2012 Spring Progress Report
Mission

“Through forward thinking, effective communication, and active representation, the Student Senate will develop an integrated community that is empowered to build a greater Lehigh.”

Executive Committee

Mary Nunley ’12, President mln211@lehigh.edu
Caitlyn Lia ‘12, Vice President crl212@lehigh.edu
Anjan Gupta ’12, Treasurer ang412@lehigh.edu
Tiffany Kuperschmidt ‘14, Secretary tmk214@lehigh.edu
Arriel Rubenstein ’12, Parliamentarian ajr312@lehigh.edu

Senate Structure

47 total senators
3 Standing Committees
  • Allocations—funds all student clubs and organizations
  • Club Affairs—recognizes student clubs and organizations
  • Public Relations—publicizes Senate news and projects to the Lehigh community

5 Campus Life Improvement Promotion Committees (CLIPs)
  • Determined each year based on issues Senators feel are important to Lehigh students and the campus community
Standing Committee Reports

Club Affairs          Tyler Davenport
Allocations          Anjan Gupta
Public Relations     Sarah Thomson
Club Affairs

Committee Goals:

• Network Senators and club/organization executive board members on a personal level.
• Actively encourage organizations/clubs to plan events with dissimilar organizations/clubs
• Improve interaction with the Allocations committee

Objectives:

• Facilitate open communication between Senators and club/organization executive board members, allowing a club or organization to access a Senator’s valuable advice while simultaneously updating a Senator on the club or organization on a regular basis.
• Arrange the collusion of two clubs/organizations with separate purposes in order to create a new and exciting event on campus, which appeals to a broader section of the undergraduate body.
• Develop stronger ties to the Allocations committee in order to accurately, fairly, and decisively provide evaluation of a club for the Allocation’s committee internal use during budget reconsiderations.

Measures of Success:

• The ability for a Senator on the Club Affairs committee to be an expert on matters pertaining to an assigned grouping of clubs/organizations (such as Cultural, Performance, or Professional clubs/organizations).
• The creation of never-before-seen, co-sponsorship events with clubs/organizations that have never worked together before.
• The updated format of the Yearly Review decisively figures into budget reconsiderations and easily provides a point of reference for the Allocations committee.

Action:

• Assign Club Affairs committee Senators as liaisons to a set number of clubs in order to learn about the club/organization, provide advice, and assist the club/organization to the best of his/her ability.
• Following the 3-Step Worksheet, Senators will suggest an event with two or more dissimilar clubs/organizations, contact the executive board of each club/organization potentially involved, and oversee the final planning and execution of the new event.
• Break the Yearly Review into “Internal” and “External” accomplishments, “Internal” referring to member development, recruitment, etc., and “External” referring to events held, impact on campus, etc.

Key Administrators:

• Matt Kitchie
• Ruby Scott
Allocations

Committee Goals:

• Increase communication with all Senate recognized clubs
• Encourage good club management
• Recognize outstanding clubs

Objectives:

• Provide funding for events that reflect the current goals of Student Senate and the strategic plan of the University
• Develop a quality “out of classroom” environment for all members of the Lehigh Community to engage and learn from shared experiences
• Encourage collaboration between student groups

Measures of Success:

• The Hub
• Quality of New Events
• Preservation of student’s intellectual and creative freedom
• Growth of quality programs on campus

Action:

• Continue helping to fund meaningful events
• Evaluate clubs for budgetary process

Key Administrators:

• Sharon Basso
• Matt Kitchie
Public Relations

Committee Goals:

- Foster a stronger relationship between Student Senate and the Student Body. (Ex: The Voice, The Brown and White, electronic means, etc)
- Use innovative technology on campus to promote Senate and any activities we are involved in.
- Encourage participation in Senate
- Improve visibility on campus to bolster support and participation.
- Let the student body know what we are doing and get them involved!!

Objectives:

- The Public Relations Committee will publicize the activities of the Senate and its committees and maintain and improve communication and cooperation between the Senate, the undergraduate student body, and major student organizations.
- Publish The Voice!
- Work closely with Club Affairs committee to constantly know what on-campus activities are occurring and which need publicizing.
- Publish an Alumni Newsletter at the end of each semester

Measures of Success:

- Attendance to Senate events that we help publicize- The Off Campus Living forum in the fall was very well attended, we had a great turnout for spring elections, and the Light Up Off Campus seems off to a good start
- The Voice distribution to the student body
- Improvement of the Student Senate website

Action:

- Continue investigating new ways for Senate to advertise and publicize events

Key Administrators:

- Amy Grimm
- Sharon Basso
- Matt Kitchie
Campus Life Improvement Project

Committee Reports

Academic Improvement       Seth Fortney
Campus Unity                Dan Boileau
Facilities/Transportation  Sarah Glickstein
Community Relations        Frank Ogura
Safety                      Andrew Callahan
Academic Improvement

Committee Goals and Objectives:

- Construct Course Site pages for CAS and RCEAS, using CBE’s page as a template, to compile important information in one place
- Increase the availability of globally-minded newspapers to students
- Improve the Course Evaluation process and also “go green” by conducting surveys on-line
- Examine the new printing allowances and gather student opinions and recommendations on the recent changes

Measures of Success:

- Implementation of Course Sites for CAS and RCEAS
- Track the student consumption of newspapers on campus
- Have an increased number of courses evaluated electronically
- Draft a formal proposal with student recommendations

Action:

- Drafted a Course Site proposal for both CAS and RCEAS and meeting with appropriate administrators in each college
- Secured funding for additional New York Times and now monitoring student usage
- Contacted the Office of Institutional Research and Course Evaluation sub-committee of the Educational Policy committee
- Collecting student opinions and voicing their concerns and ideas

Key Administrators:

- Vice Provost Smeaton
- Dean Ripa
- Dean Wu
- Jack Lule
Campus Unity

Committee Goals and Objectives:

• Promote Interactions between student groups
• Work with other organizations with similar goals
• Generate more pride for athletic teams and performing groups on campus
• Develop a House Cup that would unify the whole campus
• Start a Dance Marathon similar to THON at Penn State and Dance Marathon at Vanderbilt
• Create a Big Events list that will highlight major sporting events and performing arts events on campus
• Establish a Permanent FanVan

Measures of Success:

• Presenting the House Cup to faculty members this week
• Big Events List will be printed in the next few weeks

Action:

• Making a Big Events List for March
• Meeting with all of the organizations that will be directly associated with the House Cup to finalize all plans.
• Contact Children's Miracle Network to discuss a dance marathon.

Key Administrators:

• Mark Ironside
• Allison Ragon
• Steve Dutton
Facilities and Transportation

Committee Goals:

• Improve student experiences with on and off campus transportation by increasing marketing for existing services and suggesting and implementing improvements.
• Transform facilities by imagining and designing better student spaces to serve academic and extracurricular needs.

Objectives:

• Provide a cost efficient, safe and fast bus to NYC and Newark over Thanksgiving Break.
• Work with ArtsQuest to provide transportation to big events
• Participate in campus wide conversations about the Campus Master Plan
• Work with Cheryl Ashcroft in developing alternative modes of transportation for students with temporary and permanent injuries
• Create a TRACS and bus schedule to distribute to first-year students
• Work with Chris Christian to develop and implement the Lehigh Application
• Participate in a campus walk to determine where new lighting fixtures need to be placed

Measures of Success:

• Meaningful conversations with administrators about our proposals
• Effective transportation for Thanksgiving
• Meaningful conversations with administration at Arts Quest
• Continued progress on past efforts toward reaching completion of projects

Action:

• Made a flyer to distribute to first-year students
• Met with key administrators to discuss transportation and facilities
• Organized and ran a bus for Thanksgiving

Key Administrators:

• Mark Ironside
• Chris Christian
• Bruce Taggart
• Cheryl Ashcroft
Community Relations

Committee Goals and Objectives:

- To improve relations between South Side Bethlehem and the Lehigh community, by learning to be better neighbors
- Teach off campus students to help promote safety in our surrounding neighborhoods
- Work to increase Lehigh's presence in community issues
- Encourage undergrads to explore the Southside and its businesses/events

Measures of Success:

- The involvement of both Lehigh students and nearby residents in the promotion of neighborhood safety
- Increase the visibility of student's involvement in community affairs
- Changing the overall perspective of Lehigh students in the eyes of Bethlehem residents for the better

Action:

- Off Campus Living Forum
- Trash clean-up
- "Light Up Southside" initiative

Key Administrators:

- Dale Kochard
- Chief Shupp/ Lehigh Police Department
Safety

Committee Goals/Objectives

• Incorporate Lehigh’s Blue Light system to densely student populated off-campus areas
• Lobby for additional lighting, crosswalks, or stop signs where they would help keep students safe
• Research what measures can be taken so that students feel safer

Measures of Success:

• Brought back Facilities Services’ Walking Safety Tour
• Several new lighting fixtures on campus

Action:

• Met with Chief Shupp and Corporal Gallagher to discuss committee goals
• Helped promote the Lehigh Police Department’s Hawk Watch Program
• Met with Facilities Services administrators to discuss lighting, crosswalks, sidewalks, and stop signs
• Met with Dale Kochard to discuss the possibility of installing blue lights off-campus

Key Administrators:

• Pat Chase
• Chief Shupp
• Dale Kochard
• Chris Christian