



MID-YEAR REPORT
OF THE
STUDENT BODY PRESIDENT

JANUARY 2019

CONTACTS

TODD ABBOTT

Student Body President
sgapresident@messiah.edu

JENNY WOOLLEY

President of the Student Activities Board
sabpresident@messiah.edu

ISAAC BRUNK

Student Body Chaplain
studentchaplains@messiah.edu

DAKOTA VAUGHN

Student Director of The Pulse
thepulse@messiah.edu

ASHLYNN YOUNG

President of Minds Matter
mindsmatterpresident@messiah.edu

HORACIA CARRYL

Vice President of Diversity Affairs
sgadiversity@messiah.edu

TIM MAHONEY

Vice President of Student Review
sgastudentreview@messiah.edu

MARIANNE RAMIREZ GOMEZ

Student Body Vice President
sgavp@messiah.edu

GLORIA IGIHOZO

Chair of the Multicultural Council
multiculturalcouncil@messiah.edu

MEGAN EATON

Director of Human Rights Awareness
humanrights@messiah.edu

SARAH LONG

Eyas Senior Class Representative
eyas@messiah.edu

BRIAN GILROY

Vice President of Organizations
sgaorganizations@messiah.edu

LOGAN BUFFINGTON

Vice President of Finance
sgatreasurer@messiah.edu

SARAH FERTSCH

Vice President of Communication
sga@messiah.edu



Student Body President's Executive Cabinet

Todd Abbott, Student Body President	1
Marianne Ramirez Gomez, Student Body Vice President	3
Brian Gilroy, Vice President of Organizations	5
Horacia Carryl, Vice President of Diversity Affairs	6
Logan Buffington, Vice President of Finance	7
Tim Mahoney, Vice President of Student Review	8
Sarah Fertsch, Vice President of Communication	9

Student Body President's Leadership Council

Jenny Woolley, President of the Student Activities Board	10
Gloria Igihozo, Chair of the Multicultural Council	14
Isaac Brunk, Student Body Chaplain	20
Megan Eaton, Director of Human Rights Awareness	22
Dakota Vaughn, Student Director of The Pulse	24
Sarah Long, Eyas Senior Class Representative	26
Ashlynn Young, President of Minds Matter	28

Mid-Year Report of the Student Body President Todd Abbott

-

“Engage the divisive, embrace the universal.” In adopting this as our vision statement for the year, the Student Government Association has sought to celebrate the commonalities that unite us while thoughtfully and prayerfully engaging the topics of contention that can separate us if not handled with compassion and grace. Embodying the symbolic bridge from our logo and partnering with the campus-wide theme of Promoting the Common Good, we have given our utmost to connect with, support and provide a voice to all members of the student body. Tangibly, we have prioritized service-based outcomes that we believe benefit all students in the areas of food security, meal offerings, internet connectivity and campus information flow. As we humbly submit this report to reflect on our fall successes, failures and opportunities for growth, our prayer is that the Messiah community will continue to support and partner with us in seeking the plans that God has ordained for our campus, both in the coming spring and beyond.

Reflection

You can't underestimate the power of a strong team surrounding you. After an enjoyable but quiet summer of making preparations on an empty campus, the most rewarding week of the entire first-half experience soon proved to be the training sessions that I was able to share with our incoming cabinet in late August. With gracious and effective work from the LOFT staff in fostering team spirit, complemented by inspiring messages from President Phipps and her administrative partners, I was humbled to grow closer with the amazing group of individuals that SGA has been blessed with in leadership for the 2018-2019 year. From the start, they have consistently excelled in providing a skilled and reliable backbone to the Association that greatly improves the student experience on campus, and I couldn't be more grateful for their diligence.

Thanks in part to my prior service with Student Senate and the Diplomatic Corps, I was fortunate to be well-prepared for the rigorous demands and long hours required of this role. Before the year began, I partnered with offices across campus to appoint 35 new student representatives to fill 43 seats on the 25 college committees and councils responsible for crafting Messiah's policies and initiatives. It's been a privilege to see these appointees thrive in their roles, and I'd particularly like to highlight diplomats Deanna Preziosi and Jonathan Logan for their stellar work with the Dining Management Committee in bringing healthier combo options to the Union Café and friendlier menu items for those with dietary restrictions to Lottie Nelson Dining Hall. The reintroduction of yogurt-based smoothies to the Union Café and debut of Lo Mein pasta bowls in the Falcon Café were also early highlights of an exciting semester for the campus dining experience.

Upon identifying confusing verbiage and a number of inconsistencies throughout the SGA Governance Manual, I also undertook the task of rewriting the entirety of sections relating to internal governance and officer role responsibilities. Following presentation to and approval by the Student Senate, these edits were officially adopted in early fall and

have already paid dividends through their clarity and accessibility for those needing to access information regarding our policies and processes. Rewrites of sections regarding election procedures and the filling of vacancies are currently in the works and expected to reach Student Senate for approval in early February.

“Where Do Our Tuition Dollars Go?”

On the 1st of October, SGA hosted Messiah’s Vice President for Finance, Mr. David Walker, and Vice President for Enrollment Management, Dr. John Chopka, to an open forum focusing on the inner workings of our tuition cost distributions and fee schedules. President Phipps and our SGA Vice President of Finance, Logan Buffington, were also in attendance and gracefully shared insights from their positions throughout the evening. Though lightly attended, I found that the event was successful in its goal of opening a communication channel for students who may be disillusioned with current school pricing. By putting administrative faces to names often seen only in emails, students were able to hear more personally from the individuals working behind the scenes to ensure the most effective and feasible financing strategies. This event was last held three academic years ago, and I recommend its continuation in perpetuity every second or third fall.

Board of Trustees Fall Session

Later in October, I joined both College Council and the Board of Trustees in a unanimous decision to seek university status and adopt the title “Messiah University” as of July 1st, 2020. Prior to these final approvals, Student Senate welcomed President Phipps to present on the proposal, where she shared the key motivators for the move along with its potential benefits. The fall Board meetings were also highlighted by the annual student breakfast, in which a handful of Trustees meet with selected students to discuss any topic that SGA finds to be a pressing issue for the campus community. This year, the Board welcomed Gloria Igihozo, Marianne Ramirez Gomez, Nora Nworu, Horacia Carryl and Shaun Sukum to share on the subject of inclusivity in the classroom and intentionality in the hiring of a diverse faculty. The Board will next meet in late January, with updates expected on construction of the Kim S. Phipps Admissions and Welcome Center as well as recommendations from the Student Success task force initiative.

Messiah Dining Dollar Network

On November 26th, the Messiah Dining Dollar Network was launched as a private Facebook group with the goal of facilitating connections between two types of students: those with an overabundance of dining dollars remaining on their account and those who were running short. This idea grew from a task force that I joined over the summer at the invitation of the Office of Sustainability, focusing on the rise of food insecurity on campuses across the country. Researchers at Temple University recently found that 36% of college students don’t feel that they can consistently find enough to eat, citing financial challenges as a primary cause. Motivated to action by this troubling trend, our goal was to ensure that every Messiah student enjoys equal opportunity to feel secure in knowing where their next meal will come from, thus disallowing food insecurity from adding to already-plentiful

stress levels. The original target of 400 members and 40-50 shared meals was vastly exceeded by 650+ members and an estimated 182 shared meals in just our first four weeks of operation! The generosity of the Messiah community continues to amaze, and I'm beyond excited to see the group continue to grow organically during the spring semester.

Looking Forward

One of our more popular fall successes was the installation of six new Wi-Fi routers in Lottie Nelson Dining Hall, and we're excited to see that the partnership between SGA and Information Technology Services won't be stopping there! Following months of preparation and ongoing training sessions, the long-anticipated launch of the FalconLink Master Calendar is set for February 11th, aiming to tie together all student events, chapels, athletic contests and arts performances on campus in one accessible and easy-to-navigate destination. Following that release, we're excited to enter headfirst into a new season of SGA elections – guided by Election Coordinator Tyjón Culclasure – with campaigns beginning on February 28th, debate night on March 6th, and voting to close on March 8th.

Through it all, I commit to continue wholeheartedly seeking the embodiment of *engaging the divisive and embracing the universal*. Just as importantly, I want to repeat my expression of gratitude to our wonderful Executive Cabinet and dedicated network of Student Senators, Diplomats and Review Board Members for the role that they have played in living out the fruits of that vision. Here's to reflecting fondly on a rewarding fall slate and looking ahead to an auspicious spring semester!

In service of the College,

Todd M. Abbott
Student Body President

Mid-Year Report of the Student Body Vice President Marianne Ramirez Gomez

Reflection

This position has provided me with the opportunity to learn about leadership: what it entails, how it is practiced, and why it is necessary to challenge oneself to become an effective leader by following Christ's example of leadership. This role has allowed me to see and exercise what the characteristics of a good leader are through interactions with the cabinet, other student leaders, Sheryl, and the administration. Certain topics and decisions I have had to make have challenged me take a step outside of my comfort zone. Although there is a great amount of growth I have yet to accomplish, I am content with the growth I have made in one semester in spite of difficult circumstances.

I feel like I have met the main roles of the Student Body Vice President. I have thoroughly enjoyed chairing Student Senate and interacting with my Senators. In this

upcoming semester, I will strive to use this role to understand and get to know Senators better. My plan is to do this by meeting with them and being more available to receiving feedback from them. However, I am proud of the ground I have set for them to feel comfortable enough to engage inside and outside of Student Senate. I would like to improve this upcoming semester by beginning preparation for my duties well ahead of time, including communicating with Student Senate guests, the Student Leadership Development Committee, and the Election Committee.

Student Senate

Fall semester schedule was consistent and took place only when necessary. There was great involvement and engagement of Student Senators (total of 26) and organizations. Senate speakers included President Phipps, Megan Eaton, Carrie Widdowson, Lyndsay Grimm, and Executive Club representatives. Legislation passed this fall included:

- passage of the Fall Budget
- approval of appointees to the Diplomatic Corps
- addition of a dormancy clause for independent Senators
- adjustments in the hiring process and title for the Chair of the Student Review Board
- reorganization of Governance Manual Section III
- addition of new voting rights for clubs of the Multicultural Council
- addition of a Senate representative for the Admissions Office

Senate Committees maintained engagement and met regularly to ensure certain proposals were thought through and prepared with excellency. Proposals and results will be included in the year-end report.

#WhatsYourTake?

#WhatsYourTake was led by senator Tetsuo Takahara, with me as an advisor. Fall semester tables included collaborations between SGA and different Executive Clubs and offices on campus. This served as an opportunity for the student body to engage with SGA and other organizations to express their take on relevant matters.

Partners included:

- SAGE
- Sons of the King Ministry
- the Engle Center
- Minds Matter

Topics engaged included:

- inclusive excellence and cultural competence
- student wages

- emotional well-being
- sexuality and gender concerns

Signed,

Marianne Ramirez Gomez
Student Body Vice President

Mid-Year Report of the Vice President of Organizations Brian Gilroy

Reflection

This fall, I had the pleasure of returning to the SGA Cabinet as the Vice President of Organizations. One of the benefits of returning was the ability early on in the fall to get started on projects and ideas, without the need for a lot of re-training. A passion of mine is to continue to foster growth within the clubs and various areas on campus so we can live out our mission through reaching both our students and community.

Some accomplishments tied directly into my role were fall budgeting, Governance Review Council updates, and club reports. This was my second time assisting with the fall budget, and again, having the prior experience of highs and lows allowed me to really improve efficiency and outcomes. During our club meetings, every club was given a sheet to articulate their goals. These will be reviewed at the spring budget meetings. The goal of the evaluations is not to give more work for the clubs or myself, but rather to encourage clubs to do the best they can for themselves and their student members. One proposal that will be taking effect is the dormancy clause, which allows clubs to maintain dormant status for up to one year to evaluate if there is still a need or desire for the club to continue.

Campus Connection Fair

Last J-Term, we held the inaugural Office Involvement Fair. This event was created to give students, faculty and staff the ability to interact with one another and see how relationships could start, grow and strengthen. This fall, with some new marketing, the renamed "Campus Connection Fair" took place with over 20 offices and many students in attendance. While I may have created the idea for the Fair, I couldn't have pulled it off without the amazing support of our Cabinet. Turnout was good, but I would like to see improvement on the number of student-to-office interactions. Hopefully, this event will continue and just like many events, grow into familiarity with repetition.

Looking Forward

The other aspect of my role is to keep open and active communication with clubs and their leadership. I do wish that more clubs would reach out to have coffee or a meal

with me to keep me informed. I feel that this is one area for improvement going into the spring: being more intentional in getting together with clubs to learn how I can help serve them. I am so thankful for the opportunity to serve Messiah in this role and am looking forward to improving throughout the spring.

Signed,

Brian L. Gilroy
Vice President of Organizations

**Mid-Year Report of the Vice President of Diversity Affairs
Horacia Carryl**

Reflection

This past semester was a balance of immersive learning experiences and intimate conversations relating to matters of diversity on our campus. Stepping into the role of Vice President of Diversity Affairs was enjoyable because of Student Government's unique perspective as leaders on our campus. In my role, I truly was able to see the ways in which SGA stands as the bridge between students and administration. I enjoyed learning the ins and outs of the many committees I participated in, including Diversity, Gender Concerns and the Martin Luther King Week planning committee. I also had the opportunity to create a task force in collaboration with our Vice President of Communication to continue the "Civil Discourse" series that was created last year. My highlight of the semester would be when myself, along with a few of my peers in student leadership, were granted an opportunity to discuss the importance of diversity amongst faculty with a few members of the Board of Trustees. It was a productive and enlightening conversation. For next semester, I hope to participate in the continuation of conversations relating to diversity amongst faculty members, as well as more productive, well-rounded programming for the civil discourse series.

Civil Discourse on Sexuality

Civil Discourse is a discussion-based event that encourages open dialogue within our community. It is a space to agree and disagree, but with the intention of learning respect and consideration for ideas unlike our own. In the fall, we chose to discuss sexuality and the vast spectrum which it covers. This took two forms:

- small group discussions: event began in small groups where people were "assigned" away from those that they arrived with. There was a list of questions to break the ice on the topic and spark considerations for the discussion ahead.

- fishbowl-style discussion: larger group discussion with all event participants. Questions were a bit more controversial and individuals sat panel-style with time limitations to make their points.

For the future, I recommend that we draw from a vast number of sources and create an environment that humanizes people before any possible debate can begin. I also hope that we can create a system that finds a balance between applause and affirmation and regards matters of inaccuracy and overt negativity with proper responsive actions.

Signed,

Horacia Carryl
Vice President of Diversity Affairs

Mid-Year Report of the Vice President of Finance Logan Buffington

Reflection

As Vice President of Finance, I have spent a significant amount of time learning the administrative behind-the-scenes work that goes into the finances of clubs and organizations at Messiah College. It has been challenging trying to streamline the process of expenditures and money reconciliations and creating governance that is specific enough to maintain a succinct process while allowing some wiggle room for extraneous circumstances. This is still a work-in-progress as we attempt to revamp our governance in terms of wages, but I am hopeful that we will be able to set a good precedent for years to come and solve past problems!

On another exciting note, I was able to work frequently with the Multicultural Council this semester. One of our biggest successes was passing a governance change that gave Multicultural Council greater representation in Student Senate. There are now six representatives, including the chair of the Multicultural Council and the presidents of each of their five underlying organizations. This is a great step towards creating a more inclusive viewpoint within Student Senate and I look forward to future collaborations with the Multicultural Council that will further our journey, as SGA, towards inclusive excellence.

Fall Budgeting

This semester consisted of a lot of growth and learning as our cabinet tackled the fall budgeting process. I worked closely with the Brian Gilroy as we met with every chartered and executive organization to review their proposed expenditures and devise a fair and fiscally responsible budget. We were able to present four budget proposal options, and these were voted on in Student Senate, where we passed a budget within 20 minutes –

prior budget senates took upwards of two hours. I am proud of the success and diligence that was put into this budgeting process by each of our SGA cabinet members.

Sincerely,

Logan Buffington
Vice President of Finance

Mid-Year Report of the Vice President of Student Review Tim Mahoney

Reflection

I have really enjoyed the diversity of opportunities provided by my role on SGA. In the course of the fall semester, I was able to learn about the administrative aspect of the college through the Student Review Board. I was also able to participate in the drafting process of law-making through the social concerns committee and I was also able to learn from the rich variety of talent among my peers.

The Student Review Board, under my chairship, has looked at several cases regarding community standards. Our board has sought to uphold college policies while echoing our Anabaptist roots in bringing a mercy-guided perspective. We have met with several students to resolve parking appeals and are working to create a smoother response to the parking citation program.

Mosaics & the Social Concerns Committee

I also organized a story-telling event called Mosaics that focused on creating community, marking the second year that I have done so. This year's theme followed that of the college's Common Good initiative and focused around stories of individual journeys to the good life. The event grew in participation and attendance, boasting an audience of more than 120 people. Finally, on the Social Concerns Committee that I chair, our members have been discussing updates to the Student Handbook and discussing how to further engage the college in controversial topics generated by the Civil Discourse series.

Signed,

Tim Mahoney
Vice President of Student Review

Mid-Year Report of the Vice President of Communication Sarah Fertsch

Reflection

After my appointment to this role in February 2018, it has been an honor to continue my work this fall. To summarize the role, the Vice President of Communication supports several Cabinet members. I manage all communication and grants stemming from SGA, including social media, MC-77 updates, the Hostetter Grant and the Professional Development Grant. I have assisted with the Civil Discourse on Sexuality and have taken minutes for Cabinet, Senate, and Leadership Council. I serve as the student representative on the Community Standards Committee and the Sustainability Committee, and I chair the Student Senate Education Committee.

Of the work I accomplished this semester, I feel most proud of revamping the SGA website. Effective, succinct communication is fundamental to maintain credibility and reputation from an organizational standpoint. At the beginning of the fall, the SGA website offered unreliable information, poor graphics and out-of-date links. In response, I worked closely with the Student Body President and Sheryl Scaramuzzino to update the website, which now hosts accessible, timely content. Now, students (and other target audiences, such as the administration and prospective students) can visit the site and leave with a more complete understanding of SGA's work and role on campus.

My role presents unique opportunities and challenges. Throughout my time on SGA, I have greatly enjoyed learning about college policy. I can voice my opinion on important campus issues. It's helped me learn more about myself; I am passionate about fundraising and grant management, and hope to pursue work in that field post-graduation. However, as an overachiever who has twice served as Student Body President at other institutions (high school and community college), I am learning to recognize my worth as a team player, not solely a leader. Writing the minutes can be challenging (I prefer to be speaking, not copying what everyone says). This has granted me patience and humility. Our advisor, Kevin Villegas, continually reminds me that the minutes are crucial for future Cabinets. I am proud to serve the good of the whole.

Another challenge that I faced relates to my work on the Student Senate Education Committee. I chair this committee, and lead seven students as we consider education-related college policy. The topic of the committee is challenging – students aren't interested in adding classes or additional work, professors are not interested in adding rigor to curriculum, and administration is continually working on their own strategic plan. Members see that educational reform at Messiah is an uphill battle, which is reflected in meeting attendance, dedication to specific issues and consistent communication. The fall semester began with several brainstorming sessions, and led to exploratory discussion of the ELI credit – could it be consolidated? Is it necessary? After determining that the ELI credit would be difficult to change, the committee was lost without a vision. I have worked with the Student Body Vice President to resolve this issue, but this could reflect the need to revamp the education committee in the future, as this has been a problem for this committee for several years.

I plan on entering the spring semester with specific goals in mind. First, I plan on implementing strategies to reduce errors in my work. As a communication professional, I must vigilantly review my work because it represents an organization. I am naturally a big picture-oriented person, so details haven't come easily for me. For the spring, I will look over my work (MC-77 scripts, social media content, press releases, grant communication) at least three times before publication. Second, I will strategically plan and execute the Hostetter Grant successfully. When I managed this grant (and committee) last February, I was new to the position, which caused unnecessary bumps and errors. This year, I will plan ahead, set aside meetings for my committee, and communicate in a timely manner with applicants. Third, I will onboard my successor with grace and compassion. Because I was appointed suddenly last year, my onboarding process was overwhelming. Therefore, I plan to consider the onboarding of the successor a priority and will set aside time to answer questions and appreciate their potential to future success.

I look forward to what the spring semester holds in my SGA work. I am thankful for the opportunity to serve my college and develop as a political communication professional.

Sincerely,

Sarah Fertsch
Vice President of Communication

Mid-Year Report of the Student Activities Board Jenny Woolley, President

Reflection

Entering the year, SAB had eight returning members, three new-comers, and an empty position to fill. With such a large portion of returners, the fall semester focused on individual improvement, editing the mission and constitution, and filling the Cultural Engagement role. As I reflect on the fall semester, I look with anxious ambition toward the spring. The fall successes include: hiring our Cultural Engagement Executive, refining our mission, creating a cohesive identity as a team, and establishing trust. SAB's goals for the spring will build on the foundation we established this fall. We will vote on our updated constitution, begin brainstorming hiring strategies, and reconsider our committee structure and function. My personal goals include deepening the understanding of SAB's mission on campus, encouraging individual executives to branch out on campus, and increasing conversations on the intersection of social issues and popular culture.

Special Activities

Megan Anderson, Vice President

This semester, I was able to make some slight changes to traditional events. I experimented with a hosting Fall Fest on Halloween this year. I learned it is a good option

but Saturdays are the best option for an event like this. I also planned the Family Fun Fair as well as Bingo, which was a huge success. This was the second Falcon Flea Market done and I will be planning on repeating it each semester.

B-Sides

Madison Scialanca

Throughout the year, B-Sides aimed to provide meaningful interactions with pop culture through bringing a variety of genres, cultures, and individuals. B-Sides went under some adjustments this year, scaling back from shows every other week to just once month. Despite not being in the position the year before, I can attest that the work load has been manageable and focusing on quality over quantity has been beneficial to both the reputation of B-Sides and my sanity as the executive. So far, I have learned how to communicate professionally, enhanced my organizational and time management skills, built relationships with the board, collaborated with other leaders, and explored my own creativity by discovering new artists to bring to campus. Guests included YOUTHFOOL, The Evidence, Los Elk and Combo Chimbata.

Concerts

Matthew Sechrist & Seth Weber

Stepping into this role as co-executives had its challenges but was ultimately very beneficial for growth within the position. With how things happened, we made the decision to transition from two small/medium concerts per year to one large concert at the end of the year. We were a bit disappointed that things did not work out for the fall but are very excited for the change and to organize the event this spring.

Cultural Engagement

Note from Jenny Woolley

The process of hiring our Cultural Engagement each year offers challenges. For the 2018-2019 year, the hiring process took 8 months in order to find an executive able to commit the time and return to Messiah for the full year. While the process was not easy, as President, I feel confident in Britney as she continues in the role for the spring.

Conversations regarding the intersection of social issues, popular culture and media trends are crucial. Britney's commitment to listening, inclusivity, sensitive discourse, and the need for advocates of representation enable her to contribute to SAB through her role. I look forward to her achievements in the spring.

Britney Yauger

I started my time with SAB halfway through the semester, which presented many challenges both personally and professionally as I was integrated into the team. Socially speaking, it was daunting to walk into a team that had already learned how to function together as a cohesive unit. It was even more difficult to figure out the logistics of the position while trying to find my place on the team. I got a late start on the Seasonal

Affective Disorder Panel Discussion, my first and only event of the year, then was met with a lack of availability from the Engle Center counselors and the Psychology department. Going forward, I will be taking advantage of the beginning of the semester to do all of the planning for the rest of the year so that I can fully execute all of my ideas!

Dances

Christy White

One thing that was a success was the Festival Dance attendance. Putting a well-known face as DJ in the first two hours really helped with the attendance in the beginning and throughout the dance. One of my goals for the year was to get rid of the stigma of when the dances actually start as opposed to when people actually show up. Other dances included Homecoming and Christmas Traditions.

Excursions

George Noble

This semester we were able to take students to ZooAmerica in October and Sight and Sound Theatres in November. The ZooAmerica trip was pretty simple; we took 30 students half an hour away and bought tickets at the park. Sight and Sound was a bit more work, requiring us to reserve tickets a month ahead of time and take 45 students over an hour away to Lancaster. Both events were very popular and well received. I personally learned a lot about my leadership.

Graphic Design

Hannah Grubb

Filling the role of graphic designer on the board this year has brought on a lot of challenges, but those challenges have also fostered a ton of growth within my professional skill set. I have become so much more efficient in the time it takes me to research and create each poster as well as improve my time management. I have loved working with everyone on the board in a different capacity than I did last year in the B-Sides position. I am looking forward to growing my portfolio and keeping campus happy with fun posters!

Lost Films

Grant Zimmerman

Lost Films achieved great success this semester, and several of the films attracted large crowds while offering thought-provoking themes. "Black Panther," "A Quiet Place," "BlacKkKlansman," and "Crazy Rich Asians" were the most popular films, and each of these movies also challenged students to consider culturally relevant themes including representation in film, diversity, and race relations. We hosted a panel for "BlacKkKlansman," which generated engaging discussions with the students. Overall, students reacted well to the Lost Films lineup this fall semester, and I believe that we provided an appropriately diverse selection of films for the campus. Other showings

included Incredibles 2, Isle of Dogs, Avengers: Infinity War, Ant-Man and the Wasp, Tully, Leave No Trace, Won't You Be My Neighbor?, Eighth Grade and Christopher Robin.

Marketing

Lindsey Macariola

Going into this semester, some of my goals expanded off of last year's goals such as increasing SAB's awareness on campus and improving our followers on social media. Since the spring of 2018, every month I have been keeping track of how many followers we have on our Facebook, Instagram and Twitter. Over time, the number of followers that we have slowly continues to increase which is a trend that I hope continues.

Feedback from the student body is obviously a factor that we deeply value in our club because all the money that we use to put on events is from the Student Activities Fee. This year, I decided to put together a feedback stand for SAB so that anyone can come up to our table and tell us what we think could be improved, what activities they enjoy seeing, what they think we're doing well, and any other comments they have about what we're doing on the Student Activities Board. At this stand, students were also able to pick up small freebies like phone wallets, pens, stickers and more that have our logo on it. During this event, anyone was able to come and pick up extra posters that we had left over from events that were put on last year and this year. Students around campus enjoy the posters that our wonderful graphic designers put hard work into, so I thought it would be a good idea for people in the Messiah community to come and pick up any posters that they would like. This turned out to be a success and we received a lot of positive feedback about the posters being set out for anyone to take. I hope to continue this event every semester so that the community can pick up posters that they like, as well as display the hard work and beautiful posters that our graphic designer creates.

In relation to the awareness of our board on campus, since our board is a majority of returning students, this has been a helpful contributor to increasing our awareness on campus. Similar to last year, I've tried to incorporate the names and faces of our executives more on social media so that when people see one of us around campus and have a question about an upcoming event, they know that we have the answer or can direct them to someone who does. Overall, I think it has been a great semester and I hope to continue thinking of new ways to improve the marketing position as we go into the spring semester.

Student Talent

Becca Ford

The highlights of this semester were the success of the second year of Mosaics, as it was both well attended and represented a different subset of Messiah College students and their talent; it is on its way to becoming an annual event. Slight modifications such as removing judging yielded an improvement in the overall flow and audience investment. Additionally, there was an alumni group who performed at the Homecoming Coffeehouse, which always brings greater attendance and energy to the show. I hope that as the year moves forward, the events put on by the Student Talent position incorporate active audience involvement. Other events included First-Year Coffeehouse and Family Weekend Coffeehouse.

Treasurer
Kevin Lyon

As a returner this year, I felt much more equipped to handle the treasury role. For the most part it has been fairly easy to manage the expense tracking in comparison to last year when I was still getting over the learning curve. Without having to worry as much about the expense tracking, I implemented a petty cash envelope which executives use for a variety of events. In addition, I worked with several executives in creating a collaboration taskforce which will assist in working with other clubs in the future.

Looking Forward

While the fall proved successful in acclimating to our team, there are areas in which I hope to see improvement. Our media presence and physical presence on campus can be improved. With many returners, it became a norm to spend time with each other instead of branching out at certain events. Also, I hope to see each executive encompass our mission on campus, disseminating the core values and goals of SAB for a broader audience.

Signed,

Jenny Woolley
President of the Student Activities Board

Mid-Year Report of the Multicultural Council
Gloria Igihozo, Chair**Reflection**

The main goal of the Multicultural Council in the fall was to restructure most of the planning around the theme of the year: *Ubumuntu*, the essence of being human. We hoped to have an equal balance between hard conversations and events that focus on cultural celebration. We also hoped to create a safe environment that promotes learning, exchange of ideas, and celebrates differences on the road to racial reconciliation. Beyond these specific goals, we hoped to serve the Messiah community through creating discussion spaces where faculty, staff and students could hold hard and honest conversations to encourage more faculty-staff-student interaction. This is mainly because we felt that MCC fell short when it came to faculty and staff engagement. All of these goals were met through different club events, as discussed below. We collaborated with the Pulse, SAB, Student Ministries, World Christian Fellowship and the LOFT. This enabled us to reach to more students that we usually are able to.

We are proud of the work that was done, especially the open councils, club culture celebration events (Karibu Night, Diwali Night, *Baila*, and many more), the first ever multicultural student retreat, and acquiring more votes in Student Senate. While the work

speaks on the commitment, time and effort that MCC has spent to better serve the Messiah Community, there is still room for improvement. We need to allow more time for planning and preparations, improving communication, and working on better work delegation. Thus, looking to the spring semester, MCC should recognize the power of resourceful teamwork and how far it can take us. Lastly, we have worked on adding two more positions to MCC: a student ministries leader who sits on the core team as MCC's chaplain and Student Ministries Liaison, as well as a faculty Liaison – Dr. Drew Hart – who will facilitate faculty and staff interaction and involvement with MCC.

Multicultural Student Orientation: This was to welcome new multicultural students to Messiah and introduce them to the Multicultural Council. We welcomed more than 64 multicultural students and managed to help them settle in. For future reference, different emails should be sent to multicultural students and domestic students with move in details, as parents expressed that move-in dates were confusing and not clear enough.

“Know Your Neighbor” Potluck: In collaboration with the Pennsylvania Center for Refugees and Immigrants (PACRI), we gave students the opportunity to join the refugee community in the area for a chance to get to know one another, share a meal, converse, and share their cultures. This event received positive feedback and we hope that it becomes an ongoing collaboration.

Multicultural Student Retreat: 95 multicultural students joined all MCC clubs for an interactive weekend at Roxbury Holiness camp. The keynote speaker was Kevin Villegas, who shared an inspiring message on the theme of a shared humanity. Cherisse Daniels, the MCC advisor, shared a moving message on being a student of color in a predominantly white institution and learning to be comfortable speaking out and sharing ideas. Students were able to interact with one another through games, meals, and conversations. It is crucial to plan this retreat ahead of time (in the summer, preferably) as there are many details to figure out before school starts.

Proposal for More Votes in Student Senate: With the help of the Vice President of Finance, Logan Buffington, we appealed to have more than one vote in Senate. It was unanimously voted that MCC clubs would join Student Senate as part of the Extended Forum that meets a few times per semester, and the MCC chair would remain the representative of MCC in the Primary Forum. My recommendation would be that the presidents of the respective multicultural clubs become the representative for each club. If this is not possible, a consistent person from the clubs should be selected to represent the club on Student Senate.

Open Council on Interracial Dating: Messiah students, faculty, and staff shared their experiences on interracial and intercultural dating in an event that was attended by 95 people. We received positive feedback and a few requests to have the same topic for the spring semester.

Open Council: Masculinity and Femininity: Messiah students, faculty and staff shared their experiences on how culture and society have affected their perceptions on

gender. They each defined what masculinity and femininity meant to them, tying everything back to the environments they were raised in. The event was attended by 93 people.

Multicultural Student Potluck: The potluck, attended by over 80 people, was an opportunity to share food and get to know one another. Each club brought a dish that represented their respective cultures. There was also karaoke and games. For future planning, clubs should bring more than one dish as most people did not bring anything to the potluck. I would also recommend having board games in addition to karaoke.

Open Council on Cultural Appropriation: The open council, attended by 85 people, discussed the difference between cultural appropriation and cultural celebration. The panel speakers were the presidents of each multicultural club and Resident Director Amy Nicols. The event was extremely well received and defined some blurred lines on cultural appropriation. For controversial and serious topics like this, I recommend reaching out to a few faculty members to be present to mediate the conversation when necessary.

Together Every Nation, Every Tongue: A night of worship in collaboration with all the multicultural clubs, the LOFT, Student Ministries, World Christian Fellowship, and Powerhouse. The event was in Hostetter Chapel and was attended by over 100 people. We explored worship in different cultural contexts and had interactive stations for students who were taking a break from studying for finals. For the future, I would recommend not relying heavily on powerhouse for the worship. Instead, it would be better to select singers and people to play instruments and reach out to them at least a month in advance. It would be beneficial to set up practice times at least once a week to ensure that the selected worship team is prepared. Powerhouse or conference services could be used for tech.

African Student Union ***Laura Almeida, President***

Karibu Night: We had our biggest event called “Karibu Night: A Night in Africa” on November 10th this year. The event had a great turnout of over 300 people, including students, faculty, and off-campus guests. We had an amazing African dinner served by Messiah catering. We also had ten performances of dances, songs, drum performances and spoken word. We also made two videos, one about “Breaking Stereotypes” about Africa and the other a video with five Messiah African students and an African professor, where they answered a couple of questions for people to get to know them and also to show that even though we all come from different countries and backgrounds, in the end, we are all human. We also held a fashion show, which this year we partnered with a store in Harrisburg called “Nyanga Store” that sells African clothes and other African items. We had the owner of the store come and sell some of her things during the event, and we used her clothes for the fashion show! During Karibu, we also decided to include information about different African influential people in between the performances. It was a way to show people that there are many amazing Africans that are currently working to better our world. And finally, we also partnered with the Pulse and they took pictures during the event and had a

photo booth set up. This was the first year that Karibu Night was not free. We sold tickets for \$5 general, and \$3 for students.

Collaboration with the LOFT: We collaborated with the LOFT in one of their worship nights. It was a great time where one of our cabinet members was able to give a devotional with a LOFT member, and we were able to teach a couple of worship songs from a few African cultures. We had a time of fellowship and getting to know each other. We plan to do this next semester and keep doing it in the future. It was a great evening! About 40 students came and worshipped with us.

Afro-Fridays: We brought back the tradition of wearing African attire on Fridays, except we changed to the first Friday of every month. We call it Afro-Fridays and it is a day in which we all get to showcase our beautiful clothes from different African countries! Many people participated and it was a great time of wearing clothes to remind us of home.

Asian Student Association

Ponhphisudti (Pearl) Tangsirisan, President

ASA Dance: ASA's first dance that was designed for everyone to have fun while indulging in the rich variety of music from all over the continent that was created and remixed by Asian and Asian-American artists and DJs. In the future, ASA wishes to continue to hold this dance, but find ways to improve our event while holding up to our vision. We seek to reach out more to the greater campus and display more of the beauty and talents of music from the people of our continent that would allow all people to unite under the love for music.

Diwali Night: An educational, interactive night that was held to display the traditional southeast Asian "festival of lights" celebrated across the globe. It is a tradition to celebrate "triumph over evil", but most importantly to be reunited with family and friends. For the event, we had many different stations, each with its own activity and educational purpose for the participants such as a desserts table, Henna, arts and crafts, textiles and more. It is an event that ASA holds annually and would be recommended to continue but improved upon in the future.

"Crazy Rich Asians" Lost Film Collaboration: A successful event that truly reflected one of ASA's vision of hoping to break Asian stereotypes in the media and reintroducing some Asian cultural values to the campus. It is highly recommended for this event to happen again with any films that would best be suited for our goals and mission.

Black Student Union

Nora Nworu, President

"Fall into Homecoming" Potluck: Through this event we were able to invite the student body and all of the BSU members to come together in fellowship with the Unity House located on Messiah's campus. We were able to have fellowship, make conversation,

and share a meal together. This allowed our members to begin to know each other, as well as giving Messiah's campus a glimpse into our BSU family.

One World, One Mission: This event was to specifically target those within the social work major and provide an avenue to allow future collaborations to begin between the Multicultural Council and the Social Work department. Though this event targeted social work students, it was opened to all majors (including the faculty within the represented departments) in hopes to allow each of the departments on Messiah's campus to begin to interact with MCC. We hope to have more interaction amongst MCC and the departments of social sciences as their missions show many parallels.

Hair Expo: This was our final event of the fall semester. Our Hair Expo was centered around the idea of the culture of hair within the black community. This event was to be seen as a celebration for hair that falls outside of the western ideals of beauty. On this day, students were able to get a glimpse into the life of those with kinky and curly hair, while also receiving stories from their peers on their journey of self-acceptance and love through their natural hair stories.

Looking Ahead: As we continue into the spring semester, the Black Student Union hopes to create a culture that allows students to feel welcomed within their space. We are currently planning events for Black History Month that would allow students to further their education on Black History, which impacts each and every one of us. Within this month, we have also begun planning for our dance of the year, as well as our "We Matter" Showcase that shines a light on our student talent represented right here on campus. We also hope to hold a continuation of last year's event entitled Waking Up White, which will allow those within the student body to continue to explore the idea of what it means to be an ally within this society.

International Student Association & MuKappa *Tabitha Adel, President*

Familia Fridays: Every Friday of fall 2018, ISA/Mu Kappa's chaplain and/or the ISA coordinator would organize a group activity followed by a bible study or discussion which focused on elements of vulnerability, international spiritual experiences, and stories. These events were catered to enrich relationships with God and each other. We found this to be a steady space for people to come, get to know a group and most importantly to unload after a busy or hard week. In changing the name from Rafiki Bible Study to *Familia* Friday, we hoped to communicate a more inclusive environment where anyone may enter. Moving ahead, it may be worthwhile to advertise these events more than we currently do and elaborate on their purpose of bringing people, thoughts and ideas together.

Fall Break Activities: These events are hosted especially during fall break as many international/MK/third culture students find themselves staying on campus without access to any fun activities. ISA/MuKappa has made sure to provide an alternative for those staying, international or domestic, as well as to support anyone going through homesickness or loneliness. The brunch on the first morning of fall break was a huge

success as it brought anyone staying on campus to mingle and connect with others on campus. It is recommended that in the future we plan more indoor activities.

“Along with the Gods” Screening: This event was hosted with ASA and consisted of a screening and discussion of the Korean film “Along with the Gods”. Our discussion was focused on the elements of spirituality (specifically Christianity, Buddhism, Hinduism) and how we grew up learning about these things in our schools and/or churches. It was a rich conversation on the participants journey of spirituality with their non-Christian friends and allowed for understanding the type of Buddhism depicted in the movie.

“Crazy Rich Asians” Interview Video: This 10-minute interview was screened prior to every Lost Film screening of Crazy Rich Asians. The interview focused on Asian representation in media and personal anecdotes of what the interviewees felt/thought of whilst watching the movie. The interviewees themselves were Asians or Asian-Americans part of the Messiah College student body.

Looking Ahead: Despite the challenges and extra effort, ISA/Mu Kappa successfully collaborated with numerous student organizations during fall 2018. It is recommended to continue to allow for smooth communication between student groups and perhaps an earlier/more timely brainstorming meeting where event ideas can be set in stone prior to the middle of the semester. A few strengths from the past semester include the consistency of Familia Fridays as well as the variety of events that we held.

La Alianza Latina

Luz Nieto-Gonzalez, President

Baila was done in celebration of Hispanic heritage month. We held *Charlas* (member meetings) at least twice a month. During *Charlas*, we had discussions concerning Latino issues. We also had two events with authentic Hispanic food. During these events, we discussed problems in Latino America. We also talked about what it means to be Latino on campus. We ended the semester with our relaxation night. During relaxation night, we had the opportunity to come together as community.

Looking Forward

The fall semester was a learning process for MCC leadership, and we hope that the skills acquired will be used to make the spring semester more successful. We hope to create more learning spaces and collaborate with different organizations on campus. Above all, we are grateful for the opportunity to serve the Messiah College community.

Signed,

Gloria Igihozo
Chair of the Multicultural Council

Mid-Year Report of Student Ministries

Isaac Brunk, Student Body Chaplain

Reflection

This past semester was a semester of growth and development for Student Ministries. Our goals were to create a strong group of Student Ministries leaders that were connected to each other. We also wanted to work on training other students to live in student ministry without being a part of Student Ministries. Other goals included outreaching to the student body through worship nights and collaboration with other groups on campus, expanding participation in and understanding of prayer through prayer ministry activities, and beginning a Student Ministries restructure for 2019-2020. These goals were met through leadership training before the semester began, collaboration with the LOFT and MCC for worship nights and prayer ministry meetings that were consistent.

We are proud of our ability to work together in our individual teams and be supportive for the campus through the easy and hard times. I am proud of our ability to grow together in Christ and work at being authentic in and out of our job. I would like to improve on Student Ministries teamwork as a whole and relationships with each other. This past semester, we learned how to be honest with each other and support each other in the midst of our busy schedules. Some lessons to keep in mind for the spring semester are to stay rooted in Christ individually and together, pray for each other and campus, have fun together, and to stay rested spiritually and physically.

Kairos

Through "Unplugged Worship," the chaplain team collaborated with the LOFT to hold a worship night for the student body. The night consisted of music, prayer, art and sharing time. In chapels, this semester was a huge success for the chaplain team in planning chapels. We worked at trying to have a variety in music, messages and structure for each time that we hosted chapel. I believe we did an excellent job at making chapels both meaningful and relatable. The planning process was difficult at times, but God revealed to us the messages that he wanted to bring to campus. For the future it will be smart to begin brainstorming for chapels further in advance to take away from that work when the schedule gets busier.

World Christian Fellowship

Jacob Lucas, Director

Over the fall semester, we hosted and co-hosted several events. Our first event that we put on was the annual "canoe-a-thon." We had a less than ideal turnout but were still able to run the trip. Our next events took place in November, when we hosted our annual Missions Awareness Fair and brought in outside mission organizations and gave them space to interact with students for an afternoon. This went great. We then hosted a panel discussion about the initial entry into the mission field and fears or concerns that could go

with that. This event was not as well attended as we had hoped but was a great opportunity for those that did attend to hear the testimonies and “I wish I’d done it this way” stories from the experienced missionaries who sat on the panel. We then also planned and hosted every other student-led chapel. These all went off without a hitch despite the learning curve at the start of the semester. Some things to keep in mind for the future are to start as early as possible on planning events or hosting speakers and to advertise well.

Koinonia

Monica Blair, Director

This fall semester, Koinonia has been working on vision-casting for the future. We have been trying to figure out what this ministry will look like in the year to come as Student Ministries works on restructuring, while also focusing on the ministry that we currently have and the students who are currently involved. In balancing these two main goals, the Koinonia Team has been vigilant in providing meaningful events for current members of the ministry in a way that also demonstrate our core values that will be carried into the new format of Student Ministries. The Kore Team plans events and works on administrative/organizational tasks to keep the ministry running smoothly, while the Mentor Team writes Bible study curriculum for small groups and individually mentors Koinonia small group leaders to guide them in their leadership.

Koinonia Small Group Chapel: Each year, we have the privilege of planning a six-week chapel for the first half of the semester. The Koinonia Team arranges for a speaker (this year and last year we welcomed Stephen Gallaher to speak) who provides guidance in how to work well with a small group and provides direct biblical support. This year, we described the chapel in a way to draw in students who were and were not already involved in Koinonia, so we feel this was helpful in allowing students to learn interpersonal and Bible study skills without needing to formally commit to leading a group at that time.

Koinonia Fall Retreat: Each semester, we hold a retreat for the leaders of Koinonia to attend. This year, we chose to invite all members (leaders and group members) to our retreat as well as some other student ministry groups such as Logos and the Prayer Team. The Koinonia Kore Team planned this event and orchestrated all of the major elements such as speaker, meals, activities, transportation and more.

Gingerbread House Competition: This event is held annually at the end of November and we decided this year to open it first to Koinonia small group members, then later opened it to all students to form groups to compete. In this event, each group (4-8 people) is provided with the materials to build a gingerbread creation. After an allotted time, three special guest judges determine the groups who win in each of several categories, such as most biblical, most creative and best overall. This event was a lot of fun for our leadership team and for the students who participated, and it also gave students the chance to spend meaningful time with their small groups and friends. It is something students look forward to each year and we plan to continue holding this event in the future.

Logos***Olivia Essig, Director***

Logos held three weekly Bible studies in the three freshmen dorms. This semester, we focused on passages in Acts. We had smaller Bible studies with regard to numbers. Nonetheless, we witnessed growth in the students who attended regularly. They shared their different perspectives, latched onto the inductive study method, and made great connections between the Acts passages. Looking toward the future, we would love to have more students come and learn how to study Scripture inductively in community by encouraging our students to reach out and invite friends, and doing so ourselves. Also, we would like to continue studying passages from the same book in one semester.

Looking Forward

The fall semester has been amazing and challenging but has proven God's faithfulness. Looking to the spring semester, I am expectant and excited to see how God continues to bring the team together and work through us as we live in obedience to Him. I am also excited to begin to move toward a new structure for Student Ministries.

Signed,

Isaac Brunk
Student Body Chaplain

**Mid-Year Report of the Agapé Center for Service and Learning
Megan Eaton, Director of Human Rights Awareness****Reflection**

The Agapé Center for Service and Learning develops, administers resources, and coordinates programs of service-learning, community service, and mission trips. Students, faculty and staff work with community-based partners in local, national, and international settings to address community needs, provide holistic learning opportunities for students, and encourage students toward an ethic of discipleship, service, and civic engagement.

The mission of the Agapé Center is to cultivate experiences with community partners that prepare individuals for lifelong service. This mission was met this fall through numerous education programs and service opportunities. The Center promoted collaboration through becoming involved with the New Student Social, which had not been done before. In addition, Human Rights Awareness collaborated with the Office of Sustainability and SGA. We would like to increase the number of students who participate in our outreach programs, service trips, and educational events. We are most proud of the number of students who have come to our events and who have served.

Human Rights Awareness

This fall, Human Rights Awareness held a number of education events that focused on various human rights issues. Our events included the Justice for the Poor Podcast, Sustain-a-Fest, the SNAP Challenge, a six-week chapel series, and the Swap-and-Mend.

Local Outreach

Dakota Kelso, Director

This fall, local outreach teams sent out a number of teams to various locations in the Harrisburg Area. This was done mostly in the form of our weekly, biweekly and monthly team meetings.

Domestic Service Trips

Maura Giannone, Director

This fall, service trips sent out four teams to various locations. Our team spent months preparing by coordinating with the agency, training leaders, and strategically planning orientation. Of 43 total students, we worked with 10 multicultural students and four male students. We worked with ten first-years, nine sophomores, 12 juniors and 12 seniors, who were distributed as follows:

- 11 to Catholic Charities
- 9 to Priority One
- 11 to Urban Tree Connection
- 12 to the Steinbruck Center

After the trips returned home, we engaged students in a debrief night that included a strong focus on students' calling to service and their personal journey of faith. The students gave feedback through a Qualtrics survey and the conclusions for those surveys were very positive. Since our fall break trips returned, our team has been working on preparing for spring and J-Term break service trips.

Looking Forward

Moving into the spring semester, we hope to increase the number of students serving, specifically in local outreach. Overall, the Agapé Center aims to continue fostering mutually-beneficial service-learning experiences.

Signed,

Megan Eaton
Director of Human Rights Awareness

Mid-Year Report of The Pulse **Dakota Vaughn, Student Director**

Reflection

At the start of the semester, The Pulse staff set five goals:

1. To partner with a variety of voices in order to represent a broader campus community.
2. To foster an office culture that promotes collaboration, relationships and communication.
3. To maximize our resources in a hospitable way in order to invite members of the Messiah community to learn who/what The Pulse represents.
4. To produce professional content that truthfully represents our unique community and furthers our relationships with God and one another.
5. To develop a level of creativity that reflects the organizational brand and communicates a vibrant, unified public image.

We will continue to work towards these goals in the coming semester, as I feel that there is still work to be done in order to achieve and maintain them. However, I am encouraged by the progress we have made toward our goals this semester. In particular, we have focused heavily on fostering a collaborative and relationship-based office culture and translating that culture toward being hospitable to members outside of the organization. From open office hours to free merch throughout the week to open office tours whenever possible, we've striven towards eliminating any sense that we are an obscure or exclusive club, and have focused on making campus aware of what and who we are. We have also made an effort to partner with other organizations in greater and different ways than before. We wanted to make it clear that we don't just cover the news that happens on campus, but that we are involved and passionate about other organizations and people around us.

A few lessons that we will take into spring semester are to be even more open and willing to help other clubs with their needs and participate in the events and educational opportunities they have to offer. Our organizations work best when they work together, so we want to make sure we are not separating ourselves in any way. As an organization, we can always work towards improved communication and greater unity.

Swinging Bridge Magazine

We published 3 issues of the magazine, as usual averaging 750 copies per magazine, all but a few of which make it into the hands of students. This semester, we also added a

magazine rack to the Commuter Lounge, and relocated the library's magazine rack to a more visible and accessible area in Café Diem in order to engage more students.

Our September issue focused on all things new. With features including brand new freshmen and strong design elements from brand new Pulse designers, we came out of the gate with an extremely solid magazine that set the bar high for the consecutive issues. The turnaround for the first issue was quick, and we had a new Editor-in-Chief, so the quality of this first issue was impressive with those things in mind.

Our October issue came out just in time for Homecoming and focused on alumni in order to appeal to returning students who were coming for the homecoming events. The magazine featured an illustrated cover by one of our talented designers, and was packed full of engaging content for all of campus and the Messiah community to enjoy.

Amidst the crunch of finals deadlines and a winding down semester, we produced our November issue with a feature on the new university status of Messiah College as well as a tribute piece to our late classmate, Ethan Van Bochoven, with memories from his friends and roommates and photos gathered with help from his family.

Pulse Radio

Pulse Radio has boasted nearly 20 active DJs as well as several weekly podcasts – a new addition not previously part of Pulse Radio. Pulse Radio has also faithfully broadcast Messiah's soccer games and will do so for the basketball season as well. We continue to receive new music from up-and-coming artists and have had the opportunity to interview several of those bands and air those interviews on our station. In January, in collaboration with the Multicultural Council, we plan to interview the musical act performing for MLK week. We have also had the opportunity to record events for other clubs, such as the Open Councils for MCC and the live podcast panel for Human Rights Awareness.

Online Content

We are continuously updating our online content, from weekly recurring columns to individual news stories on events happening on and around campus. A few highlights from this semester's online news include Tattoo Tuesdays, Weekly Sports Updates, and Know Before You Go. These, among others, are faithfully published weekly columns regarding campus sports, students with tattoos, and reviews of upcoming Lost Films – content which is sure to engage our campus community.

We also want to highlight our breaking news coverage, through which we brought awareness to students of important incidents concerning campus, such as a reported sexual assault, the passing of Ethan Van Bochoven, and car robberies on campus. Though not the most joyful topics for our team to cover, they were done so in a professional and timely manner and helped to alert students of vital information and keep students safe. We also published "Stopping the Traffick: The Slavery Under Our Noses." This article about the walk to stop human trafficking in Harrisburg was published not only for The Pulse, but also for acclaimed regional magazine, The Burg, by our very own online editor, Maddie Conley.

Clarion Yearbook

At this point in the semester, we have nailed down the cover for the yearbook and submitted about a third of the page spreads. We have also done two rounds of senior portraits, with another round to come in the spring. We have already had several hundred seniors sign up to receive a free yearbook.

MC-77 Television Station

Though not technically part of The Pulse, we do have a relationship with MC-77 and it has been exciting watching them grow as an organization. We plan to collaborate much more in the spring, from featuring some of our online columns as weekly TV segments to creating video promo content for MC-77. Cross-promotion between our two organizations will continue to be an asset to both of us.

Looking Forward

As we look to the spring semester, we hope for a rejuvenated spirit of excitement and productivity with regards to our many projects (three more magazine issues, the completion of the Clarion yearbook, the hiring of new employees as more of our current staff graduate, and the continual growth of Pulse Radio and our online news platform). We will seek to collaborate and create relationships with even more students and organizations on campus, as well as continue in our goal to make everyone on campus feel welcome at The Pulse, and understand what and who we are.

Signed,

Dakota Vaughn
Student Director of The Pulse

Mid-Year Report of Eyas Student Alumni Council Sarah Long, Senior Class Representative

Reflection

Eyas executed fourteen events this year and continued to gain popularity and understanding of our mission and vision. Recruitment was on point this year, but we would like to have one more member of the Class of 2016 recruited for next year. This year, there has been an increase in student awareness of Eyas, an increase in popularity and diversity of events, and new partnerships with offices on campus. Overall, the Council has had an extremely successful year with intra-Council relations and ideas, communication with other offices on campus, and relating to the student body.

Last First: Between 200-300 seniors gathered at the Last First ice cream social to celebrate their last first academic day of undergraduate careers. The event took place on the lawn of the legacy park.

First Friday: This is the second year that Eyas has taken on the freshman dorm-versus-dorm dodgeball tournament, and there were hundreds of first-year students who came out to compete and enjoy ice cream together.

Sophomore Mugging: Sophomore mugging was held in the rain location of Boyer Atrium. Hundreds of sophomores gathered for root beer floats, music, and fellowship provided by Eyas to welcome them into their sophomore year.

Two S'more Years: This year, about 300 juniors gathered at the rain location of Jordan lobby in order to celebrate their "two more years" of college.

Soccer Tailgate: As has become commonplace, the soccer tailgate was a huge success with around 200 students and alumni joining in the BBQ before the women's and men's soccer games. Most participants also stayed to enjoy the men's game. The event took place in front of the softball fields.

Homecoming White-Out March: With a record-breaking number of students in attendance, the Homecoming White-Out March was again a great success. Students received free shirts and were given preferential seating on the track during the game.

Bombardment: This year, we were going to not have a dodgeball tournament, as it was our least attended event. However, a social work major reached out to Eyas and asked to co-sponsor the event. We had about ten teams of 8-12 play each other to win championship t-shirts.

Recruiting: This fall, Eyas acquired four new first-year members, three new sophomores, and one new junior. Eyas student leadership continues to be incredibly strong and reliable, as well as very creative and diverse in ideas.

Alumni Council: Eyas once again had the honor of a non-voting seat on the Alumni Council granted to the Senior Class Representative of Eyas. This position allows for feedback and representation from a student perspective.

Looking Forward

In the spring we will have several events, including We <3 Messiah, a panel discussion, Eggstravaganza and several others. Eyas hopes to continue to have a positive influence on the Messiah College community. Our goals next year will be to facilitate student/alumni interaction, to enhance school spirit while unifying the classes, and to increase tradition and legacy. Halfway through this semester, Katie Kramer stepped down as an Eyas member and our Junior Class Representative. For this vacancy, we are not hiring

a new Junior Representative this year and instead are waiting until next year, at which time we will hire a third leader.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Long
Eyas Senior Class Representative

Mid-Year Report of Minds Matter Ashlynn Young, President

Reflection

I believe that as a club, we were able to effectively fulfill most of our goals for the semester and were able to put on many events that fell in line with our mission. We set out goals to expand our outreach, make the club more effective, better our educational programming, and improve our media and overall presence to those on campus. I would say that all of four goals have been met in some way or another. There are some specific parts to some of these general goals that were not necessarily fulfilled in this semester. However, we have plans to address those for the spring. We tried very hard to make our club more accessible and more encompassing of multiple areas within the Messiah community that we have not been able to do so in the past. I think that through our work this semester we have been able to show how and why this has been done, and are very pleased with how we have done this through collaboration with groups we have not partnered with before, presenting topics we have not before, and also listening more to the needs of the student body.

With that being said, there are still some improvements we would like to make. We hope to reach more men and underrepresented groups this upcoming semester. Also, we hope to make some changes internally that will help us be more effective and allow a more engaging time of fellowship with our surrounding peers. We hope to promote ourselves more, as well, and encourage more collaborations than in the previous semester. I think that if we can focus on these positive changes, we can be more efficient, more engaging, and have a better approach to the mission we stand behind.

Education Team

“No Place Like Home”: This event was focused on an informal discussion and personal experience sharing with five panelists. Three of these were international student Resident Assistants and one was a Residence Director. Each of the panelists described their own personal experiences with homesickness, if applicable, and shared some various ways in which they have been able to work through it as well as tips for anyone in the audience who may have then currently been struggling, or those who have before. This event was one which we as a club have not done in previous years, and I felt personally that, overall, it

was very well-received and allowed us to reach more students with a topic that was prevalent to their lives. This was our first event and even though it went well, there were many last-minute difficulties that could have been prevented, so I hope for the future to better prepare our new student leaders and to be more prepared for these types of issues.

Mental Wellness: This event was focused on a discussion by the team leaders of the Fitness Center, followed by personal experiences from two Minds Matter leaders. Leaders of the Fitness Center prepared an informational presentation on how wellness can affect our mental health and what students can do to better their mental state. Overall, this event seemed to be well-received, even though few students were able to attend.

Requiem: This event was focused on grief and loss. We were able to have Dr. Charles Seitz, chair of the Social Work department, speak in an informal setting about how grief and loss can affect our mental health and inform us of some ways that we may be able to utilize to help ourselves, and others, who may be struggling with some form of loss or grievance. We were able to listen to others share their experiences and pray with one another, which overall, allowed us to just be present with those who attended. I thought this was very powerful. A few students stayed after to pray and continue chatting with one student in particular who was struggling, which was absolutely incredible to see God at work through this event and the students who attended.

“When Anxiety Attacks”: This event mainly focused on education regarding panic attacks, anxiety attacks, and the differences between them. Two graduate school interns associated with the Engle Center were able to come speak on this topic and gave helpful resources, tips for how to recognize the signs in those who may be experiencing anxiety or panic attacks, and suggestions for those who attended who may struggle with these attacks to help them as well. This event was very informative and seemed to be very effective in educating on these attacks and how to help those in our own community who may not know how to handle them when they arise. We had a few last-minute setbacks with this event, so I hope in the future we can be more diligent and more prepared overall in order to prevent them from happening with others.

“Hard to Go Home”: This event was focused primarily on various aspects that may make it difficult for students to want to go home during breaks, on weekends and so forth, specifically looking at gaslighting, triangulation, and relational abuse within the home. Hannah McBride was able to speak on these topics to educate the students that attended and gave helpful handouts, encouragement, and opened up discussion for brainstorming how students can manage and be uplifted when going through situations such as these. This even came with heavy nature, yet a nurturing and family-like one as well. It was very influential to hear how students were struggling and to see how others came around them with love and support.

Activities Team

De-Stress Fest: This is Minds Matter’s annual event to help eliminate stress during the semester’s mid-term and/or final exam periods. The week prior to this we had people

from and outside of the Messiah community bring in their dogs and puppies for students to pet and play with. On October 29th, we partnered with Order of the Falcon for a game night with video games, card games and board games in the Union. On the 30th, we held a yoga class and a Pilates class with professors in the Fitness Center. On November 1st, we had a make-your-own trail mix table set out for people to make as they were heading to class or passing by. Finally, on November 2nd, we set out bubble wrap so that the students could walk on it and pop it as they were walking by. This event is typically well-attended and seems to be effective in helping the students to take a break, even if just for a few minutes.

3-on-3 Basketball Tournament: This was another stress-relieving event that we held to allow students to slow down in the midst of their preparation for finals week and have fun with their peers.

Media Team

The media team did an amazing job of keeping our social media accounts active and engaging for the students who follow Minds Matter online. They made beautiful and well-crafted posters for each of the events that were held and found great memes to post, especially during stressful points in the semester.

Summary of Collaborations

- PRSSA: Mental Health Awareness Week
- Residence Life: No Place Like Home
- The Fitness Center: Mental Wellness
- Graduate Interns with the Engle Center: When Anxiety Attacks
- Order of the Falcon: De-Stress Fest Game Night
- Social Work Department: Requiem
- Mu Chi Honors Society: De-Stress hot chocolate and muffin table
- Hannah McBride: Hard to Go Home
- Student Government Association: #WhatsYourTake? table

Looking Forward

Despite any challenges that may have arisen throughout the past semester, this leadership experience has been filled with wonderful relationships, amazing and powerful events, and great collaborations that we hope to continue in the future. Going forth, we hope to make many positive changes to the club in order to improve our overall effectiveness in and outside the club, as well as aim to reach more of the student body to show others what we stand for and support.

Signed,

Ashlynn Young
President of Minds Matter

“The leadership of SGA shall have the following purpose:

to **provide leadership** for the student body;

to **promote spiritual growth**;

to **provide opportunities** for students to serve others;

to **support and recognize** quality services & activities;

and to **represent students** before the Administration, Faculty, Board of Trustees, and surrounding community.”

MESSIAH COLLEGE



SGA

Student Government Association