

Thrive 2022-2023 Mid-Year Report



Indiana University Student Government

Thrive





From the Office of The Student Body President and Vice President

Hoosiers,

Thank you for placing your trust in us to represent you as Student Body President and Vice President. The first semester on the job has been a wild ride, and serving you has been one of the highest honors of our lives. We must also thank critical campus partners (like our wonderful advisors, faculty, staff, and administrators) who consistently support us, our directors, our initiatives.

Our administration is filled with amazing people, and we hope this report illustrates the intelligence, heart, and passion our team has poured into the first semester. We cannot wait to show you what we achieve during our second semester serving our campus.

In pursuit of justice, equity, & advocacy,

**Kyle Seibert
Student Body President**

**Bell Pastore
Student Body Vice President**

Plan B Lead by Bell Pastore & Kyle Seibert

In Progress

With the overturning of Roe v. Wade and the passing of Indiana's Senate Bill One, we knew IUSG needed to act immediately to ensure student access to reproductive healthcare. In order to ease financial burdens for students, IUSG was one of the largest student government in the nation to offer fully subsidized emergency contraceptives at our campus' student health center. Over 800 Plan B were administered to students in the first semester. In order to continue this program and create more programs to improve & support student health initiatives we established the IU Student Government Student Health Fund with the goal of raising \$500,000 to endow this fund so that this program (and others) may continue long after our term.. Anyone can donate at any time to support this critical service at this link: go.iu.edu/iusgshf. This program has been one of the most popular services IUSG has offered in its history, reaching record levels of involvement on our social media platforms and is consistently one of the most positive pieces of feedback we have personally received when polling students for their feedback as well.



Cultural Heritage Month Awareness

Lead by Maddie Zirkle

In Progress



First Nations - IUSG funded marketing materials for the Proclamation of Indigenous Peoples' Day. This amazing event planned by First Nations and Native American Students Association . We also volunteered that day and attended the proclamation. We are also funding for materials for craft workshops

LGBTQ+ - Volunteered at tabling for National Coming Out Day. This was a fun collaboration with the culture center, IUSG, and QSU. We chatted, handed out resources, and collected messages. IUSG also funded and planned alongside QSU a National Coming Out Day celebration. This event consisted of desserts, decorations, coloring, and a map people could write any queer experience they have had in Bloomington. We also plan to help fund a speaker coming Spring semester.

La Casa- In the month of September IUSG donated books to La Casa. In collaboration with La Casa we planned the books. Next semester: We plan to continue this project with 3 other cultural centers in the months of February, March, and April.

Multicultural Leadership Events

Lead by Maddie Zirkle

In Progress

The leadership breakfast was postponed for the first week of classes of the second semester. Here are some important details about the project

When: January 22th, 11 am to 1 pm

Why: The purpose of this dinner is to kick off the semester to discuss collaboration ideas. We want to uplift student leaders and give opportunities for leaders to feel supported by IUSG.

Steps Taken: Create a contact sheet for all multicultural student leaders. I would budget a few weeks for this and multiple people working on this. Next, find a space reservation. We chose Neal-Marshall Grand Hall and will recommend this space. Then, create a google form to send to all of the leaders' emails or the organization's email. It is then important to create good questions and conversation activities. Catering, tables, projectors, chairs, and other supplies are important to keep in mind.

It's On Us

Lead by Bell Pastore & Kyle Seibert

In Progress

It's On Us is a mandatory first-year course that focuses on bystander intervention training for IU students. While this course is deemed mandatory by the University, there is no accountability measure to ensure students are taking this course. During the fall semester, Kyle and Bell proposed a change to the program with the support of the Department of Sexual Violence Prevention to the Provost's Office that would boost turnout for this important program.

IUSG introduced a plan to have students who fail to complete the 90-minute course put on academic hold for class registration which would be removed upon completion of the class.

While our proposal was met with initial opposition, we shifted gears and instead focused on incorporating this program to the IUB2030 Strategic Plan

By incorporating this into IUB2030, our hope is to create a first year course baked into the curriculum that would include various topics, including sexual violence prevention. While the strategic plan is still in progress, IUSG is continuing to work on ways to get more student participation with the It's On Us program.

Some of the ways the executive branch plans on increasing participation include:

- Creating a competition amongst student orgs to see who can have the highest number of member completion
- Creating an incentive program that rewards students for completing training

IU2030 Strategic Plan

Lead by Kyle Seibert & Bell Pastore

In Progress

In October of 2022, President Whitten and Provost Shrivastav launched the IUB2030 strategic planning initiative, kicking off a process to begin reimagining what IU should look like by 2030. The plan includes three pillars: Student Success and Opportunity, Transformative Research and Opportunity, and Service to State and Beyond.

During the course of this initiative, we have worked across several working groups to incorporate the student perspective into this plan at every opportunity. Personally, Kyle and Bell have served on the Executive, Student Retention, Pedagogy and Teaching Practices, and Student Belonging committees, and have recruited other members of our organization to serve on other working groups as well. What are some ideas that have been generated during this time? While the final plan still has yet to be finalized, some of our favorite ideas we have advocated for include a first-year seminar for incoming students; creating a data system to better track student retention; incorporating all areas of wellness into the IU experience; and so much more.

The strategic planning process will now be managed by the Executive Committee (on which Kyle serves), and the final proposal will be published at the end of March 2023. The Executive Committee also plans on hosting Town Halls to further incorporate feedback from the campus. Stay tuned for more!

The Office of the Treasury

Lead by Rithwik Nichenametla (Fall) & Alex Kaswan (Spring)

In Progress



The Treasury Department works to maintain all IUSG accounts and facilitate/authorize purchases on behalf of the organization. This year has been focused on tracking previous transactions to build a more complete history of IUSG finances and resume publishing monthly financial reports. For example, the department has worked to maintain accurate records of expenses associated with policies implemented by the student government such as the Plan B and Red Zone initiative.

Board of Finance

In Progress

New this year, the Board of Finance is able to offer money to directors in the executive branch for projects that were not placed in the budget, this has allowed the executive branch to help even more students on our campus by hosting events and giving aid to student initiatives.

So far, the Board of Finance has approved a total of \$29,202.31 in funding for initiatives, some examples being a \$5,000 pledge to the laptop loaner program and \$7,500 to the Plan B initiative. In addition, as a new function of the executive cabinet, the Board of Finance is working to implement concrete guidelines on what initiatives to fund.

As the Board of Finance continues to grow, we hope to see more usage from directors in the spring semester and more initiatives being funded. This 'pilot' program has been incredibly successful so far and will greatly help directors of future administrations.

University Committees

Lead by Multiple Executive Members

In Progress

It is critical that the student voice is heard in every corner of the campus. As such, IUSG is always advocating and appointing students to serve on a variety of University committees to ensure the representation students deserve. Here is a list of committees we have appointed students to serve on:

Chief's Community Advisory Board

University Search: Dean for the Kelley School of Business

Patten Lecture Series

IMU Bookstore Advisory Committee

Campus Transportation Policy and Safety Committee

Office of Completion and Student Success Advisory Board

Union Board Selection Committee

IDS Student Media Publications Board

Campus Rec Sports Advisory Board

University Search: Dean of the Media School

University Search: Dean of the Graduate School

University Search: Dean of the School of Optometry

Faculty Athletics Committee

Community Grief and Memorial Working Group

Dean of the Graduate School Advisory Board

Bloomington Faculty Council: Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion

Bloomington Faculty Council: Educational Policies

Bloomington Faculty Council: International Affairs

Bloomington Faculty Council: Research Affairs

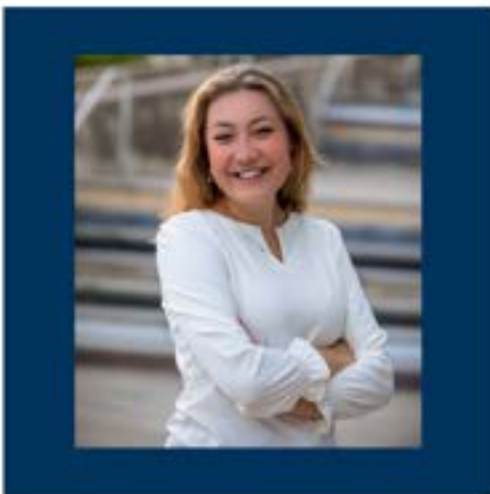
Bloomington Faculty Council: Student Affairs

Bloomington Faculty Council: Technology Policy
IUB2030: Student Experience & Belonging
IUB2030: Retention & Graduation Rates
IUB2030: Curricula, Pedagogy, and Inclusive Teaching Practices
IUB2030: Career Outcomes
IUB2030: Equity & Inclusion Across the Student Experience
IUB2030: Advancing Dynamic Models in Arts and Humanities
Research and Creative Activities
IUB2030: Executive Planning Committee
University Faculty Council
... and more!

Congressional Secretary

Lead by Megan Bankowski

Head of Documentation: Abigail Garrison



General Duties

In Progress

The Office of the Congressional Secretary has continued to consult Congress on legislation and its process. This includes setting meetings between Cabinet and Congress members regarding project proposals, sitting in on committee meetings, and conducting outreach to organizations regarding Multicultural representation in Congress. This year we have facilitated a variety of onboarding processes for new members and assisted in Steering Committee procedures in order to prepare IUSG's Executive Branch for what is to come.

Transfer of Documents Program

In Progress

As per the new IUSG bylaws, the Congressional Secretary has delegation over IUSG documentation. We are currently working on transferring all IUSG documents from Google Drive to One Drive. We are working on collecting documents for all three branches along with acquiring historical IUSG documents. The goal of this project is to reorganize all of the documents in order to make finding documents easier for both IUSG members and the student body. We hope to add a section to the Student Government website where all of the documents will be stored and accessible to all.

Alumni Network Program

In Progress

We are actively planning on creating an alumni LinkedIn network for IU Student Government graduates and affiliates. Our goal is to create a page where students, alumni, and current IUSG members can connect and discuss how IUSG was beneficial to alumni in their current careers. We want to be able to expose more of the student body to IUSG and show that IUSG has many benefits outside of Indiana University. Additionally, this network will allow all alumni members to stay in the loop of what the current administration on campus is doing.



2023 IUSG 75th Reunion

Lead by Kyle Seibert & Megan Bankowski

In Progress

We are incredibly grateful for the opportunity to serve as the 75th IUSG Executive Branch. With every big milestone like this, there has to be a celebration.

During the first semester, we laid the groundwork for prepping and planning for IUSG's 75th Anniversary. This weekend-long celebration will occur April 14th - 17th, 2023, and will kick off with the inauguration of the 76th Executive Administration. Following this event, alumni will join us in celebrating this exciting milestone and participate with current students in networking events, guest speakers and lecturers, and roundtable discussions to help us tackle current issues on campus with their insight.

If you are interested in helping plan and execute this exciting event, please reach out to Congressional Secretary Megan Bankowski (mlbankow@iu.edu)!

Our Cabinet





Chief of Staff

Maddie Zirkle



The Chief of Staff serves as the head of our administration's cabinet. She plans weekly cabinet meetings where all cabinet members report progress on their initiatives and collaborate on ways to improve student life on campus.

Maddie Zirkle plays a hands-on role with all executive members, ensuring that the operations team (President, Vice President, Chief of Staff, Treasurer, and Congressional Secretary) is up to date with all current and future projects. She helps plan initiatives and gives aid to directors when they need it and interacts with the University as she sits on various committees.

This year, our Chief of Staff is also leading the Multicultural Heritage Awareness month initiative, among other projects.

The Chief of Staff works to ensure the administration functions effectively and efficiently so that as much work can be done during the administration's one year term.

Academic Affairs

Aaron Toland & Daniela Moloci



Laptop Loaner Program

In Progress

We are working with the Division of Student Affairs to secure funding to pilot a laptop loaner program, which will allow students who have damaged or lost their laptops to borrow a laptop until they can purchase a new one. This initiative will ease students' financial burdens and meet their technological needs, as technology continues to be an integral part of classroom success. The program will be a long-term rental, allowing students to borrow laptops for up to a semester.

We presented a proposal to the Board of Finance, and they pledged \$5,000 toward the project. We are currently waiting for more information from the Division of Student Affairs in terms of which laptops will be used and what protocols will be followed. We hope to pilot the program in the spring semester.

Syllabi Repository

In Progress

We began this project last school year by researching past initiatives for syllabi repositories proposed at IU. This led us 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 information on current systems at other universities including Princeton University, which pays for a 'Simple Syllabus' management system. After brainstorming potential criteria for syllabi submitted to a future repository, we proposed the initiative to the OCSS committee to see if they would be interested in helping us gather student feedback and eventually bring the idea to the BFC. The committee agreed and we drafted a proposal with the help of faculty and students across IU's regional campuses in Spring 2022.

This school year, we talked with many faculty members regarding the initiative like Cathrine Reck, the Provost, and Katie Metz and Rachael Cohen (BFC Student Affairs Committee Co-Chairs). After our meeting with the BFC Committee Co-Chairs, we decided to work with them on drafting, proposing, and passing a bill to create more specific standards for course descriptions. We thought this would be a good compromise between a student's need for transparency and the faculty's desire to have their syllabi as their own intellectual property. We presented this idea to our committee so we can collaborate on what we [students] would like to see in course descriptions. We will begin work with the BFC next semester.

Dance Space Committee

In Progress

We began this project last school year during the Spring semester by researching current dance practice spaces at IU. After hearing complaints from many extracurricular dance groups on campus, it was evident that practice spaces on campus fail to create facilities that support these groups. Spaces with proper air conditioning, flooring, mirrors, etc. are booked out first leaving rooms without AC or mirrors left for the rest of these dance organizations. After meeting with Chris Arvin (President of SRSC) and Laura Kunick (Club Sports Federation), we were able to address the problem and agree to form a committee to brainstorm solutions. This school year, we had our first committee meeting with student representatives from some of these organizations in October and we were able to connect student concerns to the faculty in charge of making changes. Chris Arvin recently got back to us with logistics on potential quick additions to current facilities and we are planning on setting a date for next semester for the second meeting.

Undergraduate Research & Creative Activity

In Progress

I (Aaron Toland) am the sole student member of the IUB 2030 working group titled Advancing Dynamic Models in Arts and Humanities Research and Creative Activities. I have suggested that our group make it a goal to create new programs and expand current ones to increase opportunities for undergraduates in research and creative activity, especially students from underrepresented backgrounds.

We are still working on our final suggestions and goals. I am also exploring the creation of an undergraduate research database and a research ambassador program, which I suggested in a presentation to OVPUE.

Pre-Law Resources

In Progress

One of our committee members has explored the availability of LSAT prep materials and general pre-law resources. Currently, the HPPLC offers a \$225 workshop, which is not affordable for many students. The pre-law fraternity, Phi Alpha Delta, offers discounts on LSAT prep materials; however, there is a financial barrier to being a member of the fraternity. He also found a lack of free LSAT materials directly available through the school. Next semester, he plans to explore the possibility of IU setting up accounts with LSAT prep sites to provide free access to students.

IU Inter-collegiate Academic Collaboration

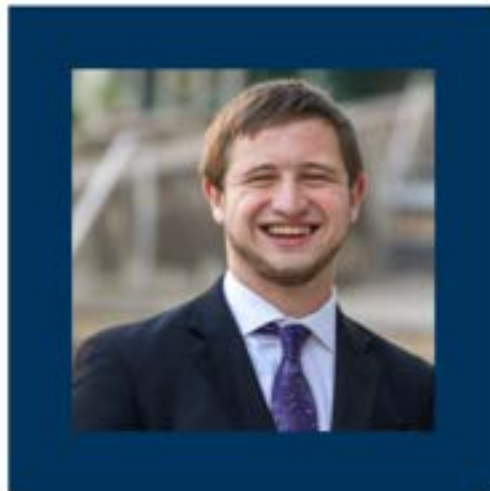
In Progress

One of our committee members has been researching the possibility of dual programs between different schools at IU. She has had discussions with Dr. Tavy Aherne about a dual-degree program between the Hamilton Lugar School and O'Neill. She will also be meeting with Dr. Nti Asare, the head of the Cybersecurity and Global Policy Program, to discuss a dual program between Luddy and HLS.

She has plans to also discuss dual degree options with someone in the Kelley School of Business. Thus far, she has observed obstacles to students dual majoring between schools because of general education requirements, a lack of communication between colleges, and colleges wanting to keep students in their college as much as possible.

City Relations

David Wolfe-Bender



Our Charge

The goal of the Department of City Relations is trifold. We want to expand student engagement in local government, increase student voter registration, and represent the student body in front of the City of Bloomington's government bodies.

How We are Accomplishing Our Goals

Expanding student engagement: the structure of the City of Bloomington presents opportunities to bring students into the conversation. Absent students on Bloomington's city council, the biggest opportunity for more student engagement is on city boards and commissions. Positions on these boards are either appointed by the Mayor or the city council.

Increasing student voter registration: increasing student voter registration is a multifront effort. First, we partnered with dozens of on- and off-campus organizations that worked to register more voters ahead of the 2022 Midterm Elections.

Representing the student body: students rarely show up to the Bloomington City Council meetings. We see it as our role to be the student-centered and student-focused voice at city council meetings.

Vote Where You Sleep

Completed

This semester, IU's Student Government partnered with the Monroe County chapter of the National Organization for Women to submit a grant application aimed at registering more voters. The grant – valued at approximately \$15,000 – was awarded to our coalition in late September.

Some of the partners in that grant application's coalition included the Greater Bloomington Chamber of Commerce, IU/Monroe County chapters of the NAACP, various IU schools and departments, and the League of Women Voters.

This grant money funded a series of student-centered initiatives to encourage students and non-students to register to vote in the 2022 Midterm Elections.

Here are some examples:

Off-Campus Signage: this grant funded the printing of posters all over the city. The organizations participating in the grant focused on promoting voting in student-centered areas just off-campus, such as restaurants and bars. We were able to put up signage in more than 20 locations in the Kirkwood neighborhood of Bloomington.

Free Rides to the Polls: students and non-students were able to get a free ride with Uber to and from the polls during the entire early voting period and on Election Day.

Lawn signs: signs appeared all over the city with a QR code encouraging people to vote and register to vote.

TurboVote

Completed

Indiana University participates in the Big10 Voting Challenge. As part of that challenge, IU's Student Government reaffirmed its support and commitment to getting more students registered to vote. Working with one of the offices within IUSG, we renewed IU's subscription to TurboVote, an online software that makes it easier to register to vote and find your polling location.

City Boards & Commissions

In Progress

Bloomington's city structure is a mayor-council system. The city council is made up of nine people; six of those represent districts, and three represent the city at large. None of the nine are students.

In Bloomington, a group of more than 30 citizen boards and commissions inform the city's government on various areas of daily life. Some of them review crucial city issues such as parking, public transportation, bicycle and pedestrian safety, and economic development. Because IU's student population makes up nearly half of the city's total population of 80,000, the city relations department feels the city should prioritize students in its legislation.

To accomplish that goal, IUSG is working to install more students on city boards and commissions. This semester, students received appointments to the city's traffic commission and the city's commission on sustainability. Those two appointments join two students on the Bloomington Parking Commission and students on the Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety Commission.

We are beyond thankful to the Bloomington City Council and Mayor John Hamilton for supporting our appointments to boards and commissions this year. Additionally, we appreciate their willingness to support our nominations in the near future.

Advocating for Students

In Progress

Bloomington allows members of the public to voice their opinion on city issues in front of the city council. This semester, we placed great priority on showing up for these meetings to voice our concerns to our city government. Here are a few of the issues on which IUSG officials gave public comments this semester: **Antisemitism in the City of Bloomington:** upon a story being published in a local newspaper about a Bloomington business espousing an antisemitic symbol, we told the Bloomington City Council that it was of paramount importance that the city protects Jewish students and residents in the city, especially ahead of the high holiday season. Hillel International estimates there are 4,000 Jewish students at Indiana University.

Meridiam's investment in Bloomington: over the summer, Bloomington considered a tax abatement for a business looking to invest in high-speed, fiber internet in the city. We told the council that this investment would be good for the future of our city – including its large student population.

Reproductive health: in October 2022, the city allocated \$100,000 for emergency reproductive care, meant to counter the effects of the state's Senate Bill 1 – an essential ban on most abortion care. At the meeting, IUSG officials supported the legislation and also told the city about its current work to support the reproductive health of students.

Public transportation: in September 2022, the city looked to work with the county to expand Bloomington Transit's service west of the city to Ivy Tech Community College's Bloomington campus and Cook Medical. IUSG officials told the council it was in support of any public transportation expansion that would see more opportunities for students to get to Ivy Tech. Specifically, we told the council that expanded bus service would help students who take students at both Indiana University and Ivy Tech. "Expanding this line would allow for students who might be double listing at IU to have another way of getting to Ivy Tech that wouldn't be with a single occupancy vehicle," the IUSG Director of City Relations said to the council in September.

Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion

Jayana Hammonds & Kétura Lainy



United Council of Equity

In Progress

The United Council of Equity's first meeting took place in 2019. The Council was created as a collaboration between IU Student Government, the Dean of Students Office, and Bias Education. The meetings and gathering touched upon many things including providing information about bias incidents and how the process goes. UCE meetings stopped for a while due to the pandemic but we are hoping to work with the Dean of Students office and Bias Education to get it started again. Our first meeting for this semester took place on November 2nd, 2022.

United Council of Equity

In Progress

DEI training for professors involves mandatory workshops about dealing with certain situations under the umbrella of inclusion and equity that professors would have to take upon.

This workshop would take place at the beginning of the school year. Although we haven't got all the details planned out yet, we are hoping to work with administrators, especially from the Office of the Vice President for Diversity, Equity, and Multicultural Affairs.

Government Relations

Jack Wanninger



Preparations for ABTS in DC

In Progress

Last year, IUSG sent a delegation to the ABTS Spring Conference in Washington, DC to meet with members of Congress and their staff to discuss the important issues that impact Hoosier students' lives and education. The Director of Government Relations has been spending time this term preparing for the 2023 conference. This preparation includes conducting further research and developing framing for a variety of policy issues. We will continue to discuss and advocate for Title IX, the Clery Act, nutrition, college affordability, and Pell Grant increases. Additionally, new opportunities have arisen to discuss DACA, college oversight, and student loan debt.

Our discussions with our federal legislators last spring were very insightful and productive and we are looking forward to continuing these relationships and discussions next Spring. We are also looking forward to forming new relationships with members who were recently newly elected in the 2022 midterms.

Statehouse Testimony

In Progress/Completed

The Director of Government Relations participated in a testimony at the Indiana General Assembly in front of the Interim Transportation Study Committee. This committee was discussing a piece of legislation that would allow undocumented residents of Indiana to obtain Driving Record Cards, which allow them to legally drive motor vehicles in the state of Indiana. Recipients of this card would have to undergo the same licensing process that one would go through to receive a driver's license. This is an excerpt from that testimony:

The Driving Record Card is a common-sense policy. By allowing all tax-paying Hoosiers, regardless of their eligibility to obtain a drivers license, to undertake the standard certification and training process to drive on our roads, which will reduce crashes and traffic fatalities. This is especially important in Bloomington, which suffers from hundreds of traffic collisions every year, with many leading to serious personal injury. Other states that have implemented a similar policy have seen significant declines in traffic deaths following implementation. This policy will save lives in our state.

This policy is a common-sense solution that would address equity, safety, and dignity in the state of Indiana. It would provide relief and security to many members of our Bloomington community.

There is reason to be encouraged about the future of this legislation, as it enjoys bipartisan support in the state legislature. In addition to this issue, there are a number of other issues that will be addressed going into the next state legislative session, such as marijuana pardons and lifting sales taxes on menstrual products.

Transportation Issues on Campus

In Progress

The Director has been meeting with campus committees to discuss issues of transportation safety and infrastructure. At the first meeting of the Student Transportation Board, the Director was elected the Vice-Chair and will use that position to advocate for student transportation needs. At a Campus Transportation and Safety Committee meeting, we discussed matters of bicycle lane safety and bus availability around campus. We are committed to encouraging transportation that promotes accessibility, climate-friendliness, and safety and using these positions to see where federal and state policy can interface to promote responsible and efficient transportation policies on campus.

Health & Well-being

Ami Shah & Kaitlyn Rourke



IUB Student Mental Health Taskforce

In Progress

Both Ami and Kaitlyn have been appointed to a student mental health task force that includes student leaders across undergraduate and graduate programs as a part of fulfilling action items outlined in last year's task force. Working with many faculty, including Dr. Aaron Carrol, Provost Srivastav, Dean O'Guinn, and a few others, we will serve as student advisors to give valuable input to current and prospective initiatives. The full complete list of action items to be worked on by the task force and other facets on campus can be found [here](#). The task force was recently developed and will continue to work on the initiatives in the following year.

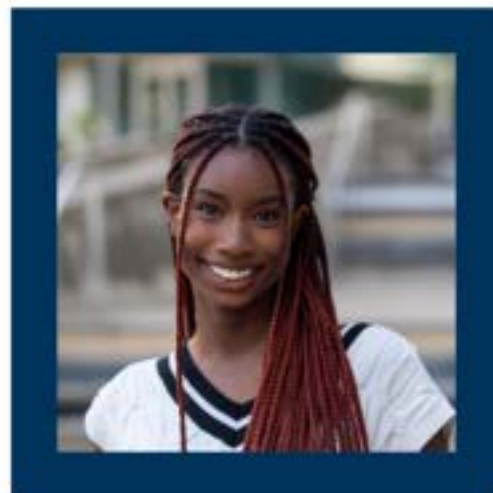
Wellness Room

In Progress

One of our upcoming goals for the following semester is to initiate plans for a wellness room to be located in the IMU, similar to the Balance Room installed in the Kelley School of Business a few years ago. At the time of this report's publication, no concrete developments had been made yet. We understand how stressful college can be for many students. Having a wellness room that includes nice green scenery, lounge chairs, fun games, and a stress-relieving environment will serve to improve students' wellness throughout the entire year. Locating the wellness room in a central location, such as the IMU, will allow many students, on and off campus, to access this new space.

Student Life

Amangul Hydrova & Kayla Brooks



Holiday Cards for Hospitalized Children

Completed

Student Life collaborated with the 21st Century Leadership Corp Organization to organize an event for the holiday season. The goal of the event was to come together as a community and make holiday cards for hospitalized kids, for those that really needed happiness and joy. Together, we brought arts and crafts supplies, cookies, and music. Besides bringing joy to the kids, the event was meant to unite all students at the university, organize an activity that would help students cope with stress during the finals season, and uplift the holiday mood. The event was very successful and all the set goals were met. Around 150 people attended the event. The cards were dropped off at the IU Bloomington hospital.



Health Insurance Availability for Domestic Students

In Progress

Student Life stands with all students of Indiana University and advocates for all students to be able to get the necessary help and the best possible college experience. Dealing with health issues in school can have negative effects on the financial and academic standing of students.

Unfortunately, IU is the only university among the Big10 that does not offer a university-provided health insurance plan for domestic students. A university-provided plan can bring students a wider choice of local providers and lower the cost. Moreover, many grants and scholarships can cover the cost of a student health insurance plan when it is included in the cost of attendance. International students are obligated to have health insurance, which implies that IU provides the options, automatically enrolls the students, and bills the cost to the Bursar account. However, a similar option does not exist for undergraduate domestic students. Student Life has opened conversations and has made further plans. Student Life will determine the exact number of impacted students and reach out to the Student Advocates Office, Office of Student Success, etc. to provide domestic students with the university-provided health insurance plan.

Health Insurance Availability for Domestic Students

Completed

This project was a collaboration with the Directors of Title IX. To avoid repetition, the report is below.

Undergraduate Research Opportunities

In Progress

Research opportunities should be accessible for students of all backgrounds. Uneven access to information and lack of awareness about the existing opportunities should not prevent students from realizing their academic potential.

This project intends to help students achieve their academic and career goals. We intend to create a website that compiles all the research opportunities at Indiana University into one database. It will help the students learn about the research that is in progress and the faculty and students engage with each other. This project attempts to provide a guideline to set clear expectations to ensure a fulfilling research experience for all parties. Furthermore, as part of the project, we also hope to create info sessions at the beginning and end of each semester. These info sessions could help students navigate research opportunities and provide students with tools to successfully deal with possible obstacles. The plan has been discussed and we will work further to make this project come to fruition.

Blue Light Project

In Progress

After talking with many students here at IU, the Co-Directors of Student Life noticed an uneven distribution of Blue light towers here on campus, with most of them planted near residential housing areas. There are no Blue Light Towers in the entirety of Dunn Meadow, the SRSC, or the IMU. Though it is great that on-campus students have the towers as a resource to use when feeling uncomfortable, it leaves off-campus students who are getting a late-night study session or working out in the dust. Every student should have the same access to blue light towers, no matter where they are on campus. To reach this goal in a realistic time frame, we are conducting bi-weekly meetings during with spring semester with IU's Associate Vice President and Superintendent for Public Safety, Ben Hunter, and the rest of IU's public safety team to see how these areas on campus can become as safe as possible, whether it be with towers, more lights, or more security cameras.

Sustainability

Annetta Itnyre & Henry Wolfla



Climate Action Planning Committee

In Progress

Last semester, IU Capital Planning and Facilities began the Climate Action Planning Committee, featuring IU staff, faculty, and students from all of the satellite campuses. Their goal is to create IU's Climate Action by the end of Spring 2023. On November 16, 2022, the CAPC held an open forum on the IU Bloomington campus, this was the only opportunity students had this year to make their voices heard on this issue. IUSG sustainability worked to create promotional material, infographics for social media, and in-classroom events to encourage participation. Additionally, environmental groups on campus, especially Students For a New Green World (SNGW), worked to improve participation. In the end, the forum was a success and allowed students to voice their opinion directly to committee members and the contracting company.

There were some combative interactions between student groups and the administration concerning the transparency of the committee itself. But, overall we were pleased with the large turnout and the quality of questions asked by students and faculty alike. This work with the IU Climate Action Planning Committee will continue into the spring semester, as this group attempts to reach specific milestones towards completion of the Plan in May of 2023. Therefore, meetings will continue and there will be another open forum during the spring, that this committee will promote once again.

Divestment

In Progress

One of the major concerns for IUSG Sustainability was working with the IU Foundation to discuss Fossil Fuel Divestment. Major institutions, like IU, often invest heavily in non-renewable sources of energy, a fact that many students are deeply concerned about in the wake of the climate crisis. Therefore, IUSG Environmental Affairs Co-directors met with IU foundation President, JT Forbes, and Strategic Communications Director, Matthew Kavigan. What initially was scheduled as a 30-minute meeting, became an hour and a half. It was extremely productive and began a crucial partnership between IUSG and the IU Foundation. From this meeting, we established new plans and steps for the future—including a focus on investment in renewable energy instead of only working solely on divestment. Currently, IU's fossil fuel investment portfolio is at 5%, but after this conversation with the foundation, we learned their tactics that do not involve a complete portfolio shift. It will be a gradual process toward investment, but based on the response from the IU foundation, there is an interest and they want to work with the students.

Additionally, we requested an observer seat for occasional IU Foundation meetings and will be utilizing this position next semester. From this point forward, we will continue to meet with JT Forbes and push for more initiatives to direct IU to invest in renewable energy.

Waste

In Progress

Another big challenge within the realm of sustainability is waste management on campus, specifically in the dining halls. Therefore to address this, the sustainability committee met with IU dining director Rahul Shrivastav to discuss sustainability in IU's dining facilities. Overall, it was clear that Covid-19 has prevented an immediate shift away from individually wrapped cutlery, but will be gradually phased out as the utensils run out. Additionally, we discussed the environmental implications of the new All-You-Care-To-Eat facilities (AYCTE) on campus. Under this management, it is not uncommon to see plates full of food being thrown away. In a one-night waste event at the McNutt dining location, it was found that over 500 pounds of waste were generated during the dinner service. Further collaboration with IU dining is necessary but the committee must also explore other ways to decrease waste at IU dining locations through new educational initiatives.

Waste

In Progress

Traditionally, the IU Campus Farm located less than 2 miles away from campus, has been a wonderful spot to volunteer and appreciate nature in Bloomington.

However, due to a lack of funding, it was closed creating another issue within IU's sustainability. The farm has been an IU sustainability staple for several years and used to provide 2% of IU's food supply when it was fully operational. Therefore this semester, we worked with James Farmer to discuss a plan for saving the campus farm and making it more instrumental within our university. The next steps, are to continue this work with James Farmer and begin the save the campus farm campaign with tablings, events, and meetings with potential sponsors.

Campus Farm

In Progress

Traditionally, the IU Campus Farm located less than 2 miles away from campus, has been a wonderful spot to volunteer and appreciate nature in Bloomington. However, due to a lack of funding, it was closed creating another issue within IU's sustainability. The farm has been an IU sustainability staple for several years and used to provide 2% of IU's food supply when it was fully operational. Therefore this semester, we worked with James Farmer to discuss a plan for saving the campus farm and making it more instrumental within our university. The next steps, are to continue this work with James Farmer and begin the save the campus farm campaign with tablings, events, and meetings with potential sponsors.

Regional Climate Convening

Completed

Finally, the IU Sustainability Directors attended the city of Bloomington's Regional Climate Convening at the beginning of October

This was a wonderful opportunity to meet with key stakeholders within sustainability in Bloomington and the surrounding area. Additionally, expanding outside of IU allowed us to learn about new avenues of sustainability and how we can collaborate with the city in the future. Overall, this was a very successful occasion and IUSG sustainability will be attending future events like this.

Title IX & Sexual Violence Prevention

Maddie Butler & Visannya Chiranjeev Saluja



Red Zone Forum

Completed

The Red Zone is a term used to describe the period between the beginning of the academic year and Thanksgiving Break, the time during which a statistically heightened rate of sexual violence occurs on college campuses. During this period, violence is disproportionately committed against first-year students; this is particularly concerning given that first-year students are also least likely to be aware of available campus resources for survivors. This motivated us to launch an initiative intended to raise awareness amongst students regarding University reporting processes and support resources.

We were honored to hold a panel discussion aimed at awareness-raising; we hosted 6 panelists at our event:

**Kate Bangert, Co-President of Shatter the Silence
Samantha Hammett, Director of the Office of Sexual Violence
Prevention and Victim Advocacy**

Dr. Nica Serena Kousaleos, Senior Lecturer, Hamilton Lugar School

Madison Elizabeth Smith, Co-President of Shatter the Silence

**Libby Spotts, Senior Associate Dean and Director of Student
Conduct, Deputy Title IX Coordinator**

Molly Weiler MSW/LSW, Confidential Victim Advocate

The purpose of this forum was to educate student audience members about various campus resources that exist to support IU community members who have survived sexual violence or who may seek to support survivors in their lives. Our Co-Directors moderated the conversation, which included a meaningful discussion of how to understand the causes of sexual violence through a power-conscious lens while avoiding victim blaming. We are deeply grateful to the panelists for sharing their expertise and lived experiences.

Interested students may find a recording of the event on the IUSG Instagram account, @iustudentgov. This initiative was also documented in local and national media. Articles are available through the Indiana Daily Student and the Chronicle of Higher Education.



**Photo of Red Zone Forum Panelists & Organizers
Bottom, Left to Right: Sam Hammett, Kyle Seibert,
Maddie Butler, Bell Pastore
Top, Left to Right: Libby Spotts, Molly Weiler,
Madison Smith, Kate Bangert, Visannya Saluja**

Domestic Violence Awareness Month - Resource Tabling with Middle Way House

Completed

This project was a collaboration with the Directors of Student Life. In honor of Domestic Violence Awareness Month, we aimed to educate students about campus and community resources available to support survivors of domestic and interpersonal violence. In early November, we were honored to invite to campus representatives of Middle Way House. This non-profit organization works towards supporting all survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking. Shayla Tate, Crisis Intervention Specialist at Middle Way House, helped us inform students about available community services, including housing, counseling, and childcare. Our Sexual Violence Prevention Co-Directors also provided information on resources available through IUB. This project helped raise funds for the organization, and engaged over 200 students in conversations about domestic violence prevention and resources. It facilitated over 40 students signing up to volunteer with Middle Way House. We also provided free hot chocolate to students, creating a comfortable space to engage in conversation on a serious subject.



Middle Way House Tabling Event

Left to Right: SVP Intern Nicole Santiuste, SVP Intern Jenna Gardner, SVP Co-Director Maddie Butler, Student Life Co-Director Kayla Brooks

Purdue University Title IX Support & Collaboration

Completed

Purdue University has recently made national headlines due to a gross mishandling of a student's rights in Title IX proceedings. A federal jury recently ruled that, five years ago, Purdue University committed gender-based discrimination and violation of due process rights against a student complainant in a Title IX case. When a student reported herself as a survivor of sexual assault to the University, Purdue determined her complaint to be false and suspended her in retaliation. As to the reason the University felt her accusation was false? The University ruled that, while the student had consumed 18 drinks that evening, she was "not incapacitated" and could therefore consent to sexual activity. As the Co-Directors of SVP, we find this abhorrent. Students should not have to fear suspension when reporting sexual violence. To aid Purdue University Student Government's efforts to improve their University's anti-retaliation policies and definitions of incapacitation, we met with our counterpart in Purdue University Student Government. We shared models of IU's Title IX policy, specifically with regard to retaliation and incapacitation. We also informed PUSG that we have been invited to partake in Title IX policy writing with our University Title IX office, and hope this will be leverage for them to demand the same seat at the table in their University's policy-writing process.

Free Safety Alarms for IU Students

In Progress

This project was created to provide free personal safety alarms to students on Indiana University's campus. We met with representatives of the company She's Birdie, a company founded by mothers of student survivors of sexual violence.

The IUSG Board of Finance approved the purchase of 500 personal safety alarms through the company, allowing us to provide these personal safety devices to students free of charge. We have ordered and received the alarms at this point. When welcoming students back to campus next semester, we plan to table at the Student Involvement Fair to provide attending students with free personal safety devices. The alarms will be distributed with materials detailing IU resources for survivor support and instructions for the safe use of the alarms. Based on the response we receive from students, we also hope to continue the project by ordering more personal safety alarms at a later point in the semester. We recognize that students should not need to carry personal protection in the form of safety alarms in order to feel safe. Students should have the right to travel freely without fear of violence. Until this is true, we hope to provide students with the resources necessary to help them live a life that is not limited by the fear of violence. We encourage students to attend the Student Involvement Fair to pick up an alarm. Students interested in personally purchasing a Birdie safety alarm may do so here, and we encourage other campus organizations to purchase alarms for their student members if they are interested in doing so.

Campus SVP Student Working Group

In Progress

At IUSG, we recognize that many campus organizations have been historically involved in crucial efforts to advocate for students. We aim to amplify the work of these organizations, coordinating our efforts in pursuit of the shared goal of sexual violence prevention.

To this end, we have spent the first semester compiling a list of student leaders who represent campus organizations involved in sexual violence prevention. We have invited student leaders to meet monthly to share information related to each group's current initiatives, as well as to collaborate and share resources to support one another's goals as needed. We recognize that IUSG has privileged access to administration and University resources that we want to leverage to support the work of longstanding student organizations. Interested groups include the Sexual Health Advocacy Group, Shatter the Silence, Men as Allies, and Culture of Care. We have also invited a litany of other campus organizations who are, understandably, time-constrained by their other projects and are unable to participate. If your student organization is interested in joining this working group, please contact Maddie Butler or Visannya Saluja, our Co-Directors of Sexual Violence Prevention

Campus SVP Student Working Group

In Progress

Our campus spans 1,953 acres, making accessible and consistent transportation options on and off-campus crucial to student safety and success. Over the past two years, transportation options at Indiana University have undergone significant changes. At the beginning of the semester, students raised concerns to IUSG regarding canceled evening bus routes through IU and Bloomington Transit, which we found through subsequent informational interviews had been canceled due to driver shortages. As a result of bus route cancellations, IU Campus Bus Service, IU Fleet Services, IU Ride, and Bloomington Transit have provided a variety of subsidized ride-share services and safe ride assistance services to IUB students and Bloomington community members.

With recently developed services, it can be incredibly difficult for students to stay informed of new safe, and affordable options; utilization and awareness of the new services are currently lower than ideal. We are currently launching a two-pronged approach. First, we aim to develop a flow chart of transportation resource information to publish on various stakeholder websites. Next, we aim to partner with IU Mobile to publish this information in the application form to allow students to input their desired destination and receive recommended transportation options. Thus far, we have met with all campus partners to acquire information about transportation options, including, Justin VanLeeuwen (Director of the Campus Bus Service), Jeffery Jackson (Director of Go Bloomington), Anna Dragovich (Transportation Demand Management Coordinator and Bicycle Manager), Flor Mojica and Daj Crisler (IU Ride Directors), and Zac Huneck (Special Projects Manager at Bloomington Transit). We will spend the second semester transitioning the information to an informative deliverable for students.

Pregnant & Parenting Student Initiative

In Progress

A national study found that pregnancy and parenting are the most common reasons for undergraduate students to terminate their education. While pregnant students are afforded certain protections under Title IX, we are also interested in bolstering our support systems for undergraduate students who are parenting a child or multiple children. Graduate students at IUB are afforded subsidized child care through three University-affiliated child care centers, but undergraduate students do not qualify for the same subsidies.

We are interested in (a) expanding access to affordable child care for undergraduate students and (b) organizing a support group/community conversation for parenting undergraduate and graduate students at IUB. Thus far, we have met with Sally Thomas, the Director of the Office of Sexual Violence Prevention and Victim Advocacy to learn about existing support within IUB for pregnant and parenting students. Next steps include meeting with directors of IU-affiliated child care centers to discuss subsidization for undergraduate students.

Title IX University Policy Writing

Future

In June of 2022, the Biden Administration's Department of Education proposed new regulations under Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972. Title IX protects students from discrimination on the basis of sex; the text of the amendment states, "No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance...". Title IX regulations govern the Title IX complaint resolution process, which allows for complainants to report instances of sexual harassment, sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking to the educational institution. Based on the Biden administration's proposed regulations, which will likely be made into law in the next federal legislative session, IUB will then need to alter its institutional policy to comply with new federal guidelines. We were invited by Libby Spotts, Senior Associate Dean and Director of Student Conduct, Deputy Title IX Coordinator, to join her team in rewriting the University policy in compliance with federal guidelines. We are grateful for the invitation and look forward to advocating for student survivors when drafting institutional Title IX procedures.

Title IX *Know Your Rights* Training

Future

Due to the process outlined above, Title IX federal guidelines change rapidly with each new Presidential administration. It can be incredibly challenging for student survivors to understand their rights within Title IX procedures. Because Title IX processes can be re-traumatizing for survivors, it is important that individuals considering entering a Title IX reporting process understand the realities of the process and are able to make an informed decision regarding which path forward is best for them. In order to help facilitate this educational process and to make knowledge of Title IX processes more accessible, we are planning to create an informational “Know Your Rights” material to make accessible to students. We will do so in tandem with the policy-writing process, outlined above, to ensure the training accurately reflects new policy. We have received support from Libby Spotts, Senior Associate Dean and Director of Student Conduct, Deputy Title IX Coordinator, for this idea and are looking forward to working on it throughout the next semester.

Healthy Relationships Week

Future

In recognition of healthy relationships week, we have discussed partnering with the IUSG Co-Directors of DEI to discuss offering culturally competent healthy-relationships training to various race-based identity groups on campus. We would like to partner with the Office of Sexual Violence Prevention and Victim Advocacy to request they offer trainings, and IUSG will facilitate convening campus community partners to attend.

Intern & Committee Member Projects

As part of our responsibilities as Co-Directors of Sexual Violence Prevention, we mentor two first-year student interns. This year, our interns, Jenna and Nicole, have outlined ambitious projects. They will take initiative over executing these projects throughout the remainder of the year, with support of the IUSG Executive Cabinet, the FIP Co-Directors, our advisor Alison Miron, and our Co-Directors of SVP. Their descriptions of their projects are outlined below.

Rate Your Driver Initiative

In Progress

This project will entail the creation of an application through which students can submit publicly-available reviews of Lyft and Uber drivers operating in the Bloomington area. Before a rider chooses to get in a car through one of these ride-share services, they will be able to see reviews from other riders. After the drive, the rider will be able to write and publish a review. Unlike the reviews on the respective ride-share apps, these reviews will be available for anyone to read. The aim of this project is to create a safer environment for students when choosing to trust ride-share drivers with their personal safety. Thus far, the intern responsible for the project has developed a timeline for developing the app, including meeting with Student Legal Services to ensure the legality of the project, working with our Technology Director to develop the application, and researching to ensure that there is no other app like this on the market. We are grateful for the services ride-share drivers provide to our community, and we want to ensure that ride-share services are as safe as possible for student use.

Sexual Assault Awareness Month

In Progress

This project consists of planning activities for the month of April, which is Sexual Assault Awareness Month. The plan entails three different aspects: outreach, education and awareness. We have four different plans for acting on these values, each of which are currently in the planning and development stages. Our first is to develop instagram infographics to be posted weekly on the @titleix_iusg instagram. The posts will aim to raise awareness regarding the following topics: history of SAAM in the 1970s, mental health and trauma impacts, how to educate yourself on SAAM, and what you can do to continue to raise awareness. The first goal with this is emailing Becca Yuan, our Director of Communications, to work on infographic development. Next, we aim to hold two tabling sessions: one with Middle Way House to provide their resources alongside campus sexual assault resources to students, and the second with IU Self-defense instructors to provide self-defense services. Our keystone activity will be our Take Back the Night Rally, which will include programming and keystone speakers relates to sexual violence prevention.

Association of Big Ten Schools Liaison

Patrick Lee



What is ABTS?

ABTS stands for the Association of Big Ten Student Governments, a body that is made up of representatives from student governments of the Big Ten Conference. Representing 500,000+ students across 14 institutions, this body exists to facilitate idea generation, information sharing, and networking across these student governments. Each school sends delegations to a winter conference, where roundtable discussions and legislative sessions are held, and to a spring conference in Washington, D.C. where students meet with their national representatives to advocate for important legislation. Each school has an ABTS liaison to assist with forming connections across student governments, gathering ideas and advice to take back to their own student governments, and generally ensuring the school's student government is in the loop about events occurring across the Big 10.

ABTS Winter Conference

As liaison, part of my responsibilities have been preparing a delegation to take to the winter conference in January. In bi-weekly meetings with all of the liaisons, we have begun to consider legislative priorities for the winter session and potential roundtable discussions, including equity and accessibility, sexual violence awareness prevention and training, and civic engagement and voting. In the weeks leading up to the conference, we will draft legislation and prepare to exchange ideas and initiatives among our counterparts to strengthen our respective student governments.

ABTS Winter Conference

Apart from my role with ABTS, I have been pursuing several other initiatives! One of these is a conference with student government representatives from universities across the state of Indiana (Purdue, Ball State, IUPUI, etc) in Indianapolis to discuss important issues surrounding college accessibility and housing affordability being addressed in the legislature, and what we can do to advocate for our fellow students at the statehouse. The conference is currently planned for sometime early in the spring semester, with lots of coordination being done with student governments across the state along with IU's state relations office!

Communications & Engagement

Becca Yuan



Creation of Brand Guide

**Starting up IUSG monthly roundup report social media campaign
Newsletter email project**

First Year Internship Program

Aaliyah Raji & Andrea Moloci



Planning for the first year internship wrapped up in mid September. The first year internship program directors (Andrea Moloci & Aaliyah Raji), consolidated weekly with Alison Miron (IUSG Advisor) to spread information about the program around campus. This year, we had two main goals, increase retention and also the amount of diverse students within the program. In order to target diverse students, we specifically marketed to Groups Scholars, Hudson & Holland Scholars, 21st century Scholars Program and the cultural living learning centers. In addition, we reached out to RPS to get the fliers hung around dorms (next year, it would need to be done a bit earlier in advance). The first year internship program directors finalized application questions, as well as going over the rubric to determine whether or not the topics being discussed were still relevant to teach our future campus leaders. After the launch of the application, we received approximately 30 applications and interviewed 20 students. Out of those we interviewed, we kept 15 students. In comparison to last year, we were able to increase the amount of diverse students participating in the program. This year we had 9 students of diverse backgrounds as part of the program, which was an increase from last year.

Intern	Committee	Director
Neha Tokala	President	Kyle Seibert
Makiah Pickett	Vice President	Bell Pastore
Ahmed Athar	Technology	Zach Gregor
Abigail Sekula	Sustainability	Anetta Itryre & Henry Wolfla
Diana Reyes	Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion	Kebura Lainy & Jayana Hammonds
Abimbola Abiola	City Relations	David Wolfe Bender
Joe Sawyer	City Relations	David Wolfe Bender
Jonathan Neuwirth	ABTS	Patrick Lee
Vishnu Juvadi	Student Life	Kayla Brooks & Amangul Hydyrova
Macey Montgomery	Chief of Staff	Maddie Zirkle
Katie Ruffner	Congressional Secretary	Megan Bankowski
Ana Alagappan	Communications	Becca Yuan
Jenna Gardner	Title IX	Maddie Butler & Visannya Saluja
Nicole Santiuste	Title IX	Maddie Butler & Visannya Saluja
Aditi Aggarwal	Academic Affairs	Daniela Moloci & Aaron Toland

We held weekly meetings with Alison to check in/discuss their in-class progress and also the projects that the interns and their directors were collaborating on. Additionally, we had regular check-ins with directors to see if they had any questions or concerns. At the end of the class, students are able to demonstrate the information they were taught in class as well as the project they were working on to their peers and also other student leaders.

Some good ideas to consider for the future:

- **Funds should be requested at the beginning of the fall semester to host tabling events should be held at the beginning of the semester to provide initiatives.**
- **Market at least a month in advance to maximize the number of applicants.**

- Organizations prefer in-person requests for you to market, instead of a nice crafted email.
- Utilize the time to accurately match interns with their directors. If the intern is not passionate about the committee they are a part of, the chance of them coming back is lessened.
- Provide directors with tips to be a successful mentor.



Office of Technology

Zack Gregor



The Office of Technology, led by the Chief Technology Officer, has been hard at work supporting the Student Government with all its technology needs.

Member profiles have been published on the website to showcase the IU Student Government Cabinet members and their roles. Multiple website projects have been started and are underway including, updating information, building out the website to showcase the IUSG accomplishments and projects, and an events calendar. Outside of the web, the tech office has been working on getting IU student IDs to be compatible with Apple and Google Wallet. Starting this year IUSG moved into a new office located above the auditorium on the second floor of Memorial Union. The technology team is in the process of planning for new and updated tech hardware to make the office more usable and efficient for all students.