

“Stand for the Land” NJSLC Summer 2024

July 16-20, 2024 at John Carroll University in Cleveland, Ohio

Synopsis written by Aleena Gillette, RUSGA Chief of Staff 2024-2025

Attendance

- Aly Granholm, Assistant Director of Student Engagement and Leadership
- Alex Walker, Lead Commuter Assistant
- Hailey Kreiling, RUSGA Student Body President 24-25
- Kaylee Stouder, RUSGA Vice President of Representation 24-25
- Julia Salter, RUSGA Vice President of Academic Life 24-25
- Aleena Gillette, RUSGA Chief of Staff 24-25

Summaries

Day One, Tuesday, July 16th

Day One of NJSLC was a travel day for all members in attendance. Julia Salter departed alone from South Dakota, while the rest of the group met in Denver. Due to flight cancellation and delays for the group departing from Denver, only Julia made it on time to the Opening Ceremony at JCU to have the colleges announced. The remaining 5/6 of the attending individuals were able to join for the first evening get-together, First Night Frenzy, to socialize with other Jesuit students in attendance.

Day Two, Wednesday, July 17th

Day Two consisted of a welcome Mass, followed by three workshops and a keynote speaker, broken apart by a lunch period. In the day's reflection, each member of the group discussed the sessions they went to and other items that surfaced throughout the day. One of the strongest takeaways discussed by the group was the importance of utilizing the importance of our positionality as RUSGA leaders while still allowing the student body to be the primary force that guides us. An interesting sentiment that arose was that whether we are a small or large university, our sister Jesuit schools are also facing the same issues, whether they be financial, with loss of students, or with student voices fighting to be heard. After the reflection, the group went to an off-campus dinner and then attended the Swag Swap hosted by JCU.

Day Three, Thursday, July 18th

Day Three began with a hike in Cuyahoga Valley National Park as a group, including with our advisor. Due to complications to the hike, the entire group was absent from the first keynote speaker. In the day's reflection, the group briefly discussed their feeling about the speaker, and then moved on to discuss lingering business items that each person had questions about. The group discussed University of Scranton's commuter lounge, how next year's dance should look like, how ProBo will be oriented in the upcoming year, and how Sustainability Agency should compare to ProBo. Other technical discussions revolved around where we see need to change the RUSGA Constitution and what the VP budgets are. One valuable insight for takeaway is that Student Government should be more focused on uplifting voices and encouraging execution, whereas ProBo is more so to take the pressure off the group and do programming engagement. Following group reflection, the group attended Bingo.

Day Four, Friday, July 19th

Day Four kicked off the final round of workshops. In the day's reflection, the group discussed how important it is to bring back some things we used to do, but to apply them in a more productive manner or to recognize when they need to be let go. Interestingly, two people from Le Moyne College without an advisor joined our reflection and we discussed our comparative campus's sexual wellness initiatives. When reflecting on lessons learned from the entire conference, the group discussed how important it is to feel empowered by seeing other Jesuit schools and the importance of allyship + guidance, rather than superiority or authority. When asked how we can use and bring back this inspiration, the group identified the importance of having energy about what we do and how passion ignites passion. Following the reflection, the group attended an impromptu session with the other Jesuit SGA's, led by Hailey and a representative from Loyola University of Maryland. The main topics of discussion included how to get involved to prepare yourself to run for an SGA, what is the involvement of people's respective student bodies with their SGAs, how do SGAs usually appoint positions, how to combat engagement through transaction, how respective schools navigate their relationships with Campus Safety, and how to staff + get people attending people's office hours.

Day Five, Saturday, July 20th

Day Five was check-out day, in which the group packed and attended a final off-campus lunch together. Afterwards, the group headed to the airport, with both the Denver group and South Dakota attendee departing in the early evening.

Session Attendance Lists

Day Two, Wednesday, July 17th

Session Attendance				
Hailey	Kaylee	Julia	Aleena	Alex

An Americanized Jesuit Education: How Jesuit Colleges have Prepared Leaders in the Past	Leading with Dimensions of Wellness	An Americanized Jesuit Education: How Jesuit Colleges have Prepared Leaders in the Past		For and With Others: Navigating Social Justice Activism within Jesuit Education
Fostering an Inclusive and Welcoming Environment on College Campuses	Juggling Lifestyle, Objectives, and Leadership in Student Government	Critical Allyship v. Saviorism: The Difference Between Helping and Hurting		Critical Allyship v. Saviorism: The Difference Between Helping and Hurting
Keynote Speaker: Brandon Chrostowski from EDWINS Leadership & Restaurant Institute				
JSGA, Organizational Charts, and Governing Documents	Leading Together: Integrating Inclusive Leadership with Diverse Styles for Effective Programming	Ignatian Compass: Guiding Residence Life with Jesuit Values	JSGA, Organizational Charts, and Governing Documents	Leading Together: Integrating Inclusive Leadership with Diverse Styles for Effective Programming

Day Three, Thursday, July 18th

Session Attendance				
Hailey	Kaylee	Julia	Aleena	Alex
Keynote Speaker: Doan Winkle with Bada** People Doing Bada** Things				

Day Four, Friday, July 19th

Session Attendance				
Hailey	Kaylee	Julia	Aleena	Alex
Student Governments, Student Representation, and Student Advocacy: Roundtable Conversation	Student Governments, Student Representation, and Student Advocacy: Roundtable Conversation	Seeds of Serenity: Fostering Peaceful Leadership through Growth	Navigating Difficult Conversations and Adaptive Leadership	Lifelong Leadership Skills: To College and Beyond
Finding your voice: Advocating for and with others	I belong here: A Guide to Combating Inferiority for Student Leaders	I belong here: A Guide to Combating Inferiority for Student Leaders	Finding your voice: Advocating for and with others	Fostering an Inclusive and Welcoming Environment on College Campuses
Impromptu Session with other JSGAs				