



USSA Updates



Board Retreat Summary

From September 18-21, students who were elected into the United States Student Association flew out to Washington D.C. for the annual board retreat.

Here's a quick summary of what we worked on:

- USSA Lobby training/trip - university & financial institution contract transparency
 - Press Release for campuses/community on these contracts
 - I forwarded it to the Western Front and AS Review, and It was published by the WWU AS Review!
- We chose to sit on different committees within the Board:
 1. Communications Committee
 2. Conference Committee
 3. Finance Committee
 4. Legislative Committee
 5. Outreach and Membership Committee (The committee I chose to sit on)
- At the retreat we began to look into **Action Agendas (AAs)** that were drafted by students at the National Student Congress 2014 and began to choose which AA each board will be helping/working on. These AAs will be issues that we will be focusing campaigns on this year.
 1. Ending Sexual Violence on Our Campuses
 2. State of Emergency: Admitting, Retaining, and Creating an Accessible and Affordable Education for Underrepresented Students

Conference Calls

Regular Board of Directors conference calls will be held every other Sunday.

First call: Tuesday, August 26th

- We elected the Community and Labor Liaison Timothy Kyle
- Voted on location and dates for LegCon 2015
 - The 2015 National Grassroots Legislative Conference (LegCon) will be held at Gallaudet University from March 26th-30th.

Second call: Sunday September 28th

- Talked about National Student Congress Summer 2015 Locations
- Bids are open for any Central and East Coast campus

- A non-member campus willing to host Congress '15 will be granted a free year membership in exchange

Recently...

- We voted on our Board-Staff Liaison, Josh Odam who is the POAD (People of African Decent) Caucus Space Chair.
- We are looking for folks interested in running for the Veterans Caucus space chair to sit on the board of directors.
- USSA BOD have written letters in solidarity with
 - Colgate Students concerning anonymous discriminatory online attacks made to students of color on their campus,
 - The Missing Student Demonstrators in Guerrero, Mexico,
 - a letter to president Obama encouraging him to reach out and visit the Ferguson community after the murder of Michael Brown,
 - and a letter to the Secretary of the US Department of Education, Arne Duncan about university and financial institution contract transparency.
- During the Weekend of Resistance in Ferguson, our USSA POAD chair Josh Odam traveled to peacefully protest with many other activists/organizers from across the country to combat racial profiling and police brutality.

□

Please feel free to visit me in the REP office (VU 435) or email me if you would like to learn more about the United States Student Association and how you can get involved!

In Solidarity,

Mayra Guizar [she/her/hers]

USSA Pacific Northwest Regional Chair

509-305-5473 | mguizar10@gmail.com