



UISG

University of Iowa
Student Government

PROGRESS REPORT

FALL 2018

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FALL REPORT

LETTER

Dear students, staff, faculty, and administrators,

This past semester has been one to remember. As we reflect, we can be proud of the many historical and momentous experiences we have shared together. We produced record-breaking youth voter turnout, a bowl victory, and welcomed a class of 5,000+ new Hawkeyes to campus. However, the Fall also brought us many challenges as a student body. We've fought state budget cuts and the loss of several incredible students, and we have clawed to place a warm and inclusive campus climate at the forefront of university priorities.

Amidst these ups and downs, your student government has been hard at work. We are incredibly excited to share the University of Iowa Student Government 2018 Fall Report with you. This report contains updates and information about the many initiatives our administration has completed this Fall and will be continuing in the Spring. Although we take great pride in our work, we realize our successes would not be possible without the collaboration and support of our campus partners, and you: our fellow students.

As we continue to keep our constituents at the forefront of our work, rest assured that your elected representatives remain dedicated to enhancing the student experience, being responsible caretakers of our environment, improving the health and safety of our campus, and ensuring an accessible, high-quality education for generations of Hawkeyes to come.

We are proud of the work that we have accomplished thus far, and are optimistic about our work in the future. If you are interested in collaborating on any of our initiatives, have questions, or would like to learn how to get involved, we want to hear from you! You can always contact us at uisg@uiowa.edu. Thank you again. As always, it's a great day to be a Hawkeye!

Hira Mustafa, UISG President

Heath Schintler, UISG Vice President

THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA STUDENT GOVERNMENT: OUR MISSION

MISSION STATEMENT

The University of Iowa Student Government (UISG) exists to represent, serve, and empower all University of Iowa undergraduate students. As a valued member of University Shared Governance, we offer input and guidance to staff, faculty, and administrators on issues that matter to students and act as the official student voice to the Board of Regents, the State of Iowa, and local and federal legislators. We also allocate the Student Activity Fee to organizations, services, and initiatives on campus that serve students. UISG listens to the diverse needs, concerns, and perspectives of the student body and constantly strives to respond with solutions that foster a better community for student living and learning.

VALUES

ADVOCACY

UISG works to amplify the student voice to University of Iowa staff, faculty, and administrators, as well as the Board of Regents, the State of Iowa, and the nation. We strive to acknowledge and honor the diverse needs, concerns, and perspectives of students as we advocate for the collective good of the student body.

COLLABORATION

UISG values the multitude of individuals and organizations that contribute to the well-being of our diverse university community. We believe that building relationships and coalitions among these stakeholders - including local, state, and national partners - furthers our collective mission.

COMMUNITY

UISG is dedicated to a sense of community by: developing relationships, listening and responding to student concerns, sharing information and resources, and creating opportunities to contribute to the Hawkeye community.

PRODUCTIVITY

UISG is committed to producing quality results for students in a timely manner. We strive to foster a results-oriented organizational culture that ensures we effectively respond to the needs of all students.

EQUITY

UISG will use its privilege as a representative body to create change that benefits and empowers all students. We recognize the historic and current marginalization and oppression of many identities within our university community and across the world, and we will strive to include those identities through active engagement. The pursuit of justice and equity must always guide our work.

INNOVATION

UISG will approach issues in thoughtful and innovative ways, and we will build on the progress of past student leaders. We will advocate for evidence-based, sustainable solutions to student issues.

INTEGRITY

All of UISG's work should be accomplished in the most honest, transparent, and ethical manner possible.

MEET

UISG

EXECUTIVE BRANCH

The Executive Branch serves students as direct advocates with administration, within the community, and at the state and federal levels. Executives are charged with completing specific platform initiatives, resolving campus issues, and representing students through completed projects.

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LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

The UISG Legislative Branch is comprised of the Student Senate, which is charged with the duties of allocating funds and drafting legislation in the form of bills and resolutions. The Student Senate consists of 50 senators who each serve on two committees.

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SENATE COMMITTEES

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

This committee is charged with identifying the needs of students as they relate to academics. This includes but is not limited to scholarships, classroom procedures, relationships among administration and students, class offerings, research opportunities, and test preparation. This committee often works closely with the General Education Curriculum Committee and the Undergraduate Educational Policy and Curriculum Committee – both within the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences – and with the Office of the Provost.

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

The External Affairs Committee works to engage the University of Iowa and Iowa City communities in projects that benefit both groups while spreading awareness of UISG and student activities. The committee hosts events to engage students and let them know what's happening on campus. This committee also creates volunteer events that all senators can participate in.

JUSTICE & EQUITY

The Justice and Equity Committee works to create a campus environment that is welcoming and inclusive to all University of Iowa students. This committee works to magnify the voices of underrepresented and historically marginalized populations by listening to student concerns, building partnerships across campus, and creating initiatives and campaigns that improve the campus climate surrounding matters of justice and equity.

GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

The Governmental Relations Committee works to advocate for student interests in the local, state, and federal governments as well as encourage participation in governmental elections. Members of this committee register students to vote in Johnson County, organize events such as debate watch parties, and partner with Hawkeye Caucus to meet with state legislators in Des Moines.

INTERNAL AFFAIRS

The Internal Affairs committee assists in the management of the Student Senate. One of the primary responsibilities includes soliciting and reviewing applications for membership in UISG and Presidential Charter Committees as well as conducting interviews for those positions. Other responsibilities include but are not limited to: coordinating appeal's processes when members of UISG are removed from office and reviewing and updating our bylaws and constitution. This committee often works with the Speaker of the Senate, the Secretary, and the Student Judicial Branch.

HEALTH & SAFETY

The Health & Safety Committee works to provide students with resources, programming, and information relating to health and safety concerns at the University of Iowa. This committee often works with the City of Iowa City to complete initiatives dealing with safe transportation, living environments, and experiences downtown. This committee also frequently works with various offices on campus and around Iowa City that handle issues of health and safety – University Counseling Services, Rape Victim and Advocacy Program, Women's Resource and Action Center, residence hall staff, and others.

SABAC

“SABAC” stands for Student Auditing Budgeting and Allocations Committee. The committee's main responsibility is managing funds provided by the Student Activities Fee. SABAC directly oversees allocations to commonly registered student organizations and jointly approves with GPAC budgeting proposals from Collaboratively Funded Organizations (CFOs). Aside from annual allocations, the committee reviews any funding request to Senate above \$1,500 and works with CFO of UISG to manage the Contingency Account.

STUDENT LIFE

The Student Life Committee works to foster an enriched student life by developing initiatives designed to address student interests, needs, or concerns. This committee works on a wide range of issues from providing access common resources (umbrellas and chargers) to advocating for, and trying to secure, affordable food and housing for all students. This committee works on anything aimed at improving the day-to-day experience of the undergraduate student body.

SUSTAINABILITY

The Sustainability Committee is responsible for coordinating the sustainability projects and general environmental awareness efforts at the University of Iowa. The Green Initiatives Fund is allocated by this committee to fund sustainability-oriented events and projects.

PROGRESS &

INITIATIVES

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

ITS AFFORDABLE CONTENT

Completed

Description: Delivery of Textbooks and course materials through ICON (ICON Direct).

UISG Members Involved: Tristan Schmidt, Guowei Qi, AJ Smith

Notes: A resolution was passed in support of ICON Direct. Over the course of the program so far (since its inception in Fall 2017), University of Iowa students have saved over \$1,144,000. In fall 2018 alone, \$479,580 was saved, and spring 2019 \$386,110 has already been saved by students.

Related News Coverage

[UI Launches ICON Direct to Save Students Money on Textbooks](#)

[ICON Direct Saves UI Students Money on Textbooks](#)

[Textbook Donation Drive Makes Books More Affordable for Students](#)

Related Legislation

ADVOCACY FOR CULTURAL REVITALIZATION COURSES

Completed

Description: Advocate for increased coursework for cultural revitalization in the Native Studies department, as it is currently lacking.

UISG Members Involved: Holden Day

Notes: Legislation was passed in support of these efforts.

ACADEMIC COMPLAINT FORM

In Progress

Description: UISG is working with the Dean of Students office to create a form for students to report policy violations by professors and teaching assistants, such as syllabus violations and inconsistent classroom expectations.

UISG Members Involved: Guowei Qi, Tristan Schmidt, Sara Bultsma

Notes: A meeting with the Dean of Students to discuss their current complaint form is being scheduled for the spring semester.

ACCESSIBILITY TO UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH

In Progress

Description: UISG is working to encourage undergraduate research and experiential learning opportunities, especially for students in the humanities. The University of Iowa has a goal of ~40% of undergraduates pursuing research at some point in their time on campus.

UISG Members Involved: Hira Mustafa, Guowei Qi

Notes: Meeting with Bob Kirby, Melinda Licht, Aaron Kline to discuss accessibility of research to undergraduates. UISG is partnering to develop a two-week “Fall in Love With Research” campaign in February, the goal of which is to help undergraduate students understand what research is, why it is important for them, and how they can get involved. UISG is partnering with all four branches of shared governance to create this campaign with videos, photos, and events.

ACE EVALUATION CHANGES

In Progress

Description: We are providing input on changes to Assessing the Classroom Environment (ACE) forms that are being explored by the University.

UISG Members Involved: Guowei Qi, Tristan Schmidt

ENCOURAGING MENTORSHIP ON CAMPUS

In Progress

Description: In an effort to improve student retention rates, we will work to encourage the institutionalization of a student mentorship program.

UISG Members Involved: Hira Mustafa

Notes: In Progress. Hira & Dexter Golvinghorst (President of Graduate and Professional Student Government) sent a joint letter to Dr. Shivers supporting a campus-wide mentorship program. Next steps are currently in discussion.

ADVERTISE REVIEW SESSION AND MIDTERM LIMIT

In Progress

Description: By making sure professors advertise the review sessions that are available for their classes and emails are sent out to every student about academic support, we hope to encourage students to take advantage of free academic support resources on a regular basis. We will also make students aware that they are able to appeal to the registrar if they have more than two midterm exams scheduled in one day to help support mental health and academic success.

UISG Members Involved: Kristen Young, Kristen Ahrens

Notes: A meeting has been scheduled to evaluate the optimal way to make students be aware of this policy over the years.

FACULTY TOWN HALL

In Progress

Description: UISG will work with Faculty Senate to hold a Town Hall to showcase the accomplishments of Faculty of Color.

UISG Members Involved: Guowei Qi, Anger Dok, Kristen Young, Shalini Birari

Notes: A Faculty of Color Town Hall is being scheduled for the spring semester.

INCREASE SUPPORT FOR FIRST GENERATION STUDENTS

In Progress

Description: We will collaborate with TRIO Student Support Services and the Iowa EDGE Program to create peer mentorship programs, support groups, marketing for academic and financial support resources, and outreach events geared toward the first generation experience. These programs will further support first generation students as they navigate the college experience.

UISG Members Involved: Tristan Schmidt, Alexia Sanchez, Guowei Qi, Freddy Quevedo, Noel Mills, Liam Curoe, Abby Simon (Lecture Committee), Amber Crow, Carolina Herrera, Oscar Rodriguez, Lucas Halvorson (CAB), Ruth Kahssai (CAB)

Notes: The First Generation Summit Planning Committee is organizing the 2nd annual First Generation Summit for April 13th.

Related News Coverage

[UI Commemorates First Gen Student Success with Week Long Celebration](#)

OER INCENTIVE PROGRAM

In Progress

Description: As a part of UISG's continued efforts to increase affordability for students, UISG is working with UI Libraries to provide incentives for faculty members to create open educational resources, which saves students money on textbook costs.

UISG Members Involved: Guowei Qi, Tristan Schmidt

Notes: Legislation for funding this initiative will potentially be proposed in the spring semester.

PROFESSIONAL AND CAREER DEVELOPMENT

In Progress

Description: Through collaboration with Faculty Senate and the Pomerantz Career Center, we will help create learning opportunities for professional development in the classroom, conduct an assessment to target the areas in which students can improve their professional development, and modify the peer mentor program to include internship preparation for a wider variety of majors. These programs will help Hawkeyes find jobs and internships, as well as develop alumni connections that build their resumes and make their education even more worthwhile.

UISG Members Involved: Sara Bultsma, Katherine Baer, Kristen Young, Shalini Birari

Notes: In Progress. Exploring professional and career development options with GPSG, Faculty Senate, and Pomerantz Center. Specifically, showcasing faculty of color and developing professional support for ESL students. Beginning to discuss plans for a Faculty of Color Town Hall event.

SDS ACCOMMODATIONS

In Progress

Description: Working with SDS to work on how academic accommodations for students with learning, psychological, and/or medical disabilities in the classroom.

UISG Members Involved: Tristan Schmidt

Notes: The Office of the Provost has been reached out to discuss.

SYLLABI ACCESSIBILITY

In Progress

Description: UISG is working with faculty to post syllabi by early registration times on MyUI, as well as work with college curriculum committees to establish more defined accountability measures. Syllabi are a key component to registering for classes--this will help students prepare and budget for their upcoming semesters.

UI ACADEMIC ROUNDTABLE

In Progress

Description: UISG is working to establish an academic roundtable group across the University of Iowa undergraduate enrolling colleges to discuss academic issues and help develop innovative solutions to situations faced by students in the various colleges. This will be independent organization that will have established bylaws verified by UISG and then given control to the roundtable. 2 delegates from each college's governing group to will help in the decision-making process. UISG will not have any decision power, but will serve as an observer-admin.

UISG Members Involved: Tristan Schmidt, Brooklyn French

Notes: We have reached out to College of Education and College of Nursing groups, however, still awaiting reply. CLAS, Tippie, College of Engineering, and College of Public Health have accepted. Planning first meeting for the Spring 2019 semester.

UNIVERSAL ABSENCE POLICY

In Progress

Description: Create a University-wide policy for short-term health-related absences.

UISG Members Involved: Guowei Qi

Notes: Had a discussion with Kathy Hall and will be presenting to Undergraduate Educational Policy and Curriculum Committee (UEPCC) about a mental health absence form; updated the absence section of the CLAS website for students. Will follow up with Kathy over Winter Break to revise the form and update the CLAS absence website.

VETERAN ACADEMIC SUPPORT

In Progress

Description: UISG is working with the University of Iowa Veterans Association (UIVA) Creating and providing more support to veterans in academic programming; reframing veteran identity within academia and assessing future initiatives.

UISG Members Involved: Tristan Schmidt

Notes: Work with External Affairs to have senator or two go to University of Iowa Veteran Association meetings to explain funding processes; Work with Matthew Miller to discuss First Generation Summit involvement.

VIRTUAL OFFICE HOUR COMMUNICATIONS

In Progress

Description: We will work with Department Heads, Faculty Senate, and GPSG to encourage faculty members and teaching assistants to hold office hours via video chat. By doing so, we hope to extend the accessibility of office hours by allowing professors and students to meet at more convenient times.

Notes: We have reached out to Graduate and Professional Student Government (GPSG) and discussed the possibility with Cornelia Lang. Further action items are being explored for the spring 2019 semester.

VOLUNTEERING FOR ACADEMIC CREDIT

In Progress

Description: Volunteering and experiential learning are valuable ways to acquire skills that cannot be attained in the classroom--we will promote this form of learning by creating a 1000 level experiential learning class that provides academic credit for volunteer work. This will allow students to showcase their commitment to volunteering and bettering their community formally on their transcripts.

UISG Members Involved: Jenna Pokorny, Guowei Qi

Notes: In discussions with Honors Program, Pomerantz Center, TCOB to determine the best route to pursue this. Will potentially be drafting a course proposal over Winter Break.

REGENT ACADEMIC AFFAIRS NETWORK

In Progress

Description: We will work with Iowa State University and University of Northern Iowa's student governments to create academic affairs roundtables to discuss and collaborate on academic-related initiatives and goals.

UISG Members Involved: Tristan Schmidt, Brooklyn French

Notes: A meeting occurred with Iowa State University. We are developing a monthly rotation discussion schedule. Efforts are being made to reach out to the University of Northern Iowa student government.

SUPPLEMENTAL INSTRUCTION ADVOCACY

In Progress

Description: Advocating for increased resource allocation to Supplemental Instruction as well campus and state awareness of academic services. Frequent Supplemental Instruction attendance has been shown to increase students' GPA and improve retention rates. We will continue collaboration with Academic Support & Retention on improvements to SI, such as expanding class offerings, increasing the number of SI leaders, and advocating for increased funding to AS&R.

UISG Members Involved: Tristan Schmidt, Guowei Qi

Notes: Joint legislation with Graduate and Professional Student Government (GPSG) was passed in support of supplemental instruction. Iowa State University and University of Northern Iowa student governments have been reached out to for collaboration, but we have not heard back yet. Next steps are being explored.

Related Legislation

HAWKEYE COMPLETION GRANT

Ongoing

Description: Last year, the Hawkeye Completion Grant was created by UISG along with campus partners. This year, we are ensuring the continual funding of this grant, and advocate for the long-term institutionalization of this opportunity.

UISG Members Involved: Sara Bultsma, Katherine Baer, Tristan Schmidt, Guowei Qi

Notes: The Office of Financial Student Aid has committed \$50,000 per year for the funding of the Hawkeye Completion Grant. Legislation was presented on November 28th and passed for \$7,500. \$1,012 was raised for Giving Tuesday, in conjunction with the Student Advancement Network. A GOLDRush submission has been accepted and a crowdfunding campaign will be held in spring 2019.

Related News Coverage

[UISG Votes for Additional Funding Towards Hawkeye Completion Grant Program](#)

[Hawkeye Completion Grant Program Helps Students with Overdue UBill Charges](#)

[Hawkeye Completion Grant](#)

[New Hawkeye Completion Grant with Help Students Pay College Bill, Stay Enrolled](#)

[A Rose for University Completion Grant Programs to Reduce Dropouts](#)

TEXTBOOK AFFORDABILITY

Ongoing

Description: As a part of UISG's efforts to increase student affordability, UISG is collaborating with the University of Iowa libraries, ITS, and other campus partners to increase the usage of electronic course materials, expand course reserves, and encourage instructors to place all textbook and course material orders at the Iowa Hawk Shop. By doing so we hope to make textbooks and other academic resources more accessible and affordable to students.

Notes: The Textbook Affordability Pilot (TAP) committee held a semi-annual textbook donation drive during December to add textbooks to course reserves, which are available for checkout by students at the Main Library, free of charge. So far, 188 texts were donated, with a total value of those used texts totaling \$4028 dollars. Legislation will be presented in the spring semester to help fund the Student Affordability Pilot efforts. Ways to advertise through the cultural houses and Center for Diversity and Enrichment is also being explored.

Related News Coverage

[UI Libraries and Student Government Collaborate to Reduce Textbook Cost](#)

[Textbook Affordability Pilot: Books on Reserve](#)

[UI Launches ICON Direct Save Students Money on Textbooks](#)

[UISG Funds UI Library Course Reserves](#)

EXPAND THE AVAILABILITY OF INDIVIDUAL STUDY SPACES

Not Initiated

Description: We will conduct a study space audit to identify poor study spaces and help us better understand the study habits and preferences of all students when advising the construction of future study spaces. This will help accommodate the University's growing student population and the increased desire for private study areas

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ORIENTATION/ACADEMIC RESOURCES

Postponed

Description: Collect student input on changing International Student Orientation. Create a list of academic support resources for International Students.

UISG Members Involved: Ziheng Ju, Tristan Schmidt

Notes: A meeting occurred with International Student and Scholar Services (ISSS) and are discussing next steps. Creating a task force or focus group for input on International Student Orientation is being explored.

EXTERNAL RELATIONS

IMPROVING SENATE MEETING ENGAGEMENT

Completed

Description: Provide methods for students to get engaged in Student Senate meetings, and improve transparency to the student body by livestreaming the Student Senate meetings on Facebook each week, using the Textedly mass texting service to communicate with constituents what is occurring at each upcoming meetings, providing guidance to constituents on how they can write legislation, and more!

UISG Members Involved: Herbert Meisner, Colin Lakadat, Kristen Ahrens, Guowei Qi, John Woodruff, Kristen Young

Notes: Follow our [Facebook](#) page to see our live streams of previous Student Senate meetings, and be updated about future livestreams. Sign up for Senate Meeting text updates here - <https://goo.gl/forms/dCe3rARM5ERteCY63>

Related Legislation

SHARED GOVERNANCE EVENT MIXER

In Progress

Description: As a part of UISG's efforts to improve relations between campus partners, we will plan an annual mixer event at the beginning of each new UISG administration with shared governance members. This would include administration, staff council, GPSG members, UISG members, and Faculty Senate, providing an opportunity to create relationships, which will be beneficial in the implementation of shared initiatives throughout the rest of the year.

UISG Members Involved: Heath Schintler

CONSTITUENCY ROUNDTABLES

In Progress

Description: UISG Constituency senators will host monthly roundtables with their respective constituents at cultural centers, resource centers, or other available locations for the community to discuss issues they face. Through this initiative, UISG will provide another outlet for constituents to have their voices heard.

UISG Members Involved: Colin Lakadat, Fredy Quevedo Jr.

Notes: Colin Lakadat (LGBTQ Constituency Senator), Fredy Quevedo Jr. (Latinx Constituency Senator), and Kristen Young (Black Constituency Senator) have all reached out to their respective cultural centers and have all set up times for constituents to discuss issues, take part in forums, and get more involved. Colin will reach out to other constituency senators to ensure they are doing the same.

INCREASE FOOD ACCESSIBILITY ON CAMPUS

In Progress

Description: UISG will help to increase food availability on campus for food-insecure students, both by expanding the Food Pantries services and by working with University Housing and Dining to allow C-Stores to accept SNAP benefits.

UISG Members Involved: Colin Lakadat, Isabelle Judith Webber, Hannah Shrader, Theresa Patterson, Anthony Smith

Notes: We have worked with the University of Iowa Food Pantry to assist them in their efforts to expand to the west side of campus through the creation of marketing materials. Additionally, a meeting occurred to discuss how we can expand SNAP (food stamp) eligible locations on or near campus.

INCREASE OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS TO GIVE FEEDBACK ABOUT CAMPUS LIFE

In Progress

Description: UISG will create semesterly feedback surveys, work closely with Resident Assistants, and provide opportunities to give anonymous feedback which will allow students to share their concerns with their student representatives. This initiative allows UISG to become more inclusive and more conscious of the entire undergraduate population.

UISG Members Involved: John Woodruff, Emily Hagedorn

Notes: The Iowa Ideas/Campus Idea Commonsense initiative is similar to this. However, it isn't a survey and it isn't anonymous. Currently, the plan is to contact the Division of Student Life to host something like this on their website.

STUDENT ORGANIZATION DEVELOPMENT DAY

In Progress

Description: UISG is working with the Center for Student Involvement and Leadership to organize an event for student organization leaders to attend trainings related to funding, fundraising, sustainable event planning, collaboration with other student organizations, and more. Funding was passed through Senate to fund the event at \$5,750. The Student Organization Development Day Committee is in the process of working to plan the event for February.

UISG Members Involved: Herbert Meisner, Isabelle Webber, Oscar Rodriguez, Sameer Ansari

Related Legislation

"THANK YOU" EVENT FOR CAMPUS PARTNERS

In Progress

Description: Near the end of each semester, have Senators and Executives write thank you notes to campus partners that they have worked with on various initiatives. We will also be hosting an end of the year "Thank You" event which will highlight our initiatives that year, and provide an opportunity to thank our campus partners for all their help completing these initiatives.

UISG Members Involved: Herbert Meisner

FRESHMAN SENATOR TOWN HALL - LATE NIGHT PIZZA WITH UISG!

In Progress

Description: This is an effort to connect first-year students with their first-year senators. We will be asking them to sign up for UISG email updates, ask a question about UISG or give us a concern they have in exchange for some yummy pizza! The goal of this event gives Freshmen a better idea of the role of UISG and how we are a part of their experience as a student at Iowa.

UISG Members Involved: Oscar Rodriguez, Lucy Karlin, Emily Hagedorn, Joseph Verry, Liam Curoe, Izzy Nanke, Carolina Herrera, Shalini Birari, Anna Correa, Stacy Kabenda

Notes: We are currently contacting residence halls associations to help spread the word and determining important details for the event.

STUDENT ORGANIZATION ENGAGEMENT

Ongoing

Description: As a part of UISG's ongoing efforts to increase knowledge of UISG and to hear from students, 431 student organizations were contacted via email to gauge their interest in meeting with a UISG representative. 39 student organizations indicated that they would like to meet with a UISG representative. These meetings are ongoing, and efforts are being made to continue and improve student organization engagement for future years of UISG.

UISG Members Involved: Herbert Meisner, John Woodruff, Colin Lakadat

"COMPLAIN FOR A COOKIE" AND "BREAKFAST WITH UISG" EVENTS

Ongoing

Description: As a part of UISG's ongoing efforts to serve and engage with the student body, we have been continuing the UISG tradition of "Breakfast with UISG" events on the T. Anne Cleary Walkway, while also holding new "Complain for a Cookie" events, to elicit feedback from students on what they want to see improved about the University of Iowa.

UISG Members Involved: Herbert Meisner, Colin Lakadat, Theresa Patterson, Bernardo Duarte, Emily Hagedorn

INCREASE THE COMMUNICATION AND TRANSPARENCY BETWEEN STUDENTS AND UISG

Ongoing

Description: Live streaming senate meetings will allow all students to see what is being worked on and gives them the opportunity to comment on the subjects being discussed. In addition, we would like to promote outreach in the residence halls and cultural houses to encourage general communication between UISG officials and the student body.

UISG Members Involved: Izabelle Nanke, Fredy Quevedo

Notes: Senate meetings and other UISG related events are Facebook live streamed by the Communications Team. Outreach in the residence halls and cultural houses are ongoing.

CREATE A TOWN HALL SETTING TO TALK WITH UNIVERSITY OF IOWA OFFICIALS

Not Initiated

Description: It is difficult to open a dialogue with several different departments within the University. The Town Hall setting will invite people from major University of Iowa departments such as Housing and Dining, ITS, and more in order for these departments to hear the comments and concerns of students.

UISG Members Involved: Joseph Cassano, Oscar Rodriguez

ADVOCATE FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO STUDENT EMPLOYMENT

Not Initiated

Description: We will work to improve the process of finding and obtaining a student job through online student employment resources as well as advocate for the reevaluation of student job requirements and restrictions. With increasing cost of tuition, it is more important than ever to ensure that students can continue to afford college.

UISG Members Involved: Izabelle Nanke, Colin Lakadat

ENCOURAGE UNIVERSITY CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS TO ACTIVELY DISCUSS SUBJECTS SURROUNDING BIAS, DISCRIMINATION, SEXUAL ASSAULT, AND OTHER LARGE ISSUES COLLEGE STUDENTS FACE

Not Initiated

Description: UISG will encourage clubs and organizations to be proactive and engaged with their members when discussing these topics. This allows all students to obtain a better understanding of these subjects and learn how to deal with situations involving these subjects.

UISG Members Involved: Isabelle Judith Webber, Anthony Haughton, Oscar Rodriguez

INCREASE SUPPORT FOR CHARITABLE AND COMMUNITY-FOCUSED PROJECTS

Not Initiated

Description: UISG will advocate for the increase of collaboration with philanthropic student organizations. By increasing efforts to support these organizations, both the University of Iowa and its surrounding communities will benefit from the hard work philanthropic organizations do.

UISG Members Involved: Bernardo Duarte

GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL ELECTION FORUM

Completed

Description: In UISG's ongoing effort to improve student's civic engagement, UISG hosted a student-focused forum for the Iowa City Council candidates.

UISG Members Involved: Gustave Stewart, Austin Wu, Jenna Pokorny, Dalvyn Walker

Notes: UISG's Iowa City Council Election Forum took place Wednesday, Sept. 19th at 7pm in the Iowa Theater, IMU. The forum had six prepared questions asked to the two candidates, Bruce Teague and Ann Freerks. After the prepared questions, the audience asked numerous questions. A total of about 25 people attended the event.

Related News Coverage

[Iowa City City Council Candidates Hold Public Forum to Communicate with U of I Students](#)

INCREASE STUDENT-ORIENTED EVENTS DOWNTOWN

Completed

Description: In an effort to increase the amount and quality of non-alcoholic student-oriented events in the Iowa City downtown area, UISG partnered with the Iowa City Downtown District and the Campus Activities Board (CAB)

UISG Members Involved: Gustave Stewart, Noel Mills, Austin Wu

Notes: UISG provided CAB \$4800 to fund CAB hosting 6 student-focused downtown events

OFF-CAMPUS RENTER'S GUIDE

Completed

Description: This guide includes information compiled through an extensive survey of off-campus renters, which evaluates the perceived level of service and quality tenants received from their landlords. Survey participants were asked questions relevant to their experience with their landlord or property manager during the last year. UISG hopes that this guide will help students to make well-informed decisions during your search for housing.

UISG Members Involved: Gustave Stewart, Austin Wu

Notes: The Renter's Guide survey was distributed in April 2018, the data was organized during the summer, and the guide was formatted and designed in September. The l was sent out in early October via social media, website, and a mass email.

Related News Coverage

[UISG Renter's Guide Suggests Students Sign Leases One Year Prior to Move-In](#)

[UISG Renter's Guide Serves as Housing Resource](#)

[Housing Survey yo Serve Greater Purpose for UI Student Body](#)

VOTER REGISTRATION EFFORTS

Completed

Description: Execute the 2018-2019 Voter Registration Plan and register at least 60% of undergraduate students to vote. UISG will continue to expand our outreach by hiring fellows, partnering with politically minded student organizations and offices around campus, and creating OnIowa! programming to register as many students to vote as possible. By making students more aware of voting information, we hope to increase civic engagement on campus and get more people involved with their representatives.

UISG Members Involved: Jocelyn Roof, Connor Wooff

Notes: We will be debriefing how our efforts went this year and planning a split into a separate student organization, “Hawk the Vote”, specifically focused on registering students to vote.

Related News Coverage

[UISG/GPSG Hopes to Increase Student Voter Turnout through Voter Registration Week](#)

[Kumar: Thankful for the voter turnout](#)

[Efforts to Attract the Youth Continue As Election Day Approaches](#)

CREATE A VOTER INFORMATION WEBSITE

In Progress

Description: As a part of UISG’s ongoing efforts to improve student civic engagement, we will create a website which provides information about voting and civic engagement opportunities to University of Iowa students.

UISG Members Involved: Jocelyn Roof, Connor Wooff, Kyle Scheer

Notes: The website has been created, but the content needs to be updated, we need to determine a strategy for keeping the website updated, and we need to market it to the student body.

GET TO KNOW YOUR LEGISLATORS

In Progress

Description: Ensure members of UISG know their state legislators and how to contact them on various student related issues, including the legislative agenda.

UISG Members Involved: Jocelyn Roof, Connor Wooff

Notes: Information has been collected on UISG member's local legislators, and will be providing information on those legislators for UISG members to contact them in the second semester.

ONIOWA! TUITION EDUCATION

In Progress

Description: Provide information to new students about tuition and fees, including the Student Activity Fee, at OnIowa!

UISG Members Involved: Jocelyn Roof, Avery Brennan

Notes: We reached out to OnIowa! Leadership about the possibility of including this information in the formal required OnIowa! Programming. However, this can be explored by having a "What It's All About: Tuition and Fees" event.

TUITION EDUCATION VIDEO

In Progress

Description: UISG is working to create a comprehensive tuition education video to share with students. This video is scripted and ready to be recorded, just needs actor and a videographer! The GR committee will film and market a tuition education video.

UISG Members Involved: Jocelyn Roof

Notes: Instead of a video, we will be holding a town-hall on tuition and overall finances in the university.

VOTER REGISTRATION IN LEASE PAPERS

In Progress

Description: As a part of UISG's efforts to institutionalize voter registration of students, we are working to create a requirement in which voter registration forms will be provided in lease papers when people move in to a new apartment or rented home. When you move, you are required to re-register to vote. This will provide students moving an opportunity to register or re-register to vote as soon as they move in.

UISG Members Involved: Gustave Stewart, Austin Wu

Notes: Gustave has been in meetings with Iowa City and Johnson County officials to discuss putting both voter registration information and tenants' rights information in lease papers

AFFORDABLE TUITION

In Progress

Description: With rising tuition, UISG recognizes the need for students to have predictability with how much their education will cost. We will continue to expand our advocacy to the administration and Board of Regents for a reasonable, predictable, multi-year tuition plan. We will also advocate at the state level for the creation of a state-based tuition grant program to reduce the burden placed on students, as well as create a tuition education video.

UISG Members Involved: Heath Schintler, Kyle Scheer

Notes: We are working with the Office of Student Financial Aid to provide guidance to students on the new Board of Regents 5-year tuition model.

Related News Coverage

[UISG and GPSG Discuss Tuition Collaboration in Annual Joint Meeting](#)

CREATE A CENTER FOR STUDENT ENGAGEMENT AND ACTION

In Progress

Description: As a part of UISG's ongoing efforts to promote civic engagement among students, UISG will work with campus partners to create a Center for Student Engagement and Action to promote and support civic engagement efforts by students.

UISG Members Involved: Jocelyn Roof, Connor Wooff

Notes: Working with the Center for Student Involvement and Leadership (CSIL), a location for a civic engagement center has been identified in the Iowa Memorial Union (IMU). A meeting has been scheduled with CSIL in early January to discuss funding for the creation of a civic engagement center.

INCREASING OFF-CAMPUS SUPPORT

In Progress

Description: UISG will establish programs like Lease Gap Housing and the Neighborhood Ambassador Program that aim to support students living off-campus. UISG recognizes the unique struggles these student often face, and through these initiatives we hope to expand the resources available for these students to turn to.

UISG Members Involved: Gustave Stewart, Austin Wu

Notes: In Progress. Currently beginning off-campus housing support research of other institutions.

Related News Coverage

[UISG Lease Gap Program to Give Students Housing in Between Leasing](#)

CAMPUS BIKE SHARE

In Progress

Description: UISG will work on collaborating and ensuring student accessibility for the future City of Iowa City bike share program. Through this program, members of the University of Iowa and Iowa City community will be able to check out and use a bike throughout the community. This program will allow anyone that doesn't have bike to be able to use one and cover the last bit of an individual's commute.

UISG Members Involved: Gustave Stewart

Notes: A bike share program is being assessed through the City of Iowa City. Gustave Stewart, the UISG City Council Liaison, is a member of the committee assessing potential vendors.

COALITION OF IOWA COLLEGE STUDENTS

In Progress

Description: Iowa will spearhead a collection of college students from 2- and 4-year private and public institutions from across the state to 1) Ramp up voter registration and turnout efforts in the state among young voters (primarily college students), and 2) To continue the partnership into the future to enact change at a statewide level via collective advocacy work.

UISG Members Involved: Heath Schintler

Notes: We will be reaching out to other colleges and universities in late January to coordinate trips to the Iowa Capitol to advocate for student issues.

STUDENT ADVOCACY

Ongoing

Description: UISG will work hard to expand our advocacy on the local, state, and federal level on important issues including mental health, medical amnesty, homeless student support, affordable tuition and more. Specifically at the state level, we will also advocate for state funding for mental health and services for survivors of sexual assault, expanded work-study programs, and increased financial support for the University.

UISG Members Involved: Hira Mustafa, Heath Schintler, Jocelyn Roof, Connor Wooff

Notes: GR leadership team and some senators are meeting with legislators over winter break to discuss our three priorities: move-in checklist, appropriations, and medical amnesty. Regular visits to the state capitol have been scheduled to advocate for these priorities in the spring semester. If you are interested in learning more, or how you can get involved, contact Connor Wooff at connor-wooff@uiowa.edu.

OFF-CAMPUS HOUSING AFFORDABILITY

Ongoing

Description: Off-Campus housing is unaffordable for students wishing to live in close proximity to the University of Iowa. UISG should continue to advocate to city council for ways to make off-campus living more affordable.

UISG Members Involved: Gustave Stewart, Austin Wu

Notes: Advocated for an increase in the housing supply by speaking at City Council meetings and re-zoning changes. Met with the Johnson Affordable Housing Coalition to discuss various affordability efforts. Met with an affordable housing expert within the Urban Planning department. Contributed to studies occurring within the university regarding affordable housing. Navigated and pushed for a more clear vision for affordable housing fund distribution in the Riverfront Crossing Area.

HOSTING POLITICAL FIGURES ON CAMPUS

Ongoing

Description: As a part of UISG's ongoing efforts to have students be civically engaged, we will host local and state political figures on campus for roundtables, panels, and lectures to provide an opportunity for students to engage with their government representatives.

UISG Members Involved: Jocelyn Roof, Connor Wooff, AJ Smith

Notes: In second semester, we will be reaching out to Johnson County legislators to see if they would be interested in having a forum just for students. There was one the Daily Iowan hosted at the public library and this was awesome, but more community-oriented. It would be great to have one about student issues.

Related News Coverage

[Iowa City City Council Candidates Hold Public Forum to COmmunicate with U of I Students](#)

[Zach Wahls Answers Questions About Education and Wages with UI Students](#)

[UISG Holds Forum for State Senate Hopefuls](#)

ADVOCATING FOR SAFE & AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Ongoing

Description: UISG will continue to advocate for increased accessibility to safe and affordable housing with background checks for property management that have unsupervised access to apartment units, expanding the street lighting on and off campus, and partnering with community housing advocacy groups to provide better housing for students. UISG will also create an off-campus renters guide that will collect information regarding apartment quality in order to keep students informed before they sign a lease.

UISG Members Involved: Gustave Stewart, Austin Wu

Notes: Met with Stan Laverman about the UISG Renter's Guide information and have advocated for development of 12 E. Court Street apartments to increase the housing supply and drive down prices.

BOARD OF REGENTS VISIT DAYS

Ongoing

Description: Continuing this tradition from last year, UISG will host several members of the Board of Regents on campus where they can learn about the resources and students of the University. Because the Board of Regents plays such an integral role in our University, we hope to continue to better our relationship with them moving forward.

UISG Members Involved: Connor Wooff, Jenna Pokorny, Jocelyn Roof, Hira Mustafa

Notes: We will be sending out invitations to Board of Regents members to come to campus in February

PROMOTE THE STUDENT BILL OF RIGHTS

Not Initiated

Description: UISG will work to ensure that students are aware of the rights and privileges given to them by this bill. By doing so, we hope to increase the amount of students who take advantage of these resources designed to promote student success during their time here at the University.

UISG Members Involved: Jocelyn Roof

CENTRALIZE OFF-CAMPUS SUPPORT SERVICES

Not Initiated

Description: Students who live on campus tend to be very well-supported, and know where to find information relevant to living in the residence halls. They are also more exposed to University services/marketing than those living off-campus. Several services are offered to assist students living off campus, but these are not in one centrally located place on campus. UISG will advocate to move Off-Campus Support Services to one central location.

UISG Members Involved: Gustave Stewart, Austin Wu, Jocelyn Roof

HEALTH & SAFETY

ADDING EMERGENCY INFORMATION TO STUDENT ID'S

Completed

Description: Student ID's should be as useful to students as possible. Since every student has one, and it is our goal to keep all Hawkeyes safe, we should put emergency numbers on IDs so they know who to call should they need help.

UISG Members Involved: Hira Mustafa

Notes: Met with Laurie Lentz about putting emergency numbers on IDs. The ID will be updated in 1.5-2 years with the info due to a backlog of current ID materials. It will include the suicide hotline, RVAP hotline, 911, and possibly NiteRide and University Counseling Services.

PIZZA AND PROTECTION

Completed

Description: This event provided information regarding safe sex practices, along with condoms, while also providing pizza to students as a treat. The event was held on the T. Anne Cleary Walkway (Kautz Plaza) on October 25th.

UISG Members Involved: Elli Lenz

CULTURAL HOUSE SEXUAL ASSAULT RESOURCE AWARENESS

Completed

Description: The purpose of this initiative is to install sexual assault resource guides/awareness similar to those in the IMU in the cultural centers.

UISG Members Involved: Micah Augusma

Notes: Posters outlining available resources for sexual assault survivors have been placed in each of the cultural centers, along with bathrooms in the University of Iowa College of Law.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

Completed

Description: As a part of Domestic Violence Awareness Month, UISG hosted multiple events to shed light on the issue of domestic violence, including a donation drive for the Domestic Violence Intervention Program (DVIP) and a “These Hands Don’t Hurt” awareness event.

UISG Members Involved: Amber Crow, Elli Lenz, Ben Colin, Jenna Pokorny

PROVIDE SAD LAMPS FOR STUDENTS

Completed

Description: As a part of UISG’s efforts to promote positive mental health practices, UISG is partnering with Student Health and Wellness and University Counseling Services to provide lamps for individuals suffering from seasonal affective disorder (SAD).

UISG Members Involved: Micah Augusma

Notes: UISG has purchased 40 UV-Light SAD Lamps for a total of \$1500, which were made available for free checkout by students from Student Health & Wellness in Westlawn, Student Health & Wellness at CRWC (in the Wellness Services Suite), University Counseling Services in Westlawn, University Counseling Service in UCC as of November 1st. Since November 1st, over 40 lamps have been checked out by students. How to Get a SAD Lamp: <https://studenthealth.uiowa.edu/light-therapy/>

Related News Coverage

[College Students Use Light Therapy to Battle Seasonal Depression](#)

[Student Health Offers New Solution for Students with Seasonal Affective Disorder](#)

IT'S ON US WEEK OF ACTION

Completed

Description: The It's On Us Week of Action was a week of events in November to raise awareness about sexual assault prevention and response. These included the It's On Us Resource Fair (with participants including University Counseling Services, Women's Resource and Action Center, Rape Victim Advocacy Program, Student Health and Wellness, Domestic Violence Intervention Program, Monsoon Iowa, Nisaa African Family Services, Office of the Sexual Misconduct Response Coordinator, Flip the Script course coordinator, and Department of Public Safety), a Vision Wall in the Kendall Gallery of the Iowa Memorial Union, an It's On Us Town Hall (with participants including Leah Soweld with Monsoon Asians and Pacific Islanders in Solidarity, Sumaya Rabee with Nisaa African Family Services, Kimmie Andersen-Reed with the Rape Victim Advocacy Program, and Adam Robinson with the Rape Victim Advocacy Program), an It's On Us Informational Event (to provide guidance on how to respond appropriately if someone discloses a sexual assault or misconduct to you, along with providing tips for individuals recovering from an assault or supporting someone who has been assaulted), and a Banner's of Support initiative that partnered with Fraternity and Sorority Life and the Cultural Centers to place banners of support on their houses which affirm the importance of consent.

UISG Members Involved: Hira Mustafa, Micah Augusma, Herbert Meisner, Kristen Ahrens, Jack Feng

Related News Coverage

[UISG and Other Organizations Say It's On Us to Combat Sexual Violence](#)

[Student Organizations Coordinate New Anti-Sexual Assault Project on Campus](#)

FREE STD TESTING

Completed

Description: To commemorate World AIDS Day, University of Iowa Student Government hosted a free HIV testing and sexual health education event in collaboration with Johnson County Public Health at the LGBTQ Resource Center on December 5th, 2018.

UISG Members Involved: Jack Feng

Related News Coverage

[UISG Implements First HIV Testing Initiative](#)

VACCINATION DRIVE

Completed

Description: UISG collaborated with Student Health and Wellness to hold a free flu vaccination drive in Catlett Residence Hall and Peterson Residence Hall. 56 people received vaccinations.

UISG Members Involved: Shalini Birari

GREEN BANDANA PROJECT

In Progress

Description: The Green Bandana Project is a program designed to spread awareness of resources for those with mental illness. The lime green bandanas, to be distributed across campus, are attached to students' backpacks. On Iowa's campus, when students complete a brief training session provided through University Counseling Services, they will receive a bandana, along with 3-5 resource cards to always carry with them should they be approached by a student in need.

UISG Members Involved: Ben Collins, Amber Crow, Sammy Stoll, Noel Mills

ADDRESSING SEXUAL HARASSMENT IN GYM SPACES

In Progress

Description: Sexual harassment is too common on the recreational spaces on campus. We will work with recreational services to identify what steps have already been taken to address this issue, and what additional steps can be taken to make the recreational spaces on campus a more safe environment.

UISG Members Involved: Heath Schintler

Notes: Having met with Rec Services, the plan is to adopt a series of posters to be placed in high traffic/problematic areas in the recreational center that will define forms of harassment common to those spaces, as well as outline the steps on how to report to staff.

IMPROVING ACCESSIBILITY AT THE CRWC

In Progress

Description: The goal of this initiative is to identify improvements that can be made to enhance the accessibility for students with disabilities at the CRWC.

UISG Members Involved: Abby Gainer, Hannah Shrader

Notes: Meetings have occurred with Recreational Services leadership and students with disabilities to establish where improvements can be made. Further conversations will be occurring to identify specific action steps we will pursue to improve accessibility.

LGBTQ+ ISSUES

In Progress

Description: UISG will advocate for LGBTQ+ students by expanding health services aimed at LGBTQ+ students, by increasing LGBTQ+ competent counselors available at the University, advocating for free clinical health services, such as STI testing to at-risk populations on campus who don't have insurance plans, and by advocating that University Health and Wellness expands training to doctors with knowledge in transgender-specific health care.

UISG Members Involved: Colin Lakadat

MENTAL HEALTH OPTIONS FLOWCHART

In Progress

Description: In hopes of increasing student knowledge regarding the available mental health resources at Iowa, a comprehensive infographic will be created that makes it easier to navigate and understand what University Counseling Services has to offer with the intent of spreading this on social media and potentially handouts in order to increase student awareness

UISG Members Involved: Sammy Stoll

Notes: An online infographic has been created, and determining the best locations for this information to be posted is being determined.

SIDEWALK & ROAD SAFETY

In Progress

Description: UISG will work both with Campus Planning and City Council to make sure that students are safe walking around campus. We advocate to improve sidewalk and crosswalk accessibility for students who use wheelchairs, and expand crosswalk marking and signage around campus.

UISG Members Involved: Gustave Stewart, Amber Crow, Hannah Shrader, Jocelyn Roof, Austin Wu, Abby Gainer, Micah Augusma

Notes: Currently having meetings with facilities management and students with disabilities to determine what specific tangible things should be worked on with Sidewalk and Road Safety/Accessibility. A meeting has also occurred with Iowa City City Hall, and they will be sending us potential improvement ideas in the near future.

STI TESTING UBILL LISTING NAME CHANGE

In Progress

Description:Urine samples and STI testing show up on the University Bill. For many, parents aid in paying for tuition, and will ultimately see that these students are getting tested. For some, that is extremely uncomfortable and may deter them from getting tested in the first place. We are working to change the way these services are displayed on the UBill.

UISG Members Involved: Amber Crow, Herbert Meisner, Jack Feng

SUICIDE PREVENTION AND MENTAL HEALTH SIMULATION TRAINING

In Progress

Description: As a part of UISG's ongoing efforts to improve mental health on campus, UISG is working to bring a simulation training to all students on campus to become more comfortable identifying risks/symptoms of mental health issues and suicidal ideation and helping students feel more confident with having these conversations.

UISG Members Involved: Sammy Stoll, Amber Crow

Notes: Barry Schreier from University Counseling Services met with Housing and Dining and they tentatively agreed to fund Kognito suicide prevention training, while waiting for price negotiations. We are also in contact with Success @ iowa and exploring the option to have the modules included in the course.

BETTER LABELING IN CAMPUS DINING CENTERS

In Progress

Description: Health and Safety will work with Housing and Dining to create better labeling on items in dining halls across campus so that students with food allergies, dietary restrictions, or other various dietary needs may have a better idea of what foods are available for them to eat.

UISG Members Involved: Shalini Birari, Anna Correa, Stacy Kabenda

Notes: Several student organizations have been contacted to determine what is needed from various students to decide what next steps should be.

SUICIDE PREVENTION SIGNS

In Progress

Description: UISG is working in partnership with multiple campus and community partners and stakeholders to create signs with the Johnson County Crisis Center's number to help prevent suicide in high threat areas.

UISG Members Involved: Elli Lenz, Caleb Smith

Notes: UISG has been in contact with University Counseling Services and Facilities Management to discuss the best method and locations for this initiative.

ADVOCATE FOR BETTER QUALITY/ACCESSIBILITY TO FEMININE HYGIENE PRODUCTS

Not Initiated

Description: UISG will work with WRAC, U I H&D, Student Health/Wellness, and the VP of Student Life to improve the accessibility and quality of menstrual hygiene products on campus. They partnered specifically with the WRACtivists.

UISG Members Involved: Avery Brennan

EXPANDING UNIVERSITY COUNSELING SERVICES

Not Initiated

Description: UISG will be advocating to add a counselor to athletics, encourage Boyd Law to invest in an embedded counselor, and advocate to increase the mental health fee.

UISG Members Involved: Amber Crow, Elli Lenz, Benjamin Colin

MENTAL HEALTH HIGH SCHOOL EDUCATOR INITIATIVE

Not Initiated

Description: President Harreld introduced the idea during a Student Leader Round Table on Mental Health to have students organize and get trained to then go into communities and high schools and lead educationals to the students on mental health. He suggested it look similar to Iowa State and their agriculture community engagement.

UISG Members Involved: Sammy Stoll, Amber Crow

INTERNAL AFFAIRS

ELECTION CODE REFORM

Completed

Description: In an effort to reimagine the way UISG elections are held, an independent work group was formed in June focused on examining the current state of UISG elections, and finding ways for them to be improved. The UISG Election Reform work group provided specific recommendations related to the UISG election process, and legislation was passed relating to those recommendations.

UISG Members Involved: Teri Schelle (Associate Director for Assessment and Strategic Initiatives, Chair), Lilian Burns (UISG Representative) Kalena Meyer (Independent Student Representative), Sidney Martinez (SJC Representative), Jeremy Vogel (Historical Context Representative, non-voting member), Johanna Hetherington (Historical Context Representative, non voting member), Amanda Elkins (Attorney and Assistant Director of Student Legal Services), Kristi Finger (Assistant Director of Events Services and former UISG Elections Advisor)

Link to new Election Code:

<https://uisg.uiowa.edu/elections/election-code/>

Related News Coverage

[UISG Passes New Election Code Legislation](#)

[Election Code Changes Presented to UISG](#)

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD FOR SENATE MEETINGS

Completed

Description: As a part of UISG’s continued efforts to be more accessible for students, UISG has created a time for undergraduate students to speak on any student-related issue at the beginning of each Senate Meeting.

UISG Members Involved: Heath Schintler, Connor Gronski, Kyle Scheer

Notes: Further information on how to sign-up for the public comment period is pending, and will be made available soon through our social media accounts and website.

UISG LEGISLATION DATABASE

In Progress

Description: This database will help to digitize the past legislation and documents of UISG. By having a clear database set up, it will be easier for UISG members and non-members alike to search and identify past information in order to create a better future.

UISG Members Involved: Alexis Mahanna, Kyle Scheer

UISG DEMOGRAPHICS SURVEY

Ongoing

Description: The purpose of the UISG Demographics Survey is to assess the demographic makeup of UISG, and provide recommendations to create a more representative and equitable organization.

UISG Members Involved: Tristan Schmidt, Alexia Sanchez, Herbert Meisner, Carolina Herrera

Related News Coverage

[Weigel: What is Behind the Ideological Bias in UISG?](#)

[UISG Examines Its Representation with New Survey](#)

JUSTICE & EQUITY

LABOR CENTER SUPPORT RESOLUTION

Completed

Description: A resolution was passed which advocated for the University of Iowa to preserve the Labor Center, which in was slated to be defunded by the university in a July 2018 announcement. The resolution recognized the significant impact of the Labor Center in our statewide community, and called on administrators to increase transparency on budget decisions and involve shared governance parties in their decisions henceforth.

UISG Members Involved: Anger Dok, Fredy Quevedo, Alex Bare, Austin Wu

Notes: The resolution was passed on October 30th with 33 votes in support, 7 against, 3 abstentions, and 10 absences.

Related News Coverage

[Students, faculty members, and community members rally to save UI Labor Center](#)

[UISG will not back UI Labor Center Closure](#)

Related Legislation

BEING NOT-RICH @ UIOWA GUIDE

In Progress

Description: UISG is working to create an organized and collaborative Google Drive document that is spread far and wide on campus to collect tips on going to Iowa with limited economic resources.

UISG Members Involved: Alex Bare, Carolina Herrera, Stacy Kabenda

Notes: An example of what we would like to develop can be found [here](#), developed by Lauren Schandavel at the University of Michigan

CREATE A DIVERSITY ROUNDTABLE

In Progress

Description: We will establish a space where representatives of multicultural student organizations will be able to interact with student senators. Through increased communication and strengthening of relationships, UISG will work to better understand ways to advocate for and be inclusive to multicultural communities.

UISG Members Involved: Shalini Birari

Notes: Meetings have occurred with latinx and black student organizations to create individual roundtables to make the official roundtable more productive. Thoughts, ideas, and concerns will be taken from all groups to help in planning the official diversity roundtable. The roundtable will be occurring in 2019.

IMPROVE RELATIONSHIPS WITH CULTURAL CENTERS

In Progress

Description: UISG will work to increase partnership with the cultural and resource centers on campus, as well as continue to support and refine various academic and mentoring programs available in each center. By increasing involvement in the cultural centers, UISG aims promote the academic success of the constituencies served by the cultural and resource centers.

UISG Members Involved: Fredy Quevedo, Colin Lakadat

Notes: Meetings are being set up with cultural center leadership to determine various avenues for this to be pursued.

INCORPORATE CULTURAL SIMULATIONS INTO DIVERSITY & INCLUSION GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENT

In Progress

Description: As a part of UISG's ongoing efforts to advocate for inclusion on campus, UISG is advocating for Diversity & Inclusion General Education courses to include a hands-on simulation that provides an opportunity for students to apply what they are learning.

UISG Members Involved: Zoë Hamstreet

Notes: A meeting occurred with Kathryn Hall to discuss. A meeting with the President of Faculty Senate has been scheduled to discuss further.

INCREASE DIVERSITY IN THE HONORS PROGRAM

Description: As a method to increase diversity within the University of Iowa Honors Program, we will encourage talks to occur in cultural centers encouraging first years to apply for the Honors Program in their second semester.

UISG Members Involved: Emily Hagedorn

Notes: A meeting occurred with the Director of the Honor's Program to discuss.

DISPLAY FLAGS OF STUDENT HOME COUNTRIES IN IMU

In Progress

Description: As a part of UISG's efforts to improve the inclusion and highlight diversity on campus, we will work with campus partners to hang the flags of the 117 different countries and territories represented in the international student body.

UISG Members Involved: Hira Mustafa

Notes: A discussion with Dr. Melissa Shivers and Dr. William Nelson occurred to determine the viability of this initiative. Further details are being discussed currently.

MINORITY FACULTY AND STUDENT MENTOR PROGRAM

In Progress

Description: It's often difficult for minority students to find teachers and professors throughout their education who are minorities as well. Through creating a minority student and faculty mentoring program, students who may not have as many connections or may struggle to make connections with faculty on campus can be paired with a mentor through their upperclassmen years to be a resource and guide for them, and just so that they can have someone who understands the challenges they may face in their education and career as a minority.

UISG Members Involved: Bernardo Duarte, Shalini Birari

Notes: Discussions are occurring on the best method to implement this program.

MULTICULTURAL OUTLOOK CALENDAR SUBSCRIBE OPTION

In Progress

Description: We are working to provide a way for students to subscribe to all multicultural/CDE programming events on their Outlook calendars, similar to the ones available for UIowa athletic events. The goal is to encourage multicultural event engagement, particularly considering the many events UISG sponsors every year.

UISG Members Involved: Alex Bare, Anger Dok, Danielle Thomas (GPSG)

Notes: A joint resolution was passed in conjunction with Graduate and Professional Student Government (GPSG) in support of this initiative. Danielle Thomas, Chair of Diversity in GPSG, has reached out to the Office of Strategic Communication's Chris Clair and Information Technology services and is continuing to pressure them to carry out this function. They have now added a function to subscribe events to a personal calendar (i.e., the calendar built into your computer), but not the Outlook calendar as we specified. It's still a little clunky and hard to find but we will continue working with them.

Related Legislation

FIRST GENERATION SUMMIT

In Progress

Description: As a part of UISG's efforts to improve support for First Generation students, UISG is working to organize the 2nd annual First Generation Summit for the Spring 2019 semester.

UISG Members Involved: Tristan Schmidt, Alexia Sanchez, Guowei Qi, Freddy Quevedo, Noel Mills, Liam Curoe, Abby Simon (Lecture Committee), Amber Crow, Carolina Herrera, Oscar Rodriguez, Lucas Halvorson (CAB), Ruth Kahssai (CAB)

Related News Coverage:

[Summit Bring Awareness to First Gen Students](#)

[UI Commemorates First Gen Student Success with Week Long Celebration](#)

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES CAREER PANEL

In Progress

Description: A career panel dedicated to students with disabilities, which would cover topics such as applying, interviewing, and disclosing disabilities.

UISG Members Involved: Nawfal Kulam

Notes: We are currently in the process of finding industry professionals for this event. Meeting with UI Students for Disability Advocacy and Awareness (UISDAA), Carly Armour of Student Disability Services, and the Jim Seyfer of the Pomerantz Career Center have occurred in preparation of this event. Several potential panelists have occurred.

SUBSIDIZE IOWA ONE CARD REPLACEMENTS FOR TRANSGENDER STUDENTS

In Progress

Description: Use the [Trans Support Fund](#), which UISG currently helps fund, to help transgender students pay for Iowa One Card replacements who are changing their name.

UISG Members Involved: Anger Dok, Guowei Qi, Holden Day

Notes: A meeting with Laurie Lentz (the Iowa One Card Director) has been scheduled to discuss this further.

TRANSFER STUDENT OUTREACH

In Progress

Description: We will reshape programs like Success at Iowa, OnIowa!, and Transfer Student Orientation to include more transfer student resources, as well as advocate for more scholarships, a housing portal, and more comprehensive recruitment for transfer students. These programs will establish a new level of inclusivity for transfer students in their transitions to life at the University of Iowa.

UISG Members Involved: Alexxis Mahanna

Notes: On October 4th, a Transfer Student Town Hall was hosted by UISG and Transfers Leading Change, to learn from directly from transfer students the issues affecting them. Efforts to work on the various issues identified will be explored in the spring semester.

TRANSLATED TUITION FINANCIAL ROAD MAP

In Progress

Description: Expand the translation of concise financial guides to include additional languages. UISG will fund translated materials for new languages, traditionally not available, but are represented by large immigrant communities in our area. These include but are not limited to: Spanish, French, Somali, Arabic, Vietnamese, Laotian, and Hmong.

UISG Members Involved: Alex Bare, Shalini Birari

Notes: Working with the Office of Financial Aid to develop this.

CULTURAL COMPETENCY IN RA TRAINING

In Progress

Description: We hope to establish a relationship with University Housing and Dining (Residence Education) to promote further cultural competency training with Resident Assistants. Cultural competency will improve support available for students, overall inclusivity and relationships within residence hall communities.

UISG Members Involved: Bernardo Duarte, Sarah Henry

Notes: A meeting occurred with the Resident Assistant (RA) Training Committee to discuss the best method for moving forward.

SUPPORT FOR THE CREATION OF THE CULTURAL CORRIDOR

In Progress

Description: UISG will support plans to build the cultural corridor and advocate for a Cultural House common-space to host larger events so students still have a space to connect with their common identities.

UISG Members Involved: Alex Bare

Notes: A meeting occurred with Tabitha Wiggins to ensure continued advocacy of the Cultural Corridor Project, a \$3 million plan to create a more modernized multicultural programming walkway on the West Side.

DIVERSIFY FOOD OPTIONS ON CAMPUS

In Progress

Description: UISG will advocate to improve and diversify food options throughout campus. By working with University Housing & Dining, UISG will continue to advocate for the expansion of meal choices to create a more inclusive dining experience.

UISG Members Involved: Sarah Henry, Adhel Jok, Kristen Young, Zoë Hamstreet, Anger Dok, Carolina Herrera, Lucy Karlin

Notes: A meeting has been scheduled with University Housing and Dining (UH&D) to discuss current vegetarian/vegan options & hear UH&D's perspective of how inclusive their menu is.

HOST A WOMXN OF COLOR CONFERENCE

In Progress

Description: By collaborating with various campus partners such as the Center for Diversity and Enrichment and the Center for Student Involvement and Leadership, UISG will host a conference for womxn of color. This conference will be aimed to address the unique experiences and challenges womxn from marginalized identities face at Iowa.

UISG Members Involved: Hira Mustafa

Notes: Rather than having a conference, we will work to create a Womxn of Color class instead that would be under the university college, focused on academic and career success.

INCREASE RESOURCES FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Ongoing

Description: UISG will improve communication between Student Disability Services to strengthen outreach to, and advocacy for, students with disabilities. UISG will assist in allocating and supporting the creation and improvement of various resources for students with disabilities. Some of these resources include accessible gym equipment, SDS note taking services, and holding construction workers accountable when creating obstacles for these students.

UISG Members Involved: Nawfal Kulam, Alex Bare

Notes: Ongoing meetings have been occurring with UIowa Students for Disability Advocacy and Awareness (UISDAA) to identify the best ways we can support students with disabilities.

Related News Coverage:

[Petition to Change Location of Student Disability Services gets 2800 Signature](#)

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SUPPORT

Ongoing

Description: UISG plans to collaborate with the International Student Advisory Board (ISAB) to create programming aimed at strengthening relationships within the international student community and improve networking with international student alumni. By doing so, UISG hopes to help international students navigate campus, find resources, and connect with other students.

UISG Members Involved: Alex Bare, Baikun Liu, Ziheng Ju

Notes: Ongoing participation by various UISG meetings have occurred at ISAB meetings to identify how UISG can best support the international student population. We will be collaborating on a “Get To Know Us” video with ISAB in the Spring 2019 semester.

INTERNAL CULTURAL COMPETENCY DEVELOPMENT

Ongoing

Description: In order to better serve the student body, UISG will be developing goals for hitting cultural competency benchmarks over time and provide opportunities to improve cultural competency for UISG members.

UISG Members Involved: Alex Bare

PROMOTE CAMPUS TOURS IN OTHER LANGUAGES

Not Initiated

Description: UISG plans to make it more accessible for student’s families who wish to visit the University of Iowa to get a campus tour in another language. By better advertising this service, UISG hopes to make orientation services more inclusive to all visiting families and incoming students.

STUDENT LIFE

STUDENT ORGANIZATION OFFICE SUITE SECURITY

Complete

Description: Over the past few months multiple student organizations have spoken out on a series of issues occurring within the Student Organization Office Suite within the Iowa Memorial Union. These issues include theft of organization materials, trespassing by unidentified persons, and a variety of invasions of privacy.

UISG Members Involved: Anthony Haughton, Alexia Sanchez, Caleb Smith

Notes: Funding of \$2,536.30 for video cameras have been approved and requisitions have been submitted. Additionally, doors have been installed. ITS is likely to install cameras over Winter Break and begin recording. The Iowa Memorial Union Advisory Board will carry out signage from this point on. A resolution in support of this funding will be proposed to Senate in the spring 2019 semester.

ONLINE SEARCH TOOL FOR CAMPUS RESOURCES

Complete

Description: As it seems there is a different website for every department, resource, and organization on campus, this online search tool would search all UIowa websites for the relevant content being searched for. It would then link the user to the relevant website they need. This will streamline the search progress, especially for prospective students and families.

UISG Members Involved: Lindsey Meyer

Notes: The website already exists, so it's a matter of informing the people who can use it about the existence. <https://uiowa.edu/google-search>. I've reached out to the Admissions Counselors who originally suggested the idea to inform them about it, see if they have any use for it, and so they can pass along the resource to visiting families who have had troubles finding information about the University of Iowa. We are considering making a new website to match <http://resources.mit.edu/resources/>, which will help students learn about resources they didn't know they were in need of.

CREATING AN ISAAC POSITION

Completed

Description: UISG and ISAAC (Iowa Student Athlete Advisory Committee) developed a student athlete liaison position with student government to create a better relationship between the student-athlete population and UISG.

UISG Members Involved: Tristan Schmidt, Benjamin Colin, Alexia Sanchez

STUDENT ORGANIZATION EQUIPMENT RENTAL

Completed

Description: The goal of this initiative is to work with Iowa Memorial Union Event Services to provide free equipment rental for student organizations. This will save both student organizations and UISG money.

UISG Members Involved: Kyle Scheer, Lily Burns, John Woodruff, Anthony Smith

Notes: The agreement with IMU Event Services has been completed and equipment, including a tabling kit (foldable table, extension cords, clipboards, wicker baskets, pens, number clickers, duct tape) is currently available for free rental by student organizations at the Iowa Memorial Union Welcome Center. Additionally, legislation was passed for \$8930 to fund an Anker portable speaker (\$2630) and Main Lounge LED lights (\$6300), which will both available for student organization use through IMU Event Services by the beginning of next year.

Related Legislation

STUDENT VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES WEBSITE

In Progress

Description: UISG is committed to encouraging students to make a positive difference in the community through volunteerism, which is why we are working to provide a student volunteer opportunities website, which will encourage students to volunteer more by connecting them to local volunteer experiences.

UISG Members Involved: Allexis Mahanna

Notes: Through conversations with the Pomerantz Career Center, we are working to highlight volunteer opportunities through HireAHawk. This will currently be done through an outreach program through HireAHawk, but reevaluations will be done each semester to determine success and possible changes for the future.

CREATE A HAMMOCK PARK

In Progress

Description: As a part of UISG's ongoing efforts to improve student life on campus, the creation of a hammock park is being explored in partnership with the Iowa Memorial Union, Risk Management, the Campus Planning Committee, and Facilities Management. This initiative was following a survey last year indicating high interest among students for hammock availability.

UISG Members Involved: Megan Lenss, Anthony Haughton, and Elli Lenz

Notes: This initiative is being explored in partnership with the Iowa Memorial Union, the Campus Planning Committee, Risk Management, and Facilities Management to determine an optimal location and funding source.

REUSABLE MUG

In Progress

Description: University Housing and Dining has had a program in place for years that encourages students to bring in their own reusable mugs for coffee, soft drinks and smoothies. Students receive a discount of 50 cents while also reducing their environmental impact. Unfortunately the customers taking advantage of this program has stagnated. The purpose of this initiative is to bring awareness through poster marketing.

UISG Members Involved: Kevin Leahy, Sammy Stoll

Notes: During the Spring 2019 semester, we will be working with University of Iowa Housing and Dining to place additional signage at the various locations where the discounts had available.

RESIDENCE HALL RENTALS

In Progress

Description: Create a system that provides items to rent in the residence halls that are available and accessible to all residents.

UISG Members Involved: Anna Correa

Notes: Conversations are in progress with the Director of Student Life.

CAMBUS STOP IMPROVEMENT

In Progress

Description: Increase quality and safety of bus stops around campus. Have more bus stops to shield from weather conditions, have electronic signage for bus arrival times, etc.

UISG Members Involved: Lindsey Meyer

Notes: Ongoing conversations have been occurring with the Parking and Transportation department to evaluate which locations are optimal for improvements, and where funding for those improvements will be coming from.

LUNCH WITH A PROFESSOR PROGRAM

In Progress

Description: Implementing a program that allows students to grab lunch or coffee with a professor to encourage relationship building and networking in and outside of the classroom.

UISG Members Involved: Lindsey Meyer

Notes: Research is occurring on other institution's programs to evaluate the best way to implement this program.

CELEBRATE STUDENT ARTWORK ON CAMPUS

In Progress

Description: By collaborating with on-campus partners and local businesses, we will feature student artwork to celebrate student artists and create a space for their work to be accessible to as many students as possible.

UISG Members Involved: Alexia Sanchez, Alex Bare, Anthony Haughton

Notes: Meetings are occurring between the IMU, UISG, and the Fine Arts Council to identify optimal spaces to feature student artwork.

ALLOW STUDENTS TO PAY FOR UNIVERSITY PRINTING WITH HAWK DOLLARS

In Progress

Description: As of now, printing fees for many students are charged directly to their personal University bills. UISG will advocate for students to have the ability to pay for University printing fees with Hawk Dollars.

UISG Members Involved: Isabelle Nanke

Notes: Met with someone from IT who suggested that instead of using Hawk dollars only for printing, open them up to pay for a variety of things, such as CAB movies and parking tickets. Need to meet with housing and dining, because Hawk dollars are only for students living in the dorms.

UISG STUDENT SERVICE REPORT

Ongoing

Description: The Service Report is intended to summarize UISG's Comprehensive Service Audit as completed by the Director of Student Services. This report will be issued in both the fall & spring semesters. The report gives a background of services, financial overview, and primary points of contact. Furthermore, the report is intended to share UISG's goals for service growth and re-evaluate those goals each semester.

UISG Members Involved: Anthony Haughton

Notes: The first UISG Student Service Report has been completed. You can view the Fall 2018

[Student Service Report Here](#)

Related News Coverage:

[UISG Outlines Goals and Services in New Report](#)

AIRPORT SHUTTLE

Ongoing

Description: This is a UISG funded & operated shuttle service designed to provide a low-cost option to students traveling to the Cedar Rapids airport (CID) around academic break periods.

UISG Members Involved: Anthony Haughton, Anna Correa

Notes: Yellow Cab is assigned to be our new service provider for the remainder of the year. UISG will be responsible for conducting feedback, paying invoices, and promoting the service.

Related News Coverage:

[UISG to Pair with Yellow Cab to Provide Airport Shuttle Service](#)

[UISG Making Changes to Airport Shuttle Service](#)

ADVOCATE FOR AFFORDABLE AND ACCESSIBLE TRANSPORTATION

Postponed

Description: UISG aims to improve Iowa City's public transportation system by advocating for subsidized student city bus passes, updated bus routes, and extended hours for weekend campus routes. By improving transit, UISG hopes to assist students who are living off campus and/or rely on public transportation.

UISG Members Involved: Gustave Stewart, Heath Schintler

Notes: Iowa City is going through a transportation assessment right now so any proposals have been stalled. Our City Council Liaisons have been advocating on behalf of students during this ongoing process.

IMPROVE HAWKTOOLS

Postponed

Description: In collaboration with ITS, UISG will work to improve HawkTools by keeping the application up to date as well as adding more features to give students access to the resources they need to be successful. Adding tools to help locate mental health resources, providing a comprehensive campus event calendar, and giving access to other important resources gives students an easy-to-access tool to aid them with their lives on campus.

UISG Members Involved: Kyle Scheer

Notes: We are working with ITS (Romy Bolton, Steve Tomblin) to make improvements to HawkTools. We had a focus group on 7/26 for the web version. We are planning on exploring further HawkTools improvements following the completion of the Iowa Ideas website.

SUSTAINABILITY

COMPUTER ENERGY EFFICIENCY PROGRAM

Completed

Description: UISG will work to implement a program on campus computers that turns them off when they haven't been used for a certain amount of time. This will reduce the energy used by the University of Iowa and give members of the community a chance to make sustainable decisions and use computers that are already on.

UISG Members Involved: Zoë Hamstreet

Notes: This program is already in place.

WATER BOTTLE FILLERS IN RESIDENCE HALLS & CAMPUS BUILDINGS

In Progress

Description: To encourage and simplify the use of reusable water bottles, UISG will work to place reusable water fillers in more campus buildings and residence halls.

UISG Members Involved: Ioannis Koutsonikolis, Lindsey Meyer

Notes: Locations are being evaluated for water bottle filler stations.

VENDING MISERS

In Progress

Description: Because vending machines constantly use power when they're not being used, they waste energy and money that could be used for purposes that are better for students at Iowa. By using vending misers, a product that reduces the amount of energy used by operating vending machines, UISG will reduce the University's energy use and save students money.

UISG Members Involved: Ioannis Koutsonikolis

Notes: Locations are being evaluated for vending misers.

REPLACE BURGE PAPER CUPS WITH COMPOSTABLE OR REUSABLE CUPS

In Progress

Description: Instead of using plastic or paper cups that are thrown away after every use, UISG will advocate for University of Housing and Dining to provide waffle batter in its Market Places in a reusable container, effectively reducing the University's waste.

UISG Members Involved: Sarah Henry, Anger Dok

Notes: Burge Dining Hall is in the process of finding a compostable cup option.

PLANT NATURAL PRAIRIE AND FLOOD-RESISTANT LANDSCAPING ON CAMPUS AND NEAR THE IOWA RIVER

In Progress

Description: UISG will work with campus partners to plant natural prairie on campus, specifically including flood-resistant landscaping near the Iowa River. Native prairie, plants native to Iowa soil and climate, help encourage beneficial birds, wildlife, and insects to live in the environment, manage rainwater, improve soil quality, and reduce landscape maintenance requirements while improving the quality and appearance of the landscape. Additionally, by focusing on landscaping near the river, we can work together to protect the University of Iowa campus from flood damage.

UISG Members Involved: Megan Lenss, Sarah Henry

Notes: Confirmation from Facilities Management has occurred, and legislation for the funding of the landscaping will be proposed to Senate in the spring 2019 semester. The Environmental Science Club will be institutionalizing the project, and Professor Andrew Forbes is interested in teaching a class at the prairie once it has been created.

NEW SUSTAINABILITY GOALS BEYOND 2020

In Progress

Description: Because the University of Iowa's current Sustainability Goals are for the year 2020, conversation around our goals past that year are taking place now, and UISG will ensure that the student voice contributes to that planning. By ensuring that we are involved in developing our university's goals past 2020, we will guarantee that University of Iowa students have a say in the future of their university and their planet.

UISG Members Involved: Ioannis Koutsonikolis, Noah Wick

Notes: UISG's Director of Sustainability, Ioannis, is contacting relevant campus partners to generate a 2018 Goals update.

GET RID OF PLASTIC WATER BOTTLES AT KICKOFF AT KINNICK DURING ONIOWA!

In Progress

Description: The goal of this initiative is to ensure that the Kickoff at Kinnick event during OnIowa! is as sustainable as possible. This includes not using plastic water bottles during the event.

UISG Members Involved: Connor Wooff, Sarah Henry

Notes: OnIowa! currently works with the Office of Sustainability to ensure that all plastic water bottles are recycled. However, we will continue advocating for a plastic-free hydration option during the event.

CAMPUS COMPOSTING

In Progress

Description: By continuing to expand residence hall composting programs, UISG will give Iowa students the chance to learn about composting and sustainable living while giving them an opportunity to lessen their impact on the environment. This expansion includes further-developing composting in Iowa residence halls, educating the University of Iowa community on what and why to compost, and providing more receptacles for compostable materials used on campus.

UISG Members Involved: Ioannis Koutsonikolis, Lucy Karlin

Notes: Efforts to improve composting within the Iowa Memorial Union is being explored. Currently, high levels of contamination makes composting within the Iowa Memorial Union ineffective.

Related News Coverage:

[UISG and Office of Sustainability Introduce Dorm Compost Program](#)

AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION

In Progress

Description: The University of Iowa and the Iowa City community doesn't always reflect the rest of rural Iowa and the economy that they have been built upon. Many students at the university come from urban backgrounds with a lack of education and knowledge about where their food comes from and the agricultural community in general. The goal of this project is to bring a mutual understanding of food production and to dispel common misconceptions of the agriculture community. This may include bringing lecturers to campus, workshops, and educational resources to campus as reference to answer questions.

UISG Members Involved: Lindsey Meyer

Notes: 13 different organizations around Iowa and the US have been contacted to hear ideas on how to bring agricultural education to a university setting. Received some great feedback, ideas, and overwhelming support for the initiative. Currently compiling information and ideas to determine which route would be most beneficial to reach UI students.

ADVOCATE FOR SUSTAINABLE PURCHASING BY THE UNIVERSITY

In Progress

Description: As a large institution with great influence over the future of our students and state, it is vital that the University of Iowa makes sustainable purchasing decisions. UISG will ensure that sustainability is consistently on the minds of those making purchasing decisions for the University.

UISG Members Involved: Ioannis Koutsonikolis

Notes: Research is currently being conducted into the University of Iowa purchasing policy.

STUDENT ORGANIZATION SUSTAINABLE PURCHASING GUIDE

In Progress

Description: UISG will provide guidance for student organizations on how to purchase materials from sustainable vendors and plan events with a sustainability focus.

UISG Members Involved: Sarah Henry, Zoë Hamstreet

Notes: A first draft has been completed, and it has been sent to various individuals for further recommendations and edits.

FACILITIES MANAGEMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY

In Progress

Description: Since the Office of Sustainability left Facilities Management, making sure Sustainability is still emphasized in design is important. This initiative will try to make sustainability a permanent voice in the design process of buildings on campus.

UISG Members Involved: Joseph Verry

Notes: A meeting with Sadie Greiner is set up to talk about what the next steps are.

ADVOCATING FOR THE U OF I TO BE A FAIR TRADE UNIVERSITY

Not Initiated

Description: Following several UISG members attending a sustainable procurement and purchasing conference over Summer 2018, and the creation of the Fair Trade at Iowa student organization. UISG will look into initiating conversations and research about how sustainable and equitable our product sourcing is.

UISG Members Involved: Jocelyn Roof, Sarah Henry

Related News Coverage:

[New Student Organization Wants to Bring Fair Trade to UI](#)

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