



The Governance

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 1

DECEMBER 2011

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

State of the “U” Address	1
Committee Reports	2
Off Campus Advisory	4
Commuter News	4
First Friday	6
Midnight Madness	6
Student Transportation	7
Street Sweep	8
Political Engagement	8

State of the “U” Address

By: Adam Gault and Samantha Mosca

We are both proud to welcome you to Student Government’s end of the semester newsletter: The Governance! The Governance is compiled of the progress Student Government is and has been making throughout the semester in order to inform and communicate with the entire University community.

It is always astonishing to come to the realization that yet another semester is coming to a close. Time moves quickly and therefore a lot of hard work must go into making things happen in Student Government and in our community.

The Student Government has achieved a lot this semester. We have been working diligently at every one of our meetings to ensure the needs of our constituents are being heard. Our meetings are open to the student body and we encourage our constituents to attend and be active in our governance process. Our annual events Street Sweep and Midnight Madness remained successful with high levels of student involvement. We have been resurrecting school spirit for athletic teams with our “Wolf Pack” initiative.

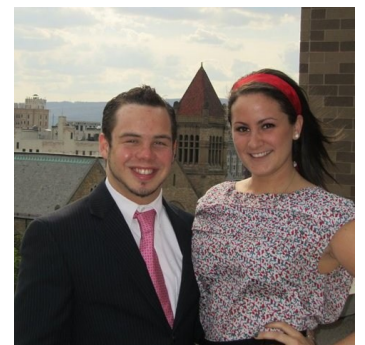
Speaking on behalf of all our accomplishments would result in an extremely long letter so we encourage you to read through this newsletter to view our committee reports and other infor-

mation regarding our University. We are incredibly proud of each and every one of our Senators and their dedication toward the work they have done this semester.

We would like to thank our moderator Dean McShea and the Program Coordinator for the Center of Student Engagement, Tricia Cummings. Their guidance and hard work helps make possible what we as a Student Government achieve. With great gratitude, we would like to thank all staff and faculty who have reached out to assist Student Government this semester in any way possible.

Lastly and most importantly, we thank YOU the students for being involved and active. We encourage you to stop by our office, 205R in the Student Forum, to let us know how we can better represent you! We are both grateful to say every day that we serve as

President and Vice President of The University of Scranton Student Government. Have a wonderful and safe Winter break and we look forward to an amazing Spring Semester.



Adam and Samantha

Committee Reports



Meredith Lubas
Appropriations Chair
Class of 2013 Senator

Contact Meredith at:
lubasm2@scranton.edu

*“We will be
researching meal
plans for
commuters and
upper class
students”*



Mike Wiencek
Student Life and Dining
Chair

Appropriations

By: Meredith Lubas, Chair

The Appropriations Committee has been hard at work this semester handling club and activity funding. Early in the semester, the Committee sorted through all of the appeal requests submitted by clubs, evaluating their alignment with the University’s mission and then constructing bills to be presented before the Student Senate and voted on. This year’s appeals process allocated nearly \$17,000 to clubs. The Committee has also been working on New Initiative Funding (NIF) requests submitted by clubs; NIF

is for ideas that come about throughout the semester and require funding. To date, the Student Senate has approved \$38,000 for New Initiative Requests. The Appropriations Committee welcomes any club leader who is interested in requesting New Initiative funding to please contact them!

Early in the Semester, the Appropriations Committee introduced bills that clarify the expectations of a club’s community service requirement relating to Appeals and New Initiative Funding.

Recently, the Appropriations undertook the task of updating the Student Government Bylaws with regards to allocations of funds. The bylaws were updated to reflect the current funding processes and procedures and to be more specific and concrete to ensure the success of future Appropriations Committees and Student Senates.

Also, the Appropriations Committee has been busy planning a Finals Week Coffee Hour and an ISP fundraiser for the spring semester.

Student Life and Dining Services

By: Michael Wiencek, Chair

The Student Life and Dining Services Committee has had an extremely exciting fall semester filled with many new changes brought to campus. The most significant additions to the University would be the new fitness and dining facilities. Our committee is working to make these new facilities what we as a student body want. We welcome any feedback to continue improving student life. The committee has also incorporated the “Make a Person Smile” pay-it-forward program in conjunction with the

Community Outreach Office. The mid-week masses on Wednesday evenings were also implemented thanks to Fr. Rick Malloy and University Ministries. You will also notice this finals week that more study spaces are available throughout campus particularly in the Loyola Science Center and the DeNaples Student Center.

This coming semester we are looking into a number of campus projects. We will be researching meal plans for commuters and upper class students. The committee will also be looking into ways to

make our campus more sustainable. We will continue to relay your ideas on dining facilities and options in order to continue raising the quality of our dining services here on campus. If there are any ideas or initiatives that you would like to see happen, please do not hesitate to meet with our committee and we will gladly assist you in making our campus an even brighter place.

Contact Mike at:
wiencekm2@scranton.edu

Academic Affairs

By: Karen Demaria, Chair

This semester, the Academic Affairs Committee has been working on soliciting student feedback about ways that students would like to become more involved in academic life at The University of Scranton. Some ideas that have been brought to our attention include the formation of a Dean’s Council, informal coffee hours with professors, and department-led seminars on topics such as sus-

tainability. Next semester we hope to begin to implement these ideas on campus. In addition, we are looking into the possibility of having a co-curricular transcript made available for students when applying for jobs and graduate school.

To increase student usage of the DeNaples Student Forum, the Academic Affairs Committee hosted December’s First Friday in the Forum featuring

free cookies, hot chocolate, and music from WUSR.



Karen Demaria
Academic Affairs
Chair

Contact Karen at:
demariak2@scranton.edu

“most important project that the committee and the University Police are working on is installing a traffic signal for crossing Mulberry Street to the new student apartments and fitness center.”

Safety and Crime

By: Lee Molitoris, Chair

The Safety and Crime Prevention Committee has been working closely with the University Police and Chief Bergmann on multiple projects that will help students feel more secure and comfortable on and off campus. One project that we have been working on is advertising the Royal Ride and making it more accessible to students on weekends. The Colt’s Bus is also a continuing project

from last year and it has made significant headway, just starting only a few months ago. Our current and most important project that the committee and the University Police are working on is installing a traffic signal for crossing Mulberry Street to the new student apartments and fitness center. Our committee will also be hosting along with University Police a safety and parking forum open to students early next semes-

ter. We are always looking for student input with whatever safety issues they see around campus so please feel free to contact us.

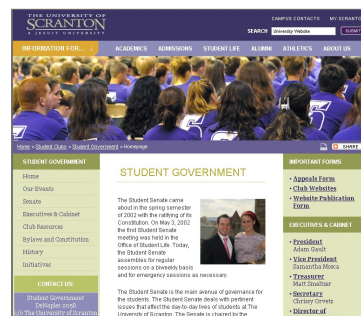


Lee Molitoris
Safety and Crime, Chair
Class of 2015 Senator

Contact Lee at:
molitorisl2@scranton.edu

Check Out Our Website:

<http://www.scranton.edu/sg>



Ignatian Awareness Committee

By: Oliver Strickland



Oliver Strickland
Ignatian Awareness
Class of 2013
stricklando2@scranton.edu

“...we hope that we can make a difference on campus this year and see a permanent improvement to school spirit in the future.”



“School spirit is back!”
Credit: Justin Kearns

Before I begin let me preface that the toughest part about writing this is deciding where and where not to use exclamation points. In the perfect world, I’d like to use them after every sentence, but if I do that the purpose of the exclamation point will be very diluted and; the last thing that I would ever want to do is damage the vigor of such a crucial punctuation mark. So, bear with me as I try to strategically place the potent mark of exclamation throughout this writing!

The Ignatian Awareness committee is operating on all cylinders this year. First, the committee planned, organized, and executed a successful Midnight Madness pep rally for all teams on campus with a special focus on the Men’s and Women’s basketball teams. The committee did a few things differently this year in comparison to past

Midnight Madness pep rallies. For one, every student in attendance received a free magnet with the schedules of all Winter sports. Better yet, every student received a free student section t-shirt as the

committee launched the unveiling of our newly named student section—the Wolf Pack.

Building off of the momentum provided by Midnight Madness, the committee has organized two very successful Wolf Pack gatherings since its unveiling. The first outing came when the Men’s basketball team faced the Division-1 Saint Joseph’s Hawks. The committee organized free bus transportation along with a free ticket to the game. Students filled the bus wearing the “Wolf Pack” t-shirt received at Midnight Madness and cheered the team on throughout the game. It was incredible. The Wolf Pack made their debut and it was obvious that they will be a force to be reckoned with in the future. As for the second organized Wolf Pack outing, the committee advertised for a “white out” game for the basketball home opener tournament. The stands were jammed with students wearing “Wolf Pack” t-shirts and cheering

on the team to a tournament victory!

In the coming weeks, the Ignatian Awareness committee will also be working on forming a sub-committee comprised of students not on Student Government. The committee looks to expand to increase diversity of reach while building on school spirit.

As for the future of the committee, all members will continue to work toward improving school spirit in every way possible. Committee members will be required to complete an “intersession goal” of their own over the Winter break. The goals must be school spirit-oriented and must be submitted before the end of Fall semester. With these continuous efforts to improve school spirit, we hope that we can make a difference on campus this year and see a permanent improvement to school spirit in the future.



Iggy at Midnight Madness 2011
Credit: Justin Kearns (Aquinas)

Off Campus Advisory Board

By: Tina Cognetti

OCAB is for the students by the students. Student who live off-campus and want to help develop the university community strive to make the off-campus residents as well informed and safe as possible. OCAB is currently working on a public service announcement that hopes to address some concerns that students have been facing with recent community advisories. In this short clip they hope to include safety tips when leaving your home, safety while walking

home late after the library or class, and how to heat residences in a cost-effective and energy-efficient manner. Earlier this year OCAB wanted to increase the education of students about their rights and responsibilities as tenants. OCAB facilitated this goal by handed out free trash bags and magnets with the city's trash schedule on them in the hopes that students would take care of their homes by recycling and throwing out trash. If you live off-campus and are interested in getting involved with OCAB please

contact the director of Off-Campus and Commuter Student Affairs Stephanie Adamec- adamecs2@scranton.edu or your off-campus senators Tina- cognettic3@scranton.edu, or Joey- danielj2@scranton.edu.

Live off campus?

Commuter Student Association

By: Pat Sudol

The Commuter Student Association or CSA was formed this semester with help from the newly added Office of Off Campus and Commuter Student Affairs to help advocate Commuter life at the U. With the help from Stephanie Adamec- director of the office and Patrick Sudol-commuter senator, the association was able to bolster around 25 dedicated and enthusiastic commuters from all clas-

ses at the University. Within the first meeting, Erik Schab was elected President of the CSA and Saghar Helen Akhondi was elected Vice President. With the help of several committees within the CSA and their executives, the CSA hopes to accomplish a lot to help improve commuter life in Scranton. So be on the lookout for CSA sponsored events and help support your commuter classmates! The CSA

is always looking for new members so if you are a fellow commuter who wants to get involved please email the director of Off-Campus and Commuter Student Affairs Stephanie Adamec- adamecs2@scranton.edu, Erik-schabe2@scranton.edu, or Patrick-sudolp2@scranton.edu.

Follow Us!



Like us on Facebook! - Search The University of Scranton Student Government



Follow us on Twitter! - @uofssg

MARK YOUR
CALENDAR!

"...the forum is a space open to the whole student body to use a computer, study, socialize and become more involved on campus."

First Friday in the Forum

By: Adam Gault

"First Friday in the Forum," the monthly event started by Student Government last Spring Semester successfully carried over into this Fall Semester. "First Friday in the Forum" is intended to showcase the Rev. Henry J. Butler S.J. Student Forum, located on the second floor of the DeNaples Center, to the student body. Many students do not know that the student forum exists or feel they do not have the right to enter "the forum." The fact is that the forum is a space open to the whole student body to use a computer, study, socialize and become more involved on campus.

"First Friday in the Forum"

has adopted different themes for each month. October featured our brand new Office for Off-Campus and Commuter Student Affairs. Both off-campus and commuter students were encouraged to apply for either the Off-Campus Advisory Board or Commuter Advisory Board. In November, the Ignatian Awareness committee pushed school spirit by promoting the Landmark Conference Championship Women's Soccer game and Midnight Madness. Our last "First Friday in the Forum" for the semester,

organized by the Academic Affairs committee, was Christmas themed with everyone's favorite carols, holiday cookies, and hot chocolate for student's delight.

This event has also become an outlet to promote what the city of Scranton has to offer with their First Friday events downtown. Student Government wants to encourage University students to go downtown more often and see what the city has going on. We hope you attend all of our "First Friday in the Forum" events for next semester.

Midnight Madness

By: Katie Gonzalez

Students packed into the Long Center on November 9 at 11:00pm and stayed up late to show their school spirit. The event commenced with a prayer by Fr. Rick and the playing of the National Anthem. Midnight Madness included performance by The University of Scranton's beloved clubs. The U of S Cheerleaders pumped up the crowd with their stunts, cheers, and performance. The Urban Beats Crew had the fans in the stands cheering for their hip hop dance routine. Lastly, the crowd was falling of their seats laughing to the comic dance stylings of The Suburban Beats

Crew. Midnight Madness emcees, Oliver Strickland and Adam Gault, introduced and announced the highlights of each varsity sports team as they entered the gym and hyped up the crowd.

Each student provided a non-perishable food item for the Community Outreach Thanksgiving Food Drive as admission to the event. Upon leaving,



Student Government after Midnight Madness

each student received a free "Wolf Pack" student section t-shirt to wear to sporting events on campus as well as a magnetic winter athletic schedule.

Student Transportation Committee works to improve Accessibility of Surrounding Community

By: Brian Riordan

It has almost been a year since the County of Lackawanna Transit System (COLTS) bus has begun its free service for students, faculty, and staff on campus. Originally the service was limited to only two bus routes, the afternoon Marywood/University of Scranton route and the Evening City Circle North route that takes students to downtown Scranton as well as locations within the Viewmont Mall. Since the incorporation of this service on campus back in February of this past year, many new changes are being worked on to greatly improve the experience offered.

Before the implementation of the COLTS bus on campus, a student committee was put together to work with Gary Zampano, the Director of Purchasing in the University of Scranton Purchasing Office. The committee worked with Gary to provide student feedback on the service. One year after the service began; new plans continue to come together. The committee is now moving forward to expand the service further for students and to address other transportation related issues that affect students. The group has now been named the Student Transportation Committee to show that this is a committee that is focused on improving accessibility of the surrounding community to students by using methods of transportation. One major announcement that has recently been made public is the addition of new services that will be offered to students, faculty, and staff that will provide free transportation to not only



Student Transportation Committee

the two COLTS routes that pick up on campus, but now all routes provided by COLTS will be free to members of the University. A Saturday night bus that would link the Imax, Viewmont, and Central City to campus is also in the works.

The COLTS bus is also a major green initiative for the campus, as it reduces both parking and traffic. Because COLTS is serviced by the County of Lackawanna and shuttles students to local business venues, it is also a way of supporting the local community. Brochures with contact information regarding COLTS will be available on campus beginning in January. The committee will also be focusing on more than just COLTS related transformational issues. An online e-mail account is being worked on in order for students to provide comments, concerns, and suggestions to the committee. The committee continues to look towards ways to make the city

community more readily available to students, the COLTS bus is just one of many ways to make this happen. As we look to the future, there are many more ways that we can make the community more accessible.

Members of the committee include:

Gary Zampano (Director of Purchasing), Brian Riordan (Student Chair), Emily Diaz, Kyle Gleaves, Ciro Saverino, Carlyn Ball, Michelle D'Souza, Garrett Thomas, Camille Gonzales, Patrick Sudol, and Jayde Hooven

Visit: <http://www.coltsbus.com/college/>

For more information!

Street Sweep

By: Katie Gonzalez

This year's Street Sweep was a great success. Over 300 students representing 26 clubs on campus assembled in the Madison Parking lot on Saturday, October 22, to help clean the streets of Scranton's Hill Section. The students produced 53 bags of trash and 37 bags of recyclable materials.

This year's Street Sweep had a new idea in mind, sustainability. The recycling initiative that was started this year



Street Sweep 2011 participants

was also very successful and will be enacted at every annual Street Sweep Event to come. The army of cleaners dispersed quickly to pick up litter on the 300 and 400 blocks on Madison Avenue through Taylor Avenue

and on Vine Street. The students enjoyed pizza and conversation after all the cleaning was done.

The Office of Student Government would like to thank everyone who participated in making this year's Street Sweep an accomplishment.

Political Engagement Week raises Political Awareness on Campus

By: Brian Riordan

For Americans, November is an important month that symbolizes a basic right for individuals to express their support for candidates during Election Day. To many colleges, this is a right that sometimes is forgotten during the hectic schedule of the common American youth. To ensure that the students at The University of Scranton were well versed in both their right and obligation to vote, as well as to push for students to become more active in local, state, and national political arenas, Political Engagement Week was created. Throughout the week, various student and community organizations worked towards spreading these messages. The week ran from November 8-15

beginning with Election Day. It was followed by the Student Government meeting on the 11th, which was advertised further to get more students to attend. A film festival occurred on the 12th and 13th where films focused on hydraulic fracturing, gerrymandering, and the American electoral process.

The week culminated with the Think Global, Act Local Panel discussion that discussed local political engagement within the Scranton area and how students can get involved. The panel was made up of student and community leaders including: Adam Gault, President of Student Government; Mike Mulraney, President of College Republicans; Megan Davidovich, President of College Demo-

crats; City Councilmen Bob McGoff and Pat Rogan; and Lackawanna County Commissioner Mike Washo. The discussion entailed how students and members of the community can work together to improve various aspects of Scranton and the surrounding regions. Student Government greatly thanks all those who helped make this week possible including College Democrats, College Republicans, Debate Society, Young Americans for Liberty, Department of Political Science, Office of Community Relations, Office of the Associate Provost for Civic Engagement and Academic Mission, and local members of the city and county governments.