

2019-2020
STUDENT ASSOCIATION
**MID-YEAR
REPORT**



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THANK YOU

We are so excited to share with you the work that the Student Association has accomplished over this past semester! In our efforts to improve the student experience, we have fought to prioritize affordability and minimize unnecessary costs by eliminating the Transcript Fee and increasing student laundry credits. We have worked to make GW more inclusive by advocating for more gender-neutral bathrooms and have helped increase the accessibility of health care services by pushing for a health center on the Mount Vernon campus and an expansion of weekend hours. Through the renovation of Potomac and Anniversary parks, as well as the installation of new furniture for the Marvin Center terrace and Mount Vernon quad, we have worked to maximize outdoor community space. We have also formed new committees and task forces that give students outside of the SA a platform to voice their concerns, such as the Anti-Semitism Task Force and Strategic Planning Task Force Advisory Board.

However, the achievement of these projects would not have been possible if it was not for the help of our campus partners. We know that it truly takes all of us working together to make a better GW. In particular, some of our closest partners have been the Division for Student Affairs, the Office of the CFO/EVP, The Store, GW Interfaith Council, and many more. We have not only found partners in these organizations, but with so many of you individually. Thank you to each of you who came to office hours, sat on an advisory board, attended a community forum, or even filled out a survey; it is your feedback and engagement that allows us to look beyond our own experiences and see the bigger picture of what the student body needs.

This semester, the Senate has passed a total of 77 pages of legislation, making up four resolutions and fourteen bills. Through our legislation, we have prioritized safety, food security, and the support of marginalized students. We have allocated \$258,712.91 to student organizations across GW in the form of co-sponsorships, helping to put on community and cultural events, professional development opportunities, and bring incredible speakers to campus.

Although we are proud of what has been accomplished so far, we know that there is so much more we hope to do this spring. We are eager to get to work and continue our efforts to better the student experience and to make this decade the best that GW has ever seen.

SJ Matthews
SA President

Amy Martin
SA Executive Vice President

SEMESTER OVERVIEW

JUNE

JULY

AUGUST

SEPTEMBER

OCTOBER

CCAS Advising Improvements

Veteran Student Priority Registration

Blackboard Student Support Services

Know Your Rights Campaign

Adoption of Ranked-Choice Voting

Residential Student All-Tap

Marvin Third-Floor Terrace Furniture

Mount Vernon Quad Furniture

Website Updates

Student Resource Virtual Hub

\$10,000 Allocated to The Store

Black Student Community Forum

SORC Reusable Goods Program

Black Senators Caucus Formation

Title IX Guidebook and Letter

Anniversary Park Renovation

Active Shooter Protection

Colonial Health Center Improvements

MSSC Prayer Space Institutionalization

Expansion of Free Laundry Credits

National Coming Out Day Video

Potomac Park Remodel

SEMESTER OVERVIEW

OCTOBER

Colonial Moniker Task Force
Strategic Planning Advisory Board
Student Engagement Survey
Residence Hall Composting Program

NOVEMBER

Elimination of Transcript Fee
People for Periods Expansion
Jewish Student Community Forum
SA Feedback Reporting System
State of GW Town Hall
Vern Lighting Improvements
Anti-Semitism Task Force
Commuter Student Inclusion in Stars
Student Body Election Reform
Student Association WeChat Account
Finance ELS Sessions Accessibility
Graduate Student Town Hall

DECEMBER

\$40,000 ESME Student Scholarship
Gender Neutral Bathroom Construction
Service Drive for Homeless Veterans
ESIA Undergraduate Forum
First-Year Forum

JUNE

CCAS ACADEMIC ADVISING IMPROVEMENTS

Executive Initiative

Campus Partners: CCAS Advising Office, Office of the Deputy Provost

The Student Association partnered with the CCAS Academic Advising Office to help enhance the structure of CCAS advising. After the publication of our 2018 Academic Advising Report which illustrated that many CCAS students did not feel supported by the POD system of advising, the SA compiled the CCAS Advising Market Basket Report that proposed the adoption of an individual-based advising system and worked with CCAS to pilot this for POD 3. Starting in Fall 2019, this pilot program is being expanded to all PODs so that every CCAS student will now receive an assigned academic advisor.

VETERAN PRIORITY REGISTRATION

Jared Awner (Director of Veteran Student Affairs)

Campus Partner: Office of the Registrar

The Student Association passed The Veteran Student Prioritization Act (SR-S19-26) and worked with the Office of the Registrar to grant priority registration to veteran students. Being that veteran students only have 36 months to complete their degrees before their VA benefits expire, they are likely to incur a significant amount of debt or not graduate on time if they cannot register for the classes they need. Thus, priority registration is a crucial policy for supporting veteran students.

JULY

BLACKBOARD STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

Executive Initiative

Campus Partner: Division of Information Technology

Prior to this academic year, Student Support Services could be found at the very bottom of a student's Blackboard portal. This meant that if students did not know to look for these resources, they may miss them entirely. The Student Association partnered with the Division of Information Technologies to move the Student Support Services to the top of the portal in order to make student resources more obviously accessible to students alongside their courses.

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS CAMPAIGN

Executive Initiative, Drew Amstutz (Vice President for Public Affairs)

The Student Association utilized its ability to contact all students, faculty, and staff via email to ensure that the GW community was aware of their rights during a mid-summer announcement that ICE raids would occur in the DMV area and many other areas through the United States. The raids were understood to be targeted at the Latinx community, of which many in the GW community identify with. The email campaign was crafted in both English and Spanish and offered a multitude of resources -- at the University, local, and national level. This campaign reflects the Student Association's mission to promote resources that support our diverse campus population.

ADOPTION OF RANKED-CHOICE VOTING

Executive Initiative

Campus Partner: Division for Student Affairs

Ever since the passage of The Elections Reform Act of 2017 (SB-F17-05), it has been a priority of the Student Association to switch to a ranked-choice system of voting in student body elections. Working with the Division for Student Affairs to prepare the software via Engage, ranked-choice voting will finally be implemented for the upcoming 2020 election. Ranked-choice voting will allow for students to rank their candidate preferences on the ballot from most to least preferred, thus making elections more democratic and removing the need for runoff elections.

AUGUST

RESIDENTIAL STUDENT ALL-TAP ACCESS

Executive Initiative

Campus Partners: GW Housing

In partnership with GW Housing, the Student Association provided students with all-tap GWorld access. Starting in Fall 2019, all students living in residence halls were granted tap access into any residence hall on the Foggy Bottom and Mount Vernon campuses. This initiative helped to promote community and enhance the student experience within the residence halls.

MARVIN THIRD-FLOOR TERRACE FURNITURE

Executive Initiative

Campus Partners: Mark Diaz (CFO/EVP), Division of Operations

The Student Association worked with CFO and EVP Mark Diaz and the Division of Operations to purchase new furniture for the Marvin Center Third-floor terrace. The new furniture creates an updated community space for students to study, eat, and hang out.

MOUNT VERNON QUAD FURNITURE

Executive Initiative

Campus Partners: Division of Operations

The Student Association worked with the Division of Operations to add new outdoor furniture to the Mount Vernon Campus Quad. The new furniture creates more outdoor student space for students on the Mount Vernon campus. Students now use the furniture for studying, eating, hanging out, or waiting for the shuttle.

WEBSITE UPDATES

Drew Amstutz (Vice President for Public Affairs)

The Student Association made it a priority to update its website, featuring profiles of all student leaders, resources for student organizations, and a one-stop-shop for all SA public documents. The administration realized that its former website was not easy to navigate and lacked the resources that students and their organizations deserved. In addition to streamlining its digital presence, the SA worked to ensure that the website was visually accessible to all users. The SA leadership is committed to further investing in its web presence, in an effort to extend its resources to all students on all campuses.

STUDENT RESOURCES VIRTUAL HUB

Maggie O'Brien (Vice President for Graduate Student Policy),

Drew Amstutz (Vice President for Public Affairs)

Recognizing the need for a centralized platform for both undergraduate and graduate students to access their respective resources, the Student Association developed an online resource hub on our website. Students are now able to access a comprehensive list of both school-specific and GW-wide resources. This initiative helps to combine the cumulative knowledge of students from all areas of GW life and disseminate it to the student body.

SEPTEMBER

\$10,000 ALLOCATED TO THE STORE

Jake Corsi (CCAS-G Senator), George Glass (U-at-Large Senator)

Campus Partner: The Store

To help combat food insecurity on campus, the Student Association allocated \$10,000 to The Store. The Store is GW's food pantry, located in the basement of District House. Historically, The Store was rarely given allocations to help students on campus who are affected by food insecurity. But through the passage of The Food Insecurity Amendment (SB-F19-05), the Student Association provided The Store with \$10,000 to help them restock crucial supplies.

BLACK STUDENT COMMUNITY FORUM

Raina Hackett (CCAS-U Senator), Brandon Hill (CCAS-U Senator)

Student leaders within the Student Association held a community forum for black students following a racist snapchat which went viral within the GW community. This event allowed for opportunity within the black student community to express their sentiments on the event and the ways in which they experience racism on campus in a productive and safe space. This forum continued the dialogue surrounding racism on campus and allowed for student leaders within the SA to hear directly from their peers on the matter.

SORC REUSABLE GOODS RENTAL PROGRAM

Executive Initiative

As part of our goal to reduce the financial burden faced by student organizations, the Student Association expanded its Student Organization Resource Center (SORC) to include a durable goods rental program. Student organizations can now borrow over three dozen different types of reusable items (such as square card readers, cash boxes, and coffee makers) for free from the SORC to use at their events. The Student Association also launched an advertisement campaign to better spread awareness about the resources that the SORC offers.

BLACK SENATORS CAUCUS CREATION

Brandon Hill (CCAS-U Senator), Raina Hackett (CCAS-U Senator)

In order to support both the Student Association and the University's goal of fostering a diverse and inclusive community, the Student Association created the first caucus in recent memory. The Inaugural Black Senators' Caucus was created as a direct response to growing ignorance and intolerance towards the black community, as seen specifically by a racist Snapchat post that came to light at that time. The goal of the Black Senators' Caucus is to provide black students at GW with greater representation by the peers that look like them by fostering necessary dialogues between the student association, campus administration, black students, and black student organizations.

ANNIVERSARY PARK RENOVATION

Executive Initiative

Campus Partners: Mark Diaz (CFO/EVP), Division of Operations

The Student Association worked with the Division of Operations to create a new design for Anniversary Park. The newly renovated park prioritizes community space and offers a quiet location for community members to share a meal, spend time with friends, or simply do work. The park also features an open patio to hold large events like barbecues.

TITLE IX GUIDEBOOK AND LETTER

Executive Initiative

Campus Partners: Division of Student Affairs, PSAWG

The Student Association partnered with the Panhellenic Sexual Assault Working Group (PSAWG) and the Division of Student Affairs to develop a resource guidebook for Title IX topics such as Bystander Intervention, Consent, Risk Management, and Sexual Assault Prevention, in order to help student organizations facilitate these important conversations within their membership. In addition, they collaborated on a new Excellence in Leadership Seminar (ELS) requirement which encourages student organizations to provide training for their members in these Title IX related issue areas.

ACTIVE SHOOTER PROTECTION

Executive Initiative, Sebastian Weinman (LAW-G Senator)

Campus Partners: Mark Diaz (CFO/EVP), Division of Operations, SBA

Inspired by the GW Student Bar Association (SBA) and faculty outreach, the Student Association Senate unanimously passed The Protecting GW Against Active Shooters Act (SR-F19-01). The Resolution calls on the University to prioritize student safety in the case of an active shooter on campus through the installation of ADA-compliant locks or latches that are capable of locking doors from the inside on all classroom doors.

OCTOBER

COLONIAL HEALTH CENTER IMPROVEMENTS

Executive Initiative

Campus Partners: Cissy Petty (Vice President of Student Affairs), Mark Diaz (CFO/EVP)

The Student Association worked with University leadership to advocate for health services on the Mount Vernon Campus. Starting the weekend of October 26th, the University opened a health center on the Vern and began providing weekend hours on both campuses, which are staffed with both medical and mental health professionals. This was a huge step in the right direction for providing adequate care for students.

MSSC PRAYER SPACE INSTITUTIONALIZATION

Zachary Nosanchuk (Vice President for Undergraduate Student Policy),
Catherine Morris (CCAS-U Senator)

Campus Partner: Interfaith Council, Multicultural Student Services Center

After being approached by members of the GW Interfaith Council about the importance of the newly-established Interfaith Prayer-Meditation Space in the Multicultural Students Services Center, the Student Association partnered to advocate for its institutionalization. In order to ensure that the space is not eliminated, changed, or repurposed without student input, the Senate passed a resolution to institutionalize and formalize the space in SA documents. This resolution asks GW administrators to recognize the space and ensure its permanence for GW students of all faith identities by acknowledging it on the MSSC website or in writing.

EXPANSION OF FREE LAUNDRY CREDITS

Executive Initiative

Campus Partner: Mark Diaz (CFO/EVP)

In the Fall 2019 semester, students received twenty-four (24) free laundry credits for the semester, or twelve (12) free complete loads of laundry. After receiving feedback from this successful pilot program, the Student Association advocated for the expansion of the credits. Beginning in the Spring 2020 semester, students now receive 34 laundry credits, enough for at least one wash-dry cycle per week or seventeen (17) complete loads of laundry.

NATIONAL COMING OUT DAY VIDEO

Nia Lartey (Vice President for Student Activities)

In honor of National Coming Out Day, the Student Association members who are part of the LGBTQIA+ community filmed a video to celebrate the wonderful LGBTQIA+ community here at GW. This was the first time that the Student Association has ever celebrated National Coming Out Day and was a demonstration of our support for improving the LGBTQIA+ student experience.

POTOMAC PARK REMODEL

Executive Initiative

Campus Partner: Mark Diaz (CFO/EVP)

The Student Association partnered with CFO Mark Diaz and Division of Operations to advocate for a more community centered space in Potomac Park. The recent renovations have added outdoor seating and have created an opportunity for additional low cost meal choices. Potomac Park is now a hub for the GW community and a place for people to come together and share a meal.

RESIDENCE HALL COMPOSTING PROGRAM

Jan Nowak (Vice President for Sustainability)

Campus Partners: Office of Sustainability, RHA, CampaignGW

In partnership with the Office of Sustainability, Resident Housing Association (RHA), and CampaignGW, the Student Association has worked to expand composting accessibility for students. Starting in Spring 2020, compost bins will be made available in Francis Scott Key Hall and Mitchell Hall, as well as in the District House Zero Waste Affinity. These bins will be made available to the communities living in the residence halls, along with other interested students, on a 24/7 basis while working to achieve zero contamination.

STRATEGIC PLANNING TASK FORCE ADVISORY BOARD

Executive Initiative

Campus Partner: Board of Trustees Strategic Planning Task Force

The Student Association created an advisory board comprised of students from all class standings to advise President SJ Matthews, who is serving as the student representative on the Board of Trustees Strategic Planning Task Force. The advisory board has provided invaluable insight which the Student Association has used to influence the discussion of the Task Force to ensure that we accurately represent and advocates for students.

STUDENT ENGAGEMENT SURVEY

Jake Lieberfarb (Director of Survey Design)

The Student Association released a survey to the student body to gauge the overall sense of GW community by analyzing student spending habits, attitudes toward living situations, and extracurricular involvement. With upwards of 300 responses, the results of the survey indicate that students generally enjoy their living situations and most students are involved in two or three organizations on campus. When asked to rate their sense of community on a scale of 1-7 (poor-excellent), the majority of respondents ranged from 3-5.

COLONIAL MONIKER TASK FORCE

Executive Initiative

Last Spring, the Student Association put forward a referendum to the student body asking if they were in favor of replacing the University Moniker/Nickname of 'Colonials' with something else. Upon passage of the referendum, the Student Association asked GW administration to form a community-wide task force on the matter to get a better understanding of the needs of all GW stakeholders. After seeing no such task force form, this fall, the Student Association continued the conversation by creating the Moniker Task Force. Following the creation of this task force, the Board of Trustees announced they would create a Task Force on Naming, where the SA has student representation. These two task forces allow for community wide conversation on the topic and fulfills the immediate goals as set forth by the student passed referendum last spring.

NOVEMBER

TRANSCRIPT FEE ELIMINATION

Executive Initiative

Campus Partners: Mark Diaz (CFO/EVP)

The Student Association worked with EVP and CFO Mark Diaz to eliminate transcript fees to minimize unnecessary costs incurred by GW students. This will allow students to receive a copy of their official transcript at no cost, which they can use when applying to jobs, internships, or scholarship programs. This change will reduce economic barriers for many students and will make sure they have access to their own records at no cost.

PEOPLE FOR PERIODS EXPANSION

Executive Initiative

Campus Partners: McKenzie Swain (P4P Co-Director), GW Facilities

The Student Association worked with Facilities to expand the People for Periods (P4P) program, which distributes menstrual products to bathrooms around campus once a week. The program will now include Eckles Library and Duques Hall, serving a total of seven buildings across both the Foggy Bottom and Mount Vernon Campuses. This temporary program focuses on menstrual health access in academic buildings in order to help ensure that GW students are receiving equitable educational opportunities until the University provides these products themselves.

JEWISH STUDENT COMMUNITY FORUM

Zachary Nosanchuk (Vice President for Undergraduate Student Policy),
Louie Kahn (CCAS-U Senator), Marietta Richman (MISPH-U)

Following an anti-Semitic Snapchat which was widely spread through the GW community, Jewish student leaders within the Student Association hosted a community forum to allow the Jewish community to express their sentiments on the event in a productive and safe space. Together, the group assembled to host a forum with 150+ attendees, including Jewish and non-Jewish students, administrators, and faculty. The forum allowed students to share how they were feeling and honestly speak on how they have experienced anti-Semitism at GW.

STUDENT ASSOCIATION FEEDBACK REPORTING SYSTEM

Executive Initiative

Campus Partner: Dr. Jordan West (Director of Diversity and Inclusion Education), Division for Student Affairs

The Student Association Feedback Form is a platform for students to report any issues on campus and or problems regarding SA member conduct. All reports will be reviewed by the SA President, the SA EVP, and the OSE advisor. This process was developed as a mechanism to increase the accountability of student representatives and to provide students the opportunity to voice any and all concerns about the way they are represented. This platform also creates an opportunity for students to voice their concerns about things happening on campus in a remote manner.

STATE OF GW TOWN HALL

Executive Initiative

Campus Partners: RHA, Program Board, Class Council

In partnership with the Residence Hall Association (RHA), Program Board, and Class Council, the Student Association hosted the second annual State of GW Town Hall. This event was an opportunity for students to interact with the leaders of each of the four chartered student organizations and ask questions about how they are working to improve the current climate of GW. Over fifty students were in attendance, as well as multiple administrators, with dozens more viewing the conversation via live stream of the event on Facebook.

VERN LIGHTING IMPROVEMENTS

Executive Initiative

Campus Partner: Division of Operations

The Student Association worked with the Division of Operations to improve lighting on the Mount Vernon campus, after receiving feedback from students about safety and visibility on the Vern. Over the course of multiple walkthroughs with campus stakeholders, various new lights were added throughout the campus, such as pathway lighting. The new lights allow students to safely walk around in the evening hours and are a crucial step toward improving the accessibility of the campus.

ANTI-SEMITISM TASK FORCE

Executive Initiative

Campus Partners: Office for Diversity, Equity, and Community Engagement

Following the Jewish Student Community Forum which allowed for the GW community to express their lived experiences of faith-based hate on campus, the Student Association created an Anti-Semitism Task Force to address and take action on the pervasiveness of anti-Semitism across GW. The task force is comprised of both members of the Student Association and of the student community. It will continue to host discussions on strengthening the GW Jewish community, eliminating faith-based hate, ensuring inclusive and pluralistic visions of Judaism, and defining anti-Semitism at GW.

STUDENT BODY ELECTION REFORM

Logan Basch (Vice President for Judicial & Legislative Affairs),

Kyle Piekarski (Commissioner of the Joint Elections Commission)

Campus Partner: Division for Student Affairs

Working with the Division for Student Affairs, the Student Association drafted comprehensive improvements to the bylaws which govern the way the JEC runs student body elections every spring. These changes include an extended registration period, revised JEC roles and responsibilities, and clarified procedures for determining ballot order. The improved elections process will increase both the transparency and facility of the JEC's functions, as well as make participation more accessible for students looking to run for office.

STUDENT ASSOCIATION WECHAT ACCOUNT

Haining Bao (ESIA-U Senator)

Campus Partners: Student Translator Volunteers

The Student Association Wechat Account is a platform where we can reach out to GW's Chinese student population. With this platform and with the help of student volunteers, we have begun to translate important updates such as free laundry credits into Chinese and distribute the information to international students. This initiative aims to connect Chinese international students to important information and resources they may not otherwise be aware of and is run by international student leaders.

COMMUTER STUDENT INCLUSION IN GW STARS

Emily Fennell (Director of Commuter Student Affairs)

Campus Partner: GW Stars

The Student Association worked with GW Stars to add additional information regarding the various criteria of the residency exemption process to the GW Stars training. The inclusion of this information is a pivotal step toward attracting prospective commuter students and making them welcome into the GW community.

INCREASED ACCESSIBILITY OF FINANCE ELS SESSIONS

George Glass (U-At-Large Senator), Catherine Morris (CCAS-U Senator)

Campus Partner: Division for Student Affairs

In previous years, the Student Association was required to lead two ELS sessions per semester to teach student organization leaders about SA Finances. Each session was held at the same time and in the same location, preventing many student org leaders from attending. After collaborating with the Division for Student Affairs, the Student Association quadrupled the number of sessions held per semester and also added multiple locations and times. Student organization are now able to learn about SA Finances during the day (during the 4:00 PM session) or at night (during the 7:00 PM session). These sessions were previously held only in District House, but are now also held in the SA Office, allowing student leaders on campus to become even more familiar and comfortable with the SA.

GRADUATE STUDENT TOWN HALL

Joshua Kim (CPS-G Senator)

Campus Partners: The Office of the President

The Student Association hosted the first ever Graduate Student Town Hall. The town hall provided graduate students with an opportunity to ask questions directly to President LeBlanc and a space to express their concerns about the graduate student experience. It represented the Student Association's priority to make the graduate student voice heard.

\$40,000 EMSE STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP

George Hardigg (G-at-Large Senator), Josh Glottman (SEAS-U Senator)
Campus Partner: Dean Lach

The Student Association worked with Dean Lach to create a \$40,000 scholarship fund for the Arlington EMSE cohort at SEAS. The EMSE cohort at SEAS was originally going to be discontinued at the end of 2019. Student Association representatives met with Dean John Loch to discuss the transition plan and other issues pertaining to the SEAS student experience. Dean Loch quickly agreed to the transition plan proposal, agreeing to fund the difference between Arlington and Foggy Bottom programs for the remaining students in the EMSE cohort.

DECEMBER

MARVIN CENTER GENDER NEUTRAL BATHROOM

[Executive Initiative](#), AJ Link (LAW-G Senator)

Campus Partner: Mark Diaz (CFO/EVP)

The Student Association partnered with University CFO and EVP Mark Diaz to find a location for a gender neutral bathroom in the Marvin Center. Given that the Marvin Center functions as a hub of campus life, featuring the health center and bookstore, as well as a multitude of student resources and is in close proximity to several dining options, it is important that the space be both accessible and welcoming to students of all identities. This additional bathroom, which is currently being built on the first floor, is a step towards a student centered space that is truly comfortable for every member of our community.

SERVICE DRIVE FOR HOMELESS VETERANS

Jared Awner (Director of Veteran Student Affairs), AJ Link (LAW-G Senator)

Campus Partner: USASOA

To help support local veterans experiencing homelessness in the DC community, the Student Association hosted a service drive in the Marvin Center. Students were invited to help make winter survival kits for these veterans, as well as leave a message of hope in a card. To help make these survival kits, students were also asked to donate travel-size toiletries, new winter clothes, and non-perishable food items.

ESIA UNDERGRADUATE FORUM

Alice Chang (ESIA-U Senator), Quentin McHoes (ESIA-U Senator),
Haining Bao (ESIA-U Senator)

The Elliott School's undergraduate senators hosted an intimate forum with constituents on December 5th. The student group discussed topics that largely focused on international students' experiences in the Elliott school, specifically on expanding Student Association outreach to more members of the international student community. This event was a valuable opportunity for student leaders to engage with those they are tasked to represent, so that they can better speak on behalf of these students and their needs.

FRESHMAN FORUM

Arzina Lakhani (FY-U Senator), Kate Carpenter (FY-U Senator),
Tony Peeler (FY-U Senator), Lydia Abera (SOB-U Senator)

The first-year undergraduate senators hosted the third-annual Fall First-Year Forum on December 9th. The students present at the forum discussed topics that related to the first-year experience, such as the move-in process, communication throughout the summer, adjusting to the grading system, and living and learning communities. Students at the forum also expressed a shared sentiment about the perceived lack of community, increasing engagement between the freshman class, and frustrations towards financial aid and laundry. This forum is required by the Student Association bylaws to be put on by first-year members of the Senate. The event provided insight into the opinions and views of first-years, as well as a few upperclassmen, across campus. It was an engaging and successful conversation which brought forth new ideas for the spring semester and helped the first-year members of the Student Association gauge what it is their peers want them to address.



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