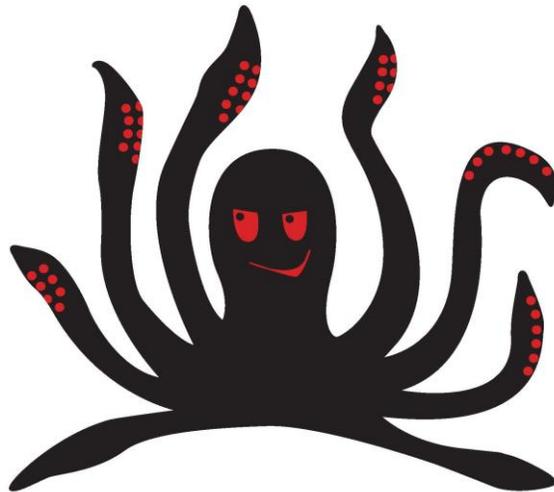


# ***2006-2007 Executive Committee Priority Goals***

## ***Goals and Action Items***



### **SGA Executive Committee:**

**Dan Moran, President**  
**Jon Brestoff, VP for Academic Affairs**  
**Dave Bernstein, VP for Residential Affairs**  
**Molly Appel, VP for Communications**  
**Ryan Hannon, VP for Financial Affairs**

## **Dan Moran, President**

SGA Executive Committee is the body where the figureheads of each SGA tentacle come together. Each Executive Committee member, with the exception of the President, has responsibility to one major division of SGA: residential life, academics, finances, clubs, and public relations. The Executive Committee provides recommendations to Student Senate pertaining to any matter of student life, SGA operations, and willingness-to-serve nominations for a variety of SGA, faculty, and All-College Committees.

- ***Late Night Programming review***
  - Create an ad-hoc committee to review the Late Night Program. By the end of the academic year the committee should submit to Student Senate a report that outlines the financial and social implications of the program, and a recommendation for future action.
  
- ***Oversee Integrity Board revisions***
  - Empower a committee to orchestrate college-wide conversations on Restorative Justice and alternate justice systems
  - Develop and formalize Integrity Board Operating Codes as needed
  
- ***Revise and Update the Constitution***
  - Ensure the Constitution reflects our most current and correct practices
  - Critique and improve the format and comprehensibility of the Constitution
  
- ***Write and approve Operating Codes as needed***
  - Produce detailed Operating Codes for Senate and Executive Board
  - Charge all SGA Committees to develop internal Operating Codes and submit to Executive Committee
  
- ***Develop an archiving strategy for SGA***
  - Investigate hiring an Archivist to assess and organize historic files
  - Convert files to electronic form for easier access and storage
  - Develop mechanisms for proactive archiving, ensuring that SGA officers preserve important documents every year in a strategic and comprehensive manner.

- ***Utilize “Focus Groups” to gather student feedback***
  - Gather students in representative groups of the student body and allow them to discuss a topic while administrators, faculty, and SGA leaders observe dialogue
  - Use this tactic in any college policy debate to gather unfiltered student response on an issue.

## **Jon Brestoff, Vice President for Academic Affairs**

The Academic Affairs tentacle of SGA is established to improve Skidmore's educational climate and to provide the administration and faculty with student opinions on academic issues and policies.

- ***Strengthen Academic Council***
  - Implement new Academic Council structure and Operating Codes
  - Reorganize Academic Council membership to reach previously unrepresented academic programs (i.e. FYE, self-determined majors, etc.)
  - Improve relationships with faculty and administrative bodies, such as Committee on Educational Policies and Planning (CEPP) and the Office of the Vice President for Academic Affairs
  - Establish a review plan for Academic Council's roles and effectiveness on campus
  
- ***Improve the academic climate outside of the classroom***
  - Fund academic events, especially those that are multi-disciplinary, through Academic Council
  - Fund opportunities for students to build relationships with faculty members outside of the classroom through the recently established Faculty Student Out-of-Classroom Discussion Group Fund
  - Encourage co-sponsorships among Academic Council, academic clubs, First Year Experience, academic departments, and academic programs
  - Institutionalize the Academic Fair within Academic Council's Programming Subcommittee
  
- ***Reestablish a strong student voice in Skidmore's academic issues***
  - Maintain Academic Council's active involvement in pertinent issues
  - Respond to proposals and academic issues by making statements to CEPP and the Faculty
  - Develop better relationships between Department Delegates and their respective departments

## **Dave Bernstein, Vice President for Residential Affairs**

Every student at Skidmore can speak on residential issues here at Skidmore because each student is involved in some or all aspects of the living community, whether it be living in the Residence Halls, eating in the new Dining Hall, or even interacting in Case Center. It is the job of the VP for Residential Affairs to collect these opinions and to present and provide the student voice to Faculty, Staff, and Administration.

- ***Reinvigorate Inter-Hall Board***

- Involvement
  - Increase involvement by improving visibility of Inter-Hall Board around campus.
- Empowerment
  - Re-define Inter-Hall Board and Hall Council's reason to exist
  - Use Board and Councils to organize and facilitate Residence Hall programs led by student leaders.
- Organization
  - Write and establish operating codes for Inter-Hall Board.
  - Review election of Hall Councils
  - Review Composition of Hall Councils
  - Keep updated website and other forms of communication

- ***Define Campus Quality Committee***

- Write and establish Operating Codes for Campus Quality Committee
  - Define spectrum of responsibility
- Survey Students on issues relating to student quality of life
  - Prioritize issues
- Take a critical look at Dining/Facility/Residential issues affecting students on daily basis

- ***Raise student awareness and reaction to on-campus issues***

- Through the Campus Quality Committee, interact with student body on important issues.
- Keep student body updated on issues concerning residential issues

- Work with VP for Communications to establish open forums and focus groups concerning student issues

## **Molly Appel, Vice President for Communications**

The Communications tentacle ensures that there is effective communication between SGA bodies and organizations (Senate, Executive Committee, Executive Board) and the Skidmore community. The Communications VP oversees all publicity campaigns for the policies, programs, and actions of Executive Committee, Executive Board, and Senate as well as their record keeping. The Communications VP ensures an effective communication network between Willingness-to-Serve delegates (representing students on All-College and Faculty Committees) and Senate. The Communications VP also oversees all SGA Elections.

- ***Effective Public Relations***

- Constantly upkeep SGA's Case Center bulletin boards
- Oversee the maintenance of a clean and easily navigable-website
- Establish a working relationship with Skidmore News to publish Senate Minutes highlights and press releases
- Ensure that the "Senate Reports" are posted in the residence halls

- ***Consistent acquaintance with student opinions***

- Utilize the following methods to communicate with the student body on an issue-by-issue basis: polling, open forums, and focus groups
- Ensure an established repore for all senators to constantly discuss issues with their constituents and other community members

- ***Improved SGA Elections***

- Revise and improve current elections procedures and have them approved by Senate. Clarify elections rules and regulations for candidates
- Thoroughly publicize elections schedule and open positions to the student body

- ***Create a better network of oversight for Willingness-to-Serve delegates***

- Subsume senate's Supervisory Committee into the Communications Committee and establish the Supervisory Co-chair position
- Effectively publicize and fill open delegate positions
- Establish communication networks among the Willingness-to-Serve delegates, the Supervisory Co-chair, and the Communications committee

- Maintain contact with committee chairs and create a “student representative” annual evaluation
  - Allow willingness-to-serve delegates more opportunities to communicate committee actions to Senate, either personally or via the Communications Committee
- ***Ensure the Media Room in Case Center is a working space for Clubs and Organizations***
- Clean up the space, fix the mailboxes, and restock the “media”
  - Publicize the Media Room as a resource to SGA clubs and organizations
  - Maintain a respectful working atmosphere

## **Ryan W. Hannon, Vice President for Financial Affairs**

Financial Affairs is charged with keeping track of all financial matters and transactions for the Student Government Association. Additionally, the SGA Senate Budget and Finance Committee is charged with preparing the annual budget, revising financial policies, and allocating SGA Funds.

- ***Continue Budget and Finance Committee's administrative improvements.***
  - Develop online SGA financial forms, making them more accessible for Clubs and Organizations.
  - With the help VP of Clubs and Organizations, assess the financial impact of club sports within SGA.
  - Create a strategic plan for the SGA surplus.
  - Revise SGA's Financial Policies to include: a clearer definition of Profit v. Revenue, an inclusion of the online forms, and a policy clarifying the use of co-sponsored money.
  
- ***Enhance Senate's awareness of financial matters.***
  - Ensure timely announcements of pending resolutions and supplementals to Executive Committee, Executive Board, and Senate.
  - Provide Senate with an up-to-date running total of all SGA "off-budget" spending. Allowing them to make informed votes and encouraging fiscal responsibility.
  
- ***Strengthen the Budget and Finance Committee's relationship with Clubs, Organizations, and individual students.***
  - Improve the level of communication that the Budget and Finance Committee and SGA Clubs and Organizations have. Clubs & Orgs should see the Committee as a tool.
  - Publicize the JSS Activism Fund for individual students.
  - In a collaborative effort, the Budget and Finance Committee and Speaker's Bureau will develop a "Co-Sponsorship Guide."

- ***Set budgeting goals for the Budget & Finance Committee.***
  - Begin the budgeting process for Clubs & Organizations at the beginning of the Spring Semester, rather than at the end.
  - Explore the possibility of the student body voting on their SGA Budget.
  - Construct summer spending policies for events which occur within the first eight weeks of the fall semester, thereby increasing the quality of the first events of the year.
  - Improve the budget carryover process for Club & Organizations.

## **Clubs and Organizations**

Executive Committee is excited to appoint a new Vice President for Clubs and Organizations in mid-October. We will recommend the new officer pursue the following projects in conjunction with his/her own goals. The VP for Clubs and Organizations acts as the liaison between Clubs and the other bodies of SGA. This officer, in conjunction with the Club Affairs Committee, reviews and approves new club charters. He/she also enforces and maintains club policies and executes the de-chartering of inactive clubs. Currently, SGA funds nearly 100 clubs.

- ***Improve relationships between clubs and organizations and the Club Affairs Committee***
  - Maintain the Club Information Board in Case Center, including information on Club-of-the-Year, current clubs, new clubs, contact information, etc.
  - Assign CAC members to represent particular clubs for procedural support
  
- ***Establish Operating Codes for the Club Affairs Committee***
  
- ***Review Club Rights and Responsibilities policy***
  - Improve Vendor Contract policy
  
- ***Assess club needs in terms of space.***
  - Systematically collect data on how much and what kind of space clubs use or would use
  - Improve club storage in McClellan basement
  
- ***Assess club sports from the perspective of community and student life***
  - Obtain feedback from Athletic Department, Leadership Activities Office, Office of the Dean of Student Affairs, SGA Senate, and SGA Club Sport Officers.