

## **Student Body Vice President (VP) Goals**

### **Equitable and Justice Driven**

- ❖ Implement training with the collaboration of IME and other on campus resources for Senate members, specifically with regards to equity and justice, but not exclusively. Some ideas of other topics include bystander intervention training, mental health first aid, being an active listener, etc... The primary target audience is the Senate and the secondary audience is all of ASLC. My plan is to make some of these sessions open to the public, while others may be more appropriate to have as closed meetings, depending on the topic being addressed and the capacity of the facilitator to handle a larger group. I aim to take an hour out of the regular Senate meeting every 2-3 weeks to hold such trainings.
- ❖ Overhaul of the governing documents, see under the 'effective' section.
- ❖ Writing more resolutions - as outlined under the 'effective' section, specifically resolutions that amplify the voices of members of the LC community in speaking out for justice and equity, against the systems, people and institutions that oppress
- ❖ Personally, I am committed to further educating myself to speak out against injustice, and to ensure and protect the Senate space from words and actions that should not be in a public space.

### **Effective**

- ❖ Restructuring of the Vice-President position. Having been the VP during Spring 20' semester, there are many issues that I have noticed about the role, that I personally think needs to be changed
  - a. The VP has considerably less work than many other Cabinet positions
  - b. In the event that the president is absent/unable to carry out their duties, the VP is acting president. Yet, there is little to no overlap between the President and VP to ensure that in such an event, the transition is smooth. This means that should this need arise, the efficacy of the VP in taking on the President's responsibilities is entirely determined by the personal relationship between President and VP and how much they had communicated beforehand.
  - c. Hence, I would like to see more overlap in some of the responsibilities of the President and VP. I envision both the President and VP should be regularly meeting with college administrators and Board of Trustees.
  - d. I would also like the VP to act as liaison between ASLC and other student governments. More on this under the community based section.

- ❖ In the 2019-2020 academic year, ASLC saw a lot of clearing up of its governing documents and making some structural change to address issues within ASLC. This meant that a lot of time and energy went into making these small, regular changes and over the course of the whole academic year, we only had 2 resolutions that attempted to advocate for change beyond the scope of ASLC.
  - a. I would like to continue this, but encourage that instead of writing many small changes, we sit down, and with careful consideration, work on a complete overhaul of the governing documents to make them more accessible, equitable, and inclusive. This would clearly indicate a reevaluation of ASLC's role within the LC community. I *hope* that this could result in a student body wide referendum so that all LC students can take ownership of how and in what role they want their student government to function, making a tangible impact on future generations at LC.
  - b. Being a student government, I want to emphasize to Senate that our powers are limited. We can't change most of the systems and institutions that are problematic and affect members of our community daily. But, we can advocate and amplify the voices of members of our community through resolutions that can be sent to just about anyone on Earth. Hence, my goal is to encourage Senate to regularly write resolutions about anything of concern. This could be a Lewis & Clark issue, or a global issue.

### **Community-Based**

- ❖ I want to have one-on-one's (1:1s) with all Senate members with 2 goals in mind. First, to get to know them as people and second, to learn how I can best support their goals and connect them with people/resources to achieve them.
  - a. This last semester, I had very limited success with this. I regularly reminded Senators to sign up for 1:1s with me, but only 1 person did so. In the 2020-2021 year, I am planning to start off the year setting this as an expectation. I think in doing so, it will be significantly easier to have interest in meeting up for 1:1s. For those who are not actively seeking it out, I plan to personally ask them to meet for a 1:1. If they decline, I will accept it as it is and leave the matter as I think pushing it further than this point is counterproductive to building community.
  - b. My goal is to have all the 1:1s done, or as many as would like to meet with me, before November 1st. After this point, I am open to meeting more/again if Senate members are interested.

- ❖ I would like to see increased collaboration between ASLC and other student governments in other colleges. The first level will be Portland, and as we have more experience collaborating, to expand this to be all of Oregon. I think a collective voice could have more impact and I would also like to hear about the strategies, systems and structures that are implemented in other colleges. This will also function as a 'benchmark' to which we can push LC admin by referring to other colleges and the actions they have taken in response to a similar situation.

### **Transparent**

- ❖ This past semester, members of ASLC and myself had the idea to create a Senate job description, detailing the role and responsibilities that being a member of Senate carries. This did not come to fruition and hence, it is a priority that I want to see enacted in the early part of the Fall semester. I envision the job description to set expectations in the following areas:
  - a. Attendance to Senate and assigned ASLC committees
  - b. Participation in events held by different communities and student orgs that are not ASLC affiliated
  - c. Expectations of larger outreach events that Senate should be doing collectively
  - d. Having Senators write goals and reports regularly just as Cabinet is doing with these reports.

## **Fall 20' Semester Report**

A number of goals that I have set out to accomplish, fall under the area that the Strategic Direction Task Force (SDTF henceforth) will be acting on. Everything from overhauling the governing documents, restructuring the VP position, increased ASLC transparency, having long-term and structured plans around trainings and professional development (including, but not limited to DEI and bystander intervention training), and a Senator job description. These and more will be part of the discussion in the SDTF.

The goal of the SDTF is to listen to all groups represented in the LC community and then to redesign ASLC according to what is wanted/needed from a student government. The reason is that ASLC has had plenty of 'band-aid' fixes. The BSU incident in Fall 19', resulted in the redesign of the Diversity Committee into the EIJC Committee. Discussions around having a more representative, diverse and equitable Senate have led to increased numbers of representatives from affinity groups and unions. While band-aid fixes are good, the continued application of quick fixes only serves to create more complex structures and cause confusion. Hence, a big part of the SDTF is to start from scratch, rebuilding the ASLC values into the foundation of the new student government, so that ASLC can remain relevant and effective to LC's community.

Thus far, DEI trainings have already been scheduled and work is underway to schedule a bystander intervention training for SP21. The overhaul of the governing docs, restructuring of the VP position, and the Senator job description, *needs* to wait till the SDTF has the chance to hear from all groups to make sure that the changes made are not purely of my opinion, but actually do serve the benefit of the student body.

In other goals, this year's Senate has written 2 resolutions, one of which was sent to Portland city officials in anticipation of the recent election. I would like to encourage more resolutions, but I am also very happy with the effort that Senate and Cabinet members have put into working with staff and admin before writing a resolution. Members of the executive council have regularly been to Senate meetings and the Senate for the first time, had the opportunity to hear firsthand about important issues such as the proposed changes to the tuition fees for the year 2021-2022 - even before it was presented to the Board of Trustees.

Finally, at the personal level, I have successfully had 1:1s with about a third of the Senate, and plan to keep encouraging and working towards meeting at least once with

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all Senate members. I am reading through '*me and white supremacy*' by Layla F. Saad and will be undertaking the 28-day challenge together with Mikah over the Winter Break.