will be entering into a drawing for a mini iPad, and the event itself will have her voter registration kits and cupcakes.
- Ms. Goldwater said that the Fiesta in Detroit event is taking place on Sunday from 12:00-6:00. They are taking people down to Mexican Town for lunch, and then going to the DIA afterwards, in celebration of Spanish Heritage Month.
- Ms. Merogi said that she received three students concerns this past week regarding a napping area in Kresge Library. She said she tried to address this problem before, but encountered some difficulty, so if anyone has any input on how to address this concern, to please let her know.

E. Questions related to Executive Reports

- Legislator Kubinski asked if student or professors would be responsible for providing forms with Akindi, because since one of the issues with Scantrons is that students must pay for them, she doesn’t see how this would eliminate a cost issue because students would have to pay to have the form printed, as well.
 - Vice President Engnell replied to Legislator Kubinski, saying, that it would make it easier for professors to print off the testing forms. Additionally, the professors could actually print off each exam with the student’s information already filled in.
- Legislator Fox said that he thinks that paid parking is “a terrible idea because we’re paying enough to go here anyways, yet alone for parking space.” He continued onward to ask if professors, faculty, and administration would also have to pay for parking. Furthermore, he inquired about the timeline for the creation and implementation of the new Bear Bus lines.

- President Thomas replied to Legislator Fox, saying, “To provide some consolation, in the meeting with President Hynd and Vice President McIntosh, they expressed that the burden, if they decide to go with [paid parking] that the burden would not ideally fall solely on the students, so they would want to explore ways that faculty and staff would have to pay for it, as well.”
- Vice President Engnell said that the Bear Bus lines would be recreated so that they go to certain buildings at specific times. For example, if there was a large number of classes occurring at 8:00am in the Engineering Center, the Bear Buses would pick up students from distance lots between 7:30am and 8:00am, and take them to the Engineering Center. He’s hoping to have these lines implemented by the winter semester.
- Legislator Seeger asked how the Akindi documents are graded and if the professor would have to individually grade each test form.
 - Vice President Engnell replied to Legislator Seeger, saying that the exam form would be fed through a scanner and transformed into a pdf file, which would be sent to the professor’s Akindi account/email for processing, and the grade would then be posted on the professor’s Akindi page.
- Legislator Nasry asked if there would be an opportunity for students to pay for a particular parking spot for the entirety of the semester, or the school year.
 - Vice President Engnell replied to Legislator Nasry, saying, that they’re not looking into paying for a particular parking spot, but rather, looking into paying to park in a particular parking lot.
- Legislator Nasry asked if paying for a particular spot would be something to be considered.
 - Vice President Engnell said, “It would be difficult because then you would have to have each number connected to a permit and then the OUPD would have to go through every second the day and look at each number of spots, so it would be a pretty hefty task. We can consider it, but it might be difficult to do in large numbers, especially since we have such a large commuter population.”
- Legislator Nasry inquired if the Bear Buses would run 24/7 or if the service would only be offered during peak times.
 - Vice President Engnell replied to Legislator Nasry, saying, “It would work for priority classes, so say there are a high amount of 8:00am in two select buildings, and there are a lot of people parking in two select lots, the Bear Bus system would have two buses going to each lot, and then to each priority classroom area. So the idea is that it would happen before 8:00am classes, 10:00am classes, noon classes, and maybe some 6:30 night classes, too.”
- Legislator Nasry asked if it would be considered to have the Bear Buses run later, especially for students who are on campus all day and stay late to study at library.

- Vice President Engnell replied to Legislator Nasry, saying that that would be a great idea and he'll mention it at the next meeting.
- Mr. Queen said that even with implementing permit parking to only specific lots, not spots, there would still be an issue of needing the have OUPD monitor the lots continuously for specific permits that correspond with that parking lot.
 - Vice President Engnell replied to Mr. Queen, saying, that what would most likely happen is that someone would monitor cars coming into the lot and only allowing people who have specific permits, or each permit would be colored coded for specific parking lots; it is easier to match colors to a parking lot than a number.
- Mr. Queen inquired about what someone would do if they paid for a parking permit and the lot they're allotted to be in is full. He continued onward to say, "There's going to be an issue of, regardless of if we pay for parking lots or not, full parking lots. It would just be that now everyone is going to have to pay more money for the same problem. It's not going to fix the parking shortage."
 - Vice President Engnell replied to Mr. Queen, saying that the goal would be to only give as many permits as there is parking available, that is, as many permits as there are parking spots in the parking lot. It would be ideal to not have the lot filled to full capacity, and they would have to distribute permits correctly in order to ensure, from the start, that there is never an instance in which someone paid for a parking permit and wasn't able to park in the specified parking lot.
- Mr. Queen said, "I'm just trying to present an issue with that idea because that's definitely not going to be something that I'm going to be happy about, and I would actually probably be swearing in my car a lot."
- Ms. Merogi said that she wanted to let Legislator Nasry, and the rest of Congress, know that the Bear Bus will take students from Kresge library late at night to various parking structures and buildings on campus.
- President Thomas said that there has been a lot of good feedback regarding parking, and these issues and concern will be brought up at his next meeting with President Hynd and Vice President McIntosh, hopefully "to help persuade them that this isn't something that's the best idea."
- Mr. Queen inquired when President Thomas and Vice President Engnell are meeting with President Hynd and Vice President McIntosh again.
 - President Thomas said that they have monthly meetings with them, but can meet with Vice President McIntosh earlier, if needed.
- Vice President Engnell said, "Just as a note on parking, if you do have any issue oriented questions, not informational, but any questions, please discuss them with me afterwards. Because we can just meet in my office and talk about the issues. Please refrain from that for the moment just because the details are still being worked out."
- Legislator Nasry said, "Just one last question for you, I just need some clarification on why are they looking into paid parking to begin with? Are

they just looking for expansion? Do they need the money for the expansion? Do they not get that from the tuition?”

- Vice President Engnell replied to Legislator Nasry, saying, “The administration’s reasoning is that the general fund is effectively used up to provide for new faculty and [other expenses].”
- Legislator Nasry said, “So why aren’t they looking into things that are less expensive and can be extracted from the constantly increasing tuition every year?”
- Vice President Engnell replied to Legislator Nasry, saying, “The constantly increasing tuition is not an open fund that can be used for anything. When tuition is increased, it’s for projects already. So, when they increase tuition they don’t do it with two million extra just in case. So what that means is that whenever they increase tuition, the money is already being used for something. If they were going to increase tuition for parking, they would just increase more than they normally would. So, that’s really difficult.”
- There was no further discussion

XII. Comments from the Gallery

- A. There were no Comments from the Gallery

XIII. Announcements

- Legislator Kubinski said that there has been a peeping tom at the Beacon Hill Apartments near campus, and advised people to use Companion as one mechanism of staying safe. She continued onward to say that Tyler Oakley is coming next week, on Wednesday, from 6:00-10:00pm in the O’rena. Currently, there is a question contest going on, in which people can submit questions for Tyler to answer during the lecture; five questions will be randomly selected, and the question winners will receive two tickets to sit in the VIP section of the lecture and a copy of his book, which he will be signing afterwards. If anyone is interested in submitting questions or volunteering, please email Hannah Clark at jhclark@oakland.edu.
- There are two debate parties occurring this even, on both floors of the Oakland Center—one in the TV lounge across from the food court and one in the TV lounge across the computer lab in the basement. The debate starts at 9:00pm. Both debate parties will start at about 8:00pm.

XIV. Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 4:59pm