

In Brief.

A publication of the Student Government Association



www.cuw.edu/sga
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Senate Recommends Extending Scheduled Academic Vacations

Citing the need for students to have more travel time for scheduled academic breaks such as Winterim, Spring Break, and Easter Break, the Student Senate voted unanimously to recommend to the University an extension of Thanksgiving Break to “better accommodate all students whose... travel circumstances conflict with class attendance” and to make more exceptions regarding dorm move-in times for traveling students.

Many students detest the current policies. In 2006, Thanksgiving Break began at 4:00 p.m. the previous day, only eight hours before Thanksgiving Day. Move-in policies also require students at winter, summer, and Spring Break to not arrive on campus until noon the day before school resumes.

Senate Asks for Outdoor Smoking Facilities

After polling the student body on smoking questions—the largest such study conducted by SGA in its history, the Student Senate passed a resolution and worked with the Division of Student Life to propose the construction of four smoking facilities.

Citing a desire to reduce or eliminate smoking near entrances to campus buildings, the Senate noted that providing facilities would encourage smokers to seek a warmer spot further away from campus traffic. The fall semester polling showed that smokers heavily supported providing the facilities, while non-smokers desired a stronger enforcement of the so-called “15 foot rule”, which requires a 15-foot smoke-free zone near entrances.

SGA Discontinues Funding of Alcohol Purchases

On February 12, the Student Senate voted in favor of a measure that will discontinue reimbursing student organizations that purchase alcohol as part of their food-banquet budgets, a right that many see as easily abused. The vote was unanimous.

The issue arose after SGA Treasurer Dan Luck realized that organizations would have a small meeting of a few students at local restaurants—like the Highland House—and would request that SGA reimburse them for such purchases on the grounds that it is an organization-related expense. He brought attention to the issue in a meeting of Rules Committee, which brought the resolution in early February.

The move is the first of its kind in the history of SGA.

PT/OT Graduate Students Refunded SGA Program Fee

The graduate students of the PT and OT departments were recently refunded their program fee into SGA for the year after an October review by the Rules Committee discovered that the programs were paying into the fee, a fund overlooked by previous SGA treasurers. Dan Luck, SGA Treasurer, brought the item to the Committee’s attention, and the Student Senate noted that divorcing the programs from SGA would be financially helpful to PT and OT students.

Interested in SGA?

Contact any member of the Student Senate or learn more about what SGA does and how you can get involved on our website:

<http://www.cuw.edu/sga>

Items of Interest

Student Government Increases Organization Funding

In recent months, SGA has approved a number of new student organizations, bringing the total number of funded SGA organizations to a recent high. Those organizations were Project Eden, Concordia Society of Law, History Club, Concordia Film Guild, among others.

The organizations approached SGA to become chartered and are now eligible or receiving funds from the Student Government Program Fee.

Christmas Dinner Proves Successful

In December, SGA hosted a dinner for students involved in a number of campus organizations, especially including Campus Ministry and the Student Senate. The dinner was titled, “A Leadership Dinner,” and it featured comments from CMLT President Peter Frank and SGA President Chris Johnson, among other campus leaders.

The dinner also was a time for congratulations and thanks from SGA to members who were leaving at semester or graduating. Josh Schroeder, a long-time member and former Commuter officer, received the Outstanding Leader of the Year award for his efforts on improving SGA and promoting student involvement in University policy-making.

Looking to the Horizon

Concert on the Bluff

The SGA-sponsored and Campus Ministry-hosted Concert on the Bluff will take place on April 21. SGA donated \$10,000, or more than 10 percent, of the Program Fee to make it happen.

SGA Formal Dance

SGA, and the Ballroom Dancing Organization will host a formal dance later this spring, inviting all students who wish to attend. The dance will be black-tie optional and will likely be hosted at a local country club.

April Blood Drive

The Student Government Association is hosting an April Blood Drive, the second such event to be hosted at the school this semester. The effort is to boost student participation in blood donation.