Monthly Report
SGA Cabinet

October 1, 2016

Please refer questions to
SGA Chief of Staff William Weightman
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**Chief of Staff**
William Weightman

- Helped SGA President Karina Toy execute the SGA Fall Retreat September 7-11, 2016.
- Began writing survey questions for the SGA Financial Aid Survey.
- Organized meeting with SGA President Karina Toy and Associate Vice President for Student Financial Services Kim Downs-Burns to present survey questions.
- Held SGA New Member Orientation on October 6, 2016 to explain the Constitution Bylaws, and the function of the SGA Finance Committee to newly elected senators.
- Maintained Senate agendas and Senate minutes on the SGA website.

**Going Forward:**
- Complete the SGA Financial Aid Survey and present results to the Office of Student Financial Services.
- Continue to assist the President with any tasks that need to be completed.

**Co-Deputy Chief of Staff**
James Callison

- Grill Proposal
  - Proposal written. The proposal was then rejected. However, meeting with Dan from dining services this week to see if there is a manageable way to make the grill idea a reality.
- Commons Cup
  - Presented ideas to cabinet. Now must re-strategize vision of the event with Hiruy to make a reality. Pivoted to make a J-term event.

**Going Forward:**
- Want to better communicate with my half of the cabinet to know as meetings occur and how they went. I am too reliant on hearing it only when constantly badgering or waiting for a meeting. Need to come up with a better system of communication on Slack.
- Want to make Commons Cup a reality or realize its implausibility in the next month to give enough time to plan for J-term if possible.
- Want to begin Town Day and Staff Day discussions this next month.

**Co-Deputy Chief of Staff**
Hiruy Ephrem

- Met with the International Politics and Economics Program to create an event for IP&E majors.
- Developed an outline with Co-Deputy Chief of Staff James Callison to pitch the Commons Cup.
- Ensured that Slack is being actively used by most SGA members.
- Created a form to record End of the Month Cabinet Report.
- Created a Facebook page for the IP&E Program.

**Going forward:**
• Looking to gauge the Economics Department’s interest in creating a community within the major
• Get Slack engagement higher from 90% of the SGA
• Pitching the Commons Cup in a way that showed the intentions behind the Cup well
• Getting those without committee to engage in Slack

**Director of Membership**
Andrew Smith

• Elections
  o Successfully held the First-Year Senate General Election and a Special Election to fill the seats of Feb and Sophomore Senator.
• Cabinet Committees
  o Worked with the Cabinet to fill committee positions for those wanting to have a committee.
• Ad Hoc Constitutional Reform Committee
  o Formed the Ad Hoc Constitutional Reform Committee that is chaired by the Director of Membership to work on constitutional and bylaw reforms and will produce recommendations for the Senate over the coming year.

**Treasurer**
Kevin Benscheidt

Main Points:
• 3 Weekly, all-committee meetings
• Other weekly meetings with Chair and Deputy Chair’s
• Continued Club Sports Conversation
• Finance Committee Applications go out today

Things Coming up:
• More weekly meetings
• Collaboration Organization Oversight Committee
• Finance Committee Interviews

Allocated Budgets

Annual:
• MMU -- $2510
• Men’s Ultimate Frisbee -- $2675
• Midd Geo -- $3010
• Cycling -- $985
• Men’s Rugby -- $8130
• Pre Med -- $790
• FAM -- $1210

New Money Requests:
• Yoga -- $225
• ASL -- $500

Notes on Allocations:
• Most cuts were for seasonal funding (i.e. funding just the fall issue or just the fall season until more specifics are given for spring expenditures)
• Other cuts were on excessive asks for snack food
• Other cuts were on things outside of guidelines (i.e. lodging)

**Director of Student Organizations**
Nick Delehanty

• Committee Name Change
  o Updated the SGA Constitution Committee’s name to SGA Student Organizations Oversight Committee to reflect the successful passage of Constitutional Amendment S2016 – SB15.
• First Meeting
  o SOOC held its first meeting of the 2016-2017 academic year on October 1, 2016.
• No New Applications
  o SOOC has received no new review applications as of October 1, 2016.
• New Members
  o SOOC opened its application and held interviews with candidates interested in sitting on the Committee. There are now seven members on the Committee.
• Handling Campus Press Release
  o SOOC has been in contact with the Campus, commenting on the Campus’ story related to Middlebury Intervarsity Christian Fellowship case.

**Director of Publicity**
Yiyi Jin

• Bulletin Board & SGA Website
  o The Bulletin board in McCullough Student Center is updated; all senate and cabinet members’ profiles are put up (missing profiles from the two senior senators and the Feb senator, will send out an email again on October 3). The Senate agenda and a weekly meeting notice are also displayed on the first board.
  o The SGA website member page is updated with all the cabinet members’ bios. However the senator’s page still needs change in format.
• Publicity committee
  o Bridget Colliton’19 applied for Publicity Committee, I decided to accept her application and she was approved by the senate. I’ve scheduled a time to meet her in the coming week and walk over the details. I’ll ask the president or chief of staff for approval if I need to give her access on any of the SGA accounts.
• Publicizing Events
  o Publicized 10 O’clock Ross on Facebook; publicized the SGA elections via posters.

**Co-Directors of Academic Affairs**
Jiya Pandya and Maya Woser

- Picked new members. Established meetings with the faculty Educational Affairs Committee (EAC) and continued ongoing projects for the semester.
- Re-introduced texts.com to Middlebury. Communicated with six different students on their ideas for the SGA Educational Affairs Committee.
- Creating links between Center for Careers and Internships (CCI) and International Student & Scholar Services (ISSS) to offer better job advice to international students.
- Working with the Center for Teaching, Learning & Research (CTLR) on teacher training and mid-term evaluations.
- Working to make textbooks cheaper: engaged in conversations with Student Financial Services and Andi Lloyd (Vice President for Academic Affairs/Dean of Faculty) to make a student major database/student to student program/thinkingbuddies and get student input into major requirements.

**Going forward:**
- Bring above ideas to the Faculty EAC and make game plans.
- Get the word out about thinkingbuddies.
- Student survey about educational affairs/get student feedback on projects.
- Work with Atwater Senator Jeffrey Ou and Feb Senator Rae Aaron to map out their projects and establish the student/upperclassman major database.
- Meet with all the key administrators relating to our projects.

**Director of Institutional Affairs**
Taylor Banaszewski

- Hired an SGA secretary to take the minutes at Senate meetings.
- Hired a club sports team for newspaper delivery.
- Hired 10 o'clock Ross Monitors.
- Managed the orientation to all of these new roles.
- Working to make dining staff happy with 10 o'clock Ross.
- Working to make sure newspapers are being delivered properly and on time.

**Going Forward**
- Working to expand 10 o'clock Ross and make sure dining is comfortable with the changes.

**Director of Environmental Affairs**
Michael Shrader

- All is good in my position at the moment. My committee will be meeting for the first time next week. However, I am already working with Jack Byrne in the OSI and EatReal on a joint initiative on food sustainability and a "Beyond Carbon Neutrality" forum.

**Co-Directors of External Affairs**
Amirah Fauzi and Jack Petrillo
• Establishing relationships with Middlebury’s Chamber of Commerce, the Better Middlebury Partnership, and the Middlebury Selectboard.
• We are offering student input for events the Better Middlebury Partnership are beginning to work on, like Chili Fest.

**Going Forward:**
• Figure out what specifically the Select board members want us to address in terms of bike safety.
• Decide how to disperse the information (brochure in packets given to first years? Handing them out at the used bike sale?)

**Please outline the challenges you have faced this month (Sept.)**
• None

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**Co-Directors of Institutional Diversity**
Brianna Arroyo and Geovany Martinez

Key Note: We did not have a committee until September 25, 2016
• We met with Miguel in order to discuss the schedule for the Student Leadership Retreat
• Spoke to SGA President Karina Toy on Miguel's comments and get a feel for what her expectations are
• Drafted e-mails and sent them out for Social Houses, the Athletic Department, Cultural Organizations, and Anderson Freeman Resource Center (AFC) staff members.
• Set up a meeting with Jennifer Herrera (Associate Director of AFC) expecting to talk about the retreat and facilitator training

**Going Forward:**
• We will be working with Jennifer to train facilitators
• Currently are planning the entire Student Leadership Retreat schedule
• Discussing on having a panel before election day, with students and faculties panelists
• Want to have a successful Leadership Retreat and host a panel on the election race.

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**Co-Directors of Athletic Affairs**
Annie Cowan and Kate Reinmuth

• Organization and Establishing Committee
  o The Directors of Athletic Affairs used the first month of the fall semester primarily for organization. Most importantly, the members of the Athletic Affairs Committee were elected and ratified by the Senate. These include Maddie Morgan (’18), Jack Langerman (’19.5), and Ben Arquit (’20). Due to the small size of the group, the Directors are willing to add interested and dedicated members throughout the course of the semester. Meetings for the committee are set for Thursday evenings; the first meeting will be in the first week of October. The Committee will not only help put on events instigated by the Directors, but will aid in bridging the gap between students and student-athletes by bringing unique perspectives and ideas to help tackle this challenge.

• Meetings
  o The Directors met with Erin Quinn (Middlebury’s Director of Athletic Affairs) during the second week of school to discuss varsity, JV, and club team finances and rules.
The Directors plan to meet with Kevin (Director of Finances) in order to relay this information to him, and ensure that club finances continue to be fairly divided between teams. Those asking about creating new club teams, which already has a varsity sport, were encouraged to instead look to create a JV team.

- Rental Skates
  - The Directors recently sent a follow-up email to Erin Quinn to ask about the school’s rental skates; no response has since returned, but the issue will continue to be pushed. This email also requested future conversations about ensuring that varsity team cuts of freshman occur at appropriate times and with an appropriate support network.

**Director of Transportation**
Maddy Sanchez

- So, for the transportation section. The buses are selling well. One of the Montreal buses has sold out; the email to push the sakes will be going out this weekend. I'm working on contacting Elizabeth Lallemand about a carpool program for some of the students who live in driving distance. No difficulties, I have very easy access to people who can help me.

**Director of Technology**
Aayam Poudel

- Fixed some bugs with middcourses with Dana - allowed and restricted access without putting 2 new reviews.
- Talked to Jim Stuart, Associate Vice President for Information Technology, about technology services at Middlebury and how students feel about it.

**Going Forward:**
- I would like to have a system where first-year students don't have to put 2 new reviews to read Middcourses reviews.

**Co-Directors of Student Health and Wellness**
Michelle Yang and Megan Vargas

- Met with Mike Roy (Dean of the Library) and Brenda Ellis (Committee on Library Spaces) to talk about the possibility of rethinking the basement of the library as a collaborative group study space. They said yes.
- Next stop, survey! Met with Matt St. Amour (Green Dot intern, Captain of the basketball team) to chat about collaborating with Green Dot this year on issues such as soberfriending, drinking policies, team culture, etc.
- Met with Barbara McCall to discuss our future objectives as a team

**Going Forward:**
- Working with GlobeMed to celebrate Mental Health Day on October 10th. Current plan: tabling outside of Atwater, whiteboard with "I stand with Mental Health because...", cookies, etc. Print out pictures of everyone holding whiteboard and displaying it in the library.
- Begin our peer to peer coffee hours Have the survey sent out relating to the library idea
We met up with Karen Gutentag (Associate Dean for Judicial Affairs and Student Life) and Manny Duran (Sophomore Senator) to talk and brainstorm ideas on how to inform the student body about the process that happens after someone reports sexual assault.

Some difficulties we encountered were probably miscommunication and trying to find time to meet people and keep the ball rolling in general.

We’re definitely going to pursue the topic with Karen (possibly a go/with all the information and posters put around with the go/on it) we’ve also been in contact with a woman who does a speech performance about her sexual assault and might bring her to campus.

Our goals going into the next month are following through with Karen, meeting with Barbara McCall (Director of Health and Wellness Education) about green dot training for the SGA, contacting the speaker on sexual assault, and supporting Karin Hanta (Director of Chellis House) in bringing a movie about toxic masculinity to campus and its directors for a screening and Q&A session.

In our capacity as Co-Directors of Social Affairs, we have organized several meetings with different groups on campus. We've met with Doug Adams (Associate Dean of Students for Residential and Student Life), the heads of the social houses, and non-organizational student party hosts in order to gain better insight into the accessibility of social life on campus.

We reached out to Public Safety to organize a meeting, and we are still waiting to hear back. In addition to our meetings, we are also in the process of organizing an Oktoberfest event for students on campus.

We've spoken with MCAB, Two Brothers Tavern, Cornerstone (student run bar), and Dan Detora (Executive Director of Food Service Operations). In the coming weeks, we hope to solidify a plan for the event. We believe Oktoberfest could be a yearly tradition on campus.

Moving forward, we hope to explore the ability for students to gain greater independence in private spaces (common rooms, dorms). The desire for increased self-monitoring as opposed to current Public Safety patrolling methods has been a common thread in our conversations. Exploring this matter will require open and respectful discussions between students, the administration, and Public Safety. We hope to find an agreeable common ground where all parties feel comfortable.