

Jesuit Student Government Conference, 2024

Santa Clara University, California



Notes contributed by RUSGA 2023 Member

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RUSGA
REGIS UNIVERSITY STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

Summit Notes & Contributions

The JSGA Winter Summit was hosted at Santa Clara University in California, with 17 Jesuit Colleges and Universities in attendance. This included, Regis University, Boston College, Canisius University, College of the Holy Cross, Fairfield University, John Carroll University, Le Moyne College, Loyola Marymount University, Loyola University New Orleans, Loyola University Maryland, Rockhurst University, Saint Joseph's University, Seattle University, Santa Clara University, University of San Francisco, University of Scranton and Saint Louis University. The delegations sent by each university included student body Presidents, Vice Presidents, and other members that held executive cabinet positions.

There, we had two days of conversations and planning for schools across our Jesuit networks. Many of these conversations included; understanding the specific organization of Student Government Associations across campuses, how productive student government has been in ensuring that they are serving their respective student bodies, how different campuses handle current worldwide events, DEI efforts at PWI institutions, financial support for students, sustainability, Cura Personalis period product equity, and how JSGA can work collaboratively to create broader change across our Jesuit Network.

Summit Notes & Contributions

While discussing with various schools about initiatives on their campuses, I was able to highlight some of the amazing work that RUSGA and the University at large has completed this academic year, including;



- Good Trouble Conversations, supported by the VP of Social Justice and Diversity when major worldwide events occur, most poignantly, the Good Trouble Conversations around the Israel/Palestine Conflict.
- Cura Personalis Period, an initiative supported by the VP of Representation, in which this year has included the instillation of Aunt Flow dispensers in high traffic bathrooms across campus, and free period products in every gender neutral and female bathroom on campus.
- Cookies/Conchas/Cupcakes for Concern, a tabling effort put on by Executive Cabinet and the Student Body President to meet students where they are at to understand concerns/comments that affect students on campus and working within our networks to get these concerns/comments to the right administrators to begin addressing problems.
- RUSGA's implementation of a new role on extended Cabinet, the Director of Sustainability, which works to ensure our commitment to being a Laudato Si' campus is being realized and creating broader ability for the student body to practice more sustainable habits.

Summit Notes & Contributions

- Regis' official designation as a Hispanic Serving Institution, and the VP of Social Justice and Diversity's work to closely with affinity groups and promote/plan events that celebrate our Hispanic students and their culture.
- Regis' inclusion of NARCAN within AED boxes throughout campus.
- Regis' build out of Therapy services on campus and cutting through the waitlist by offering remote therapy options, alongside in person, on campus therapy sessions.
- Regis' designation as a Hunger Free Campus by the Colorado Department of Higher Education through the work done by the Regis Food Pantry, and what is now the Ranger Co-Op, which provides food to students, and professional clothing.
- RUSGA's ability to compensate Executive Cabinet and Extended Cabinet members hourly is one of a kind among Jesuit Universities and provides fair compensation for the work our student leaders complete.
- RUSGA's Director of Marketing is creating a heightened presence on social media, through initiatives like Airtime with Admin, and Facetime with Faculty.
- RUSGA's VP of Academics works with Alumni Relations through planning lively panel events that bring Alum back to campus to showcase their work, and how they have used their education from Regis to benefit their own careers.
- RUSGA, Community Health Office, and local organizations to bring STI testing to campus and make it accessible to students.
- Collaboration between RUSGA's Chief of Staff and University Archives to create an institutional history that not only reflects the administrative changes in the university, but also creates a student history on our campus.

Summit Notes & Contributions

Outside of the amazing initiatives and projects that RUSGA and Regis have been able to accomplish in this academic year, there are various initiatives at other Jesuit Universities that Regis can learn from to create a better experience for our students, including;



- Good Trouble Conversations, supported by the VP of Social Harm Reduction Strategies, including NARCAN training and accessibility, training on drinking safely (Know Your Pour), and House Party Accreditation.
- Divestment of University Assets from Fossil Fuels.
- A Buddy System between Student Government representatives and University Administration to promote better relationships and visibility of administration on campus.
- Compost and Recycling Initiatives across campus.
- Small Student Sustainability Fees taken from Student Activity Fees, which would help make sustainability projects more feasible on campus.
- Micro funding from alumni or Student Government that helps students pay for necessities, like laundry, textbooks, healthcare, etc.



We would like to give a special thanks to the University of Santa Clara for hosting the Jesuit SGA Winter Summit 2024, for the session presenters, and for the Regis University community for their passion, involvement, and curiosity. The Jesuit mission is one of exploration and acceptance on the frontier of education. We believe that leadership begins with service and grassroots community involvement and ultimately student voice, interest, and representation are vital for a successful campus environment.

RUSGA 2023-2024