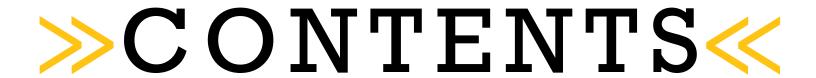


## **STUDENT GOVERNMENT OF SEATTLE UNIVERSITY**FALL QUARTER REPORT 2014



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#### A MESSAGE FROM THE STUDENT BODY PRESIDENT

Dear Seattle University,

It is no secret that the academic year of 2013/14 ended in high tension. In my first email to the student body last spring, I asked that we lean into that tension



moving forward, in hopes that

the Seattle University community could use the tension to create a more collaborative and cohesive community. With that in mind, I spent my summer working on a fishing boat in Alaska, and reflecting on how to best serve the students of Seattle University in the role of SGSU President. After much consideration, I came up with three goals to work towards throughout the year:

- **1.** Increase communication and build relationships between the Student Body and the Administration.
- **2.** Increase accessibility at SU for all students.
- **3.** Increase community and collaboration within student leadership on campus.

I felt (and still feel) that working towards these three goals can actualize the vision of a more collaborative and cohesive community at Seattle University. With that in mind, here are some points of reflection from the quarter.

Having already served two years in Student Government, I started the quarter confident that I was prepared for the job. All too quickly I discovered that my pervious notion of preparedness might have been a little cocky. The amount of time that I spend replying to emails and trying to schedule meetings is much more than I ever expected. Admittedly, it has taken me some time to understand how to best utilize my time in the short year I serve in this role. I will undoubtedly need to continue to work on this throughout the year. Luckily, I have been blessed with an amazing team to work with.

This year's Student Government understands that working together and involving the student body as much as possible, is the most effective way to bring positive change to the university community. In that spirit, SGSU has created a number of working committees to tackle issues on campus. These committees are open to all students, and cover a wide variety of issues from the University's sexual assault policies, to Fair Trade, to the status of the crosswalk on the border of campus at 10th and Madison. As the year goes on, I believe we will see the fruits of our labors through these working committees.

After one quarter, I can say that the presidency has challenged me in ways that I did not expect. You, the students of Seattle University, have most definitely leaned into the tension and cultivated a community that not only wants to make Seattle University better, but cares about understanding bigger, systemic problems of society. It continues to be an honor to work with our amazing group in Student Government to serve you.

In Peace,

Eric Sype



#### WHAT WE WORKED ON

#### **TOBACCO FREE**

Multiple years of Student Government work towards establishing a Tobacco Free Campus culminated last spring in an undergraduate student body vote on the matter. A majority of the student body voted in favor of a Tobacco Free Campus. Graduate and law students were also surveyed, as well as faculty and staff. With this information, Eric Sype, Meg Green, and Ryan Hamachek (Director of Wellness and Health Promotion) made a presentation to Academic Assembly to garner support. The Assembly voted to support the initiative. With the support of both Students and Faculty, Eric has made a formal recommendation that the University become Tobacco Free to the President's Cabinet.

#### **SEXUAL ASSAULT POLICIES**

As a result of many students questioning what the University's sexual assault policies are and what we are doing to be proactive about combatting the problem, SGSU has made it a priority to become as informed as possible on the matter. Working with Ryan Hamacheck (Director of Wellness and Health Promotion) we obtained a comprehensive understanding on the matter. We have formed a working committee, charged with the task of compiling and presenting the information in an effective way, to make it more accessible to students.

#### INCREASED COMMUNICATION

SGSU worked toward increased communication between the University and students in a number of ways. This culminated in a presentation to Fr. Sundborg's cabinet on how to best communicate with the students. We have since been working with administrators on increasing communication through traditional means, and creating new ways of communicating more effectively. In this work we have been greeted by enthusiasm from

administrators and should see noticeable improvements soon.

#### MULTICULTURAL PROGRAMMING FUND

The Multicultural Programming Fund (MPF) has been a resource for many different student groups to help fund some of the most popular student events at Seattle University. At the end of last year, the MPF was being underutilized and in danger of being dissolved. Last year's Multicultural Rep, Clark Huey, teamed up with newly elected Monica Chan to garner student support for the fund. Their work ensured a future for the MPF. This year Monica, along with Matt Kelly and Izzy Gardon, worked closely with the Office of Multicultural Affairs (OMA) to restructure and rebrand the MPF.

#### **FAIR TRADE**

Early in the quarter, Global Business Club President, Charlene Nayan, came to SGSU asking that we help the club's efforts in making Seattle University an official Fair Trade Campus. The club was working with a national organization (Fair Trade Campaigns USA) that gives certification and funding to universities for fair trade practices. After much deliberation as to whether we were acting in a manner that would most improve the practices of our university, we passed a resolution, enabling Seattle University to become an official Fair Trade University.



### Raquel Davalos **Executive Vice President**

SGSU is off to a great start this year! The student body of Seattle U is represented by a wonderful, hard-working, passionate group of individuals. It was an unusual quarter for SGSU being as we started the year with less than half of the positions filled, and more than half of the group joined after the fall elections in late October. Despite this, the group has worked very hard and has been very productive. A true turning point for SGSU was at the Student Activities fall retreat in mid-November where we got the chance to do some bonding, take time for honest conversations, and move forward with some productive changes for the overall functioning of the group. Some concrete improvements have been made to some of the internal processes of SGSU, which will directly improve the work that can be done for the student body. Serving as the Executive Vice President to this group and witnessing all of the growth that has occurred in such a short time has been an incredibly rewarding experience. I am very much looking forward to seeing all that SGSU '14-'15 can accomplish for the Seattle University student body!

### Meg Green Vice President of University Affairs

The Vice President of University Affairs primarily undertakes the task of encouraging students to apply to University Committees, selecting students to serve on them and provide avenues for the student body to be actively involved with the work of SGSU. I also sit in on the bi-weekly meetings of the Academic Assembly, (or Faculty Senate), to represent the student body.



This quarter, I focused most of my efforts on getting SGSU into Academic Assembly to present on the Tobacco Free campus efforts and on interviewing and appointing student representatives to the 17 University Committees, including the Academic Affairs Committee, Athletic Advisory Board, Finance Committee and President's Committee for Sustainability. Currently, there is only one committee left unfilled by a student representative (the Campus Store Advisory Board). Next quarter, the University Affairs Committee plans to dive into outreach. We plan to find and implement new (or recycled) ideas for empowering the student voice, so please contact me if you would like to be a part of those efforts or pinball an idea at me!

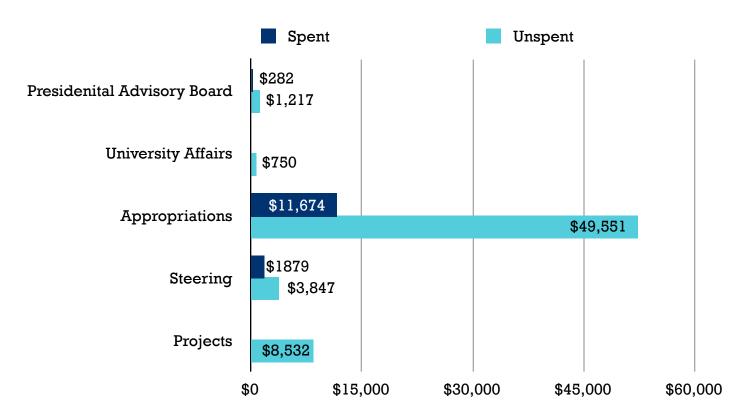


#### THE STATE OF THE SGSU BUDGET

### Matt Kelly Vice President of Finance

This Fall I set the budget which SGSU Representative Assembly approved. With the help of the Office of Multicultural Affairs and Monica Chan, SGSU's Multicultural Representative, we revived the Multicultural Programming Fund and are working on a strategic plan for its continuity for years to come. SGSU Finance Committee appropriated more than \$11,674 to clubs and student groups for programming and functions!

#### **OVERVIEW OF SPENDING\***



<sup>\*</sup>Please note, with most major events and initiatives taking place in winter and spring quarters, this year's SGSU, like many in the past, has strategically spent little during Fall Quarter.



STATEMENTS FROM THE REPRESENTATIVE ASSEMBLY



### AT LARGE REP. (I) OWEN GOETZE

- Explored the possibility of a crosswalk on 10th and Madison
- Worked on an event to break down stereotypes about the Central District
- Served on the Finance Committee in the Appropriations process
- Did a walk-through of Pioneer Square with Disability Services and Council member Tom Rasmussen

This quarter in SGSU has been an exciting one for me as it has served as an excellent way for me to combine my interests and education in urban planning and urban issues to my role as an advocate in SGSU. I hope to be able to continue this trend as a new quarter approaches and apply it to some of the other roles that I serve in such as the Catholic Jesuit Identity subcommittee and the Administration-SSA Joint Task Force on Divestment.



### COMMUTER REP. LYNN DOAN

- Increasing communication between SGSU and Commuter & Transfer Student Life
- Learning more about projects previous commuter student leaders worked on
- Focus group and inquiry for a marked crosswalk proposal at 10th & East Madison

Becoming involved with SGSU was unexpected, but it has given me the opportunity to further highlight the commuter presence on campus. I am excited to continue listening to commuter students, and working with the other student leaders for the upcoming quarters—while change does begin from oneself, collaboration is essential to push things forward.



### ATHLETIC REP. SARAH COLUCCIO

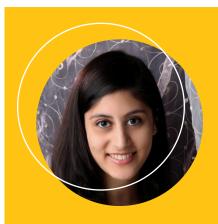
- Sworn in as Athletic Rep
- Women's Soccer made SU history by going to the second round of the NCAA tournament!



AT LARGE REP. (II)
ROBERT GAVINO

- Addressed under-engagement of the student body with SGSU by creating a framework for students to lead committees addressing particular issues
- Addressed student feedback on study abroad experiences by establishing a student-led committee assessing student experiences studying abroad
- Began developing face-to-face relationships with commuting and transfer communities by visiting Collegia communities serving commuting and transfer students

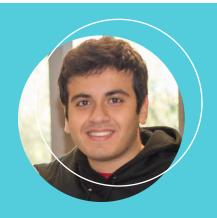
I have to be humble and realize I cannot individually "fix" all of Seattle University's issues -- rather, I need to work to empower every Seattle University student, faculty-member, and staff-person to work together to address these issues. Why try to get a few student leaders working on a lot of projects when there are plenty of people in our SU community with a wealth of particular knowledge, passion, and time to devote to particular issues?



FRESHMAN REP. (I)
ISHEETA TEWARI

- Worked with the Youth Detention Center committee to change the negative attitude towards the community past 12th Avenue and lefferson
- Started organizing a Freshman Class Event
- Learned about the structure of Rep Assemblies and the responsibilities of Representatives as part of SGSU

In the beginning of this quarter, I focused on understanding the structure of SGSU, how committees/Rep Assemblies are run, and the issues we are involved in. Then, I joined the Youth Detention Center committee and I started working on a project of my own, a Freshman Class Bonding Event.



### FRESHMAN REP. (II) TANISH BHOJWANI

- Worked with the SGSU Presidental Advisory Board
- Worked as a member of the Madison crosswalk Committee to building a crosswalk on Madison Street (Next to IHOP)

First Quarter as a student at Seattle University and as a member of Student Government of Seattle University has given me a new experience. Throughout the 2014 Fall Quarter, I really got to know members of the Seattle University community. In the next two quarters for 2015, I plan to work on many more projects to improve the Redhawk experience at Seattle University.



INTERNATIONAL REP.
JADEN PHAN

- Helped International students have a better understanding of the bank system in the US by arranging an informative US Bank info session in the International Student Center Lounge.
- Helped student clubs by approving reasonable funding amounts for their events.

The relationship between the International Student Center and SGSU is what helped me reach out and advocate for International students. I have gone to many ISC events like the UN Luncheon, IBuddy, and Cuisine Nights to expand my network and support students to the best of my ability. I also collaborated with Matt Kelly, VP of Finance, to help US Bank host an informative event for International Students.



- Launched the Multicultural Programming Fund in partnership with the Office of Multicultural Affairs. It helps fund programming or projects centered on social justice, culture, and/or equity. Apply today!
- Hosted the Seeking Solidarity Vigil for victims and survivors of state sanctioned violence in regions including, but not limited to: Seattle, Ferguson, Palestine, and Mexico.
- Participated in the Campus Climate Study Working Group. This important survey will measure the accessibility, inclusion, and level of respect employees and students believe the university offers.

This quarter has been challenging and opportunistic. Having a title has let me work with awesome people and has given me a platform to advocate for changes. It's also been a heavy quarter because of violence and revolution happening in this country and around the world. I hope you are finding spaces to be with one another in messy conversation.



### **JUNIOR REP.**MANUEL SIGÜENZA

Though I have not been a part of the SGSU team for very long, I am excited to represent the junior class and listen to their concerns and needs. I also look forward to working creatively and collaboratively with the representatives.



### NON-TRAD. REP. JARROD GALLAGHER

This quarter I was elected Non-Traditional Student
Representative. I participated in events during Veteran's Day and connected with my constituents during the Men's Basketball game dedicated to Veterans. I helped organize the Black Lives Matter Die-In on December 5th. I am in process of taking over the Bike Shelter Project. I served on the Finance Committee and helped appropriate clubs money to fund their events.



#### **SENIOR REP.** LUKE LARSEN

I have been working on revamping Senior Soiree. My aim is to make this event more of a gathering focused on bringing the class of 2015 back together for the last time before Commencement. I am looking forward to an event that will make a lasting impression on the senior class and remind everyone of their time at SU.



**SOPHOMORE REP.**MYRA JACKSON

- Solidified plans and activities for the sophomore tradition of Halfway There
- Began working on a project with Health and Wellness Crew (HAWC) to add a fun event titled "Recess!" to the January Wellness Challenge
- Continuing the process of creating an open forum to the student body in an effort to fill the gap of miscommunication, and provide an avenue for students to advocate for issues and support needs on campus.

In my first quarter of being the Sophomore Representative, I have come to realize how much I love and appreciate working for and with my constituents. As the year continues, I hope to increase the sense of community amongst us and listen to the voices that are often ignored.



## STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES REP BRADEN WILD

- Tackling American with Disability Act compliance in our school
- Outreach to administration and students for issues of concern
- Integration of accommodations into clubs, events, and activities

The quarter has started very well with outreach to administration, clubs and local leaders for the disabilities position. I look forward to honing in on student outreach next quarter and making sure my ideas and hopes match what students desire on campus and get input on future ideas and improvements.



### TRANSFER REP. JORDAN MURAKAMI

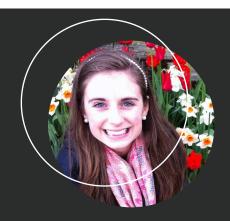
Community: As transfer students make up around thirty percent of the SU population, I believe it is important to understand that we are not alone, but rather abundant. Programs such as the Tek Collegium (offered by CTSL) provide a great opportunity for transfer students to build a strong community. I hope the continuation of community building remains to grow throughout the academic year.

Involvement: A major issue that I would like to begin to tackle is the lack of involvement within the transfer community. Fall Quarter demonstrated that the voice for transfer students can use assistance. With the Campus Climate Survey around the corner, I am hopeful that a large portion of transfer students choose to participate and provide honest feedback.

Lack of Representation of Transfer Students in Leadership Positions: Another issue that has become more prevalent on campus is the lack of transfer students that are in leadership positions. Again, making up around thirty percent of the undergraduate population, one would assume that a transfer student leader on campus is common, however that is not the case. In the upcoming quarters, I am optimistic that this issue will dissolve.



#### CHIEFS OF STAFF



## INTERNAL **CHIEF OF STAFF**MARGARET QUARTARARO

As the Internal Chief of Staff, I have the privilege of being a part of the President's Cabinet in addition to being a resource for all members of student government. Part of my job is to record the minutes for the weekly Representative Assemblies and through this experience I've learned a great deal about group dynamics. Additionally, this quarter I have assisted the Presidential Advisory Board with a variety of initiatives ranging from the coordination of First Friday Doughnuts to the creation of the "This is Seattle U" project to the organization of the Bob Dullea Forum on the future of higher education. All in all, working with SGSU this guarter has been a delightful experience and I am looking forward to what Winter Quarter brings.



EXTERNAL

CHIEF OF STAFF

IZZY GARDON

What a quarter! Working for this year's SGSU has been a joy; I am thrilled to be serving a cohort of such dedicated, talented and sharp folks. Building upon my experiences as External Chief of Staff last year, I've been able to further SGSU's external communications from reliable and engaging social media posts, improved emails, cleaner posters and marketing materials, among other accomplishments. I've invested a particular large amount of time in ensuring SGSU works well with the new Seattle U brand — as much as our budget and talents allow. I'm especially proud of two things: my role in helping to shape the "This is Seattle U" campaign and my shift in advertising SGSU events and initiatives online (saving trees, money and connecting with more students in the process!). Also, designing and putting this report together was pretty fun!



# STAFF



### CIVIC ENGAGEMENT DIRECTORS KRISTEN WIELICZKA & FLORA LI

As Assistant Civic Engagement Director and Civic Engagement Director, our main priority for fall quarter was voter registration and a Get Out the Vote Campaign in partnership with the Washington Bus. As Civic Engagement Director, Kristen organized events, planned phone banking, and made sure we had all materials needed to register voters. Flora helped with all of this. After submitting voter registration forms, together we confirmed with

voters. Flora helped with all of this. After submitting voter registration forms, together we confirmed with the County Auditor that these forms were properly processed to ensure that all SU students we registered were properly registered with the state.

We kicked off our voter registration campaign by participating in National Voter Registration Day. We accomplished our task by being present throughout Welcome Week and the first week of classes. Whether that was before heading off to Fred Meyer for Fred Meyer Night, at the Involvement Fair, or canvassing the Quad during lunch, we registered voters and educated students on ballot measures. In total, we registered 186 voters and hosted successful phone banking sessions to remind folks to vote!

### SECRETARY OF ELECTIONS TYLER SAITO

The Fall Election started strong with a large pool of interested students. However, after the info sessions, the pool of candidates drastically dropped leaving many positions unopposed and the junior rep. position vacant. However, in general, the Fall Election went smoothly and the candidates seeking office were engaged with the issues and student body.

For future elections, the Elections Commission is considering changing the time of the election events, which have traditionally been held in the evening, to the lunch hour on Tuesday or Thursday. The structure of the events may also be changed to create a more accessible forum for the student body to interact with the candidates. Also, a more defined set of expectations will need to be established for all SGSU members, including staff regarding endorsements, language around the election, recruitment etc.

The entirety of the Elections Code will also be reviewed and amended as needed to clarify expectations and to allow future elections to be more accessible and flexible for the student body and candidates. Some of these areas will include further clarification of all election processes and expectations of the candidates, especially the candidate(s) for athletic rep. The students w/ disabilities rep. will also be added to the Elections Code.



#### WE'VE DONE A LOT & WE HAVE A LOT MORE TO DO

This year the Student Government of Seattle University is committed to representing and advocating for the Student Body in a holistic manner. Moving forward, we will be looking at implementing new ways for students to directly participate in the work we are doing. One way we will do this is by inviting and encouraging students to sit on our working committees. Furthermore, we will work to amplify student voices through our "This is Seattle U" campaign. SGSU will also be partnering with the University's Diversity Task Force to encourage as much participation as possible in a Campus Climate Survey that will be made available to the SU community at the end of January.

We, as SGSU, are committed to working for the Undergraduate Student Body, and the SU community as a whole. Please don't hesitate to come talk with us, send us an email, or stop us on campus. We love to hear how you feel we can better serve.

Sincerely,

SGSU 2014 - 2015

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