# **Student Fees Advisory Committee (SFAC)**

# **Questionnaire & Report for Fiscal Year 17**



# Student Government Association 52<sup>nd</sup> Administration

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#### **Mission Statement**

The Student Government Association exists to serve as the official voice through which student opinion may be expressed and empowered in the overall policy, decision making process, and services offered at the University of Houston. As such, the Student Government Association is committed to understanding the needs of students and advocating on their behalf. Through continuous interaction and collaboration with students, faculty, staff, administration, and the community the organization works to improve and enhance the quality of the student experience.

#### **Core Values**

- ✓ Community
- ✓ Student-First
- ✓ Empowerment
- ✓ Accountability
- ✓ Collaboration
- ✓ Improvement

# **Executive Summary**

Student Government Association, in its role as the liaison between the student body and the administration, performs its mission by connecting SGA members and students through an accessible and relevant interface. The power of the organization lies in its student senators, representing and speaking on behalf of the fellow member of their colleges, to develop policy and legislation at the bi-weekly meetings of the senate and its committees. The executive branch then collaborates with the stakeholders and programs on campus to help develop and execute those policies. Further, the multitude of university committees and workgroups with SGA delegates serve to represent students on important policy and decision-making processes in nearly all facets of the university's operation.

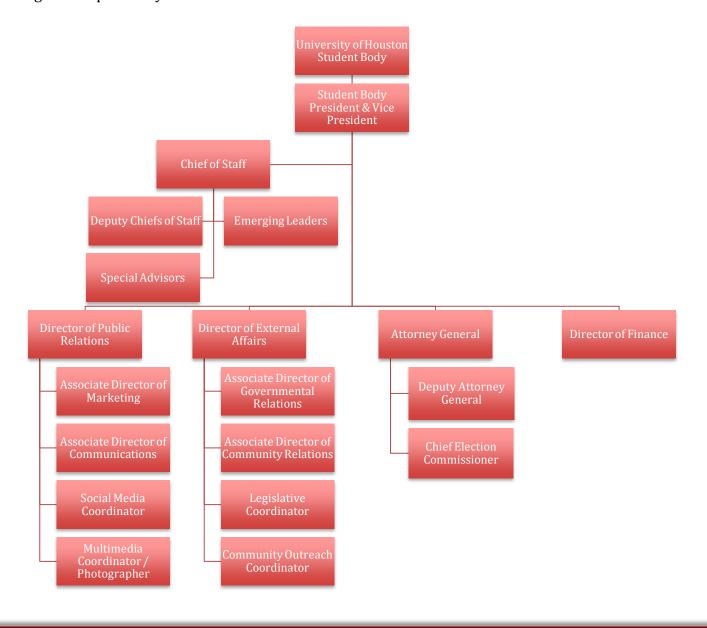
The Student Government Association, as indicated in its constitution, is established to serve as the representative student organization as referenced and required by Texas state law. As an organization funded by students, it is answerable and accountable to those who elect them in order too represent the student body faithfully. There is no other organization that quite matches the unique role that a shared governance body such as SGA performs.

# **Organizational Chart**

Student Government Association is divided into three branches: Executive, Legislative, and Iudicial.

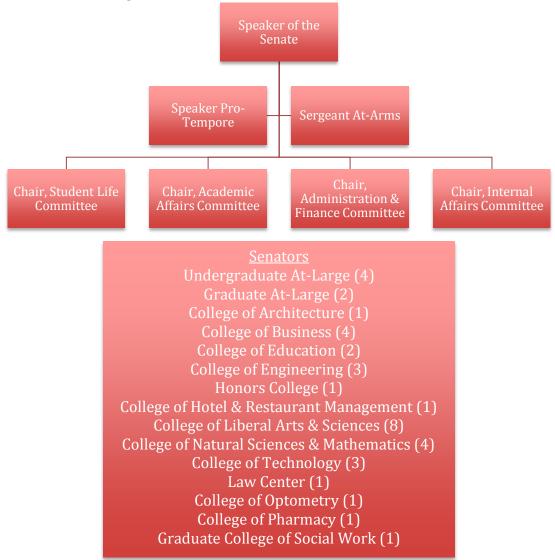
### **Executive Branch**

The Executive Power of the Student Government Association is vested in the elected student body President and Vice-President. The Cabinet is appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate. The main role of the Executive Branch is to carry out the legislation passed by the Senate.



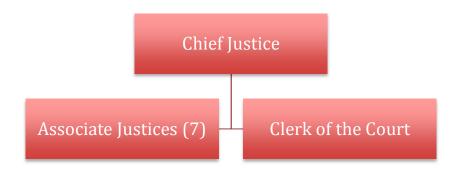
# **Legislative Branch**

The Legislative power of the Student Government Association is vested in the Student Senate. Through legislation the Senate works toward improving the student experience at the University of Houston. The Speaker of the Senate is elected from within the Senate and presides over general meetings of the Senate, heads the Legislative Branch, assigns senators to standing committees, and sets meeting agendas and times. Other Senate officers include the Speaker Pro-Tempore (who presides over the Senate in the absence of the Speaker) and committee chairs. Four (4) undergraduate At-Large and two (2) graduate At-Large senators are elected by the entire student body. Every college elects representation in the Senate based on student population. Each of the Senators serves on at least one of the standing committees of the Senate.



# **<u>Iudicial Branch</u>**

The Judiciary of the Student Government Association is vested in the Court of Appeals. The Court is comprised of the Chief Justice and six (6) Associate Justices who are appointed by the President and serve until graduation. The Court of Appeals is the Supreme Court for SGA and hears matters involved the constitutionality of legislation, disputes between branches, and is the court of last resort for election issues.



# **Strategic Initiatives**

The administrations of the Student Government Association begin on April 1<sup>st</sup> and ends on March 31<sup>st</sup> of the following year. The 51<sup>st</sup> Administration ended on March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2015 and the 52<sup>nd</sup> Administration took office on April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015.

Below is a discussion of the priorities and initiatives of the 51<sup>st</sup> Administration and 52<sup>nd</sup> Administration during the 2014-15 academic year; it is further related to the overall University goals and the Division of Student Affairs and Enrollment Services strategic initiatives. For reference, those goals and strategic initiatives are:

#### **University Goals**

- I. National Competitiveness
- II. Student Success
- III. Community Advancement
- IV. Athletic Competitiveness
- V. National and Local Recognition
- VI. Resource Competitiveness

#### **DSAES Strategic Initiatives**

- Create new opportunities for student success through learning, engagement and discovery.
- II. Actualize and leverage the fiscal, human, technological, and facility resources that enhance the student experience.
- III. Foster the creation of a global learning community that actualizes and embraces inclusion while preparing students to become active citizens.
- IV. Develop a culture of innovation and accountability in the redesign of Division policies, processes and procedures.
- V. Cultivate a collective identity that demonstrates a united vision.
- VI. Create and engage in strategic partnerships.

# 51st Administration Agenda/Initiatives

Athletic Engagement - University Goals I, IV & V - DSAES I & II

- New Stadium Opening
  - Proposed: The administration will work closely with the Department of Intercollegiate Athletics and other student leaders to prepare for the stadium's opening festivities.
  - Actual: The stadium opening reserve was utilized in a collaborative effort to maximize relevant and engaging programming and events leading up to and throughout the inaugural season of the stadium. Many of the events broke records, including the highest student attendance, the largest football pep rally held (Cage Rage), and the largest student engagement party (Glow Party), during the first week of school.



#### - Athletic Attendance

- Proposed: The administration will work to promote attendance at all major home athletic events, especially by SGA members.
- Actual: SGA leveraged incentives and rewards (loge box, autographed merchandise, etc) in collaboration with Athletics and other programs to encourage involvement and participation in game-day activities and attendance. The 52<sup>nd</sup> continues the tradition of game-day involvement and has seen a marked increase in student participation from last year due in part to a more consistent tailgate experience and a successful football season. The loge-box was renegotiated to belong to Athletics and is no longer under SGA's direct control to avoid potential future conflicts of interest or impropriety.

# - <u>Student Engagement Collaborative</u>

- Proposed: The Student Engagement Collaborative is a group of student leaders that will work closely with administrators to ensure the success of major campus events.
- O Actual: Following the fee funded leader's Executive Leadership Retreat (XLR) a "Red Collective" concept was implemented to further boost collaboration between organizations. This group did not meet regularly through this administration. Further, a sub group of this collaborative formed the stadium opening committee to assist in the opening of the stadium during the 51st. During the 52nd, a component of the Center for Student Involvement leadership development track has been dedicated to executive leaders in the hopes that this group will continue to collaborate throughout the year.

# Communication – University Goal II – DSAES I, II & V

- Improve UH
  - Proposed: With the launch of the program in late 2013, the administration seeks to continuously promote Improve UH as a useful and convenient tool for students to voice their concerns and present solutions to improve our campus. The administration will also oversee the activity on the program, as it is an innovative tool for serving as a virtual town hall to allow the organization to make more data-driven decisions and advocacy plans.
  - o Actual: The ImproveUH platform, MindMixer, was utilized to provide a way for students to participate in a collaborative idea-generation and advocacy online environment. The 51<sup>st</sup> assigned a special advisor to monitor the platform and to deliver ideas to the senate and the executive for consideration. The platform participation then steeply declined as the year progressed due to a lack of marketing or follow-through with student ideas. As the 51<sup>st</sup> and 52<sup>nd</sup> changed over, the original MindMixer platform became unsupported and SGA was required to upgrade to the vendor's new product, mySidewalk. This platform has been in use since and has seen minor involvement due to a small marketing effort. The 52<sup>nd</sup> administration has



been hesitant to place resources and staff behind the product, as it is a fundamentally new platform that combines the University of Houston issues with the local area creating a continuous timeline/newsfeed of issues rather than categories of ideas that students could collaborate on individually. It is recommended that we discontinue this service and return the savings to students.

#### - <u>Increasing SGA Visibility</u>

- Proposed: The administration will implement a comprehensive marketing strategy to increase SGA's visibility. This will allow SGA to more effectively engage students across campus.
- Actual: Marketing/promotional materials and social media have been and continued to be heavily utilized to reach students. The 52<sup>nd</sup> is utilizing creative constituent outreach events and collaborating with existing events to create a culture where SGA members are consistently involved with student life on campus.

# - Redline App Promotion

- Proposed: The administration will continue to work with Pentagram and UH Information Technology to assess the effectiveness and potential improvement for the Redline mobile application.
- Actual: The app was transferred to the Center for Student Media so the contract for this is no longer housed in SGA, the adjustment of the budget was accommodated for FY16. However, the 51st and 52nd has supported CSM in the promotion and further development of the app.

# Community Outreach & Development - University Goals III & V - DSAES I, III & V

- Rebuild Cullen Blvd
  - Proposed: The administration will continue to work with University administration and the City of Houston to keep track of the progress and keep students informed regarding the street's improvement.
  - Actual: The 51<sup>st</sup> was able to effectively leverage city and university stakeholders to get this project completed by the opening of the football stadium.

# - <u>Community Relations/Outreach Programs</u>

- Proposed: The administration will work with local and national organizations to help increase the political consciousness and activity of the student body on campus. Furthermore, the administration will work to engage all SGA officers and the student body with more local and progressive community service projects.
- Actual: SGA partnered with MVP to host a Hunger and Homelessness Week where students were given the opportunity to volunteer their time to shelters and kitchens. SGA directly subsidized the feeding of a local shelter during that week and fed about 40-50 individuals.



### Civic Engagement & External Relations – University Goals III & V – DSAES I, III & V

- Collaboration with Texas Student Governments
  - Proposed: The administration will work to strengthen the relationship between student government associations both locally and across the state.
  - Actual: The Texas Student Association remained in its initial planning stages during the 51<sup>st</sup>, but some coordination was made between the system student governments during board meetings. The 52<sup>nd</sup> regularly collaborates on statewide issues with other student governments and hosts a bi-monthly meeting between UH System student body representatives and the student regent.

#### - National & State-Wide Elections

- Proposed: The administration will promote voter turnout and civic engagement to the student body during the 2014 election season.
   Additionally, we will seek to provide a polling location on campus for the convenience of the student body.
- O Actual: The 51<sup>st</sup> rolled out the annual Coogs Vote campaign and partnered with local and student organizations to conduct deputy voter registration and voter registration. The campaign garnered over a thousand voter pledge cards and nearly two hundred voter registrations. The 52<sup>nd</sup> is currently in the midst of its Coogs Vote campaign for the fall election and will be working closely with the university to facilitate engagement in the upcoming Republic Debate in the Spring.

# - <u>University of Houston Political Council (UHPC)</u>

- Proposed: The Department of External Affairs will work to found the University of Houston Political Council. The (UHPC) will consist of prominent and active political and grassroots organizations on campus. The UHPC will collaborate with these organizations to increase voter registration and deputation, hosting officials and representatives, and strengthening the campus political culture in regards to consciousness and activity.
- Actual: This organization met during the election timeframe and hosted its own tri-partisan debate between the College Democrats, College Republicans, and Young Americans for Liberty.

#### - Legislative Advocacy

- Proposed: The Department of External Affairs, in addition to relevant student organizations, will participate in advocacy efforts in order to advocate on behalf of the student body at the University of Houston.
- Actual: The 51<sup>st</sup> and 52<sup>nd</sup> have both connected with Texas state senators and representatives to communicate the student voice on a number of issues that effect students in the last legislative session. SGA also helped facilitate the UH Day and the Capitol held in the spring where over a hundred UH students converged to meet with legislators.



# Safety & Security – University Goals III, V & VI – DSAES II

- Walk in the Dark
  - Proposed: The administration will partner with campus group to increase student involvement in annual Walk in the Dark community event and will recommend to the Department of Public Safety to join the event with the annual National Night Out event.
  - Actual: This annual event took place and afforded students an opportunity to meet with UH police and facilities administrators to help find areas on the campus to improve for safety.
- Increasing Lighting on Campus
  - o Proposed: The administration seeks to improve safety on campus by advocating for the addition of more lighting on campus.
  - o Actual: Areas identified in the Walk in the Dark were referred to facilities to improve this area. No major movement was made otherwise.

# Student Health & Wellness - University Goals II & VI - DSAES I, II & VI

- Health & Wellness Week
  - Proposed: The administration will host a week full of events to bring awareness to health and wellness services on campus as well as health issues that affect college students.
  - Actual: This week of events were facilitated in collaboration with UH Health and Wellness programs in the Spring. Several resource fairs and panels were put on in addition to the screening of a film.
- Sexual Assault Awareness
  - Proposed: The administration will work closely with the EEO/AA Office on informational items and events to bring awareness regarding sexual assault in colleges.
  - Actual: No major event took place pertaining to Sexual Assault Awareness in the 51st except for the Health and Wellness Week.

#### Student Success & Student Life – University Goals I, II, V & VI – DSAES I, II, III & V

- Tuition & Fees
  - Proposed: Through the Tuition & Fee Committee, the administration will work closely with campus partners in promoting and informing students about new tuition services.
  - Actual: No major tuition changes took place during the 51st.
- Academic Advising
  - Proposed: Student Government will work with administration to bring about greater feedback and accountability on the academic advising system by implementing post-advising surveys.
  - Actual: Advising reform was a collaborative effort with the Provost's office and it remains still in progress through the 52<sup>nd</sup>. Key components are the advisor to student ratio, advisor training, and online scheduling.
- Professional Preparation



- Proposed: Student Government will work with administration and individual colleges to promote existing internship programs and bring more opportunities for students to get real world experience in their career.
- Actual: Some collaborative work was done through university committees, but no official effort was made by SGA.

#### - Office of Study Abroad Initiative

- Proposed: The administration will work closely with the Global Strategies and Studies Advisory Committee to assess the current study abroad process and discuss ways of improvements to the study abroad process as well as the promotion of the office and its programs.
- Actual: The Vice President collaborated with the Global Strategies and Studies Advisory Committee to find new ways to enhance the Learning Abroad opportunities at UH. The Vice Provost for Global Studies has advocated heavily for an increased fee to students, but it has not yet gained much traction. Not much additional work was done to this initiative.

# - On-Campus Dining Hours

- Proposed: The administration will work closely with UH Dining Services to further assess the on-campus dining hours to see if it meets the demands of our student body. Furthermore, the administration will also work on more late night dining options.
- Actual: The Food Services Advisory Committee reviewed hours for on campus dining during the 51<sup>st</sup> and issued its recommendations. Dining Services carried out many of those and the 52<sup>nd</sup> continues to work them to carry out similar changes.

#### - Student Financial Literacy

- Proposed: The administration will partner with the Bauer College and other campus partners to host a series of financial literacy workshops on selected topics that will benefit student financial health long term.
- Actual: This program did not ultimately come to fruition.

#### - <u>UC Transformation Project</u>

- Proposed: The administration will continue to work on the New UC project team throughout the construction of its last phase.
- Actual: The Student Center final phase was completed successfully and the 51<sup>st</sup> collaborated with other student life organizations to make the debut a memorable experience.

# Internal Affairs & Operations – University Goals I, IV & V – DSAES I & II

- Empowering Students Initiative
  - Proposed: The administration will put a greater emphasis this year on partnering with university organizations, as well as tabling at university events to increase students' awareness about engagement opportunities.
  - Actual: The 51<sup>st</sup> and 52<sup>nd</sup> both have been pervasive at many university functions as well as having a presence at several organization fairs.



#### - <u>Emerging Leaders</u>

- Proposed: The administration will continue to build on the SGA Emerging Leaders program by giving more emphasis on mentorship, team building, and social activities.
- Actual: The Emerging Leaders program in the 51<sup>st</sup> was underutilized due to a lack of resources and staff. The program developed about 10 participants but only saw around 3 or 4 active members. A similar trend was present in the previous year.

#### - SGA Election Reform

- Proposed: The administration will work to improve the election code and work to facilitate a smoother election.
- Actual: A election code task force was created to recommend to the senate on changes to the election code. This resulted in the closing of several loopholes and made some language and processes much clearer in addition to the removal of the extra judicial body dedicated to election complaints.

Big Rocks – University Goals I, II, IV, V & VI – DSAES I, II, V & VI

#### - <u>UH Medical School</u>

- O Proposed: The administration will work to initiate the founding of a medical school at the University of Houston. With UH and the largest medical center in the world being located in the same city, we believe it is imperative for UH to develop a medical school. This will allow our university to solidify its place as a Tier 1 university as we seek admission to the Association of American Universities.
- o Actual: The senate issued a formal support for this endeavor during the 51st.

#### - Conference Realignment

- Proposed: The administration will work to facilitate the realignment of the University of Houston to a more regional conference.
- Actual: This initiative is not a formal goal of the university, but remains a popular one among students and alumni. It has not yet come to fruition.



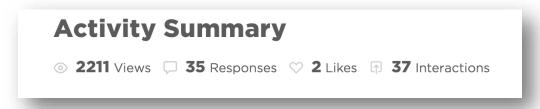
#### **Data and Assessment**

#### Assessment

Where programs exist that serve a group of students, such as Emerging Leaders, the number of individuals participating and completing that program is recorded and indicated. Often Student Government Association is featured as a collaborator or participant in an event, but often SGA-specific attendance data is not collected due to the nature of the event (often a resource fair or tabling event).

#### **Improve UH**

The ImproveUH program was initially built on the MindMixer platform. During the Spring of 2014, the vendor stopped supporting the platform and then required its customers to port to their new product, mySidewalk. During the transition, SGA was not able to retain the data of the old platform before transitioning to the new product, so no data is presented here. However, we have data of the new platform below.



#### Social Media

Our social media platforms boost our ability to communicate and connect with students. Our networks have continued to become more active as the year has progressed.  $\underline{Facebook}$ 



# <u>Twitter</u>

TWEETS	FOLLOWING	FOLLOWERS	FAVORITES	LISTS	
1,437	542	1,904	295	1	

# <u>Instagram</u>

**142** posts **670** followers **87** following

# **Budget and Organizational Changes for FY17**

The Student Government Association holds its elections in the Spring and a new executive team assumes office in April 1<sup>st</sup>. Each administration is responsible for its budget proposal given the SFAC approved funding in their respective fiscal year.

The organization also returned a \$299 Fund 3 addition to Fund Equity in Fiscal Year 15. This value is much smaller due to the hiring of a new Office Coordinator in 2014 whose salary and benefits cost the organization about an additional \$10,000 in non-controllable expenses. This value was deducted from the Salary & Mandate Reserve as established by SFAC. Consequently, the expected value to be returned to Fund Equity at the end of FY15 was expected to be around \$5,000. This value represents an overage of consistent One Time and Base funding remaining after each administration and is reflected in our Base Augmentation request.

# 52<sup>nd</sup> Administration Agenda/Initiatives

The SGA leadership changes on April  $1^{st}$  of every year, thus the 2016-17 initiatives are dependent on the  $53^{rd}$  Administration. These are the strategies of the  $52^{nd}$  in 2015-16.

#### Health and Wellness - University Goals III & V - DSAES I, III & V

- Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention
  - o Proposed: The administration will utilize its reach and voice to pursue enduring cultural and institutional change towards improving the state of Sexual Assault in higher education. In utilizing a nationally profiled initiative, backed by the White House, SGA will leverage the "It's On Us" campaign to further legitimize its message to the campus community. Further, it will collaborate with existing Health and Wellness departments on campus to integrate existing and developing resources into the overall campaign. These resources include: Coogs Get Consent, the Circle of 6 mobile app, mandatory sexual assault awareness training, self defense training programs and more.
- Mental Health Awareness and Support
  - Proposed: SGA will similarly tackle the persistent issue of generating awareness and proliferating resources and services available to those who are affected by mental health issues. The administration will help promote resources on campus that foster a culture of wellness as a focus for student life and success.

# - Healthcare Access & Affordability

 Proposed: The University provides a great deal of existing and proposed health care options on campus that will increase the access and affordability of medical care to students. SGA and the administration will work with the administration in finding effective ways to market and target the student body's needs in these areas.

#### - Smoke-Free Campus

Proposed: The University has provided provisional smoking areas in the past.
This administration has worked to push for the designation of a smoke-free
campus when this specific policy line item is renewed in the coming year.
SGA will work with administration to develop an implementation plan that is
realistic and enforceable.

#### **SGA Accessibility and Relevance** – University Goals I, IV & V – DSAES I & II

# - Organization & Programming Partnerships

 Proposed: SGA will seek out and collaborate on programming and events throughout the year to increase the surface area by which students have access and connection with student representatives.

#### - Student Media Talks

O Proposed: This administration will partner with the Center for Student Media to produce student-life programming that keeps students informed of what is happening in SGA and in the University administration. SGA will develop a hardline that distributes information distributed or decided on in committees and meetings to the student body at large. Examples will include programs such as fireside chats and talk shows that put SGA members in front of the camera and microphone delivering information directly to student audiences.

# - <u>ImproveUH</u>

 Proposed: SGA will continue to support the town hall platform as it transitions from MindMixer to mySidewalk.

#### Senate Town halls

 Proposed: According to the SGA Bylaws, two large town halls will be held each year to accommodate an avenue for students to speak to their representatives.

# Student Life Enrichment - University Goals I, II, V & VI - DSAES I, II, III & V

# Athletics Partnership & Programming

Proposed: This administration will capitalize on any opportunity available to better promote the competitiveness and experience of student athletics at the university. Programming and outreach will be targeted towards increasing student attendance and in incentivizing school and athletics pride. Examples of such programs include Cage Rage, Tailgate programming, the improvement of facilities, and the adherence of the university to the Memorandum of Understanding as agreed on between the student body and the University.



#### - <u>Dining Initiatives</u>

O Proposed: As a perennial topic of discussion, SGA will continue to ensure the improvement of vital student services on campus. Dining options, quality, and access are priorities in this regard and will always require that the university review its policies and procedures to assure they are matching the demand and changing demographics of the university. Issues that will be of particular focus will be providing dining options that matches the diversity of our student body (Halal, Kosher, Vegetarian/Vegan, Gluten Free, etc), the extension of dining hours and meal plan options.

# Transportation & Parking

O Proposed: The administration will continue its efforts in improving the parking and transportation climate on campus by supporting policies that reduce the need for students to bring their vehicles on campus. Priorities include an increased presence and access for METRO service to and form the university in addition to expanding bike services and alternative transportation/ride share options. SGA will remain a vital component of conversations occurring within the administration regarding new capital construction and the allocation of parking as the campus grows.

#### Sustainability

 Proposed: Sustainability remains a high priority for the university and the campus. SGA will continue to be involved in committees and decision-making processes that offer the ability for sustainable solutions to be proposed and implemented. Policies and programs that cater to this initiative include STARS report assistance, Sustainability Committee participation, Earth Day and Sustainability Fest participation, and policy changes.

#### - Student Employment

 Proposed: The administration will pursue the creation and expansion of student employment opportunities on campus by working with existing departments and vendors on campus to identify creative ways to add students to their workforce. SGA will also work with UCS to facilitate streamlining of student employment applications/job postings such that students need only look in one place to find potential jobs.

# - <u>Cultural Diversity</u>

 Proposed: The University prides itself on being one of the most culturally diverse institutions of higher education in our country. Therefore, the administration will work with student groups and University administration to pursue initiatives aimed at promoting a more robust sense of inclusion targeting our international peers.

Student Success – University Goals I, II, V & VI – DSAES I, II, III & V

#### - Academic Advising

 Proposed: The administration will continue to pursue advising reform changes proposed in the 51st administration and will reevaluate policies and



programs already in place to ensure the advising resources on campus are commensurate with the demand.

#### - Grade Replacement

 Proposed: The administration has pushed over the summer for the development and implementation of a Grade Replacement policy that allows for students to take a course and have a former grade attempt removed from GPA calculation. SGA will continue to carry this policy until its implemented.

#### - College Affordability

 Proposed: SGA will carry on and participate in local, state, and national level discussions regarding the increasing cost of college and the prevalence of student loan debt. It will join with partners in the development of policies and programs that might help curb the cost of pursuing higher education. Programs include FAFSA simplification, loan restructuring, and the fiscal oversight of our university's tuition and fees.

# - Emerging Leaders

 Proposed: In an effort to continue to the training of future members of SGA, the administration will recruit individuals into an Emerging Leaders program that pairs new members of SGA with existing to help them understand the role of student governance at UH.

#### - Learning Abroad

 Proposed: SGA will continue its efforts in facilitating the expansion and access of Learning Abroad opportunities to students.

# Safety & Security - University Goals III, V & VI - DSAES II

#### - Safe Rides Promotion

• Proposed: SGA will continue to offer guidance and assistance in expanding this service to more students.

#### - Walk in the Dark

 Proposed: SGA will partner to bring an event during the National Night Out week in which students, staff and faculty all participate in a walk around the campus at night to identify potential problem areas that need to be addressed to increase security.

#### - Campus Carry

Proposed: The administration will ensure that a fair and documented process is pursued in the development of a policy that regulates the carrying of licensed concealed handguns on campus, as prescribed by state law. SGA will ensure that students will have the opportunity to provide input into the process and that all shared governance entities have a role in the approval of the policy.



# **Community Outreach and Involvement** – University Goals III & V – DSAES I, III & V

- "Big Event" Days of Service
  - Proposed: SGA will play an active role in all university-wide "Big Event" type days of service. Events planned already include the Weeks of Welcome and MLK Day of Service as well as Back to School Fest.
- Collaboration with Volunteer Organizations
  - Proposed: SGA will reach out to and partner with organizations specializing in providing volunteer opportunities to students in order to create joint volunteer ventures with their organization and ours. Some programming plans include a week combatting hunger and homelessness in addition a week of service in service to local women and children's coalitions.

# Civic Engagement - University Goals III & V - DSAES I, III & V

- <u>Voter Registration/Elections</u>
  - Proposed: SGA will attract deputy voter registrar training to the campus to build a team of deputy voter registrars. The administration will initiate a campus campaign to increase student voter registration in order to create a more engaged and involved young electorate. A voting location on campus will also be invited to be located on campus to facilitate the student's ability to exercise their civic right.
- Texas Student Association
  - Proposed: The student governments of Texas will aspire to convene on a semi-annual basis to discuss issues pertaining to higher education in the state. SGA at UH will play a strong role with SGA at UHD to help facilitate this organization's sustainability into the future.
- <u>UH PAC Young Professionals</u>
  - Proposed: SGA will continue its relationship with the UH Political Action Committee by providing an avenue for UH PAC members to communicate with current student leaders on issues that are current and relevant to students.
- President Advisory Council
  - o Proposed: SGA will pursue the creation of a president's advisory council that calls for the meeting of all student organization presidents or their delegates to a meeting on a semester basis in the spirit of providing a forum for a demographic that represents some of the most active students on campus.
- National Campus Leadership Council
  - Proposed: The executive leadership will continue its membership in the national organization for campus leadership based in Washington DC that is aimed at providing a platform for student body presidents across the nation to communicate on issues that all universities tackle. The resources developed here will provide a greater context and more powerful message on issues at a local level.



# **Other Sources of Funding**

This administration has placed a priority on developing alternative sources of revenues for the organization in the form of donations and, eventually, a private endowment. The potential for fee-funded units to develop private funding to offset or supplement their student fee subsidy is high. It is the opinion of this administration that it is our responsibility as leaders of fee-funded units to seek out these sources of revenue by partnering with advancement and development teams as well as alumni.

As of this writing, no current sources have been formalized for an endowment to the Student Government Association, but it will continue to be a priority going forward. The provision of a full-time DSAES Development Officer with a priority of developing sources of funding for fee-funded units would be incredibly helpful in this effort.

# Overlap with other units

The Student Government Association is unique in that it serves as the main advocacy body for the students at this university. As referenced by state law, it fills the statutory role of an elected student representation. There is very little overlap, if any, with other fee-funded units. The Dean of Students office does provide student advocacy services, but is fundamentally different in its role on campus and not an elected body.