

UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI
STUDENT GOVERNMENT

Annual Report 2016 -2017



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MIAMI

STUDENT
GOVERNMENT

We connect
one another

GO CANES

Love for
the C

MY YEAR
IN SG WAS
unexpected
& impactful

active

COMMUNIT

LI

#pololife

FAM

LOVE

#SGDIDY

community

THE PEOPLE

LEADERSHIP

I CAN MAKE AN
- IMPACT -

FRIENDS

Everyone
inspires
ME

Changemakers

Students
filled
my SG

hope
planes VG

SENATE
COOKIES

FE OF SG

Emails
Emails
Emails
Priceless

YAS

the FUTURE advocate

THAT

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SHIP

THIS IS HOME

Senior Year with purpose

A Letter From The President

This year's Student Government (SG) Board set out with the goal not only to continue to represent the Student Body, but also to innovate new concepts and accomplish things differently. As a board we set out to make the best choices, not the easy ones. We listened to each and everyone of our fellow 'Canes, staying **True to You** because each 'Cane, whether it be a student, faculty, staff, alum or prospective 'Cane matters.

As a diverse and inclusive institution, it is our responsibility as Student Government to represent our constituents and work with the UM community in making a better U. Changes to our home don't happen overnight and don't happen because of one or two individuals. It is the collective work and dedication of the students, campus administration, faculty and staff, as well as Student Government that enables our ideas to become a reality.

A majority of the projects we worked on came from the student body. **Speaker of the Senate, Josh Zuchinarz** and **Speaker Pro Tempore, Henson Destiné** empowered Senators to better engage their constituencies with events such as *Find Your Senator* and tabling at campus events for suggestions on how to improve the community.

This year we removed the Chief of Staff from the Executive board and created several new positions to help work on the projects brought to Student Government with administration. First, the **Director of Academic Affairs, Kristin Cilluffo**, led the Academic Liaison Council (ALC), a new concept introduced to Student Government to work on the academic initiatives. On the other hand, anything not academic related was worked on by the Campus Liaison Council (CLC), which is led by the **Director of University Affairs, Quinn Kasal**. Both of these boards continued to strengthen our relationship with administration while executing projects to better our university. Additionally, we piloted a position called the **Director of Student Involvement, Ryan Donahue**, to keep tabs on the campus pulse and help bring together various student umbrella organizations and departments.

Within SG, **Executive-at-Large Internal, Coleman Reardon** instilled the idea of commitment through our annual SG wide retreat and motivating the members of SG with *Something Great* with SG. **Executive-at-Large, External Robert Renfro** and the U Outreach committee planned campus



VIKESH PATEL, PRESIDENT OF STUDENT GOVERNMENT

programming events such as our bi-annual SG Awareness Week, a night of comedy with Colin Jost from SNL, Spring Kickoff, and study breaks. The **Director of Communications, Avisha Gopal** and the Board of Communications, another new concept introduced to SG, kept students informed on our goals and initiatives through their constant outreach to the student body through social media.

Vice President, Ashley Pittaluga, and the Freshman Leadership Council (FLC) successfully completed almost all 10 projects, while also developing and learning leadership skills. By researching and collaborating with campus partners, FLC had the most successful year yet! **Treasurer, Morgan Owens** was able to expand upon the use of TIPAC this year to fund not only SG projects, but also all students fund new pilot programs for initiatives. **Rachel Jennings, Executive Secretary**, worked with the members of the Executive Board by ensuring they utilized the Google Drive to store project information and other SG material for future years to come.

Category 5 Chair, Kierin Mukerjee along with his team fought to take our spirit programming board to new heights working alongside the Athletics Department to continue old traditions and create new ones, such as Student Athlete Week. The **Energy Conservation Organization (ECO) Chair, Josh Lomot** implemented an outstanding amount of green changes at the U while spreading conservation awareness to students. Josh and his board also revived the Green Committee allowing more students passionate about the environment to work on projects.

Supreme Court Chief Justice, Devin Fitzgerald chaired the committee responsible for updating the elections codes. Thereafter, **Elections Commission Chair, Claudia Nunes** and her team implemented the new codes that were created, ensuring a smooth election year.

I am proud to say that SG, as always, has been able to work together to generate positive change. Our success in great part derived from the relentless support of UM administration, especially **Vice President for Student Affairs, Dr. Patricia Whitely**, **Senior Vice Provost and Dean of Undergraduate Education, Dr. William Green** and **Board of Trustees Student Affairs Chair, Barbara Hecht Havenick**. Furthermore, our advisors **Dean Ricardo Hall, Brandon Gross**, and **Heather Stevens** have been instrumental in our achievements. We are sad to see Dean Hall leave the U, but proud of his new position as the Vice Provost of Student Affairs of Lehigh University. Finally, even though we come from different places, it is important to remember that we need to continue to learn and work together to accomplish our goals and never forget, we are more than just a 'Cane Nation, we are a **'Cane Family**, where nobody gets left behind and or forgotten.

As we complete our term, I look forward to seeing the accomplishments of the "Unlimited" ticket over the coming year. I am confident that **Adrian Nuñez, Coleman Reardon**, and **Emily Bajalía** will continue the movement and enhance student life at the U!



COLEMAN REARDON, EXECUTIVE-AT-LARGE INTERNAL

Forward Letter

On behalf of Student Government, I would like to thank you for reading our Annual Report. Student Government is excited to give students and administrators a look at all of our work and experiences from this year!

People will often question, “What does Student Government do?” Or, “What has Student Government done for me?” In this report, we hope to provide you with details of all the projects and initiatives to which Student Government has contributed, this year that have helped better our UM community. We also hope to expand upon prior annual reports and continue the tradition

of providing written documentation that will aid future members of Student Government. It is our goal that future members use this report as a way to learn from past failures and build upon our many successes.

We hope you enjoy reading about the initiatives our Student Government members have worked on to enhance the student experience at the University of Miami. Please know that we look forward to connecting and working with you in the years to come and that our office, SC Suite 210A, is always open to you.

“What does SG even do?”

EDITOR:
Coleman Reardon and Jake Kaplan

ART & DESIGN:
Marissa Vonesh, Hallie Schechter
and Avisha Gopalakrishna

Editorial content provided by
Student Government

Photography Courtesy of
Jenny Abreu, University of Miami
and Student Government

Executive Board

The Executive Board of Student Government works with administration to create and put into effect new initiatives and ideas on campus. Additionally, the board works to implement and voice the student body to help foster the best college experience. The Executive Board is composed of the President, Vice President, Treasurer, Director of Academic Affairs, Director of

Communications, Director of University Affairs, Executive Secretary, Executive at Large-Internal, Executive at Large-External, Speaker of Senate, Speaker Pro-Tempore of Senate, Supreme Court, Elections Commission, ECO Agency, Category 5 and the Director of Student Involvement.



UM Student Government Annual Report 2016 - 2017



Campus Liaison Council

The 12-member Campus Liaison Council works with administrators and decision-makers all across campus, furthering Student Government's mission and initiatives while developing mutually beneficial relationships that fully utilize SG as an asset to the University. Meanwhile, the liaisons, grouped into six pairs, developed a bond through passionate group brainstorming, lots of laughter, Secret Santa, and 'Fun Time'.



INFORMATIONAL TECHNOLOGY



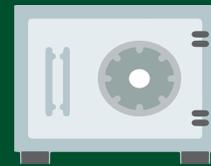
- Mobile Canelink Implementation
- Guide App Release
- Adobe Creative Cloud for Students
- Printer Locations on UM App
- Survey of Student Body on IT Services

HEALTH & WELLNESS



- Free cooking classes for UM Students
- Free outdoor weekly fitness classes
- Got signs placed around the bottom floor promoting their cardio equipment upstairs to spread out the visitors.
- Improved Counseling Center marketing

FACILITIES & SECURITY



- Water fountains implemented in the Panhellenic building
- Bike Repair stations updated with new tools
- Skateboard Racks have been installed in the Wellness Center
- Implemented Safety Classes
- Incremental improvements on flooding at the Dooley building

PARKING & TRANSPORTATION



- Skateboard Racks (with help from FLC)
- Bus Driver Appreciation Day
- Free Wynwood Shuttles weekly

DINING & AUXILIARY SERVICES



- Library Snack Vending Machine
- Healthy Snack Options At Outtakes
- Implemented A Free On-Campus Delivery System: Delivery Dudes

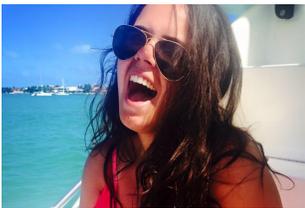
LIBRARY



- Vending Machines in the library
- Improving flashing light policy during closing time
- Security guarding outside to prevent smoking
- Moved question desk in the front

**GYLES WARD
DONNY FOIANI**

DINING & AUXILIARY SERVICES



**LAUREN RODRIGUEZ
PERI GREEN**

PARKING & TRANSPORTATION

**AARON GLUCK
CARL TORSILIERI**

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY



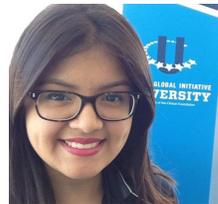
**EVELYN MANGOLD
RICK LIN**

LIBRARY



**MIA LAM
TEJAS JAIN**

FACILITIES & SECURITY



**NATALIE MARRERO
NICOLE KATZ**

HEALTH & WELLNESS



MICHAEL
Nesheiwat

MARIANNE
Elias

NATHAN
Morales Gallardo

EVAN
de Joya

LAUREN
Spiegel

Academic Liaison Council

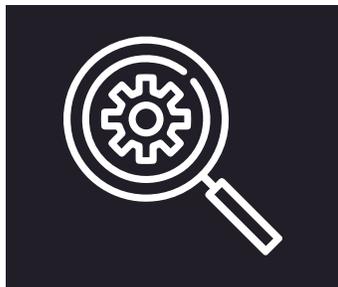
THE ACADEMIC LIAISON COUNCIL WORKS TO FACILITATE AND COORDINATE AN OVERALL UNDERSTANDING OF ALL CURRENT ACADEMIC PROJECTS AND INITIATIVES WITHIN ALL ASPECTS OF STUDENT GOVERNMENT.

Completed Projects/ Projects in Process:



ADVISING COMPACT:

Specifies the dual responsibilities between students and advisors in preparation for advising appointments.



COGNATE SEARCH ENGINE:

SG has been instrumental in improving the look and design of the current search engine.



SEBASTIAN'S CLOSET:

It opened in April 2017 at Toppel. ALC held a Sebastian's Closet Clothing Drive with bins around campus and collected a great deal of clothing.



EXTEND THE "W" DROP:

The bill requested that the date be moved to the 12th week of the semester and it was passed by Senate.



GARDENING COURSE:

It requests for gardening to be a part of certain classes' coursework.



PASS/FAIL COURSES:

AA sent out a survey to gather information on whether students would like the ability to take more P/F classes. Based on the results, Senate passed a bill that would allow for more P/F classes to be offered.



ESTABLISHED RELATIONSHIPS WITH 15+ DEPARTMENTS

ALC worked with over 15 different departments through the year.



SEND A TRANSCRIPT:

Working with the schools/ colleges to cover the fee to send a transcript for UM undergrad students to apply for the grad programs here at UM.



SPRING GRAD FAIR:

This took place on the Foote Green and Toppel sponsored and held the event for us. This started as an idea from SG Academic Affairs.



GUIDE APP:

SG was instrumental in creating the design and content of the new Guide app that all incoming students will be required to download.



TOPPEL GAP YEAR OPTIONS:

The Toppel Career Center and UM SG invited all students interested in UM graduate programs to explore and connect with different program representatives.



WORK CLOSELY WITH FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Helped improve the way in which they communicate to the student body and improve students' overall experience working with the office.

Freshman Leadership Council

Led by the Vice President, three Project Coordinators and a Leadership Development Coordinator, members of the Freshman Leadership Council gain hands-on experience in completing projects and initiatives to enhance student life on campus. They are paired into groups of two to work on a project throughout the year. They also learn a lot about leadership through various

activities as well as guest speakers from across campus. FLC is a great first step in getting involved on campus! Most importantly, FLC is a family! Not only is it a place where you'll meet people you would have never met otherwise; but you may find your lifelong friends and mentors. We work hard and have fun while doing it!



**“So proud
of FLC and I
can’t wait to
see what’s
to come!”**

Ashley Pittaluga, Vice-President





PROJECT LIST:

Ice Machines in the food court

Working with Dining and Auxiliary and CLC, this group worked to get an ice machine placed in the food court. We are excited to hopefully see this implemented for next year!

Healthy Food Options

The purpose of this project was to get healthier snack options across campus. Coming soon there will be healthy options in Outtakes from chips and guacamole to hummus!

SG Gives Back

This group planned 2 successful service events! They partnered with the Butler Center on the Hurricanes Holiday Toy Drive and in the spring they partnered with Athletics and Best Buddies for a successful event at a Sunday baseball game on campus.

Poncho/Umbrella Project

The purpose of this project was to help students when it inevitably rains in Miami. The idea that is

being worked on is to have umbrellas for check out at various buildings across campus. Stay tuned as this may be implemented soon!

Suite Treat

The 2nd Suite Treat event, where all the student organizations in the org suite were able to showcase their organization by providing different sweets to the participants.

UBazaar

This was also the second UBazaar which saw 6 vendors come to campus and sell their products. From jewelry to bikinis there were plenty of items to shop for!

Miami Discounts

The goal of this project was to centralize a list of all places near campus that offer UM student discounts. As this project comes to an end we are finalizing the locations and hope to introduce the list for the next academic year.

Fans at the Rat

This group has researched and found fans that will hopefully be put in place at the Rat soon. You'll be able to enjoy the outside gliders while staying cool!

Bike and Skateboard Safety

Working with CLC, the goal was to provide awareness on bike safety across campus. The group has started the process of researching whether or not it will be possible to get skateboard racks put in classroom buildings.

Freshmen Programming

This group put on 2 successful events for freshmen and students alike. In the Fall they provided breakfast for freshmen in Hecht and Stanford dining halls, which was a huge success. In the Spring, they planned a pool party for students to celebrate the end of the semester.

Board of Communications

The Board of Communications coordinates all external communications for Student Government. The goal of the board is to inform students of ongoing SG and administrative initiatives that impact the campus community. This board works to directly connect the student body to administration through strategic use of communication channels. Comprised of 6 members in the Fall 2016 Semester and 4 in the Spring 2017 Semester, this was the inaugural year for the Board of Communications.



HALLIE SCHECHTER

Graphic Designer

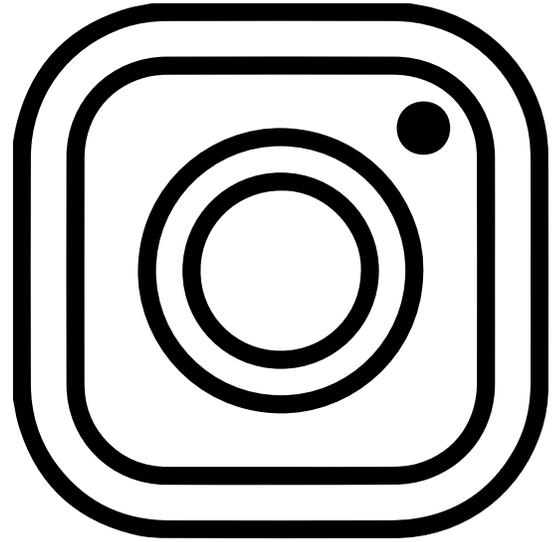
MARISSA VONESH

Graphic Designer

JAKE KAPLAN

Social Media Manager

10000
FOLLOWERS



One of our biggest goals for the year was to increase social media engagement, specifically Instagram. The Student Government Instagram page hit 1000 followers, which is a 300% increase from the previous year.

718,153
facebook

IMPRESSIONS WERE REACHED AMONG **ALL THE POSTS** ACROSS THE YEAR.

SEVENTY-FIVE

DIFFERENT GRAPHICS WERE PRODUCED FOR PROGRAMS, INITIATIVES AND EVENTS AND DISTRIBUTED ACROSS CAMPUS.



46 countries
THROUGH SOCIAL MEDIA ACROSS THE WORLD.



21,678

VIEWS ACROSS THE VIDEOS PRODUCED FOR INSTAGRAM AND FACEBOOK INCLUDING THE **MANNEQUIN CHALLENGE**.



SLEEP DEPRIVED
MEMBERS



Senate

Through the leadership of the Speaker, Speaker Pro Tempore, and the Council of Chairs, Senate used different methods such as “Facebook,” free food, and tabling to reach out to students, and tabling to reach out to the students. Furthermore, they helped sponsor several organizational events. Senate’s hope was to explore initiatives that best encompassed student needs so that senators could do their jobs as student

representatives. Even though the year is coming to a close, their jobs will not. Senate will continue to pursue and complete those initiatives that they have started and start new ones as they are addressed. As representatives of the student body, Senate truly believes that they can help create the UM that students desire and deserve.

COMMITTEES: Policy & Finance



Public Relations



University Affairs



Academic Affairs



Policy and Finance:

P&F co-sponsored over fourteen different events across campus including but not limited to: Homecoming, COISO: International Dance Competition, Gandhi Day, Alpha Rho Chi: Auction, Indian Students Association: Garba, Hillel: Rock for Haiti, TedX, AASA: Lunar New Year, Association of Commuter Students: Commuter Week, Federacion de Estudiantes Cubanos: Week of Cuban Culture, COISO: International Week, FunDay, Unity Round Table: Defamation the Play, Japanese Culture Circle: Chopsticks Day, Random Acts of Kindness: Hug the Lake. The Policy and Finance team also made co-sponsorship brackets and two SAFAC appeals. This committee also created a bill recommending the school cease donations to the Red Cross. They created a bill for half of TIPAC funds to be reallocated one month prior to the end of each semester. They also created a bill requiring P&F to invite SAFAC to meetings twice semestery to discuss precedents, appeals, decisions etc. They reviewed new budgets from treasurer. They reviewed new elections codes. They changed the referenda bills that if voting has met criteria and is between 50-67%, it will come to senate;

senate can put forth alternate options on the ballot.

Public Relations:

The PR committee set up three big events this year. The first was the UR Voice: Student suggestion campaign, where Senators were placed all over the campus to listen to suggestions from students about various aspects of the university. Another event was the *Speak Up Speak Out: Safe Space Discussion* Forum, where students were invited to speak on a panel. Finally, the last event of the year was Senate's *Find Your Senator*. This encouraged students to find their senators and post a picture with them in the hopes of getting a prize.

University Affairs:

The University Affairs team established the Student Fanzone at Tailgate (Cat. D Bill). They also enforced the No Smoking Policy with new security guard routes (Cat. D Bill).

Academic Affairs:

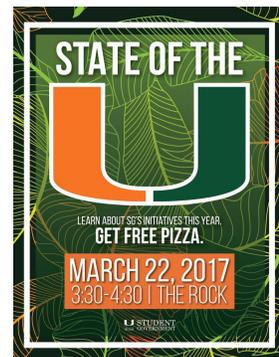
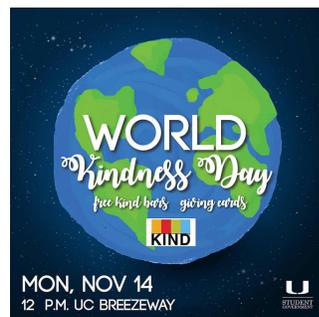
The Academic Affairs team created a bill for a course in Gardening. They established a pass/fail course bill. They also established a bill for the last day to drop a class with a W. They are also working on Peer Tutoring and Hispanic Scholarship.



UOutreach Committee

THE GOAL OF THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT UOUTREACH COMMITTEE IS TO SUPPORT STUDENTS, COLLABORATE WITH ORGANIZATIONS, AND REACH OUT TO THE STUDENT BODY THROUGH CAMPUS-WIDE PROGRAMS.

This year, UOutreach had events such as -Just Keep Swimming Study Break, Spring Kickoff, Rat Social, Senior Cap Decorating, SG Awareness Week, State of the U and the Late Night Breakfast.



“Working
'Canes

LATE NIGHT BREAKFAST



STUDY BREAK

SG AWARENESS WEEK



ing to connect SG with fellow
s is the best part of being in
the UOutreach Committee.”

Robert Renfro, Executive-At-Large External





SUPREME COURT



THE SUPREME COURT IS THE JUDICIAL BRANCH OF STUDENT GOVERNMENT AND IS CHARGED WITH UPHOLDING THE PROVISIONS AND POWERS OF THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT CONSTITUTION AND STATUTES.

This organization will periodically convene representatives from various aspects of Student Government to shape the Elections Codes in a way that reflects campus realities while also providing adequate deterrents to misconduct and appropriate sanctions.

It is our hope that Court continues to build off of this groundwork to continue connecting Student Government and the University of Miami community through meaningful interactions. similar institutions. Through deliberative action, the Court will continue to maintain order and serve as a valuable resource to all.



Held elections code review



Held Org Seat Reviews



Contacted other similar institutions to find out how their courts operate



Elections Commission

The purpose of the Student Government Elections Commission is to organize and coordinate all aspects of the spring and fall Student Government elections. The duties of Elections Commission are to review and approve all SG applications and campaign materials, to enforce elections codes, to plan and organize elections events including Meet the Candidates and Executive Ticket debates, and to present all violations to Trial Court for hearings. In addition, the Elections Commission determines the polling times and locations, oversees polling sites, tabulates all votes, and announces elections results.

<p>EVENT: MEET THE CANDIDATES</p>	<p>GREW TO 18 PEOPLE</p>			<p>HURRICANE PRODUCTIONS REFERENDUM</p>
			<p>776 STUDENTS VOTED IN EXECUTIVE ELECTIONS</p>	<p>PASSED!</p>
<p>FREE PIZZA IN THE FALL AND SPRING FOR STUDENTS TO MEET THEIR SENATE AND EXECUTIVE CANDIDATES</p>	<p>COMMISSIONERS CLAUDIA NUNES, CHAIR VISHAL LAKSHMANAN, VICE CHAIR AMIR ABDEL MONEIM LAUREN APPLE SYED ANZAR NATALIA BEADLE ARIANA CARTAGENA JULLIAN COCKERELL MARIELYS CONCEPCION LUIS GOBERNA SAHANA KAMISSETY CARA LEWIS ALEXIS MUSICK KARTHIK NARAYANAN DANIEL NEPOMECHIE ROHIT REDDY JOANNA VALENCIA MEREDITH WOODS</p>	<p>WORKED ON: ELECTION CODE REVIEW COMMITTEE</p>	<p>PRESIDENT ADRIAN NUÑEZ VICE-PRESIDENT COLEMAN REARDON TREASURER EMILY BAJALIA</p>	<p>THE HURRICANE PRODUCTIONS REFERENDUM TO INCREASE THE STUDENT ACTIVITY FEE BY \$7 A SEMESTER FOR HURRICANE PRODUCTIONS CONCERTS PASSED. FOR A REFERENDUM TO BE VALID, IT NEEDED THE PARTICIPATION OF AT LEAST 1,128 STUDENTS AND IT RECEIVED 1,331.</p>

Externally:

Used the Hummer to promote events

Helped plan and execute the
New Tunnel Crew Configuration

Pancake Breakfast before UNC
featured on CBS Sports

Tifo (Large Canvas brought
out at big sporting events)

Basketball Cheer Video

Signs Returned to the Watsco Center

Freshmen Walk Barbecue
- Record Attendance

Student Athlete Week - Including Guest
Appearance from Pro Football Player &
UM alum, Jonathan Vilma

Highsock Sunday

Increased Exposure to Olympic Sports

Campout - Record Attendance

Storm Surge Redesign

Internally:

Once-A-Month Category 5
Newsletter

Intramural Teams

Committee Olympics

Exclusive Giveaways for Members

Better Messaging

Category 5 Awareness Events - Pop
Up Shop, Cat 5 Awareness Day

Category

5

Category 5 is the **Spirit Programming Board** focused on preserving and implementing spirit and traditions relating to our Division 1 sports teams at the University of Miami. It represents the student body by acting as the link between the Athletic Department and the students. Category 5 focuses on enhancing in-game experiences for students to **promote love of Alma Mater** and cultivate supportive and notable student interactions.

eco



The Energy and Conservation Organization, better known as the **ECO Agency**, is an agency of Student Government and through students, creates and implements environmental initiatives on campus to create **positive change** for the present and the future. ECO is the youngest agency of Student Government and has **grown** exponentially each year. The ECO Agency continues to be the leading force of **environmentalism** and sustainability on campus to better the University of Miami as a whole and our environment. ECO's vision is to build an environmentally friendly campus, promote **green habits**, educate and further awareness of environmentally **friendly practices**, and to have fun, live big and be green.

eco re-usable bags

recyclemana

re-use store at farmers market

a conversation with meteorologist John Moralest

reduced plastic/biodegradable utensils

eco tree

food recovery network

earth day partnership with hug the lake

low-flow shower-heads in uc pool and wellness

environmental umx video

solar umbrellas

tap water taste test event

green dorm room

plastic bag collection

climate march with eco

"green your event" guidelines

air dryer replacement of paper towel dispensers

sustainable dining program





**“REMEMBER,
RECYCLING IS SEXY!”**

External Appointments

Academic Affairs
Committee of the
Board of Trustees:
Braylond Howard

Student Affairs
Committee of
the Board of
Trustees:
Gavin Grieb

Student
Center Complex
Advisory Council:
Morgan Owens

Faculty Senate
Representatives:
**Vikesh Patel &
Kristin Cilluffo**

Student Board
of Publications
Representative:
**Avisha Gopal,
Victoria Kohl &
Coleman Reardon**

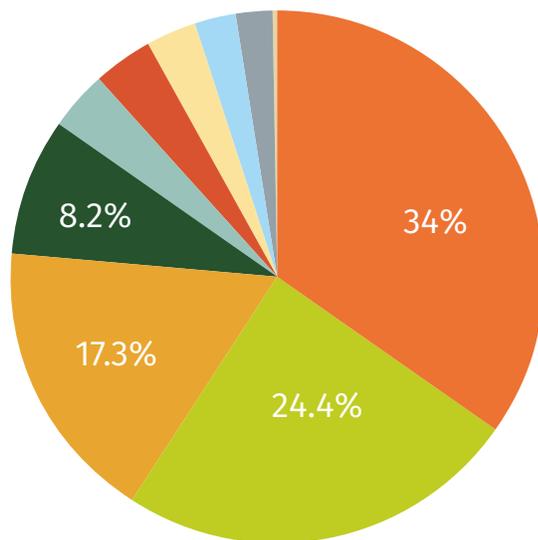
Library and
Resources
Information
Committee:
Evelyn Mangold

Building and
Grounds
Committee
Representative:
Morgan Owens

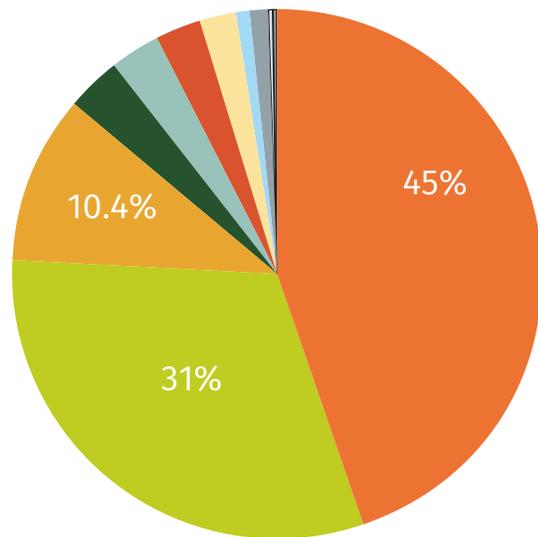
Department
of Wellness
and Recreation
Advisory Board
Representative:
Nicole Katz

Financial Report

Fall Expenditure



Spring Expenditure



- Promotions
- Co-Sponsorships
- Polos
- Graduation Materials
- Judicial
- Internal Programming
- Retreat
- Elections Materials
- FLC Programming



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U **STUDENT**
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