

WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY

# STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

MIDTERM REPORT

2022-2023

APRIL - NOVEMBER



# ORGANIZATIONAL OUTREACH

---

Student Government Association (SGA) is an organization that thrives off of communication with student constituents. This administration set goals of improving the organization's outreach, social media presence, and transparent communication. With this semester being the closest to "normal" since COVID-19, this administration has been taking every opportunity to interact with the student population. This included attending events hosted by various departments at WVU, interacting with different student organizations, and being more thorough with our social media content.

SGA was present at all welcome week events, four (4) Student Organizations Fairs and six (2) outreach tabling efforts to improve visibility while engaging with students and student organizations. SGA also has been working with the Carruth Center to co-sponsor tabling events. Over the past few months, SGA has also conducted various surveys via Survey Tuesday on various topics like the Big Daddy gun store, community engagement opportunities, sustainability opportunities, and the College of Health Sciences Website. Survey responses have been used to understand and advocate for the needs of the student body. Additionally, College Senators have been meeting with their respective deans to highlight issues and assess the feasibility of initiatives.

# FINANCES

---

In the past few months, the Student Government Association's Bureau of Finance has awarded forty-five (45) grants to forty-four (44) student organizations, totaling an amount of \$39,680.47. Having allocated 30.3% of the external budget, the Bureau of Finance has seen an 89.1% increase in grant allocation since this time last year.

# PROGRAMMING INITIATIVES

---

On September 14th, members of SGA had the opportunity to meet with the US Secretary of Education, Miguel Cardona to discuss mental health issues on campus in conjunction with other student leaders and administrators at WVU.

On September 20th, Legislative Affairs Officer Logan Riffey, Legislative Affairs Officer Olivia Dowler, the Government Relations Committee and the Community Engagement committee coordinated an on-campus Voter Registration Drive alongside WVU Libraries. This event was to assist all students who were wanting to become registered to vote.

On September 27th, SGA worked in conjunction with the Office of Student Engagement and Leadership to host the annual Hazing Prevention Week Trivia night where students were encouraged to learn about hazing and compete for a grand prize.

On October 8th, the Inclusion committee co-sponsored the International Street Festival in conjunction with the Office of Global Affairs to kick off WVU's annual Diversity Week.

On October 11th, the Student Experience committee hosted their semesterly Safety and Accessibility Walk with University officials, University Police Department, Morgantown Police Department, city officials, and SGA members to evaluate the safety and accessibility of student routes on campus.

On October 22nd, the Inclusion committee co-hosted a community clean up with Alpha Phi Sorority where over 100 students registered to clean up areas across the Downtown campus.

On October 25th, the Inclusion committee hosted an LGBTQIA+ Historical Trivia night where students were able to celebrate LGBTQ+ history month and make pronoun buttons with members of SGA.

On October 30th, the Community Engagement Committee participated in Trunk or Treat hosted by the Benjamin M. Statler College of Engineering & Mineral Resources and the Benjamin M. Statler College Eco Car.

# LEGISLATION

---

The Student Government Association Assembly passed four (4) pieces of legislation. One (1) bill, two (2) resolutions, and one (1) proclamation. Additionally, there are two (2) pieces of legislation on the floor.

President Pro Tempore Azeem Khan authored Assembly Bill 2022-08-03: An Assembly Bill to Adopt the 2022-2023 Student Government Association Bylaws.

College Senator Rushik Patel authored Assembly Resolution 2022-01-03: An Assembly Resolution to Establish an Office of Accessibility Services Student Advisory Committee.

Senator Maria Amores and Senator Deacon Hodges authored Assembly Proclamation 2022-08-06: An Assembly Proclamation to Recognize and Celebrate Filipino American History Month.

College Senator Garrett Oursler authored Assembly Resolution 2022-08-02: An Assembly Resolution to Support Pollinator and Biodiversity Enhancing Landscaping on Campus.

President Pro Tempore Azeem Khan, College Senator Matthew Hudson and Senator Devin Price authored Assembly Resolution 2021-08-03: An Assembly Resolution Urging the University to Prioritize Affordable Parking on Campus. This legislation has been tabled for its second reading.

College Senator Matthew Hudson authored Assembly Resolution 2022-08-04: An Assembly Resolution to Update the Health Sciences Center Facility. This legislation has been tabled for its second reading.

# LEGISLATION IN PROGRESS

---

Senator Devin Price, Senator Madison Santmyer, Senator Laasya Chennuru, and College Senator Tommy Azinger are currently authoring Assembly Resolution 2022-01-05: An Assembly Resolution to Encourage WVU Administrators and Local Officials to Address Accessibility and Pedestrian Safety Concerns.

Senator Devin Price, College Senator Matthew Hudson, and College Senator Bailey Cahill are currently authoring Assembly Resolution 2022-01-06: An Assembly Resolution to Promote and Include LiveSafe App Information in Syllabi.

President Pro Tempore Azeem Khan is authoring Assembly Bills to Amend the Student Government Elections Code. Assembly Bill 2022-08-04 focuses on technical amendments and financial reform, Assembly Bill 2022-08-05 focuses on voting format specification, and Assembly Bill 2022-08-06 focuses on candidate and campaign reorganization.

Senator Madison Santmyer and Senator Laasya Chennuru are authoring An Assembly Resolution to Implement Improved Braille Signage on University Buildings.

Senator Deacon Hodges, Senator Maria Amores, and Senator Laasya Chennuru are authoring An Assembly Proclamation to Give Thanks and Support to Diverse Faculty and Staff.

College Senator Lauren Marquart is authoring an Assembly Resolution to Establish a Student Advisory Board Within the College of Applied Human Sciences (CAHS).

Senator Maria Amores is authoring an Assembly Resolution to Incorporate Mental Health and Emergency Resources on the Back of Student ID Cards.

Senator Maria Amores is authoring an Assembly Resolution to Promote Active Study Spaces on all campuses.

Senator Emily Whalen, Senator Devin Price, and Senator Brooke Jones are authoring an Assembly Resolution to Extend the Add or Drop Dates at the Beginning of Each Semester

# STUDENT ORGANIZATION OUTREACH

---

In collaboration with the Office of Student Engagement and Leadership, 34 student organizations presented their student organizations and their missions to the WVU Student Assembly. Each organization was recommended for approval and recognition by the University via unanimous approval.

Student Organizations Liaison Madison Staten has been hosting monthly President's Forums where leaders of all student organizations are invited to attend and learn more about the resources available to them such as student organization grants and the Student Organization Resource Center. In addition, student leaders have the opportunity to get together and discuss ways to enhance recruitment and fundraising while also giving back to the community. These forums also serve as workshops where leaders can learn more about matters like branding and licensing.

# CONFERENCES

---

Four (4) members of SGA attended Big XII on the Hill in Washington, DC in April. They had the opportunity to meet with the legislative director for Congressman David McKinley, and senior policy advisors to Senator Joe Manchin and Senator Shelley Moore Capito. President Chloe Hernandez, Vice President Pareera Uqaily, Senator Madison Santmyer, and Legislative Affairs Liaison Logan Riffey had the opportunity to lobby for food insecurity, mental health and the Pell grant during each of these meetings.

Senator Madison Santmyer, Senator Lauren Volk, Senator Emily Whalen, College Senator Brooklyn Milam, and former College Senator Conrad Molinaro attended the West Virginia Student Leadership Conference held in Canaan Valley over summer break. They had the opportunity to meet with leaders from other campuses while taking part in leadership workshops and discussions addressing common issues on all campuses.

President Chloe Hernandez, College Senator Jillian Blair, and College Senator Brooklyn Milam attended the Student Government Institute hosted in Denver, Colorado over summer break. They had the opportunity to network with student government representatives from various campuses while understanding how to address common issues on campus.

In September, the office of Student Engagement and Leadership hosted neighboring colleges at the first ever REACH Conference. Several SGA members participated in this conference focusing on promoting, fostering and celebrating diversity through education, team building, open dialogue and facilitated student growth.

Nine (9) members attended the Big XII SGA Conference hosted by the University of Kansas in Lawrence, Kansas in October. Delegates were able to present and hear from other Big XII schools about their structure, prominent issues on campus, and past initiatives. President Chloe Hernandez, Vice President Pareera Uqaily, Chief of Staff Sophia Flower, Chief of Staff Emma Coiner, Treasurer Sohan Daniel, Intern Coordinator Zac Backus, Senator Madison Santmyer, College Senator Matthew Hudson, and College Senator Bailey Cahill were able to learn more about peer institutions and adopt initiatives happening on other campus.





# LET'S GO

---

Over the past few months, we have worked towards our goals of furthering mental health support, ensuring accessibility for all students, and enhancing the student experience. We will continue our efforts to serve our fellow Mountaineers and look forward to the future of this administration and the Student Government Association's accomplishments.

Let's Go!

Chloe Hernandez - Student Body President

Pareera Uqaily - Student Body Vice President

Sophia Flower - Chief of Staff, Internal Affairs

Emma Coiner - Chief of Staff, External Affairs