



MURRAY STATE
UNIVERSITY



STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

2018 - 2019

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STRATEGIC

INITIATIVES

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MURRAY STATE UNIVERSITY

Student Government Association

Murray State University Student Government Association Strategic Initiatives 2018 – 2019

1. Goals for Student Government Association

- a. One of our main priorities, especially in the current budgetary climate, is to assist the university in increasing enrollment. Senators and senate committees should constantly be thinking of ways to accomplish this task.
 - i. The Student Government Association plans to host a conference for high school student governments. This will serve as a way for high school students to learn about SGA as well as a recruitment tool for the university to attract new students who are already ambitious leaders.
- b. We want to see more students knowledgeable and passionate about SGA. Senators should consistently seek to engage a diverse group of students.
 - i. We will pursue increased diversity within the association that will provide a more welcoming environment for students.
 - ii. All meetings of our senate, with the exception of private personnel matters, will be open to the public. We encourage students to attend these meetings and contact SGA members (senators and executive council) with their praises and concerns.
 - iii. The executive officers should be available to address concerns as much as possible. This should begin with regular office hours being posted and advertised for students to go to the CSI office to address problems with an open door policy.
 - iv. Senators should have an above satisfactory constituency outreach. It is our priority to be as transparent and accurate as possible when advocating for student interest.

2. Structural Changes for Student Government Association

- a. The senate committee structure will be a focus of the 82nd senate. We believe positive change is well thought out and an active committee structure will assist in this task.
 - i. Each senate sub-committee will plan and administer at least one project that has a progressive impact on either SGA or the university as a whole.
- b. Constitutional changes are sometimes necessary, but should be carefully considered. Our constitution should not prohibit the Student Government from advocating for the goals and mission of the university.
- c. It is the desire of the Student Government to be well funded in a way that is comparative to other public universities. It should be a priority to accurately assess student wants and needs and organize a sustainable funding model that is parallel to that feedback.



3. Advocacy Points for Auxiliary Services

- a. *Dining services* should provide pricing and quality that is appealing to students at first glance. This should be utilized as a recruiting tool for our university, meaning dining services should be of comparable value to other public institutions in the state of Kentucky.
 - i. Outsourcing Process – In the event that Murray State University chooses to outsource dining services, we support the interests of students above all. This includes the quality of food provided as well as the accessibility and affordable pricing of those services.
 1. Quality: An outsourcing option should provide an equal or improved quality of food. This includes providing a diverse amount of food options. Among the top priorities of improving and maintaining the quality of food is the desire from students to implement popular chain restaurants on campus.
 2. Affordability: The Student Government Association is strictly opposed to the possibility of a dramatic meal plan pricing increase under any circumstance.
 - ii. It is a desire of the Student Government Association to support and advocate for the creation of a dining option in or around the new science complex. These students are often confined to these buildings all day and limited on their ability to dine. The desire is for a similar option to the Business Express located in the College of Business.
 - iii. The Student Government Association encourages greater advertising of the Market 22 burrito bar. This is an ideal evening option that all students should be informed about.
 - iv. We support hours of operation for dining locations to be convenient for students and visitors on campus.
 1. During Saturday Summer Orientation sessions, it is desire of this association to ensure the Thoroughbred coffee shop is open for the entirety of the day for families and incoming students to purchase items.
- b. *Housing* options should be comparable to other universities in both quality and pricing. We believe modern on-campus housing options are limited and therefore provide a prevalent obstacle in the recruitment of new students.
 - i. We are in favor of the sustainment of the residential college system and support the continuation and constant improvement of this concept.
 - ii. It is our desire for the housing placement process to provide equal opportunity for students to be placed in the residential college of their cultural preference and financial ability.

4. Overall University Budget

- a. It is our priority that Murray State University is an affordable institution for students of all backgrounds. We believe that the university must financially cater to our main demographic of student: 18 counties of rural Western Kentuckians. It is crucial that the cost for higher education remains realistic for those individuals and families. We are strictly opposed to any additional costs that would provide a significant financial burden to students.

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