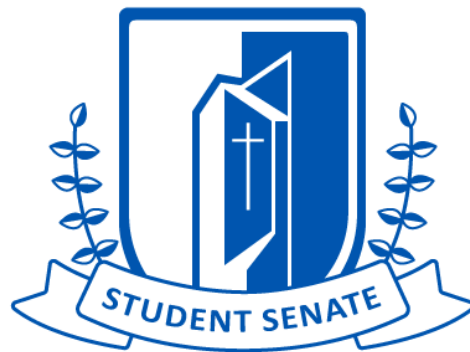




The lively 2017-18 Senate is here to work for you! Open weekly meetings are held on Wednesdays at 9 pm in Arrupe 114.

BI-ANNUAL REPORT

Fall 2017



We, the Student Senate of Rockhurst University, in order to promote the interests and concerns of the undergraduate student body in matters that affect the University community, shall maintain and improve the rights and general welfare of the students; stimulate and promote support among students for policies beneficial to their interests; strengthen understanding and communication between students and the University; and uphold the ideals and values of the Catholic Jesuit tradition through learning, leadership, and service.

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2017-18 Student Senate Members

Executive Board

President – Zachary Pohlman, pohlmanz@hawks.rockhurst.edu

Executive Vice President – Abby Bergman, bergmant@hawks.rockhurst.edu

Vice President of Finance – Tony Gambino, GambinoA@hawks.rockhurst.edu

Vice President of Programming – Jansen Rouillard, RouillardJ@hawks.rockhurst.edu

Executive Secretary – Annika Lewis, LewisAM@hawks.rockhurst.edu

Advisor – Dr. Matt Quick, Matthew.Quick@rockhurst.edu

Senate Committees

Social Justice

Claire Webster, Chair
Ben Franco
Justine Berezintsev
Nicholas Bader
Meg Dionisi
Virginia Vanegas
Joanna Ramirez

Campus Life

Cheenia Wanamaker, Chair
Emily Lassman
Kate Ludwig
Mac Dumsky
Corben Phillips
Nhukha Nguyen
Jansen Rouillard

Finance

Tony Gambino, Chair
Matt Baker
Leah Dionisi
Dalton Goser
Emmanuel Mangar
Zachary Pohlman

University Affairs

America Romo, Chair
Kelsey Keady
Forrest Roudebush
Allison Delgado
Mi'Kayla Taylor
Holly Sullivan
Annika Lewis

A Message from the President

Dear Rockhurst Students,

It has been a privilege and a joy to again serve as your Student Senate President this year. I love this school, especially for its people and sense of community, and to spend my time outside of the classroom meeting with students, faculty, and staff to make Rockhurst an even better place to live and grow is a responsibility the student senators and I greatly enjoy.

This is the second year of publishing a bi-annual report, and I hope you find its contents useful. In publishing what the Senate does for you each semester, I am hopeful that more students, registered student organizations, and the broader campus community will become more invested in the success of our school, a primary goal of the Senate.

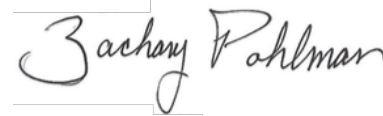
As I am sure you all were made aware, this fall Rockhurst conducted a campus climate survey to measure our level of inclusivity and diversity. The student turnout was fantastic; thank you to all of you who participated. Senate was glad to be a part of promoting the survey. Rockhurst will receive a report in the spring outlining the results and providing a list of recommendations to improve our inclusivity as a school. Let's heed the words of Fr. Curran and strive to be companions with each other as we advance in this mission.

I'd also like to address the instances of racist propaganda that have affected our campus this semester. To those wishing to divide us:

you will not succeed. I'd like to offer a special thank you to BSU for organizing a powerful demonstration of unity and justice on the quad. Let us as a student body not be silent, not be complicit in the face of overt acts of hate. Student Senate stands in solidarity with all of our peers, and we will continue to address such issues as best we can in accordance with our Jesuit principles.

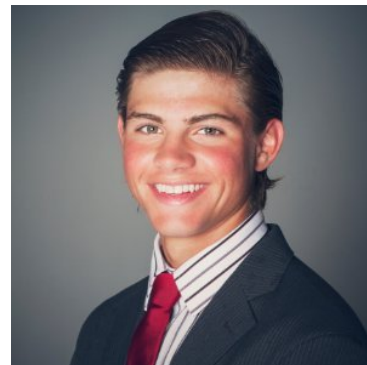
Lastly, I want to make everyone aware, more broadly, of what the Senate does. We work for YOU. We, the Senators, listen to our friends and constituents with an ear for improvement, and we want you to be involved in that process. I invite each of you to contact a Student Senator or attend a meeting directly to voice your concerns and create positive change in accordance with the Jesuit Mission and Values on our beloved campus. Our weekly, open Senate meetings are on Wednesdays at 9 pm in Arrupe 114. We would love to see you there!

Rock on,



Zachary Pohlman

Rockhurst University Student Senate President



Issues We Addressed

New York Times to Campus

As you have hopefully noticed and taken advantage of, this year our papers are provided by the New York Times, funded by your student activity fee. In switching to the New York Times, the Senate responded to the interests of the student body by providing a paper with more elevated level of reporting. Students also have access to the New York Times online by using a Rockhurst email address to sign in.

Continued Inclusion Efforts

Student Senate's "Oath of Inclusion," a document that promotes inclusivity and openness of peoples and ideas on campus, was again presented at New Student Orientation in August. Thus far, over half of campus has signed the Oath, and we expect close to full participation in the next two years. Furthermore, the Senate promoted participation in the campus climate survey. Rockhurst students responded at a rate surpassing the national average. We look forward to working with the administration as the results and recommendations are received in the months to come.

Communication with Administration

This fall, the Senate had the opportunities to offer the administration student feedback on a number of important issues, which include but are not limited to: Rockhurst's Mission and Vision statements, five year strategic plan, efforts around diversity and inclusion, and ongoing input on matters concerning student development.

Three New Student Organizations

Under the guidance the Senate University Affairs Committee, the Senate has passed approved the charters of three new student organizations: the Young Americans for Liberty – a libertarian political student organization – the Students for the Advancement of Social Sciences – an organization committed to the growth in the study of the social sciences at Rockhurst – and *Na Seabhaic Rince* ("The Dancing Hawks") – an Irish Dancing group. We are excited to welcome them to campus!

Student Activity Fee Funding Report

SAFBC

All students pay a student activity fee each semester. The Student Senate, through the Student Activity Fee Budgeting Committee (SAFBC), is tasked with allocating funds from this fee. The SAFBC funds registered student organizations, certain pieces of infrastructure, and University events, all of which are open to all students. For more information about the SAFBC or to learn how to request funds for your student organization, please visit the Senate website: <http://rusenate.com/student-activity-fee-budgeting-committee-information/>

Special Funding Projects

- Subscription to the New York Times
- New furniture in the Rock Room
- Tickets to the NCAA Men’s Soccer semi-final game

Student Organizations Receiving Funding

Alpha Delta Gamma	Active Minds	AFLV
Campus Ministry	Dance Team	Delta Sigma Pi
English Club	French Club	Irish Dance Club
Nonprofit Leadership Alliance	Phi Delta Epsilon	Pi Delta Phi
Pi Kappa Alpha	PURPOSE	RAKERS
Rockhurst Coalition of Gaming	Respect Life	Student Alumni Association
Student Activities Board (SAB)	Student Senate	The Sentinel
Sigma Tau Delta	Theta Phi Alpha	Unity
Voices for Justice		

Looking Ahead

Input on Property Expansions and Renovations

The Senate looks forward to providing administrators feedback as they consider how to approach capital projects in the next five years. We will also make listening sessions available so that the greater student population may give its feedback.

Greater Visibility

The Senate wants to hear from YOU. We are working to expand our office our availability and becoming an easier resource to locate on campus. As always, feel free to join us for a meeting at 9 pm on Wednesday nights in Arrupe 114.

Recycling Resolution

The Student Senate is committed to exploring all options in terms of pursuing a more recycle-friendly and sustainable campus. The Campus Life Committee is working in conjunction with Physical Plant, Student Development, the University Sustainability Committee, and SAFBC to make real progress in the spring semester.

Important Dates

December 10 (2017) – Midnight (kind of) Breakfast, 8-10 pm, TMDR

January 18 – House of Reps, 4 pm, Arrupe Hall

February 15 – House of Reps, 4 pm, Arrupe Hall

February 20 – Senate Town Hall, 4 pm, Fishbowl

March 15 – House of Reps, 4 pm, Fishbowl

April 9 – Senate spring elections

April 26 – House of Reps Calendar Meeting, 4 pm, Arrupe Hall

May 1 – Midnight Breakfast, 10-12 pm, TMDR