Neumann University
Student Government Association
~Annual Summit/A Year in Review Report~
2009-2010

Observing the past,
Embracing the present,
Moving forward to a promising Future!

The Student Government Association is the voice of Neumann students that serves students by creating and supporting activities that deepen a sense of community and foster Franciscan values of respect for the individual and environment, peacemaking, and social responsibility.
Table of Contents

I. Message from the Student Body President 2009-2010 – Dontae Timothy Phillips
II. Acknowledgments
III. Goal 1: Cultivate the Neumann University values of reverence, integrity, service, excellence, and stewardship.
IV. Goal 2: Enhance Student Life at Neumann University.
V. Goal 3: Support the Academic Mission of the University.
VI. Goal 4: Monitor and offer suggestions on ways to improve Student Services.
VII. A Year in Review- Neumann University SGA 2009-2010
VIII. SGA Executive/Legislative Board Members 2009-2010 and Advisors
Message from the Student Body President

During the 2009-2010 academic year, the Student Government Association (SGA) reviewed the strategic and operational plan (2010-2014) of the Neumann University Board of Trustees. From reviewing the plan, SGA developed and implemented four (4) goals in alignment to the plan of the Board of Trustees. The goals were as follows:

Goal one (1) - Cultivate the Neumann University values of reverence, integrity, service, excellence, and stewardship; Goal two (2) - Enhance Student Life at Neumann University; Goal three (3) - Support the Academic Mission of the University; and Goal four (4) - Monitor and offer suggestions on ways to improve Student Services.

Annually, the Student Government Association holds a Summit between students, faculty, and administrative and staff members of the university. This year’s summit was held on Wednesday, March 24, 2010 in the new Mirenda Center for Sport, Spirituality & Character Development Atrium. More than sixty people were in attendance. The theme of the summit was observing the past, embracing the present, and moving forward to a promising future. Centered on the theme, SGA focused on the era from College to University and how the university could improve student services in the future.
The purpose of the summit was to have nine focus groups which developed key objectives and plans of action on how student government and the administration could implement each of the four goals. Each group had ten minutes to brainstorm ideas and five minutes to prioritize each objective and plans of action. Every focus group elected a writer to take notes and a presenter to report the group’s findings.

Respectably Submitted By,
Dontae Timothy Phillips, Student Government Association President 2009-2010
Acknowledgments

The Student Government Association would like to thank the students, faculty, staff, and administrative leaders for supporting student government and the 2010 spring summit. We thank President Dr. Rosalie Mirenda for her vision and fortitude in building a strong foundation for success and growth among our students at Neumann University. We thank all the vice presidents, deans, directors, and staff members for their continual support during the 2009-2010 academic year. Also, special thanks go to our advisors, Megan Camp, Melissa G. Hickey, and James Gallo.
Goal 1: Cultivate the Neumann University values of reverence, integrity, service, excellence, and stewardship.

- Create awards for RISES
- Focus on RISES each month/week.
  - Market on what each one means/passive programs (days for each value)
  - Hold workshops that focus on RISES
  - To help students relate their core values to their own lives
- Work to require RISES in Curriculum
  - Ensure that class time is dedicated to RISES
- Increase student community service
  - Community service Fair
  - Video of service projects in orientation & INT to get a better idea
- Develop and implement an honor code
  - SGA present at Orientation; what it means to be a NU student
Goal 2: Enhance Student Life at Neumann University.

- Build sustainability in clubs & organizations
- Spirit Club
- Assessment of who stays on campus weekends
  - What would they like to see
  - Why do they go away
  - Times
- Commuter programs – increase commuter involvement
- SGA show support of intramurals
  - Student vs. faculty events
- Student Center for all
  - Multicultural center on campus
  - More Student Space
- Enhance and publicize transportation off campus
  - Shuttle to off-campus
- Knights dollars to use off-campus
Goal 3: Support the Academic Mission of the University.

- Bill of Rights for Students (including responsibilities)
  - Increase awareness of advising and registration
- Class attendance incentive
  - Increase awareness of cost of missing classes
- Hire excellent faculty
  - Push for more diverse faculty
  - Ask administration to share evaluations
- Participate in faculty senate
- Alumni Mentor – Alumni to market better
- Host workshops/programs
  - Ongoing workshops for technology
  - Workshops on preparing for Grad school
  - Theme speakers in difference academic areas
  - Way to be an A: study group
  - Web Advisor crash course
- Push for keeping up with technology
- More variety of classes
- Survey class sizes vs. classroom space
Goal 4: Monitor and offer suggestions on ways to improve Student Services.

- Services Forum
  - FAQ – who to call for what
- Improve food services:
  - 24 hour food services
  - Cafeteria not serve meat on Friday
  - Meal plan in Café
  - Healthy food options in Cafeteria
  - Ethnic food
- Update Library
- Work to improve security guard relations/demeanor
- Expanded health services
  - Health Services in dorms
  - Wellness Workshops
- Financial Assistance – teach students
  - Permit conditional time limited registration in case of financial hold
A Year in Review
Neumann University
SGA 2009-2010

August 2009

• SGA Involvement in the Freshman Orientation Weekend
• Created a new budget software program- Microsoft Access (Created By Troy Miller)
• Created new comment boxes for students’ input/concerns around campus

September 2009

• Implemented goal formation among all SGA standing clubs
  - Development: (Purpose, Constitution, Bylaws of all clubs) PHASE 1
• SGA Involvement Day (Gave out free Chick-Fil-A while students completed a survey)
• Gave our Free class t-shirts for each class during Club Involvement Day
• Created a new SGA Executive Committee
• Created class budgets for each class- Freshmen-Senior ($1,600.00 dollars)

October 2009

• Held SGA Special Elections for Freshmen
• Represented SGA at the Fall 2009 Open House for potential students
• Held faith-sharing dinners
• Held a writing workshop for SGA board members on how to write proposals
November 2009

- SGA Executive/ Legislative Board Dinner with President Dr. Mirenda
- Hosted a Constitutional/ Revision Workshop for all SGA standing clubs to rewrite their Constitutions
- Implemented an Empowering Developmental Growth agenda for clubs
  - **Component 1**
    Why do we need a Constitution/ Bylaws for an organization?
  - **Component 2**
    Common Mistakes in a Constitution/ Bylaws
  - **Component 3**
    How to write a Constitution/ Bylaws?

December 2009

- Completed a community service project (Adopt a Family- Over $600.00 dollars was given in clothes and toys to a family)
- Hosted a Teddy Bear Breakfast for the CDC children and collected dozens of teddy bears
- Neumann Media Club was approved for full club status
- Annual SGA Christmas Dinner

January 2010

- SGA/Ministry Winter Retreat with Ministry CORE team at the Jesus House in Delaware
- SGA General Student Forum with President Dr. Mirenda to address concerns on campus and to hear vision of the University from the president
- President of SGA gave a speech on “Live Dr. King’s Dream”- Prayer Service
February 2010

- SGA Involvement Day (More than 180 students filled out surveys)
- Black History Program- A Night of Art and History
- Neumann Praise Dancers Club was approved for full club status
- Created four (4) goals for the Spring 2010 SGA Summit
  - Goal 1: Cultivate the Neumann University values of reverence, integrity, service, excellence, and stewardship.
  - Goal 2: Enhance Student Life at Neumann University.
  - Goal 3: Support the Academic Mission of the University.
  - Goal 4: Monitor and offer suggestions on ways to improve Student Services.

March 2010

- Held the SGA Annual Spring Summit in The Mirenda Center for Sport, Spirituality& Character Development Atrium. The theme of the summit was observing the past, embracing the present, and moving forward to a promising future
- SGA developed a strategic and operational plan for Neumann University Student Government Association.
- Gave out free cup-cakes for Charter/ Sponsorship Day
- SGA matched the funds that were raised during the Help For Haiti Concert- $731.00 dollars
- Represented SGA at the Spring 2010 Open House for potential students
- Created an electronic file for all SGA standing clubs
April 2010

- Held SGA General Elections
- SGA staff Appreciation Day- Gave out food and Neumann mugs
- Adopted new qualifications for the office of President of SGA
- Adopted a new GPA requirement for all club presidents
- SGA hosted a trip to Gettysburg, PA to tour battle fields- Mr. Andrew Miller was the tour guide
- Community Service Project
- SGA Annual Spring Dinner
- Held SGA transitional meetings with new board members for next year
- Developed a SGA Summit Report/ A Year In Review
- Fashion For A Cause Club was approved for full club status
- Leadership Awards 2010
~SGA Executive Board 2009-2010~

Dontae Timothy Phillips
President, Student Government Association
*(Student Affairs and President’s Office Liaison)

Dominique Cheeseborough
Vice President, Student Government Association
*(Academic Liaison)

Heather Nanos
Vice President, Student Government Association-President of Student Activities
*(Student Activities Liaison)

Jade Hollis
Chief Justice, Student Government Association
*(Security Liaison)

Jordan Smith
Clubs Coordinator, Student Government Association
*(ITR Liaison)

Arthur Butler
Treasurer, Student Government Association
*(Food Services Liaison)

Tahirah Stevens
Secretary, Student Government Association
*(Housekeeping and Maintenance Liaison)
~SGA Legislative Board 2009-2010~

Dallas Warren and Ashley West
Senior Representatives, Student Government Association

Nicole Husbands and Erin-Ashley Smith
Junior Representatives, Student Government Association

Diamond Clark and April Rountree
Sophomore Representatives, Student Government Association

Victoria DeCristoforo and Ken Ragonese
Freshman Representatives, Student Government Association

Victoria Smith
Commuter Representative, Student Government Association

Brittany Dougherty
Residence Life Advisory Board Chair

~SGA Advisors~

Megan Camp
Advisor, Student Government Association
Director of Student Activities

James Gallo
Advisor, Student Activities Board

Assistant Director of Student Activities
Melissa G. Hickey
SGB Chaplain, Student Government Association
Director of Campus Ministry