



The Informed Student

May 2024 | No. 1





Stay Informed and Keep Current

Hello Hoosiers!

As the FUSE administration wraps up its first month in office, we are thrilled to bring you the first edition of the monthly Indiana University Student Government newsletter, *The Informed Student!* We are dedicated to keeping you connected and informed with everything you need to know about IUSG, right at your fingertips. On the last day of every month, you can dive into detailed updates on our initiatives, discover our upcoming events, learn how to access essential campus resources, and so much more! In this edition, you can meet your new student body president and vice president, see what FUSE has done in their first 30 days in office, learn how to get involved in Congress, and more!

Fuse team

IUSG 2024-2025 Administration



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// FUSE is in office

Cooper Tinsley and Nicole Santiuste are your 77th IU Student Body President and Vice President! FUSE has continued its work in Fostering belonging, Unifying campus, and Supporting & Empowering the student body.



Cooper Tinsley **Student Body President**

"I am excited to be your student body president because we've seen a concerning rise in attacks on the fundamental principles of higher education. With so much at stake, it's crucial that we come together to fight for our collective interests. I am confident that our administration can lead IUSG and the student body into a better tomorrow where all students can be just that, a student."



Cooper is a rising junior from Westfield, IN, majoring in Biotechnology with a minor in Political Science and a certificate in the Business of Life Sciences. A fun fact about him is that he has a really good impression of the donkey from Shrek!

Nicole Santiuste **Student Body Vice President**

"I am excited to be your student body vice president because I am genuinely committed to unifying our student community and uplifting student voices. Having served in student government for two years, I understand that it can foster meaningful change and growth. My goal is to empower every student, ensuring that each voice is valued and every individual feels included and supported. This is your campus where you deserve to feel seen and heard."



Nicole is a rising junior from Houston, TX, double majoring in International Law and Institutions and Political Science. A fun fact about her is that she loves to hike but is scared of heights!

DAY 1 IN OFFICE

On day 1, the FUSE administration did exactly what they promised. On April 25, 2024, Congress received a comprehensive reform package to enhance several key areas of executive governance and notice of the following:

MULTICULTURAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

The Multicultural Advisory Council will advise the FUSE administration on matters pertaining to multicultural student affairs, assist in informed policy development, help provide a sense of community and belonging, and promote collaboration and advocacy. It will comprise representatives from cultural centers and multicultural organizations.

POLITICAL ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE

The Political Engagement Committee will promote active participation in the democratic process by engaging the student body through educational events, voter registration drives, and facilitating discussions on key political issues. They aim to empower students to become informed and active citizens, ensuring their voices are heard at local, state, and national levels.

DEPARTMENT OF STUDENT RIGHTS

The Department of Student Rights advocates for and protects student rights on campus by representing student perspectives on hearing committees, conducting comprehensive reviews of IU policies related to student rights, and delivering regular educational programming to empower students with knowledge of their rights and available resources.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

The Department of Transportation and Infrastructure works to optimize parking resources, enhance public transportation, lead the implementation of more bike lanes, and develop micromobility options to promote sustainable and safe transportation.

INDIANA GRAD WORKERS COALITION

The FUSE Administration acknowledges the Indiana Grad Workers Coalition as the graduate bargaining body and its concerns regarding living wages and fair treatment for graduate student workers. Furthermore, FUSE reaffirmed their commitment to shared governance, dialogue, and cooperation with IGWC.

BUREAU OF GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

The Bureau of Government Relations will manage IUSG relations with city, state, federal, and university entities, as well as any other governing body that contributes to IUB's principles of shared governance.

Make sure to follow us on Instagram [@iustudentgov](#) for updates on how to apply for a seat in our Multicultural Advisory Council and Political Engagement Committee. Organizations may apply for a seat annually at any time once applications open.

DAY 30 IN OFFICE

FUSE promised that within 30 days of taking office, they would start the endowment of a fund to safeguard DEI programs and initiate an IU Accessibility Mapping Project. Once again, that is exactly what they did. Today, and every day forward, FUSE's commitment to taking action to realize an ever-stronger University remains steadfast.

DEI FUND MANAGER

FUSE has officially started the process of endowing a DEI fund with IU Foundation and is actively seeking donors. This fund will be managed by a dedicated fund manager to oversee and sustain its mission. By establishing this fund, FUSE aims to safeguard DEI programs and scholarships from potential state funding cuts, ensuring the continued support and growth of DEIA initiatives.

STUDENT HEALTH FUND MANAGER

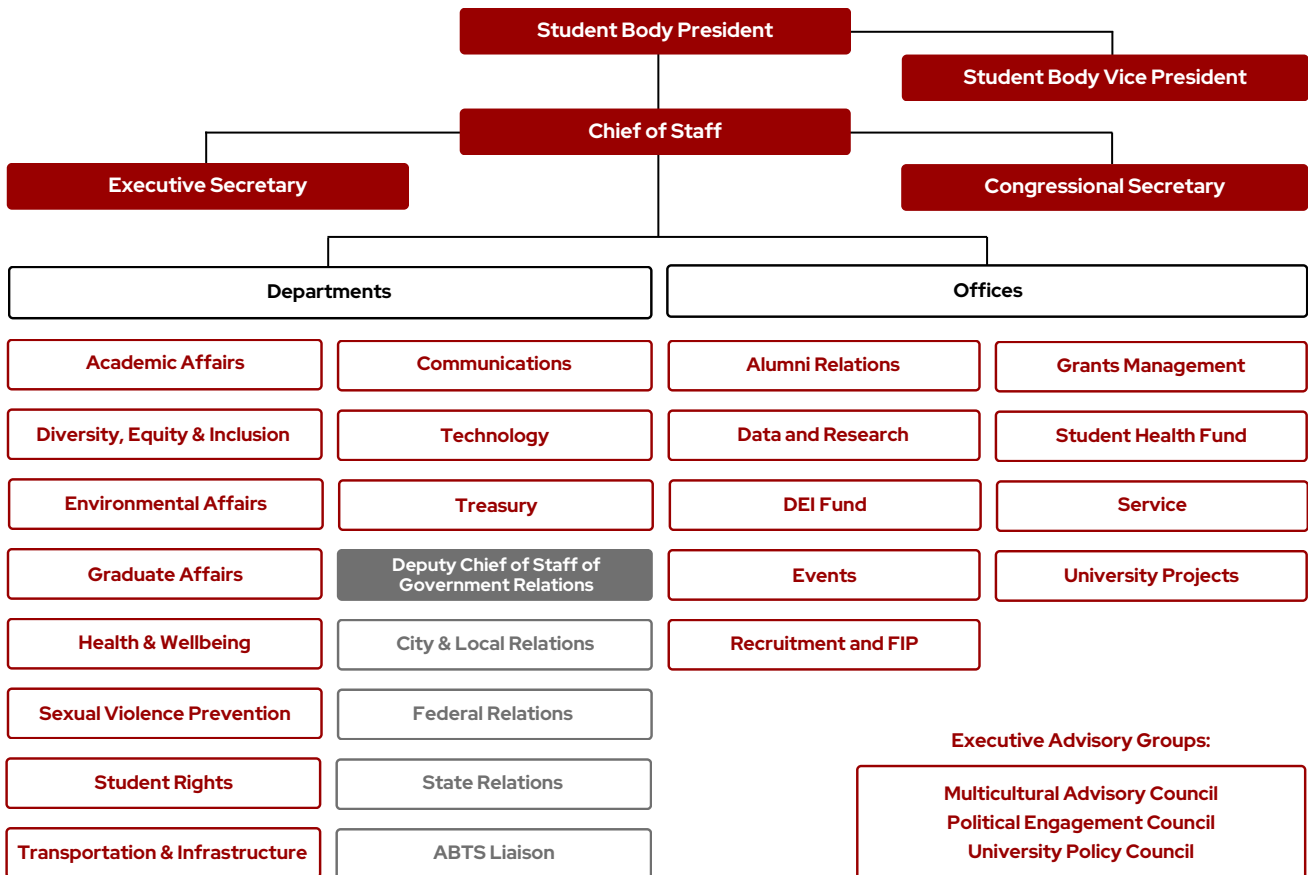
To guarantee the long-term success of the Student Health Fund, established in 2022, it will be overseen by a dedicated fund manager. This role is designed to uphold the fund's mission and ensure its sustainability. By having a fund manager, FUSE aims to meet the increasing demand for accessible healthcare resources and expand its impact.

INDOOR MAPPING PROJECT

Inspired by the success of UPenn's Accessibility Mapping Project, the FUSE administration is exploring a potential Indoor Mapping Project to identify and address physical barriers across IU buildings. This initiative focuses on resolving issues such as blocked pathways, poorly placed ramps, and malfunctioning elevators, advocating for practical solutions to ensure everyone can navigate campus spaces with ease and equity. These efforts highlight a forward-thinking approach to accessibility, tackling immediate concerns while laying the groundwork for long-term improvements.



Executive Branch



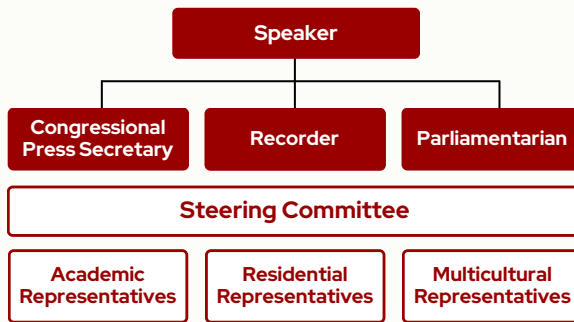
The Student Body President, Vice President, and Executive Chief of Staff comprise the core executive team. This team is the overarching leadership of IUSG’s executive branch. Their responsibilities include meeting regularly with administrators, obtaining student input, and representing the organization externally.

The Executive Branch includes the executive team and secretaries leading the departments and offices above. Together, the Executive Branch develops and coordinates various programs, services, and events to enhance the student experience, fostering collaboration and engagement among students, faculty, staff, and the broader community.



Press the QR code to check out the ongoing policy initiatives and projects of the FUSE Administration!

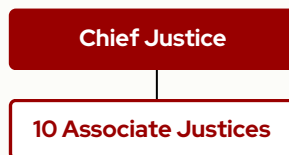
Congress



Congress is the legislative branch of IUSG. It sets official IUSG policy, advocates on behalf of IU students, directs programs and initiatives, establishes structures and processes for other branches, and reviews the Student Body President's nominees for cabinet and judicial positions. Additionally, Congress determines how IUSG funds are allocated.



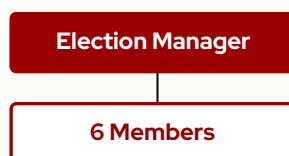
Supreme Court



The Supreme Court is the judicial branch of IUSG. The Court works on behalf of students to keep elections honest, represent the student voice on university committees, and hear cases from the university judicial system.



Election Commission



The Election Commission works to provide fair and equal opportunities for all IUSG members to run for Congressional and Executive offices. The commission acts to fairly, unbiasedly, and uniformly enact the IUSG Election Code and increase awareness of IUSG during elections.





APPLY TO CONGRESS

Any interested student who is a constituent of a vacant district is encouraged to apply! The following Congressional districts currently have one or more vacancies:

- Graduate & Professional Education (All non-undergrad degree programs)
- Jacobs School of Music
- Luddy School of Informatics, Computing, and Engineering
- Schools of Nursing, Public Health, & Social Work (Undergrad)
- University Division (Undergrad)
- School of Education
- Off-Campus Housing
- On-Campus Apartment Housing
- Greek Housing



Press the QR code to apply and find more information. Successful applicants will be expected to commit about 3-5 hours per week to the role, including a required weekly meeting on Monday nights in the IMU and another weekly meeting, depending on their committee assignment.

Passed in Congress *May 2024*

Regular Session of the 2024 IU Student Body Congress

CONGRESS ENROLLED ACT No. 1009

Be it enacted by the students of Indiana University in Congress assembled:

On May 23, 2024, Congress passed Bill No. 1009, authored by Representative Elizabeth Conley, which **provided increased funding for emergency contraceptives** at the IU Health Center,

In each newsletter, we will highlight student-focused Congress bills that have passed during the month. However, you can access IUSG records and full versions of all Congress bills at any time on our website iustudentgovernment.indiana.edu



MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH

Mental Health Awareness Month, established in 1949, aims to raise awareness about the importance of mental health and wellness and to celebrate recovery from mental illness. Whether you are focusing on taking care of yourself or going through a difficult time, IU has a wide variety of resources to serve you.

- IU students have FREE, 24/7 access to virtual care services with TimelyCare. Students do not need insurance to access these services.
- IU students can access the ThrivingCampus directory to make connecting with off-campus, long-term mental health care easier.
- Browse resources to stay socially connected, healthy (physically & mentally), active, and safe at healthy.iu.edu
- Nationwide emergency helplines
 - Dial 988 to reach the confidential Suicide & Crisis Lifeline
 - Text HOME to 741741 to connect with a confidential volunteer Crisis Counselor



PRESS THE QR CODE TO FIND RESOURCES



ASIAN AMERICAN & PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH

AAPI Heritage Month is an annual celebration that recognizes the historical and cultural contributions of individuals and groups of Asian and Pacific Islander descent to the United States. The AAPI umbrella term includes cultures from the entire Asian continent—including East, Southeast, and South Asia—and the Pacific Islands of Melanesia, Micronesia, and Polynesia. Cynthia Choi, co-founder of Stop AAPI Hate, says the month is a time to speak out, share stories, and debunk myths about Asian communities. But it's not the only time to celebrate Asian culture or diversity. This year's theme is "Advancing Leaders Through Innovation," which encourages local and national governments to prioritize collaboration, development, diversity, transparency, and inclusion through leadership training of AAPI people all year long.



PRESS THE QR CODE TO LEARN MORE



JEWISH AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

Jewish American Heritage Month celebrates the American Jewish community's achievements, history, culture, and diversity. In April 2006, President George W. Bush announced that May would be Jewish American Heritage Month to commemorate the arrival of the first Jewish immigrants to America in May 1654, marking the beginning of a rich history of Jewish contributions to American society. This month offers an opportunity to honor these accomplishments and reflect on current challenges, particularly the urgent need to address the rise of antisemitism. IUSG condemns antisemitism as well as all forms of bigotry and discrimination. We are committed to working closely with Jewish student organizations and all students to combat antisemitism and implement educational programs that enhance awareness of Jewish culture and history.



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CINCO DE MAYO

Cinco de Mayo is often mistaken for Mexican Independence Day, but in reality, it commemorates the single victory of the Mexican army over the French forces on May 5, 1862, during the Battle of Puebla in the Franco-Mexican War. Cinco de Mayo is celebrated more widely in the United States than in Mexico, where it has evolved into a vibrant celebration of Mexican culture, heritage, and traditions. Across the nation, Cinco de Mayo is celebrated with parades, live music performances, traditional folk dances like the Jarabe Tapatío (Mexican Hat Dance), and Mexican cuisines such as Molé, Chilaquiles, and Barbacoa. Beyond the festivity, Cinco de Mayo holds a deeper significance – “It serves as a symbol of the unwavering resilience and determination of the Mexican people in the face of adversity.”



[PRESS THE QR CODE TO LEARN MORE](#)





MEMORIAL DAY

In 1971, Congress declared Memorial Day a federal holiday to be observed on the last Monday of every May. Originally known as Decoration Day, Memorial Day began on May 30, 1868, as a tradition of decorating graves with flowers, wreaths, and flags to commemorate the sacrifices of Civil War soldiers. However, over time, Memorial Day has evolved to remember and honor the brave men and women who have died while serving in the US military. In 2000, Congress established the National Moment of Remembrance, encouraging all Americans to pause for one minute at 3 p.m. on Memorial Day to reflect on and honor the sacrifices of those who died in service to our country. To all who have served, thank you.



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IU FUN FACTS

**MAY
EDITION**

- In May 1969, the Herman B Wells Library, the main library on campus, officially opened its doors.
- In May 1975, the Student Health Center opened, providing comprehensive health services and promoting the well-being of the university community.
- In May 1987, the iconic Sample Gates, were dedicated.
- In May 2009, IU established its Office of Sustainability, dedicated to promoting environmental stewardship and sustainable practices across campus.
- In May 2011, the IU Cinema, a state-of-the-art film venue, was inaugurated.
- In May 2014, IU launched the Global Gateway Network, a series of international offices designed to enhance the university's global engagement and partnerships.





Learn more

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*Indiana University's Student
Government monthly newsletter.*