EXECUTIVE UPDATES

ASSU Executives Shanta Katipamula & Rosie Nelson
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Welcome Back

Hey Stanford!

As we kick-off winter quarter, we wanted to be sure to update you on the work we’ve been doing and the progress we’ve been able to make. One of our biggest priorities last spring was assembling a diverse team of students to tackle our advocacy issues. At the beginning of fall quarter, we sent out a list of goals that each of our cabinet directors set forth to be accomplished over the course of this school year. We’re excited to provide more information about the work that they’ve been able to do this quarter as well as share their plans for how they will carry this work forward through winter quarter.

We’ve been spending a lot of time this quarter working to elevate student voices within university governance processes and committees. We met with a number of Long Range Planning Design Groups, presented to the ResX Task Force and shared our goals and priorities with the Faculty Senate. We also helped convene the first ever Governance @ Stanford meeting between key stakeholders including the ASSU Leadership, the President, Provost, the Vice Provost for Student Affairs, Faculty Senate Leadership, and the Alumni Association President, which provided a powerful forum for all university leaders to jointly brainstorm ideas for better supporting our campus community. We are in the process of arranging another iteration of this meeting for this quarter, with the hope that Governance @ Stanford will become a tradition that can promote collaboration and mutual understanding between student leaders and senior administrators.

As always, we are here to serve you. Please don’t hesitate to reach out to us anytime at president@assu.stanford.edu with any questions, concerns, or new ideas that you have for how we can create meaningful change at Stanford.

Best wishes for an energizing and fulfilling winter quarter.

With Gratitude,

Shanta and Rosie

ASSU
-associated students of stanford university
assu.stanford.edu
Fall Quarter in Review

350+ meetings with administrators, student groups, and ASSU leaders this quarter.

580+ hours spent in meetings this quarter to accomplish ASSU goals and initiatives.

1200+ petition signatures in one week in support of our initiative to create a permanent disability community center.

Our Team Has Met With:

- Marc Tessier-Lavigne, President
- Persis Drell, Provost
- Susie Brubaker-Cole, Vice Provost for Student Affairs
- Megan Pierson, Chief of Staff to President Tessier-Lavigne
- SARA Office
- Jill Thomas, Title IX Coordinator
- Lauren Schoenthaler, Senior Associate Vice Provost for Institutional Equity and Access
- Dr. Bina Patel, Director of CAPS
- Caroline Zha & Molly Irvin, Co-Directors, Mental Health and Wellness Coalition
- Mark Jordan, General Manager at The Axe and Palm
- Julie Muir, Stanford Recycling Center/Peninsula Sanitary Services Inc.
- Jeff Raikes, Chair of the Board of Trustees
- Brenda McComb, Interim Dean of Students
- and many many others!
"If there isn’t a student in the room for a decision that’s being made, question why that is."

-Shanta Katipamula, ASSU Executive President
October 26, 2018 Presentation to the Faculty Senate

"For Stanford students to reach their highest potential, the residential experience must support student exploration and health across these dimensions."

-Rosie Nelson
ASSU Executive Vice President
October 10, 2018 Presentation to the ResX Task Force

To view our full presentation materials, head to associatedstudents.stanford.edu/advocacy
Disability Community Center

We've been fighting hard for a disability community center. Our petition asking the community to support a permanent center with a full-time staff member collected over 700 signatures within 24 hours. By the end of the week, we gathered signatures from 1,200+ student leaders and allies of Stanford’s disability community.

- We brought 30+ students to the committee on “Centers of Community and Belonging for Students”. Members of the disability community and their allies communicated their heartfelt belief that a disability community center is crucial to the wellbeing of Stanford’s disability community.

- We launched our community action platform, Disability Equity Now, which has since become a full-scale social media and email campaign to facilitate action on disability issues.

- Disability Equity Now hosted its first event, the Rally for Disability Equity, in White Plaza as part of Disability Awareness Week. Activists, allies, and members of the community spoke out and demanded that Stanford treat students with disabilities equitably.

We know that when Stanford becomes a better place for the disability community, it becomes a better place for all students.

-Bryce Tuttle
Co-Director of Disability Advocacy

EVAN PENG/The Stanford Daily
ASSU EXECUTIVE CABINET
Co-Directors of Sexual Violence Prevention

Emma Tsurkov & Maia Brockbank

OUR GOALS FOR THE YEAR
We are working to reform Stanford's Title IX practices to better accommodate student needs; ensure the placement of rape-kit testing at the Stanford Hospital; expand resources for graduate students experiencing Intimate Partner Violence; successfully garner student participation in the Campus Climate Survey in the spring; challenge faculty sexual harassment; and engage a diverse array of students in advocating for Title IX reform on campus and nationally.

OUR PROGRESS THUS FAR
During fall quarter, we reinstated the ASSU Title IX and Sexual Violence Prevention Coalition—comprised of students and administrators; successfully pushed the administration to prioritize rape-kit testing at Stanford Hospital for both students and non-students; and organized a multi-college effort to engage students in the Notice and Comment period for the new proposed Title IX regulations.

“Make it easy for them to understand you and hard for them to brush you off.”

-ASSU Sexual Violence Prevention Coalition
OUR GOALS FOR THE YEAR

Our overall mission is to advocate with community center staff and their communities to help them achieve their goals. We seek to act as a communication line across stakeholders and conduct outreach to Stanford members, like graduate students, who may not integrate into the community through New Student Orientation or related experiences. We will hold administrators accountable to their promise of increased support for community centers and demonstrate the significance of the work each center performs every day.

OUR PROGRESS THUS FAR

This past quarter the committee has met with ASSU senators, graduate students, and different community center staff to get feedback for measurable action this year. Since one of our main goals is to increase graduate outreach we are talking to students of the Graduate Student Council to increase accessibility and programming within community centers. We are also meeting with the ASSU Director of Academic Diversity to create a student-faculty program that addresses an inclusive academic environment and are supporting the implementation of Abilities Hub as a community center.
OUR GOALS FOR THE YEAR
Our goal is to seek out perspectives from VSO leadership regarding speaker events and other free speech issues and incorporate these perspectives into event-running best practices and funding guidelines. We also want to emphasize student perspectives in the planning of Cardinal Conversations or similar University-wide events and respond in a timely and principled manner to free speech-related events that might occur on campus throughout the year.

OUR PROGRESS THUS FAR
We arranged meetings with students and administrators to gather ideas on how to achieve our listed goals and get feedback on proposed policy changes. In particular, we collaborated with the UGS Working Group on Academic Freedom to identify areas for potential improvement to free speech and open dialogue on campus. We worked to ensure student input in updates to Cardinal Conversations, Acts of Intolerance protocol, and VSO funding guidelines.
OUR GOALS FOR THE YEAR
Our goal is to work closely with community centers, staff, and VSOs to identify areas of concern and ways to improve the experiences of students of color and other minority students; continue the Diversity in the Field classes and investigate avenues for expansion through the IDEAL long range planning process; advocate for more BEAM programs that help underrepresented students who want to pursue academia; advocate for more minority/underrepresented students recruitment strategy; communicate underrepresented students' needs for teaching and advising to faculty.

OUR PROGRESS THUS FAR
We developed working relationships with a broad range diversity-focused offices and VSOs on campus; identified a list of current concerns that are commonly shared among minority students through talking to VSOs; created a project proposal on student-faculty dynamics that aims to communicate underrepresented students' needs for teaching and advising to faculty, and established potential collaboration with the GSC and VSOs on this project.
ASSU EXECUTIVE CABINET
Co-Directors of Mental Health & Wellness

Jennalei Louie & Trenton Chang

OUR GOALS FOR THE YEAR
Our goal is to improve student outcomes and campus culture in mental healthcare at Stanford. To do so, we'd like to pilot a student-centered event about shared experiences in mental health, as well as create an integrated pipeline for students to create or request mental health-related events, workshops, or groups.

OUR PROGRESS THUS FAR
We put on a workshop in collaboration with the FLI community & established a team of individuals interested in changing campus mental health culture. We distributed & analyzed data from a mental health survey about current student experiences, outcomes, and pain points, and talked with various independent activists, administrators, and group leaders on campus about the programs in mental health care.

We created a preliminary list of questions/possible initiatives to find diverse narratives and experiences around campus mental health, and are working out collaborations with the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, student groups like SAAAC, and other independent student activists. We're also in discussions with CAPS about improving communication around campus mental health and resources.
OUR GOALS FOR THE YEAR
With Stanford’s new “Zero-Waste by 2030” goal, our goals revolve around implementing various zero-waste collaborations, education initiatives, and sustainability considerations throughout the long-range planning process. We want to integrate waste training into student staff training to teach incoming students about waste at Stanford. We are expanding sustainable event ideas by hosting Office of Sustainability office hours for Cardinal Green Event planning during winter quarter. We hope to reduce red solo cup use on campus (since they are not recyclable). We’re hoping to promote a reusable culture on campus, to partner with SHPRC to provide reusable menstrual product interest on campus and to widen the conversations and accessibility of environmental justice issues.

OUR PROGRESS THUS FAR
We reached out to SHPRC and created a survey of reusable menstrual product options sent out the last weeks of fall quarter to help restock for winter quarter. To promote reusables at eateries, we are in touch with TAP about adding in a Bring-Your-Own-Cup discount policy into their system. We connected the Office of Sustainability to SAL to host monthly office hours during winter quarter about Cardinal Green event planning and created a short checklist on event planning forms to consider sustainability. We created "sustainable swag" guidelines and a zero-waste social event planning guide.
OUR GOALS FOR THE YEAR
We want to conduct outreach to specific on-campus organizations to construct a proposal for ableism and OAE training for student staff teams and residence fellows, with a goal of implementation in the Fall 2019-2020 staff training schedule. We are working toward expansion of accessible coterminal housing options, particularly as the campus housing stock gets reconfigured with the addition of Escondido Village Graduate Residences (EVGR) and any new residences as a result of ResX. We are also serving as liaisons for students’ residential needs and interests to the complex network of university administration by working with the Undergraduate Housing Advisory Committee and the Graduate Housing Advisory Committee.

OUR PROGRESS THUS FAR
We finalized a proposal with the ASSU Director of Environmental Justice for modifications to the Fall 2019-2020 staff training schedule. We have organized multiple meetings with a variety of university stakeholders including ResEd and R&DE, who have been informed and increasingly receptive to the narratives of housing inequities we have shared. We are continuing to amplify student staff voices to ensure the university is properly supporting them and their roles.
ASSU EXECUTIVE CABINET
Co-Directors of Disability Advocacy

Frank Mondelli & Bryce Tuttle

OUR GOALS FOR THE YEAR
This year, we are continuing the work of previous Execs by fighting for disability inclusion and pushing to bring the campus in line with the social model of disability. We are advocating to expand Disability Studies on campus, improve accessibility for students with disabilities, and establish a permanent community center for the disability community. We know that when Stanford becomes a better place for the disability community, it becomes a better place for all students.

OUR PROGRESS THUS FAR
This quarter, we have fought hard for a disability community center, which is further detailed on page six of this report. We created a petition that received over 1,200 signatures, demanding a permanent disability community center. We brought students to the committee deciding the criteria for community centers moving forward and launched "Disability Equity Now", a community action platform. On November 2nd, Disability Equity Now hosted its first event, the Rally for Disability Equity in White Plaza. There, activists, allies, and members of the community spoke out and demanded that Stanford treat students with disabilities like the community that they are. Beyond the community center initiative, we have been working to bring an academic conference on disability studies to Stanford to foster discussions of disability studies among faculty members.
OUR GOALS FOR THE YEAR

Our goal is to support existing on-campus organizations and institutions, including the FLIP, GradFLIP, LSP, FLI Office, and the FLI-Conference, and to work with them to find ways to better serve their needs. We work toward increasing accessibility of campus resources, including institutional support, like food and course materials, and student driven support. We strive to create a stronger sense of belonging for FLI students, particularly for first-year students.

OUR PROGRESS THUS FAR

This quarter we have focused on laying the foundations for creating institutional change throughout the rest of the year. We have focused on forming partnerships with administrators and stakeholders, such as with R&DE and the Dean of Students. We are working on standardizing access to meals over university breaks, such as spring break, for all students including those who live on the Row and don't have a meal plan. We are also working to increase the accessibility of classroom materials by investigating open-source course material adoption and removal of course fees.
Our priorities are connecting students with administrators and facilitating continuity within student government. Feedback from our Undergrad Town Hall was used by the Mental Health and Wellbeing Advisory Board to propose improvements to mental health resources on campus. Members of the Senate Associate Program, an opportunity for undergraduates to get involved in the ASSU, have been working with Senators since September on projects ranging from mental health to the First Generation Low Income community. The Senate passed bills this quarter supporting free speech and the rights of gender non-conforming students on campus.

We focused on advocating for improvements to graduate student life in two major areas: mental health/wellness; and finances/affordability. To jumpstart these efforts, we hosted two highly productive town hall meetings in partnership with leaders from across the university. Meanwhile, we continued our efforts to support the graduate community by funding dozens of events for Voluntary Student Organizations and funding events for graduate student families. We aim to continue advocating for improvements in the lives of all graduate students with a particular focus on supporting marginalized communities and graduate student families.
Graduate Town Halls

Did you know that roughly 40% of graduate students report problems with anxiety and depression?

To begin addressing this issue and many others, the GSC partnered with VPGE, VPSA, the Office of the Provost, GLO, Vaden/CAPS, R&DE, and other administrative offices to host two town halls fall quarter, focused on graduate student mental health & wellness and affordability & finances.

- At these meetings, graduate students heard from administrators how they are working to improve graduate student life.
- Students also had the opportunity to directly ask questions, share experiences, make suggestions, and voice their concerns.
- Following up on these meetings, the GSC plans to continue our fight for increased mental health access, improvements in academic culture, more affordable housing on-campus, and better equity in graduate student compensation across department, gender, ethnicity, and family status.

“It’s our goal to hopefully see an expansion of mental health services at Stanford, [and] to see the development of policies that start to address the problems around academic culture and to provide students with all of the resources we need to thrive.

- Amy Tarangelo. GSC Co-Chair
Financial Updates

ANNUAL GRANTS

The application window for Annual Grants will open January 7th and close on January 25th. As a reminder, all VSOs who require annual budgets greater than $6,000 are eligible to apply for annual grants. However, annual grants are allocated only for predictable expenses and require significant documentation. Groups who have significant members who are graduate and undergraduate students will need to apply for approval from both the UGS and GSC. For further details about the application, view the announcement document here.

GRANTED MANDATORY TRAINING

All VSO Officers must take mandatory GrantEd STARS training(s) listed below. GrantEd accounts will be locked on January 7th until the pertinent trainings have been completed. Anyone can take any training they may choose, and they cover topics from funding applications to ASSU financial policies.

Save the date!

January 7th:
- STARS training(s) completion deadline
- Annual Grants submission opening

January 25th:
- Annual Grants submission deadline

- Duration is less than 45 minutes
- Required for Presidents, Vice-Presidents, and FOs

SSE Capgroup’s Financial Workshop 2A: Submitting Documentation and Initiating a Reimbursement in GrantEd
- Duration is less than 10 minutes
- Optional, recommended for Stanford Affiliates

SSE Capgroup’s Financial Workshop 3A: Making Financial Transactions in GrantEd
- Duration is less than 25 minutes
- Required for FOs

SSE Capgroup’s Financial Workshop 4A: Making Funding Requests in GrantEd
- Duration is less than 20 minutes
- Required for FOs

Email banking@sse.stanford.edu for any questions regarding training requirements.
ASSU UNDERGRAD SENATE INVITES YOU TO AN

UG SENATE MEET-UP
AND TOWN HALL

Ask questions, explain your perspectives, and hear directly from the Undergraduate Senate on the development of both emerging and recurring issues on campus.

Thursday, January 17 from 11:30am to 1pm
White Plaza

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