

2020-2021 SGA Annual Report

Executive Membership:

- Natalie Coppolino - President
- Annie Philibin - Vice President
- Jake Jagels - Speaker of Senate
- Michael Fields - VP of Finance
- Bridget Mooney - VP of Communications
- Mason Gordon - Attorney General
- Katlin Pistone - Chief of Staff
- Lillian Dickman - Chief of Staff
- Grant Lane - Executive Secretary

Accomplishments of Exec:

- Established a relationship with the Dayton Community Blood Center and organized multiple convalescent plasma drives on campus in light of COVID-19
- Assisted administration in forming and spreading messaging in regard to COVID-19 protocols on campus
- Assisted administration in creating videos with key University administrators about COVID-19 FAQs
- Created an Anti-Racism Internal Working Group to assess and analyze SGA's current and future anti-racism efforts, in an effort to align with the University's anti-racism plan
- Successfully achieved a budget increase for the following academic year
- Established bi-weekly updates in the Campus Digest in an effort to increase transparency
- Partnered with administration to create "12 Days of Flyer Well Being" video series to promote the well being of students during the Fall 2020 exam week
- Assisted administration in creating a video with Chief Kidd about safely celebrating St. Patrick's Day on campus in light of COVID-19
- Attended the Chancellor of Ohio's roundtable pertaining to mental health amongst college students during the pandemic, and as a result received state funding for mental health efforts on campus

Accomplishments of Anti-Racism Internal Working Group:

- Created an online public comments and concerns submission area on SGA website to make SGA more accessible to students
- Established action steps for SGA to become an anti-racist student led organization
- Encouraged SGA leadership to plan and host events, such as TownHalls and SGA Chats, to increase transparency and accessibility
- Made suggestions for more equitable Constitution and Bylaws, which were later implemented
- Generated the idea for Anti-Racism Training, which is being worked on Director of Campus Unity Rogel and Senator Carr-Chellman

2020-2021 SGA Annual Report

Campus Unity (Director: Luis Rogel)

- **Accomplishments:**

- Stepped into the role mid-year when there was a vacancy that needed to be immediately filled.
- Had a very diverse committee in terms of race, religion and gender
- Empowered minorities on campus to be able to speak up and use their voice. Did so by involving organizations in the campus unity committee and giving them permanent chairs. (in the bill he signed with mason)
- Held a total of 5 events, and all had great turnouts (1000+)
- Anti-asian hate posters in KU for students to show solidarity with the community
- Challenged SGA to reflect and think of how we can be better
- Began working on Turning Bystanders and Upstanders module with Jules and made great progress

- **Members** (Name and School Year):

- Gabbie Johnson, Senior
- Kaitlin Hall, Sophomore
- Khalia Callahan, Sophomore
- Morgan Cox, Senior
- Sama Ahmed, Sophomore
- Shara Shrestha, Sophomore
- Yamilet Perez Aragon , Sophomore

2020-2021 SGA Annual Report

Commuter Relations (Courtney Henthorn)

- **Accomplishments:**

- As Head of Commuter Relations, this semester I've been trying to focus on promoting commuter outreach and communication. I've mainly been working with the student organization "Commuters on Campus", with the help of Amy Lopez-Matthews. Through this organization and the commuter newsletter (put together by Amy Lopez-Matthews), we've been able to produce and gather results from two different surveys: one surrounding the mental wellness of commuters during the pandemic, and one that was more event-focused for the future. Using these results, I am hoping to implement more opportunities for commuters to engage with campus through events and activity awareness. Due to COVID-19 restrictions this semester, there were a lot of limitations on what we were able to put together - the general consensus from our surveys and communication with commuters was that online meetings/activities definitely aren't as engaging as in-person. In addition, a lot of my work this semester has been on a more individual level. I have had a lot of meaningful interactions with small groups and individual commuters, who have had pressing concerns regarding the navigation of the blended format, and how to deal with some of the social anxieties that come from not having the same social opportunities that living on campus provides.
- Future plans revolve around gathering new comparison data to look at differences in overall commuter mental health once the fall semester begins and we're (hopefully) all in-person. With this comparison, if there is still an overwhelming consensus that the quality of commuter life has not improved significantly, more discussion will need to occur to try and resolve some of these concerns that commuters may have.

Marianist Involvement (Director: Morgan Cox)

- **Accomplishments:**

- Was on JRAB and the campus unity committee.
- Met with director of campus ministry and the director of the center for social concern. Talked about keeping a relationship with SGA and discussed implementation and education surrounding non-chrisitan denominations. Has a folder with this information ready to pass on to the next director.

2020-2021 SGA Annual Report

Academic Affairs (Director: James Brill)

- **Accomplishments:**

- Advocated on behalf of students in Academic Senate discussions regarding the use of SET, 5 year review of CAP, transfer credit policy, and the UD Path Forward.
- Conducted a student body survey first semester in which over 1,000 students expressed their opinions about the fall academic semester
 - These opinions and concerns were then shared with faculty and administration in order to inspire change for the spring semester
- Led a path point event with the OLR to educate students about the importance of SET and how to provide constructive feedback in SET responses
- FAC (student representative: Katherine Kohnen)
 - Met every week or twice a week to advocate for student voices during the revision of the University Promotion and Tenure Policy
 - Requires anti-bias professional development for those serving on promotion and tenure committees
 - Emphasizes the importance of quality teaching for those who wish to be promoted/tenured
 - Requires proof of commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion for every faculty member who wishes to be promoted/tenured
 - The revised P&T document will be presented at the April 30th Academic Senate Meeting for a vote
- Student body academic survey

- **Members** (Name and School Year):

- Jacob Troutwine - Business Representative
- Andrew Moyer - Humanities Representative
- Katherine Kohnen - Natural Science Representative
- Brennan Mooney - Education/Health Sciences Representative
- Michael Davies - Engineering Representative
- Jake Jagels - Social Science Representative

Special Programs (Director: Rhyan Pearson)

- **Accomplishments:**

- Part of the university in person event review group, which got to approve a lot of forms and events throughout the entire year.
- Sat on the anti-racism working group
- Planned a lot of online events during covid, some small in person events like with campus unity, sustainability, mental health
- Planned senate town halls with each grade level.
- Was on issues and bylaws dealing with legislation changes.

Mental Health Committee (Chairs: Elizabeth Pritchard and Lauren Alvarez)

Elections Committee (Chair: Tyler Clogg)

2020-2021 SGA Annual Report

Disability Advocacy Committee (Chair: Madison Woodrum and Kathleen Dunn)

Campus Safety Committee (Chair: Matthew Bugada and Claire Esslinger)

Sustainability Committee (Chair: Dawson Vandervort and Claire Lonneman)

- **Accomplishments:**

- Book club event
- Path point on environmental racism (over 1400 submissions)
- Helped plan Earthfest and the farmer's market for fall
- Implemented plastic bag recycling on campus

- **Members** (Name and School Year):

- Alex Foos - Junior
- Alexandra Cline - Sophomore
- Anna Feinstein
- Annie Meyer
- Ashley Walker
- Marc Acocella
- Sam Enderby
- Thomas Gaita

Finance Committee (Chair: Michael Fields)

- **Accomplishments:**

- Proposed a budget of \$181,050 and got it approved by Senate
- Approved 40 organizations for Fall Funding totalling \$24,108.90
- Approved 42 organizations for Spring Funding totalling \$30,373.98
- Approved 6 different organizations for Special Requests totalling \$5,400
- Implemented the "New Org Funding Grant" providing the first grant to the Investment Banking Club with a total of \$1,000

- **Members** (Name and School Year):

- Jacob Troutwine - Senior
- Drew Moyer - Junior
- Grace Pierucci - First Year

Marketing/Communications Committee (Chair: Bridget Mooney)

2020-2021 SGA Annual Report

Issues and Bylaws (Attorney General Mason Gordon)

- **Accomplishments:**

- Updated the Judicial Review Board and Judicial Review Appeals Board to accommodate the Zoom/Covid-19 situation, ensuring as much confidentiality as possible while in a virtual setting.
- Removed fines of \$100 as a disciplinary action within the Judicial Review Board to prevent socioeconomic inequality issues within SGA.
- Removed unnecessary and outdated sections of the Bylaws.
- Required the President to facilitate SGA membership to attend events held by diversity and cultural organizations.
- Required the Director of Campus Unity to appoint representatives from social identity student groups as members of the Campus Unity Committee. Black Action Through Unity (BATU), El Orgullo Latino (EOL), the Asian American Association (AAA), and Spectrum are all guaranteed membership on the committee as well as the Director of Marianist Involvement.
- Requires the Elections Handbook to be reviewed on a yearly basis to ensure that there are no barriers-to-entry in SGA.
- Created an application process for appointments to ensure that all candidates for appointment are given a fair chance to present themselves.
- Amended the Constitution to include the Head of Commuter Relations as a voting member of the Senate, providing representation to a group on campus that did not previously have a direct voice.

Members (Name and School Year):

- Mason Gordon - Sophomore
- Rhyen Pearson - Senior
- Jake Jagels - Junior
- Ben Thomas - First Year

2020-2021 SGA Annual Report

First year senators:

- Ben Thomas
- Jules Carr-Chellman
- Baraa Ali
- Grace Pierucci

Accomplishments/Advocacy Projects:

- Jules Carr-Chellman: *Turning Bystanders into Upstanders.*

This last year, as your first-year senator, I have been fortunate enough to enjoy the University of Dayton first-year student experience. An experience that prompts a great deal of questions. For example: what happens to a student who can't afford to go out to restaurants, or, who can't go out because they work in the dining hall or the housing office in order to pay their tuition? How do minority students experience discrimination as they walk across a campus with buildings named after white, heterosexual, upper-class males?

As your first year-senator, I'm working to create a program that brings students together who care about the vast impact of the invisible. I'm working to bring together those who see that racial microaggressions exist on the UD campus, who see their negative impact, and who are interested in learning how to intervene in real-time. The *Bystanders to Upstanders* program works to teach students how to respond to situations in which students are made uncomfortable because of their immutable characteristics.

My project partner, Luis Rogel (whose collaboration has been invaluable), and I have worked as your representatives to ensure that the University of Dayton campus is truly a *community*. Our interest, which is likely yours (if you've made it this far), is to catalyze a difficult conversation with the students on our campus. A conversation about negative worldviews directed toward culturally marginalized groups. Worldviews that cultivate either intentionally or unintentionally; but nevertheless, worldviews that find their way into commonplace attitudes in our community.

Our goal is to create a program that builds and trains a community of students who can recognize, publicly illuminate, and disarm racial microaggressions on our campus. Our program seeks to ensure that the next time you're walking on campus, eating in a dining hall, or hanging out at a party, that you know how to ensure the comfort of the students around you.

- Ben Thomas:

The 2020-2021 term, I served as one of the four First-Class Representatives in Dayton's Student Government Association. Serving my class made my experience a passion. I enjoyed representing my classmates and connecting with many through this position. And to the other senators who served alongside me, respect is owed. I learned a lot from my constituents turning any challenge we encountered into an opportunity.

Being a member of the Common Issues and Bylaws Committee provided me key oversight into what guides our organization's values deep down, holding us as an organization accountable and together in how we move forward. Within the organization, the 2020 semester I Co-Sponsored 5 bills and 2 resolutions, and voted on legislation that was brought to the floor.

2020-2021 SGA Annual Report

Externally, I participated in a Tough Talk and Town Hall Meeting. This broadened my perspective into the needs and experiences that are not my own. Both events furthered the direction my Advocacy Project might take. The main area I considered was on-campus improvements with the washing machine's efficiency/effectiveness when Freshmen use them. The project was not finalized, but the process kick started possible projects anyone could take on in the future. In light of advocating, one student came to me after facing disciplinary issues. Disciplinary issues are not the areas of focus Senators decide and determine, but the responsibility we do have in these issues is to be present in the best way for our classmates. And to help them work through it. So I emailed one of the Housing staff coordinators.

The 2020-2021 SGA organization for me was a time for learning. It was a beginning. I could not have made a better decision when I decided to run. It brought me to a group of people, all different, but all eager to make Dayton a little better than when the year first started.

Sophomore senators:

- Daniel Hennessey
- Jessica Garvin
- Sofia Garcia
- Jack Santi

Accomplishments/Advocacy Projects:

- Daniel Hennessey:
 - White boards in the library, that is a continued advocacy project from last year. Got a senate bill passed to get \$4,000 worth of new whiteboards in the library study rooms.
 - A second project he was working on was with Jessica Garvin, and they were working with the campus rec to increase involvement of sophomores with intramurals this year since there was a decline in the amount of sophomores participating in intramurals.
- Jessica Garvin: This past fall semester I wrote a bill regarding the recognition and importance of Thanksgiving. The bill explained why it is important to our UD community to always remember to give thanks and be grateful for what they have. The bill was passed unanimously in the senate. Regarding advocacy projects, I teamed up with a fellow Sophomore senator - Daniel Hennessey, and we worked closely with Mark Hoying, the director of intramural sports at UD. In our time working with Mark, we helped aid in the issue of low sophomore attendance within intramural sports for the 2020-2021 school year. Though this advocacy project posed a scenario that is far from a quick fix, Daniel and I surveyed and reached out to many fellow sophomores on why they may or may not be involved in intramurals at UD, and what would make them want to participate. The result of the advocacy project allowed more sports to be available to students, with the hopes of increased participation in the future.
- Sofia Garcia: Sexual Assault prevention "Angel Shot" program at the bars on Brown Street, working with PAVE, Artemis, and other faculty and staff this semester and over

2020-2021 SGA Annual Report

the summer to get it implemented by fall semester. Co-sponsored around 8 pieces of legislation and worked on the JRAB board, and the anti-racism working group to help find action steps to promote anti-racist work on campus as well as within SGA. I also participated in the Sophomore Town Hall where I was able to get great feedback from my class on what to work on.

- Jack Santi: My advocacy project is adding a blue safety light at Stuart and at Caldwell Apartments (in the works).

Junior Senators:

- Andrew Moyer
- Rachel Veneman
- Hannah Hoby
- Jada Brown

Accomplishments/Advocacy Projects:

- Andrew (Drew) Moyer:
 - Sitting member on the finance committee and campus unity committee.
 - Sitting member on the Spring 2021 Activities planning group that was formed in light of a SGA survey that expressed deep concerns from students about not having enough in person activities. Through my work on this committee I supported, helped plan, and execute the ice rink on Stuart Field, Winter Wonderland, and the food truck rally in C lot. The main focus was to bring more interactive events to campus for students during the colder first part of the semester to give students more activities to do. Other activities included a cosmic climb in the RecPlex rockwall, an online e-sports tournament, and Abayomi Doll Making.
 - Another thing that I participated in throughout the past year was the internal anti racist working group that was formed under President Coppolino.
 - The advocacy project that I worked on, and am currently working on, is a project partnered with SGA, Residential Properties, and Montgomery County Environmental Services. Senator Hoby and I noticed that there were no in house recycling bins offered in the student neighborhood here at UD for recycling. The bins were only provided to students who live in the residence halls and apartments that UD owns. Senator Hoby and I saw this issue and tried to look at how to purchase recycling bins for the Student Neighborhood. After working with Residential properties and Montgomery County Solid Waste, we decided to fill out a grant that would support our roughly \$13,000.00 project. We are still awaiting to hear back to see if we received the grant. If we do receive the grant, we plan to create an application form that students have to fill out to agree to be responsible for taking care of their recycling bin, keeping it clean, and participating in monthly education provided by SGA. This will help keep participants educated about what they can, and can not, recycle as well as remind them the importance of being a more sustainable community.
 - I worked closely with AG Gordan to form a constitutional amendment to allow the Head of Commuter Relations to have a vote on Senate Floor.

2020-2021 SGA Annual Report

- I worked closely on requesting a larger budget for SGA, and worked to form and brainstorm what SGA could do with a larger budget that would better impact the student body.
- I also attend the Junior class town hall meeting to learn more about constituents' concerns and how to better support the Junior class. From there, I brought concerns to the PATH Forward Subcommittee for COVID-19 Enforcement, met with AVIATE to see how to better improve the program to support students, and met with Public Safety to talk about the safety issues within the North Student Neighborhood.
- **Rachel Veneman:**
 - Worked to accomplish the junior town hall/was a part of it.
 - Has been working with the campus safety committee and public safety, and sent out a survey to residents about how safe they feel on campus. In the process of reviewing the responses they got, and then what steps to take to move forward to address student safety concerns.
- **Hannah Hoby:**
 - Sat on the Judicial Review Board as invited by Attorney General Gordon
 - I attended the Junior Class Town Hall event planned by Rhyen Pearson, our Director of Special Programs, which hosted approximately 300 third-year students. The purpose of the event was to address student concerns regarding this past year and answering any questions they had for us as their Class Representatives. Different concerns that were addressed were issues with the PATH-system through Aviate, campus safety in the North Student Neighborhood, and COVID-19 guidelines.
 - The advocacy project that I worked on this past year was working to install in-house recycling bins into the student neighborhood on campus. Senator Moyer and I collaborated together on initiating this project. We worked very closely with UD Facilities Management on getting their first opinions/suggestions on how best to execute the project. We had several meetings with them over the course of the past semester. They helped finalize our exact layout of the project: suggesting we implement an opt-in program, working with Montgomery County to apply for grants, and connecting us to HRL to handle clean-up and distribution of bins. We are currently waiting to hear back from Montgomery County Solid Waste on if our grant of \$13,000 was approved.
- **Jada Brown:** Black Mobile History Museum with BATU and 4 pieces of legislation for BLM

Senior Senators:

- Kelly Stewart
- Tommy Reese
- Alec Warren
- Jacob Troutwine