



2020 Fall Report

Presented By:
Adam Burghduff and Kate Struble

IOWA

Undergraduate
Student Government

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IOWA

Undergraduate
Student Government

Members of the UI community,

Undergraduate Student Government continued to advocate for students this last semester with unprecedented resiliency and creativity due to the continual impact of COVID-19. USG collaborated entirely online to work toward completing initiatives to improve the student experience at Iowa, whether it be virtual or on campus. USG held all its meetings, including Senate and office hours, online with the organizational help of the Internal Affairs team. Due to USG being online, the External Relations team engaged students virtually with increased communication efforts and online events.

USG's efforts heavily centered upon the impact of COVID-19 on students' lives, both as students and as people. The Health and Safety Committee advocated for greater accessibility for COVID-19 testing and hosted free flu shot drives across campus. Due to COVID-19, the Academic Affairs team continued to work towards better academic accommodations specifically for international students. Through their advocacy, the Academic Affairs team made it so international students could ship their textbooks free internationally as well as indicate their current time zone to the university. The Student Life team continued its airport shuttle service, Org Tip\$, and Complain for a Coupon by reimagining how these services could run and still be beneficial for students during the pandemic.

USG's work extends beyond the direct impact of COVID-19 as students continue to face multifaceted challenges. The Justice and Equity Team continues to plan and work alongside the Reimagining Campus Safety Committee due to the perpetual racial injustices faced on our campus and beyond. Additionally, the Justice and Equity team continues to better our Constituency Senators' experiences within USG as well as better our relations with the cultural centers and other campus partners. To amplify each student's voice, the Governmental Relations team worked on voter engagement for the November election and strengthened relations with legislators across the state to advocate for students. The Sustainability team continues to advocate for a sustainability general education requirement at the university, finalize the 2030 sustainability goals for the university, and caution against the use of pesticides on our campus.

This report explores the past, present, and future of the Undergraduate Student Government at the University of Iowa. The dedication that senators and executives displayed this last semester exemplifies USG's continued commitment to students regardless of the circumstances. We hope you will enjoy our presentation of the 2020-2021 Undergraduate Student Government Fall Report.

 - Cabinet Director

 - Director of Communications

Who Made This Report

Adam Burghduff

Cabinet Director

Pronouns: He, him, his

Hometown: Waukee, Iowa

Year: Third-Year

Major(s): Finance, Philosophy

Additional Involvements:

The Hawkinson Institute, Burge Hall Resident Assistant,
Presidential Charter Committee Financial Aid Advisory



Kate Struble

Director of Communications

Pronouns: She, her, hers

Hometown: Clinton, Iowa

Year: Third-Year

Major(s): Journalism and Mass Communication, Ethics and Public Policy

Additional Involvements:

CHAARG Treasurer, Hancher Auditorium Presidential Charter Committee Chair



USG Top Five Updates

By President Wooff and Vice President Smith

1

Liaison to the Critical Incident Management Team (CIMT)

In response to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the university's planning and response has been governed by the Critical Incident Management Team (CIMT) -- a group of key campus leaders and experts. As USG has navigated student concerns and improving the student experience this academic year, we have worked closely within the emergency management structure to advocate on behalf of undergraduates. USG leadership maintains consistent communication with the CIMT as official liaisons to the group, meeting on a weekly basis. The CIMT provides USG with updates on COVID-19 cases, vaccinations, guidance, and more. Earlier in the semester, USG leadership served as members of the CIMT Contingency Planning Workgroup where we worked with Provost Kregel in blueprinting the coming semester.

Student Leader Roundtables

Every month, we bring together student leaders from across the university to discuss campus-wide issues with President Harreld, Provost Kregel, and Division of Student Life leadership. Topics have included the COVID-19 pandemic, diversity, equity, and inclusion, and sustainability. We have worked hard this year to restructure the conversations to ensure they are both inclusive and productive for all participants.

2

3

UI Presidential Search

As President Harreld announced his intention to retire, a Presidential Search Committee was launched to begin finding the University of Iowa's next leader. President Connor Wooff currently serves as the undergraduate representative. Throughout the Fall semester, Connor worked to engage the student body in this process by promoting and moderating student feedback forums geared towards shaping the presidential position description.

Supporting International Students



4

Given the international challenges of COVID-19 and xenophobic immigration restrictions of the federal government, we helped bring together campus partners to launch a working group that regularly meets to discuss the needs of international students. Engaged in these meetings are the International Student Advisory Board, International Programs, Division of Student Life, and the GPSG. Out of these conversations came a number of successful initiatives including free international textbook shipping, MyUI time zone options, and an international student experience survey.

Winter Clothing Drive

As Iowa's cold weather arrived, Vice President Mara Smith partnered with The Clothing Closet at Iowa in providing free winter clothing to the campus and community. Serving nearly 30 individuals and their families, the first-ever Winter Clothing Drive took place throughout the end of the fall semester and offered hats, coats, gloves and scarves at no-cost. We donated 28 coats, almost 50 hats, around 30 pairs of gloves, 48 pairs of socks, and 42 scarves.



5

Top 10 - Looking Forward

- Complete research on peer institution student governments and present a recommendation to Senate on reforming our judicial branch
- Duly represent undergraduates in the search for the next UI president and work to increase engagement with the student body throughout the entire process
- Partner with Student Health and UIHC in launching a campaign encouraging campus to become vaccinated against COVID-19
- Support our members in completing their platform initiatives and plan for a successful transition
- Hold conversations on the existence of constituency senators within USG and how we can better define and support the positions
- Stand up a Wellbeing Week during the original Spring Break period to highlight mental health and promote wellness in class and across campus communications
- Increase access and engagement in the upcoming USG elections
- Advocate at the state level for the passage of a move-in checklist policy (H.F. 676) that will protect tenants and increase transparency in rental agreements
- Produce an internal action plan to increase personal development opportunities and improve the climate within USG
- Move forward in support of the construction of the Wellness Center and create opportunities for discussion and feedback

President

Connor Wooff President

Pronouns: He, him, his

Hometown: Cedar Rapids, Iowa

Year: Fourth-Year

Major(s): Political Science

Previous Involvements:

Hawk The Vote, Residence Education, Orientation Services, Dance Marathon, Homecoming Volunteer



Vice President

Mara Smith Vice President

Pronouns: She, her, hers

Hometown: West Des Moines, IA

Year: Fourth-Year

Major(s): Therapeutic Recreation

Additional Involvements:

Fools Magazine, Kairos Student Ministry



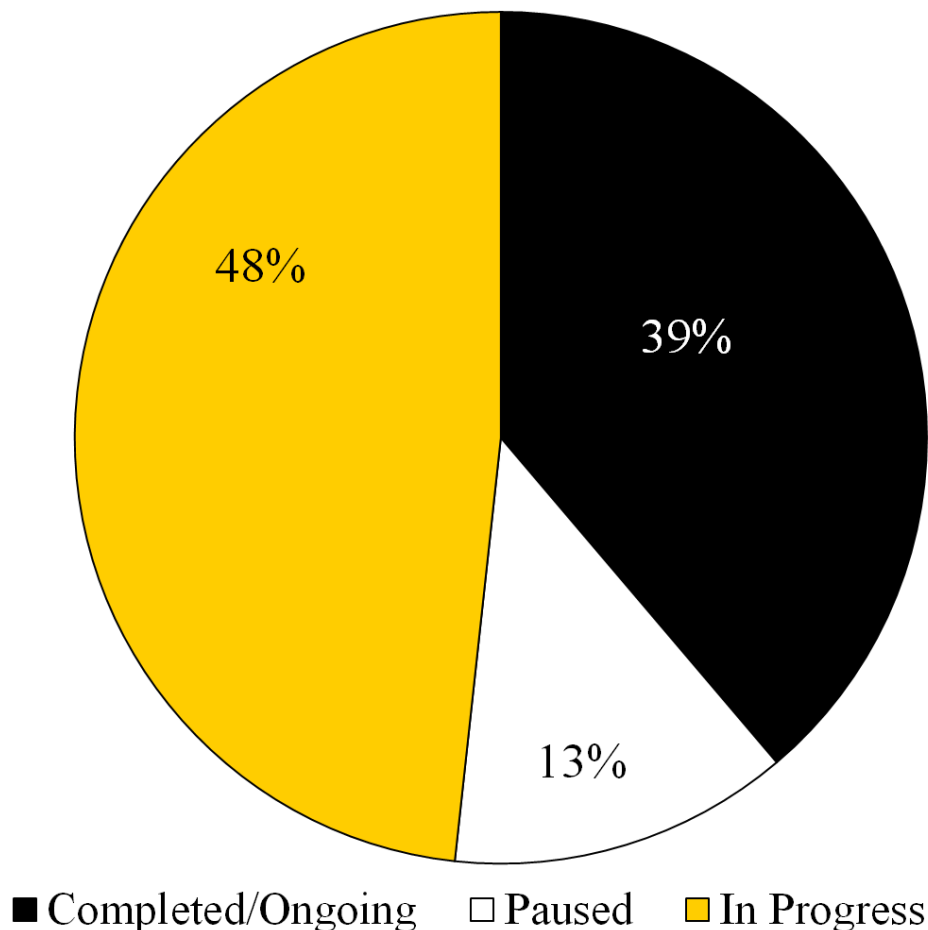


Platform Progress

Overall Platform Progress

Each year, USG comes together to form our official platform which serves as the driving agenda of the organization. This past summer, we created a committee of senators and executives from varying campaigns to bring forward their ideas and formalize these initiatives for implementation. 2020, unfortunately, put a pause on the great ideas we were ready to work on, and instead, USG has been laser-focused on how to support the student body amid the dueling pandemics of COVID-19 and a reckoning of racial injustice. While we are proud of all we have accomplished on our platform, much of our work has addressed the more pressing and unprecedented issues – everything from covering international textbook shipping to establishing a COVID-19 reimbursement fund. Spring 2021 gives us the opportunity to maintain this support of students, but also tackle the bold ideas we set out from the beginning. We look forward to a productive end to our terms!

Platform Initiative Progress



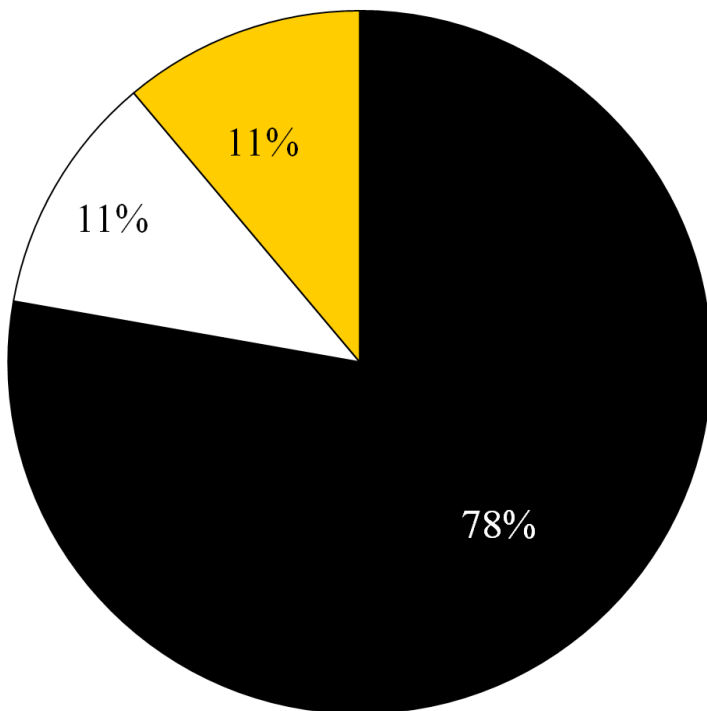
Internal Affairs

Highlighted Platform Goals:

1. Assisted USG members in connecting to campus and community partners by creating a contact glossary
2. Reviewed the USG election process and audit the impact of previous changes
3. Ensured a successful brand change across the organization
4. Bettered USG's transition systems
5. Maintained and developed strong relationships between senators
6. Partnering with the Career Center in modernizing the USG interview process

Complete Platform available in "USG 2020-2021 Platform" Section of the Document

Platform Initiative Progress



■ Completed/Ongoing □ Paused ■ In Progress

Leadership:

Executives (Ex-Officio):

Katie Michalski

Airiana Mohr

Chair: Kathryn Shumaker

Senators:

Sierra Wicks,

Patrick Johnson

Vera Barkosky

Alexis Carfrae

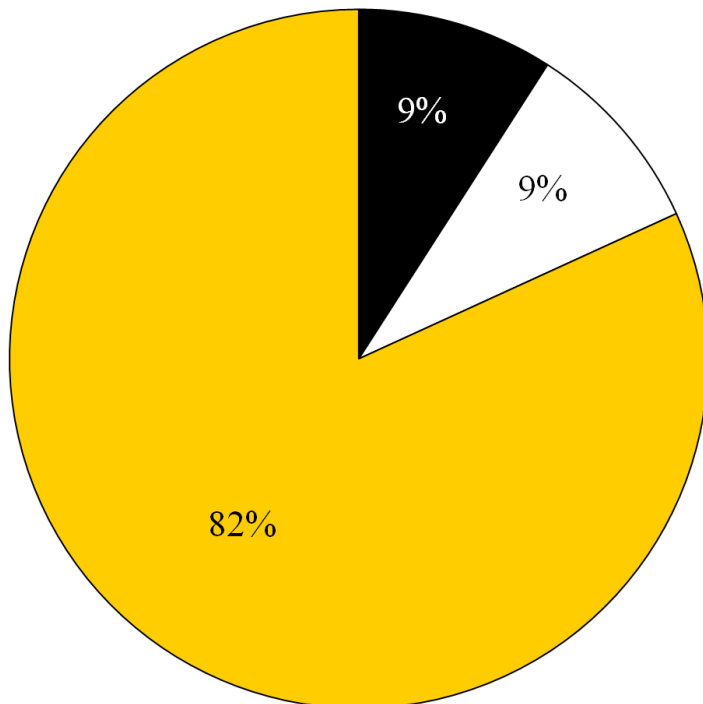
Sustainability

Highlighted Platform Goals:

1. Aligned student government's initiatives with the university's 2030 sustainability goals
2. Promoted the implementation of a sustainability general education requirement across colleges
3. Improving sustainability within overlooked communities on campus
4. Reducing single-use plastic usage on campus
5. Reducing harmful pesticide use on campus, particularly neonicotinoids
6. Holding landlords accountable for providing opportunities to recycle

Complete Platform available in "USG 2020-2021 Platform" Section of the Document

Platform Initiative Progress



■ Completed/Ongoing □ Paused ■ In Progress

Leadership:

Executive: Emily Manders
Chair: Joseph Haggerty

Senators:

Isabella Mullins,
Yardley Whalen,
Ellie Miglin,
Alina Olaniyi
Lauren Salloum,
Grace Kiple
Bethany Negan

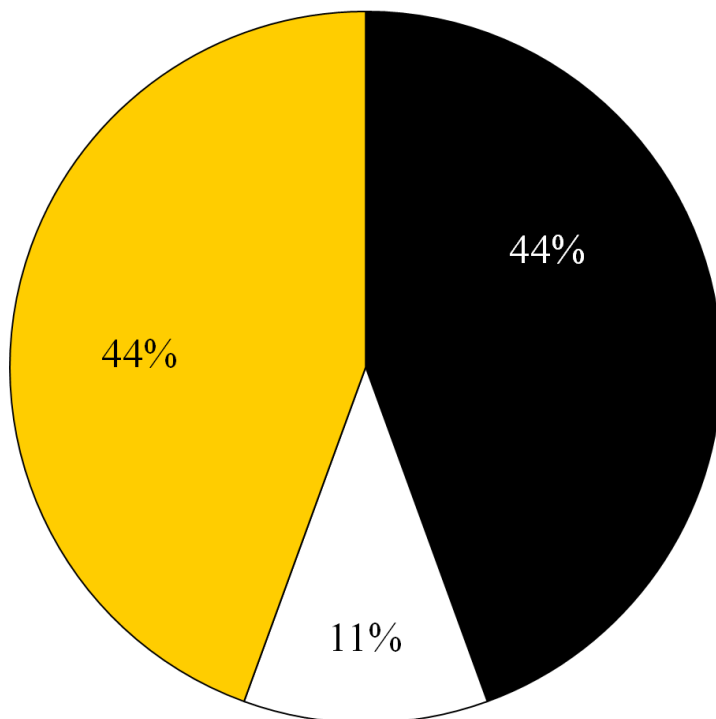
External Relations

Highlighted Platform Goals:

1. Hosted events to gather feedback from a variety of corners on campus
2. Increased USG's accessibility and transparency by hosting campus roundtables and forums
3. Encouraged student leaders to attend senate by increasing advertisement and coverage of the meetings
4. Partnered with the Division of Student Life in hosting workshops on how to operate student organizations in a virtual semester
5. Reaching out and presenting to student organizations about USG and the services we provide

Complete Platform available in "USG 2020-2021 Platform" Section of the Document

Platform Initiative Progress



■ Completed/Ongoing □ Paused ■ In Progress

Leadership:

Executive: Kayla Cleland
Chair: Sam Avery

Senators:

Stephanie Guterrez
John Meis
Prakruti Pancholi
Paul Richards
Sophia Stover
Logan Williams
Selveyah Gamblin
Mitch Winterlin
Manuela Lizarazu

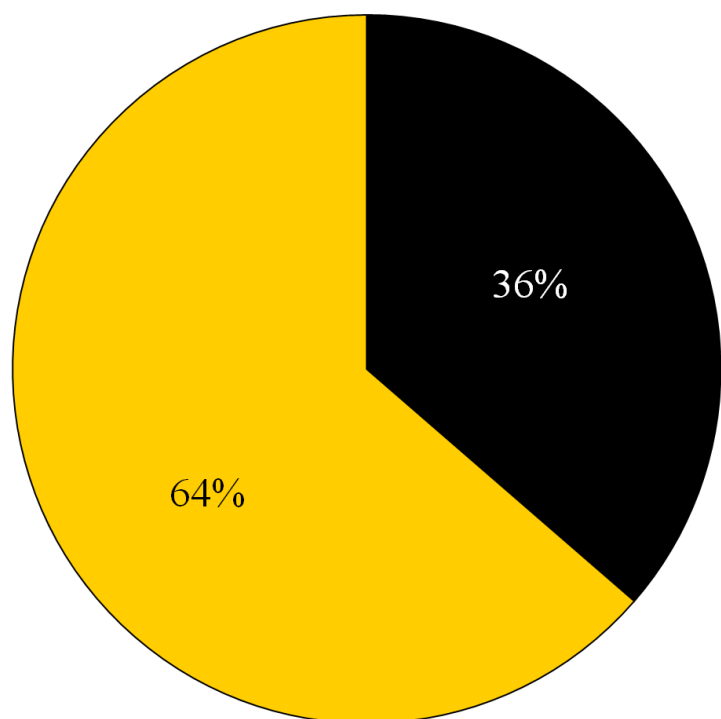
Student Life

Highlighted Platform Goals:

1. Empowered student employees by hosting roundtables and other opportunities for feedback
2. Promoted basic needs resources like the Food Pantry and Clothing Closet
3. Reformed the Org Tip\$ program to increase training opportunities to better serve student organizations
4. Continued to promote the USG airport shuttle and improve the service
5. Creating online community spaces to promote socialization opportunities among students

Complete Platform available in "USG 2020-2021 Platform" Section of the Document

Platform Initiative Progress



■ Completed/Ongoing □ Paused ■ In Progress

Leadership:

Executive: Dave Kefala-Gerhard

Chairs:

Cameron Coates

Isabella Mullins

Senators:

Manuela Lizarazu

Grace Kiple

Sophie Stover

Aluna Olaniyi

Mitch Winterlin

Logan Williams

Andrew Wendel

Benton Renaud

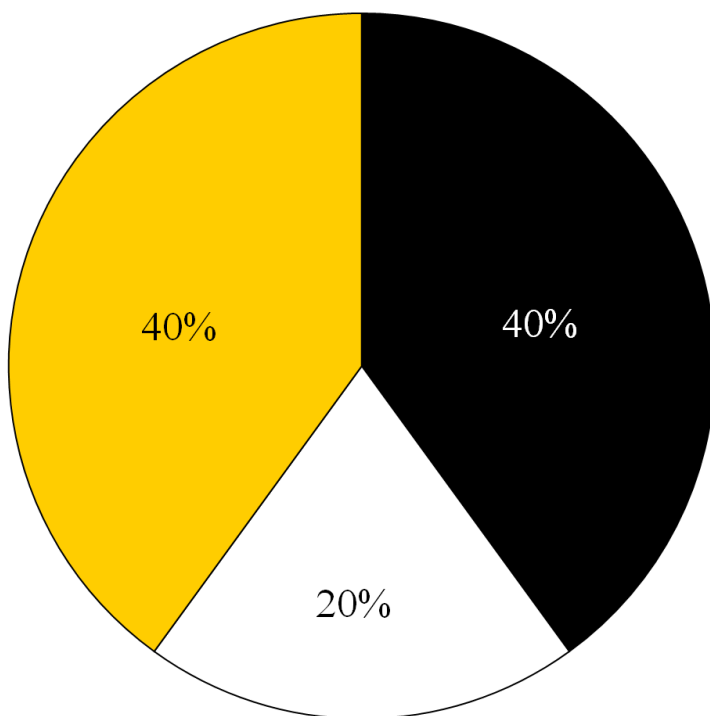
Finance

Highlighted Platform Goals:

1. Improved transparency and advertisement of USG finances and the funding process
2. Freed up funds for student organizations by supporting the “50-50 in 3-5” plan and working with current services and organizations to find outside monetary sources
3. Directly connecting with multicultural and/or underrepresented organizations to ensure knowledge of USG funds and services
4. Increasing advertisement of the Green Initiatives Fund on campus

Complete Platform available in "USG 2020-2021 Platform" Section of the Document

Platform Initiative Progress



■ Completed/Ongoing □ Paused ■ In Progress

Leadership:

Executive: Emily Hagedorn

Chair: Patrick Johnson

Senators:

Omar Mustafa

Libbie Smith

Carter Simon

Natalie Durham

John Mies

Sam Avery

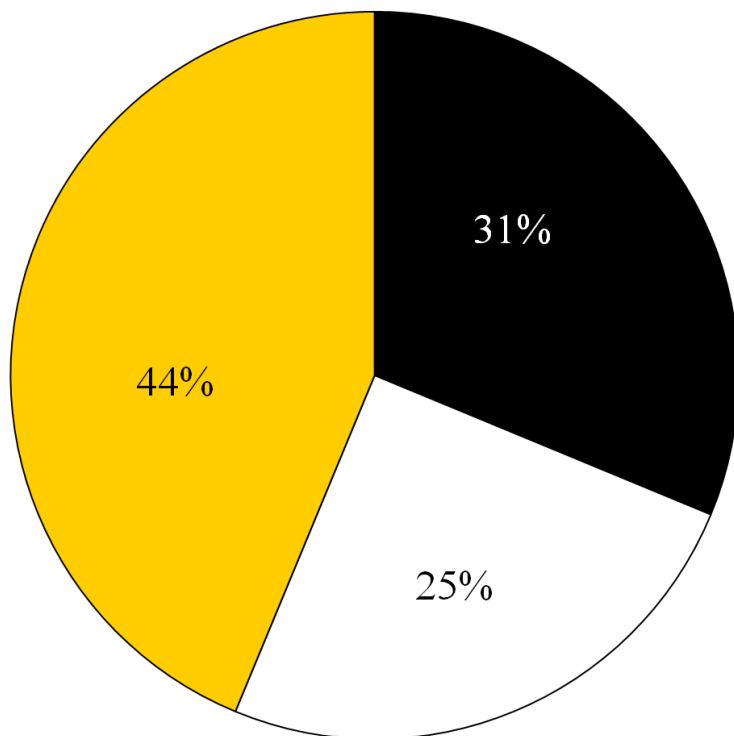
Health and Safety

Highlighted Platform Goals:

1. Promoted the Green Bandana Project across campus and implement a suicide awareness campaign
2. Launched a campaign to destigmatize mental health resources and promote UCS
3. Promoted the Rave Guardian app and work with ITS to include it within Hawk Tools
4. Advocated for Student Health to host mobile units in residence halls and other accessible campus locations
5. Executed a campus-wide flu shot campaign in partnership with Student Health and UIHC

Complete Platform available in "USG 2020-2021 Platform" Section of the Document

Platform Initiative Progress



■ Completed/Ongoing □ Paused ■ In Progress

Leadership:

Executive: Verona Victoria
Chair: Shalini Birari

Senators:

Josh Brown
Cameron Coates
Omar Mustafa
Pujit Mekala
Miriam Porras
Nick Nachtman
Jimmy Yang
Ryan Westoff

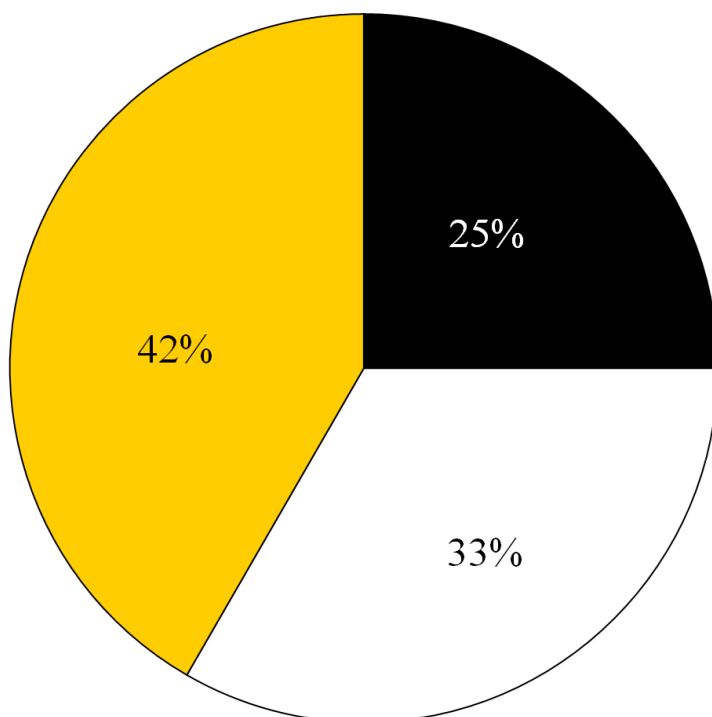
Academic Affairs

Highlighted Platform Goals:

1. Advocated for the inclusion of mental health days in class attendance policies across campus
2. Advocated for the creation of experiential learning components for undergraduate students like Tippie RISE
3. Collaborated with 1stGen@Iowa to support first-generation students in their academic and career endeavors
4. Partnering with the Iowa Center for Research by Undergraduates to develop a campaign to embrace and share research opportunities across all areas of study

Complete Platform available in "USG 2020-2021 Platform" Section of the Document

Platform Initiative Progress



■ Completed/Ongoing □ Paused ■ In Progress

Leadership:

Executive: Regan Smock
Chair: Yara Moustafa

Senators:

Natalie Durham
Emma Hathaway
Marco Ocegura
Sienna O'Connor
Benton Renaud
Carter Simon
Drew Sloan
Andrew Wendel

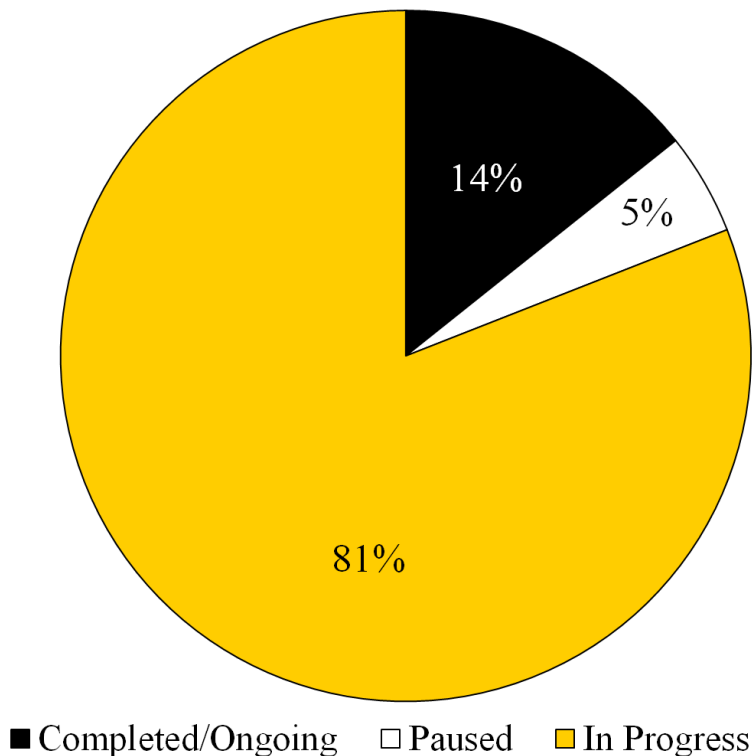
Justice and Equity

Highlighted Platform Goals:

1. Fostered strong relationships between students and staff who utilize the cultural centers through events, programs, and listening sessions
2. Continued the pursuit of a Black Student Support fund on campus
3. Worked with Student Life and University Counseling Services in providing healing spaces for BIPOC students, staff, and faculty
4. Working with Student Disability Services in creating a guide on how to facilitate accommodations requests for students, staff, and faculty
5. Creating an academic support and retention guide for first-generation students on campus

Complete Platform available in "USG 2020-2021 Platform" Section of the Document

Platform Initiative Progress



Leadership:

Executives:

Ruth Kahssai

Mara Smith

Chair: Joycelyn Jorbedom

Senators:

Selveyah Gamblin

Stephanie Guterrez

Shalini Birari

Yara Moustafa

Nick Nachtman

Prakruti Pancholi

Miriam Porrás

Paul Richards

Jimmy Yang

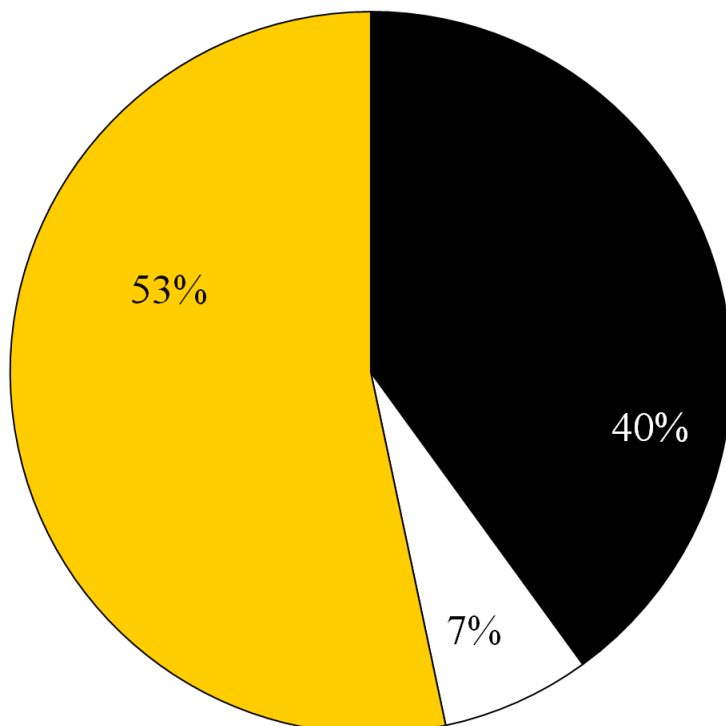
Governmental Relations

Highlighted Platform Goals:

1. Advocated for adequate and affordable housing in Iowa City that reflects the needs of students
2. Hosted elected officials and regents for student-led visits
3. Ensured students have the necessary form of voter ID by promoting the temporary voter ID card and advocating that the Iowa One card be made voting-eligible
4. Collaborated with campus partners to create a comprehensive off-campus housing tool that is easily accessible and holds landlords accountable

Complete Platform available in "USG 2020-2021 Platform" Section of the Document

Platform Initiative Progress



■ Completed/Ongoing □ Paused ■ In Progress

Leadership:

Executives: John Dickens
Ryan Longenecker
Allison Beckner
Anna Van Heukelom

Chair:

Sierra Wicks

Senators:

Vera Barkosky, Josh Brown,
Alexis Carfrae, Pujit Mekala, Ellie
Miglin, Bethany Negen, Marco
Oceguera, Sienna O'Connor,
Lauren Salloum, Kathryn
Shumaker, Drew Sloan, Ryan
Westhoff, and Yardley Whaylen

A scenic view of a river at sunset. The sky is filled with dramatic, colorful clouds in shades of blue, purple, and pink. The sun is low on the horizon, casting a warm glow over the scene. In the background, a city skyline is visible, with several large buildings and a prominent dome. The foreground shows the calm water of the river, which reflects the colors of the sky and the buildings. A yellow border surrounds the entire image.

Executive Updates

Emily Hagedorn

Director of Finance

Pronouns: She, her, hers

Hometown: Ankeny, Iowa

Year: Third-Year

Major(s): Economic Policy, Finance

Additional Involvements:

Tippie Business Honor Society, Presidential Scholars Program



The fall semester was busier and unusual for USG Finance this year. Usually, the fall semester is busy with student organization funding requests and programming legislation. However, this year, USG Finances held a degree of uncertainty.

In the beginning of the fall, it was unclear if the University of Iowa was going to continue an in-person semester. Therefore, USG wanted to prepare for the possibility that the Student Activity may be refunded to students by the Board of Regents. While this did not occur, a decrease in anticipated enrollment resulted in a deficit in the fee revenue, nonetheless. USG had a series of meetings with fixed expense groups and agreed to have them revert their leftover funds due to COVID-19 inactivity to attempt to make up for this deficit. The Director of Finance would like to personally thank the student leaders from SCOPE, University Lecture Committee, and Bijou for their willingness to help with this effort.

The Finance Committee continued funding student organizations' needs this semester. While many student groups had reduced programming due to the pandemic, Finance Committee continued to fund equipment, online conference registrations, and items for distanced programming.

Finally, USG made strategic fiscal decisions to help students who may need additional help this year. Among these decisions was the creation of the COVID-19 Test Reimbursement Fund. This fund, under the Dean's Emergency Fund, reimburses students for coronavirus tests off-campus. USG also collaborated with the Clothing Closet to fund a Winter Clothing Drive. Finally, USG approved an additional allocation to the Food Pantry for equipment and food purchases to expand the pantry's services. While an unusual semester, the Director of Finance looks forward to the spring and is thankful for all those who offered help, gave opinions, and submitted funding requests this semester.

Katie Michalski

Director of Operations

Pronouns: She, her, hers

Hometown: Johnston, IA

Year: Second-Year

Major(s): Computer Science, Mathematics

Additional Involvements:

Project Silence No More, Information Technology Presidential Charter Committee, Dance Marathon,



During the fall semester, the Director of Operations managed the implementation of new Senators on Microsoft 365 platforms; interviewed prospective Senators for fall recruitment; aided in the website redesign that correlates with new University of Iowa branding; created SharePoint tutorials for USG Members; provided tech support to other USG Cabinet members for their respective initiatives; and made consistent website updates and page design for numerous USG efforts, including the Airport Shuttle, The Green Bandana Project, Complain for a Cookie, and Org Tip\$. The Director of Operations remains an ex-officio member of the Internal Affairs Committee, which consists of biweekly committee meetings and assisting in Internal Affairs operations.

Alongside Secretary Airiana Mohr, the Director of Operations brainstormed ideas for potential Cabinet reform. The Director of Operations also introduced a weekly Website Editing Meeting in which a few Cabinet members worked together on website-related projects.

One of the most significant and defining events of the fall semester for USG was fall recruitment. The Director of Operations reviewed applications and interviewed prospective Senators alongside the Internal Affairs Committee. After the selection of about 30 new Senators, the Director of Operations managed the implementation of new Senators on the SharePoint, Outlook, and Microsoft Teams platforms. The transition included creating member webpages for each of the new Senators; gathering website bio information and profile photos, and gathering contact information for the SharePoint and Teams platforms. New Senators were also given USG Office access.

This fall also saw the implementation of the new USG website design that correlates with the new University of Iowa branding. The Director of Operations had been working closely with University Marketing and Design since the summer in order to make this effort happen and create a more modern website design. The Director of Operations continues to reduce the number of webpages and prioritize the information on the USG website to ensure it is a source of relevant, up-to-date information presented in a sleek format.

Airiana Mohr

Secretary

Pronouns: She, her, hers

Hometown: Machesney Park, IL

Year: Second-Year

Major(s): Neuroscience

Additional Involvements:

Homecoming Executive Council, Presidential Scholars Program, Presidential Charter Committee – University Safety and Security



As Secretary, I type out meeting minutes in transcript format for senate meetings, track the attendance and office hours progress of student government members, and take notes at other weekly and biweekly meetings, including cabinet and senate leadership meetings.

Due to COVID-19, many of the USG operational systems had to undergo re-evaluation. In particular, the office hours system transitioned to an online format where students could drop-in at any time.

This new system, created by Speaker Stucky, Speaker Pro Tempore Lauer, and myself promote USG's accessibility to students.

Director of Operations Michalski and I assessed the nuances and interconnections of our roles as we begin to reevaluate our tasks and how they function together. This semester, I worked along with Director Michalski to update the USG website and SharePoint on a biweekly basis.

The secretary position serves as a non-voting member of the Internal Affairs Committee. Beginning over the summer, Senator Crow and I updated all governing documents for the organization such as the bylaws, the elections code, and the constitution to reflect the brand changes and revisions voted on last semester. The fall nominations process, which also transitioned to an online interview format this year, filled much of the committee's time during the semester. I assisted with the application process by preparing applications, conducting interviews, and contributing to the final deliberation.

Alongside Senator Wicks, the annual climate survey for student government members was created and distributed to members. This survey analyzed the working relationship between the senate and executive branch. The results of the survey will be compiled and sent out to the appropriate parties when it is available to foster better relationships within USG.

Communications Team Members

Hallie Lartius

Media Relations Manager

Pronouns: She, her, hers

Hometown: Boone, IA

Year: Third-Year

Major(s): Global Health

Additional Involvements:

Intern, Office of Sustainability; Tutor, Student-Athletics; President, Global Health Club



Colleen Claffy

Social Media Manager

Pronouns: She, her, hers

Hometown: Hinsdale, IL

Year: Third-Year

Major(s): Communications, Art

Additional Involvements:

Kappa Kappa Gamma, Campus Ink



Makayla Morales

Deputy Director of Communications

Pronouns: She, her, hers

Hometown: Toulon, IL

Year: Third-Year

Major(s): Public Health

Additional Involvements:

Research Assistant, Women's Rugby, Resident Assistant



Communications Team Members

Vrunda Patel

Graphic Designer

Pronouns: She, her, hers

Hometown: Cedar Rapids, Iowa

Year: Third-Year

Major(s): Psychology

Additional Involvements:

Founder and President, Major Shadow; Member, Iowa Chaarg; Member, MAPS

Alexis Folkers

Graphic Designer

Pronouns: She, her, hers

Hometown: Walker, Iowa

Year: Second-Year

Major(s): Art/Graphic Design

Additional Involvements:

UI Reach Resident Assistant and Campus Activities Board (CAB) Member



Nate Goodwin

Videographer and Photographer

Pronouns: He, him, his

Hometown: Clive, Iowa

Year: Second-Year

Major(s): Marketing

Additional Involvements:

President's Leadership Class, Resident Assistant in Rienow Resident Hall, Content Creator for Student Video Productions



Kayla Cleland

Director of External Relations

Pronouns: She, her, hers

Hometown: Huntington Beach, California

Year: Third-Year

Major(s): Psychology Speech and Hearing Science

Additional Involvements:

Hillcrest Desk Clerk, Orientation Leader, Homecoming Council



This semester I worked with fellow directors and the senators on my External Relations Committee to complete events and initiatives seeking to maintain a strong connection between USG and the campus community. I started off by organizing a series of fall senator recruitment events, including webinars that connected students looking to join USG for the 2020-2021 school year with current senators and directors. Part of my monthly duties was to write and release USG for U, a monthly email sent out to every student on campus to update them on what's happening with USG and the campus at large.

This semester also saw an increased partnership between USG and the University Counseling Services. I helped to facilitate conversation regarding and helped organize the Sunday Support Series, a collaboration between UCS's and USG's social media. We released weekly infographics on Instagram providing students with tools, tips, and tricks to navigate a tricky semester.

Additionally, I met weekly with UCS to organize and host a mental health panel consisting of fellow USG members to share their insights into how they're navigating a semester filled with so many ups and downs for the students on our campus.

I also helped develop multiple other webinars and panels, including our First Gen Panel (a collaboration with the Academic Affairs Committee), as well as the Student Org Webinar, which allowed leaders of student organizations on campus to meet with one another and share how they've been adapting to an online community. As always, I was happy to continue meeting with the senators in my committee and make sure they had the tools they needed to stay on track and make their initiatives happen.

Regan Smock

Director of Academic Affairs

Pronouns: She, her, hers

Hometown: Coggon, IA

Year: Third-Year

Major(s): Sociology, Spanish

Additional Involvements:

Students to Assist Recruitment, Office Assistant: Dean of Students Office



This fall, the Academic Affairs team worked hard in advocating for a more flexible grading option by meeting regularly with administrators, partnering with the Association of Big Ten Students, surveying the University of Iowa undergraduate student body, and building a report of the findings. Although no alternative grading system was reinstated in the Fall 2020 semester, Student Government successfully advocated for a later drop and withdrawal date, a transcript notation describing the extenuating circumstances for students during the Fall 2020 semesters, and no students were academically dismissed in the Fall 2020 semester.

We also celebrated First-Generation students in November by working with Academic Support and Retention during National First-Generation Celebration Week. USG hosted a panel of student leaders who identify as First-Gen, where they were able to share their experience and what that identity means to them.

The Director of Academic Affairs worked with Academic Support and Retention and the Provost Office around brainstorming ideas to support retention, especially among the Fall 2019 and Fall

2020 incoming student cohorts.

Through this process, we have advocated for more norming messaging around the pandemic and more use of reflective materials within course offerings.

USG worked closely with the International Student Advisory Board to address concerns of students living abroad. With the help of the Hawk Shop and the Office of the Dean of Students, international shipping for textbooks will be offered by the Hawk Shop for the first time ever and the cost of shipping will be covered for students learning abroad.

We also collaborated with the Office of Information and Technology Services to create a new setting in ICON where students living outside of the central time zone are able to change their learning location and it will send a message to instructors about the student's situation. We are currently working on messaging this service to both students living around the world and faculty and staff members.

Emily Manders

Director of Sustainability

Pronouns: She, her, hers

Hometown: Cedar Rapids, IA

Year: fifth-year

Major(s): Environmental Policy and Planning

Additional Involvements:

Co-president: University of Iowa Environmental Coalition, Presidential Sustainability Charter Committee, Intern: Office of Sustainability and the Environment



Waste - Due to residence halls not providing recycling services for students, the Sustainability Committee has continued to keep in close contact with the Office of Sustainability and the Environment on how we can better manage the produced waste. I am also working with University Housing and Dining to see how we can further reduce the waste produced in the dining halls through signage and have proposed graphics that would reduce plastic bag usage.

Academics - After working with the Sustainability Certificate Committee, they have agreed to do an audit of the existing classes in the certificate to include more environmental justice curriculum and to further refine what classes are being accepted into the certificate. I have also been working very hard on establishing a sustainability general education requirement for all students in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Thanks to all the hard working staff and faculty in CLAS, we hope to implement this requirement in the fall of 2022.

Social Media - I am currently working with USG Director of Operations to create a more updated and inclusive section dedicated to sustainability on the USG website.

In the beginning of the spring semester, we hope to post content on the website dedicated to off-campus recycling, guides to being sustainable, and more.

FM and Pesticides - This past semester I have been working with the Office of Sustainability and the Environment (OSE) and the Center for Health Effects of Environmental Contamination (CHEEC) to address pesticide usage on campus. The pesticide report that details the usage of pesticides on campus is not currently available to utilize. The Sustainability Committee and I look forward to working with the OSE and CHEEC spring semester regarding pesticide usage on campus.

2030 Goals - As Director of Sustainability, I serve on the 2030 Goal Committee. This committee has been tasked with the creation of the various 2030 goals - the University of Iowa strives to meet. The 2030 Goal committee has created the framework of the goals but is still working on creating measurable outcomes. As a part of the committee, I have focused on the social and environmental justice goal. I have been working to bring in necessary groups and individuals to provide input on measurable outcomes in these specific areas.

Dave Keffala Gerhard

Director of Student Services

Pronouns: He, him, his

Hometown: Iowa City, IA

Year: Third-Year

Major(s): Biology, Philosophy

Additional Involvements:

Catlett Resident Assistant; Paperback Rhino Improv team; TreehouseIC



Airport Shuttle The Airport Shuttle contract was renewed with COVID-19 regulations in place. Demographic data is now being collected with more efficacy so that the service can be optimized for students who most commonly use this service. Advertisement is a key part of the shuttle, and with demographic data, we plan to more accurately cater this service to folks who are potential users. The Airport Shuttle service is constantly being reviewed and analyzed to find the best, most efficient, and sustainable ways to transport students to and from the Eastern Iowa Airport.

ORG Tip\$ ORG Tip\$ has continued its partnership with Late Night Programming to fund monthly themed training that coincides with current ORG Tip\$ goals. USG plans to adapt and expand ORG Tip\$ to be more accessible and impactful to different sizes of student organizations in the future. Meetings are ongoing with campus partners to adapt ORG Tip\$ to the challenges COVID-19 continues to present. These meetings have provided useful insight into the relationship with specific campus partners and will help us navigate future struggles while we try to optimize the current service.

Partnership initiatives The Student Life Committee and the Health & Safety Committee have continued to investigate options for consistent, sustainable, and accessible menstrual products for Iowa students. The COVID-19 pandemic has impeded the implementation of these plans, but USG continues to seek partnerships to create this program.

Verona Victoria

Director of Health and Safety

Pronouns: She, her, hers

Hometown: West Des Moines, IA

Year: Third-Year

Major(s): Psychology, Sociology

Additional Involvements:

UIHC Volunteer & Unit Mentor, Marketing Director for the Clothing Closet at Iowa, Research Assistant for the DEN Lab



This past semester, the Health and Safety Committee made progress towards many of our ongoing initiatives. Throughout our work, we continued to work closely with our campus partners.

In collaboration with University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics as well as Student Wellness, we held flu shot drives for students to receive a free flu shot. Additionally, while working with Student Health and Student Wellness, we were able to advocate for safe sex practices and provide supplies as well as spark discussions on what safe sex looks like in the time of COVID-19.

We focused our efforts and advocacy toward suicide prevention on campus. Alongside University Counseling Services, we continued to promote and raise awareness of mental health resources in multiple ways. First, we hosted a virtual Fresh Check Day, an event focused on individual well-being and mental health.

Second, we launched the Green Bandana Project. The Green Bandana Project is a student-led program designed to spread awareness of mental health resources to promote a culture of care on our campus. Third, we initiated the process to analyze, design and implement suicide prevention signage in high-risk locations across campus. Lastly, we helped to develop the creation of a mental health website, mentalhealth.uiowa.edu. Additionally, we worked with GPSG to encourage community members to show appreciation for our healthcare workers especially due to COVID-19.

John Dickens

Director of Governmental Relations

Pronouns: He, him, his

Hometown: Grand Rapids, Michigan

Year: Second-Year

Major(s): Political Science, Ethics and Public Policy

Additional Involvements:

Undergraduate Political Science Association, Lecture Committee, DeGowin Blood Center Student Organization



Allison Beckner

Deputy Director of Governmental Relations

Pronouns: She/her/hers

Hometown: Cedar Falls, Iowa

Year: Second-Year

Major(s): Political Science, Ethics & Public Policy

Additional Involvements:

Honors Outreach Ambassadors, Hawkeye Caucus, Presidential Scholars Program, Honors Peer Mentor



This past fall, the Governmental Relations team coordinated organizations, volunteers and campus partners to promote civic engagement for fall elections. Through our partnership with Hawk the Vote, we registered new voters, disseminated voting information, and encouraged participation in the election process to students directly.

We made progress on our initiative to increase voting resources available to students by creating new and more convenient forms of identification for students to vote. Members of our committee researched and began to connect with the university in hopes of making voting day a day off for students, faculty, and staff. Through these initiatives, we broadened the resources and participation of students at the university during the election process.

Our team has started to advocate for students within the Iowa State Government. Over the summer, we completed our legislative tour, where we met with various legislators to introduce student concerns and get feedback on our state advocacy plan. After completion of the tour, we finalized our advocacy agenda, with the Move-in Checklist Bill as our top priority.

This bill would require landlords and renters to jointly complete and sign-off on a checklist regarding the state of the unit (i.e. appliances, flooring, paint, etc.). This would increase transparency during the renting process and protect tenant's security deposits. We are also advocating for increased appropriations toward the university which is more urgent than ever after recent cuts made by the Iowa Legislature. These funds go toward many important, life-saving resources that the university provides as well as maintain the cost of tuition for students facing an increased cost-of-living. On a federal level, we have grown our partnership with the Association of Big Ten Students, to help exchange ideas and advocate for students on a broader scale. We also continue to work with the University of Iowa Federal Relations team to ensure Iowa student voices are heard on national issues.



Ryan Longenecker

City Liaison

Pronouns: He, him, his

Hometown: Bettendorf, IA

Year: Second-Year

Major(s): Political Science and Economics

Additional Involvements:

Presidential Scholars, Honors Program Fellows, University Democrats



Anna Van Heukelom

Deputy City Liaison

Pronouns: She, her, hers

Hometown: Des Moines, IA

Year: Third-Year

Major(s): Marketing, Ethics & Public Policy

Additional Involvements:

University Democrats Secretary, Student Advocates for Planned Parenthood, volunteer at the Women's Resource and Action Center



Throughout the semester, the City Liaisons continued to attend Iowa City City Council meetings to stay informed on city matters, provide input on issues affecting students, and relay new information regarding students to the Council. Some of the issues we discussed included policing and racial justice, as well as COVID-19 relief. As City Council has continued to work on their Black Lives Matter Resolution, the City Liaisons have provided input on what matters to students and pushed Council to seriously consider the input from student activists who have been at the forefront of the movement for racial justice. Surrounding COVID-19 relief, the City Liaisons advocated for Council to provide utilities relief and to continue to ensure that water shutoffs do not occur. Information on various COVID-19 relief programs from city, state, and federal governments was put out on USG's social media for student accessibility.

Additionally, the City Liaisons created a COVID-19 Task Force that included members from the Undergraduate Student Government, Graduate and Professional Student Government, Faculty Senate, Staff Council, City Council/Staff, the Iowa City Downtown District, and Project Better Together. The task force has worked to increase communication about COVID-19 actions between these groups and discussed possible solutions to various COVID-19 issues, such as fall activities for students, public health messaging, safety in bars, and more. The task force will continue meeting as needed as the pandemic continues.

Throughout the semester, the City Liaisons worked on and released the 2020 Undergraduate Student Government Renter's Guide that is available on USG's website. The guide was based off around 80 responses to a survey regarding student's living experiences off-campus. With the survey results, we put together a comprehensive document that helps students in making their rental decisions. The guide provides students with data about landlords and property management companies in the Iowa City area. The City Liaisons also worked with UI staff members Lucas Dewitt and Eric Rossow to create a monthly newsletter regarding off-campus housing resources for students. Furthermore, we discussed editing the university's current online housing tool to make it more resourceful for students.

Overall, the City Liaisons had a very successful fall semester and look forward to new projects in the spring semester, including more action on policing and racial justice and off-campus housing.



A photograph of a modern building with a metallic facade and a river at dusk. The text "Senate Updates" is overlaid in the center. The building has a complex, angular design with a facade of reflective metal panels. The sky is a clear, pale blue. In the foreground, there is a body of water reflecting the lights from the building and the sky. The overall scene is a mix of modern architecture and natural elements.

Senate Updates

Speaker of the Senate

Sam Stucky Speaker of the Senate

Pronouns: She, her, hers

Hometown: Shoreview, MN

Year: Second-Year

Major(s): Political Science, Ethics and Public Policy

Additional Involvements:

Zeta Tau Alpha, Ignite UI, Campus Activities Board



Speaker Pro Tempore

Jack Lauer Speaker Pro Tempore

Pronouns: He, him, his

Hometown: Pleasantville, IA

Year: Second-Year

Major(s): History and Gender, Women's, & Sexuality Studies

Additional Involvements:

Resident Assistant, Hancher Presidential Charter Committee, Former University of Iowa Museums Docent



Members of the UI Community,

This semester your Senators have been working hard to represent your needs throughout the turmoil of this past year. For the first time in Undergraduate Student Government history, we are not meeting in person, but working entirely in a virtual format to keep members of our community safe. Even so, the virtual working environment did not hinder the Senate's ability to work towards completing USG initiatives. We passed legislation about COVID-19, created a first-generation constituency senator, and worked to adapt the election rules alongside the Student Judicial Council. As you continue to read this report, you will learn about what our committees have been working on and our Joint Resolutions with the Graduate & Professional Student Government.

On Iowa and Go Hawks,

Sam Stucky, Speaker of the Senate

Jack Lauer, Speaker Pro Tempore

Student Life:

This fall the Student Life Committee has worked on many USG initiatives. One initiative senators focused on was promoting the University Counseling Services. Senators promoted mental health on campus by creating UCS packets to distribute online and in residence halls and collaborated with UCS to make their information accessible to students. Additionally, Senators are working to create a Student Involvement and Engagement Degree Audit, which is a system to help students document their participation in extracurricular activities while on campus. USG's 'Complain for a Cookie' event was changed to 'Complain for a Coupon:' an opportunity for students to express their feelings regarding all university-related topics and receive a coupon in return. Another initiative Senators have worked on is creating a used graduation robe and materials drive to provide more affordable access to graduation materials.

Finance:

This semester, the Finance Committee has remained committed to funding student organizations and activities across the University of Iowa campus. To do this, the Finance Committee completed bi-weekly funding periods to allocate the most amount of funds toward student-led initiatives as possible. Furthermore, we had the opportunity to work alongside our USG peers in the exploration of a virtual rendition of "Complain about a Cookie" and created promotional marketing efforts to increase the usage of student funds for organizations across campus. In the coming semester, we hope to provide more resources to students about the funding processes within student government to foster greater diversity within the university's culture.

External Relations:

Despite the virtual semester, the External Relations Committee organized various events and programming efforts to engage and provide support for the student body. Before the semester began, we worked with the Internal Affairs Committee to create several recruitment events to encourage first-years, as well as other students, to apply to become USG Senators. Once classes started, we worked with University Counseling Services to develop a social media campaign called the 'Happiness Series.' This campaign aimed to help students manage and cope amidst COVID-19 through sharing various informational graphics and videos. We also hosted a well-attended Student Organization Roundtable centered on helping student organizations effectively operate online as well as connect student leaders. We are in the process of changing the Student Liaison Program and HawkIdeas, as well as organizing multiple USG Town Hall events for students to attend.

Health and Safety:

This past semester, the Health and Safety Committee co-wrote a piece of legislation with GPSG regarding COVID-19 safety protocols on campus to present at joint session. The Green Bandana Project, an initiative to promote mental health awareness and resources on campus, was also completed this past semester. Additionally, Senators worked with the Director of Student Services to plan new Org Tips events related to health and safety topics. In collaboration with Student Health, we helped plan and promote a free flu shot drive on campus for students. Another initiative Senators are advocating toward is for mental health absences to be excused for classes that have attendance as part of a grade. Other initiatives Senators are working on include expanding awareness of disordered eating habits among college students and promoting current mental health resources on campus.

Sustainability:

This semester the Sustainability Committee was able to make immense strides in the continuation of various USG initiatives. We worked hard to implement a goal focused on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion within the 2030 Sustainability Goals, which are to be released in this upcoming year, as well as unanimously passed a resolution at Joint Senate calling for the goals to be finalized within a reasonable timeframe. We advocated for a sustainability general education implementation across all colleges at the university, and huge strides are being taken to establish required education on sustainability within CLAS by as early as Fall of 2022. Additionally, DEI has been a foundational aspect of our work in the reimagining of coursework within the Sustainability Certificate and GEOG classes throughout the University.

We have met consistently with the City of Iowa City for proper recycling within apartment buildings as well as the establishment of collaborative plans in the future for sustainability education and construction sustainability requirements. Composting and waste within Housing and Dining has consistently been on our radar to mitigate the waste created by grab and go meals in the residence halls. Additionally, we have worked hard to grow connections with the Cultural Corridor and are working to establish a community student-driven garden with collaboration from the Office of Sustainability and the Environment and the Afro House. Finally, we have worked hard to advertise the Green Initiative Fund to students and their organizations as a means of funding sustainable endeavors.

Academic Affairs:

The Academic Affairs Committee has been hard at work creating a more equitable, affordable, and accessible academic experience for all University of Iowa students. We are currently advocating for the inclusion of mental health days in excused absences, making it easier for students to navigate FASFA and scholarships, and working to improve the experience of transfer and first-generation students in the academic sphere. We have also worked hard over the Fall semester to ensure that colleges outside of CLAS have the same access to resources, for example working to make sure College of Public Health students are able to access scholarships as easily as their CLAS counterparts. Lastly, we have been advocating to ensure that textbooks and other resources are as affordable as possible by partnering with the library to support Open Educational Resources and other initiatives.

Internal Affairs:

The Internal Affairs committee conducted the Fall Nominations process, nominating over twenty individuals to be Senators. The committee assisted with their transition to student government. Internal Affairs also worked with the Student Elections Commissioner to revise the elections code for USG. They passed a newly reformed elections code to be used in the upcoming 2021 election. Additionally, they worked on passing a piece of legislation that made recommendations for adjustments to the Presidential Charter Committees. The committee ended the semester by conducting a climate survey that was given to the entire Undergraduate Student Government.

Justice and Equity:

Due to the nature of 2020 many of the initiatives, the Justice and Equity committee would work on in a normal year were put on pause. This gave us a unique opportunity to spend time engaging in community with each other, while also finding new ways to engage in different communities on campus. We spent the semester building a genuine connection with campus partners, and the different constituencies we have the honor of representing across campus. This gave us time to start conversations about reforming or constituency senator positions, as well as how to better support underrepresented students on our campus.

Governmental Relations:

This semester the Governmental Relations Committee focused on getting the student body involved in civic engagement on campus. This included making videos encouraging Hawkeyes to vote with campus partners, promoting information about Iowa One cards as temporary voter IDs, and connecting with governmental candidates in Iowa City to encourage Hawkeyes to connect with those running. The Governmental Relations Committee also advocated for paid time off for student poll workers. The G.R. Committee was able to get every USG member to register to vote, completing Hawk the Vote's 90 percent challenge.

The G.R. Committee has started to work on initiatives such as creating a constituent guide to the Iowa State Legislature, planning student forums with the Iowa City Council, and advocating for a move-in checklist and increased appropriations for the University of Iowa to be passed in the Iowa State Legislature.

Joint Session:

On September 22nd, 2020, USG held its annual Joint Session with the Graduate & Professional Student Government. This semester we were unable to meet at the Old Capitol, but nevertheless we were able to address some of the largest issues on our campus. We pushed administration to create 2030 Sustainability Goals that would create lasting change at the University of Iowa and further emphasized the importance of sticking to those goals. Given the circumstances of the year, and the impact that it has had on students, USG and GPSG found it to be crucial that we address the rising costs of attending higher education. Our second piece of legislation called on the Iowa State Legislature to end the divestment from higher education and continued our advocacy for more funding toward the University of Iowa and other Regent Universities. Finally, our shared governance focused on one of the most pressing issues of the year as we continued our support for preventative measures against the spread of COVID-19. Due to the risks involved with being on campus and the dangers of in-person classes, we advocated for listening to CDC guidelines surrounding in person events, prioritizing online instruction, better accessibility to receiving COVID-19 testing, and health and safety being at the forefront of decisions made. To read the legislation (<https://usg.uiowa.edu/senate-info/legislation/>).

Contact Information:

This semester, more than ever, we want to hear from students! Please attend our office hours, which will be held on Zoom, email USG at usg@uiowa.edu with any questions, and attend Senate meetings on Tuesdays at 7pm.



An aerial photograph of a large outdoor event on a vast green field. Numerous people are scattered across the landscape, some gathered in groups. Several colorful tents are set up, including a prominent red one and a purple one. A large, dense, bushy area is visible in the lower right quadrant. The overall scene is bright and sunny, with long shadows cast across the grass.

2020 USG Platform

2020-2021 USG Platform

Internal Affairs

- Better USG's transition systems
- Increase more collaboration between committees
- Assist USG members in connecting to campus and community partners by creating a contact glossary
- Partner with the Career Center in modernizing the USG interview process
- Build on the USG demographic survey and actively recruit for a more inclusive student government
- Maintain and develop strong relationships between senators
- Ensure a successful brand change across the organization
- Review the USG election process and audit the impact of previous changes
- Require NCBI (National Coalition Building Institute) trainings for all student government executives within the first semester

External Relations

- Reach out and present to student organizations about USG and the services we provide
- Host events to gather feedback from a variety of corners on campus
- Bolster USG's involvement on campus and in the community by creating an internal event and volunteer calendar
- Increase USG's accessibility and transparency by hosting campus roundtables and forums
- Host a student leader networking night to increase collaboration between student organizations
- Increase communication between USG and student organizations by further developing the liaison program and creating tailored communications
- Encourage student leaders to attend senate by increasing advertisement and coverage of the meetings
- Partner with the Division of Student Life in hosting workshops on how to operate student organizations in a virtual semester

2020-2021 USG Platform

Sustainability

- Improve education on recycling and composting practices
- Hold landlords accountable for providing opportunities to recycle
- Expand the new IMU compost bins throughout the university
- Manage the medical waste of single-use masks
- Reduce single use plastic usage on campus
- Make composting accessible and valued throughout campus
- Promote the implementation of a sustainability general education requirement across colleges
- Review existing sustainability classes and reduce whitewashed sustainability education
- Expand outreach on little-known facts of sustainability
- Improve and promote the sustainable purchasing guide
- Expand advertising for the Green Initiatives Fund
- Expand and the use of acknowledgements on University of Iowa property
- Improve sustainability within overlooked communities on campus
- Advocate for more meatless options within dining and promote the alternatives through events like chef cook-offs
- Work with on-campus dining and events to reduce single use programming and to-go meals
- Support bicyclists of Iowa City and the transportation committee in making sustainable transportation more accessible
- Connect the sustainability efforts of the university with those of the city
- Host workshops and trainings with student organizations on how they can become more sustainable
- Partner with chapter leadership in revamping sustainability within Fraternity and Sorority Life
- Align student government's initiatives with the university's 2030 sustainability goals
- Establish biodiverse native planting practices
- Reduce harmful pesticide use on campus, particularly neonicotinoids

2020-2021 USG Platform

Health and Safety

- Require and improve mental health trainings for all faculty and staff
- Promote the Green Bandana Project across campus and implement a suicide awareness campaign
- Strengthen cultural trainings for University Counseling Service staff
- Create a guide to navigating off-campus mental health resources and insurance options
- Launch a campaign to destigmatize mental health resources and promote UCS
- Promote a campus-wide campaign on sexual assault prevention
- Educate students, faculty, and staff on responding to sexual assault disclosures
- Conduct a campus and city lighting audit alongside the UI Department of Public Safety and the City of Iowa City
- Promote the Rave Guardian app and work with ITS to include it within Hawk Tools
- Advocate to expand the NITE Ride program and increase advertisement of the service
- Advocate for Student Health to host mobile units in residence halls and other accessible campus locations
- Work with Student Wellness to promote their Mindfulness program that assists students in managing their stress
- Strengthen alcohol overdose prevention programming within Fraternity & Sorority Life and Residence Education
- Increase accessibility to high-quality menstrual products across campus
- Create a health and safety app through university Information Technology Services
- Execute a campus wide flu shot campaign in partnership with Student Health and UIHC

Justice and Equity

- Create an academic support and retention guide for first-generation students on campus
- Foster strong relationships between students and staff who utilize the cultural centers through events, programs, and listening sessions
- Advocate for more accessible gender-neutral bathrooms
- Push for educational opportunities surrounding diversity, equity, and inclusion within major campus programs such as Orientation, On Iowa!, and Homecoming

2020-2021 USG Platform

- Partner with Orientation Services and International Programs in enhancing the international student orientation experience
- Educate domestic students on what it means to live in a global community
- Institute resources in Student Health to remove any language barriers
- Expand the translation of financial guides to include additional languages
- Conduct a student led accessibility audit of high trafficked facilities on campus
- Work with Student Disability Services in creating a guide on how to facilitate accommodations requests for students, staff, and faculty
- Urge the Office of Admissions to partner with LGBTQ+ high school organizations during the recruitment process
- Expand the Safe Zone training to faculty and staff across campus
- Streamline the process to report faculty and staff who commit acts of bias
- Advocate for the creation of a peer to peer international student mentorship program
- Continue the pursuit of a Black Student Support fund on campus
- Work with Student Life and University Counseling Services in providing healing spaces for BIPOC students, staff, and faculty

Academic Affairs

- Create opportunities to build relationships between students and their instructors
- Advocate for the inclusion of mental health days in class attendance policies across campus
- Improve the transfer student experience by hosting networking events and resource fairs
- Host a scholarship fair to connect students to current financial aid opportunities
- Implement a tuition and financial aid education campaign
- Host workshops to assist students in filling out the FAFSA
- Work to increase online educational resources available to students
- Partner with the Iowa Center for Research by Undergraduates to develop a campaign to embrace and share research opportunities across all areas of study
- Implement a mentoring pilot program on campus and create a guide on how to expand these opportunities to all academic units

2020-2021 USG Platform

- Work to require that every faculty member undergoes a training on diversity, equity, and inclusion before entering the classroom
- Advocate for the creation of experiential learning components for undergraduate students like Tippie RISE
- Collaborate with 1stGen@Iowa to support first-generation students in their academic and career endeavors

Finance

- Directly connect with multicultural and/or underrepresented organizations to ensure knowledge of USG funds and services
- Improve transparency and advertisement of USG finances and the funding process
- Free up funds for student organizations by supporting the “50-50 in 3-5” plan and working with current services and organizations to find outside monetary sources
- Hold regular USG funding meetings and workshops with student organizations across campus
- Increase advertisement of the Green Initiatives Fund on campus

Student Life

- Partner with student and community artists in expanding public art on campus
- Continue to promote the USG airport shuttle and improve the service
- Update and market the Not Being Rich @ Ulowa guide
- Promote the use of After Class and campus events website
- Create online community spaces to promote socialization opportunities among students
- Empower student employees by hosting roundtables and other opportunities for feedback
- Promote basic needs resources like the Food Pantry and Clothing Closet Reform the Org Tip\$ program to increase training opportunities to better serve student organizations
- Establish a drive for graduation robes and materials
- Better the relationship between USG and Fraternity & Sorority Life by hosting regular meetings with council presidents
- Create an involvement and engagement audit to coincide a degree audit

2020-2021 USG Platform

Governmental Relations:

- Advocate for a statewide move-in checklist policy designed to increase transparency between renters and landlords
- Advocate for increased appropriations to the University of Iowa and create opportunities for all students and parents to add their voice to our advocacy
- Develop a social media and messaging campaign to show the impact of rising tuition
- Collaborate with ISU and UNI to create a unified advocacy approach to the Board of Regents and Iowa Legislature
- Create a legislative advisory committee designed to connect students with local state legislators
- Host elected officials and regents for student-led visits
- Encourage City Council to require new housing to match Iowa City's 2030 sustainability goals.
- Advocate for adequate and affordable housing in Iowa City that reflects the needs of students
- Continue to survey student renting experiences to create and promote resources for off-campus living
- Collaborate with campus partners to create a comprehensive off-campus housing tool that is easily accessible and holds landlords accountable
- Coordinate with campus partners to provide voter registration opportunities and increase civic engagement among the student body
- Host student-focused forums with candidates and elected officials for all levels of office
- Ensure students have the necessary form of voter ID by promoting the temporary voter ID card and advocating that the Iowa One card be made voting eligible
- Advocate for election day to be recognized as a university holiday
- Partner with community advocates for racial justice in pushing for change within the Iowa City Police Department



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Undergraduate
Student Government