



FEBRUARY 2010

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CURRENT INITIATIVES

TIGER PRIDE DAY

The Legislative Affairs Committee of the SGA is wrapping up its preparation for Towson University’s 11th annual Tiger Pride Day, which is taking place on February 17th, 2010. This year’s recruitment efforts resulted in a record number of interested students wishing to advocate for higher education access and affordability. Participants of Tiger Pride Day are paired with their Maryland home district’s senators and delegates so that direct communication can take place and all concerns and issues can be voiced and addressed. The official Towson University SGA 2010 legislative agenda is available in the SGA office.

SGA’S SMOKE-FREE TASK TEAM

At the final meeting of the Fall 2009 semester, the Student Government Association Senate voted to support a plan of action surrounding the University going smoke free. The plan of action encompasses three components: evaluating the policy’s effect on the safety of students, enhancing awareness of the smoke free policy to the student body, and examining the effect of the policy on the surrounding community. To evaluate the policy’s effect on student safety, representatives from SGA, facilities management, and URG are conducting a Night Walk on February 16th from 9:00 – 10:00 p.m. A student survey will be administered to gain insight on student’s current knowledge of the smoke free policy and how students will adjust. To support student awareness so that they may better direct suggestions and concerns, the SGA has designated Senator Steven Crudele as the smoke free policy liaison. The SGA will also explore ways to work with the surrounding community throughout this process.

HAITI RELIEF EFFORTS

The SGA has created an account strictly for Haiti relief efforts. Through our marketing campaign “Helping Hearts, Healing Haiti,” the SGA is providing an avenue for students, student groups, and any others who would like to donate to help those affected by the disaster in Haiti. The cause for which the money is donated will be chosen through a student survey of five screened organizations/charities. These organizations/charities provide relief in various ways, including building homes, administering medical supplies, and providing food to those in need.

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FOLLOW-UP AND FOLLOW-THROUGH

ACADEMIC ADVISING

The SGA academic advising survey collected 639 responses and 237 personal accounts. By cross-tabulating the survey responses by college, the SGA is providing the Provost with both academic advising concerns and the specific colleges where these concerns need to be addressed. By collecting and sharing personal accounts, the students have been true participants in guiding our efforts. Acting on our findings, the SGA will continue to assist the Provost in exploring strategies to improve academic advising at Towson.

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HIGHLIGHTS

The SGA...

- kicked off the Spring Semester with its annual winter retreat. Senators, directors, representatives and executives reconnected after a month-long winter break to review and develop upcoming semester initiatives and projects.
- is hosting “Karaoke to Cure Cancer” to raise money for the American Cancer Society. The event will take place on February 18th in PAWS from 7 p.m. to 11 p.m.
- is traveling to St. Vincent’s Center on February 20th to participate in sports activities with abused and neglected children.
- is sponsoring the Prove It! Event TigerTHON from Feb. 26th – Feb 27th. TigerTHON is an overnight dance marathon to benefit the Johns Hopkins Children’s Miracle Network.
- is hosting “The Xeno Project” on February 26th. “The Xeno Project” examines Xenophobia through personal reflection and group discussions.
- will be wearing “Unity Pins” provided by the Center for Student Diversity. These pins are worn to celebrate the achievements of African Americans throughout history and to help unify our racial communities.