

Undergraduate Student Government Association Georgia Institute of Technology

# **Executive Review Summer and Fall 2021 Semesters**

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## **About Student Government Association**

Georgia Tech's Student Government Association consists of the legislative, judicial, and executive branches. Each branch works to represent the interests of the student body and make Georgia Tech a little bit better every day. As a member of SGA, students can make tangible change in all areas of campus

## **Student Government Association Mission**

The Student Government Association's mission is to empower student organizations, embody student opinions, preserve student integrity, and enrich the student experience.

## **Student Body President**

Samuel Ellis, President

## **Committees**

## A. No committees

## **Summer and Fall 2021 Projects**

## A. Student Needs Committee

- a. Creating a committee dedicated to fulfilling the financial needs of students and promoting existing services for students experiencing financial instability and food and housing insecurity
- b. Conducted initial outreach and research partnering with Steve Fazenbaker (STAR Services), Kasey Helton (AVP of Campus Services), and Nick Forge (expert on student homelessness from Georgia State University).

## B. OSI Advocacy

- a. Coordinating with the Office of Student Integrity and the Division of Student Engagement and Well-Being to ensure that student integrity cases are handled in a more timely and transparent manner
- b. Coordinating with VP of Academic Affairs to ensure students know the full processes of OSI including their options during an ongoing case
- c. Working with the VP of Student Engagement and Well-Being and the Dean of Students to create an accessible accommodations process for first-time and low-level offenders to ensure that their access to course registration, study abroad and extracurricular programs are not inhibited

## C. COVID-19 Recovery Task Force

- a. Provided weekly critical student updates to the task force about student life, campus services, on campus Covid-19 testing, and preparation for the Spring 2021 semester
- b. Advocated for professor accommodations for ill students. Resulted in the Provost meeting in-person with all school chairs to ensure that student absences due to illness were fully accommodated and that students were given the opportunity to catch up in missed lectures, coursework, and examinations
- c. Partnered with GT Athletics to provide vaccine incentives at the McCamish Pavilion vaccine clinic. Randomly distributed signed Geoff Collins footballs and helmets to students receiving vaccines.

## D. GTPD Advocacy

- a. Supported efforts to increase pay for Public Safety Officers hourly wages to allow for the hiring of more unarmed officers. Increased GTPD ability to recruit unarmed public safety officers to promote safety on campus without carrying weapons
- Collaborating with GTPD and VOICE to secure a contract with RAINN to allow students to access a non-dispatch after-hours call center to receive help from therapists and sexual assault victims' advocates

c. Working to review mental health emergency transport procedures to ensure students receive transportation in a private, dignified manner

## **E.** Mental Health Joint Allocations Committee

- a. Renewed JAC for another three years to ensure continued ability of SGA to fund student-driven mental health projects
- b. Outreached to GT Alumni Association for Student Alumni Association, GT Student Foundation, and GT Student Ambassadors to create a JAC proposal

## F. USG Advocacy

- a. Jointly-issued letter with the University of Georgia to University System of Georgia (USG) calling for a Chancellor search guided by candidate's experience and qualifications in higher education and free from politicization. Called for transparency and student involvement in the search process.
- b. Published a letter of solidarity with and support for the GT faculty regarding the University System of Georgia's proposed tenure changes. Opposed the removal of the Institute's ability to grant tenure and review due process in cases of dismissal for tenured faculty members.

## G. Atlanta Elections

- a. Successfully managed a fully student-staffed polling precinct on-campus for the second year in a row. Transitioning long-term management to a graduate student to allow for stability in student-staffed elections.
- b. Partnered with WSBTV, Committee for a Better Atlanta, and Georgia Tech Institute Relations to host and livestream an Atlanta mayoral debate between the top four polling candidates on-campus at the Kendeda Building
- c. Partnered with American Civil Liberties Union of Georgia in Georgia State House hearings on redistricting to advocate for Georgia Tech's campus to be united under one House District and one Senate District
- H. **Mandatory Student Fee Advisory Committee** charged with reviewing the current mandatory fee levels and making recommendations for fee levels for the upcoming fiscal year.
  - a. Student committee members and SGA have highlighted the importance of and are committed to not raising aggregate mandatory student fee levels for students in the upcoming fiscal year, still heightened by the negative fiscal and economic impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic.
  - b. Advocated for the increase of the Student Activity Fee by \$10 per semester per student to deal with the increasingly unsustainable request of funds for student organizations

## I. Campus Pub

a. Planning to work with Georgia Tech Campus Services to identify a vendor to occupy an outdoor bar space in Tech Square as a temporary function while a longterm space and vendor is identified to serve as a campus pub

## J. Kosher Dining

a. Connected Kasey Helton to Georgia Tech Chabad resulting in a partnership which established a consistent source of campus Kosher dining in West Village

## K. Faculty Governance and Internal Boards

a. Faculty Executive Board, ex officio member

- b. Georgia Tech Advisory Board, ex officio member
- c. Georgia Tech Alumni Association Board of Trustees, ex officio member
- d. Georgia Tech Athletics Association Board of Trustees, voting member
- e. Georgia Tech Athletics Association Administration and Finance Committee, voting member
- f. Georgia Tech Athletics Association Student Advisory Board, ex officio member
- g. Georgia Tech Police Department Community Council, ex officio member
- h. Commencement Speaker and Honorary Degree Committee, voting member
- i. Georgia Tech Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Council, ex officio member
- j. Naming Committee, voting member
- k. Student Center Advisory Board, voting member
- 1. Parents Advisory Board, student presenter

## L. Search Committee Participation

a. GT Athletic Association Chief Financial Officer, interviews completed and selection pending

## **Spring 2021 Goals**

- A. Support the continued transition of Georgia Tech and its students to successful in-person operations during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic
- B. Assist a CPC and IFC partnership to decrease the presence of sexual assault and violence on campus
- C. Partner with campus groups to promote student-driven uses for the Mental Health Joint Allocations Committee fund
- D. Determine a funding mechanism for SCPC and ORGT that uses Institute funding for these unique programs and preserves the health of the Student Activity Fee
- E. Partner with other USG schools to advocate for permanent test-optional admissions policies to promote a more holistic, equitable admissions process.
- F. Establish the Honorariums committee to allow for the meaningful honoring of members of the Georgia Tech community
- G. Secure permanent funding for GT Tour Guides to adequately compensate them for their services
- H. Create the Waffle House Challenge, a new tradition which raises funds for the Student Needs Committee, through a partnership with Yellow Jacket Club and the GT Alumni Association
- I. Fully address the OSI backlog that currently impacts students with long wait times

## **Executive Vice President**

Ajanta Choudhury, Executive Vice President

#### **Committees**

A. FreShGA: Matthew Warrington

B. Non-Citizen and Immigrant Task Force: Iman Emdad

## **Summer and Fall 2021 Projects**

- A. English Language Learner (ELL) Specialist in collaboration with SGA's VP of Academic Affairs and Educational Enhancement Committee Chair
  - a. Background: The Naugle CommLab ELL Specialist position was funded through MHJAC grant funding from Fall 2019 Summer 2021. This position cannot be funded again through MHJAC and is currently not funded by Georgia Tech.
  - b. Drafted a statement of support highlighting the scope of students who have used CommLab ELL services, the benefits these services have provided, and the number of GT's 15 peer institutions that provide full & individualized ELL services.
  - c. Met with the Provost & Associate Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education to identify how best to secure long-term funding for this position.
  - d. Coordinated & shared resources with the Interim LMC Chair as well as administrators from CommLab and the Writing & Communication Program to support the inclusion of this position in FY23 budget requests, which are currently ongoing.
- B. Campus Accessibility in collaboration with SGA's VP of Campus Services, Joint VP of Sustainability & Infrastructure, and Infrastructure Committee Chair
  - a. Identified how SGA can best support and improve campus accessibility by meeting with the President of ABLE Alliance, the Associate Dean of Students & Director of Diversity Programs, GT's ADA Compliance Coordinator, leaders of the Campus Master Plan, and the Office of Disability Services (ODS)'s Director.
  - b. In-progress solutions include:
    - i. Improving the student experience of requesting and using ODS vehicles by working with Parking & Transportation Services (PTS).
    - ii. Increasing student availability to learning disability assessments by working with the Vice President for Student Engagement & Well-Being to find or create more affordable options for students.
    - iii. Sharing student feedback to influence ongoing and future implementation of GT's ADA Transition Plan.

iv. Sharing student feedback and promoting additional student involvement in development of the Campus Master Plan.

## C. FreShGA Committee - chaired by Matthew Warrington

- a. Added 28 first-years to this year's cohort from a competitive recruitment cycle.
- b. Hosted its annual retreat at Historic Banning Mills Park, where members engaged in semester planning as well as leadership and bonding activities.
- c. Working on marketing, logistics, and fundraising for The Final Stand, an annual de-stressing event with sports tournaments, games, food, and prizes.

## D. Non-Citizen and Immigrant Task Force (NCITF) - chaired by Iman Emdad

- a. Recruiting members and identifying priorities for this year.
- b. Creating a resource guide on U.S. charity care policies and medical debt forgiveness.

## E. **Telehealth Policy** - in collaboration with SGA's VP of External Affairs

- a. Background: Due to Georgia policy, GT students who receive mental health care from a Georgia provider are unable to continue receiving care when they are in another state or country, whether they're interning, co-oping, studying abroad, or simply back home. This creates a break in their continuity of care, negatively impacting students.
- b. Working with the Office of Institute Relations to identify state policy solutions.
- c. Working with the Vice President for Student Engagement & Wellbeing and Georgia Tech's mental health providers to identify GT-specific solutions.
- d. Researching Psypact as a potential GT-specific solution.

## F. **Menstrual Product Program (MPP)** - in collaboration with SGA's Public Health Committee Co-Chairs

- a. Coordinating with GT Facilities, WiMSE, and Aunt Flow for availability of free menstrual products on campus.
- b. Collecting utilization data to aid in expanding MPP and securing longer-term funding.

# G. Institute Messaging Regarding Well-Being Outcomes - in collaboration with SGA's VP of Wellbeing

- a. Met with administrators from Institute Communications, Student Life, and Campus Services over the summer to discuss holistically improving Georgia Tech's well-being messaging in order to improve its benefit to students.
- b. Currently assembling a group of GT students to identify specific communication gaps and areas of improvement.

## **Spring 2021 Goals**

- A. FreShGA will identify an issue at GT and propose solutions through benchmarking.
- B. NCITF will establish and strengthen relationships with the Office of International Education, International Ambassadors at GT, and our broader international student community.
- C. I will continue many of my summer and fall projects in the spring since they are relatively long-term projects.

## **Financial Operations**

John Graves, Joint Vice President of Finance

## **Committees**

A. Joint Finance Committee

## Fall 2021 Projects

## A. Fall Bill Allocations

- a. Reporting Numbers:
  - i. Total \$590,622.19 allocated
    - 1. Prior Year: \$488,782.03
    - 2. Capital Outlay: \$101,540.82
  - ii. Total of 198 bills heard
- b. Held 11 Joint Finance Committee meetings across the Fall semester averaging 16 bills per meeting

## B. Fiscal Year 23 Annual Budgets

- a. Reporting Numbers
  - i. 88 individually submitted budgets
  - ii. \$1.7 million requested
- b. Held 16 virtual budget orientation sessions
- c. Managing the entire budget submission process on to the Engage platform, allowing for more in-depth information collection, better visibility for RSOs throughout the process, and a better user interface overall.

## C. Mandatory Student Fees Advisory Committee

- a. Providing MSFAC committee with a report on the pace of funding requests and the health of the SAF
- b. Presenting the Student Activity Fee FY23 Fee Request to the committee in mid-November

## **Spring 2022 Goals**

- A. Improve information resources to make the SAF more accessible for RSOs
- B. Explore process and policy changes to make the funding process less strenuous for RSOs and SGA
- C. Explore the possibility of leveraging Engage, or similar platforms, to automate and simplify funding requests and dispersion
- D. Improve employee experience within the Student Organization Finance Office
- E. Advocate for the formalization of resources for housing insecure students

## **Information Technology Board**

Megan Dass, Joint Vice President of Information Technology

## **Committees**

A. Buzzbook: Ed Chen

B. Communications: Anusha Nandam

C. Course Critique: David Zhang

D. Infrastructure & Security: Abhinav Gullapalli

E. Internal Tools: Cy HeffleyF. JacketConnect: Alex Fonzi

G. ResearchHub: Gunjan Tank & Yunho Cho

## **Summer and Fall 2021 Projects**

#### A. Buzzbook

- a. Continuing scraping efforts for publicly available syllabi in the CoE and Math departments
- b. Bug testing and fixing to ensure site reliability and accurate data
- B. Communications Planned various IT Board wide events to increase team engagement
  - a. Sent 8 polls to over 20k students to gauge student opinions on various issues on campus
  - b. In progress: Working on automating the polling process as much as possible to shorten the turnaround time between poll submission and poll distribution

## C. Course Critique

- a. Optimized the GPA average calculations to be on the front-end rather than on the Lambda function
- b. Added a modal window to each course page that integrates course descriptions sourced from OSCAR
- c. Integrated the syllabus repository into the front-end
- d. In progress: Scraping and integrating CIOS data
- e. In progress: Adding grade distribution visualizations

## D. Infrastructure & Security

- a. Migrated Hawkeye cron job Python scripts to run with AWS infrastructure pipeline (Lambdas, CloudWatch, S3)
- b. Developing Status Page for SGA IT Board apps
- c. Integrating Hawkeye site reliability and testing suites for SGA apps (currently includes Course Critique, will expand to others)

## **E.** Internal Tools

- a. Built an additional feature to the Reddit Crawler that allows keywords to be added and removed via Slack
- b. Parsed through 400+ syllabus repository submissions and matched the syllabi to professors and courses in the Course Critique database
- c. Created a system to automatically notify professors that we have received their syllabi, and prompted them to submit a more updated version

## F. JacketConnect

- a. Coded an interest form for mentors and a homepage for the JacketConnect website
- b. Designed graphics for the JacketConnect resources
- c. Set up the JacketConnect domain and AWS Resource

## G. JacketPages

- a. Redesigned and revamped the current JacketPages to use more modern and intuitive technologies
- b. Currently in the beta testing phase and will slowly start to roll out more features as requested

## H. ResearchHub

- a. Finished ideation, timeline setting, and goal setting stage
- b. Designed the front-end UI
- c. Set up MySQL Database
- d. In talks with the Office of Undergraduate Research and the Psychology Department to understand research needs, as well as maximize efforts
- e. In progress: Creating a minimally viable product by the start of the next semester

## I. IT Ethics

a. Released a white paper that emphasizes the importance of an ethics-first mindset on campus, as well as highlighted actionable steps that students, faculty, and administration can take to help this cause

## Sustainability and Infrastructure Board

Allison Vermaak, Joint Vice President of Sustainability & Infrastructure

#### **Committees**

A. Sustainability Committee: Derin AladesanmiB. Infrastructure Committee: Sunday Gotvald

## **Summer and Fall 2021 Projects:**

## A. Established a presence on the Sustainability NEXT Task Force

- a. The purpose of this committee was to research and develop sustainability goals for the Institute Strategic Plan. During the summer of 2021, I served as the student representative that heard and responded to different working groups that presented on topics regarding campus utility usage, dining, and facilities.
- b. The Office of Campus Sustainability has continued leading this task force and has included the Student Government Association throughout the process as we continually provide them with constructive feedback from the perspective of the student body.

## B. Established a position in the Campus Master Planning Process

a. Currently, the Institute is in the pre-planning stage of the Campus Master Plan planning process and has agreed to include SGA in every step along the way. This partnership had helped further close the gap between the Georgia Tech Administration and its Student Body.

## C. Green Network

- a. In an effort to connect various sustainability-focused campus organizations and grow their initiatives, the Green Network was created to serve as a communication platform that all students are welcome to join.
- b. Alongside the creation of this network, we are also planning social events throughout the upcoming year to help members connect and brainstorm ways to minimize our campus' impact on the environment.

#### D. Residence hall recycling program and partnership

- a. Working with the Residence Hall Association (RHA) to distribute educational material to residents, PLs, and RAs. This material will describe how to properly recycle using the established recycling infrastructure that each resident has access to.
- b. After there has been a noticed change in the contamination rate of recycling getting collected from residence halls, we will work towards increasing access to composting within residence buildings as well.

## E. Zero Waste GameDays

- a. We are partnering with GT Athletics, the Office of Campus Sustainability (OCS), and the Office of Solid Waste Management & Recycling to create and instigate a "Zero Waste GameDay" plan to help bring our athletics facilities up to a campus sustainability standard.
- b. We have created a working group and will begin piloting some initiatives and infrastructure changes starting in 2022.

## F. Campus Safety Walk and Safety Talk

- a. The campus safety walk is an event in which GTPD and the SGA Infrastructure Committee walks Georgia Tech Administrators around campus while pointing out areas of concern on campus. This walk is preceded by extensive polling of the student body and inspection of campus.
- b. The goal of the Campus Safety Walk is to voice student opinions about where they feel the least safe on campus and it opens up a conversation to discuss potential solutions.
- c. The Campus Safety Talk will touch on the non-infrastructure related campus issues that impact a student's ability to feel safe from a social, mental, and emotional perspective.

## G. Greek Goes Green

a. This is an initiative to help improve recycling practices and access in the Greek and religious-affiliated housing on campus. So far, only advocacy and auditing has taken place, but we are excited to create policy and make infrastructure changes in the 2022 school year.

## **Academic Affairs Board**

Rohan Sohani, Vice President of Academic Affairs

## **Committees**

- A. Educational Enhancement: Aanjan Sikal
- B. Curriculum & Classroom Practices: Kaavya Gudapati

## **Summer and Fall 2021 Projects**

## A. COVID-19 Academic Planning

- a. Since August, I served as the Undergraduate Student representative for the Academic Planning Steering Committee with the Provost, Vice Provosts, Deans Associate Deans, and numerous senior staff from the Provost's Office.
- b. Pushed numerous times to express student concerns regarding accommodations if a student is sick or quarantining prompting the Provost to directly talk to schools and faculty regarding COVID-19 Accommodations
- c. The group also reviewed modality changes for the Spring 2021 semester and recommended changes and voiced concerns based on proposed materials
- d. The group coordinated meeting agendas for weekly meetings with school chairs to ensure that messages from the Provost's office were well heard.
- e. With lowering cases on campus, the group has shifted its vision to being proactive for the Spring 2021 Semester

## **B. BOR Tenure Changes**

- a. Worked directly with the President and SGA Graduate External Affairs regarding proposed Tenure changes. We worked to develop a statement for GSS and UHR to be presented to USG Leadership and Georiga Tech Leadership
- b. Listened to BOR Townhall meeting with Tech faculty and USG Leadership
- c. Worked with the Provost to voice student concern and get updates regarding Georgia Tech Administration Advocacy

## C. OSI

- a. Talked to Dean of OSI regarding Undergraduate Case backlog and lack of due process. Spoke with Vice President of Student Engagement and Wellbeing regarding long term solutions for OSI to ensure that the OSI
- b. Creating a SGA flowchart and resource for help for students who have open OSI cases and need support

## D. Honorlock Advocacy

a. Conducted a campus wide survey with over 1,100 responses regarding Honorlock usage across campus

- b. Successfully advocated to the Academic Technology and the Center for Teaching and Learning to remove all resources and links related to Honorlock to faculty facing websites.
- c. Reached out to professors who are using Honorlock to promote a decision matrix on exam type and delivery
- d. Benchmarking peer institutions on what exam delivery and modes look like

#### E. Academic Grievance

- a. Collaborated with Dr. Ross to educate student on the Academic Grievance Process
- b. Creating an Academic Grievance Flowchart to be housed on the SGA website

## F. Undergraduate Research

a. Worked with Undergraduate Research Ambassadors to allow Student Athletes the opportunity to participate in Undergraduate Research

## G. English Language Learner

- Worked with the EVP to advocate for the formalization of a English Language Specialist to help students for developing their professional and social communication skills
- b. Gathered data and help to create a letter of support voicing the student opinions with student testimonials

## H. Syllabus Repository

- a. Worked with VPIT to discuss ideas and involved with Administration meeting to get approval for the creation of BuzzBooks
- b. Helped to steer the discussion into the new application UI will look like and guided the discussion from an Academic Perspective
- c. Benchmarking peer institutions to understand what other schools do with syllabus availability

## I. Library

a. Talked to the library regarding opening up outdoor study spaces and potential solutions that prioritize student mental health

## J. Career Fair Development

a. Proposed a new career fair that increases the face-to-face interaction with employers. Working with the Career Center to modify and detail proposal based on stakeholder feedback

## K. Transfer Student Advocacy

- a. Worked with NTSP to raise transfer student concerns regarding the effectiveness of transfer FASET
- b. Talked with President Cabrera and Provost McLaughlin regarding improving campus culture and stigma around Transfer Student

## L. Elections Day Protections

a. Worked with VP of External Affairs to develop new language for the Student Catalog to ensure that students can be excused during major city, state, and national elections.

## M. Faculty Governance and Internal Board

- a. Vice Chair, Student Rules and Regulations Committee, voting member
- b. First Student to be elected to the position
- c. Chair, Office of Undergraduate Education Student Advisory Board
- d. Member, Institute Undergraduate Curriculum Committee

## N. Search Committee

a. Director of Undergraduate Analytics and Planning

## **Spring 2021 Goals**

- A. Continue advocacy for Honorlock non-Usage
- B. Push for Syllabus Grading Transparency
- C. Pass language for Elections Day protection
- D. Create FASET changes for Transfer Students

## **Campus Services Board**

Bridgette Davenport, Vice President of Campus Services

## Committees

A. Dining Committee: Mary Jame Wright

B. Housing Committee: Hitha Raje

C. Parking Transportation Committee: Annika Callaham

D. Auxiliary Services Committee: Arnab Dey

E. Campus Safety Committee: Grange West

## Fall 2021 Projects

## A. Transition to In-House Dining Services

a. This year, Georgia Tech adopted in-house dining services across campus. SGA has partnered with Tech Dining to ensure a seamless transition for students, involving recurring meetings to address supply chain, food quality and operational issues.

## B. Nutrition and Dietary Restriction Advocacy

a. The Dining Committee is currently creating an inclusive-focused document for students with dietary restrictions to easily navigate campus dining and be aware of their options. Additionally, we are looking to partner with the Public Health Committee and Tech Dining to update Nutrislice so students will be able to easily access all menus and nutrition information across campus.

## C. Bookstore Advisory Committee

a. SGA participated in the Bookstore Advisory Committee with Auxiliary Services to provide student feedback on the upcoming changes to the store.

## D. Vending Request for Proposal

a. SGA participated in the RFP development process for the upcoming transition between vending providers. The RFP was submitted in October 2021 and aims to present students with more options that are inclusive and nutritious. The new vending machines should begin being phased in in November and will be finalized in January.

## **E.** Tech Dining Focus Group

a. SGA has been involved with student workers within Tech Dining to plan multiple focus groups to gather students' opinions on the in-house meal quality, as well as a variety of factors.

## **Spring 2022 Goals**

## A. Housing Master Plan and Campus Master Plan

a. SGA is actively involved with the development and early start of the Housing Master Plan and Campus Master Plan, which aim to transform key elements of campus infrastructure starting in the next coming years. SGA has provided student feedback to mitigate major impacts on student life and make recommendations for communicating such upcoming changes.

## B. Updated Parking Rules and Regulations

a. As a response to student's concerns over lack of transparency and clarification regarding Parking & Transition's current rules and regulations, SGA is working on collaborating with admin to present policy recommendations, supplemented with a student-created report documenting issues with current parking rules and regulations

## C. GT Starter Bikes and Bike Culture on Campus

a. In line with Georgia Tech and SGA's overall vision for the future of campus, we will seek to promote bike culture on campus to make repairs and transportation safer and more accessible for all students. SGA is awaiting a proposal from a student-led organization, GT Starter Bikes, regarding their requests for a permanent location.

## D. Partnering with External Affairs on Leftovers for Community Fridge

a. After SGA created the community fridge to provide resources for students and faculty with food insecurity, SGA is looking to expand the program by partnering with Tech Dining and Klemi's Kitchen to collect leftovers and place them in the community fridge.

## E. Stingerette Expansion

a. Based on current undergraduate and graduate student feedback, SGA is working with administration to look at expanding the current Stingerette route to accommodate more students who live off campus.

## F. Potential Bus Route Updates

a. This semester, SGA has created a survey to gather student feedback on the current bus routes and what potential expansion students would like to see implemented in the future. Based on this cumulative data, in the Spring 2022 semester, SGA will make recommendations to PTS on expanded bus routes.

## G. Procurement of Food Trucks (Food Truck Expansion and Diversification)

a. As the Student Center is still going through construction, central campus dining options have been limited to food trucks and pop-up locations. Due to these restrictions, SGA will continue to be actively involved in Tech Dining's continual procurement process to work with new vendors.

## H. Social Media Advocacy with Tech Dining and PTS

a.	After hosting a successful Instagram Live with Tech Dining regarding their current updates and resolutions, SGA is working to partner with another campus department on another Instagram Live to address their updated rules & regulations.

## **Communications Board**

Anika Gouhl, Vice President of Communications

## **Committees**

- A. Special Events: Shreya Sachde
- B. Public Relations & Graphic Design: Caroline Hammo

## Fall 2021 Projects

#### A. Week of Welcome

- a. Secured funding for tabling and food presence at Georgia Tech's Week of Welcome for first time students
- b. Met with over 300 students, recruiting for Student Government Committees
- c. Directed new students to SGA's resources

#### **B.** Social Media

- a. Maintained social media presence on Instagram, Reddit, Twitter & Facebook
- b. Grew Instagram following to highest-ever levels of 2.7k
- c. Hosted Instagram lives with Dining officials and the Head of Stamps for their respective Q&As with the GT community
- d. Expanded use of Instagram stories to spotlight campus org events to the large SGA audience
- e. SGA monitors Twitter and Reddit daily to engage with posts that SGA can assist with

#### C. External Newsletter

- a. Revamped the newsletter platform, switching to more interactive and link friendly software
  - i. Added Atlanta Current Events section
  - ii. Added year-round portal to join Green Network
  - iii. Highlights current SGA initiatives

## D. SGA Week

- a. Meet with 700+ students over 3 days of tabling
- b. Gathered input on future SGA initiatives from "SGA for You Initiative", where students wrote suggestions on what they want improved on campus
- c. Connected with student leaders on how to fund registered student organizations
- Passed out info about SGA resources (as well as free food and swag) to our yellow jackets

## **Spring 2022 Goals**

## A. OSI Initiative

- a. Working to create an OSI flowchart that easily outlines the process for student reference
- b. Planning an Instagram live with Dr. Ross to educate on the OSI process and best rules of engagement for the Office of Student Integrity

## **B.** Zero Waste Gamedays

a. Creating a standing collaboration with GT Athletics and Sustainability Board to advertise our forthcoming zero waste gamedays initiative

## C. I < 3 GT Week

a. Similar to SGA Week, "I <3 GT Week" is the major spring tabling event under the Special Events Committee. This year, SGA hopes to partner with campus organizations, highlighting campus diversity, the resources offered for students, and ways to engage in the Georgia Tech community.

## D. SGA for You Initiative

a. Will be highlighting the resources that SGA can connect students to

## **External Affairs Board**

Grace Swift, Vice President of External Affairs

## **Committees**

- A. Government Relations: Mason Favro and Opeoluwa Obadejoh
- B. Community Relations: Rupkatha Banerjee

## **Summer and Fall 2021 Projects**

## A. USG Chancellor Advocacy

- a. During the summer, the Board of Regents was selecting a new Chancellor. This process began to be politicized, so we wrote a letter opposing the politicization of the process and stressing that the process needed to be merit-based in order to maintain our reputation and accreditation.
- b. This was successful, and the Board of Regents selected an interim chancellor who was not a politicized choice

#### B. Atlanta news shared with students

a. The Government Relations Committee launched an initiative where in every SGA newsletter, there will be a section for ATL/GT news updates

## C. Community Fridge

- a. In the spirit of Free99Fridge, the Community Relations Committee launched a grassroots initiative to address food insecurity in Atlanta
- b. We reached out to over 30 restaurants/coffee shops/bars to find someone who would be willing to host a fridge and pantry that would be open 365 days per year 24/7
- c. Grace House @ Georgia Tech ended up saying yes!
- d. The fridge has been hugely successful! We have a slack workspace where people do regular wellness checks to ensure that all food is not expired
- e. We are partnering with Tech Dining and Greek houses around the area to reclaim leftover food
- f. We are hosting a repackaging event for food to make sandwiches
- g. We have received a \$1000 grant for fridge maintenance, as well as a \$300 mutual aid donation and are in the process of opening up a bank account for the committee to ensure longevity

## D. Atlanta Mayor Forum

- a. Coordinated with Kendeda Building to host an Atlanta Mayor Forum with the top four candidates in the Atlanta mayor race
- b. The four candidates came and discussed their platforms and had a chance to ask each other questions

c. WSBtv livestreamed the event, and that YouTube video has received well over 1000 views thus far

## E. YMCA Partnership

- a. We have initiated a partnership with the Arthur Blank YMCA
- b. We will be doing SAT/ACT tutoring, hopefully looking to put a community fridge there as well

#### F. Wreck the Vote Week

- a. Partnered with Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc
- b. Tabled for three days registering students to vote
- c. Ordered stickers
- d. Hosted a political org debate with YDSA, Young Americans for Liberty, College Democrats, and College Republicans

## G. Elections Day protections for students

- a. Collected feedback from students about what protections they would like to see in terms of Elections Day protections
- b. Rewrote language in student policies and are presenting it to the Student Rules and Regulations Committee in late November 2021

## H. Telehealth Advocacy

- Worked with Georgia Tech Institute Relations to assess current telehealth mental health appointment system at Georgia Tech
- b. Currently GA psychiatrists are not allowed to practice outside of the state of Georgia
- c. Goal is to improve access to telehealth for out of state and international students when they are home on breaks

## I. Community Arts Fair

- a. Hosting an artist fair for Atlanta and Georgia Tech-based artists on November 15th on Tech Green
- b. Currently have 15+ artists signed up

#### J. Hawks Night

- a. Planned and secured cheaper tickets for students to attend the November 20th Hawks game against the Hornets
- b. Secured two buses to transport students between campus and State Farm Arena

## **Spring 2022 Goals**

- A. Bringing speakers to campus
- B. Completing telehealth advocacy
- C. GT Day at the Capitol
- D. SAT/ACT test optional advocacy
- E. Community Focused Grant Program

## **Internal Affairs Board**

Zizi Ohamadike, Vice President of Operations

#### **Committees**

A. Internal Restructuring: Suvan PaturiB. Internal Operations: Sreya Atmuri

## **Summer and Fall 2020 Projects**

- A. SGA Annual Retreat in collaboration with SGA's Special Events Committee Chair
  - a. Every year, SGA organizes a retreat to serve as an orientation for new and returning SGA members. The goal of the retreat is to begin the school year with a sense of community and collaboration among members. Additionally, retreat serves as an opportunity for members to cast their vision for the school year and learn more about expectations as leaders on campus.
  - b. This year's retreat took place on September 11, 2021 from 9 am to 7:30 pm. The event was in person at the Magnolia Hall at Piedmont Park. The theme–Community Community, and Leadership–guided the various activities and discussions that took place during retreat.
  - c. During the event we had three different speakers. Dr. Gerome Stephens led a StrengthsFinder session. The focus of the session was to provide SGA members with the resources to identify and upholster their unique strengths as a leader. The second speaker, Dean Stephanie Ray, led Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion training. The purpose of this training was to equip SGA members with the knowledge and skills to be inclusive leaders on campus. Lastly, Dean John Stein led the Fireside Chats session which focused on addressing the questions that SGA members had about the Division of Student Engagement and Well-Being at Georgia Tech.

#### d. Activities

- i. **Sell It:** This game was designed to encourage innovation and collaboration among teams. Groups will be challenged to sell random objects to other team members. By the end of this activity, individuals will gain experience in negotiating, creatively thinking, and communicating
- ii. **Tech Trivia:** This game was designed to initiate teamwork among groups. Each group worked together to answer questions about Georgia Tech traditions and history.
- iii. **Stuck Out at Sea:** This game was designed to put groups into a simulated scenario in order to help individuals grow closer together and identify as a team. The scenario includes stressors (i.e. resource constraints, complicated problems) that make the scenario challenging, fun, and

engaging. The activity was designed to allow for flexibility and creativity in execution.

## B. SGA Mentorship

- a. Created SGA mentorship program to promote community and retention within SGA. The purpose of this program is to build community within SGA and to provide mentorship to new SGA members. SGA mentors, bigs, were assigned to younger members, littles.
- b. In total, there were 16 mentors and 32 mentees who registered for the program.

## C. Internal Restructuring

## a. Committee Benchmarking

- i. At the end of every month, committee chairs fill out a benchmarking form where they can detail what their committees have accomplished. The purpose of benchmarking is to monitor committee productivity and any obstacles that they have faced.
- ii. The data collected from this initiative can be used to proactively assess how SGA needs to be improved.
- iii. This initiative was spearheaded by Suvan Paturi and the Internal Restructuring Committee

## b. SGA Record Keeping Committee

- i. The purpose of establishing a Record Keeping Committee is to establish a system for maintaining SGA records across transitions. This committee will oversee transitions and all data and records related to SGA.
- ii. Currently researching how the committee can be most impactful for committee chairs (i.e. what information is crucial to collect and how a committee could have improved their transition).
- iii. This initiative was spearheaded by Suvan Paturi and the Internal Restructuring Committee

## D. Internal Affairs

- a. Ordered stoles for graduating members of SGA. Also created a system for graduating members to request, borrow, and then return stoles after use.
- b. Organized Cabinet Office Hours for the campus community to engage in one on one discussions with members of the Executive Cabinet.
- c. Organized Mental Health First Aid Training on November 20, 2021 with Georgia Tech Police Department. The training session is open to all SGA members.

## **E. Special Projects Application**

a. Established an opportunity for Georgia Tech students to partner with SGA on a special project of their choice. Students are invited to fill out an application detailing their project and how SGA can best support it.

#### F. Executive Committee

- a. Managed the committee member application process according to the Committee Member Application Manual created by Caleb Torres (2020-2021 Undergraduate Chief of Staff). Georgia Tech students are invited to apply to up to three executive committees. The prospective committee members applied through Engage and their applications were also reviewed through this platform. The application opened May 24th and will remain open until November 19, 2021.
  - i. Executive Committee Chairs
    - 1. Organized a virtual all-committee chair meeting on May 24, 2021 to serve as an orientation. The meeting involved introducing the committee chairs to the application process. I informed the chairs of the responsibility that comes with their role as well as the resources that are available to them. Lastly, the meeting provided an opportunity for chairs to begin brainstorming and collaborating for the year.
    - 2. Organized a virtual all-committee chair meeting on August 20, 2021 to serve as a checkpoint before the beginning of the Fall Semester. During the meeting we went over a checklist detailing what chairs needed to do to be prepared for the fall semester. I also introduced the benchmarking initiative to the chairs.
    - 3. Provided the chairs with a folder containing pertinent resources and information. The folder contains information on how to request funding for events, how to submit a bill to UHR, meeting agenda templates, how to request to add events to the SGA calendar, and other administrative resources. Also, the folder contains a compilation of each chair's goals for the year so that it can be used to initiate collaboration among the committees.

## G. Fall Planning Committee

a. Served on the Fall Planning Committee which was initiated to aid both students and faculty in the transition to fully residential classes during the Fall 2021 semester. The planning committee met weekly from May to September 2021.

## H. Institute Wide Committees

a. Served on the Faculty Honors Standing Committee

#### **Spring 2021 Goals**

A. Continue working on the *What is SGA Initiative* to inform organizations of the progress the current SGA administration has made. The goal is to foster a stronger relationship between SGA and campus organizations.

- B. Compile SGA memorabilia from over the years to commemorate its 100th year anniversary. The goal is to create a virtual scrapbook or presentation that portrays SGA's progress and service since its inception.
- C. Working to facilitate smooth transitions for executive cabinet and committee chairs through transition documents. In the past, committee chairs did not have to write transition documents. This year, committee chairs will be asked to write transition documents to equip their successors.
- D. Working towards creating a Frequently Asked Questions document for both SGA members and prospective members. Suvan, Sreya, and I will be using the data from the Benchmarking Initiative to determine the popular questions or concerns that need to be addressed.

## **Student Life Board**

Derek Huell, Vice President of Student Life

#### **Committees**

- A. Athletics Committee
- B. Arts Committee
- C. Campus Organizations Committee
- D. Cultural and Diversity Affairs Committee

## **Summer and Fall 2021 Projects**

#### A. Multicultural Traditions in T-Book

- a. Sought to increase visibility of minority traditions to new students at Tech
- Collaborated with the National Panhellenic Council and Multicultural Panhellenic Council to include their history and traditions in the T-Book distributed annually at convocation

## B. National Panhellenic Council (NPHC) Plots

- a. Collaborated with members of the NPHC to understand their desire for a space on campus to signify their organizations and provide physical representation
- b. Worked with CPSM to understand the potential locations that the plots could be installed on campus and also designs that would be approved by Georgia Tech
- Merged this development with the planning for a designated Black Cultural Center as part of the new Campus Center

## C. Increase Minority Student Attendance at Sporting Events

- a. Polled African-American/Black students at Georgia Tech to discover that they would be more likely to attend sporting events if they had a reserved section similar to many campus organizations
- b. Worked with the Georgia Tech Athletics Association to crease a reserved seating block at football games for students who are a part of any of the registered Black Student Organizations (BSOs)

## D. Improve Student Accessibility to Flexible Research Opportunities

- a. Worked with the Student Athlete Advisory Board to identify key concerns faced by student athletes at Georgia Tech
- b. Collaborated with the Vice President of Academic Academic Affairs and the Undergraduate Research Ambassadors (URA) to expand research opportunities to those with difficult schedules (athletes, commuters, working students, etc.)
- c. Remote research opportunities are now designated within the URA database and are available at student request

## **E. Student Athlete STEM Mentoring**

- a. Learned that student athletes often feel pressured to drop their STEM major due to difficulty or lack of support
- b. Working with student athletes from several sports to create a database of mentors that incoming spring early enrollees will be paired with to provide support for those pursuing STEM majors

## F. Increase Student Engagement with GTPD

- a. Collaborated with the Georgia Tech Athletics Association and the Student Athlete Advisory Board to host a "Coffee w/ a Cop" event during ACC Unity Week
- b. Collaborating with NPHC and MPC organizations to host a "Safe Space: a Conversation with GTPD" event
  - i. Will allow minority students to ask questions and voice concerns regarding unfair policing

#### G. Interactive Art Installation

- a. Collaborated with several departments regarding a final design for an interactive art installation in Clough Undergraduate Learning Commons
- b. Established a mental health focus for the art installation that will allow students to express their emotions with flowers of various colors
- c. Installation will house mental health resources on the side opposite of the artwork

## H. Brown Bag Series

- a. Decided to rebrand series to include significantly more student and organization involvement
- b. Working with cultural organizations to determine what topics are most pertinent to be discussed and where collaboration can occur

## I. Required Anti-Racism Training

- a. Considered FASET, GT 1000, and greek life as potential sites to include anti-racism training
  - i. Decided that pre-matriculation requirements, similar to sexual harassment trainings, would reach the greatest number of students
- b. Working to mandate anti-racism training into pre-matriculation requirements by first identifying the most viable training

## J. Campus Organization Roundtable Discussion

- **a.** Discovered a need to guide student organizations recovering from transitions in leadership and membership as activities move back in-person
- b. Decided to host campus organization round tables that are tailored to the needs of a specific set of organizations
  - i. Upcoming roundtable discussion will be tailored to art organizations

## **Spring 2022 Goals**

- A. Finalize plans for installation of NPHC plots
- B. Pilot student athlete STEM mentoring with spring early enrollees

D.	Continue assessing the needs of campus organizations transitioning back to in-person and providing necessary resources and support Increasing the amount of student art that is present in Georgia Tech facilities Appraise the current state of interfaith spaces on campus and provide consistency for these groups as the student center is finished

## **Wellbeing Board**

Mihir Kandarpa, Vice President of Wellbeing

## **Committees**

- A. Joint Sexual Violence Advisory Committee: Riya Bhanushali
- B. Mental Health Committee: Rishi Nair
- C. Public Health Committee: Amogh Gadekar and Julia Johnson
- D. Well-being Communications: Skanda Sriganesh

## **Summer and Fall 2021 Completed Projects**

## A. COVID-19 Vaccination Campaign

a. Launched the campaign to encourage students to get vaccinated at the beginning of the semester. A team of 5 members of SGA reached out to over 400 student organizations encouraging them to share vaccine clinic information with their members. Partnered with Institute Communications, Housing and Residence Life, College of Sciences, Student Life, the Residence Hall Association, and many other organizations.

## **B. CARE Website Updates**

a. Worked with the Student Life Communications team to revamp the CARE website to be more user-friendly and include crisis information at the top of the page and be more easy to access.

## C. Updated the SGA Sexual Violence Misconduct Manual

 Details the options for survivors, information on Georgia Tech's sexual misconduct policy, the Sexual Misconduct Investigation process, and other resources.

## D. SGA Wellbeing Communications

a. Created a Well-being Communications Coordinator position in SGA to craft SGA's messaging around well-being and to manage the Board's social media

## E. Red Flag Campaign & Domestic Violence Awareness Month Initiatives

 a. Partnered with VOICE to advertise on and off campus events and help set up Red Flag week display. Created a social media post highlighting Domestic Violence Awareness Month and key resources

## F. World Suicide Prevention Day

a. Partnered with SMILE to table during Suicide Prevention Week and encouraged students to check-in on their friends and loved ones

#### **On-going Projects**

## G. Student EMT Corps

a. Working to create a student EMT Corps run by GT Emergency Medical Services (a group in the process of becoming a Registered Student Organization)

## **H. Campus Well-being Communications**

a. Launched a Well-being Communications initiative that aims to change campus-wide messaging and outreach regarding student well-being

## I. JED Initiative

a. Worked with the JED Campus Team to implement the 70+ JED objectives while serving as a member of the Strategic Planning and Communications Subcommittee

## J. Institute Strategic Plan - Well-being

- a. Serve as Co-Lead for the Well-being Resources and Access Management (WRAM) workgroup, working alongside Admin in well-being departments
- b. Working to implement several of the Strategic Plan's objectives around increasing the availability of a variety of health and well-being services including extended hours in CARE, Counseling Center, Stamps, etc. and hiring more providers

## **K. STI Testing and Sexual Health Awareness**

a. Working with Graduate SGA, Health Initiatives, and Stamps to collect data on STI testing and sexual health service usage to advocate for increased services for students

## L. Mental Health Committee

- a. <u>Wellbeing Safety Report</u>: Working with the SGA Campus Safety Committee to create a comprehensive report highlighting the state of well-being and campus safety departments and current changes that are in progress
- b. <u>Clarifying GTPD Mental Health Policy</u>: Working with GTPD to clearly define on their website how they respond to mental health crises
- c. <u>Mental Health Network:</u> Providing a forum for all mental health organizations on campus to discuss their updates and projects, to work with each other, and to partner with Admin to improve mental health on campus

## M. Joint Sexual Violence Advisory Committee

- a. <u>Investigating Stamps policies</u>: Working with Stamps Health Services to improve the intake process for survivors of sexual assault, existing policies around sexual violence and the resources offered to students.
- b. <u>Improving and Distributing Sexual Violence Resources</u>: Revamping existing infographics and resources provided by VOICE and other departments, and disseminating information to students through a variety of mediums including social media.
- c. <u>Improving Education around Sexual Assault for Incoming Students</u>: Identify gaps in the material that is taught in the Everfy Sexual Assault Prevention Unit that every incoming first-year student completes.

## N. Public Health Committee

- a. <u>Menstrual Product Program (MPP)</u>: Working with Facilities Management to collect data on menstrual product usage across campus, increase the stock across locations, and expand the program to cover more parts of campus.
- b. <u>AED Advocacy</u>: Working with Environmental Health and Safety (EHS) to update current AED maps to reflect the locations where AEDs are available to students. Working with EHS to increase the number of AEDs that students can use.
- c. <u>Student Health Council</u>: Working with student organizations across the pre-health and public health space to increase collaboration and to address pressing public health issues on campus.

## **Spring 2022 Goals**

- A. Finish the Wellbeing Safety Report with the latest campus-wide data
- B. Present to Administration & Finance (A&F) a report on MPP, the usage of menstrual products, and how to ensure the maintenance of the program for the foreseeable future
- C. Partner with SMILE, A&F, and other organizations to create a *Wellness Campaign* during March aimed at raising awareness of campus resources and providing fun opportunities to relax and destress
- D. Finish the *Well-being Communications Initiative* to revamp campus-wide structures for disseminating well-being information and to increase outreach to each pocket of campus
- E. Develop a Health and Well-being Policy for SGA to prioritize well-being in SGA's advocacy efforts
- F. Increase connections between the SGA Well-being Board, student organizations, campus departments, and academic units across the Institute.

## **Undergraduate House of Representatives**

Rohan Rege, Speaker

## A. House Leadership

- a. Secretary: Cyrus Newquist
- b. Treasurer: Srija Somaka
- c. Sergeant-at-Arms: Mason Favro
- d. Parliamentarian: Apuroop Mutyala
- e. Speaker Pro Tempore: Mashoor Al Ahammed

## B. Bills Passed:

- a. **22J037** 2021 Executive Cabinet Appointments
- b. **22U002** Fall 2021 Elections Schedule
- c. <u>22U003</u> Establishing a Well-being Communications Coordinator
- d. 22U005 Wreck the Vote Fall 2021 Stickers
- e. <u>22U004</u> Resolution of Condolences
- f. **22U006** TEIC Charter 21-22
- g. <u>22U007</u> SGA Graduation Stoles
- h. **22U008** SRC Committee Charter
- i. **22U009** SGA IT Board Field Day
- j. **22U010** SGA Sustainability Training
- k. <u>22U011</u> FreShGA Overnight Retreat
- 1. <u>22U012</u> Creating the Health + Wellbeing Policy Development Committee
- m. <u>22U013</u> SGA Graduation Stoles, shipping
- n. <u>22U014</u> Resolution on the BOR's Consideration of Tenure Procedures
- o. <u>22U015</u> SGA Week 2021
- p. <u>22U016</u> GT Hawks Night
- q. <u>22U017</u> Campus Electrification by 2030
- r. **22U018** FreShGA's The Final Stand