



STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

STUDENT SURVEY

SGA is looking to gain more insight into student issues and perspectives on our campus. Please complete [this survey](#) so we can better understand the needs of the student body.

GET INVOLVED!

All SGA meetings are open to the student body and are held on Thursdays at 8pm. If interested, students can join using [this zoom link](#).

This newsletter is brought to you by SGA's brand new public relations team. The goal of this team is to increase communication between SGA and the student body. We are looking for students with experience in design, marketing, social media management, content writing, photography and more. To learn more about the team or get involved, please email annwheeler17@augustana.edu.

If you are interested in finding ways to become involved with SGA, volunteer to become a member of the Proxy Bank. This is a group of students who volunteer as fill-in senators when an elected senator is unable to attend a meeting. If interested, please complete [this form](#).

STAR SENATORS

In each newsletter, we highlight individual senators who have gone above and beyond the expectations and responsibilities of their role in the Senate.

Fine Arts Senator Michael Tarchala, International Senator Virgil Ngo and members of the SGA Executive Board worked with Augustana's Academic Affairs Office to create a tip sheet for faculty members to improve student's experiences with distance learning.

Sophomore Senator Vanessa Silva created a [graphic](#) to aid students in filling out an IT's work order form.

STEM Senator Iva Vucic and Secretary Olivia Smith developed a set of [Emergency Bylaws](#) to ensure that SGA is operating efficiently amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

EVENTS

On October 30th, SGA will be hosting a Meet & Greet from 6-8pm in the quad where students will have a chance to meet the senators that represent the student body! Come enjoy music, bonfires, and Halloween-themed goody bags. There will also be a raffle where students will have a chance to win a hammock, a painted basket, and a Bluetooth speaker! Distance learners are also encouraged to participate in a virtual Meet & Greet from 6-7 pm on October 30th by [clicking here](#). There will be music and online games for those who cannot attend in person!

Interested in sharing your thoughts with the SGA President, Kaitlyn Watkins, and Vice President, Peyton Couch? Send an email to sga@augustana.edu to set up a virtual meeting.

PROJECT UPDATES

After many years of advocacy from students and members of SGA, we helped open the brand new health clinic on campus.

36 senators unanimously passed a resolution on [General Election Days](#). The resolution has been sent to the administration and is currently being discussed by the faculty.

SGA has implemented a brand new Presidential and Vice Presidential Student Advisory Board where members of the student body are meeting with the President and Vice President of SGA to discuss relevant campus issues.

SGA COMMITTEE GOALS

The Student Well-Being Committee is prioritizing student's physical, mental, social, spiritual, and financial health. They are advocating for a more accessible campus and are prioritizing student mental health by creating initiatives to destigmatize mental illness.

The COVID-19 Response Committee is in contact with Augustana's contact tracing team to assist quarantined students with obtaining groceries. They are also addressing student concerns related to the new health clinic.

The Documents Committee is working to help transfer students by making a list of tips and resources that will help them with getting involved and navigating life as a transfer student.

The Diversity & Inclusion Committee is working on a pop-up event to promote awareness of topics related to diversity and inclusion. They are also working to increase student awareness of the prayer room located in Olin 306.

The Rotating Committee is investigating campus laundry and parking issues.

The College Finance Committee is planning an educational financial session with a faculty member that will give seniors the opportunity to learn more about post-grad living, how to save money, and personal finances.

EXECUTIVE BOARD AND SENATOR MEMBERSHIP ON COLLEGE COMMITTEES:

Every year, the President and Vice President appoint members of the Senate and student body to serve as student representatives on Augustana's Committees. [Click here](#) to learn more about the membership of these committees.

Various members of our Executive Board are also advocating for students on a variety of college task forces:

Augustana Strong: President Kaitlyn Watkins, Vice President Peyton Couch, and Secretary Olivia Smith (July 2020-Present)

Augustana Bold: Chief of Staff Russell McNab (August 2020-Present)

Distance Learning Task Force: President Kaitlyn Watkins (May 2020-Present)

Learning to Learn via Distance: Chief of Staff Russell McNab (June 2020-August 2020)