



Suite 350 Student Union Amherst, New York 14260
(716) 645-2950 fax: (716) 645-2112 www.sa.buffalo.edu

Student Association Senate Meeting

May 8, 2024 - 5:00 PM

Student Union room 378, University at Buffalo North Campus
Amherst, NY 14260

Present

Becky Paul Odionhin, SA President; **Gavin Krauciunas**, Senate Chairperson; **Cole Fredericks**, SA Student Affairs Director; **Veronica Faltisco**, Academic Council Coordinator; **Jacob Murphy**, Hobby Council Coordinator; **Joan Liu**, International Council Coordinator; **Malik Thompson**, P.O.C. Council Coordinator; **Aidan Sumrall**, Special Interest Council Coordinator; **Benjamin Lau**, Senator; **Aryan Mudgal**, Senator; **Jamel Usen**, Senator; **Kayla Yan**, Senator.

Asterisk (*) indicates member arrived late or left prior to adjournment.

Absent

Grace McDowell, SA Vice President; **Unnati Agarwal**, SA Treasurer; **Joe McCusker**, Engineering Council Coordinator; **Ashrith Rao**, Sports Council Coordinator; **Laibah Ahmed**, Senator; **Nicholas Bausch**, Senator; **Amadou Dieng**, Senator; **Riya Gaikwad**, Senator; **Krithik Madisetty**, Senator; **Morgan Ross**, Senator; **Dilasha Thapa**, Senator.

Guests

Samin Bhuya, SA Production Director; **Camila Camacaro**; **Dan Cummings**, Graduate Student Employees Union; **Will Eaton**, SA Contract Assistant; **Killian Hannigan**, SA Chief of Staff; **Sol Hauser**, UB Spectrum; **Hudson Hort**, Jewish Student Union; **Dylan Kallert**, Jewish Student Union; **Or Kop**, Jewish Student Union; **Mylien Lai**, UB Spectrum; **Jacob Landerer**, Jewish Student Union; **Salam Lobad**, Students for Justice in Palestine; **Brandon Meyer**, Jewish Student Union; **Laibah Mir**, Muslim SA; **Amanda Mondschein**, Jewish Student Union; **Daniel Ohebshalom**, Jewish Student Union; **Louis Poon**, SA Bookkeeper; **Wesley Shaw**, Hong Kong Student Association; **Meyer Simon**, Jewish Student Union; **Sujay Sundar**, Jewish Student Union; **Tiffany Verdugo**; **Jack Walsh**.

Call to Order

Gavin Krauciunas, Senate Chairperson, calls meeting to order at 5:09 PM.

Gavin Krauciunas, Senate Chairperson, proceeds to call the roll.

Becky Paul Odionhin

Present

Grace McDowell	Absent
Unnati Agarwal	Absent
Gavin Krauciunas	Present
Cole Fredericks	Present
Veronica Faltisco	Present
Joe McCusker	Absent
Jacob Murphy	Present
Joan Liu	Present
Malik Thompson	Present
Aidan Sumrall	Present
Ashrith Rao	Absent
Laibah Ahmed	Absent
Nicholas Bausch	Absent
Amadou Dieng	Absent
Riya Gaikwad	Absent
Benjamin Lau	Present
Krithik Madisetty	Absent
Aryan Mudgal	Present
Morgan Ross	Absent
Dilasha Thapa	Absent
Jamel Usen	Present
Kayla Yan	Present

12 Present, 11 Absent

Finding a quorum is present, the Senate proceeds with the order of business.

Approval of Minutes

Gavin Krauciunas, Senate Chairperson, introduces April 24, 2024 Senate Meeting Minutes for consideration.

Motion to approve April 24, 2024 Senate Meeting Minutes by Becky Paul Odionhin; second Aidan Sumrall.

Without objection, motion passes with unanimous consent.

Result: April 24, 2024 Senate Meeting Minutes are approved.

Old Business

Gavin Krauciunas, Senate Chairperson, introduces Resolution - 2023-2024 - #24 (“Resolution regarding UB Broad Based Fees”) for consideration.

Motion to deny Resolution - 2023-2024 - #24 by Becky Paul Odionhin; second Kayla Yan.

Becky Paul Odionhin	Yes
Gavin Krauciunas	Yes
Cole Fredericks	Yes
Veronica Faltisco	Yes
Jacob Murphy	Yes
Joan Liu	Yes
Malik Thompson	Yes
Aidan Sumrall	Yes
Benjamin Lau	Yes
Aryan Mudgal	Yes
Jamel Usen	Yes
Kayla Yan	Yes

12 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain

Motion to deny Resolution - 2023-2024 - #24 passes 12-0-0.

Result: Resolution 2023-2024 - #24 is denied.

New Business

Gavin Krauciunas, Senate Chairperson, introduces Resolution - 2023-2024 - #26 (“Resolution regarding UB Broad Based Fees”) for consideration.

Motion to approve Resolution - 2023-2024 - #26 by Benjamin Lau; second Kayla Yan.

Becky Paul Odionhin	Abstain
Gavin Krauciunas	Abstain

Cole Fredericks	Yes
Veronica Faltisco	Yes
Jacob Murphy	Yes
Joan Liu	Abstain
Malik Thompson	Abstain
Aidan Sumrall	Yes
Benjamin Lau	Yes
Aryan Mudgal	Abstain
Jamel Usen	Yes
Kayla Yan	Yes

7 Yes, 0 No, 5 Abstain

Motion to approve Resolution - 2023-2024 - #26 passes 7-0-5.

Result: Resolution - 2023-2024 - #26 is approved.

Gavin Krauciunas, Senate Chairperson, introduces Resolution - 2023-2024 - #27 (“Resolution regarding Transportation Fees”) for consideration.

Motion to approve Resolution - 2023-2024 - #27 by Kayla Yan; second Veronica Faltisco.

Becky Paul Odionhin	Abstain
Gavin Krauciunas	Abstain
Cole Fredericks	Yes
Veronica Faltisco	Yes
Jacob Murphy	Yes
Joan Liu	Yes
Malik Thompson	Yes
Aidan Sumrall	Yes
Benjamin Lau	Yes
Aryan Mudgal	Abstain
Jamel Usen	Yes
Kayla Yan	Yes

9 Yes, 0 No, 3 Abstain

Motion to approve Resolution - 2023-2024 - #27 passes 9-0-3.

Result: Resolution - 2023-2024 - #27 is approved.

Gavin Krauciunas, Senate Chairperson, introduces open discussion.

Benjamin Lau, Senator, addresses the Senate.

Students for Justice in Palestine representatives address the Senate.

Muslim SA representative addresses the Senate.

Organization of Arab Students representative addresses the Senate.

Jewish Student Union representatives address the Senate.

Latin American SA representatives address the Senate.

Aidan Sumrall, Special Interest Council Coordinator, states that he must leave at 6:45 PM and wants to avoid cutting off speakers due to losing quorum.

Motion to limit remaining statement periods to three minutes each by Aidan Sumrall; second Cole Fredericks.

Without objection, motion passes with unanimous consent.

Result: Remaining statement periods are limited to three minutes each.

Cole Fredericks, SA Student Affairs Director, addresses the Senate.

Veronica Faltisco, Academic Council Coordinator, addresses the Senate.

Becky Paul Odionhin, SA President, addresses the Senate.

Vegan Club representative addresses the Senate.

Motion to end open discussion period by Cole Fredericks; second Aidan Sumrall.

Without objection, motion passes with unanimous consent.

Result: Open discussion period is ended.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the Senate meeting by Becky Paul Odionhin; second Aidan Sumrall.

Without objection, motion passes with unanimous consent.

Result: Meeting is adjourned at 6:51 PM.



University at Buffalo Student Association Inc. 350

Student Union, Buffalo, NY 14260

www.sa.buffalo.edu

Resolution - 2023-2024 - #24

Subject: Resolution regarding UB Broad Based Fees

Submitted by: Kayla Yan, Senator

WHEREAS under Article IV § 4.01(b)(vii) of the University at Buffalo Student Association Inc. (“SA”) By-Laws, the SA Senate is empowered to “enact resolutions concerning issues of importance” that impact University at Buffalo (“UB”) undergraduate “student rights and student welfare”;

WHEREAS UB has indicated that they plan to implement a 6.8% increase in broad based fee rates from the 2024-2025 to 2028-2029 academic years;

WHEREAS the UB Broad Based Fee Survey received a total of just seventy-one responses to their survey regarding the proposed fee rate increases;

WHEREAS even if all respondents to the UB Broad Based Fee Survey were undergraduate students, out of the 20,761 undergraduate students, the survey results would represent the opinions of approximately 0.34% of the undergraduate student body;

WHEREAS as of 2019, the average debt load for UB students at graduation was \$25,598, which will only increase if the proposed fee rate increases go into effect;

WHEREAS the ability of undergraduate students to make their opinions known on proposed broad based fee rate increases directly implicates undergraduate student rights and student welfare; and

WHEREAS the debt load of undergraduate students, both while attending UB and at graduation, directly and indirectly implicates undergraduate student rights and student welfare; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the SA Senate respectfully calls upon UB to enhance the reach of their survey efforts, to ensure the responses received accurately reflect the attitudes and opinions of the undergraduate student body.



University at Buffalo Student Association Inc. 350

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Resolution - 2023-2024 - #26

Subject: Resolution regarding UB Broad Based Fees

Submitted by: Kayla Yan, Senator

WHEREAS under Article IV § 4.01(b)(vii) of the University at Buffalo Student Association Inc. (“SA”) By-Laws, the SA Senate is empowered to “enact resolutions concerning issues of importance” that impact University at Buffalo (“UB”) undergraduate “student rights and student welfare”;

WHEREAS UB has indicated that they plan to implement a 6.8% increase in broad based fee rates from the 2024-2025 to 2028-2029 academic years;

WHEREAS the UB Broad Based Fee Survey received a total of just seventy-one responses to their survey regarding the proposed fee rate increases;

WHEREAS even if all respondents to the UB Broad Based Fee Survey were undergraduate students, out of the 20,761 undergraduate students, the survey results would represent the opinions of approximately 0.34% of the undergraduate student body;

WHEREAS as of 2019, the average debt load for UB students at graduation was \$25,598, which will only increase if the proposed fee rate increases go into effect;

WHEREAS the ability of undergraduate students to make their opinions known on proposed broad based fee rate increases directly implicates undergraduate student rights and student welfare; and

WHEREAS the debt load of undergraduate students, both while attending UB and at graduation, directly and indirectly implicates undergraduate student rights and student welfare; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the SA Senate respectfully urges UB to overhaul its survey distribution methods, to ensure that undergraduate students are able to actively see, transparently access, and readily participate in a reevaluation of the survey, to ensure that the survey results accurately reflect the opinions of the undergraduate student body.



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Resolution - 2023-2024 - #27

Subject: Resolution regarding Transportation Fees
Submitted by: Aidan Sumrall, Special Interest Coordinator

WHEREAS under Article IV § 4.01(b)(vii) of the University at Buffalo Student Association Inc. (“SA”) By-Laws, the SA Senate is empowered to “enact resolutions concerning issues of importance” that impact University at Buffalo (“UB”) undergraduate “student rights and student welfare”;

WHEREAS per the UB Broad-based Fee Rates website, UB undergraduate full-time students pay \$242.25 per semester for the Transportation Fee, totaling \$484.50 per academic year;

WHEREAS given the UB Admissions campus profile, UB undergraduate student enrollment is approximately 20,761;

WHEREAS the UB undergraduate student body therefore pays approximately \$10,000,000 per academic year through the Transportation Fee to the UB;

WHEREAS on or about May 1, 2024, fifteen protesters were arrested on the UB North Campus, with police using “UB Stampede” buses to transport those arrested; and

WHEREAS the UB undergraduate student body has made known to the SA Senate their disapproval of the use of student-funded public transportation for the purposes of furthering arrests; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the SA Senate respectfully calls upon the UB and University Police to ensure that, in the future, public transportation that is paid for by UB students is not used in arrests.