

*Detailed Notes of NJSLC 2024 Takeaways*

**Big Picture/Culture/Mindset**

- David never mentioned how big Goliath was. Identifying your problems is good, but not if that stops us from addressing them or triumphing over them.
- If people have questions, we now have established a relationship with the JSGA network.
  - Our ability to get context or to get ideas on what works from other universities is an important new connection we've built.
- Attitudes that were established in the past can weigh heavily on us.
- Build relationships at events like this beyond just their professional dimensions.
- When people think about a moment that sparked their interest, it is often from experiencing or witnessing someone else's passion for something. We should be vulnerable to the fact that we're passionate about this.
- Things must fail, you must let people fail, or you need to fail even when it's uncomfortable.
- Ways that we can approach improving our systems:
  - Substitute
  - Combine
  - Adapt
  - Modify
  - Put to another use
  - Eliminate
  - Reverse

**Potential Items for RUSGA**

- Assisting with club + org logos, if necessary, to use in promotional materials especially with the goal of larger events with collaborations
- "RU Speaks" as a reinvention of Town Halls to be more productive and appealing.

**Senate**

- A Senate member's committee should ideally relate to the role they occupy.
- Committee ideas:
  - Finances
  - Programming
  - Club and Org Development

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cookies/Conchas/Cupcakes for Concern/Complaints are good styles of events to get student feedback in a low-stakes environment. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Pancakes for Problems.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Goal to implement Constitutional and Appropriations revisions</li> <li>• Updates to the RUSGA website, trying to make that useful and to hear back/be allowed larger access to RUTV.</li> <li>• Carry on "Airtime with Admin" and "Facetime with Faculty", which aligns with RUSGA's purpose and is easily accessible. A lot of universities expressed the value of this.</li> <li>• Having someone available after events to collect feedback, especially at more "serious" ones, can bridge student connections.</li> <li>• Podcast feature on KCRX.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Call appropriations the "Budget Advisory Council/Committee".</li> <li>• It could be helpful to get non-Senate people indirectly involved with Committees. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Committees with outside players are valuable insofar as you have Senators who are actually in their roles to be in that role.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Senators should be meeting once a week with their relevant Cabinet member/Committee. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Allow a space at the start of every Senate session for students to voice concerns.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• At some universities, there is a 1:250 ratio of Senators to students.</li> <li>• When Senate positions have not been filled yet, reach out with specific intentions.</li> </ul>
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<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Planning Events</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• R&amp;R rooms as options at large events, such as the Ranger Week dance</li> <li>• Photo booths = big hits</li> <li>• Moscow Mule cups as a grad gift</li> <li>• Speaker events or educational information before things like the Drag Show <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Educational luncheons, peace walks, cultural festivals, potlucks</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Commuter Lounge</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Have seen the need for more than just a locker and a fridge in the Student Center</li> <li>• Not exclusionary, because it would be widely accessible to our student population. Angle of increasing retention</li> <li>• Host on the 1st floor of DeSmet?</li> <li>• CAs can have "office" space there</li> </ul>
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• "Taste of Regis" potluck event</li> <li>• Teaser videos are important, as are reminder posts</li> <li>• At events, put your pride aside and push past the awkward <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Be adventurous as emcees for things like BINGO!</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Ranger Week</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lack of appeal for a dance that's too casual <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Mile High Station? Aquarium? Museum of Nature &amp; Science?</li> <li>○ Can we serve seltzers based on current Handbook policy?</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Can we host anything to promote harm reduction with drinking?</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>ProBo</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Specific roles for those who are a part of it <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Late Nights + Weekends Programmer</li> <li>○ Special Events Programmer</li> <li>○ Collaborations Programmer</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Desire to model Sustainability Agency/Council in a similar way to ProBo <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Have there be WS positions</li> <li>○ Have an advisor or have Directors as Cabinet members</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Technical Details</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Some universities SGAs operate on an annual year system rather than academic year.</li> <li>• Some university SGAs do not get paid at all.</li> <li>• Constitutional and Appropriations revisions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Issue with sole appointing power for Extended Cabinet positions</li> <li>○ Unclear and garbled language that complicate navigating Appropriations</li> <li>○ Remove spending cap for clubs and orgs, which encourages larger events (precedent in Le Moyne).</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Position of "Executive Secretary" that does both the IT and the marketing.</li> <li>• Concrete examples in revisions allow precedent to be built, grey area can only be useful to a certain extent.</li> </ul>	

- Have a “House of Representatives” or a Judicial Branch to approach revisions or student concerns.
- Add a section on the website to Book an Appointment.
- Create an org chart that connects clubs and orgs to Senate, to Cabinet.

### **JSGA**

- **What advice do you have on how to get involved with an SGA/Club/Org?**
  - Eagerness will be reciprocated.
  - Go to high traffic areas for the related group.
  - Meet people where they're at—not everyone wants to hear every minute detail.
- **What is the level of involvement your student population has with you?**
  - Only about 130/2700 students voted in Le Moyne's last election. Then, there's a surplus of people running in the Fall once they realize it's open.
  - At Holy Cross, there's usually interest in the Cabinet because it has a budget, but not in the Senate.
- **How do your SGAs/Clubs/Orgs usually appoint people? Does appointing Cabinets work?**
  - If a seat sits empty, should it be appointed? There's a difference between an interview and hiring someone you know.
  - Marquette allows the VP of Rep to appoint Senators and the voting options depend on which college you are in. At Le Moyne, appointed by a committee and then approved by Exec. At USF, interviews are run over the summer and then it moves to Exec and the Senate. Loyola NO has rolling applications. Scranton has interviews done by the Senate. At Loyola Maryland, Extended pitches to the Senate.
  - When those who run do not get appointed, Scranton provides solid opportunities of other roles they could fill. E.g. if not on Extended, run as a Senator.
- **What are ways that we can shift engagement to be about care rather than transactions?**

- USF hosts "Lives" on Instagram. They also host weekly news right after a Senate session where they produce/script/record a 1-minute video. If people don't take you seriously, take advantage of that to be silly and then build serious relationships.
- Le Moyne: students might not think that you know what they want, so make claims that you follow through on and just embody servant leadership/sacrifice. Sometimes this just has to cycle through the grades.
- Holy Cross hosts a "Unity Week".
- Seattle: if you do one thing that is transactional, then you can sneak other things in alongside it.
- **Anonymous dropboxes of student concerns?** Hear FOR people rather than them always having to come out and say it.
- Post an open segment to your Cabinet meeting times.
- **How does your university navigate its relationship with Campus Safety?**
  - At Loyola NO, the RAs get trained in how to administer NarCan and they have good relationships with their local PD. Discussed legality issues and Good Samaritan. Provide Liquid IV and educational programming.
  - At Marquette, they host relational/tabling things weekly and do a briefing at the start of the school year. They also have a therapy dog that accompanies one of the officers (so does Holy Cross).
  - **What are the qualifications of those that get hired in?**
    - At Le Moyne, they just started mental health training but they don't know what the officers are allowed to carry. They have a good relationship with the Director but not with the individual officers.
    - Maryland has experienced intimidation (asking for ID, wearing a balaclava)
    - Canisius are fully equipped with guns, they are not privy to their training, and they host Coffee with Cops but it's unsuccessful.
  - At USF, Campus Safety works with culturally focused groups and they have a say in the training that they get.
  - Maryland hosted an Open Forum after a serious campus safety incident. This session got a lot of attendance, and the main issue was that the danger wasn't clearly communicated.

- Seattle and Canisius mentioned bad response times.
- At Loyola NO, SGA has monthly meetings with the police chief and deputy.
- Boston College has something called Dinner and Dialogue, where directors of different departments are present at dinner hours.
- **How do you staff and get people excited to do office hours?**
  - At Canisius, this has been extended to attending games and events. They have an accountability spreadsheet for Senators where they have to meet the requirements otherwise they don't attend the EoY banquet.
    - Encourage Senators to bring people with them to this/the office.
  - At Holy Cross, they have someone staffing the SGA office always. But people didn't show up because they didn't know where the office was.
  - At Le Moyne, open spaces are good places to host them because they give a casual feel.