

# University Senate Committee Annual Report Student Affairs Policy Committee (SAPC) 2017-2018

Due Date: Submit in MSWord format to [senate@gcsu.edu](mailto:senate@gcsu.edu)

**no later than 11:59pm on Fri 11 May 2018**

**Committee Name: Student Affairs Policy Committee (SAPC)**

**Academic Year: 2017-2018**

**Committee Charge:**

V.Section2.C.4.b. Scope. The Student Affairs Policy Committee shall be concerned with policy relating to the general social, cultural, and practical welfare of students, which includes, but is not limited to, policies relating to non-academic areas such as conduct and discipline, grievances and non-academic appeals, financial aid, human services for students (e.g. health center, counseling), organizations, awards, intercollegiate athletics, and other extracurricular activities (e.g. Greek life, residence life, intramurals). This committee also provides advice, as appropriate, on procedural matters that affect the general social, cultural, and practical welfare of the students.

**Committee Calendar:**

September 1  
October 6  
November 3  
December 1  
February 2  
March 2 Cancelled (no quorum)  
March 30

**Executive Summary:** The majority of the committee’s time was spent meeting with departmental leaders on campus to discuss issues faced by underrepresented students. The motivation was to understand the unique perspectives and needs of these students and to understand how SGA can better serve them.

**Committee Membership and Record of Attendance:**

Aggregate Member Attendance at Committee Meetings for the Academic Year:

“P” denotes Present, “A” denotes Absent, “R” denotes Regrets (blank denotes non-membership)

Meeting Dates	09/1/17	10/6/17	11/3/17	12/1/17	2/2/18	3/2/18	3/30/18
Gabrielle Aladesuyi – Student, Senator through 2017	P	P	A	P	X	X	X
Brenda Deal – Non-Senator	P	R	R	R	R	X	A
Emily Gomez – Chair, Senator	P	P	P	P	P	X	P
Austin Hughes – Student, Non-Senator	R	R	P	P	P	X	P
Wanda Johnson – Vice Chair, Senator	P	P	P	R	R	X	P
Monica Ketchie - Senator	P	R	R	P	R	X	P
Andy Lewter – Non-Senator	P	R	P	P	R	X	P
Altimease Lowe – Student, Senator	R	P	P	R	X	X	X
Michael Muller – Student, SGA President 2017-2018	P	P	P	R	R	X	P
Stephanie Opperman - Senator	P	P	P	P	P	X	P
Amy Pinney – Senator	P	P	P	R	P	X	R
Olha Osobov – Non-Senator	P	R	P	P	P	X	R
Simplice Tchamna – Secretary, Non-Senator	P	P	R	P	P	X	P
Amelia Lord – Student, Senator (starting 2/18)	X	X	X	X	P	X	P

**Motions brought to the Senate floor:**

No motions were brought to the Senate floor for the 2017-2018 academic year

## **Other Significant Deliberation (Non-Motions):**

### **The HUB**

#### **• LGBTQ+ and Women's Center**

Early in the semester, we invited Jennifer Graham, Director of the Women's Center, and Melissa Gerrior, Program Coordinator at the Women's Center, to discuss the programs and services offered by the LGBTQ+ Center, and the Women's Center. Later, we invited Melissa Gerrior and Joanna Schwartz, Professor of Marketing, to discuss the importance of implementing a system for transgender students to change their names on class rosters and Bobcat Cards. Transgender students face the problem of being outed in their classes when they are addressed by their dead name.

Madison Rhodes, a representative from SGA, and Emily Gómez, Chair SAPC, Professor of Art, met separately with Bob Orr, Chief Information Officer, to discuss the issue and the solutions: a preferred name form implemented by the office of the registrar, and a column in banner that will indicate students' preferred names. Representatives from SERVE indicated that they are more than willing to work with students to individually input preferred names when needed.

#### **• Cultural Center**

We met with Stacey Milner, Director of the GC Cultural Center to ask how SGA can be more involved.

- a) Suggested SGA be more involved in multi-cultural events--to have more of a presence beyond election time.
- b) Multi-Cultural clubs need more student activity fee funding to bring in speakers, host workshops, etc.

### **Diversity Action Plan**

Met with Veronica Womack to discuss the Diversity Action Plan and how SGA can help with its implementation.

Dr. Womack suggested that:

- a) SGA can help spread the word about where students can go to report and handle student complaints
- b) Help develop a media strategy – SGA has begun developing a strategy

### **Early College**

Met with Dr. Runee Sallad from the Early College to inquire how relationships between Early College students and GC students can be improved. Dr. Sallad recommended that SGA help student organizations and student senate reach out to Early College students. They often feel as if they are isolated from campus life and singled out as being different (by some students and professors). Early College students rarely end up attending Georgia College for their undergraduate studies because they don't feel as if they are welcomed on campus.

## **Ad hoc committees and other groups:**

None

## **Committee Reflections:**

Our most interesting meetings were ones that included guests who work with underrepresented students. Hearing about the specific perspectives of these students was illuminating and helpful in understanding how to create a more inclusive campus environment.

Many faculty/staff committee members remarked on how impressed they are by our SGA representatives. They brought up meaningful issues for discussion in committee and worked on addressing concerns expressed by our guests directly following the SAPC meetings.

## **Committee Recommendations:**

We recommend following up on the preferred name issue in the 2018-2019 academic year. Banner 9 will be rolled out shortly, and it is supposed to improve our ability to insert preferred names on rosters, in D2L, etc. Keep up a dialog with the HUB in regard to creating a simple pathway for transgender students to follow in making needed changes to their personal information.

Continue working with the Cultural Center, the LGBTQ+ Center, Women's Center and Early College to make underrepresented students feel more welcome and appreciated on campus.

## **Recommend items for consideration at the governance retreat:**

See Committee Recommendations. Also, ask the SGA representatives what they are working on this year and how SAPC can facilitate their plans.

## **Appendix: Committee Operating Procedures**

From the agreed upon 2017-2018 SAPC Operating Procedures document:

“The Student Affairs Policy Committee (SAPC) is governed by the Senate bylaws in participating in the shared governance of Georgia College & State University. The members are accountable to the constituents they serve and function as a team to benefit these constituents.”

“The SAPC members work cooperatively as a team for the good of the University, the University Senate, Student Government Association, and the Committee.”

“Deliberation is informal until there is a motion for committee consideration in which case Robert’s Rules apply.”