

Student Government Report to the Emory & Henry Board of Trustees

Yancey D. Wilmoth, Student Government President

Projects

The SGA had previously proposed a total of three projects to be carried out over the course of the academic year. To date, two of the three have been completed.

1. Mural on The Merc Project

In December 2012, three talented E&H students: Cat Richardson, Brian Stanley, and Becky Sharkey, provided the leadership to complete the selected mural design with an environmental theme on the side of The Mercantile. It provides an attractive addition to our campus featuring work totally conceived and completed by our students.

2. Picnic Tables Project

In an effort to address the need for usable outdoor space on campus, the SGA commissioned shop class students from Patrick Henry High School to build three picnic tables which are now located on the grassy area between McGlothlin-Street and Miller Halls. We venture to guess that they will provide a popular and well utilized student space for breaks between classes.

3. Gate Restoration Project

Still in progress is the third project proposal to improve the landscaping in and around the E&H Class of 1927 gate near Hillman Hall. Its future completion will continue on our agenda.

College Senate

Meredith Cox, Vice President

This academic year has brought great success to the Student Government Association of Emory & Henry. Within the Senate, resolutions have been passed implementing a proxy and demerit system to hold senators' attendance accountable. We have established Student Government Association to ownership of Veteran's Day Observations. SGA has also established numerous societies and clubs as follows: Gamma Theta Epsilon, the Geography Society, the Hermesian Literary Society, Track Club, Economics Club, and Triathlon Club.

Most recently a resolution passed thanking the Dean of Students Office for their efforts in enforcing the handbook rules concerning discipline of a recent incident of abusive language that threatened diversity on our Emory & Henry campus. Furthermore, Student Government is forming a committee for revision of the student handbook. This will include special attention regarding Emory & Henry College's policies on social media, substance abuse, and elected officials. SGA is also proud to establish budgets for all student organizations on our campus.

Finance

R. Carter Aylor, Treasurer

This semester, Student Government was allocated over \$54,650 to thirty-four organizations on campus. SGA, as always, is very thankful for the funding from the school because, with these funds, we are able to help organizations accomplish goals that serve the

needs, wants, and interests of students here at Emory & Henry. Funding from SGA will go towards sending students to annual meetings like Cardinal Key and Blue Key's conference in Toledo, Ohio this past January. SGA is also helping out organizations like River's Way and Habitat for Humanity to promote various community service activities throughout the surrounding community. Fortunately, the amount of funding that SGA was allocated for the 2013 Spring Semester was increased when compared to last year's funding. As a result of this fact, the SGA will be able to finance more trips and events than we have seen in the past. The SGA is grateful for the monetary support from the College and the Board, and with this funding, students will continue to have positive experiences during their time here at Emory & Henry.

Food Services

Kyle Boden, Chair

The Food Service Committee has made it a point, over the course of this school year, to maintain the quality relationship Sodexo has established with the student body since the start of their partnership with Emory & Henry. This relationship seems to have grown even stronger since the renovations completed this past summer; students thoroughly enjoy the new atmosphere these improvements provide. As a way to collect student feedback, Robin Walton, Dave Brinegar, Beau Gerarde, and I feel that hosting one Chef's Table per month is very beneficial. A Chef's Table is a dinner discussion that includes a five-course meal prepared by Beau, the College's executive chef, where students of all demographic backgrounds are invited to eat dinner and share any preferences, complaints and/or suggestions they may have about the dining services on campus. They have already hosted two of these events this semester with the hopes of putting on two more before the end of the school year.

Judicial Board

Aaron Gillespie, Chair

The Student Judiciary Board is made up of faithful and honorable students, faculty and staff. If thanks are to be given, they should go to Kyle Cutshaw, Talmage Dobbins, Mark Hainsworth, Shai Cullop, and the students who serve on the Judicial Board. I could not ask for a better group of people who strive to see this campus grow and prosper. I am privileged to work beside these individuals and am inspired by how much they care for the students that attend Emory & Henry College. The Student Judiciary Board hears cases that involve violations and infractions of the Emory & Henry College Code of Conduct and Honor Code. This semester has proved taxing and challenging, but I anticipate great things are coming.

The Student Code of Conduct is in need of serious repair. Others involved in the Judiciary Board and Student Government Association are concerned with the foundational structure of the Code of Conduct. With some contextual and grammatical errors being found, I find it evident that an editing process must commence. A great shame rests on the shoulders of Emory & Henry College for allowing these simplistic errors to exist for as long as they have. Although these will not fundamentally change the course of the College, I do find it important to maintain and fix problems concerning the Student Code of Conduct.

Second to this problem would be the issue of policy. In light of recent Judicial Board cases, a student-driven effort to look into the drug policy has occurred. These changes call for the involvement of more than just students (the President of the College, the Board of Trustees, etc.), I believe it to be a step in the right direction. As the Chair of Judiciary Board, it has become evident to me through experience and observation that a collective review can accomplish great things. What is even better than this is the fact that students are coming together to try to resolve issues rather than taking it out on faculty, staff or other students. Although changing policies touches so many facets in life that include religious convictions, moral convictions, political stances and personal preferences, I would suggest to anyone who is reading this that when students on this campus come together and want to change something it is not simply reactionary or childish. Although I may not necessarily agree with some of the changes being asked for, I ask everyone to support students actually doing work and taking time to make a difference. In a world that has unfortunately been taken over by laziness, lethargy, and apathy, it brings great hope to see students so active in political and judicial processes on this campus.

This campus is known for its poise and intellect and is respected by many; I wish Emory & Henry to remain that way for a long time. Please continuing thinking and praying for the College and its students and teachers. If you have any questions regarding the Judiciary Board or processes of the Judicial System at Emory & Henry College, please feel free to contact me at agillespie10@ehc.edu.

Multicultural Affairs

Donté Williams, Chair

Continuing with the momentum from the fall semester, the Multicultural Affairs Committee has nearly eclipsed its listening audience to Vibe Time. Vibe Time provides neo soul rhythm and blues and smooth hip hop on 90.7 WEHC Emory's community radio station. The spring semester has also expanded development of campus diversity by offering campus round-table discussions on race, gender, and, sexuality. The Multicultural Affairs Committee was a partner with "Emory's MLK Day Celebration", a day where the campus awareness of diversity is expressed at breakout sessions led by campus professors and community leaders. The committee's final project of the semester includes a partnership with the C Phi C social fraternity. Together we will host a spoken word, "Open Mic" night, showcasing poetry, song, or talent. This is an idea that came from the committee's karaoke night in The Hut on Thursday nights. Following the conclusion of the committee's Black History Month projects, attention will be turned toward brainstorming projects to be outlined and prepared for the fall semester.

Public Relations

Emily Carrier, Chair

In the 2012-2013 academic year, the Public Relations Department for the SGA has accomplished many short and long term goals. In the fall, we launched the long-time awaited, first ever SGA website. The Cabinet and Senate documents can always be found here and it gives students a central place to contact Student Government. We also launched two social media SGA accounts using Facebook and Twitter. These accounts provide students, faculty,

staff, and the Emory community with easily accessible updates about what the SGA is currently doing. These accounts are also used to cover big events, like the first re-founded Hermesian Society debates. The PR Department also ensures that SGA information is included regularly in The SCOOP and in WEHC Community Updates. The PR chair has additionally been responsible for making and distributing flyers to promote SGA-sponsored events.