



Hostos

Community College



Legacy Binder

Academic Year 2020-2021

#HostosSGA

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Overview

One of the main organizations that serves and represents the needs and interests of students at the Hostos Community College is the Student Government Association (SGA). SGA comprises of sixteen (16) members, seven (7) of which serve as Executive Officers and nine (9) as Senators. SGA members are part of many important college-wide committees including the Hostos Association, College-Wide Senate, Auxiliary Enterprise Committee, Technology Fee Committee, Space Requests Committee and others. SGA organizes cultural, educational and social activities for the student body throughout the school year. It also assists student organizations in the planning and development of their activities. The members of the SGA are elected each year to serve for one year.

SGA Members 2020-2021

Summer 2020

First Name	Last Name	Position
Muiz	Agbaje	President
Leana	Santana	VP Student Affairs
Lusleidy	Pérez	VP Academic Affairs
Brian	Carter	Budget and Finance Commissioner
Amdiya	Kyemtore	Executive Secretary
Ibrahim	Mohammed	Campus Affairs Commissioner
Mohamed	Nashir	Evening and Part-Time Student Affairs Commissioner
Abdul	Abubakar	Senator
Hatem	Anaam	Senator
Monsita	Colón	Senator
Susan	Cortés	Senator
Charles	Dour	Senator
Denisse	Feliz	Senator
Maritza	Martínez	Senator
Isabel	Neira Sánchez	Senator
Reyna	Soto	Senator

First Part of Fall 2020

First Name	Last Name	Position
Muiz	Agbaje	President
Leana	Santana	VP Student Affairs
Lusleidy	Pérez	VP Academic Affairs
Brian	Carter	Budget and Finance Commissioner
Amdiya	Kyemtore	Executive Secretary
Ibrahim	Mohammed	Campus Affairs Commissioner
Mohamed	Nashir	Evening and Part-Time Student Affairs Commissioner
Denisse	Feliz	Chief of Staff
Monsita	Colón	Senate Secretary
Abdul	Abubakar	Senator
Hatem	Anaam	Senator
Susan	Cortés	Senator
Charles	Dour	Senator
Isabel	Neira Sánchez	Senator
Nicole	Rodríguez	Senator
Reyna	Soto	Senator

Second Part of Fall 2020

First Name	Last Name	Position
Muiz	Agbaje	President
Leana	Santana	VP Student Affairs
Nicole	Rodríguez	VP Academic Affairs
Brian	Carter	Budget and Finance Commissioner
Amdiya	Kyemtore	Executive Secretary
Ibrahim	Mohammed	Campus Affairs Commissioner
Mohamed	Nashir	Evening and Part-Time Student Affairs Commissioner
Denisse	Feliz	Chief of Staff
Monsita	Colón	Senate Secretary
Abdul	Abubakar	Senator
Hatem	Anaam	Senator
Susan	Cortés	Senator
Charles	Dour	Senator
Isabel	Neira Sánchez	Senator
Lusleidy	Pérez	Senator
Reyna	Soto	Senator

Spring 2021

First Name	Last Name	Position
Brian	Carter	President
Ibrahim	Mohammed	VP Student Affairs
Charles	Dour	VP Academic Affairs
Hatem	Anaam	Budget and Finance Commissioner
Amdiya	Kyemtore	Executive Secretary
Monsita	Colón	Campus Affairs Commissioner
Mohamed	Nashir	Evening and Part-Time Student Affairs Commissioner
Isabel	Neira Sánchez	Senate Secretary
Abdul	Abubakar	Senator
Susan	Cortés	Senator
Salimatou	Bah	Senator
Raymond	Flowers	Senator
Junior	Carela	Senator
Malik	Pellington	Senator
Abdulrazak	Saadu	Senator
Bouampoundi	Thiombiano	Senator

SGA Members' Reflections:
Muiz Agbaje



Positions held

- Summer 2020: President
- Fall 2020: President
- Spring 2021: Not in office (graduated)

Committees

- Member of Hostos Community College Association
- Member of University Student Senate (USS)
- Member of Hostos College-Wide Senate
- Member of Senate Executive Committee
- Represented SGA during the Veladas Hostosianas events

Experience with SGA

Not available

Recommendations (for the next SGA)

Not available

SGA Members' Reflections:
Leana Santana



Positions held

- Summer 2020: Vice President for Student Affairs and Community Relations
- Fall 2020: Vice President for Student Affairs and Community Relations
- Spring 2021: Not in office (graduated)

Committees

- Member of Hostos Community College Association
- Member of Hostos College-Wide Senate

Experience with SGA

Not available

Recommendations (for the next SGA)

Not available

SGA Members' Reflections:

Nicole Rodríguez

Positions held

- Summer 2020: Not in office
- Fall 2020: Senator
- Fall 2020: Vice President for Academic Affairs/Chair of Senate
- Spring 2021: Not in office (graduated)



Committees

- Member of Hostos College-Wide Senate

Experience with SGA

Not available

Recommendations (for the next SGA)

Not available

SGA Members' Reflections:

Brian Carter

Positions held

- Summer 2020: Budget and Finance Commissioner
- Fall 2020: Budget and Finance Commissioner
- Spring 2021: President



Committees

- Member of Hostos Community College Association
- Member of University Student Senate (USS)
- Member of Hostos College-Wide Senate
- Member of Senate Executive Committee
- Member of Elections Committee
- Member of Budget and Finance Committee

- Member of Committee on Committees
- Represented SGA during the Veladas Hostosianas events

Experience with SGA

Not available

Recommendations (for the next SGA)

Not available

SGA Members' Reflections: Amdiya Kyemtore



Positions held

- Summer 2020: Executive Secretary
- Fall 2020: Executive Secretary
- Spring 2021: Executive Secretary

Committees

- Member of Hostos Community College Association
- Member of Hostos College-Wide Senate
- Member of Scholarship and Awards Committee
- Member of University Student Senate (USS)

Experience with SGA

I joined the SGA to be a positive role model to women and mothers and to help student have the best College experience as much as I could. It started off smoothly on campus as we were able to organize educational events that informed and provided financial, emotional and educational support to students. However, the pandemic limited our plans and visions. Yet, we made the best out of the situation and organized events that served as safe spaces for students in these difficult times.

Recommendations (for the next SGA)

The pandemic has presented us with an opportunity to plan for unforeseen circumstances. So, if you plan to serve in person, make separate arrangements should you have to switch to a virtual platform.

Put the students first and find ways to hear them and serve their needs.

Favorite quote

“Know where you are coming from and where you are heading to.” – A personal quote

SGA Members' Reflections: Ibrahim Mohammed



Positions held

- Summer 2020: Campus Affairs Commissioner
- Fall 2020: Campus Affairs Commissioner
- Spring 2021: Vice President for Student Affairs and Community Relations

Committees

- Member of Hostos Community College Association
- Member of Hostos College-Wide Senate
- Member of Committee on Committees
- Member of Budget and Finance Committee
- Member of Elections Committee
- Member of Library Committee
- Member of Academic Standards Committee

Experience with SGA

I, Ibrahim Mohammed, joined the SGA student body to represent the students who don't have the capacity to make changes in the institution and also to help make a development towards the structure of the school also to make the college hostos a better place and student who are in the college also to have a voice to make the Collge developmental of solving problem.

Recommendations (for the next SGA)

1. I would Love to see a better Hostos and better students
2. I would also love to see more developmental aspect on the SGA and for the student body
3. I also want to see the United and moving SGA

Favorite quote

“Success is not achieved on a silver platter” – A Quran verse Q:7 verse 11

SGA Members' Reflections:

Mohamed Nashir



Positions held

- Summer 2020: Evening and Part-Time Student Affairs Commissioner
- Fall 2020: Evening and Part-Time Student Affairs Commissioner
- Spring 2021: Evening and Part-Time Student Affairs Commissioner

Committees

- Member of Hostos College-Wide Senate
- Member of Scholarship and Awards Committee

Experience with SGA

This past year I had such a beautiful experience with the SGA. It just shows regardless if it's online or not we still are a family helping each other. I joined the SGA because I wanted to help others who were shy to ask for help or scared to stand up, I was like that in the beginning until I started speaking with the members of the SGA and I then realized this is where I wanna belong within Hostos. The SGA was a family to my eyes and I'm glad I was able to become a member in this family that I see. Even though everything didn't turn how I wanted it too because of Covid-19, it still didn't change the goal or desire to help. Everyone still did what they had to do and loved to do regardless of what was going on, we all had similar goals in the end of the day. We all learned from each other in some ways, I was able to grow my skills of confidence and communication which won't just help now but even years to come. I'm really great full for the SGA and I'm happy I was able to become part of this family. It will be sad leaving this group but the feelings and memories never fade.

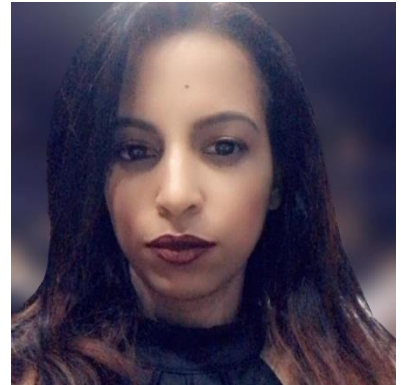
Recommendations (for the next SGA)

I recommend for the next SGA is never give up regardless of what's going on, keep fighting and keeping moving on even if the whole world is against u. The SGA is a family and cherish the time with them at the same time there's times where to be serious and times to joke around. I already believe in you guys because as a family or team you will win and be successful, as they say 3 heads are greater than one lol. Good luck to you guys, I believe in you.

Favorite quote

"You must be the change you wish to see in the world." – Gandhi

SGA Members' Reflections:
Denisse Feliz



Positions held

- Summer 2020: Senator
- Fall 2020: Chief of Staff
- Spring 2021: Not in office (graduated)

Committees

- Member of Hostos College-Wide Senate

Experience with SGA

Not available

Recommendations (for the next SGA)

Not available

SGA Members' Reflections:
Monsita Colón



Positions held

- Summer 2020: Senator
- Fall 2020: Senate Secretary
- Spring 2021: Campus Affairs Commissioner

Committees

- Member of Hostos College-Wide Senate
- Member of University Student Senate (USS)

Experience with SGA

Not available

Recommendations (for the next SGA)

Not available

SGA Members' Reflections:

Charles Dour



Positions held

- Summer 2020: Senator
- Fall 2020: Senator
- Spring 2021: Vice President for Academic Affairs/Chair of Senate

Committees

- Member of Hostos College-Wide Senate
- Member of Hostos Community College Association
- Member of University Student Senate (USS)
- Member of Instructional Evaluations Committee
- Member of Counseling Center Committee

Experience with SGA

I joined the SGA because I believed that I could help students like myself who were struggling on campus with a little knowledge of how to get help on campus, or what are those Programs and Clubs that will help students enjoy their time and Educational joining at Hostos Community College.

Things turned out just the way I planned and I also learned a lot from serving in the SGA, some of the things that I learned from the SGA was

- Respect
- Giving others the opportunity to be heard
- Teamwork
- Leading as an example
- Willing to listen and learn new things
- Time management

Recommendations (for the next SGA)

My recommendation for the next SGA members is to work as a team because teamwork makes the dream work.

Favorite Quote

“Trust the process” – Trent Shelton

SGA Members' Reflections: Abdulrahman Abubakar



Positions held

- Summer 2020: Senator
- Fall 2020: Senator
- Spring 2021: Senator

Committees

- Member of Hostos College-Wide Senate
- Member of Committee on Disability Issues
- Member of Instructional Evaluations Committee
- Member of Facilities Committee

Experience with SGA

I joined the SGA in order to have access to first-hand information about the general activities of Hostos Community College. As a member of the student association, I was opportune to be part of various activities hosted by the SGA that exposed me to great teamwork. It broadened my sense and quality as a good team player. Most importantly, I had the opportunity to attend almost all the Students Leadership Academy workshops and other activities. They really improved my leadership skills and excellence in my personal life. Through the leadership Academy, I learnt more about focusing on my academic pursuits as a race that began and has a finish line. And that, in life you must not be comfortable in an uncomfortable situation. Throughout the period I served as SGA Senator from Summer 2020 through Spring 2021 semesters were mostly virtual due to the COVID-19 pandemic that ravaged all societies across the world. Information, Education and Communication was online, I was able to meet and discharge my responsibilities in line with the constitution of the SGA by networking with other SGA members, including the executive. Against all odds at the crucial time of Coronavirus hardships and lockdown, the Student Activities Office and Student Leadership Academy supported and guided me through a smooth process of discharging my duties without fear or favor. The SGA has helped me build my leadership skills and also made a great contribution towards my educational life. Therefore, the academic race I started in 2019 reached its finished line smoothly in 2021 with the help of SGA.

Recommendations (for the next SGA)

- Bear in mind that you're in a race that has a finish line.
- Believe in yourself
- Be a good team player
- Respect and reason the view of others
- Do not be ashamed to ask questions, support and guidance that may help you forge ahead in your attempt to carry out your responsibilities.

- Take time management seriously.
- Try to always be part of students' activities/events.
- Always stand for the interest of other students because you are their representative.
- The task may be tough but always remember that under a dark cloud, there's a silver lining.

Favorite Quote

“Don’t be pushed around by the fears in your mind. Be led by the dreams in your heart.” – Roy T. Bennett

SGA Members' Reflections:
Hatem Anaam



Positions held

- Summer 2020: Senator
- Fall 2020: Senator
- Spring 2021: Budget and Finance Commissioner

Committees

- Member of Hostos College-Wide Senate
- Member of Hostos Community College Association
- Member of Committee on Committees
- Member of Budget and Finance Committee

Experience with SGA

Not available

Recommendations (for the next SGA)

Not available

SGA Members' Reflections:
Susan Cortés



Positions held

- Summer 2020: Senator
- Fall 2020: Senator
- Spring 2021: Senator

Committees

- Member of Hostos College-Wide Senate

Experience with SGA

Not available

Recommendations (for the next SGA)

Not available

SGA Members' Reflections:

Isabel Neira Sánchez



Positions held

- Summer 2020: Senator
- Fall 2020: Senator
- Spring 2021: Senate Secretary

Committees

- Member of Hostos College-Wide Senate
- Member of Senate Executive Committee
- Member of Institutional Research Committee
- Member of Library Committee
- Represented SGA during the Veladas Hostosianas events
- Part of Presidential Search Committee

Experience with SGA

My name is Isabel Neira Sanchez SGA means a lot for me since I learn different things there how to help students who has many problems with their Professor or taking some sources to success as a student. I learn that SGA helps students with Scholarship, and this is very important because many students need this scholarships. The most important that I learn in SGA is how to work as a team and attendant all the matting that we have because this is our responsibility as a member of SGA. There we can learn a lot how to help student and recommend how to get many sources for them, like scholarships, tutors, library, Writing center, Computer Lab etc.

Recommendations (for the next SGA)

I recommend all of you please if you are a student go and served as SGA senator or a President because you learn a lot there and then you can help others students this is very important how you improve your knowledge there.

Favorite quote

“Ask not what your country can do for you; ask what you can do for your country.” — John F. Kennedy

SGA Members' Reflections:
Lusleidy Pérez



Positions held

- Summer 2020: Vice President for Academic Affairs/Chair of Senate
- Fall 2020: Senator and Vice President for Academic Affairs/Chair of Senate
- Spring 2021: Not in office

Committees

- Member of Hostos College-Wide Senate
- Member of Hostos Community College Association
- Member of University Student Senate (USS)

Experience with SGA

Not available

Recommendations (for the next SGA)

Not available

SGA Members' Reflections:
Reyna Soto



Positions held

- Summer 2020: Senator
- Fall 2020: Senator
- Spring 2021: Not in office

Committees

- Member of Hostos College-Wide Senate
 - Member of Hostos Community College Association
-

Experience with SGA

Not available

Recommendations (for the next SGA)

Not available

SGA Members' Reflections:
Maritza Martínez

Positions held

- Summer 2020: Senator
- Fall 2020: Not in office (graduated)
- Spring 2021: Not in office (graduated)

Committees

- The Senate Committees were not active Summer 2020

Experience with SGA

Not available

Recommendations (for the next SGA)

Not available



SGA Members' Reflections:
Salimatou Bah

Positions held

- Summer 2020: Not in office
- Fall 2020: Not in office
- Spring 2021: Senator

Committees

- Member of Hostos College-Wide Senate
-

Experience with SGA

Not available

Recommendations (for the next SGA)

Not available



SGA Members' Reflections: Junior Carela



Positions held

- Summer 2020: Not in office
- Fall 2020: Not in office
- Spring 2021: Senator

Committees

- Member of Hostos College-Wide Senate
- Member of Academic Standards Committee
- Member of Elections Committee

Experience with SGA

Hmm I must keep this short and concise. Please bear with me and allow me to share my experience with those who come after. Now how did I gain interest in the SGA? I was actually scouted in spring of 2019 by the Vice President for Academic Affairs (Chair of Senate) at the time (I didn't know this until I became a senator myself by the way). I didn't join as I had a lot on my plate and didn't think I would be able to handle it. I also thought it was bothersome to be honest.

Then during the end of that same semester which was spring COVID hit and the world became a mess. (I am sure you know so I won't bore you with the details of that event.) Lets time skip to Spring semester of 2021 I was again offered the opportunity to serve. This time I would grab this opportunity with firm hands. The difference this time was the fact that I had a much more flexible schedule due to virtual classes.

Virtual classes were a big reason for my decision but not my only reason. I wanted to make a change or at least try to help out to the best of my ability. I wanted to understand and learn more about what went on in the background and how decisions were made.

I learned many things from serving and that is that those who serve must be as fierce as a dragon and as calm as the sea. Why? Because The administration I feel is far too swayed by certain things that may hinder them from answering some of the students' cries which kind of disappointed me. The SGA gave me a great surprise in how dutiful they are and how great a community they foster within the association, students and the professors. Now don't take what I say about the administration as an admonishment, but more of a personal feeling from what I had observed. They work really hard for the students.

This is a slight tangent but I only want those who come after to be fierce so that no deflections or aversion to duties is allowed. What is best for the students is something only the students can know. As long as what is asked for is within reasonable bounds.

I had a great experience with the SGA and recommend those who join to be close and get to know your fellow senators as only good can come from further networking. SGA will also provide an information network that most students don't have access to. This information network is info on the inner workings of what is happening and how things are getting done. This info network also allows you to know some important things that happen CUNY wide. I shall give one piece of advice as one who has served. Observe and then judge, because actions speak louder than words.

Recommendations (for the next SGA)

1. Be as fierce as a Dragon and as calm as the sea when you want things done with the students' best interest in mind.
2. Be punctual with what you do.
3. Respect others opinions with the mind that it doesn't necessarily mean they are right or good opinions.
4. Try to attend as many events/activities as you can and be active in them according to who you are.
5. Make a schedule for yourself to better balance your duties.
6. Try and help with as much as you can and be close with your compatriots.
7. Learn and gain an attachment to the community to better understand their needs.
8. Learn how the game of life is played and stay at the top as best as possible.
9. If you come to a pause because you don't know something, don't be embarrassed and ask for help or do research as no one will make fun of you even if you don't know.

Favorite quote

“Personally, I am very pessimistic. But when, for instance, one of my staff has a baby you can't help but bless them for that good future. Because I can't tell that child, 'Oh, you shouldn't have come into this life.' And yet I know the world is heading in a bad direction. So, with those conflicting thoughts in mind, I think about what kind of films I should be making.” – Hayao Miyazaki

SGA Members' Reflections:
Raymond Flowers



Positions held

- Summer 2020: Not in office
- Fall 2020: Not in office
- Spring 2021: Senator

Committees

- Member of Hostos College-Wide Senate
- Member of Hostos Community College Association
- Member of Committee on Committees
- Member of Facilities Committee

Experience with SGA

Working with the SGA I witnessed a lot of compassion for others. The meme era of the SGA worked diligently to address and accommodate any issues that came forward to the association. I learned that no matter what the circumstances we facing to come up with better comprehensive ways to resolve the issue or issues. Very great full to have been a part of a team that the odds was stacked against and came out victorious.

Recommendations (for the next SGA)

1. Be open minded
2. Be the right mediator for the situation by researching
3. Don't let any task overwhelm you always ask for help.
4. Prioritize you workload as well as you schedule
5. You're a student first

Favorite quote

“Peer pressure and complacency are the most dangerous things on Earth.” – Kevin Gates

SGA Members' Reflections:
Malik Pellington



Positions held

- Summer 2020: Not in office
- Fall 2020: Not in office
- Spring 2021: Senator

Committees

- Member of Hostos College-Wide Senate
- Member of Instructional Evaluations Committee
- Member of Scholarship and Awards Committee

Experience with SGA

I joined the SGA to help aid and unify students and I have done so through the many events using my position to raise awareness to certain issues.

Recommendations (for the next SGA)

I hope the next SGA body is able to not only continue hosting the weekly events we had but work also work with the various departments on campus to create new ones.

Favorite quote

“The only journey is the one within.” – Rainer Maria Rilke

SGA Members' Reflections:
Abdulrazak Saadu



Positions held

- Summer 2020: Not in office
- Fall 2020: Not in office
- Spring 2021: Senator

Committees

- Member of Hostos College-Wide Senate
- Member of Library Committee
- Member of Grants Committee

Experience with SGA

Not available

Recommendations (for the next SGA)

Not available

SGA Members' Reflections:
Bouampoundi Thiombiano



Positions held

- Summer 2020: Not in office
- Fall 2020: Not in office
- Spring 2021: Senator

Committees

- Member of Hostos College-Wide Senate
- Member of Academic Standards Committee
- Member of Budget and Finance Committee

Experience with SGA

SGA has been the best thing that has happened to me. Overall, my experience has been positive. As a member, I learn to improve my leadership skills. As a full-time student and SGA member, I attended most of the meetings and activities involving the institution and student body. For me, Friday Student Leadership Academy sessions were essential since the sessions are the best method to learn how to become a future leader.

Recommendations (for the next SGA)

My advice for the next SGA is to engage in as many events/activities as possible. Try to keep track of your time and try to balance it with your academics. Be open to discussing your ideas with your other SGA members. You can accomplish it; don't be afraid to ask questions to have better knowledge.

SGA Advisors' Reflections:

Jerry Rosa

Director of Student Activities
Office of Student Activities

SGA Main Advisor



Thoughts about the 2020-2021 SGA administration

The journey of the 2020-2021 SGA administration began with the first ever student government virtual electoral process at Hostos Community College. The candidates had to take online workshops, recruit supporters online, campaign online and vote online. This development took place because the rise of cases in Coronavirus (COVID-19) cases in the state forced the college (and all institutions in New York state) to transition its classes and events from in-person to virtual ones. At the end of the process, fourteen candidates from the “I Am Hostos” slate and two candidates from the “Hostos Visionaries” slates were elected to office.

The first effort of the administration took place even before it officially took office. In June of 2020, President elect Muiz Agbaje partnered with current President Kelvin Pineda to write a statement regarding racial injustice in the United States. The statement was written after a man by the name of George Floyd became a victim of police brutality. Several entities supported the statement including the Hostos College-Wide Senate and the Hostos Chapter of the Professional Staff Congress (CUNY). After sharing the statement with the college community, President elect Agbaje called for the creation of a committee to organize a forum to discuss police brutality, racial inequality and other issues affecting our community. The Black Lives Matter Forum was held Tuesday, September 29, 2020 with over 160 participants (166 to be exact) in attendance.

The second effort of the 2020-2021 administration was one that took place on several locations. SGA members met on a monthly basis with Interim President Daisy Cocco de Filippis to discuss issues affecting students such as student debt, access to technology, course offerings, grading policies and several others. The President would ask members of her administrative team to be in attendance to listen to students' concerns first hand. Some of these included Interim Provost Charles Drago, SVP Esther Rodríguez-Chardavoyne and Dean Johanna Gómez. Once the meetings concluded, the concerns expressed would be shared with the respective areas and progress reports would be provided at the next meeting. This collaboration resulted in numerous concerns being addressed and resolved.

The third effort of the administration consisted in promoting collaboration between SGA and units that serve students. Both President Muiz Agbaje and President Brian Carter called for their teams to collaborate with units across the campus that included the Hostos Library, the Counseling Center, the Mathematics Department, the Natural Sciences Department, the ASAP Program, the Student Success Coaching Unit (SSCU), the Student Leadership Academy and many others. Out of their meetings, phone calls and email exchanges sprung a large variety of events that greatly benefited the college community.

In light of all of these collaborative efforts, SGA decided to organize one final event to acknowledge the administrators, staff and units that proved to be crucial to their success throughout the year. The SGA Recognition Event took place on Tuesday, May 25, 2021. SGA recognized the following administrators: Interim President Daisy Cocco de Filippis, Interim Provost Charles Drago and Dean Johanna Gómez. SGA also recognized the Division of Academic Affairs and the Division of Student Development (SDEM). The team also recognized three of its advisors: Jason Libfeld, Tovah Thompson and Rhonda Smith. Units that received recognition included the Office of the President, the ASAP Program, the Counseling Center, the Hostos Library and the CUNY EDGE Program. Faculty and staff members who were crucial to SGA's success were also recognized including Professor Héctor Soto, Michael Martínez (Counseling Center and Mayi Libfeld (Scholarship Office). Awards were also given to all of the SGA members who served during Summer 2020, Fall 2020 and Spring 2021. Finally, four outstanding SGA members were also recognized: Muiz Agbaje, Brian Carter, Charles Dour and Isabel Neira Sánchez.

The 2020-2021 SGA administration will be remembered as a team that persevered despite difficult circumstances. It will also be thought of as a group that understood its responsibility to effectively serve students and gave its best effort to make sure that students were properly represented.

SGA Advisors' Reflections:
Jason Libfeld

Student Leadership Coordinator
Hostos Student Leadership Academy

SGA Secondary Advisor



Thoughts about the 2020-2021 SGA administration

It is in times of crisis that true leaders emerge to take hold of the situation, address it and lead us all out of the challenging times. The ability of this year's Student Government Association to persevere in times of uncertainty is a testament to their perseverance. In spite of the complications imposed upon everyday life by the COVID-19 pandemic, the pause of all in-person classes and access to the Hostos campus, our SGA leaders took up the mantle of their predecessors and lives up to the mission of their constitution.

The transition for the 2020-2021 SGA came quickly, with the retirement of President David Gomez and the installment of President Daisy Cocco De Filippis. This transition, along with the change in the members of the SGA made for a new set of challenges, movements and conversations that needed to take place to unite the student leaders with the administration. Beginning in the summer of 2020, the SGA began meeting monthly with the new President and provided her with insights and advice about what was going on with the student body through the remote learning experiences and the pandemic. The most significant conversation with the new President concentrated on the Credit/No Credit grading policy in both fall and spring and the development of scholarships by the current SGA for students facing challenges. (This year, for the first time there were three different scholarships offered by the Hostos SGA and the amount of money given to students by the SGA was more than in any previous year.)

The SGA also began conversations about race in America and the conversations that stemmed from an SLA sponsored event on Juneteenth of 2020, opened up the door for ongoing conversations, meetings and forums about race conducted by the SGA and the college in collaboration. These events were some of the most robust efforts of the college to address the crisis of race in America in the college's history.

Each member of the SGA took on special roles throughout the course of their terms of office and also made contributions to the college by serving on campus-wide committees, including the College-Wide Senate. Both President Muiz Agbaje and President Brian Carter gave inspirational and informative speech on a monthly basis to update the faculty and the staff about the work that

they were doing and the needs of the students, who were facing demands, challenges and sometimes crises throughout the pandemic. Both SGA Presidents also presided over the meeting with the college President and served as representatives of the student body on panels at the Race in America conversations and panel discussions.

Many members of this year's leadership group made contributions to the community through service and several made contributions to the community by speaking out on issues that they felt were of great importance. In many ways, the collective was able to effect change in significant ways throughout the year and has left a good standard that the 2021-2022 group will have to live up to. As a group, the representatives from 2020-2021 took their responsibilities seriously and made a concerted effort to improve the college and the lives of the student body. There were many opportunities for collaboration and the group worked effectively at efforts to provide resources for the academic community during the Covid-19 Global Pandemic. The SGA collaborated with the Counselling Center on weekly conversations to help smooth over the challenges faced by students in a remote learning environment, they worked with the Office of the President to ensure that the voices of the students were heard in every activity that took place on the campus. Special recognition to President Agbaje and President Carter for their weekly contributions to the El Semanario Hostosiano/The Hostos Weekly Newsletter, to VP Charles Dour, Executive Secretary Amdiya Kyemtore and Commissioner Monsita Colon for their work on the special events co-sponsored by the SGA and the Counseling Unit and to Senate Secretary Isabel Neira Sanchez, for her work as the voice of and representative for the SGA at multiple forums, on a number of special committees and for addressing the concerns of parents and single parents throughout the year. The SGA also collaborated with the SLA and the Wellness Program to hand out food to families in need a few days before Thanksgiving. This act, which has been an annual activity sponsored by SGA/PTK and SLA, this year was sponsored by the Wellness Program and required that students commit themselves to appearing in person to share some joy with people in need, when our City was struggling with some of the darkest days of the pandemic. Kudos to all of the SGA and SLA members who participated and made a huge impact upon the world of the community that they live in, work in and go to school in.

I also want to commend VP Charles Dour for his efforts to address all student classroom concerns directly with the provost on an ongoing basis. On more than a few occasions, the efforts of Charles, working with Provost Drago led to an averted crisis or a quick resolution to a student concern and or complaint.

This SGA, much like its predecessors had a strong commitment to address the needs and challenges faced by undocumented and international students, who either pay more tuition to attend the college or may not be eligible to access some funding because of their status. Special recognition in these areas go to Senator Susan Cortes, Senator Abdul Abubakar, Executive Secretary Amdiya Kyemtore and President Muiz Agbaje. There was also a strong commitment to serving families

and parents and addressing their needs throughout the pandemic and with respect to the special challenges faced in the remote learning environments. Special recognition to Senator Denisse Feliz, Senate Secretary Isabel Neira Sanchez, Vice President Lusleidy Perez, Commissioner Monsita Colon and Executive Secretary Amdiya Kyemtore.

The SGA also had a representative serve on the Central Office committee to select a new President for Hostos Community College. Special recognition to Hatem Anaam for his work on that very important committee.

I also want to acknowledge here that in a very unique way, this group of SGA members faced extraordinary challenges because of the crisis that existed, which in some ways they could only address in a virtual environment. A number of our SGA members held jobs throughout the pandemic and often had to work during meetings or extended hours leading up to meetings, which meant they were extraordinarily tired and/or in transit while attending meeting and addressing situations that would affect their constituents. For the most part, all of the members of the SGA met or exceeded their responsibilities even while facing the demands of their own lives and responsibilities to themselves.

I truly believe that the efforts of the members of the SGA for 2020-2021 made an incredible difference and had a huge impact, for the better, on the college and all the members of the community. Their accomplishments, achievements and efforts should be documented as what it is, which is transformational leadership.

Finally, I would say congratulations to all the members of the SGA who graduated and congratulations to those who have been re-elected and will serve in 2021-2022. You are all greatly appreciated and your hard work on behalf of the college, the University and the students and the community are truly valued.

SGA Advisors' Reflections:
Tovah Thompson

Student Psychological Counselor
Carlos L. González Counseling Center at Hostos

SGA Team Advisor



Thoughts about the 2020-2021 SGA administration

Greetings Everyone. I will first like to say that it has been an honor to learn from and work alongside the amazing members of this year's SGA. I remember reading a powerful statement that was issued by the current administration regarding the need for change, representation and the racial injustice that came to a head in the Summer of 2020. I was impressed by the boldness in the statement shared with the Hostos Community. A message of support to then president, Muiz turned into a heartfelt and enlightening conversation. I was left feeling grateful to know that the students of Hostos had such representation. I felt an instant pull to offer any support I could. Fortunately, in efforts to address the issues related to engagement while functioning in a virtual college space, I was invited to serve as an advisor and humbly accepted.

In the short year, the SGA has been able to spend their time to create and advocate for the students through a host of events. During the weekly meetings, we were able to see ideas and brainstorming sessions transform into impactful and educational experiences, transparent and thought-provoking conversations as well as moments filled with laughter; all needed within our Hostos community. Candid Conversations Part 3: Students and Mental Health, Let's Talk About It - Relationships & Dating and Sex & Respect and last but not least Family Feud Music Is Edition - Staff vs Students - all collaborations between the Carlos L. Gonzalez Counseling Center and SGA under the leadership of Brian alongside Amdiya, Monsita and Charles.

This administration has shown great care, compassion and resilience; tackled many challenges with grace and wore their titles with honor and pride; serving as an example of what teamwork can accomplish, the importance of community and what it means to serve. All lessons that I know will continue long after this administration, the receipt of degrees in the mail, this pandemic, any challenge we may face in this life. Continue to be great as you recognize and encourage the greatness of others to grow and flourish.

SGA Advisors' Reflections:
Rhonda Smith

Administrative Assistant
Office of Student Activities

SGA Team Advisor



Thoughts about the 2020-2021 SGA administration

I must say that Student Government did a tremendous job as far as representing their student body during this pandemic year.

They were able to serve students and administrators by representing the needs of students' on-campus and off-campus. I think they developed a lot of leadership skills, always willing to listen to the ideas of others, put a boundary between their personal and professional life, with this said, I can say they were able to grow as a person in the Student Government Association.

This year has been a struggle for majority of our students learning remotely instead of in person. Student Government was always on board reaching out to our students making sure they had everything they needed in order to work remotely.

They were able to do events remotely through Zoom and rewarding students with gift cards, scholarships, always available to answer any questions that the students may have. Student Government also purchased laptops for students in need.

Final thought: *Congratulations for a tremendous job well done. Wish I was able to communicate more with this SGA Board and hopefully with the next SGA we will be able to work closely together.*

SGA Spending Plans: Stipends Summer 2020

Description of proposal

This is a summer budget break down for the stipends of the senators in the Administration.
The sum of \$4,444.81 would be split evenly in 16 places
for all members of the administration for a summer stipend.
That will be a total of \$277.80 for each member of the organization.

Budget Info

Item	Quantity	Price	Total
Stipend Check	16	\$277.80	\$4,444.80

Total Budget Request	\$4,444.80
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SGA Spending Plans: Programming Summer 2020

Description of proposal

This is a breakdown of the summer budget for the SGA. The total of \$5,333.77 would be spent on electronic gift cards that would be distributed to the students of the college. The gift cards would be sent out with surveys to get student engagements in the college and also serve as a “stimulus package”

Budget Info

Item	Quantity	Price	Total
Electronic Visa Gift Cards	106	\$50.00	\$5,300.00

Total Budget Request	\$5,300.00
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SGA Spending Plans: Stipends Fall 2020

Position	September	October	November	December	Total
President	\$675	\$675	\$675	\$675	\$2,700
Vice President for Student Affairs	\$600	\$600	\$600	\$600	\$2,400
Vice President for Academic Affairs	\$600	\$600	\$600	\$600	\$2,400
Budget and Finance Commissioner	\$560	\$560	\$560	\$560	\$2,240
Executive Secretary	\$550	\$550	\$550	\$550	\$2,200
Campus Affairs Commissioner	\$510	\$510	\$510	\$510	\$2,040
Evening and Part-Time Student Affairs Commissioner	\$510	\$510	\$510	\$510	\$2,040
Chief of Staff	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$2,000
Senator 1 (senate secretary)	\$480	\$480	\$480	\$480	\$1,920
Senator 2	\$475	\$475	\$475	\$475	\$1,900
Senator 3	\$475	\$475	\$475	\$475	\$1,900
Senator 4	\$475	\$475	\$475	\$475	\$1,900
Senator 5	\$475	\$475	\$475	\$475	\$1,900
Senator 6	\$475	\$475	\$475	\$475	\$1,900
Senator 7	\$475	\$475	\$475	\$475	\$1,900
Senator 8	\$475	\$475	\$475	\$475	\$1,900

Total	\$33,460
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Note: There will be a balance of \$1,090.98 left from the money allocated which will be moved to the SGA programming line.

SGA Spending Plans: Programming Fall 2020

Initiative	Summary & Description	Budget
SGA scholarships	The traditional SGA scholarships will continue. This will be an opportunity for the SGA to help the students of the college financially. It is also a way to recognize the student's academic efforts and daily struggles.	\$18,000.00
SGA giveaways	Over the course of the semester, the SGA will give out money, items, gifts and many more to celebrate the students of the college during different times along the semester.	\$5,000.00
SGA online events	The SGA will be hosting a series of online events which might involve paying outside parties like speakers or entertainers. These events will be geared towards different holidays in the college.	\$4,090.98
SGA collaborations	Over the course of the semester, the SGA will collaborate with different faculties and departments in the college for events and drives. This money will be allocated to that	\$2,751.35
SGA sponsorships	This will be used to sponsor SGA events or other club, faculty and departmental events. Such as, Single Stop, Nurse's Office, and the Athletic Department.	\$3,000.00
SGA office supplies	This would be used for office supplies for the SGA even during online classes.	\$1,000.00
SGA senator events	Each senator will have the opportunity to hold and lead events in the campus. These events will be SGA events and would be funded by the SGA	\$4,000.00

Total	\$37,842.33
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Note: The sum of \$1,090.98 was moved from the SGA stipend line and added to the programming line which is budgeted as the senator's event line.

SGA Spending Plans: Stipends Spring 2021

Position	February	March	April	May	Total
President	\$ 540.00	\$ 540.00	\$ 540.00	\$ 540.00	\$ 2,160.00
VP Student Affairs	\$ 482.00	\$ 482.00	\$ 482.00	\$ 482.00	\$ 1,928.00
VP Academic Affairs	\$ 482.00	\$ 482.00	\$ 482.00	\$ 482.00	\$ 1,928.00
Treasurer	\$ 458.40	\$ 458.40	\$ 458.40	\$ 458.40	\$ 1,833.60
Executive Secretary	\$ 418.30	\$ 418.30	\$ 418.30	\$ 418.30	\$ 1,673.20
Campus Affairs Commissioner	\$ 368.50	\$ 368.50	\$ 368.50	\$ 368.50	\$ 1,474.00
Evening and P/T Student Affairs Commissioner	\$ 368.50	\$ 368.50	\$ 368.50	\$ 368.50	\$ 1,474.00
Senate Secretary (Senator 1)	\$ 343.50	\$ 343.50	\$ 343.50	\$ 343.50	\$ 1,374.00
Senator 2	\$ 334.14	\$ 334.14	\$ 334.14	\$ 334.14	\$ 1,336.56
Senator 3	\$ 334.14	\$ 334.14	\$ 334.14	\$ 334.14	\$ 1,336.56
Senator 4	\$ 334.14	\$ 334.14	\$ 334.14	\$ 334.14	\$ 1,336.56
Senator 5	\$ 334.14	\$ 334.14	\$ 334.14	\$ 334.14	\$ 1,336.56
Senator 6	\$ 334.14	\$ 334.14	\$ 334.14	\$ 334.14	\$ 1,336.56
Senator 7	\$ 334.14	\$ 334.14	\$ 334.14	\$ 334.14	\$ 1,336.56
Senator 8	\$ 334.14	\$ 334.14	\$ 334.14	\$ 334.14	\$ 1,336.56

Total	\$ 24,537.28
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SGA Spending Plans: Programming Spring 2021

Item	Purpose	Quantity	Amount	Subtotal
SGA Merit Scholarships	To recognize high achievers	10	\$ 500	\$ 5,000
SGA Hardship Scholarship	To help students in need	10	\$ 500	\$ 5,000
SGA Need-Based Scholarship	To help students in need	10	\$ 500	\$ 5,000
Executive Officer/Senator Events	To address student concerns	10	\$ 500	\$ 5,000
Event Collaborations	To encourage participation	10	\$ 250	\$ 2,500
Student Recognition Event	To recognize student leaders	1	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000

Total \$ 25,500

SGA Events

Date	Name of Event
07/01/2020	First day of office
07/01/2020	Follow up conference call with President Gómez
07/09/2020	First Executive Meeting
07/16/2020	First Senate Meeting
08/06/2020	Meeting with SVP Esther Rodríguez Chardavoyne
08/11/2020	Meeting with Interim President Daisy Cocco de Filippis
08/31/2020	#SGAMajorsMonday
09/01/2020	#SGATransportationTuesday
09/02/2020	#SGAWayBackWednesday
09/03/2020	#SGATropicalThursday
09/04/2020	#SGAFootwearFriday
09/05/2020	#SGAWorldwideWeekend
09/08/2020	Meeting with Chief Information Officer Varun Sehgal
09/11/2020	Meeting with Interim President Daisy Cocco de Filippis
09/23/2020	Meeting with SVP Rodríguez Chardavoyne regarding Hostos Association
09/25/2020	Follow SGA Friday
09/25/2020	Black Lives Matter Forum practice session
09/29/2020	Black Lives Matter Forum
10/09/2020	ASGA'S 2020 National Student Government Summit (Day 1)
10/10/2020	ASGA'S 2020 National Student Government Summit (Day 2)
10/22/2020	Meeting with Interim President Daisy Cocco de Filippis
10/31/2020	SGA Halloween Fest
11/03/2020	Meeting with Student Success Coaching Unit (SSCU)
11/10/2020	Meeting with Interim President Daisy Cocco de Filippis
11/12/2020	SGA Inauguration, Assembly and Executive Meeting
11/24/2020	Student concerns meeting with Interim Provost Charles Drago
12/03/2020	Meeting with Interim President Daisy Cocco de Filippis
01/12/2021	Meeting with Interim President Daisy Cocco de Filippis
02/02/2021	Meeting with Interim President Daisy Cocco de Filippis
02/23/2021	Meeting with Interim President Daisy Cocco de Filippis
03/01/2021	Meeting with Financial Aid Office
03/16/2021	Meeting with Interim President Daisy Cocco de Filippis
03/16/2021	“Let’s Talk About It” safe space (with Counseling Center)
03/17/2021	SGA Inauguration Spring 2021
03/24/2021	SGA Assembly Spring 2021
04/13/2021	“Let’s Talk About It” safe space (with Counseling Center)

04/20/2021	Meeting with Interim President Daisy Cocco de Filippis
04/21/2021	“Music is... Family Feud Edition” (with Counseling Center)
05/10/2021	Meeting with Interim President Daisy Cocco de Filippis
05/25/2021	SGA Recognition Ceremony

Event Summaries: SGA Welcome Week

Name of Event: Hostos SGA Welcome Week

Date of Event: Monday, August 31 to Saturday, September 5, 2020

Instructions

Join Hostos SGA in celebrating Hostos Welcome Week!

Post a picture on Facebook or Instagram using the hashtags mentioned below.

Students who post a picture will be entered into a raffle to win a \$50 gift card!

Monday, August 31

#SGAMajorsMonday

Write the name of your major and the reason why you chose to pursue it.

Tuesday, September 1

#SGATransportationTuesday

Share a picture of how you normally travel to school or work. If you travel by bus or train, share the bus or train line (example: BX19).

Wednesday, September 2

#SGAWayBackWednesday

Share a picture of you from back in the days.

Thursday, September 3

#SGATropicalThursday

Share a picture of you wearing some tropical clothes.

Friday, September 4

#SGAFootwearFriday

Share a picture of you with a favorite pair of shoes, sneakers or sandals.

Saturday, September 5

#SGAWorldwideWeekend

Share a picture of you with your country's flag or something that your country is well-known for.

Sponsored by the Hostos Student Government Association #HostosSGA @sgahostos

All pictures must be school appropriate. Questions? Email us at sgavision2018@gmail.com

Event Summaries: SGA Recognition Event

Name of Event: SGA Recognition Event

Date of Event: Tuesday 05/25/21

Time of Event: 3:30 to 5:00 p.m.

Location of event: Zoom

Purpose of the event: To show appreciation to the students, faculty and staff who helped SGA to promote its initiatives and serve students during the academic year.

Was there a flyer for the event? No

Was there an announcement for the event? Yes

Expected attendance: 50

Actual attendance: 25-35

Person in charge of the event: Jerry Rosa

Position: SGA Main Advisor

How far in advance did you start planning for the event? About 3 weeks in advance

I consider that the event was: Successful

Who helped the person in charge? Jason Libfeld

Total budget for event: \$1,966.15

What vendor(s) were used for the event (if any)?

The awards were purchased from www.crownawards.com. The items chosen were:

- PLCLVWC68 – 6x8 wood plaque for departments
- GLSPLOR5 – 2 ¼ x 4 ½ crystal award for members (orange bottom)

- GLBES8 – 5 x 8 crystal award for outstanding members
- GLCV9 – 8 ½ crystal award for outstanding administrators and advisors
- GLSPLBL3 – 4 x 4 award for professors and staff
- GLSPLBL5 – 2 ¼ x 4 ½ for outstanding administrators (blue bottom)

What remarks do you have about the event?

The event well, but it would have been better if more of the award recipients had shared their thoughts. Only two recipients spoke.

Special Thanks

We would like to thank the following offices and individuals:

Offices

Division of Academic Affairs
Division of Student Development and
Enrollment Management (SDEM)
Office of the President
Hostos Student Leadership Academy
Office of Student Activities
Student Success Coaching Unit (SSCU)
Public Safety Department
CUNY EDGE
Hostos Library
Hostos College-Wide Senate
Counseling Center
Office of Academic Affairs
Academic Resource Center (ARC)
Financial Aid Office
Health and Wellness

Individuals

President David Gómez
Interim President Daisy Cocco de Filippis
Interim Provost Charles Drago
Senior VP Esther Rodríguez-Chardavoyne
Lillian Morales
Dean Johanna Gómez
Professor Ernest Ialongo
Jason Libfeld
Mayi Libfeld
Rhonda Smith
Tovah Thompson
Jerry Rosa
Diana Kreymer
Michael Martínez
Assistant VP Varun Sehgal

and everyone else who supported our efforts.