



# Coffee & Conversation

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The Campus Outreach and Events Committee (COE) hosted Coffee and Conversation on Wednesday, November 16, 2016 and asked students a series of questions regarding Convocation program at Belmont. Students responded to the survey with their various thoughts and opinions which have been compiled below.

Initial Intent

The goal of Coffee and Conversation is to ask students how we can better improve different aspects of Convocation and how SGA can better our students' experience at Belmont.

The following questions were asked in the survey:

On a scale of 1 to 5, how much do you agree with the following statement 'Convocation programs at Belmont are interesting, and I enjoy attending them,' with 1 meaning 'strongly disagree' and 5 meaning 'strongly agree.'

On a scale of 1 to 5, how much do you agree with the following statement 'I am satisfied with the topics covered by our convocation program,' with 1 meaning 'strongly disagree' and 5 meaning 'strongly agree.'

What can Belmont do to improve the types, attendance and overall quality of the convocations?

What can Belmont do to improve the awareness of different convocations?

What can SGA do to better your experience here at Belmont? Do you have any other thoughts on this topic that you would like to share with us?

Time, Date, and Who the event included

Coffee and Conversation was hosted on the first floor of McWhorter on Wednesday, November 16 from 9:30 AM until 11 AM. SGA set up tables offering free coffee, hot chocolate and tea, and COE asked students passing by to talk or complete the survey.

Discussion Notes

The following ideas were suggested in the surveys:

Convocation

- There should be better/more promotion
  - Possible weekly emails with a calendar\*
  - Phone notifications
  - Social media promotion
  - Posters in dorms
- The elective section should be brought back\*
- Students should be alerted about convos in which they might have particular interest\*
- There should be more convos related directly to majors
  - Film
  - Science
- There should be more CPA convo events offered during convo hour
- Graduate students should be made more aware of events
- There should be more secular convocations
- There should be more variety of topics
- There should be more convos outside of the 10 AM hour
- There should be more student panel convocations
- There should be more pop culture oriented convos
- Require fewer convocation credits
- There should be more community service opportunities

- There should be a more diverse range of speakers
- They should be more oriented towards personal growth
- Put convos on the Belmont App
- There should be signs/people outside of the rooms in which the convo event is taking place
- They should be pertinent and on hot topics

#### SGA in General

- Host public forum type events so students can feel more involved
- “talk to dean of music school about allowing accompanist fees to be paid for through loans/scholarship”
- There should be more interaction between grad students to make them feel more inclusive

\*Items with an asterisk indicate that it was suggested multiple times

#### Conclusions and Results

We concluded that McWhorter is not ideal for hosting Coffee & Conversation, because it is a building with mostly graduate courses. They had little input on the topic of convocation because they are not required to attend. Among the 45 students surveyed, an average of 4.4 was answered for the question of whether students agree that “the convocation programs at Belmont are interesting, and I enjoy attending them.” An average of 3.6 was answered for the question of whether students agree that “I am satisfied with the topics covered by our convocation program.”

**This report was presented on the floor of the Student Government Association Congress on (November 21, 2016) in the interests of the Student Body of Belmont University.**