Wassup IU family,

Thank you so much for taking the time to read the 2021 Midyear report of the Elevate Administration. I am beyond proud of the diligent work of the Executive directors. They have poured themselves into working on behalf of the student body this year to reimagine a new normal. This semester we have navigated unforeseen and unprecedented adversities, however we as a student body have remained resilient. We have sought to create a valuable college experience to increase students’ sense of belonging. In spite of this our semester has looked very different given we are still navigating a global pandemic, increasing public safety concerns and serious mental health challenges as we as a campus have shifted gears
as we transition back to in person learning by complying with the mask and vaccine mandate.

I am proud to say that IUSG has committed to being accessible due to the ever changing landscape by accommodating the community with hybrid flexible meetings and increased social media engagement. In doing so, our work continues, and everyday the wellbeing of all students at IU is at the forefront of our minds and advocacy efforts.

Entering the remainder of the 2021-2022 academic year, our directors will continue to make progress with their on-going initiatives and remain alert to any forthcoming issues that arise in their policy areas. Go Hoosiers!

Best,

Ky & Madeline
Increasing campus awareness of culture centers on campus was a priority of the Elevate administration. Through our Cultural Heritage Month Awareness initiative we focused IUSG’s resources and campus involvement towards the events and celebrations hosted at La Casa, LGBTQ+ Culture Center and First Nations.

Commencing on September 15th, we started National Hispanic Heritage Month by providing $1,500 for T-Shirts, button and stickers to promote the visibility of La Casa on-campus. Additionally, to support students seeking representative literature, we purchased 75 copies of "Juliet Take a Breath" by Gabby Rivera. Gabby served as the Keynote speaker in the IMU Whittenberger Auditorium on October 13th speaking on the intersection of race and sexuality.

In October, we celebrated LGBTQ+ History Month in October by providing the cultural center with extra stickers, buttons, and mini safety flashlights to give out to students around campus.

Lastly, during Native American Heritage Month, we helped the internal transfer of $2,000 from the Student Involvement and Leadership Center to the First Nations Cultural Center. November is a time to celebrate rich and diverse cultures, traditions, histories and to acknowledge the important contributions of Native people. In doing so, President Ky Freeman joined Steven Paul Judd, a Native American (Kiowa-Choctaw) artist, at the interactive painting event and spent time conversing with the leaders of the First Nations Cultural Center.
Title IX and Sexual Misconduct

The safety of our students overall wellbeing has hallmarked as one of the most pressing concerns of our administration. In navigating unprecedented times and virtual learning, a serious low number of first-year students completed It’s On Us Bystander Intervention training. In turn, increased crime notices on sexual assaults reported through the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act sparked conversations around specific and generalized locations listed in crime reports and a petition with over 12,000 signatures.

The decision on what information is included or removed from IU Notifications always protect the individual reporting the assault. If there is information that would identify or jeopardize the reporting individual, the notice will generalize the location to protect them. If exact locations were used, regardless of how it affected the person who experienced the behavior and regardless of whether it would reduce the threat, it could contribute to less reporting overall. Each crime alert regarding sexual assault is evaluated by multiple university official with communication to the person making the report, and in compliance with federal regulations.

Clery Geography Reporting

In striking a balancing between Federal policies with the requests of students, President Ky Freeman recommended to the Public Service and Institutional Assurance Office the option of reporting campus neighborhoods in crime notices rather than general locations such as "a residential hall." The office led the charge in reviewing and improving their processes and will be reporting their findings and developments in a report to IUSG at the end of the month.

New Student Orientation (NSO) Bystander Intervention Training

The first 6 weeks of college are the most dangerous time for sexual assault. More than 50 percent of college sexual assaults occur in the first six weeks of classes, a time known as the "red zone." At Indiana University-Bloomington, first year students may not receive It's On Us training until mid-fall semester or as late as spring semester. Mandating continuous education on consent and bystander intervention for all students is a priority we continue to advocate for, but searching for opportunities to lower the risk of the "red zone" was necessary and needed quickly.

Through our meetings with Interim Provost John Applegate and Vice Provost for Student Affairs and Dean of Students Dave O'Guinn, we secured promises from the Office of the Provost and First Year Experiences to implement training into all New Student Orientations (NSO). As incoming students take their first steps on-campus the summer prior to Welcome Week, they will receive critical knowledge on consent communication, harm reduction strategies around substance use, and empower themselves and their peers in helping prevent sexual violence, particularly in situations involving alcohol and drug use.
MCGC Structural Awareness

Sororities and fraternities have been part of Indiana University since 1845 and more than 8,000 students are members of the IU Bloomington sorority and fraternity community. Out of the four Fraternity and Sorority councils, three of them have structural space on-campus. The Interfraternity Council (IFC) and Panhellenic Council (PHC) have houses on North Jordan Avenue and 3rd Street, and the National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC) has plaques behind the Neal Marshall displaying the foundations and histories of the Divine Nine. There's a growing need to increase campus awareness and appreciation of the Multicultural Greek Council (MCGC) through a physical presence on-campus and we saw the need to support the council is drawing great awareness to the philanthropic, educational programming and supportive environments MCGC brings to campus. The council advocated for this initiative in year's past and IUSG has committed to support them in their call for construction.

In conjunction with the Office of Capital Planning and Facilities and its Vice President, Thomas Morrison, an examination of reimagining campus spaces and gardens for its possible placement is underway. Funding for the project is expected to be fulfilled through the Dean of Students Office, IUSG and MCGC.

Movies for Mental Health

Movies for Mental Health is an arts-based mental health workshop that focuses on empowering students to gain a better understanding of mental health within their environment. Knowing that art speaks the language of our interior worlds, three incredibly touching short films will explore the vital topic of mental health.

The event also connected students with mental health resources available to them, including a discussion from panelists: Luciana Guardini, LCSW - Licensed Clinical Social Worker, Therapist, Outreach Coordinator for IU CAPS, Sally Thomas - IU Director for Sexual Violence Prevention and Victim Advocacy, and Madeline Dederichs - IU Student Body Vice President.
Syllabus Repository

Status of project: In progress

Academic Affairs began this project by researching past initiatives for syllabi repositories proposed at IU. This led them to a great contact, Alan Bender, a retired IU professor, who previously discussed the potential of this initiative with prior IU students. He sent us great amount of information on current systems at other universities including Princeton University who pay for a ‘Simple Syllabus’ management system. After brainstorming potential criteria for syllabi submitted to a future repository, we prosed the initiative to the Office of Completion and Student Success Committee to see if they would be interested in helping us gather student feedback and eventually bringing the idea to the Bloomington Faculty Council (BFC). The committee agreed and we are now currently working on drafting a proposal with the help of faculty and students across all of IU’s campuses. We plan on completing this draft by the end of Spring 2022 and presenting the initiative to the BFC.

Mental Health Days

Status of project: In progress

The idea for this initiative came after we noticed the revocation of mental health days included into the IU calendar to help students last school year. We wanted to find a way to support students dealing with mental health challenges by discussing the potential inclusion of mental health excused absences from classes with faculty. We began by meeting with DeeDee Dayhoff who used to work as a CAPS therapist but now works as Assistant Dean for Student Services. She suggested it would be very hard to find any faculty members willing to work with us and/or implement mental health days. This is because some professors already have strict attendance policies and it would be difficult to distinguish which students legitimately need a mental health day between those who would abuse the policy. She also mentioned that mental health is often an ongoing issue that would not be solved by a mental health absence from class. We believe it would be beneficial for faculty to provide the option of a few mental health-related absences from class to support students while also providing them with mental health resources after requesting an excuse. Currently, we are still trying to connect with faculty who might be receptive to implementing an initiative like this in their classroom.
Increasing Funding for International Scholarships
Status of project: Recently started
After talking with current and prospective international students we noticed a shortage of international student scholarships. We believe it would benefit IU to find ways to fund more scholarships for international students who are in need of financial assistance and who may not be able to leave the constraints in their country without it. We took the first steps of researching the currently available scholarships and reached out to the Office of International Services to set up a meeting. We hope to discuss this idea further and brainstorm possible ways we could make this happen.

Financial Assistance for Internship Required for Graduation
Status of project: In progress
This was our largest and most challenging project over the first half of this year. Since this is an initiative that many previous administrations have worked on, we were able to inherit some data collected on campus-wide internships required for graduation from Martha Oakley. She informed us that most students in schools like Kelley reported that they were able to easily find paid internships to fulfill their graduation requirements and those who worked unpaid internships did not struggle to cover the costs. She reported that all student complaints on this issue came from the College of Arts and Sciences, specifically physics majors, who often could not find paid internship positions and struggled to justify paying for a graduation requirement. This redirected our attention to the College where we are still collecting data on its six majors which require internship credit for graduation. We have heard back from two faculty members for two of the six of these degrees and are waiting to hear back from the other four. We hope to finishing collecting the data so we can meet with department heads to discuss ways to financially support these students.

Student Evaluations
Status of project: In progress
The Online Course Questionnaire, or OCQ, is unfortunately an incredibly ineffective tool to evaluate the classroom experience. After speaking to the Center for Innovative Teaching & Learning, we agreed that we needed answers to three important questions. First, how effective are current evaluation processes in modifying teaching and learning? Second, are there alternatives to the OCQ that are being considered right now? Third and finally, are underrepresented professors being unfairly evaluated? We are currently in conversation with the Office of the Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education (OVPUE) and a couple department heads to work on a new way to conduct student evaluations. We hope to be able to pilot a new student evaluation form and lay the foundation for a better mechanism in the future so that both students and faculty can optimize learning.
Bloomington Faculty Council: Academic Misconduct Policy

Status of Project: Advocacy completed

The advocacy committee sat on the BFC Student Affairs committee and created changes to the academic misconduct policy. Through this work, we were able to form a more comprehensible policy for students and a more just process. Proposed changes to the academic misconduct procedure included:

- Defining the time frame as (X) business days instead of (X) days.
- The language change allows both students and faculty to understand the time frame better.
- Shortening the time frame for professors to report academic misconduct
- Changing general language so the document can be more accessible and understandable by students.
- Changes to the award criteria/selection for students with prior conduct incidents or disciplinary actions
- The council decided this would not be in the best interest of students. This action would also go against the Office of Students Affairs philosophy of giving students the chance to learn from poor choices, recommit to IU’s values, and move forward.

Additionally, I advocated for more reasonable accommodations for students impacted by COVID-19, elevated issues related to public transportation on-campus, and classroom policies impacting students such as mandatory attendance.

IU Dining Shortages

Status of Project: In progress

Due to the issues facing IU Students at the beginning of the semester regarding food shortage, excessive wait times, and food safety, the advocacy organized a meeting with IU Dining and RPS. We were able to understand the issue better and provide solutions. To reduce the stress on employees and maintain more control over food demands, Grubhub was removed from popular dining restaurants. The advocacy committee advised IU Dining to create solutions for the high turnover rate for students. Those suggestions were to increase the minimum wage, provide more internship credits for students, and offer student-employee parking.
Hoosiers Against Sexual Assault

Status of project: Advocacy completed

The advocacy committee’s goal was to make students more aware of ways to advocate for themselves and to increase IUSG’s presence in events that centered on advocacy. During this time, we were able to help students coordinate the Hoosiers Against Sexual Assault Protest. Before the protest, the advocacy committee helped advise the organizers on protest strategy and safety. I was present for multiple meetings with the organizers and worked with other organizations and community leaders to expand the protest. I also secured the location and technical equipment. I also ensured that we met the required safety measures for the demonstration. The day before the advocacy committee, I partnered with Black Student Union to provide supplies and space for students to create protest signs. Overall I served as the communication liaison between the organizers and IUSG, which ensured that we could provide them with as much support as possible.

Student Involvement Leadership Center: Community Engagement Series

Status of project: Advocacy completed

SILC’S Community Engagement Series invited Bloomington leaders from both the local and campus community to discuss important issues such as housing insecurity, food insecurity, and climate change. These events provided students with a space to learn how to make an impact as a college student when dealing with these community problems.
Reflect and Strategize with Local Govt. Leaders

Status: Completed / In Progress

In the past few months, we have remained dedicated to meeting with local government leaders in our community in order to gain an understanding of their perspectives on student engagement and seek advice on our future initiatives. I believe this process has served our committee by allowing us to better tackle student engagement and develop the best course of action. We have met with over half of the Bloomington City Council, Mary Catherine Carmichael (the Director of Public Engagement for the Mayor’s Office), and multiple other government/IU leaders.

Networking Event Between Student Leaders and Local Govt. Leaders

Status: Planning In Progress

We were in the process of planning a networking event in which student leaders can connect with our community leaders before we were instructed to stop working on initiatives. In an attempt to help student leaders/organizations make the changes they are advocating for, we want to create an event in which they can seek advice and strategize with the people who work on similar issues day-to-day. A large number of govt. leaders have already expressed interest in this event and some have even committed, contingent on their availability. Even for students who do not currently have an issue they wish to discuss, this event acts as a great opportunity for the future leaders of our world to learn how to talk to government officials and network.
Bi-Weekly Local Govt. Update Newsletter

Status: In progress

After speaking with many government leaders, it was clear that most of them felt that there was a great disconnect between IU Students and information at the local govt. level. Some expressed concern that students were not being equipped with the right information to succeed in participating in local politics and we agreed. This upcoming semester our committee plans to develop a bi-weekly newsletter that will give students information on topics ranging from, upcoming elections/policies/legislation to City Council agendas to volunteer/internship/involvement opportunities. Additionally, after speaking to student leaders across campus and polling underclassmen on this issue, we found that there is a vast pool of students who want to play a role in our local government but feel discouraged by their lack of resources or information to do so. Some govt. members have expressed that they would love to receive these newsletters as well as students and would be interested in helping us with what information goes on in the newsletters. I think this would be a great step towards building a bridge between students and their local government. In addressing the issue of having students actually see/read these newsletters, we hope to work with student leaders across campus to spread them in addition to us emailing them.
DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION

JOA'QUINN GRIFFIN
AGNESS LUNGU

The DEI Committee of Indiana University Student Government (IUSG) Executive Branch understands that being a student at a Predominantly White Institution (PWI) for many of the students that we serve may be a difficult thing to grasp and transition into. Furthermore, we recognize how recent events of our nation’s near past and present; Black Lives Matter, Police Violence, Transphobia, and Covid-19 to name a few, have made it more difficult to be a student at a large, public, PWI. With this in mind, the DEI Committee has worked to make Indiana University more diverse, but more importantly stressing the importance of becoming more inclusive, and equitable, through our initiatives, efforts, and advocacy for our constituents. While achieving campus partnerships, and community partnerships we plan to make Indiana University feel like home for all of our students; by increasing representation through staff, faculty, and culture, by increasing stability through food/dining, housing, and well-being, and by increasing access to resources and opportunities. Persevering through a difficult fall semester of 2021, we plan to continue our duties and uphold the IUSG constitution of making our university and organization more diverse.

Partnerships and Student Organization Support

In our efforts to bridge social, racial, and economic gaps and to spread awareness. We have developed progressing relationships

Office of Diversity, Equity, and Multicultural Affairs & The Division of Student Affairs
- Supported the efforts of an Anti-Bias Campaign that will take place in Spring of 2022 in collaboration with The United Council For Equity.

Student Involvement & Leadership Center
- Community Engagement: Panel Series
- Joa’Quinn Griffin: Moderator on the topic of sustainability

Multicultural Greek Council
- Continuing to work with MCGC to find a location on campus to establish a structural presence where students that are a part of an MCGC Organization can have representation.
Hillel Jewish Cultural Center  
-IUSG Sponsored a Speaker Event provided a viewing location of the virtual event.  
IU Athletics  
- Establishing a relationship and need with the IU Athletics to get athletes more involved in student life and Social Justice.

Present at Events Hosted By:  
-African Student Association  
-You See Me  
-CommUNITY Educators  
-Neal-Marshall Black Culture Center  
-Hillel Jewish Culture Center  
-LBGTQ+ Culture Center  
-Diversity, Equity, and Multicultural Affairs  
-Division of Student Affairs  
-Student Involvement and Leadership Center  
-Office Of The President

Chief of IU Police Department Community Advisory Board

Joa'Quinn meets with the Chief of IUPD, Jill Lees, as well as the rest of her community advisory board on the 3rd Wednesday of each month. Discussion topics under the umbrella of campus safety including: Title IX and sexual assaults, community policing and tactics, and university-wide and statewide law enforcement policies.

Committee for Parking Appeals

Joa'Quinn sits on the committee for parking appeals as a student representative for the student body. In this role, he can vote for the approval or rejection of a parking appeal from the Campus Community. While this position requires him to hold peers accountable, he choose to advocate on behalf of students by relaying a call for understanding of circumstances that staff or faculty may not be knowledgable of.

DEI Checklist

Status of project: In progress

Over the past decade, Indiana University as a whole and Indiana Bloomington both have become more socially aware and visually diverse, while this is a great step in the right direction, there is still work to be done. Work like: more representation in the classroom, more opportunities for students from underrepresented communities, and becoming more culturally diverse.
In collaboration with the Executive Committee for Advocacy, we will be forming a DEI Assessment to establish the diversity in our Organization in hopes to increase awareness of the needs of the community by increasing the representation as student repertoires. The checklist will serve as a reminder for organizations when making a decision to ensure equity and inclusion for diverse results. This overall goal ultimately strives to equip organizations with tools of success so that at some point they will not have to go over the checklist when making decisions because DEI will have become a part of their decision-making process.

Until we have developed adequate strategies to pass bills, restructure the constitution/organization, and get policies changed at the university level our numbers of diversity will continue to suffer, growing at turtle speed.

However, you must incorporate Equity, and Inclusion for these things to be sustainable.

**IU Foreign Language Policy**

Status of project: In progress

The College of Arts and Sciences here at IU asks that students consider the following options to fulfill their foreign language requirement: 4 semesters of a foreign language, 2 semesters of world cultures classes, take a proficiency test for the languages available at IU or study abroad to graduate. For most international students, these requirements are already satisfied with their enrollment at IU by studying abroad on our campus, partaking in a new culture throughout their collegiate experience and, for many, English is not their first language. However, since IU only offers tests for languages they offer, many students with languages that are not in IU’s curriculum like native americans have no way of proving their proficiency in another language. Upon researching the issue in detail, we discovered that the office of International Services offers a form for students to apply to be deemed as compliant. However, they require that the student prove that they took their high school education in a language other than English or have proof of another language on their high school transcript. This is great as it allows some students to avoid the redundant requirements however it is largely unknown to students. In addition, it still excludes people who come from countries where language classes were taken in
primary school. For example, in my country, Zambia, I only took nyanja lessons in primary school as they believe languages are better learned at a younger age. However, since the language is not on my highschool transcript, I cannot satisfy that requirement. Therefore, We tried having conversations with different Deans and the feedback we got is that it is not possible to change the policy but individual deans from IU’s schools can make an exception for certain students. However, we had a meeting with the Dean of the Luddy School of Informatics, Computing and Engineering and they said they had no power over that policy. Hence the committee is still trying to find the right people to help advance conversations in this area.

Stop Bias Campaign

Status of project: In progress

In my role as director, I also sat on the united council for equity leadership team with Cedric Harris, the Assistant Dean for Student Support and Bias Education, and his team. In one meeting with him, he mentioned the alarming number of bias reports received in the first month of the fall 2021 semester. I came up with the idea of making a campaign making a statement that we do not accept bias of any form on campus targeted against any group in the student population. The committee and my co-director took on this idea with warm hands. We worked together to map out a plan of action and focused our ideas to target specific groups in our campaign. We ended up with a plan to hold a one week campaign where we want to not only make a statement about bias on campus, but allow students to become more aware but we want to educate students on steps to take in bias situations. We want to equip students with resources on how to handle and report bias as well as how to be a good bystander in an incidence of bias.
Double Pell Campaign
Status: In Progress

Jack and Ariel met with IU Assistant Vice President for Federal Relations Doug Wasitis to discuss the University’s and IUSG’s campaign to support doubling the federal reward given to recipients of the Pell Grant. The two contemporary legislative avenues for this policy in the U.S. Congress were: (A) a mostly Democratic-sponsored bill that would double the Pell Grant and tie the reward to inflation, and (B) the Build Back Better budget reconciliation package's education funding, which could be used for increasing the Pell Grant. In the case of the first bill, it enjoyed no bipartisan support and there were no plans in the news of having it brought to the Senate or House floor for a vote. In the case of the second bill, there was some contention as funding for free universal community college was preferred by the House Education Committee over an increase in the Pell Grant. Wasitis argued that the community college program would have little impact on educational attainment since many states already have statewide low-cost or free community college, and this federal program would require stateside funding, which was not guaranteed for every state in the country. However, this debate is in limbo as the Build Back Better bill seems to be dead in the water in the U.S. Senate. In the future, Jack will try to meet with Doug Wasitis again to see if there has been any updates on his front in Washington DC. Jack also met with Representative Trey Hollingsworth (R, IN-09) to discuss the possibility of bipartisan support for legislation to increase the Pell Grant reward. Rep. Hollingsworth pushed back and opposed this policy in favor of alternative post-secondary education (such as trade school or apprenticeships). However, the meeting did establish a relationship between the Committee and the Representative’s office.

Athlete Name and Image Likeness Rights
Status: Indefinitely Paused

Ariel and Jack met with Scott Dolson (the IU Athletic Director), Jeremy Gray, and Rebecca Pany (both Senior Associate Athletic Directors) to discuss name and image likeness (NIL) for student athletes. In this meeting, the Directors learned about the various issues surrounding NIL following the recent Supreme Court decision and NCAA policy changes. This initiative was also mostly a passion of Ariel, and with her resignation, Jack will be likely shifting focus towards other initiatives.
Meeting with State and Federal Leaders

Status: In Progress

Over the course of the first semester, both Directors held meetings with legislators to discuss IUSG priorities. Early in the semester, Jack and Ariel met with State Senator Shelli Yoder to discuss her legislative agenda in the coming sessions. As mentioned earlier, Jack also met with Rep. Trey Hollingsworth to discuss the Pell Grant campaign. In the future, Jack hopes to meet with other politicians in Indiana on both a state and federal level to talk about certain issues/initiatives, as well as to establish relationships between IUSG and their offices.

Campus Transportation Policy and Safety Committee

Status: Complete/In Progress

While not directly falling under the responsibilities of Government Relations Director, Jack was appointed to be the student representative to the Campus Transportation Policy and Safety Committee. This group was composed of a number of local and campus officials responsible for public works, transportation, and public safety. In this group's only meeting of the first semester, Jack raised up concerns about pedestrian and cyclist safety on campus. He later had a subsequent meeting with Anna Dragovich, the Transportation Demand Management Coordinator at Indiana University to discuss ways to increase bicycle use on campus and how student government could promote it.
HEALTH AND WELLBEING

abby dearmitt
kaitlyn rourke

Student Health Center Funding

Status: In Progress

The Health Center is not directly funded by the university (except for about $270,000 per year for the salary of four counselors hired by a task force under McRobbie in 2017). 55-60% of its total revenue is from the student health fee, and the rest is from fees paid for services. The budget for the Health Center is about $15-16 million per year, and the Health Center ended FY20 with a loss of close to $2 million. The Health Center is currently operating at maximum capacity for visits per day for both medical visits and CAPS appointments and still struggles to meet student demand for services. All of this information is directly from Pete Grogg, the current executive director of the Health Center.

On October 13, Abby and Kaitlyn met with Pete Grogg at the health center. Some main takeaways:

(1) Grogg explained that he does not want to increase the student health fee because students already pay a lot in tuition and other fees, but the Health Center still needs a way to increase revenue.
(2) His solution is to expand contracts with insurance providers to expand coverage. This was soft-implemented in the Fall of 2021, with the added coverage for patients under Cigna, Aetna, United, Humana, and more.
(3) In addition to charging more insurances, Grogg explained that by taking more advantage of a student's insurance by raising the sticker price but billing a larger portion to the insurance provider; while this does save the student money in the long run, it will be interesting to see what immediate reaction is to raised prices.
(4) Increased revenue was discussed and Grogg's plan is to invest any profit directly back into student programs.

Goals for spring semester:

a) Meet with Pete Grogg again to see how implementation of the new insurance model is working/how it is affecting students in practice.

b) Discuss/brainstorm other options to increase revenue (such as a student-led push for university funding, a grant from the state, etc.). The Health Center is under the Division of Student Affairs, so we may want to see what Dean Dave knows about hiring processes.

c) Help educate students about concerns with insurance (the Health Center has some info on their website already). The main way we would like to see the increased revenue used is to hire more counselors for CAPS, especially those from diverse backgrounds who can better serve the needs of students in minority communities. This will likely need to be a long-term, multi-year project, so our main goal is to get the ball rolling and make university administrators more aware of this issue now.
Website for IU health and wellbeing resources

Status: In progress

As students, a problem we have consistently run into in our daily lives and even more so as agents of IUSG, is the lack of cross connection between IU student organizations and initiatives in place by administrators. There are an endless amount of resources on campus, but students don’t know about them! It’s our job as Directors of Health and Wellbeing to know about these things, and if even we don’t know these resources exist, how is the average student going to be able to access them?

We have brainstormed with our committee members some of the features we would like to see in this project. While researching ways to set up this website and brainstorming things we think should be included, we came across UMich’s website that lists a variety of resources on their campus. We met with our student government counterpart at UMich, but she did not know much about the website. We also met with Katelyn King, the Advocacy Director of the Queer Student Union, and she said administrators in IU Studios are currently working on a website like this. Additionally, Kaitlyn sits on the health and wellness council, which is a group of administrators and some student leaders who meet once a month to discuss this exact issue.

Goals for spring semester:

a) Meet with the administrators currently working on this project to make sure student voices are being heard in the process. Continue maintaining relationships with Dr. Hayes and Pete Grogg.
b) Meet with the director of the Health and Wellness Council to get more direction.

Referral System for the Health Center

Status: In progress

According to Dr. Denise Hayes the counseling services offered at the Health Center are intended to be a brief therapy model with an average of 4-5 sessions per student. We are concerned that students are not aware of this when they first try to schedule appointments with CAPS because a common concern among students is that it takes too long to get a CAPS appointment. Dr. Hayes’ opinion is that when students say this, they mean they can’t get a weekly appointment with a counselor and are expecting a higher volume of care than CAPS traditionally can handle due to lack of staff and capacity issues. There seems to be a lot of miscommunication when it comes to students’ and administrators’ expectations of what CAPS is supposed to offer. To fix this problem, it may help to improve advertising to better manage student expectations, and also to build a stronger referral network with counselors in the Bloomington community. The Health Center website does mention that CAPS sessions are intended to be short-term, but this information is slightly hard to find. The website also mentions that CAPS has partnered with The Shrink Space, an online referral database, to help with finding off-campus counselors. However, this leaves students to go through an often confusing and difficult process on their own.
Goals for spring semester:
a) Since off-campus resources are unlikely to be made priority on the website we intend to develop with all of the campus resources, students not living on campus are not at all supported in searching for health care in the Bloomington area. Since the Health Center is one of the easiest places for IU students to turn to for receiving care, it’s important to us to educate the administrators and appropriate professionals.
b) We’d like to work on some kind of collaboration between local health professionals to help students navigate this process and raise awareness for the website.

Bridging Gap Between Health Center/DEI and Underrepresented Communities
Status: In progress

CAPS has a general lack of staff from diverse backgrounds, which can negatively impact the experiences of students of color, the LGBTQ+ community, students who speak different languages, and more. Receiving counseling is often an incredibly personal experience that can be made more accessible by increasing the number of staff with backgrounds that students can relate to.
We discussed implementing an advisory board for CAPS as well as a DEI scan by an outside company. Upon meeting with Dr. Hayes, she informed us that both of these things are already in progress. The advisory board is called the Student Diversity Committee, and students are nominated to serve on the committee by the culture centers on campus. The DEI scan is being performed by a company called WillHouse Global, whose mission is to focus on organizational change through a DEI lens. We also met with the culture center directors and other staff from the Office of the Vice Provost For Diversity, Equity, and Multicultural Affairs (OVPDEMA). A major takeaway from that meeting was that “students don’t schedule their crisis,” and are much more likely to seek help in places that are familiar to them. This means that resources and support for mental health in the culture centers and throughout student organizations is essential.

Goals for the spring semester:
a) We would like to work on securing IUSG a seat on the Student Diversity Committee, either for one of the directors of Health and Wellbeing or DEI, or both if possible.
b) We also plan on following up with Dr. Hayes on the progress of the DEI scan. She informed us that the focus groups should have wrapped up by the end of first semester, and a report should be ready to share sometime during the spring semester.
c) We would like the findings of the report to be published and accessible to the entire student body. We think that the results from the focus groups could provide valuable marketing materials.
d) We also want to investigate the training that staff at the culture centers receive in regards to mental health, such as if they receive mental health first aid training. If they do not, we would like to explore options to make that training available to the culture centers’ staff.
All-Gender Restroom Inclusion Project

Maddie is teaming up with the All-Gender Restroom Inclusion Project and the Queer Student Union to collect data on available restrooms on-campus. AGRIP is an effort to increase availability and accessibility of all-gender restrooms on-campus. By sharing this data with the public, students, faculty, and staff at IU can easily find the restrooms they need, and even more so, by presenting our findings to IU administration, the project will advocate for the addition of more restrooms in key parts of campus. There was a kickoff event in the fall semester which taught students how to collect bathroom data and now a report is being worked on. Volunteers received a list of on-campus locations to visit to collect data regarding restrooms’ accessibility, locations and utilities. This data will be used to provide better maps of all-gender restrooms, advocate for additional restroom construction, and ensure these facilities meet the standards of all other on-campus restrooms.

Multicultural Fashion Show

We are partnering with Union Board to plan a multicultural fashion show! The tentative date is for February 23rd and will include a wide variety of participation from all across campus and from around the world. The event will showcase a number of multicultural organizations’ traditional, cultural, and streetwear fashion. All organizations involved will send a few models to dress and walk in the fashion show presenting their outfits to attendees. We are also looking for help in other ways-- we are looking for stage managers, DJs, MCs, ushers, hair, and makeup artists. The fashion show was first a success for IUSG in 2019 so we are excited to bring it back this year!

Expansion of the Lifeline Law

We are looking forward to creating a report for why the Indiana Lifeline law should be expanded to protect the person in need of medical assistance. Currently, the Lifeline Law provides immunity for the crimes of public intoxication, minor in possession, minor in consumption, and similar laws, to persons who identify themselves to law enforcement while seeking medical assistance for a person suffering from an alcohol-related health emergency. After speaking with the the Office of Student
Conduct, the IUPD Chief and impacted students, we have acknowledged that there is a need to amend the policy as we have seen the number of students requiring medical assistance rose heavily in the fall semester.

Supporting International Students affected by COVID-19 policies and procedures

Status of project: In progress

This semester it was extremely important to me to learn from International students what problems they experience with the university in regards to Covid-19. Through this I learned even more problems International students experience with the application process, immunizations, scheduling, and dining here at IU. First, I helped plan and promote a panel about how covid-19 has affected International students. This included three students and two faculty members discussing how IU responded to the financial, travel, and health stress these last two years has brought. From here we all discussed the financial strain it has led and brought needed attention to this to faculty. With my intern this semester we determined these major problems we want to tackle: transportation to and from Chicago airports, ambiguities related to a mandatory TB test upon arrival, unimpactful orientation sessions, and meal plan preferences. This semester I plan to work with Office of First Year Experience to work on changes that can be made so International students do not feel behind.
Carbon Neutral IU
Status: In progress

Carbon neutrality has been a demand of the student body for several years now. Various resolutions calling for the creation and implementation of a climate action plan which includes carbon neutrality have been passed over the last few years including a carbon neutrality resolution from the BFC in spring 2020, a resolution by IUSG in the spring of 2021, and a resolution from GPSG at the same time. Resolutions have also been passed by student and faculty governance at IUPUI and the regional campuses. With a new president now is perhaps the best time to push IU to establish a climate action plan. After consultation with student organizations and faculty, two letters, one from a coalition of student organizations and the other from IU students who attended COP26, were delivered to President Whitten. These letters emphasized the need for IU to have a climate action plan and requested the opportunity to speak to Whitten about these issues. The time of this conversation is still TBD but our aim is to have the first of potentially multiple meetings early in early February. To prepare for this and to better inform and engage the student body the executive sustainability team has been working closely with the congressional Environmental Affairs Committee to plan a sustainability town hall which is currently scheduled for January 22nd.

Divestment
Status: In progress

Like carbon neutrality divestment has long been a demand of the student body. IUSG maintains an observer position on the investment committee of the IU Foundation to continue the conversation around divestment. However, due to the constraints of this position, there is little room to use it to further divestment in a meaningful way without outside help. Fortunately Sunrise Movement has been extremely active on this front and has been leading the push for divestment. The next meeting between Minahil, Leo, and the IUF will be in February which will be a chance to assess if the IUF's position on divestment has changed since the November meeting. We anticipate more public facing action from Sunrise and other student organizations on this issue. Our role can be expected to discuss with the IUF the issue of divestment in order to hopefully make meaningful progress. We will continue to work with student groups as we do not expect the IUF’s position to change in the near future.
Sustainability Social Media & Communication

Status: In Progress

In collaboration with Congress, IUSG sustainability now has its own email. We plan to use this to make information more accessible and to set up social media accounts dedicated to sustainability. These accounts will help us advertise events and connect with the student body.

Sustainability Town Halls

Status: In Progress

The first sustainability town hall of 2022 will be on January 22nd, from 12-2PM and will focus on carbon neutrality and the upcoming discussion with President Whitten. These town halls will be held monthly from here on out. Our long term goal with these events is to revive the Student Sustainability Council which has not actually existed for several years (despite saying so on IU’s website).
Self Defense Classes

Status: In progress

The project to have a series of self defense classes and training is in progress. Tiffany Lau Joa created this project and the action plan to have it implemented. The class will be teaching IU students defensive concepts and techniques against various types of assault as well as easy-to-learn self-defense tactics, and it will provide knowledge for making an educated decision about physical and non-physical options of resistance and physical defense. We hope to have this plan implemented with the help of the SRSC in the spring semester.

Healthy Relationships Week

Status: In progress

This project is a social media campaign that will give IU students information and advice for how to best navigate relationships with strangers, friends, family, colleagues, and significant others. It will also provide resources for students to find more information on how to deal with complex relationships in their lives.

Reporting Avenue Posters

Status: In progress

It can be stressful for students to report sexual assault and this project was created to make that process easier for students. We are wanting to list and clarify the different ways that students can report and show the different outcomes that can result from each reporting route. We believe that posters would be the most accessible way for students to become familiar with the processes in daily life.

Cyber Harassment and Dating App Research

Status: In progress

We had an intern from a previous year compile research about cyber harassment and dating apps. Seoyhun Chung has been simplifying this research to make it more accessible to distribute to students via social media and posters.
Implementation of Congressional Greek Community Consent Training

Status: In progress

The IUSG Congress passed a bill last semester that required all four councils that comprise Greek life to have consent training. We met with the Office of Sorority and Fraternity life to see how these councils decided to meet this requirement. Two councils already had consent training and the other two were implementing theirs in late fall and early spring.

Sexual Violence Prevention Survey

Status: In progress

We created a survey to see what Its On Us information was being retained, what Title IX issues felt most concerning, and if the campus felt safe for the students here. We are using this information to support making Its On Us mandatory and to get more information on what initiatives for which we should be advocating for our student body.

Campus Safetea

Status: In progress

This project was created by the Title IX intern Visannya Saluja. She wanted to create a safe space where students could talk about their concerns about safety on campus. There could be counselors involved in this project, but the main focus is on the students and what our committee could be doing to help the student body feel more at home on campus.
Roundtables

Two roundtables with various big-ten schools was hosted to discuss issues directly impacting campuses. The conversations were centered around campus safety and student government/fraternity and sorority relations. Increasing light posts on campus, addressing the rise in sexual misconduct cases on campus, and getting various organizations involved with the voting process were the most common shared experiences and thoughts amongst the group of student leaders.

Across the ABTS, a number of differences and similarities were discovered in how school's have their own campus police force separate from the city that they interact often with. Their relationships differ across the Big Ten, additionally, how these police forces interact with students experiencing mental health struggles is an important conversation for many.

Another interesting topic discussed at the roundtables surrounded COVID-19 safety precautions. Protocols differ vastly across campuses, where one school may have require students to wear a mask in the classroom and mandate the vaccine, others, such as Iowa, has no mask mandate, vaccine requirement or social distancing measures in place.

As these conversations allow students from across the country to engage with one another and brainstorm potential solutions to problems on their own campus, they have also prepared many members for the upcoming winter conference.

Planning for the ABTS Winter Conference

The conference is from January 28-30, 2022 at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Together, through the leadership of the Executive Board and collaborative effort of delegates from our 14 schools, we work to amplify the voices of students across the country. I have selected the individuals going and have made a spreadsheet tracking what is left of the planning process. There have been numerous conversations with stakeholders to make sure the conference planning process runs as smoothly as possible.
COMMUNICATIONS AND ENGAGEMENT

KAITLIN SCOTT

Social Media Initiatives

Promotion of Applications: Continual process

This semester, the IUSG Communications Committee worked to promote applications to positions across IUSG, including applications to campaign for Congress, the Election Commission, the First-Year Internship Program, the Supreme Court, the Department of Student Rights, and the upcoming Executive Branch Election in 2022. These posts were crafted to appeal to students with bright colors and easy-to-understand processes to make joining IUSG accessible and simple. Most recently, a video was crafted with interviews with all three branches of IUSG to attract more applicants for Associate Justice vacancies; this video reached over 450 accounts.

Example:

Cultural Awareness and Heritage Months: Continual Process

This IUSG Communications Committee posted and engaged with posts for Hispanic Heritage Month, Indigenous Peoples’ Day, and LGBTQ+ History Month this semester. Our Instagram and Twitter accounts promoted events that were happening relevant to the heritage months from IU’s Cultural Centers and demonstrated some cultural facts to spread awareness and knowledge. The two posts that were most engaged with were the Instagram Live from October 11, 2021 sharing a Hispanic Heritage Month Playlist that reached 1,026 accounts and the LGBTQ+ History Month Instagram Post from October 11, 2021 that reached 2,591 accounts.
This past semester, the IUSG Communications Committee has used Instagram’s “stories” feature to share a wide variety of information with the student body. Relevant events that align with IUSG’s mission are often re-posted as well as updates on what activities the Executive Branch and Congress are participating in. Instagram Stories tend to get more views and engagement from followers, and they also allow IUSG to highlight the important work being done by various student organizations and members of the IU community. This semester, the IUSG Instagram account gained 120 followers over the course of the semester, and the IUSG Twitter account gained 150 followers.

LinkTree and TikTok: Slightly Started, Needs Progress

The IUSG Communications Committee recently created LinkTree and TikTok accounts for the organization. The LinkTree account serves as a location for IUSG to provide multiple “links in the bio” for easy access to students, and it frequently receives engagement when a post is made to look at the links in the bio. The TikTok account can hopefully serve to connect with students more holistically and engage with the issues that matter to them. Thus far, only two videos have been posted promoting Supreme Court Applications, but the committee is doing more brainstorming on ways to utilize this platform.

Tabling and Student Engagement

Student Involvement Fair Flyers: Informational Trifold and First-Year Intern Flyer: Completed
Lifeline Law Promotion at Sex, Drugs, and Rock & Roll: Completed

IUSG Open House Flyer: Completed

Homecoming Parade: Completed

IUSG participated in the annual IU Homecoming Parade with a walking group and a decorated car. While the number of members that participated was small, there was representation from all three branches of the organization and it was a very enjoyable event that also got IUSG’s name and image out into the community. Posters were made that said “IUSG” and candy was thrown to Bloomington children. For Homecoming and Halloweekend, the Communications Team also designed a graphic about consent for students in conjunction with Culture of Care, which was handed out at Culture of Care’s on-campus tabling initiatives.
Resident Hall Association FallFest: Completed

The Former Director of Communications, Kaitlin Scott, represented IUSG at RHA’s FallFest, where she shared information about what IUSG does on campus and how to get involved. There was also a “Complaint for Candy” activity, where students could write down any complaint they had about IU in exchange for a piece of candy. The following issues were brought up in the complaint forms:

- Academic Advisors being more familiar with degree requirements to better inform students on degree requirements
- Bolstering the Epidemiology degree in advising, requirements, and student communication
- SRSC capacity limitations
- RPS food quality: more meat options, more GrubHub options, lack of compostable dishware
- Lowering the use of fossil fuels
- Expanding capacity and visibility of mental health services
- Communication will students waitlisted for campus parking passes
- Sentiments of Greek-life bias when investigating sexual assault cases

Hoosiers Against Sexual Assault Promotion: Completed

The IUSG Communications Team supported the initiatives of Hoosiers Against Sexual Assault by designing flyers and spreading the word on social media about the upcoming protest.
The Energizer Newsletter
Status: In progress

This past semester, IUSG launched The Energizer, a biweekly newsletter sent to the organization’s email list and often discussed on social media. This newsletter started as a two page pdf and has expanded to become an interactive, coded, professional form of communication. There were seven volumes of The Energizer sent out to students, and these volumes included information about the activities of the Executive Branch, the Congress, the Supreme Court and the Election Commission when available. The newsletter also highlighted various campus events and activities hosted by IU and multicultural student organizations. There was also an “Organization Highlight” section, where a different student organization making impactful contributions to the IU community was showcased and promoted. Continuous updates and improvements are being made by committee member Malhar Lakshman to make the newsletter more interactive and dynamic.

Merchandise and Apparel
Status: In progress

Due to limitations of purchasing power given to the former Conditional Director of this committee, there were not that many orders of merchandise such as stickers, buttons, and apparel. One T-Shirt order was placed by Kaitlin Scott for the Elevate Administration’s internal apparel, and this purchase was documented by the Treasurer of IUSG. In the future, this committee would like to be able to design and order more materials to both promote IUSG and give back to students.
Miscellaneous Flyers

Status: In progress

Getting out the Vote for Congressional Elections: Completed

This flyer was both promoted on social media as well as hung around various campus buildings in the attempt to get out the vote for the fall elections. Because there continues to be a lack of student engagement and participation in IUSG elections, this committee will brainstorm future election promotion strategies for Spring 2022.

Town Hall Promotion

Status: Completed, Will Be Altered

Flyers were distributed around campus and advertised on social media for the planned Executive Branch Town Hall despite it being canceled due to confirmations. This flyer can be easily altered for a future Town Hall Event held by IUSG, and it is notable that the Instagram post about the Town Hall saw significant engagement prior to the event being canceled and the post being archived. The committee believes that this demonstrates students' desire to engage with IUSG in this manner.
Multicultural Organization Marketing Committee Coordination

Status: In progress

This semester, the IUSG Communication Committee’s First-Year Intern, Olivia Berryman, has been compiling a contact sheet for multicultural organizations across IU’s campus to hopefully streamline communication between IUSG and these impactful organizations. This list is still being updated and will hopefully culminate in a large group chat or form of communication where multicultural organizations can share information about their events with one another and IUSG, and IUSG can serve as a platform for these organizations going forward. This project was undertaken with the aspirations of creating concrete and genuine relationships between IUSG and the multicultural organizations that have representatives in Congress and those that still do not.

The Bloomington Faculty Council- International Affairs Committee Representative

Status: In progress

The Advisor to the President on Communications, Kaitlin Scott, represented IUSG at the BFC’s International Affairs Committee Meetings. Thus far, the Committee has not made considerable progress on any issue as it is a newer committee still in the information-gathering phase. In the opinion of Kaitlin Scott, this committee is trying to better inform itself and the larger BFC constituency about the international activities of Indiana University and not attempting to pass legislation or make changes. The Committee has had four monthly meetings thus far that have consisted of the following activities:

1. (Sept. 2, 2021 - Kaitlin Scott not in attendance due to not being assigned as a representative yet) Overview of Committee's responsibilities and original documents, overview of the achievements of the Committee in 2020-2021, and discussion about what the purposes of the Committee should be

2. (Oct. 7, 2021) Discussion about the IU Global Gateways, international research mechanisms for faculty such as Title VI Centers, and the impacts of COVID-19 on the international community at IU. Representative Kaitlin Scott shared the panel presentation that IUSG hosted on COVID-19 and its impacts on international students. The Committee seemed less interested on student issues, but welcomed the new knowledge

3. (Nov. 4, 2021) The Committee met with and asked questions of Alexander Batten, the Director of the IU International Gateways, to better understand the purposes and services that these centers provide
4. (Dec. 2, 2021) The Committee met with and asked questions of John Wilkerson, the Interim Associate Vice President for International Services, to better understand what steps IU has taken to accommodate international students during the pandemic. The next meeting for this Committee will be on February 3, 2022. Zoom recordings are available for the November and December meetings.

**Spring 2022 Plans and Goals**

*Sticker Designs Ready to be Ordered*
Created by Kaitlin Scott and Gram Johnson
The 345 Campaign and Social Media Schedule

The IUSG Communications Team will take the lead on the Elevate Administration’s “345” Social media campaign. This campaign is still being developed alongside a more comprehensive social media schedule that will include Student Spotlight weekly posts, Congressional updates, Instagram lives from the Executive Branch and Election Commission, Cultural Heritage Month information, and multiple posts for the Spring 2022 elections. The Committee will likely request funding to promote these posts via Instagram to reach a larger audience in Bloomington and hopefully appeal to more students.

Tabling

A primary goal of the IUSG Communications Team in Spring 2022 is to get IUSG members to speak and engage with more members of the student body. Tabling Times will be scheduled soon, and any members of IUSG, in any branch, will be welcome to attend when they are available. This goal has the aspiration of getting more student feedback on IUSG policies and to make IUSG a more student-informed organization.

Spring 2022 Inauguration

This Committee would like to promote and plan the upcoming Spring Inauguration to make it a more formal and celebrated event in the IU community. The Committee will promote the event on social media and on campus, design pamphlets of the program, photograph and film the proceedings, and give a final recap of the Elevate Administration’s achievements before leaving office.
Beginning the FIP

Begin meetings with Alison Miron, an IUSG advisor, spreading information about the program around campus (via LLCs, Cultural Centers, RAs, flyers, etc.), review the course syllabus with Alison and get an understanding of what the semester will look like for the upcoming leadership class. Next we began to ask current directors what projects they would like their interns to complete throughout the course, this will help keep track & match interns with directors. We created the application & finalized a date to post it on the IUSG website, as well as a date to close the application. Tracking all of the applications and compiling them onto a google doc allowed Parul & Bell to go through them all and decided who we would ask to come in for interviews. For a class of around 14, we interviewed 24 people. Interviews took about a week to complete and sign-ups were made online. Once intern decisions were made, we emailed them and let them know the further steps that would take place (meeting their director(s), being in the class, rejection emails, etc.) We placed them with directors that we thought would best fit and did a reveal game on a Wednesday during/after cabinet.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Intern Pairings</th>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Role</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Morgan Browne</td>
<td>Vice President</td>
<td>Aachman Kapoor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Muntasir Munaf</td>
<td>Academic Affairs</td>
<td>Eli Kurlander</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Olivia Berryman</td>
<td>Communication</td>
<td>Maya Iyer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visannya Saluja</td>
<td>Title IX</td>
<td>Ella Greenwald</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kate Dimmitt</td>
<td>Senior Lead Officer</td>
<td>Dylan Schutte</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aaliyah Raji</td>
<td>President</td>
<td>Cashmere Booker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Makenna Slaughnaupt</td>
<td>Advocacy</td>
<td>Troy Feller</td>
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We had weekly meeting with Alison to check-in/discuss class and the interns’ projects and progress, as well as regular check-ins with directors to see if they have any concerns or questions. Some directors stepped away from IUSG or switched roles, so that impacted some of the work some interns had. At the end of the class, there is a final presentation for the interns to showcase what they did throughout the semester with their director. In the future, I would say try to finalize plans earlier on so that more directors might be able to come & support their interns and see everything they worked on. Near the end, we had exit interviews for extra credit for the interns, giving feedback from the semester, we learned what worked well, what didn’t, and found helpful tips for next year's class.