



OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

Item 4.1

PRESENT TO BOARD: APRIL 24, 2019

TO: SOUTH FLORIDA STATE COLLEGE
DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEESFROM: THOMAS C. LEITZEL 

SUBJECT: PRESENTATION – STUDENT LIFE, ACTIVITIES, SERVICES AND ATHLETICS

SGA Clubs and Organizations - This has been a student driven, fun filled year as the students have celebrated old traditions and started new ones as well. The events and activities of the year were set forth by the SGA E-Board (Executive Board) during the fall of 2018.

- **Rotaract (Tina Gottus)** – The Rotoract Club held monthly meetings, attended bi-weekly SGA Meetings, and participated in all SGA Events such as College Week and various functions. They worked closely with the local Rotary Club, volunteering at some local events, in addition to working with the New Testament Mission securing donations and volunteering.
- **Environmental Club (Amy Bohan)** - The Club held monthly meetings to discuss and plan ways to clean up the environment. The Club volunteered their time to clean up trash and weeds at local parks. The Club is also planning to create a "Recycling Challenge" with local schools to help promote recycling in our community.
- **Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI - Kathleen Cappo)** – IHI has been busy this year working on getting the Club moving in the right direction. The Club has met regularly, in addition to attending SGA Events such as: Meetings, Club Rush, College Week, Pep Rally, and End of Term Functions.
- **Communications Club (Joan Briand)** – This is the Club's first year and it has been a good one. They have had regular meetings and been very involved in the events put on by the SGA. They have held several surveys to try to figure out the best way to communicate with today's student, and have been very active on Social Media, promoting on campus events.
- **Basketball Club (Rob Hampton)** – The Basketball Club has met and played basketball twice a week for the entirety of the school year. They participated in Club Rush & College Week as well as putting on an Intramural Basketball Tournament for the Student Body.
- **Leading Individual Transformation (LIT – Eddie Cuencas and Antonio James)** – LIT is a new Club that has been very active. They held monthly meetings and attended all SGA functions, such as Meetings and College Week. The Club also put on an event that brought our local Tax Collector to the Campus to speak to any and all students about leadership.
- **Veterans Club (Rob Hampton)** – The Veterans Club has held monthly clubs meetings, as well as attending bi-weekly SGA Meetings. They have participated in many SGA Sponsored Events such as Club Rush, Pep Rally, & College Week. They have also organized a camping trip for the group.
- **Honors Ambassadors (Charlotte Pressler)** - The Honors Ambassadors assisted with South Florida State College recruitment at Lake Placid High School and College for a Day. Members showcased their undergraduate research at on-campus poster sessions in August and October, and a public showcase at February's "First Forays into Florida" event. Honors students and faculty also traveled to Altamonte Springs to present at the Florida Collegiate Honors Conference in February. Members participated at various times in service-learning projects at the Avon Park Depot Museum, the Sebring Historical Society, and the Museum of Florida Art & Culture. A project to document historic buildings associated with Black and Hispanic communities in Highlands County was launched by Honors student Nancy Morrissey, who was also appointed to the Highlands County Historic Preservation Commission. Honors students Kristal Shands and Jami Mercer were named to the PTK All-Florida Academic Team. Finally, Honors Ambassadors treasurer Anthony Zepeda won a

place, with a \$6,000 stipend, on the 10-week PATHS-UP Summer Research Program at Florida International University this summer.

- **African American Association (Felecia Dozier)** – AAA has held monthly clubs meetings, and attended bi-weekly SGA Meetings. They have participated in many SGA Sponsored Events such as Club Rush, Pep Rally, & College Week. They also put together an informational campaign for Black History Month that concluded with a Luncheon and a guest speaker.
- **DeSoto County Panther Ambassadors (Jessica Wolcheck)** - Our Ambassadors were very busy this year. They had many on campus fun events, as well as getting out in the Community and volunteering. They also created and displayed a card in Christmas Card Lane, and passed out SFSC bags and candy at the Christmas Parade.
- **Student Practical Nurses Association (Helen Shoemaker)** – The Practical Nursing Club was very busy this year, meeting bi-weekly throughout the year. In addition to their meetings, they participated in the following events: Family Night, gathered donations for the Hurricane Florence Relief Project, attended Board of Nursing Meeting in Naples, as well as various different events they put on for the nursing students throughout the year.
- **Phi Theta Kappa (Charlotte Pressler, Sureka Personette, and Michelle Macbeth)** – This year our chapter grew so much we received a Reach Award through PTK. We also recently inducted 26 new members on March 29th. Our officers have been active in making the chapter successful: president - Layali Haifa, Vice President-Margo Greer-Smith, treasurer/secretary - Renee La Due and Public Relations- Dafne Dominguez. On April 5-6th, we took members of the officer team to PTK's international conference, Catalyst. There the officers learned about leadership, service, fellowship and scholarship.
- **Chess Club (Lisa Johnson-Decarie)** – The Chess Club was formed in January 2019. The purpose of the club is to introduce and encourage students to play Chess, and to give the members some of the very interesting history the game. During our short time as a club we have managed to have two successful fundraisers and held a Chess Tournament which has just ended. In the future we will continue to grow our club in numbers, and hold additional tournaments open to all students, faculty, and staff of South Florida State College.
- **Dental Student Association (Bob Sconyers)** – The Dental Assisting and Hygiene Clubs have participated in the various Christmas parades and one cancer screening event. We will attend the Special Smiles event in Orlando as well as the Florida Dental Convention.
- **Hardee Campus Ambassadors (Katrina Blandin)** – The Hardee Ambassadors have acted as the governing body on the Hardee Campus by putting on events such as leadership sessions and Club Rush. They have been instrumental in increasing student participation at one of our satellite locations.
- **Phi Beta Lambda (Adam Martin)** – PBL has held monthly clubs meetings and attended bi-weekly SGA Meetings. They have participated in many SGA Sponsored Events such as Club Rush, Pep Rally, & College Week. They were also very involved in the Christmas Parades. They have also had a very successful year competing at the Regional and State Level Competitions.
- **Campus Christian Club (TBD)** - The Campus Christian Club has had a very good year. The group held bi-weekly meetings, as well as participating in all SGA Meetings. The Club was in attendance at every SGA function throughout the year such as Christmas Parades, Volleyball, Basketball, Club Rush, and College Week.
- **College Republicans (Garrett Lee)** – The College Republicans were mainly focused on the midterm elections during the fall semester, with presentations by members of the Highlands County Republican Executive Committee, volunteer opportunities for political campaigns, information sharing, and get-out-the-vote efforts. During the spring semester, the club has focused on political discussions, planning for the 2020 elections, and a voter registration drive on campus in the cafeteria. The club is planning to travel to the Highlands County Courthouse for a behind-the-scenes tour to finish off the school year.
- **Latin American Student Organization (Tasha Morales)** - Latin American Club has assisted SGA with graduation, the Christmas Parade, along with hosting the Latin Celebration Month at SFSC. During the Latin Heritage Celebration, students were able to take a tour of the different countries. Display trifold highlighting the various Latin countries were displayed in the lobby of Building B in which students could learn about different customs. Also, during Latin Heritage Month we hosted the STEM Escape Room in which students had to work together to unlock clues and find the antidote before they were infected by the virus. We are happy to state that the first time winners were from DeSoto high school.
- **Student Nurses Association (Tracy Lethbridge)** - Student Nurses Association (SNA) had an active year. SNA members attended the Florida Nursing Students Association Convention. Students were able to attend classes and network with student nurses from across Florida and host a fundraising table. Students have been active with several fundraising and community service events.
- **Radiography Club (Junior Gray)** - SFSC's Radiography Club has had a busy year with classes and clinical rotations as well as being actively involved in Student Government Association events, such as, Latin Heritage Month, College Week, Black History Month and monthly meetings. Currently, our second-year members are preparing for both their pinning and graduation ceremonies as well as their National Registry examination.

- **Brain Bowl (Lena Phelps and David Zoerb)** - Since October of 2018, the Brain Bowl Academic Team competed in six tournaments hosted by College of Central Florida (Ocala), Valencia College (Orlando), Santa Fe College (Gainesville), State College of Florida (Bradenton), and our own SFSC. Their record was 15-35. They placed second at the FCSAA West Central Brain Bowl Regional Tournament that we hosted, earning them a bid at the State Brain Bowl Tournament. The Team's MVP would have to be Romualdo Albiter-Aguilar from Arcadia—he ranked in the top 10 (8th and 9th) in two tournaments and the top 5 (3rd, 5th, 4th and 1st) in the other four. He competed as a team of one at the Santa Fe tournament in January, ranking 13th as a team (out of 18 teams) and 5th overall individually out of 63 players. Other players included Rubi Barajas and Sayra Zamora from Arcadia, Roman Almaguer and Tara Hines from Wauchula, and Cynthia Criss from Avon Park.
- **Art Club (Karla Respress)** - Each Tuesday, Art Club members meet to share the art they are currently working on and plan events on and off campus. In September, Art Club members attended a presentation by Max Gooding on the Business of Art as well as a presentation by the Savannah College of Art and Design. In October, Art Club members attend President Leitzel's Sit N' Talk on the Highlands Campus, and painted faces for the First Responders' Open House and on Halloween in the Library. In November, the Art Club spent a day making art in Arcadia for the Portrait of a Community Event and took a field trip to the Ringling College of Art and Design and the Ringling Museum of Art in Sarasota. In December, Art Club members judged the door decorating contest at the County Courthouse. In January, Art Club members attended two Max Gooding Art Workshops, one in drawing and the other in watercolor here on the Highlands Campus. In February, Art Club members donated soup bowls and attended Sebring High Schools' Soup Up the Arts Fundraiser. Also in February, four Art Club members won awards for their artwork at the Portrait of a Community Event at the Desoto Campus. Finally, in March, the Art Club traveled to attend a tour by Christopher Still of his art studio in Tarpon Springs.
- **Jac Pac (Kendra Wellnitz)** - This academic year has been a busy one. The Jac Pac has thrown Birthday functions monthly for the residents including food and party décor. We had representation at college week. We have also had Health and wellness awareness meetings every two months.
- **Volleyball Club (Ricardo Pantoja)** - A successful year for our first year, promoting camaraderie and teamwork by playing volleyball twice a week.

Athletic Teams

Panther Student Athletes from Baseball, Softball, Cross Country, and Volleyball teams will be presented by respective coaches and will introduce themselves. Coach Hitt, Athletic Director, will also share some season highlights.

Student Government

Besides the very active clubs, the Student Government of SFSC planned and carried out wonderful events this year which inspired learning and fun. These included: Welcome Back, *an event designed to Welcome Students to Campus at the beginning of each semester, the Students passed out water, planners, and campus maps, then made sure all new or returning Students knew their way to Class*, End of Semester Party in the Fall and Spring with the Fall consisting of a Casino Night, and the Spring will be a Pool Party with a Bar-B-Q; Panther Pride Pep Rally event in both the Fall and the Spring, *a pep rally designed to boost athletic involvement throughout the year*; student forum with Dr. Leitzel; a Student Leadership Workshop Series *designed to provide quality speakers and workshops to aid students and sharpen their leadership skills*; FCSSGA state leadership conferences including the Rally in Tally; intramural basketball, football, & volleyball; College Week, *a weeklong series of events that was participated in by over 20 teams comprised of students & faculty/staff that leads to an overall champion*; fall and spring Club Rush to encourage student participation in organizations; a Halloween/Karaoke Themed Fall Fest Party with food, games, music, dancing, & a costume party; a Latin American Heritage Month and a Black History Month Program that each concluded with a Luncheon; a performance by John Rush – The Human iPod; raised money for Breast Cancer Awareness by selling T-Shirts and working for donations; helped receive, gather, and deliver food for the Hurricane Florence Relief Project; helped form a Relay for Life Team and volunteered at the Relay for Life Event; worked with Cindy Kinser to start “Pete’s Panther Pantry,” the school’s first food pantry, then managed the food pantry throughout the year; and general SGA meetings every other Wednesday. Student Leaders were also very active in the Campus-Wide orientation, GPS. They assisted in many different areas within GPS, but mainly provided a Student led session that covered everything from college expectations to how to get involved with the Student Government Association. On top of GPS, the Student Leaders were active on several committees on Campus, as well as several College Wide Recruiting Events, such as College for a Day.