

STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE (SAC)

ANNUAL REPORT 2015 - 2016

Over the past year, SAC has worked on a number of important initiatives. Although we still hope to accomplish a number of policy changes before the end of the year, we are providing this annual report now to update the community. Below is a list of our accomplishments:

1. Publishing the biennial Quality of Life Report
 - Generated recommendations to improve a variety of facets of student life
 - Presented findings to key stakeholders across the University
2. Dodge Gym Improvements
 - Participated in conversations around improvements to Campus Recreation facilities
 - Helped in long-term planning
 - SAC worked with Athletics to secure more weight-lifting equipment, helped advise on the new floor layout at Dodge, and supported the creation of the new Columbia Daily Dose of Fitness workout program, #ColumbiaDDoF.
3. Academic Calendar
 - Worked on year-long initiative to designate the Wednesday before Thanksgiving an academic holiday
 - Official vote to take place in fall 2016
 - Close collaboration with Vice-Provost Melissa Begg, Registrar Barry Kane, Education Committee Co-Chairs Letty Moss-Salentijn and James Applegate, and Faculty Affairs Co-Chair Raimondo Betti
4. Muslim Religious Life Advisor
 - SAC worked with the President's office and Chaplain to fill the vacancy for this position so that all students have an advisor available, regardless of their religion

5. Mental Health Initiatives

- Senators involved with the Mental Health Taskforce successfully pushed for the expansion of CPS Staff to better accommodate diverse needs of students

6. Morningside Student Space Initiative

- Articulated student priorities for the Morningside campus after spaces are vacated with the move to Manhattanville
- Focus on Student Union (with space for commuters), expansion of Dodge, and daycare center
- Full report before the end of the year

7. Established the Subcommittee on Students with Disabilities (SSD)

- Created a subcommittee of SAC to address campus accessibility issues
- Crafting a list of policies to present to administrators and the community at large

8. Interschool Governing Board (IGB)

- Revised Constitution and reconstituted IGB with members from every school
- IGB is currently reviewing its membership to ensure all organizations are in line with its principles

9. Commission on Diversity

- Identified the need for this Commission and worked closely with the Executive Committee on its creation

10. Sustainability Principles

- Members of SAC helped draft sustainability principles to guide future University projects

11. SAC Collaboration with CAA

- CAA Board to increase and strengthen relationships between current students and alumni across Columbia's schools

12. School of Professional Studies (SPS) launches first student council

- SPS (and its predecessor SCE) did not have a student council
- SPS' senator worked with administrators to establish a student council to advocate for initiatives within SPS

13. Family Policy

- SAC members completed peer institution research regarding child care offerings, and continued to advance a dialogue regarding expanded access to child care for all Columbia students

These initiatives would not have been possible without the support and guidance we have received from many individuals across the University. In particular, we would like to thank Professor O'Halloran, President Bollinger and his staff, the entire Provost's office, and the entire Senate Staff, Geraldine Mc Allister, Tom Mathewson, Justine Blau, and Jessica Raimi, for their incredible help.

Respectfully submitted,

Marc Heinrich, Emily Moore and Ramis Wadood

Committee Chair and Vice Chairs

April 29, 2016

Committee Members 2015-2016

Stu.	Ashraf Ahmed		GSAS/SS	sen
Stu.	Lia Avellino		SSW	sen
Stu.	Alex Beecher		GSAS/NS	sen
Stu.	Katharine Celentano		GS	sen
Stu.	Saskia Chanoine		BUS	sen
Stu.	Andrea Crow		GSAS/HUM	sen
Stu.	Alexandra Greco		CDM	sen
Stu.	Gairy Hall		BUS	sen
Stu.	Marc Heinrich	Chair	CC	sen
Stu.	Hyunwoo Paco Kang		P&S	sen
Stu.	Sarah Katz		BAR	sen
Stu.	Mustafa Kaymak		ARTS	sen
Stu.	Grace Kelley		NURS	sen
Stu.	Sonah Lee		Journ	sen
Stu.	Ryan Monell		SPS	sen
Stu.	Emily Moore	Vice Chair	SEAS	sen
Stu.	Tatev Papikyan		TC	sen
Stu.	Brennan Rhodes-Bratton		SPH	sen
Stu.	Cameron Robertson		GSAPP	sen
Stu.	Jillian Ross		SEAS	sen
Stu.	Sean Ryan		CC	sen
Stu.	Daniella Urbina		SIPA	sen
Stu.	Ramis Wadood	Vice Chair	CC	sen
Stu.	Mark Logan Wright		LAW	sen
Stu. Obs.	Lee Sartain		UTS	Stu. Obs.