

Student Government Association
Transparency Report
Fall Quarter 2018

PR Contact: Katy Bozich, kbozich@depaul.edu

Academic Affairs

Contact: EVP of Academic Affairs, Lucy Norton, lnorton2@depaul.edu

Individual Initiatives and Accomplishments

- Talked with Eric Koester about a book writing program
 - Wanted students to be published authors
 - \$3K book publishing cost per student
 - Potential partnership with the Writing Center, Writer's Block, Director of WRD
- Alex Nowak & Bill Novak - speed reading workshop
 - Weekly workshop for students to improve speed reading, memory techniques, and comprehension
 - \$2K for a group 90 minute session
 - Partnership with office of academic advising
 - First year academic success program
- Scott Walter - contact for student survey around textbook affordability issues
 - Emailing back and forth
 - We plan to meet when the survey results are in
- Annual Fall Forum Committee
 - Katy and Jakob promoted event on social media
 - Assisted in finding presenters and planning event
- Set up a meeting with Office of the Provost in winter quarter
- Senators
 - Met 1:1 with all senators to develop initiatives and determine next steps
 - Transitioned Edwin out of his role and AJ as the new Senator for the Business School
 - Planning a bonding event winter quarter for my committee

The Senators

- Senator for the College of Science and Health: Claire Kaczanowski
 - STI testing on campus- determine provider
 - Bystander intervention video
- Senator for the Theatre School: Kelsee Avery
 - Meet and Greet at TTS and CDM
- Senator for the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences: Elena Rangai
 - Get LSAT prep on campus
 - Mentorship program
 - Diversity in the media event
- Senator for the College of Communication: Landon Campbell
 - Agency tours
 - Alumni feminars
 - Senior/freshman mentorship
- Senator for the College of Computing and Digital Media: Luciana Mendez Gonzalez
 - Cooking Mama event happening Winter Quarter
 - Collaborating with Computer Science Society
 - Collaborating with Senator for Sustainability and Senator for Third Year Students on sustainability initiatives in CDM and Earth Week
- Senator for the College of Business: Anthony Rucker
 - Setting up panel/round table discussion with all leaders of the business clubs
- Senator for the College of Education: Misael Alejandre
 - Working on putting together an event with teachers from Chicagoland area to meet with current College of Education students
 - Event happening in April
 - Increasing transparency and visibility of College of Education scholarship opportunities

Diversity and Equity

Contact: EVP of Diversity and Equity, Gisselle Cervantes, gcervan3@depaul.edu

Individual Initiatives and Accomplishments

- Making the excused absence form more accessible to low-income students and students facing mental health challenges
 - Met with Dean of Students, Ellen Fingado, to discuss making the form more substantive and possibly removing the requirement for documentation to submit the form.
 - Ellen Fingado says she will begin to draft a form based on the conversation and ask for input on it.
- Gathered a group of SGA members to help the Office of Institutional Diversity and Equity pilot a student version of the existing BUILD program, which is a Diversity Competency Training.
 - The process will begin early Winter quarter
- Planned (with the help of Emily and Nahal) and executed an SGA Service Day that consisted of a donation drive for Deborah's Place, a women's shelter.
 - The event was very successful, with meaningful reflection post-event by SGA members and a substantial donation to Deborah's Place

External Representation

This school year, Gisselle, serves on the Speaker Review Board, Commencement Student Speaker Committee, Sexual Relationship Violence Response and Prevention Working Group, Undocumented Student Working Group, and the IL Equity and Attainment Initiative Student Advisory Board.

Collaborations

- Collaborating with the Senator for Intercultural Awareness, Tyler Frazier, to incorporate implicit bias trainings into the current CQM training.
 - Met with the CQM Coordinator and Tyler is in the process of drafting a proposal.
- Working with the Senator for First Year Students, Maya Tersigni, to plan a "World of Culture" event that showcases different cultural traditions such as food and clothing at a university wide event.
 - We are aiming for spring quarter, particularly April.

- Partnered with OIDE to help with the Dolores Huerta Breakfast by recruiting volunteers, inviting students to attend the breakfast, and delivering a speech about the mission and the university's commitment to diversity.

SGA Committees

- Created and co-chairing the committee for LGBTQ+ students
 - Working to change the signage for gender-neutral bathrooms to say "Gender Neutral" or "Unisex" rather than just "Family"
 - Working as a committee to create more sexual health and violence resources that are inclusive of different genders and sexualities
- Created and co-chairing the committee for Students with Disabilities
 - Has not formally met yet due to scheduling constraints
 - Hoping to partner with the Center for Students with Disabilities to make resources more visible to students and address policies/facilities that may not be inclusive
- Co-chairing the Drug Policy committee, which has succeeded in working with SSDP, Student Affairs, and the Student Care Team in bringing Narcan to campus, a drug that can save the life of individuals experiencing an opioid overdose.
 - Will continue our efforts by pushing for education around the issue of opioid abuse, and Shannon from HPW is on board with holistic drug education and is supporting us in ending the stigma around drug abuse.

Operations

Contact: EVP of Operations, Sophia Modzelewski, smodzele@depaul.edu

Individual Initiatives, Accomplishments and General Operations Update

- Behind the scenes, DePaul Operations has made many large scale improvements
 - Recent software improvements, especially in regards to Public Safety Working to promote how campus recycles and composts, sustainability is our focus
- Working to promote how campus recycles and composts
 - Sustainability is the focus
 - Increase the prominence of recycling clusters
- Vinnie Van ran for the entire duration of finals week

The Senators

- Senator for First Year Students: Maya Tersigni
 - Working with Chicago Coalition of Colleges and Universities (CCCU)
 - Heading a journalism endeavor to capture the needs of the average college student
 - She is working with Public Safety and Campus Rec to provide free self defense classes
 - Hosting an event in the spring called “The World of Culture” to increase multicultural spirit and connection on campus
- Senator for Second Year Students: Robbie Merkel
 - Wants to promote healthy habits for second year students
 - Connecting with HPW to promote healthy coping mechanisms rather than smoking
 - Finding outlets to bring forward healthy cooking skills and meals to recently independent students who are living in apartments
- Senator for Third Year Students: Alexis Pottebaum
 - Working to promote the needs of sexual assault survivors
- Senator for Fourth and Fifth Year Students: McKay Murphy
 - Looking to make sure the needs of graduating students are met
 - Find measures to support students who cannot afford the cost of graduation (caps and gowns)
 - Working to ensure that first generation and low income students are considered in the administrative process
- Senator for Sustainability: Kaitlyn Pike
 - Continuing to promote sustainability measures on campus

Student Affairs

Contact: EVP of Student Affairs, Hunter Gerard, hgerard@depaul.edu

Individual Initiatives and Accomplishments

- Attended the Illinois Student Sexual Misconduct Conference at the University of Chicago
- Helped plan the SGA/Wintrust game - an opportunity for students to learn more about careers in the professional sports world - including marketing, broadcasting, recruiting, and more - at a networking event held before the men's game against Butler University.
- Met with Senator for Intercultural Awareness, Tyler Frazier, and Gisselle, about implementing implicit bias training in CQM/OL spring training.
- Began planning the SGA Winter Quarter volunteer opportunity with The Night Ministry.

SGA Committees

- Committee on Drug Policy
 - Formed the CoDP alongside Gisselle as an official mechanism for SGA to partner with Students for Sensible Drug Policy and Roosevelt Institute to campaign in support of Naloxone access on campus.
 - Through a series of meetings with Shannon Suffoletto, Ellen Fingado, Gene Zdziarski, and others, the committee was able to shape DePaul's emerging Naloxone policy. As of the start of winter quarter 2019, Public Safety officers are trained in overdose prevention and Naloxone use, and will carry Naloxone on campus. It will also be stored in all residence halls for emergency access.

The Senators

- Senator for Community and Government Relations: Alyssa Isberto
 - CCCU - served as the DePaul representative at the Coalition of Chicago Colleges and Universities, helping establish their new charter, hosted their monthly meeting at the Loop Campus, and agreed to chair the Metra Discount committee.
 - Organized a group of DePaul SGA representatives to attend the Illinois Student Sexual Misconduct Conference, which culminated in the signing of an open letter to Illinois State Representatives in support of Illinois's current sexual assault policies in the wake of new guidances issued by the Department of Education.
 - Proposed a voter registration initiative to be instituted at all freshman and transfer student orientations. Meeting with NSFE more in the winter quarter to explore possibilities.

- Senator for Commuter Students: David

Mechura

- Working to build support at DePaul for a metra discount for college students, reducing the financial burden on students commuting to campus from the suburbs.
- Began meeting with Housing to explore the possibility of renting empty rooms to commuter students on a short-term basis during finals, allowing them to stay on campus for the week.
- Senator for Transfer Students: Jessica Hooper
 - Advocated for transfer student access to DePaul's new student coaching initiative - exploring further options in winter quarter, after the initial launch of the program.
 - Explored possibility for transfer student to access a first-year seminar, such as the Chicago Quarter.
- Senator for Veteran Students: Ilya Chupreta
 - Identified a non-voting representative from Veteran Services to represent veteran student's interests at all weekly meetings.

Treasury

Contact: Treasurer, Justin Fernandez, jferna39@depaul.edu

Budget Summary

This school year of 2018-2019, SGA was given a budget of \$16,048. Our main expenditures this quarter were in the area of *Promotional Materials* where we spent \$2,874.86. Items such as reusable straws and webcam covers fall under this area. The second highest expenditure area was in *Internal Affairs* where we spent \$586.06. Food items for our Cabinet and General Body retreats were the expenses of this category. The total amount of money spent in the Fall Quarter was \$3,460.92 with \$12,587.08.

Constitutional Revisions

Contact: Policy Advisor, Johnny Milas, jmilas@depaul.edu

Fall Quarter Constitutional Revisions

In the fall SGA voted on 10 Constitutional amendments. The majority of the amendments aimed to revise the syntax, grammar and flow of the document. This was done to ensure that the document is grammatically correct and responsibilities are clearly outlined. Another change was moving the voting date for the Senator for Transfer Students from the fall quarter to the spring quarter.

The most notable change made to the Constitution was the creation of the Senator for First Generation Students, proposed by the EVP of Diversity and Equity, Gisselle Cervantes. Since first generation students make up a significant population of students at DePaul a position was created to ensure that their needs are met.

Public Relations

Contact: PR Coordinator, Katy Bozich, kbozich@depaul.edu

- Posted #MeetSGA on Instagram and Facebook posts twice a week showcasing senators
 - Throughout winter break, will showcase cabinet and staff
- Utilized social media to present the work of SGA members throughout the quarter
- Assisted in editing SGA members' responses to campus and local media outlets

- Increasing transparency by creating transparency report documents at the end of each quarter

SGA Committees

While SGA members currently sit on these committees, any member of the DePaul community can join these committees

- Sexual Assault and Mental Health Committee
 - Chair: Katy Bozich
 - Co-Chair: Claire
- LGBTQA+ Student Committee
 - Chair: Gisselle Cervantes
- Students with Disabilities Committee
 - Chair: Gisselle Cervantes
- Drug Policy Committee
 - Chair: Hunter Gerard
 - Co-Chair: Gisselle Cervantes