



ANNUAL REPORT



2014-2015

The Year at a Glance



Alessandria San Roman
Student Government President

This year's Student Government (SG) board commenced the term with one goal in mind: Unite the U. This idea was not a project that could be accomplished with a handful of individuals. Instead, it was and continues to be a movement propelled forward with the help of over 11,000 students in conjunction with campus administration, faculty and staff. We envisioned that if we can facilitate connections between groups who normally would not be given the opportunity to work together, then we could initiate a campus wide movement to unite our university. Through this undertaking, we have been able to strengthen the SG presence on our campus by listening to student suggestions and translating them into action.

Within SG, Executive at Large-Internal Daniela Lorenzo instilled these ideas through our monthly #SGAtTheRat events, our annual SG wide retreat, and numerous service days. Equipped to spread our message, SG members connected with campus life and addressed student concerns. Executive at Large-External Brittany Stephenson and the U-Outreach team planned campus programming events such as our bi-annual SG Awareness Week, an evening with David Coleman ("The Dating Doctor") to promote self-confidence, Spring Kickoff, and study breaks.

Director of Communications Julie Earl kept students informed on our goals and initiatives through our #UMStudGov campaign. This rebranding made SG easily identifiable amongst the campus community. Speaker of the Senate Brianna Hathaway and Speaker Pro Tempore Ishtpreet Singh empowered Senators to better engage their constituencies. Events such as Find Your Senator and periodic tabling for suggestions demonstrated areas that needed improvement. SG alongside administration created a sexual assault PSA video, worked to install lights on gliders, implemented Smart Meals to foster relationships between students and professors, and passed bills to ensure students were informed about on-going campus construction projects.

Vice President William Herrera and the Freshman Leadership Council (FLC) successfully completed nearly all of their projects while developing the group's leadership skills. By conducting surveys and finding solutions, FLC implemented projects including shuttles to Wynwood Art Walk, commuter and resident programming, improved cycling safety resources, and Suite Week. Treasurer Dariel Fagundo brought back the use of TIPAC to help fund new SG pilot programs.

Executive Secretary Ryan Donahue took on extra responsibilities and set the groundwork for next year's first ever Sustainability Scholarship Competition.

Chief of Staff Jesus Melendez led the Campus Liaison Council (CLC) in further strengthening relationships with administration while executing more projects than ever before. Jesus played a vital role in completing Sebastian's Closet and free Metrorail passes for students enrolled in classes at the medical campus.

Elections Commission Chair Aqeel Khanani and his team revamped the SG Election Codes and increased voter turnout with 2,926 votes casted in the spring election. Elections Commission and Supreme Court Chief Justice Richey Fraga oversaw the elections violation process. During his tenure, Richey has never had to conduct violation trials, a feat few if any Chief Justices have been able to accomplish. Additionally, the Constitutional Review Committee was enacted this year and has been able to fix discrepancies within our own constitution.

Category 5 Chair Shelly Morse fought to take our spirit programming board to new heights working alongside the Athletics Department to continue new and old traditions on campus. Energy Conservation Organization (ECO) Chair Benjamin Slavin witnessed numerous green changes at the U while spreading conservation awareness to students.

I am proud to say that SG has been able to work together to generate positive change. Our success in great part derived from the relentless support of UM administration especially Vice President for Student Affairs Dr. Patricia Whitely. Furthermore, our advisors Dean Hall, Brandon Gross, and Heather Stevens have been instrumental in our achievements.

As we complete our term, I look forward to hearing the accomplishments of the "For U" ticket. I am confident that Brianna Hathaway, Ishtpreet Singh, and Robert Renfro will continue the movement and enhance student life at the University of Miami.

Go Canes!

Alessandria San Roman
Student Government President



Table of Contents

Letter from the President.....	1
Forward Letter.....	5
Executive Board Projects	7
U Outreach Committee.....	8
Freshman Leadership Council	9
Senate Report	11
Academic Affairs	11
Public Relations	11
Policy and Finance	12
University Affairs	12
Supreme Court Report	13
Elections Commission	14
Category 5	15
Energy and Conservation Organization (ECO) Report	17
Campus Liaison Council	19
External Appointments	21
Financial Report	22





Daniela Lorenzo
Student Government,
Executive-at-Large
Internal

On behalf of Student Government, I would like to thank you for reading our Annual Report. We are honored and excited to be able to share with students and administrators all that SG has accomplished this year!

Our goal through this report is to answer the question we often hear: “what has Student Government done?” In the pages to follow, we hope to address that question and provide you with a detailed account of all that Student Government has been a part of this year to better our UM community. Through this report, we also hope to expand upon the annual reports that came before and provide written documentation that will aid those that come after us. It is our goal that future Student Government administrations utilize this as a way to expand upon initiatives and know the issues that have already been addressed as well as their successes, logistics and failures.

We hope you enjoy reading about all of the amazing things our organization has done in order to better the University of Miami student experience. We look forward to working with and hearing from you in the years to come! Our office, located in the Student Activity Center Suite 210, is always open to you and we encourage your participation and feedback.

Sincerely,

Daniela Lorenzo
Executive-at-Large Internal

Go Canes!



Executive Board

The Executive Branch of Student Government works with administrators to create and put into effect new initiatives and ideas on campus. The President, Vice President, Treasurer, Chief of Staff, Executive Secretary, Executive-at-Large Internal and External, and the Director of Communications compose the Executive Branch.



Projects

Completed

- Smoke-free campus awareness
- Bike racks, Bike pump stations
- Financial literacy class for daily money management
- Improving mental health awareness
- Free Metrorail passes for students taking classes in the Med Campus
- SG Gives Back
- Commuter and Resident Programming
- Suite Week
- Shuttles to Wynwood Art Walk
- Guest Passes to Pool
- Pep Rally Tradition
- Academic Calendar View
- Removal of last 40 in house credit requirements
- Plus One Scholarship
- Sebastian's Closet for business attire lending program

In Progress (Expected Next Year)

- Free appetizer at the Rat on 21st Birthday (Club 21)
- Sustainability Scholarship competitions
- Food to U delivery
- Bigger mirrors in Pavia Garage
- Dining hall capacity trackers
- Fresh produce kits pick-up option
- San Amaro safety
- Red parking lot safety
- Vegetarian dining analysis of food options
- Snapchat campus filter

In Progress (Expected in the long term)

- Tuition lock in
- Test prep courses for credit
- Enhanced UV food option
- Parking Scholarships
- Stacks capacity trackers
- Renew the Rivalry

U Outreach Committee

The goal of the Student Government U Outreach Committee is to support students, collaborate with organizations and reach out the student body through campus-wide programs. The Executive-at-large External, Brittany Stephenson, leads the U Outreach committee. It is composed of the Marketing Coordinator(Nicole Katz), the Outreach committee (Vikesh Patel), the Logistics Coordinator (Beja Turner) and the Graphic Design Coordinator (Gianna Balasco).

Fall

- SG Awareness Week
 - A speaker series under the theme of health and wellness
 - Highlighted all branches and agencies of SG
- Speaker David Coleman
 - The Dating Doctor (Inspiration of movie "Hitch")
 - Had 300 students in attendance
- Veterans Awareness program in conjunction with Student Affairs and Veteran Students Organization (VSO)



Spring

- Spring Kickoff
 - Annual celebration at the start of spring semester
- SG Awareness Week
 - Highlighted branches and agencies of SG through various campus events
- Suite "Sweet" Week
 - Fostered relationships within the student organization suites
 - Students visited each suite, met the student leaders, and enjoyed great desserts
- SG Address Social Media Campaign
 - Created segments of SG members speaking about initiatives accomplished
 - One video released everyday and received over 500 views and comments
- SG State of the U
 - Informed students of the university campus climate
 - Also addressed the programs and initiatives currently being worked on and in progress.



Freshman Leadership Council

The second Freshman Leadership Council (FLC) focused on team building. The members worked with SG branches and agencies, student organizations and campus administration to accomplish projects. The addition of the Leadership Facilitator position established bi-weekly meetings for the group to work on team building skills and gain valuable tools for the remainder of their time on campus. The FLC took on 10 projects this year' completed 7 projects, and worked on the foundation for the remaining 3. The FLC members have a bright future ahead of them.

Freshman Leadership Council Structure

William Herrera – Vice President
 Adrianna Ortega & Ashley Pittaluga – Project Coordinators
 Aalekhya Reddam – Leadership Facilitator

Freshman Members

Alexis Musick & Andrew Weinstock – Fresh Produce Pick-Up Option on Campus
 Leanne Alshefski & Keion Farmer – Suite Week
 Catalina Avila & Ryan Berkun – Shuttles to Wynwood
 Adrian Nunez & Gabriel San Roman – Commuter and Resident Programming
 Mia Lam & Gavin Grieb – Improved Cycling Safety Resources
 Alani Fraga & Yash Soni – Dining Hall and Stacks Capacity Tracker
 Chika Gbenoba & Coleman Reardon – Common Hour
 John-Patrick Becerril & Siobahn Prasad – Canes Fan Database
 Meghana Jami & Cody Edelenbos – Food to U
 Alexandra Lacouture & Jennifer Cooke– Food Option by Panhellenic



Projects

Fresh Produce Pick-Up Option: The team worked with UM Dining to implement fresh produce options in the dining hall. They also explored having an external vendor to make the Farmers market a delivery site for the vendor's produce where students can purchase and pick up packages

Suite Week: The team collaborated with the U Outreach committee to plan and host an event in the SAC organization suites to unite student organizations and create awareness to students of their mission. Suite Week occurred on Thursday, February 19th, 2015.



Shuttles to Wynwood: The team worked with CLC and parking and transportation to implement a shuttle ride for all students to Wynwood on the first Saturday of every month during the Wynwood Art Walk. The shuttle was in service on April 11, 2015 for the first time.

Commuter and Resident Programming: The team planned and hosted an event that brought together commuter students and residents. The event was called the "UMazing Race", which created teams comprised of both groups. At the conclusion of the event, dinner was served to all the participants. The event took place on April 4, 2015.

Improved Cycling Safety Resources: The team along with Facilities and UMPD resolved to improve cycling safety on campus and implement new bike racks in new parts of campus. The team continues to work with UMPD to implement new safety resources.

Stacks and Dining Hall Capacity Tracker: The team collaborated with the library, and dining, to implement capacity trackers that would inform students of wait times in the dining hall and the remaining spots open in the Stacks.

Common Hour: The team endeavored to bring back the common hour on campus. Common hour is an hour in the middle of the day in which no classes are scheduled. This allows student organizations to plan events and allows students to attend those events without missing class

Food to U: This initiative aimed to bring an on-campus food delivery service to students. The food runners would be students who worked at any on campus restaurants and delivered food to students at any place on campus.

Canes Fan Database: This initiative sought to create an online database for students, alumni, and fans to interact and find ways to meet at away games. The goal is to unite Canes fans at any and every sporting event.

Food Option by Panhellenic: The team worked with dining to implement a food option near the Panhellenic building. In the fall, there will be a food truck positioned in that area to provide students who spend their time there.

Senate

Every year, the University of Miami Senate strives to best represent the voices of students. Through the leadership of Speaker, Brianna Hathaway, Speaker Pro Tempore, Ishtpreet Singh, and the Council of Chairs, Senate used different methods such as “Facebook”, suggestion boxes and tabling to reach out to the students. Furthermore, they helped sponsor several organizational events. Senate’s hope was to explore initiatives that best encompassed student needs so that senators could do their jobs as student representatives. Even though the year is coming to a close, their jobs will not. Senate will continue to pursue and complete those initiatives that they have started and start new ones as they are addressed. As representatives of the student body, Senate truly believes that they can help create the UM that students desire and deserve.

Projects and Bills

Academic Affairs:

Chair: Tomas Cacicedo

Vice Chair: Sarah Betancourt

- Removing the 40 credit restriction: Imminent implementation, but currently planning logistics
- Links to UM rate my professor: in the plan for next CaneLink upgrade in coming months
- Expanding the Freshman Repeat Rule: under discussion in faculty senate.
- UM Fibs and facts and Cognate FAQ: being answered by faculty. Should be up by the fall

Public Relations:

Chair: Renee Perez

Vice Chair: Jelly Vanderwoude

- Find Your Senator
- Student UM improvements suggestion tabling at Greek Week
- Safe Ride advertisements on library computers
- Silence the Silence Campaign for Sexual Violence



Policy and Finance:Chair: Skip McClintonVice Chair Jeffrey Sznajstajler

- Cosponsorships with various UM organizations such as: IFC, Homecoming, Zeta Tau Alpha, Active Minds, Honor Council, Black Awareness Month, FEC, AASA, COISO, Planet Kreyol, NPHC, ACS, and AGLO

University Affairs:Chair: Justin GoldsmanVice Chair: Zoe Kafkes

- Created vegetarian/vegan panel
- Solar panels to add outlets and lights on gliders: in progress
- Working on better take out options with Chartwells
- Passed bill to keep SG informed about future UM construction projects



March 16 - 20

Supreme Court

The Supreme Court is the judicial branch of Student Government and is charged with upholding the provisions and powers of the Student Government Constitution and Statutes. Over the past year, Supreme Court has worked to clarify ambiguities in the Constitution by making sure that it is always up to date and free from error. It did this by enacting the Constitutional Revision Committee, which successfully cleaned up the documents. It has also been a resource to all Student Government members on procedural and statutory matters. Justices worked closely with the Elections Commission, to update the Elections Codes and oversaw one of the most successful elections in our organization's history. Over the next year, the Supreme Court will continue to be a resource to all of SG and will work to find ways to improve its overall internal procedures. It is the Supreme Court's hope that through the collaboration with all the other branches and agencies, it will help strengthen our organization and make it more efficient and transparent for the student body.

Supreme Court Justices

Ricardo Fraga (Chief Justice)

Alexandra Hussey (Associate Chief Justice)

Perihan Elbadrawi

Andreana Cunningham

David Young

Parthik Patel

Tyler Deutsch

Matthew Stankard

Devin Fitzgerald



Elections Commission

The purpose of the Student Government Elections Commission is to organize and coordinate all aspects of the spring and fall Student Government elections. The duties of Elections Commission are to review and approve all SG applications and campaign materials, to enforce elections codes, to plan and organize elections events including Meet the Candidates and Executive Ticket debates, and to present all violations to Trial Court for hearings. In addition, the Elections Commission determines the polling times and locations, oversees polling sites, tabulates all votes, and announces elections results.

Summary

Fall Elections: Fall elections ran smoothly and efficiently. This led to the successful election of several new senators to their respective offices.

Spring Elections: This year, the Spring Student Government Elections was a huge success. There was an historic voting turnout, with a 50% increase from last spring's turnout. In total, 2,926 students voted in this spring's elections. In addition to tabling at the Breezeway, the Elections Commission also tabled in the Freshmen Dining Halls in order to increase freshmen involvement in the voting process. In terms of increasing candidate exposure, the Elections Commission held three Meet the Candidate events, which took place on the Hecht-Stanford Bridge, the Food Court, and the Rat. Both tickets running for the Executive Office took part in a debate on the Patio, which had a tremendous student turnout.

Commissioners

Aqeel Khanani (Chair)
 Kush Panara (Vice
 Chair)
 Jullian Cockerell
 Areeb Anzar
 Jeremy Penn
 Fuyuan Xie
 Keenan Kros
 Vishal Lakshmanan
 Stephen O'Connell



Category 5

Category 5 is the Spirit Programming Board focused on preserving and implementing spirit and traditions relating to our Division 1 sports teams at the University of Miami. It represents the student body by acting as the link between the Athletic Department and the students. Category 5 focuses on enhancing in-game experiences for students to promote love of Alma Mater and cultivate supportive and notable student sections. Through student-to-student communication, giveaways, away trips, watch parties, and events hosted in conjunction with Athletics, Category 5 aims to foster an infectious culture within the student body dedicated to supporting our Miami Hurricanes.



Projects

Football

- Co-programmed with FYE and AGLO to host one of the largest watch parties for the first away game of the year against Louisville.
- Experienced ongoing success with fanzones at each home games.
- Hosted successful watch parties at the Rathskeller for the away games against Virginia Tech and Nebraska
- Sold out the Away Trip to Georgia Tech taking nearly 100 students to Atlanta for the weekend.
- Hosted a pep rally, inspiring rivalry for the UM vs. FSU game featuring guest speakers President Donna Shalala, Jennifer Strawley, and Octavia Blue.



Basketball

- Gave out some amazing giveaways such as orange Santa hats that were utilized by the student section throughout the entire season.
- Held our most successful campout yet for our home game against North Carolina with a record number of people sleeping out on Larrañaga's Lawn.
- There were also numerous watch parties held for basketball.

Baseball

- Milkshake and t-shirts giveaways at multiple series during the season.
- Continued Freshman Walk and Senior Walk to baseball season having successful events for each and preparing the tradition to continue on next year.

Olympic Sports

- Hosted multiple successful events regards to our Olympic Sports,

Volleyball

- Hosted a cookout with t-shirt, donut, and sock giveaways.

Soccer

- Hosted a Chipotle giveaway at a soccer game and a tank top giveaway for track and field, also supporting the team through tabling on the patio.

Traditions

- Continues the Tunnel Crew's tradition.
- Maintains the smoke in the student sections of both football and basketball games.

Other Programs

- Alma Mater shirt giveaway during Homecoming
- Co-programmed speaker event with Iron Arrow and Student Government "My U: The Impact My Alma Mater Had on Me"
- Participated in Orange Festival
- A tie-dye and cupcake event with HP
- UNITED WAY Flick Football Tournament
- Partnered with the Alumni Association for the University of Miami's 90th Charter Anniversary Week.

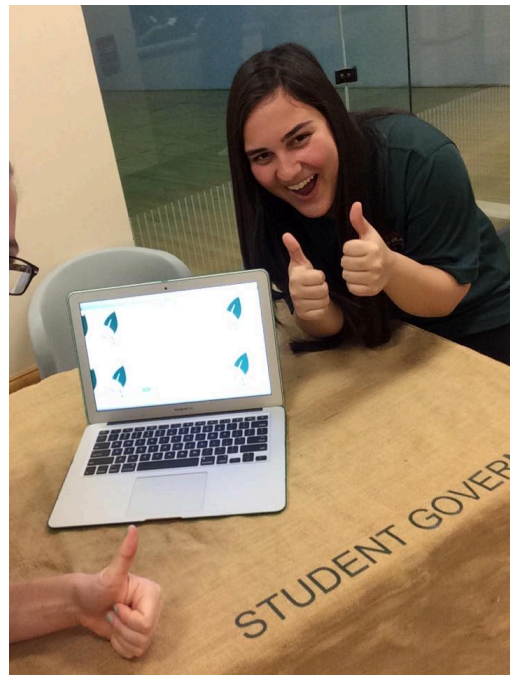


Energy Conservation Organization

The Energy and Conservation Organization (ECO) is the newest and greenest agency of Student Government. Our mission is to create a cultural change on campus in the realm of environmental stewardship as well as reduce the campus carbon footprint. Our goal is to develop the University of Miami to be as sustainable as possible, keeping in mind that the city of Miami is the second most vulnerable city in the world for sea level rise. This can be accomplished by enhancing the campus' green initiatives in food, transportation, energy, waste, recycling, etc. while building campus-wide efforts for sustainable behavioral practices in partnership with Green U and administration's branch of Sustainability.

Projects

1. Solar PV System: A 20kW solar array to be installed on the top of the food court facing the SAC scheduled to be completed before July 14th. Will offset up to 35% of the Food Court's power consumption.
2. Lake Signage: This project is to place 6 permanent nature trail signs educating the student body about the nature of Lake Osceola.
3. Website (greenschoolalliance.com): A nationwide network of ECO-type organizations sharing ideas and proposals allowing ECO and UM to have a nationwide impact. Predicted to be complete by the end of 2015
4. Laundry Signage in Housing: Permanent signage to be hung in all of the laundry rooms on campus educating students about the advantage of using the "color" setting on the washer machines as well as cold water to save energy.
5. Campus wide Recycling Signage: ECO sponsored the brand new trash and recycling wraps that are now all over campus including in the SAC, UC, and Food Court.
6. Greek Standards: ECO's events, including our Earth Week on April 13th-17th, are official Greek Standard events so that members can earn points by attending and participating in our events.



7. Shower heads overhaul: Wellness has agreed to change ALL of the women's shower heads to the 1.8 gallons/min and will look to do so for the men's locker room in the fall
8. ReUse: ReUse is when members of the campus community can donate or take any goods that they would like. At the end of the day, all remaining goods are donated to Goodwill.
9. Earth Week: ECO has been working passionately to put on the best version of their signature event. An enormous amount of student orgs, on campus departments, as well as outside companies including Tesla, Coca Cola, and Waste Management are a part of this event.
10. Basketball Recycling Video: ECO worked with Athletics to create a 30 second recycling spot featuring the UM basketball team and Sebastian. The video played at the UNC game last weekend. ECO aims to get it sent out in an email blast from Athletics.
11. Sustainability Course for UMX: The course will educate every single new member of this campus about Single Stream recycling, ECO, and how UM and Green U are being sustainable with a quick and fun lesson.
12. Tree Campus USA: The application to certify UM as a Tree Campus USA campus was accepted for 2014! We are all very excited about this huge honor!



Campus Liaison Council

The 2014-2015 Campus Liaison Council (CLC) further exemplified the effectiveness of streamlining communication between campus departments and Student Government this year. In conjunction with the ideals of the “Unite the U” ticket, this year’s board fulfilled its main goal – collaborating more closely with other branches within Student Government in order to create a more unified organizational culture. By working closely with the Senate Branch, The UOutreach Committee, and the Freshman Leadership Council (FLC), the CLC was able to provide a level of connectedness within our organization that truly made for an outstanding year.

Committees and Projects

Dining and Auxiliary Services Liaisons: Rylee Bowles and Nika Hosseini

- Worked closely with the FLC on implementing the “Food to U” initiative. A pilot program is scheduled for the fall.
- Our Auxiliary Liaisons also worked on the creation of a focus group alongside Senate to assess the necessity for better Vegetarian options on our campus. Enhanced food options for vegetarian students have and will continue to be implemented in the residential dining halls.



Campus Facilities and Security Liaisons: Ali Khan and Virali Shah

- Worked with the Office of Facilities Management to fully implement bicycle racks throughout the Student Center Complex and Residential College Areas
- Toured the campus with university administrators to address lighting and safety concerns; these tours resulted in the installations of more light fixtures
- The liaisons worked with UMPD updating the Blue Light system to be incorporated into a smartphone application. The result was “UGuardian”, an app that allows students to communicate with UMPD.
- Worked with Senate to pass a bill to install electrical charging stations on various gliders throughout our campus to provide students with more areas that were conducive to studying.

Information Technology Liaisons: Tejas Jain and Bernardo Berges

- Focused on executing the Academic Calendar, which now gives students access to the University’s Academic Calendar on their Outlook accounts.
- Our liaisons also met regularly with the rest of the IT department to address Wi-Fi, printing and other technology issues throughout the year.
- At the end of the spring semester, a survey was released to the student body to further evaluate current technology options available to students and to acquire student feedback on services that needed to be improved upon.

Library Liaisons: Lauren Spiegel and Esha Vallabhaneni

- Publicized services and programs offered by UM's Richter Library. Such as the "Edible Book Festival" where the liaisons played a role in execution and publicity.
- In addition to meeting regularly with the Library's new Dean, the liaisons also collaborated closely with the department's redesign team to provide input on how to enhance the library facility for our students.
- A new learning commons will be developed in Richter as well as a refurbishment of the entire first floor of Richter.

Parking and Transportation Liaisons: Quinlan Kasal and Lauren Rodriguez

- Disseminated a survey in the early fall semester to inquire about shuttle efficiency throughout campus.
- The liaisons collaborated with the FLC to implement a new shuttle stop at Wynwood to provide students access to this destination.
- The parking liaisons completed their proposal for the "Bike Share" program that creates a campus-wide bike rental service. This project will be implemented during the next academic cycle.

Health and Wellness Liaisons: Suvetha Ravichandran and Mary Ann Hernando

- One of our liaisons sat on the Department of Wellness and Recreation Advisory Board and worked with Wellness Center officials to improve the overall student experience at this facility.
- The liaisons facilitated a dialogue between the Student Health Center, the Wellness Center, and our Student Government to ensure that all entities were aware of the projects and initiatives that each were working on.



External Appointments

Academic Affairs Committee of the Board of Trustees

Ashley Pittaluga served as the student representative on the Board of Trustees Academic Affairs Committee.

Student Affairs Committee of the Board of Trustees

Sarah Potter served as the representative on the Student Affairs Committee. This committee meets once a semester to determine major changes that would affect the general student body.

Faculty Senate Representatives

Nick Kaleel, Luis Mejia, Kristin Cilluffo and Justin Goldman served as the representatives. The faculty senate representatives aimed to strengthen the relationship between the faculty members as well as student leaders and organizations.

Building and Grounds Committee Representative

Ali Khan served as the representative on this committee.

Department of Wellness and Recreation Advisory Board Representative

Suvetha Ravichandran served as the representative on this advisory board.

Student Board of Publications Representative

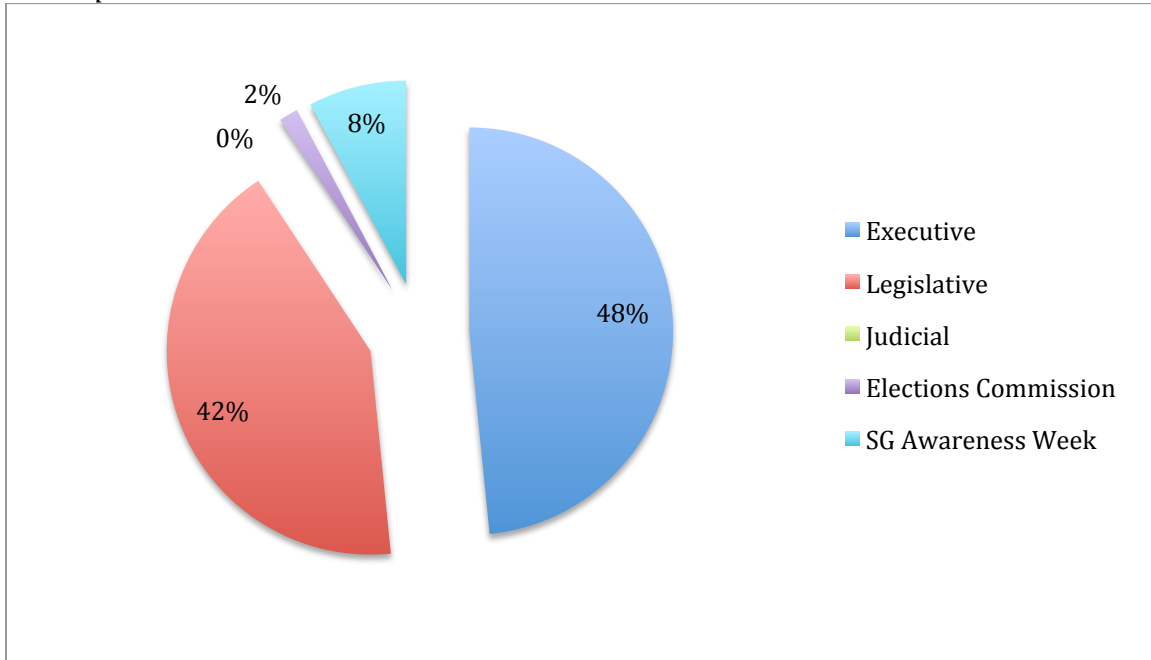
Julie Earl served as the representative on the Student Board of Publications.



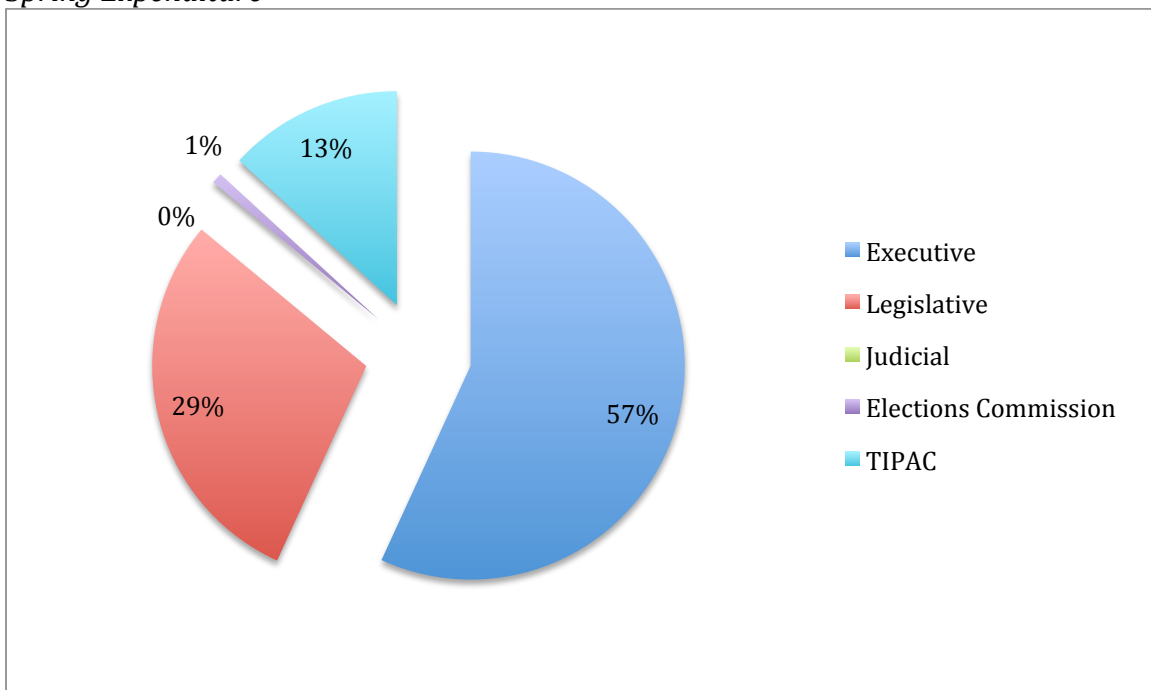
Financial Report

The Student Government members are elected officials that represent the student body, and it is our goal to only spend money on events and initiatives that fall under our mission statement

Fall Expenditure



Spring Expenditure





1330 Miller Drive, Suite 210
Coral Gables, FL 33146

Phone: 305-284-3083

www.miami.edu/SG

Facebook, Twitter & Instagram: UMiamiSG

