



What is SGA? Leadership, Development, and Advocacy

Montclair State University Student Government Retreat

Dave Kelly | America's Student Leadership Trainersm

Student governments (SGA) are the organizations on college campuses that _____ students, serve as their voice, and exists to enhance the educational experience for everyone that attends their college or university.

SGA is not something to be _____ by, but to be _____ in.

SGA is the first line of _____ against proposals and items that students would not want, and also the first line of _____ for things that they do.

Governing Documents

The Constitution defines the _____ and principles of the organization. It provides a _____ and framework for the organization such as _____ of government, line of succession, and creation of the _____.

The Student Government of Montclair State University has _____: Executive, Legislative, and Judicial.

The Bylaws are the document that sets forth _____, policies, regulations, _____ and responsibilities, and duties of officers, the executive board, and the Student Assembly.

_____ Rules and/or Policies and Procedures defines procedures, operations, traditions, and decorum.

The _____ of the Student Government of Montclair State University combines the elements of By-laws and Standing Rules into one document.

Roberts Rules of Order, Newly Revised is typically defined as the resource for anything _____ in the governing documents.

Committees

Per Robert’s Rules of Order, committees are bodies that are often, but not necessarily very small and are subordinate to a higher authority. Most parliamentary rules apply, but greater flexibility and informality are commonly allowed. Committees are where boards and assemblies get the _____ of the organization done. They can give more attention and detail to tasks than is possible in a larger body.

There are two types of committees:

1. _____: These committees continue from year to year and perform continuing functions.
2. _____ or _____: This is a committee that is appointed, as the need arises, to carry out a specific task. At the completion of the task, the special or ad-hoc committee ceases to exist. Robert’s Rules indicates that these types of committees cannot be appointed to perform a task that falls within the assigned function(s) of an existing special committee.

Importance of Committees

1. Opportunity for various aspects of the college community to come _____ (students, faculty, staff, and administration)
2. The voice of students matters – _____, implemented through committees, gives a platform to that voice.
3. Committees give students a chance to _____ their leadership skills.
4. A chance for students to _____ with faculty and see the inner workings of the college.
5. Students will grow as people, leaders, and be more _____ to the college.
6. Can serve as a _____ for future SGA executive officers, representatives, etc.
7. Gets students _____!!!

Montclair State University SGA Committees

Each SGA representative must serve on _____ committees and inform the SGA President Pro-Tempore of their choices no later than the _____ meeting after the beginning of the semester or the filling of a vacancy. Each committee shall have a _____ and _____.

The Standing Committees of the Montclair State University SGA are:

- 1) Appropriations and _____ Review Committee
2) Government and _____ Committee
3) Student and _____ Affairs Committee
4) _____ & Publicity Committee
5) _____ Development Committee
6) Diversity, Equity Inclusion, and _____ Committee

Advocacy

Advocacy is a _____ by an individual or group which aims to influence public-policy and resource allocation decisions within _____, _____, and social systems and institutions. Advocacy may be motivated from moral, ethical or faith principles or simply a desire to protect an asset of interest. (Source: Wikipedia.com)

Activism consists of efforts to _____, _____, or _____ social, political, economic, or environmental change. Activism can take a wide range of forms. (Source: Wikipedia.com)

Civil Discourse

American Social Psychologist and Professor at Swarthmore College (PA) Kenneth J. Gergen describes it as the "language of dispassionate objectivity". Key components include:

- 1. Requires _____ of the other participants
2. Does not diminish the other's _____ worth nor questions their good _____.

- 3. Avoids _____, direct _____, or excessive _____.
- 4. Requires _____ and an appreciation of the other participant's _____.
- 5. BONUS (One of Dave's): Keep _____ in check and _____!

Advocacy/Movement	My Grade
Your Pick:	

Visionary Leadership

- 1. A visionary leader sees _____ for change, how the world could be, and courses of _____ to make change.
- 2. Seek to change culture from _____ to _____.
- 3. Have _____ on the result you want.
- 4. Engage in _____ thinking.