SAGE Coalition Call
February 10th, 2020, 9pm EST
Zoom Link to call in: https://unc.zoom.us/j/822147684

Call started: 9:01 pm

Attendance:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Attending</th>
<th>Representatives</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Michigan State University</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>Danielle Jones</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Ohio State University</td>
<td>INACTIVE</td>
<td>Stephen Post</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rutgers University</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>Tamr Atieh, Nathaniel Flores</td>
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<td>SUNY Stony Brook</td>
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<td>Texas A&amp;M University</td>
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<td>University of Arizona</td>
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<td>Dylan Barton</td>
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<td>University of California-Berkeley</td>
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<td>University of California-Davis</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>Gwen Chodur</td>
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<tr>
<td>University of California-Irvine</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>Connor Strobel and Eric Hernandez</td>
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<td>University of California-Los Angeles</td>
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<td>University of California-San Diego</td>
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<td>Juliá Anna Adrian</td>
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<td>University of Illinois-Urbana Champaign</td>
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<td>University of Maryland, College Park</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>Rachel Lamb</td>
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<tr>
<td>University of Michigan</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>Ashley Melnick, RJ Batas, Marshall Case, Sarah Bork</td>
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<td>University of Minnesota</td>
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<td>University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>Carlos Patino Descovich, Chastan Swain</td>
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<td>University of Pittsburgh</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>Dana Duncombe</td>
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<td>University of Texas-Austin</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>Samantha Fuchs, Kathryn Abercrombie, Christina Baze</td>
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<td>University of Virginia</td>
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<td>University of Washington</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>Abbie Shew, Maggie Dunham Jordahl, Giuliana Conti</td>
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<td>Total in Attendance</td>
<td>12</td>
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Approval of Minutes:

1. **January Coalition Call**
   a. January Coalition Call minutes can be found here
C: Motion to approve Jan coalition call minutes?
Executive Board Reports

1. Chair- Manny Hernandez (chair.sage@gmail.com)

C: We’re going to get through our reports quickly to get through new and old business.

a. Ad Hoc Membership Committee

i. Summary 2/10

C: This link will take you to a document that illustrates where we’re at with the membership ad hoc committee, 3 meetings, to discuss what would happen if we would move from membership of R1 criteria and R2 criteria. I’m going to move that to new business, with Marshall, if that’s okay.

b. Day on the Hill

C: We’ve been hard at work getting everything ready. Sam has a lot on the agenda, so get excited. Hotel block is open, with free cancellation until March 25th. As long as we fill 12 rooms, we get free wifi.

VC: Not just free, but free -fast- wifi. Regular wifi is free and fast wifi costs $25 a night. That we will get for free by filling up their block.

c. NAGPS/Membership

C: Trying to get this discussion going. Difficulties with their President’s availability.

C: We had a contact back from Ohio state, of wanting to rejoin SAGE again. We’ll be touching base with them to get them on a call. Wanted to get you a heads up.

2. Vice Chair- Samantha Fuchs (vicechair.sage@gmail.com)

a. President’s Call 3 - Mental Health - Tues, Feb 18th, 9 pm EST

VC: See above for details. We are having no external speaker. A traditional roundtable to discuss issues at their schools, raise questions, etc. Everyone is welcome to attend, but speaking is prioritized to the speakers. An agenda will be going out ahead of time, with a Zoom link. Nate Flores and Sarah Bork (our mental Health Co-chairs) will be speaking on their research.

b. Day on the Hill Costs

i. DOH Support grant application for up to $300 per school here.

VC: DC is expensive. Kimpton Palomar hotel is $269. We do have support: travel grant through CPAGE is $300, follow the link to the application.

ii. Save 14.5% sales tax by charging your stay to the master account used to make the contract, and then having CPAGE invoice but you individually. That invoice request can be asked here.

VC: You can save a good deal hereon sales tax (see link) through CPAGE. They will send you an invoice for your school.

c. Day on the Hill Scheduling

i. Day 1: Bylaws Amendments, CPAGE - MOU, Fall Summit, white papers, fall summit bids, No substantive changes at DoH on white papers

VC: Scheduling is still TBD but will be more concrete soon. Day one will follow the topics above. One school has already been in contact about bidding to host Fall Summit. We have hosting guides on the Google Drive. The pitch is only a short summary of why your school is good to visit. Contact me or Arizona (our previous host) for more information or guidance. We finish out day 1 with voting on white papers. No substantive changes are allowed to the white papers at DOH. We vote on two or three to pitch in the Rep’s offices (the rest go on our website and into our handout packet).

ii. Day 2: Advocacy education, advocacy practice, speakers, Executive Board elections

1. Prefer - more time for advocacy practice or more speakers/speaker time?
VC: All about prep for meetings with Congresspeople’s offices. Ellen will discuss lobbying do’s and don’ts. We will have meetings with your lobbying team and extensive practice (w/ a fake rep as one of the eboard members). We will have a few expert speakers on HEA and Title IX. We will also hold eboard elections. Please contact the eboard for details on their respective positions, and read the bylaws.
VC: How much time for advocacy and speakers would you like? Last year we had one hour of practice (I'd like to double that). That would mean only 3 speakers with limited time.
C: WE also need to be aware of how early we start and how late we finish.
VC: We are starting half an hour earlier than last year.
UA: I would prefer to have more practice time.
UW: Speakers time was valuable, but time to practice was also great. We didn’t have time to practice with our state day groups, so maybe the extra time could be used for both.
VC: We aren't planning time for state day planning, so you might want to budget time at the end of day 2.
C: How did you guys prep for state day?
UW: It was a lot for us to handle prepping for state day when we were already beat from DOH, so time for it dedicated in the schedule would be really helpful.
VC: I'll tweak the schedule. Any other questions?
UMich: The year I went, rather than speakers, we had a panel, which allowed us to have a broader range of topics but a limited time.
VC: The chair and I have discussed this.
C: One problem is that these topics are so big that it is hard to condense them together and still do them justice. We’re trying to decide if a panel can work with such varied topics.
UMich: The panelists had minitalks, then a Q&A, so there was time for everything, but I do understand how big the topics are.
UW: If we’re having individual speakers on topics we’re lobbying on, is there a way for us to have time to practice with them on specifics? We want to make sure we have talking points and facts down.
VC: That’s why we want to have speakers present and answer questions. They will specifically address lobbying strategies. They get the white papers in advance so that they can address specifics for our advocacy.
3. **Political Director**- Abbie Shew ([policy.sage@gmail.com](mailto:policy.sage@gmail.com))
a. **State Day Meetings**
PD: Primary thing - last week I sent out an email to all of you asking who you will meet with on state Day. If you could get together as an institution and get back to me as soon as possible, I would really appreciate it. I am scheduling SAGE day meetings. Even if you just plan on reaching out to someone, please let me know. We cannot have multiple contacts/meetings with the same person. I will default to you, as constituents are more likely to be listened to than us generally. Any questions?
Arizona: Could you put your email in the chat?
VC: Did you get the email from her last week?
Arizona: No
PD: Well, that’s a bigger problem. My email is [policy.sage@gmail.com](mailto:policy.sage@gmail.com).
PD: Our next check in call is next Monday (2/17)

b. **WG Chairs Call next Monday (2/17)**

4. **Communications**- Ashley Melnick ([communications.sage@gmail.com](mailto:communications.sage@gmail.com))
a. **Conferences Tab** on website
Com: New conference tab on the website. It is updated with all of the links that have been sent through emails, in case you don’t have them.
   b. **DoH Prep sheet**
Com: This is a sheet with information about what to pack, how to get a metro card, things to help you get around DC and make things a lot smoother.

c. **SAGE Shop**

Com; One of my goals was to make an apparel/merchandise store for SAGE, as mentioned before. There’s t-shirts, mugs, stationary, stickers. Part of the money goes to SAGE for future Fall Summit and Day on the Hill in the future. It’s not quite user-friendly, the front page only shows the t-shirt and then you have to select categories to see the other items.

5. **Internal Affairs- Cody Love** ([internalaffairs.sage@gmail.com](mailto:internalaffairs.sage@gmail.com))

a. Internal Research - Student Finances and Benefits Questionnaire

IA: Internal research survey is out. You should have had one person per school, from the last survey before Fall Summit. Please, if you’re one of those people, work on that. Reach out to others for help, because it’s large. We’re trying to get those collected by Feb 17th. If you are not one of those people who have the survey but need to know who it is, email me. It’s not always the SAGE delegate.

b. DOH Registration:

i. Registration Form for numbers, diets, accommodations: [https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe6QTnFhHGgfBIjNgjH_FmKyYjic7RDPjEextIJ1TXrKyOZyg/viewform?usp=sf_link](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe6QTnFhHGgfBIjNgjH_FmKyYjic7RDPjEextIJ1TXrKyOZyg/viewform?usp=sf_link)

ii. Eventbrite, $40 per person: [https://www.eventbrite.com/e/sage-day-on-the-hill-2020-tickets-93205701763?ref=estw](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/sage-day-on-the-hill-2020-tickets-93205701763?ref=estw)

IA: You should have just received an email for me that the registration form and the Eventbrite registration is here. You need to fill out both, that makes sure you’ve paid the right amount of registration fees. The registration form also includes necessary information about diet, accommodations, and virtual attendance, which we’re going to have a Zoom meeting for. Registration cost is $40 per person. Have only ONE person fill out the form, as it’s easier to keep track. Both of these are due by the 24th of February, which is two weeks. We want to get catering set. If anything is not working or you have issues, reach out to me.

UMD: Our institution is in the DC area, so we won’t be staying. What is the $40 used for?

IA: It covers printing, catering for breakfast, raise money for pins, Chair?

VC: It’s the room and AV cost, which is about $800. That’s the bulk of the money.

UMD: So if we have folks who only want to come to State Day, and who won’t be at the other days, do they have to pay?

VC: No, if they’re only there on that day.

UMD: What is the difference of SAGE and State Day?

PD: State Day is your day to schedule your meetings and do what you want. SAGE day is set by us, represented as a coalition and mixed up by schools.

UMD: So SAGE day meetings are multiple schools, they’re a mix of schools going to targeted advocacy?

PD: Yes, and the second day is Maryland folks talking to Maryland Senators and representatives who you want to meet with.

**Old Business**

1. Working Group Advocacy Goals/White Paper Drafts

a. **Campus Climate/Sexual Misconduct**

C: Moving on to old business.

PD: I’m going to turn it straight over to Kathryn for Sexual Misconduct.

UT Austin, Kathryn: We have a bit more work to do on consensus building in our working group. But, the gist is the intro contextualizing why this is a pertinent issue for graduate students, with statistics. We’re going to pare this down. The two main buckets we’re hoping on are ‘investing in a safe campus with supporting surfaces’ and ‘opposing title ix regulation changes that will harm survivors’ we’re working on making fewer words in there. I would love opinions on this, but there
are a couple of places where we mention just graduate students, and sometimes when we 
mention graduate and professional students. I’m okay with being fast and loose with the 
terminology. 
Someone: I’m cool with it. 
UT: Cool. Next version will have fewer words but more bullet points. The three pieces of 
legislation we’re most excited about are on there. One of the ones on there, that could have 
legs, is the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA). VAWA is a longstanding piece of legislation 
for gender-based violence, really expanded beyond women, and includes harassment. There’s 
a democrat and republican sponsor. People have been trying to push this through for years, and 
it has a chance to be great. 
V 0-AZ%: Good job! You might use last year’s paper for the Title IX opposition where it’s 
still pending. 
UT: Yes, we saw that great paper. We want to see if there’s more legislation to pass, so that is 
still pending. 
b. Graduate Funding 
UMD, Rachel: We’ve been meeting as a committee for the last few weeks and have a draft with 
a lot of subfields by the work people have done. Support for non-stem fields and support for 
derunderrepresented students, with multiple bullet points for each. We’ve identified four potential 
bills of interest - women and minorities in stem, keep stem talent act, stem opportunities act 
(and one more). We’re going to crisp up once more. We have a placeholder for a figure. We’re 
happy to provide more detail. We have more editing to do. 
C: All of your bills are in one section. Going to split? 
UMD: Some of them overlap for both sections. More related to the second ask. 
PD: We’re going to schedule a call to go over just the white papers, since our coalition calls are 
only an hour. In the next week, we’ll schedule a call to go over things in detail. 
c. Immigration 
UNC, Carlos: Our main message is pretty set. All of the content is set, but it’s two pages, so 
now we’re going to be editing down. The first is ask is about having students being able to stay 
in the US once they get their degrees. The backlog elimination visa enhancement act, (includes 
dependents), and the Keep STEM Talent Act. Then we have some asks that are about visa 
policies. Don’t know how actionable they are. Second section is on DACA. American Dream and 
Promise Act is difficult to situate, with the supreme court. Higher Education Dream Act could still 
support tuition payments. 
VC: Devil’s advocate, how much does DACA apply to graduate students? 
UNC: DACA recipients that go to graduate school are really productive. Second, folks who get 
an education are not a “burden to society” quote-unquote. 
VC: Awe 
UM: Agree. Found a lot of intersectionality of identities and their experiences. Even see 
immigration paper tying into this. Right now it’s an American culture perspective, but that’s not 
something we can tie into legislation. 
d. Mental Health 
UM, Sarah: we wanted to make sure we found good data driven points, showing needs being 
unmet and the lack of training for the workforce. Some italics for what we’re still searching for, 
as we just did a major facelift on the document. There’s a good amount of legislation we want to 
go through, and put it succinctly. We have two categories now: Access to mental health services 
(cost) and grant funding industry, and second box is campus climate - transparency and data 
collection, and improving mental health access students - puts suicide prevention information on 
teh back of ID cards. We want to move a lot of the info to an infographic. Anything else? 
Arizona: You might have overlaps with campus sexual assault in the mental health paper. 
Efforts to increase positive campus climate is a double whammy for success. 
UM: Agree. Found a lot of intersectionality of identities and their experiences. Even see 
immigration paper tying into this. Right now it’s an American culture perspective, but that’s not 
something we can tie into legislation. 
e. Student Finance
UCD, Gwen: This is a hot mess, formatting-wise. We’re looking at finance in a holistic perspective - education funding to get students in, then debt once we graduate. Issues with fitting it all one page. We might need to go back and reconfigure how we shape.
VC: What happened to the template?
UCD: I don’t know!
VC: I will send you the google doc template to be easier to work with. Content-wise, I think the full holistic approach is too high-reaching to fit on one page, and you might remove education funding to the research funding section.

New Business
1. Ad Hoc Committee Overview
   a. Summary 2/10
Marshall: The Membership Committee has been looking at the membership requirements and how we might have more diverse perspectives. This document is a pros and cons of the two opens of opening to R2s or not. Basically, the idea is we want to get as many student voices as possible and allow the coalition to get a broader audience while trying to keep the things that keep SAGE great the way they are. We want to make sure we do that with a plan, in terms of advocacy, finances, and a strategic sense. Having participation with an undiluted experience.
C: Take a look at that summary with immediate comments sent over to us, and we’ll reroute to committee. We want to hear everyone.
2. Legislator of the Year
C: Last coalition call, the coalition voted to have two legislators of the year. The executive board is very concerned about that. We wanted to bring that back to the coalition. We had discussed that by giving out two awards, it basically diminishes the full impact it could have, because it should be the one specific legislator, and that’s our main concern. But again, we weren’t going to overturn what the coalition said, but we wanted to bring it up.
UMich, Sarah: I was pretty vocal, with the point raised. What was the concern before. Given that is was such a close vote, it would have disjointed the coalition to only have one. Personally, I understand the concern of diluting, but I don’t think it’s an actual concern. If we recognize two, it could spread the word.
VC: We could have voted to veto it, but Manny wanted to respect the voice of the coalition and bring it up again.
C: We didn’t want to do something to go behind the coalition, but we wanted to voice our thoughts.
UMich: Are you planning to veto it still?
C: We just wanted to voice what we were thinking.
UMich: Thank you for the clarification.
VC: So it’s just going to be clear given as ‘Legislators of the Year’ so that the awardees know that they are both considered, and it’s not one person seeing that another has it, and wondering how many awards are given, and wondering how much of an honor it actually is.
Gwen: I think that it happening every once in a while is not a problem.
C: As it stands, the coalition is voted, so this is where it stays. This was not us trying to change anything on you, but us wanting to be open in our communication with you.

Announcements/Open Forum
1. President’s Budget
C: It has come out, and there are several things that affect graduate students, so I recommend everyone take a look.
2. LBJ Women’s Campaign School at UT Austin - https://ljbwcs.lbj.utexas.edu/
C: Plug for this.
UT Austin, Kathryn: LBJ is our policy school. There’s a cool thing we’re having in June, modelled after Yale’s policy school. It’s a campaign training ground for folks interested in running or participating on campaigns. Feel free to ping me with questions.

Ohio State, Steven: I wanted to hop in. We’re currently inactive. I have a few points to explain why that happened, but we want to be able to participate on Day on the Hill.
C: Yes, this is the proper time to do that. Can you give a quick spiel?
Ohio: Unfortunately, we had a lot of issues on our side. Our communication got cut off when I was ill, and the delegate I thought was coming to these meetings was not communicating clearly and I had to clean it up after I came back.
C: We will go ahead and move it to the coalition. Any questions? Hearing none, roll call:
Mich State: (abstention)
Rutgers: Aye
Texas A&M (abeent)
Arizona: Aye
UC Davis: Aye
UC Irvine: (abstention)
UC SD: Aye
UMD: (abstention)
UMich: Aye
UNC: Aye
Pitt: Aye
Ut Austin: Aye
UW: Aye
The ayes have it!

Events
1. Specialty White Paper Discussion - Week of Feb 24th???
2. Next Coalition call: March 9th, 9pm EST
3. Next Presidents call: February 18th, 9pm EST

Arizona, motions, Ut Austin seconds. Unanimous approval.