

Monday, January 23, 2017

General Body Meeting:

- What are we?
 - We represent the CEAS students. Have reps on undergrad senate
 - Academic representation
 - Fun programs and events
 - Help make the student experience in CEAS better
 - Put forth agendas with the college and admin

- Sigma Sigma Carnival
 - April 22, 2017
 - Matt Goldenburg spoke
 - Trying to do something different
 - Hope to provide services throughout spring and then celebrate their use at the carnival
 - Hope that people will have their own events (like late lunch) with parents, alumni, etc.
 - Goal is to get new faces onto campus with these events, then have those events bleed into the carnival.
 - Overall goal is to get those people to get their kids to apply/attend UC, donate to UC/CEAS, etc.

- Phi Sigma Rho
 - Ashley Ramsey spoke about the organization
 - For women in engineering and operations and industrial management
 - Sisterhood day in January 23 (today) from 6:30-8:00 in Baldwin 643

- Triangle Fraternity
 - Nick Oslin spoke
 - Social fraternity for engineers, architects, and scientists
 - Participate in “traditional” events like homecoming but they’re more academically focused
 - Rush event info will be sent via email
 - Events start Friday, January 27th

- Career Fair
 - Grant Shroeder spoke
 - February 9th from 10-3 in the Rec
 - Check out the website for list of companies coming to career fair. Seeking volunteers for career fair. Info coming later
 - Tribunal.uc.edu/careerfair/students

- Resume Review Day

- Friday, 1/27
- 801 Rhodes
- Signup online for a max of two slots
- Academic Affairs
 - Khaled Aboumerhi – Academic Affairs Chair and a senator
 - Academic affairs serves as communication between students and the college
 - Come to this committee with any issues with professors, course load, etc.
 - This committee can work with administration to address any issues that you believe are wrong with college
 - Should bring up issues/concerns/suggestions quickly
 - If interested in working with committee, contact Khaled
- Special Events
 - Sam Dunker – chair
 - First meeting: February 1st at 5pm in Baldwin 650 (tribunal office)
 - Will have intramural team, do things like go to cyclones game, etc.
 - Great opportunity to get involved with lots of small things to run organize
- Off campus housing fair
 - Tuesday, 1/24 11am-2pm in TUC Great Hall
- Senate Report
 - Elections coming up
 - Packet pick up is February 6th if you want at large seat or president/vice president
 - Tribunal senate elections are changing. Will be college-wide instead of speaking at Tribunal and tribunal only voting. Date not yet set for CEAS Senator election
- Concealed Carry Open forum
 - See next page
- Join a committee to make these things better
 - Contact a committee chair to join
 - EWeek, Special Events, and Innovation need help
- Resources available
 - Lots of resources available to students
 - Take advantage of these early so that you keep up with studies, stay safe, etc. Just take care of yourself (see PowerPoint)
- **Next meeting is Feb 6 in 525 Old Chem**

Open forum – Khaled and Tim

- Ohio house bill 48 passed through legislature.

“The Ohio legislature through the Senate, um, some of the (...) included, being signed into law by governor Kasich. Uh, basically what this bill does is allow state universities to choose whether or not they will allow concealed carry on campus. Um so before this it was forbidden by Ohio state law, um, that any public university could have concealed carry on campus. And now that decision is given to the board of trustees (...). So in order for concealed campus to be allowed on campus it would require a majority vote by the board of trustees of the university of Cincinnati. And there are also two bills going through the university senate this week. We will get to those in a few moments.

“This bill was brought to students and faculty. Resolution bill 007 for the 2017 year. And basically the bill (...inaudible reading of bill...).

“After some very lengthy discussion and hearing a lot from some gallery, members of senate decided to table discussion until this week. We will be resuming discussion possibly this week. And if you could go to the next slide. There’s another bill that will be brought to the table this week. Not sure of the number yet because it hasn’t officially been released. But it’s concerning the board of trustees and undergraduate student government and in regards to concealed carry. There are two therefore be resolved clauses. One is that the undergraduate student governments encourage the board of trustees make themselves available to student feedback on Ohio House Bill 48. The second one is therefore be it further resolved that undergraduate student government collects quantitative data on the opinions of the undergraduate student body prior to it taking an official stance. Is there anything you’d like to add Khaled? (...)

“So at this point we’re going to open it up for questions first if anyone has any questions about any of these bills, about House Bill 48, any of the logistics of this. We’ll answer any questions and then after we answer questions we’ll allow people to give their opinions, give their thoughts. We just ask that you keep things relatively brief.

“Just remember that the opinions that you give should not be in response to other opinions. This is more of a forum than a debate and it should not become a debate. If it does then we’ll obviously stop.

“To add this real quick, Khaled and I will both be available after this meeting if you would like to talk to us separately about it.”

“So are there any questions?”

Q: “Regarding the first bill, has there been any data collected so far about how the students feel about this bill or is it just this bill was proposed and that it was going to be voted on without much consideration first?”

A: "So that's kind of a tricky question. There have been some polls that individual senators and various student government people have done on their personal Twitter or Facebook pages, stuff like that. But the problems with those polls is that they are open for non-UC students to vote in them. You don't really have control on that population so it's not a random sample. Other than that, there's been no formal ways to gather feedback from students. As I mentioned before, there were many students that came and sat in the gallery at senate and had a chance to speak about their thoughts on the issue"

Q: "Have you got any indication that the board of trustees will consider this issue?"

A: "That's a very good question. So Tom Cassidy, who's the chairman of the board of trustees, in an interview with the Cincinnati Enquirer about the middle or maybe end of December, indicated that he was not planning on bringing this discussion forward with the board of trustees, which essentially means that the law, or, uh, rule of campus that concealed carry is not allowed will essentially stay into effect."

"Any other questions?"

"Okay, so now we're going to move onto the opinion forum based portion of this. Tim and I will walk microphones to you. Just raise your hand and John will be able to call on you."

"Who has opinions on the subject?"

"Please." "I'm sure one of you has one."

"So, um, I have some statistics from the National Crime Prevention Research Center. Basically showing that between 1950 and July 2016, 94% of all mass shootings occurred in gun-free zones. This number is trending slightly down. Between 1998 and 2015, or the end of 2015, 96.2% occurred in gun-free zones. And then, uh, what's the last one. Between January 2009 and July 2014, 92% occurred in gun free zones. It is a slight trend down, but it's still a very significant amount. The other statistic I have is from Info (...), is a non-profit organization I believe. I'll look after we're done. Also from CNN, the Denver Post, News Mag, and what that said is basically that the average number of people killed when police stop the shooting was 14.29. And then when a civilian stopped the shooting it was 2.33. So I just wanted to give that information to you. And you're free to look those up. They're available online."

"Anyone else?"

"So it's our job as senators to try to represent you as best as possible."

"The second amendment is a right that every American has and it is a right that you have both in your home and out in the public, and just because our home is transferred from our parents' home or our own homes to an on campus apartment or an apartment nearby doesn't mean that we should have to sacrifice that right to defend ourselves from someone who would like to take our life or harm us in any way."

“Thank you.”

“So I think that we ought to be concerned about mass shootings, but I think that the danger of having armed people on a college campus isn’t the (...) in a mass shooting. I understand that (...) people in a mass shooting and they try to stop it and shoot someone else on accident. College students aren’t trained police officers and I don’t want them trying to protect me.”

“Thank you. Yes?”

“I just think that if someone were trying to bring a gun onto campus and shoot people that the rules saying they cant bring a gun isn’t going to stop it. But they still could (...) someone who is trying to stop it.”

Q: “Has there been any consideration so far as to, could UC require further training of people who want to conceal carry? Would that be possible?”

A: “I honestly don’t know the answer to that question. My guess is no, I don’t think the University could have a separate concealed carry criteria from the state of Ohio. I don’t know if you know the answer to that Khaled?”

“My guess is that the university would follow concealed carry but put in precautionary measures. (...)”

Q: “Would we have to register concealed carry permits with the school?”

A: “Just so that everyone is clear about this. This has not been brought to the board of trustees. Details have not been worked out, so we don’t know. We don’t know whether that would be the case if the board of trustees were to allow concealed carry. That would be another conversation of the board.”

Q: “How many schools nationwide have done things like this?”

A: “So eight states allow you to have concealed carry on campus at public universities. In those states, I’m honestly not sure how many of them. I know all of them have at least one. I’m not sure of the numbers on those. Private universities also reserve the right to allow concealed carry on campus. I know Hillsdale College in Michigan has concealed carry on campus. Other than that, I don’t really know.”

“Yeah, I just have some more information about concealed carry to offer. Nationwide there are 14 million concealed carry licenses that are currently active as of the end of 2016, which equates to just under 5% of the total population. And that population also trends a lot older, it’s not your 21 to 30 crowd, it’s generally your 30 to 40 plus. (...) it’s not like there are six or seven thousand UC students with active concealed carry licenses waiting to bring guns on campus. There’s also mandatory eight hour training. That’s how you go

through getting your concealed carry license. Six of which is range time with a gun, making sure you know how to operate a firearm. There's also two hours of training in the classroom. Knowing where to target, when and when not to shoot. A concealed carry license isn't something you just walk into a local gun shop and get one. It costs money. It must be renewed every five years. And there is training that goes with it. Just to make sure that's clear for everyone."

"Thank you."

Q: "So if this were to get senate support, what do you think the odds are that it would be approved by the university?"

A: "After having conversations with the student body president with the undergraduate student trustee and someone else who has had many one on one conversations with many board members, I think the chances of this being brought up by the board of trustees with just a resolution bill from senate are very slim to none. I will say that if you do have strong feelings about this either way, I would recommend you getting in contact with Mitchell Phelps who is the student body president. He is basically the undergraduate students' direct line of contact with the board of trustees. He can put you in contact with the right people to make sure your voice and opinion on this topic actually gets heard. I do know that all of the board of trustees members are very open to hearing student feedback about anything and that I would imagine if enough students approach them either way about this bill they would consider bringing this up in conversation."

"So building off of what someone before had said about the required training for getting your CCW. Someone that is looking to perform a mass shooting or to just injure someone else isn't going to go through the trouble of getting their CCW because then they're put into a national registry and people will know they have that gun. If they really want to do something like that, they're not going to go the legal route as is, so there's no reason that proposing a CCW, or allowing CCWs on campuses would increase the risk of someone performing a mass shooting."

"Anyone else? Yes?"

"I think that allowing concealed carry on campus would make many students feel uncomfortable or unsafe, knowing that there are people or students in their classrooms or that they interact with everyday that have concealed weapons on them."

"Anyone else?"

"I expect the senate will send out a survey which has a limited number of questions and the survey will be unbiased so that everyone has a chance to voice an opinion without being judged in front of a crowd."

"Sorry, did you ask if that was going to happen or if it has happened?"

“No, I am asking for a survey to be sent out before you represent the entire student body for the bill in front of the board of trustees and let that be legitimized.”

“Yeah, okay, so that is something student government is looking into. The hardest part about any kind of student blind survey is really just ensuring it is a random survey and provides legitimate data to it, and also has a qualitative and quantitative aspect to it. But yeah, that is definitely something student government is looking into. And the university administration may also be looking into that as well. I’m not sure.”

“Any survey that is to be officially used, for like research kind of thing, related to big university decisions has to go through an office. I forget what it’s called, there’s an acronym, but essentially it takes a little bit to get surveys like that approved because as you say, you have to make sure they’re unbiased and things like that. So I don’t know if they’re taking it truly into account. But if they were to do something like that, it would be through an office of that nature. And get approved by people who make sure it is unbiased.”

“Please put that into consideration. It is what I expect.”

“Any other questions, opinions, suggestions?”

“Alright, thank you very much.”