



Student Government in a Post-Covid World

Association for the Promotion of Campus Activities

Dave Kelly

America's Student Leadership Trainersm

The Events of 2020-2021

1. Start with having a _____ about the events of the past year and a half.
2. Give each person a chance to _____, either with the whole group or by breaking out into smaller groups
3. _____ discussions using your counseling center, faculty members, and even professional presenters with an expertise in civil discourse and politics
4. Put plans in place to _____ to and _____ your student's responses to events on campus, in the community, in the news and what may follow – emphasize respect for each other's positions, feelings, hopes and fears

Building Your Leadership Program

1. Meet your students where they _____ – how can you address their needs and situations?
2. Actively engage the _____ of clubs and organizations and involve them in increasing participation
3. Promote campus leadership _____ through advisors, departments, and staff – Roughly half of your students may have never been on your campus!
4. _____ with other campuses of your college/district and/or similar types of institutions, or those of geographical proximity, to conduct leadership and issue-oriented programming

5. Promote campus _____ starting at new student orientation and with all on-boarding activities
6. Create an _____ program for your 1st and 2nd year students
7. Hold a leadership conference or retreat that _____, informs, and is interactive
8. Use _____ events to bring exciting aspects to your trainings and programs
9. Make leadership opportunities _____ to all students, regardless of involvement level
10. Make leadership _____, not just an unpaid job!
11. Use incentives and _____, not rules, regulations, and punishments (books, gift cards, school benefits, special events)

Be Creative in Being of the Voice of Students – Continue to Use Technology

1. _____ meetings using Zoom, Google Meet, Microsoft Teams, Instagram, or Facebook Live, or other platforms
2. Record meetings and post them in an easy to find place both for _____ and transparency
3. Take advantage of virtual and hybrid opportunities to bring in _____ from _____ *literally* anywhere in the world
4. Use virtual calls, meetings, and webinars to engage with _____ at all levels
5. Virtual and hybrid technologies also provide _____ that can stretch your programming and student government dollars

Issues for Student Government to Address

1. Policies for the 2021-22 school year related to how classes will be conducted, if students can come on-campus for events and programs, whether mask wearing and social distancing will continue to be required, and how they will be enforced.
What will the ramifications be for those who violate policies either intentionally or accidentally?

2. One source indicates nearly 600 colleges are planning on requiring vaccinations for all students this fall. (<https://universitybusiness.com/state-by-state-look-at-colleges-requiring-vaccines/>)
Will coronavirus testing and/or vaccinations be required?

What will this standard be?

How long will those requirements be in place? In perpetuity or until a set time?

- 3. Where does your student government stand on vaccination passports?
Who can request that a member of the campus community show it?

When can such a request be made?

Can faculty members require it before a student can attend class in-person? _____

- 4. How can your student government encourage and facilitate discussions of social justice and advocacy around issues and incidents that have happened during the time away from campus? _____

- 5. Are mental health services available for students who need help going from isolation to trying to integrate into the campus?

Remember, you may have two classes of students coming to campus this fall that have not actually stepped foot on campus – this year’s and last year’s first year students . _____

6. **Other Issues?** _____

Student Government and Role Questions

1. “Best practices to engage SGA officers virtually and keep them motivated”

- ✓ Get them actively involved on _____ and new _____
- ✓ _____ them to students to get ideas and opinions on issues
- ✓ Suggest they conduct virtual/hybrid _____ and _____ with constituents

2. “What should I do to fulfill my role?”

- ✓ Look into your _____ documents – what do they say?
- ✓ Ask your _____ what they would like for you to do
- ✓ Connect with other campus leaders in a _____ role

3. “What about changing constitution to meet demands of SGA?”

- ✓ Examine current constitution for _____ procedures
- ✓ Provide a section to handle _____ situations
- ✓ Get _____ from various sectors of your campus community

Update your Governing Documents

1. Do you have a line of _____ spelled out?

Does it go beyond just the Vice President stepping in for the President?

2. Election procedures related to obtaining student signatures on candidate _____ are problematic when students are not on campus. Do you have contingencies or alternatives to address this?
3. Are their _____ within and between the various documents?
4. Do your documents still contain outdated _____ terms such as “he/she” instead of “they/them”?
5. Is there an emergency _____ clause that can address times such as the pandemic or other extreme situations?

Sample Emergency Powers Clause

“In addition to any other emergency powers enumerated in this constitution, the advisor shall have the authority to supercede portions of this document in order to continue the proper functioning of the SGA.

“These emergency powers can be invoked in case of local, state, national, or global crisis, emergency, or pandemic, in response to a declaration of emergency by government officials, and/or at the direction of the College President or their designee.”

For more information on bringing Dave Kelly to your campus:

Virtual/Hybrid Programs and Pricing: <https://bit.ly/367seCS>

In Person Pricing: <https://bit.ly/3aqzISI> Program List: <https://bit.ly/2RVZGXX>

Calendar of Bookings and Events <https://bit.ly/2PAxhCj>

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