



Legacy Binder
Academic Year 2019-2020

#HostosSGA

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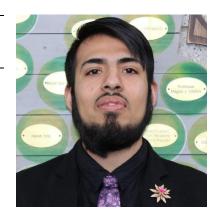
Overview

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' Reflections: Kelvin Pineda

President USS Delegate

Summer 2019, Fall 2019 and Spring 2020



Experience with SGA

My experience within SGA was nothing short of life changing and I'll explain. Not only did coming to Hostos change the direction of my life but learning of and joining SGA provided a structure i did not know i needed and craved for. It taught me how to be responsible for someone other than myself, it gave me a team and a whole student body to care for and an opportunity to improve our little ecosystem we call Hostos. I took great pride in the trust that was given to me by the students when they elected me as president but it was an awesome responsibility that I tried my best at and not let my peers down. No one teaches you how to be a good senator or president or even a good person for that matter so you have to take up the challenge both in these roles and in life and ask yourself when you do anything in life am I doing it for the right reasons? I knew i wanted to be the bridge between the students and administration and give hope to the younger generations that we are more than capable or being well articulated and calculated leaders for our people. My hidden agenda was to enlighten those around me of the corruption in the system and unite all I could though I do not speak these words often those closest to me knew what i am about. We have to take care of our community we must create and empower the leaders of tomorrow and not feel scared or ashamed for speaking our truth. I focused on 3 things I felt where critical which were financial literacy, leadership development and civic engagement. It's important to have a plan not only for SGA but in life and solid agenda in mind so that you can move accordingly throughout your life and your term And your college career because your still a student at the end of the day do not over burden yourself and do not bite off more then you can chew, also don't be afraid to ask your team for help you are not weak for seeking help the smart do this very well. One of my biggest pieces of advice is make sure everyone pulls their own weight because you're only as strong as your weakest link. Also to help each other grow you are a family for better or worse and don't squander the opportunity to make an impact and difference in the lives of those around you. Take this serious because you were elected by those around you because they believe in you don't let them down. The things I learned from SGA like organization or the development of my leadership skills And emotional intelligence skills is something ill carry with me the rest of my life. Also remember to network especially in USS you never know who is who and where they will be create a powerful network of leaders and plant seeds of knowledge and love wherever you go. Respect those you represent and respect yourself

in whatever position you play. Always remember you represent the students and they look up to you and to you for guidance. Also keep the future in mind time is not our friend in these positions so make sure you have a good successor if you can as i was blessed to have. Share the things you weren't able to complete in your term so that the next SGA may carry on the fight. I know that leadership is no easy task but if you choose to sit at the table make sure you have something to offer. Also, always keep a journal as to document and expand on your mind, thoughts and ideas your mind is a beautiful place only if you tend to the garden that it is.

Recommendations (for the next SGA)

- 1. Take care of yourself; You cannot pour from an empty cup.
- 2. Take care of your team and they will take care of you.
- 3. Lean on one another for support but more importantly have a shared vision of what it is you all want to accomplish.
- 4. People wish to have your spot in SGA and opportunity; don't waste your shot to really make impact.
- 5. Refine your leadership skills, emotional intelligence skills and communication skills.
- 6. I would also like to recommend a few books for those of you who actually took the time to read this. I promise you there are pieces of wisdom that someone shared with me once as well. Books I recommend:
 - a. 48 Laws of Power by Robert Greene
 - b. How to Win Friends and Influence People by Dale Carnegie
 - c. The Prince by Niccolo Machiavelli
 - d. Go Giver by Bob Burg

Events Organized

- 1. Welcome Week
- 2. SGA Mentorship Day
- 3. Emotional Intelligence Workshop
- 4. Know Your Rights Workshop
- 5. Día de los muertos
- 6. Night Owl
- 7. Cyber Security Workshop
- 8. Census/Civic Engagement Workshop
- 9. Thanksgiving Raffle
- 10. Women's Appreciation Day
- 11. Dominican Heritage Month Event
- 12. Club Fair

Favorite SGA events/initiatives

1. SGA Retreat

- 2. SGA Welcome Week
- 3. SGA Mentorship Day
- 4. Night Owl
- 5. SGA Multicultural Day
- 6. Emotional Intelligence Workshop
- 7. Día de los muertos/Day of the Dead Altar Set Up
- 8. Cyber Security Techniques Workshop
- 9. Thanksgiving Meal Raffle (with SLA and PTK)
- 10. Women's Appreciation Event
- 11. Honoring Distinguished Dominicans (w Dean Garcia-Reyes)
- 12. Club Fair
- 13. SGA Scholarships
- 14. SGA Hardship Metrocards

Favorite Quote

"True leaders don't create followers, they create more leaders." – Tom Peters

Leana Santana

Executive Secretary

Vice President for Academic Affairs (Chair of Senate) Vice President for Student Affairs and Community Relations USS Delegate

Summer 2019, Fall 2019 and Spring 2020



Experience with SGA

I joined the SGA from the influence of my then-friend now-husband Khalifa Diao back in spring 2019. I was just a regular girl wanting to be more involved with the school but not really knowing how. I've always wanted the help in some sort of way, but that's always easier said than done. I was honestly shy, and hadn't really established what I wanted for myself or my future-but joining the student government definitely helped in figuring that out. I think the most important thing I learned coming out of this is that you will learn to respect and appreciate others' walks of life. It's so easy to stay within one's own 'comfortable' bubble, but unless you are willing to be uncomfortable, learn about others, be considerate and challenge the status-quo- else you aren't leveling up yourself or your team.

Recommendations (for the next SGA)

- 1. Be kind and considerate
- 2. Educate oneself: You represent a body of people and your influence must come from a good and respectful place.
- 3. Remember your job: The first priority is students. Remember who put you in office and who you represent, else you are a disservice to many.

Events Organized

- 1. SGA Welcome Week
- 2. Women's Appreciation Event
- 3. Club Fair
- 4. SGA Scholarships

Favorite SGA events/initiatives

- 1. SGA Retreat
- 2. SGA Welcome Week
- 3. Thanksgiving Meal Raffle (with SLA and PTK)
- 4. Women's Appreciation Event

- 5. Valentine's Day Event
- 6. Club Fair
- 7. SGA Scholarships
- 8. SGA Hardship Metrocards

Favorite Quote

There comes a time where silence is betrayal." – Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Rosina Asiamah

Senator Senate Secretary Executive Secretary

Summer 2019, Fall 2019 and Spring 2020



Experience with SGA

Joining SGA was for many reasons, and it has had a positive impact in my educational life and life in general. I became a member to gain leadership skills, learn more and improve upon myself, to be of help to the student body, to be a part of activities hosted in the school and to learn more of teamwork. In fact, I have really improved on myself since I joined the SGA and learned diverse ways of handling people and their opinions. I have been in SGA for summer, fall and spring semesters, and at the beginning of the first semesters, I was not sure of myself but later on, with the help of my team and advisors, I was able to do the responsibilities of the three positions I held. During my time in SGA, I had a full-time class and job but it did not become a hindrance to doing my work well in the SGA. I got myself involved in most events and I enjoyed it all. Some members left the team for many reasons and some stayed but at the end, I think we did a great job during our term of office. Even though the pandemic (COVID-19) hit the world during our term, I think through it all we stood, spoke and did the best we could on the behalf of the students. I learned a lot as a member of the SGA. SGA has helped me balance my responsibilities, keep up with my academic work and has helped me stay focused and organized.

Recommendations (for the next SGA)

- 1. Do doubt yourself
- 2. Be time conscious
- 3. Respect others opinion
- 4. Get involved in events/activities
- 5. Be able to balance your responsibilities
- 6. Be a good team member
- 7. Try to listen to other students apart from SGA members to know their thought as well
- 8. Always stay focused and be on top of your game
- 9. If you don't understand something, ask for help

Events Organized

- 1. Ancient as the Stars Event (African Club event)
- 2. Women Appreciation Event

- 3. Valentine's Day Event
- 4. SGA Welcome Week
- 5. SGA Multicultural Day
- 6. Club Fair

Favorite SGA events/initiatives

- 1. SGA Retreat
- 2. SGA Welcome Week
- 3. SGA Mentorship Day
- 4. Night Owl
- 5. SGA Multicultural Day
- 6. Día de los muertos/Day of the Dead Altar Set Up
- 7. STEM Olympiad
- 8. Thanksgiving Meal Raffle (with SLA and PTK)
- 9. Mental Health Awareness Workshop
- 10. Honoring Distinguished Dominicans (w Dean García Reyes)
- 11. Club Fair
- 12. SGA Scholarships
- 13. SGA Hardship Metrocards

Favorite Quote

"Beginnings are usually scary and endings are usually sad, but it's everything between that makes it all worth" - Bob Marley

Andre Thompson

Senator

Evening and Part-Time Student Affairs Commissioner USS Alternate

Summer 2019, Fall 2019 and Spring 2020



Experience with SGA

I joined SGA to serve Hostos and to help resolve issues I saw on campus. Sometimes I felt my voice was not heard by everyone when I had ideas or had suggestions during meetings. I also felt pressured to do certain things. I wish I had taken the chance to plan my own events instead of just helping in fellow members events. I was very honored to serve and attend trips such as the SGA retreat, the CUNY New Leadership Challenge Conference and the NYSABPRL conference both with USS. Overall, I felt I should have done a little more in event creating, but other than that my experience was enjoyable but yet bittersweet at times.

Recommendations (for the next SGA)

I recommend the following:

- 1. Make sure to try planning your own events. (Ask for help if needed from fellow members.)
- 2. Be punctual to attending meetings.
- 3. Try hard to maintain a balance between your responsibilities in SGA with your schoolwork and personal life.
- 4. Don't let fellow members patronize you or make you feel small, we are all students.
- 5. Take use of office hours to do school work or SGA planning.

Events Organized

- 1. SGA Welcome Week
- 2. Night Owl
- 3. Day of the Dead Altar Set Up
- 4. Thanksgiving Meal Raffle
- 5. Valentine's Day Event
- 6. Club Fair

Favorite SGA events/initiatives

SGA Retreat.

- 2. SGA Welcome Week
- 3. SGA Mentorship Day
- 4. Night Owl
- 5. SGA Multicultural Day
- 6. Emotional Intelligence Workshop
- 7. Día de los muertos/Day of the Dead Altar Set Up
- 8. Census/Civic Engagement Workshop
- 9. Thanksgiving Meal Raffle (with SLA and PTK)
- 10. Mental Health Awareness Workshop
- 11. Women's Appreciation Event
- 12. Honoring Distinguished Dominicans (w Dean Garcia-Reyes)
- 13. Valentine's Day Event
- 14. Club Fair
- 15. SGA Scholarships
- 16. SGA Hardship Metrocards

Favorite Quote

"True leaders don't create followers, they create more leaders." – Tom Peters

SGA Members' Reflections: Golvis Tayarez Santos

Senator Senate Secretary

Summer 2019 and Fall 2019



Experience with SGA

I joined the SGA because I thought I was going to be able to make a small change within the HCC student body. But I was met with many hostile individuals. For the most part, the experience was terrible, besides certain times where some people would put aside their feelings and would agree on helping the students. There many people who were part of the SGA because of the office and stipends they get. Their whole deal was not to work nor letting other people work. I remember one of the meetings one person who is extremely unfit for any leadership position proposed to "pay somebody to draw pictures of the current members of the SGA with oligarch like outfits while sitting on a throne." In addition to that, I am happy I was able to promote mental health awareness and a hardship scholarship. I learned to keep my head calm when somebody is defaming my name.

Recommendations (for the next SGA)

1. Impeach the selfish.

Events Organized

- 1. Mental Health Awareness Workshop
- 2. SGA Multicultural Day

Favorite SGA events/initiatives

- 1. Emotional Intelligence Workshop
- 2. STEM Olympiad Awards Ceremony
- 3. Mental Health Awareness Workshop
- 4. Honoring Distinguished Dominicans (w Dean Garcia-Reyes)
- 5. SGA Scholarships
- 6. SGA Hardship Metrocards

Favorite Quote

"As a leader, one should put their feelings aside." – Golvis Tavarez

SGA Members' Reflections: Admiya Kyemtore

Senator Senate Secretary

Fall 2019 and Spring 2020



Experience with SGA

It has been a learning experience for me. I joined the SGA to help make information easily accessible to students. Although I joined in late, I was able to take part in organizing events. The highlight for me was the Welcome Week. It gave me the opportunity to interact with freshmen especially, and to educate them on the on-campus resources available to them and how they can use them effectively.

Recommendations (for the next SGA)

Teamwork. Strive to work as a team because in the end, we all seek a common goal, which is students' success.

Events Organized

- 1. Mental Health Workshop
- 2. Women's Appreciation Event
- 3. Welcome Week
- 4. Valentine's Day Event
- 5. Club Fair

Favorite SGA events/initiatives

- 1. Mental Health Awareness Workshop
- 2. Women's Appreciation Event
- 3. SGA Hardship Metrocards

Favorite Quote

"Strive always to excel in virtue and truth." – Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him)

SGA Members' Reflections: Mohamed Aden

Senator

Summer 2019 and Fall 2019



Experience with SGA

As a former Senator, it was an honor for me to serve the Hostos students. I learned teamwork and patience, because always there was disagreement. That taught me how to make healthy debate and support your point in a concise way. I gained experience about how to obey rules and work common goals. It was an amazing journey.

Recommendations (for the next SGA)

- 1. To develop workshops about diversity, injustice, and social racism.
- 2. To create motivational talk and invite successful alumni.
- 3. To avoid personal interest and focus on common interests and common goals.

Events Organized

1. SGA Welcome week

Favorite SGA events/initiatives

- 1. SGA Retreat
- 2. SGA Welcome Week
- 3. STEM Olympiad
- 4. STEM Olympiad Awards Ceremony

Favorite Quote

"There is no passion to be found playing small - in settling for a life that is less than the one you are capable of living." – Nelson Mandela

Charles Dour

Senator

Spring 2020



Experience with SGA

My experience with the SGA was all about adjusting to a new environment, where I had the opportunity to attend meetings with the administration board to vote upon things that will benefit the students on campus.

There reason I join the SGA was to help students in any way that I could, in addition, for the past two years that I attended Hostos community college I was never involved into activities on campus. So my focus was to get students involved into activities.

Things turn out just like the way I wanted it to be, with the help and support that I had from my team. Being part of the SGA is the best thing that have ever happened in my life. Within the SGA, I learned how to become a good leader and a team player; I also learned how to make rational decisions that will benefit others.

Recommendations (for the next SGA)

My recommendation for the next SGA is:

- 1. Respect
- 2. Teamwork

Events Organized

1. Club Fair

Favorite SGA events/initiatives

1. Club Fair

Favorite Quote

"It all start with you, but trust the process". – Trent Shelton

Somaya Nasher

Senator

Summer 2019, Fall 2019 and Spring 2020



Experience with SGA

Being an SGA member is the best action I did during my study in HCC. I joined because I wanted to represent Muslim students in the first line, and all Hostos' students in the second line, I had good relationships with most of the students and I know what they face and need, so I tried to be close from them as I can as possible, my office was the best place where everyone can say what he think freely, and the quiet corner for everyone who has problems and needs someone to talk to. During my period as an SGA senator, I could help students and put their issues in the SGA meetings table to discuss with my beers and find solutions for it. I could help most of the students who have no financial aid or doesn't receive ASAP help to find free books that they need, I tried to connect between students and this made us feel as one community even if all of us from different countries, and I think this one of the most goals for most community colleges. To be honest, not everything turns out the way that I planned, because of many reasons I couldn't attend most of the college events that I should be the first person there, and my plan to do a big celebration day didn't do because of college close due to COVID19. But, Yes, I learned a lot of good things that for sure will help me in my academic and career path.

Recommendations (for the next SGA)

I advise them to be close to students, listen to them and try to solve their individual and group problems. My advise to the members of SGA is to respect each other and not make hypocrisy a way between them.

Events Organized

- 1. SGA Multicultural Day
- 2. SGA Welcome Week
- 3. Valentine's Day Event

Favorite SGA events/initiatives

- 1. SGA Welcome Week
- 2. SGA Multicultural Day

- 3. Thanksgiving Meal Raffle (with SLA and PTK)
- 4. Women's Appreciation Event
- 5. Valentine's Day Event

Favorite Quote

"Plant beautiful, even if misplaced, beautiful will not be lost wherever planted." – Unknown

SGA Members' Reflections: Mohamed Nashir

Senator

Spring 2020



Experience with SGA

I joined the SGA because I wanted to be the change for others who couldn't, help those who couldn't help themselves, to be someone who people can rely on when things go wrong or not as planned. I had an amazing team backing me up so things turned out the way I planned, even though I wanted to be the change for others I couldn't do it alone and my team helped me when I needed it most. My experience with SGA is like a big family, when needed they have your back and when lost can be that light you need.

Recommendations (for the next SGA)

My recommendations for the next SGA is: Give it all you have and become a change for someone or the world because being part of the SGA doesn't only help you but the people around you.

Events Organized

1. Club Fair

Favorite SGA events/initiatives

- 1. SGA Welcome Week
- 2. SGA Mentorship Day
- 3. SGA Multicultural Day
- 4. Club Fair

Favorite Quote

"Sometimes you've got to be able to listen to yourself and be okay with no one else understanding." – Unknown

Nicole Carolina Rodríguez

Senator

Evening and Part-Time Student Affairs Commissioner

Fall 2019 and Spring 2020



Experience with SGA

I joined the SGA to be a voice for my peers, who always were shy with people of authority and would come to me in order to guide/assist them.

Recommendations (for the next SGA)

- 1. ASK QUESTIONS. We all come here with high hopes and expectations. We wish to do the most we can. To achieve the best results, ask your team, ask for help from Jerry and Jason. They have seen it all. Do not hesitate to ask how to go about, who to speak to, where to go.
- 2. SPEAK UP: Even if you feel you are the minority in the room, even if you feel your opinion won't add into the atmosphere. Speak up for everything you believe in.
- 3. PUSH THROUGH: Believe in yourself, you can do this.

Events Organized

- 1. Welcome Week
- 2. Dominican Event
- 3. Valentine's Day Event
- 4. Club Fair

Favorite SGA events/initiatives

- 1. SGA Welcome Week
- 2. Night Owl
- 3. SGA Multicultural Day
- 4. Día de los muertos/Day of the Dead Altar Set Up
- 5. Honoring Distinguished Dominicans (w Dean Garcia-Reyes)
- 6. Valentine's Day Event
- 7. Club Fair

Favorite Quote

"Feet, what do I need you for when I have wings to fly?" - Frida Kahlo

SGA Members' Reflections: Khalifa Diao

Vice President for Student Affairs and Community Relations

Summer 2019, Fall 2019 and Spring 2020



Note

This member did not write a personal reflection.

SGA Members' Reflections: Leydi Bautista Navarrete

Vice President for Academic Affairs/Chair of Senate

Summer 2019



<u>Note</u>

This member did not write a personal reflection.

SGA Members' Reflections:

Alex Essiamah

Budget and Finance Commissioner (Treasurer)

Summer 2019, Fall 2019



<u>Note</u>

Anthony Tarafa

Campus Affairs Commissioner

Summer 2019



<u>Note</u>

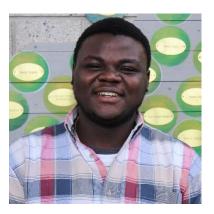
This member did not write a personal reflection.

SGA Members' Reflections:

Muiz Agbaje

Evening and Part-Time Student Affairs Commissioner Budget and Finance Commissioner (Treasurer) Vice President for Academic Affairs/Chair of Senate

Summer 2019, Fall 2019 and Spring 2020



Note

This member did not write a personal reflection.

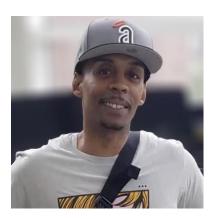
SGA Members' Reflections:

Brian Carter

Senator

Evening and Part-Time Student Affairs Commissioner Campus Affairs Commissioner Budget and Finance Commissioner (Treasurer)

Summer 2019, Fall 2019 and Spring 2020



Note

SGA Members' Reflections: Leyddy Ogando

Senator

Summer 2019 and Fall 2019



Note

This member did not write a personal reflection.

SGA Members' Reflections: Rassambenewende Ouedraogo

Senator

Summer 2019



<u>Note</u>

This member did not write a personal reflection.

SGA Members' Reflections:

America Rahimee

Senator

Summer 2019 and Fall 2019



Note

Julian Adams

Senator

Fall 2019



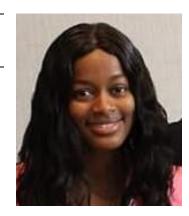
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SGA Members' Reflections: Salimatou Bah

Senator

Fall 2019



<u>Note</u>

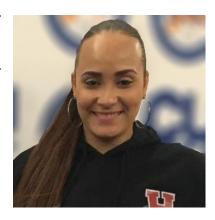
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SGA Members' Reflections: Lusleidy Pérez

Senator

Campus Affairs Commissioner

Fall 2019 and Spring 2020



Note

Rosa Torres

Senator

Fall 2019



Note

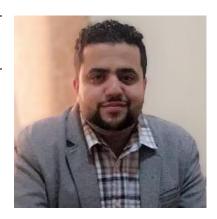
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SGA Members' Reflections:

Hatem Anaam

Senator

Spring 2020



Note

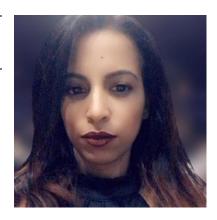
This member did not write a personal reflection.

SGA Members' Reflections:

Denisse Feliz

Senator

Spring 2020



Note

SGA Members' Reflections: Brittany Lanzano (Floh)

Senator

Spring 2020



Note

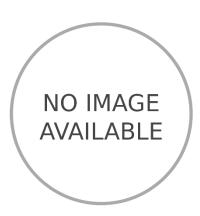
This member did not write a personal reflection.

SGA Members' Reflections:

Saleh Nasser

Senator

Spring 2020



<u>Note</u>

This member did not write a personal reflection.

SGA Members' Reflections:

Nyogbodzormo Tackie-Yarboi

Senator

Spring 2020



Note

SGA Advisors' Reflections: Jerry Rosa

Director of Student Activities Office of Student Activities

SGA Main Advisor



Thoughts about the 2019-2020 SGA administration

The 2019-2020 SGA team was a unique administration that faced numerous challenges. To begin, the team lost and replaced more members than any administration in recent years. Prior to taking office, one of the Senators resigned. During the Summer, one of the Commissioners resigned. On the first week of classes, the Chair of Senate resigned. A couple of weeks into the semester, another Senator and the Treasurer resigned. In January, several members graduated. Nevertheless, the team was able to recover from each of these losses by conducting the necessary interviews and reassigning tasks among the active members so that plans could continue moving forward.

Another challenge that the team faced was finding a collective identity. This was due in part to the fact that not all of the members could attend the SGA Retreat. This gathering is one of the most important for an administration and the fact that some of the members could not attend (or were elected to fill vacancies during the middle of the semester) caused delays in the team's ability to become familiar with one another and effectively define which secondary role each member should play. Although the administration was able to hold a significant number of events, not all of them were planned and held a as team. This had a taxing effect on the most active members.

The Spring 2020 semester looked set to go until the pandemic made its presence felt. Prior to its arrival, the team was functioning as originally planned. All of the positions were filled. The team was able to organize a few events the first week of classes. They sponsored/co-sponsored events organized by offices within the college that reflected the student empowerment goals that they sought to promote. There were plans on the table to work in collaboration with student organizations. However, many of these plans came to a screeching halt when the pandemic arrived and the college was forced to transition to distance learning. Faced with this challenge, the team took a bold step and decided to allocate the balance of its Spring 2020 budget to help students facing hardships. Several meetings with the President and other members of the administration

took place to make sure that approaches to help students in need were identified and implemented. Follow-up communication was constant. Rather than stand still and see how the situation would unfold, the team continued its active approach reinventing its ways to assist students.

In June, the team held its annual transition meeting to provide an orientation to the new SGA administration. Although the orientation took place online (due to the ongoing social gathering limitations caused by the pandemic), one could still sense the interest and the passion coming from the participants. The sense of commitment to continued service for the students was also evident. Although the 2019-2020 administration could not fully carry out all of its plans, there appears to be a sense of mutual purpose with the new team that should result in many of those plans taking place in the upcoming year.

SGA Advisors' Reflections: Jason Libfeld

Student Leadership Coordinator Hostos Student Leadership Academy

SGA Secondary Advisor



Thoughts about the 2019-2020 SGA administration

The ability of this year's Student Government Association to regroup time and time again after so many transitions is a testament to their perseverance. Despite a multitude of challenges, resignations, unforeseen obstacles and a worldwide pandemic, the Hostos SGA for 2019-2020 came together to work for the benefit of the entire Hostos Community College Community.

Beginning with the CUNY New Leadership Challenge, members of the group began to discuss pivotal ideas and establish plans for a functional set of goals for the Academic Year. These discussions were given roots at the annual retreat at Edith Macy Conference Center, where the group began to negotiate and come to consensus on issues and topics that were relevant to not only their academic careers but to the well-being of student body as a whole. From the beginning, there was a strong desire to address the needs on underrepresented populations within the school, including Dreamers and Undocumented Students, LGBTQ students and students living in shelters and those who were food insecure. There were also discussions about working on attending to the needs of international students and the incredible costs that they were paying to attend the college. At the retreat the SGA as it was constituted developed a plan called SGA AWARE (Advisement, Wellness, Assistance, Resources and Exposure). They also discussed in detail their Code of Conduct and how they would enhance it. And with guidance from the Administration, they began to discuss a Student Activity Fee referendum.

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 2020-2021 group will have to live up to.

Several notable highlights include:

- President Kelvin Pineda's continued efforts with regard to helping undocumented students deal with ICE Investigations, by promoting the Know Your Rights Campaign, working on Food Insecurity Issues by pressing for funds to be given to Single Stop and to help purchase products for the Food Pantry and in taking a very strong stand on addressing Women's Issues on campus, by supporting events to celebrate women at the college, discussing providing feminine hygiene supplies in all of the restrooms and discussing safe spaces to take care of children and their needs.
- Khalifa Diao and Muiz Agbaje worked diligently on providing support to international students and helped to celebrate a number of cultures throughout the course of the year including the African Diaspora.
- Somaya Nasher and America Rahimee were responsible for facilitating a Yemeni Cultural Day.
- Golvis Tavarez-Santos took on the issues of health and mental wellness and worked with several offices of the college to provide a Mental Health First Aid day long course for all members of the college community.
- Andre Thompson and Lusleidy Perez represented the University at a number of events; specifically two annual legislative conferences in Albany.
- SGA members made contributions to volunteer efforts that included: The 9-11 National Day of Service event at the Intrepid Museum, the Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk at Orchard Beach, The Walk to End Alzheimer's, the Hostos SGA/SLA/PTK Thanksgiving Giveaway, the Hostos Children's Center Toy Giveaway, Christmas in Chinatown, POTS Soup Kitchen, and a number of other activities. Notable participation at many of these events by Mohamed Aden, Golvis Tavarez Santos, Rassambenewende Ouedraogo, Leyddy Ogando, Julian Adams, Alex Essiamah, Muiz Agbaje, Kelvin Pineda, Andre Thompson Salimatou Bah, Amdiya Kyemtore, America Rahimee, Brian Carter, Lusleidy Perez and Denisse Feliz. Almost all of the members of the 2019-2020 SGA participated in volunteer projects, which included their own activities throughout the course of the year.

The 2019-2020 SGA co-sponsored a number of Student Leadership Academy activities and initiatives; including the Hostos Student Leadership Academy Scholarship Orientations, the Hostos Student Leadership Academy Winter Workshop Series, the SGA/SLA/PTK Thanksgiving Giveaway and the 13th Annual Passing the Torch Ceremony. (SGA members were also honored at the Passing the Torch Ceremony for their work as SGA members.) The most ambitious collaboration between SGA and SLA came with regard to the establishment of the Services On Site (SOS) Team to work at the SGA Information Booth. This initiative involved the development and distribution of specially designed hoodies for the booth employees to wear, so that they could be easily identified. (Andre Thompson designed the hoodie.) This initiative helped with getting signatures for the SAF referendum and with other initiatives promoted by the SGA. Members of

the SLA volunteered with the very successful SGA Valentine's Day event and with the Fall, Spring Munchies Events.

Several members of the 2019-2020 Student Government Association were part of the National Model United Nations team that took part in the conference in Washington, D.C. in the fall of 2019. These members included Mohamed Aden, Salimatou Bah, Amdiya Kyemtore, Andre Thompson and Julian Adams. Their Head Delegate and trainer for the event was former SGA member Rokia Diabi. Two members of the 2020 SGA participated in the New York State Model Senate Session in Albany: Denisse Feliz and Andre Thompson. Two members of the Hostos SGA were selected to be a part of the Kaplan Leadership Program; Alex Essiamah and Mohamed Aden. The Hostos SGA sponsored scholarships for students who had financial need and also sponsored merit-based scholarships and under the leadership of Kelvn Pineda, they awarded 40 scholarships for the 2019-2020 school year. As a group, the representatives from 2019-2020 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. They offered food resources via the Hostos Food Bank, and they offered to provide funding for laptops and mobile network devices if they were necessary.

Each member had a particular set of goals and worked diligently to effect change in their areas:

STEM studies	Mohamed Aden, Charles Dour, Muiz Agbaje, Anthony
	Tarafa
Food Insecurity/Food Pantry	Kelvin Pineda, Salimatou Bah, Leana Santana, Nicole
	Rodriguez
Mentoring	Alex Essiamah, Mohamed Aden, Denisse Feliz,
	Lusleidy Perez
Students with Special Needs	Golvis Tavarez Santos, America Rahimee
Health and Wellness	Golvis Tavarez Santos, Julian Adams
Family and Children's Concerns	Leyddy Ogando, America Rahimee, Rassambenewende
	Ouedraogo, Rosa Torres
Muslim Prayer Space	Somaya Nasher, Khalifa Diao, Amdiya Kyemtore
Facilities Issues	Leana Santana, Kelvin Pineda, Brian Carter
International Student Issues	Muiz Agbaje, Khalifa Diao, Alex Essiamah,
	Rassambenewende Ouedraogo, Rosina Asiamah
Undocumented and Dreamer Issues	Leydi Bautista, Kelvin Pineda, Nicole Rodriguez
Black Lives Matter	Salimatou Bah, Muiz Agbaje

Technology Issues	Kelvin Pineda, Brian Carter, Hatem Anaam, Charles
	Dour, Brittany Lanzano
Cultural Affairs	Muiz Agbaje, Rosina Asiamah, Mohamed Aden,
	Somaya Nasher, America Rahimee
Legislative Affairs	Khalifa Diao, Leana Santana, Muiz Agbaje, Kelvin
	Pineda, Lusleidy Perez, Andre Thompson
Women's Issue	Kelvin Pineda, Leyddy Ogando, Nicole Rodriguez,
	Denisse Feliz, Lusleidy Perez
Homelessness	Muiz Agbaje, Lusleidy Perez, Kelvin Pineda
LGBTQ Concerns	Leydi Bautista, Julian Adams

I also want to say that the collaboration of SGA and SLA has maintained the SGA Information Booth in full function and open five days a week, between the hours of 9 am and 6 pm. We hope to continue these efforts and to continue to provide support to the SGA as they hold events, such as the Munchies giveaway and the Valentine's Day giveaway. In addition, the Hostos SLA has assisted in providing SGA with business cards, flyers and publicity to help the entire Hostos student body know who they are and what they can do to support students in need and who need representation. 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 2020-2021. 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: Rhonda Smith

Administrative Assistant
Office of Student Activities

Assisted SGA with numerous items



Thoughts about the 2019-2020 SGA administration

This Student Government did a tremendous job as far as representing their student body. They had a voice, had opportunities to share perspectives and influence campus issues, and potentially had resources and access to campus administrators that most student organization do not have. In addition they interacted with the Student Clubs, took the time to make sure they were planning the events in a timely manner, even helping develop their flyers for the event.

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 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 was able to grow as a person in the Student Government Association.

Lastly, for the next year Student Government Association, I recommend that they should have a better communication and teamwork; everyone needs to be on the same page. When planning an activity they need to meet, schedule and have a timeline and commitment. I hope they would continue during the Scholarships, Club Fairs and Emergency Metrocards.

Final thought: As you know many students in Hostos can't afford to buy meals but I feel if the Student Government next year could help students out with food vouchers twice a month and not just once month because that in possible. I recommend the voucher be for \$10.00. The vouchers should remain in the office of Student Government, Student Activities. It is hard for students to travel to the D-building and then come back to the C-building to purchase lunch and make it to class on time.

SGA Events

Name of Event: SGA Welcome Week

Date of Event: 8/27/2019 - 8/29/2019

Time of Event: 10:00am, 12:00pm & 3:00pm

<u>Location of event:</u> Bridge, SGA Counter

Total budget for event: \$1,000

Was there a flyer for the event? Yes

Expected attendance: 100 Actual attendance: 100

<u>Person in charge of the event:</u> Kelvin Pineda <u>Position:</u> Executive Officer

Purpose of the event: to welcome students back to college

<u>I consider that the event was:</u> very successful

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

Who helped the person in charge of the event?

Brian Carter

What remarks do you have about the event?

excellent event



SGA Events

Name of Event: SGA Mentorship Day

Date of Event: 9/23/2019

Time of Event: 3:30-5:00pm

Location of event: C-391

Total budget for event: \$350

Was there a flyer for the event? Yes

Expected attendance: 60 Actual attendance: 50

<u>Person in charge of the event:</u> Brian Carter <u>Position:</u> Executive Officer

Purpose of the event: making money moves

I consider that the event was: fair (OK)

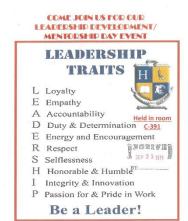
How far in advance did you start planning for the event? About 2 weeks in advance

Who helped the person in charge of the event?

Kelvin Pineda

What remarks do you have about the event?

It could have been better planned



SGA Events

Name of Event: Night Owl Event

Date of Event: 10/7/2019

Time of Event: 4:00pm - 6:00pm

Location of event: SGA Counter

Total budget for event: \$350

Was there a flyer for the event? Yes

Expected attendance: 75 Actual attendance: 100

<u>Person in charge of the event:</u> Brian Carter <u>Position:</u> Executive Officer

<u>Purpose of the event:</u> To promote wellness

I consider that the event was: very successful

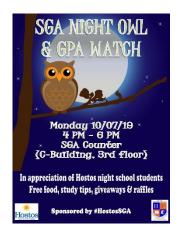
How far in advance did you start planning for the event? About 1 week in advance

Who helped the person in charge of the event?

None

What remarks do you have about the event?

more people needed to help



Name of Event: Emotional Intelligence Workshop

Date of Event: 10/28/2019

Time of Event: 3:30pm - 5:00pm

Location of event: JFK Room

Total budget for event: \$650

Was there a flyer for the event? Yes

Expected attendance: 25 Actual attendance: 26

<u>Person in charge of the event:</u> Brian Carter <u>Position:</u> Executive Officer

<u>Purpose of the event:</u> To teach students about self emotional intelligence

I consider that the event was: successful

How far in advance did you start planning for the event? About 2 weeks in advance

Who helped the person in charge of the event?

Kelvin Pineda

What remarks do you have about the event?

Could have been better if more students showed up

Name of Event: Día de los muertos/Day of the

Dead altar set up

Date of Event: 10/30/2019

Time of Event: 1:00- 5:00pm

Location of event: C-Lobby

Total budget for event: \$900

Expected attendance: 75

Was there a flyer for the event? Yes

Actual attendance: 75

<u>Person in charge of the event:</u> Kelvin Pineda <u>Position:</u> Executive Officer

<u>Purpose of the event:</u> To teach students about Día de los muertos, a holiday for remembering and honoring those who have passed.

I consider that the event was: very successful

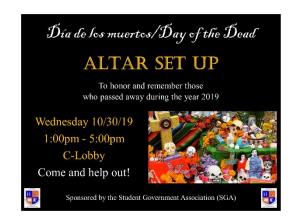
How far in advance did you start planning for the event? About 2 weeks in advance

Who helped the person in charge of the event?

Brian Carter, Andre Thompson, Lusleidy Pérez, Jerry Rosa

What remarks do you have about the event?

Excellent event



Name of Event: Student Leadership Inauguration

Ceremony and Student Assembly

Date of Event: 11/5/2019

Time of Event: 3:30pm - 5:00pm

Location of event: A-Atrium

Total budget for event: \$100

Was there a flyer for the event? Yes

Expected attendance: 50 Actual attendance: 35

Person in charge of the event: Student Activities Position: Office & SGA

& SGA

<u>Purpose of the event:</u> To swear in the new SGA members and have the members give a report about completed and on-going projects

The Office of Student Activities and the Office of Student Life

Student Leadership Inauguration Ceremony and Student Assembly

To introduce the elected members of the Student Government Association (SGA) d discuss their goals for academic year 2019-202

A-Atrium
S-D-E-M Debase of Blokes Dead

SY

I consider that the event was: successful

How far in advance did you start planning for the event? About 2 weeks in advance

Who helped the person in charge of the event?

Kelvin Pineda

What remarks do you have about the event?

event went pretty well

Name of Event: Cyber Security Techniques

Workshop

Date of Event: 11/12/2019

Time of Event: 2:00pm - 3:15pm

Location of event: Faculty Dining Room

Total budget for event: \$200

Was there a flyer for the event? Yes

Expected attendance: 30 Actual attendance: 16

<u>Person in charge of the event:</u> Kelvin Pineda <u>Position:</u> Executive Officer

Purpose of the event: learn how to protect yourself from hacking

I consider that the event was: a little successful

How far in advance did you start planning for the event? About 2 weeks in advance

Who helped the person in charge of the event?

Career Services, Professor Amy Ramson, Brian Carter

What remarks do you have about the event?

Could have been better with more students



Name of Event: Census/Civic Engagement

Workshop

Date of Event: 11/20/2019

<u>Time of Event:</u> 10:30am - 12:00pm

Location of event: Faculty Dining Room

Total budget for event: \$350

Was there a flyer for the event? Yes

Expected attendance: 50 Actual attendance: 35

Person in charge of the event: Brian Carter & Position: Executive Officers

Kelvin Pineda

Purpose of the event: to introduce to students to the Census Program

I consider that the event was: successful

How far in advance did you start planning for the event? About 2 weeks in advance

Who helped the person in charge of the event?

None

What remarks do you have about the event?

the event went well



Name of Event: Thanksgiving Meal Raffle

Date of Event: 11/26/2019

Time of Event: 1:00pm - 5:00pm

Location of event: SGA Counter, C-391

Total budget for event: \$1,500

Was there a flyer for the event? Yes

Expected attendance: 100 Actual attendance: 100

<u>Person in charge of the event:</u> SGA, Student <u>Position:</u> SGA, office, student organization

Leadership Academy, PTK

<u>Purpose of the event:</u> to make the Thanksgiving holiday a little bit better for struggling families

I consider that the event was: very successful

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

Who helped the person in charge of the event?

Kelvin Pineda, Khalifa Diao, Leana Santana, Rosina Assiamah, Muiz Agbaje, Brian Carter, Andre Thompson, Leyddy Ogando

What remarks do you have about the event?

excellent event



Name of Event: Women's Appreciation Event

Date of Event: 12/11/2019

Time of Event: 3:00pm - 5:00pm

Location of event: A-Atrium

Total budget for event: \$1,000

Was there a flyer for the event? Yes

Expected attendance: 50 Actual attendance: 50

Person in charge of the event: Leana Santana Position: Executive Officer

<u>Purpose of the event:</u> To appreciate our women of today's society. To bring women together whilst uplifting their voices.

I consider that the event was: very successful

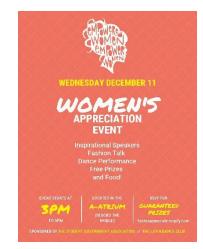
How far in advance did you start planning for the event? About 2 weeks in advance

Who helped the person in charge of the event?

Rosina Assiamah, Denisse Feliz, Kelvin Pineda, Khalifa Diao, Muiz Agbaje, Somaya Nasher, America Rahimee, Leyddy Ogando, Amdiya Kyemtore

What remarks do you have about the event?

The event should have had more time to plan out, and had more communication with the Public Safety Department. Other than that it went pretty well.



Name of Event: Honoring Distinguished

Dominicans

Date of Event: 2/5/2020

Time of Event: 5pm-7pm

Location of event: A-Atrium

Total budget for event: \$600

Was there a flyer for the event? Yes

Expected attendance: 75 Actual attendance: 60

<u>Person in charge of the event:</u> Lusleidy Pérez,

Nicole Rodríguez, Kelvin Pineda

Position: Executive Officers

Honoring Distinguished Dominicans in

Ved | Feb 5 | 5:30 P.M.

RSVP: Gerson Pella I gpena@hostos.cury.edu : Ana García Reyes, Associate Dean, Community R

Hostos 👽 😜

DOMINICAN

<u>Purpose of the event:</u> to honor distinguished Dominicans making a difference in our community and/or people who are an example to Dominican students and community.

I consider that the event was: very successful

How far in advance did you start planning for the event? About a month (4 weeks) in advance

Who helped the person in charge of the event?

Dean Ana García-Reyes

What remarks do you have about the event?

this event was just like planned. everyone were very happy with the organization and the folkloric dancers and presentations

Name of Event: Club Fair

<u>Date of Event:</u> 3/4/2020

Time of Event: 11am - 4pm

Location of event: Bridge

Total budget for event: \$300

Was there a flyer for the event? Yes

Expected attendance: 100 Actual attendance: 400

<u>Person in charge of the event:</u> Leana Santana <u>Position:</u> Executive Officer

<u>Purpose of the event:</u> For my peers to see what clubs this school actually has!

I consider that the event was: very successful

How far in advance did you start planning for the event? About a month (4 weeks) in advance

Who helped the person in charge of the event?

Kelvin Pineda, Khalifa Diao, Leana Santana, Rosina Assiamah, Muiz Agbaje, Brian Carter, Lusleidy Perez, Nicole Rodriguez, Denisse Feliz, Amdiya Kyemtore, Brittany Lanzano, Saleh Nasser, Charles Dour, Salimatou Bah

What remarks do you have about the event?

I think the event was amazing! I am so appreciative of all my group members who took their time in helping—it takes a team. With that being said, pre-planning is the most important, I wish more resources on this circulated on this topic. Creating a poster, printing the poster, distribution, word-of-mouth, collaboration, email templates, sign-in sheets, itinerary, budget lists, budget proposals and so much more are required in creating an event.



Name of Event: SGA Transition Meeting

Date of Event: 6/12/2020

Time of Event: 12 to 2pm

Location of event: Zoom

Total budget for event: \$0

Was there a flyer for the event? No

Expected attendance: 30 Actual attendance: 19

<u>Person in charge of the event:</u> Muiz Agbaje <u>Position:</u> Executive Officer

<u>Purpose of the event:</u> It's a transitional meeting that happens between outgoing and incoming SGA administration. For outgoing members to share their experiences in the SGA and also give advice to the incoming administration

I consider that the event was: very successful

How far in advance did you start planning for the event? About 1 week in advance

Who helped the person in charge of the event?

Kelvin Pineda

What remarks do you have about the event?

The event went as planned and positive feedbacks were received

Name of Event: SGA Vacancy Interviews

Date of Event: Various

Time of Event: Various

Location of event: C-534

Total budget for event: \$0

n/a

Was there a flyer for the event? Yes

POSITION IS NOW OPEN Senators represent the needs and interests of students

- through effective legislation, service and communication Minimum requirements:
 - Minimum of 12 credits at Hostos with a 2.5 GPA.
- Available to attend bi-weekly Senate Meetings.
 Available to serve on appointed committees.
 Available to plan and help out during SGA events.



Application Period: Tue 08/27 to Tue 09/10/19 Applications available at Student Activities (C-371) Questions? Call (718) 518-6561

Expected attendance: 100 Actual attendance: 100

Person in charge of the event: Kelvin Pineda Position: Executive Officer

Purpose of the event: Interview for SGA vacancy

I consider that the event was: very successful

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

Who helped the person in charge of the event?

Khalifa Diao, Brian Carter

What remarks do you have about the event?

We interviewed several candidates and recorded their interviews to share with the members that were not present. After reviewing all the videos, the members were asked to vote for the most qualified candidates.

Name of Event: SGA Merit Scholarships, SGA Hardship Scholarships, SGA Need-Based Scholarships

Date of Event: Fall 2019 and Spring 2020

Time of Event: Open for 3-4 weeks

Location of event: Scholarships Website

Total budget for event: \$12,000

Was there a flyer for the event? Yes

Expected attendance: 24 Actual attendance: 23

<u>Person in charge of the event:</u> Kelvin Pineda <u>Position:</u> Executive Officer

<u>Purpose of the event:</u> help students out financially; help students facing financial hardship besides school needs.

I consider that the event was: successful

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

Who helped the person in charge of the event?

Muiz Agbaje, Khalifa Diao, Golvis Tavarez, Scholarship Office

What remarks do you have about the event?

it was successful we gave students an opportunity to win some money using their intelligence within and outside the college.



Name of Event: SGA Hardship Metrocards

Date of Event: Fall 2019 and Spring 2020

Time of Event: Office hours

Location of event: SGA offices, Single Stop

Total budget for event: \$1,250

Was there a flyer for the event? No

Expected attendance: 50 Actual attendance: 25

<u>Person in charge of the event:</u> Kelvin Pineda <u>Position:</u> Executive Officer

<u>Purpose of the event:</u> to help students with transportation

I consider that the event was: successful

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

Who helped the person in charge of the event?

Khalifa Diao, Leana Santana, Muiz Agbaje, Brian Carter, Single Stop

What remarks do you have about the event?

Went well

Name of Event: SGA Hardship Target Gift

Cards

Date of Event: Spring 2020

Time of Event: As needed

Location of event: Single Stop

Total budget for event: \$10,000

Was there a flyer for the event? No

Expected attendance: 200 Actual attendance: 10

Person in charge of the event: Kelvin Pineda Position: Executive Officer

<u>Purpose of the event:</u> to help students and family who are the most vulnerable at Hostos.

I consider that the event was: very successful

How far in advance did you start planning for the event? About a month (4 weeks) in advance

Who helped the person in charge of the event?

Single Stop

What remarks do you have about the event?

Excellent event



Other events organized by the 2019-2020 SGA team:

Meetings with President Gómez

SGA Multicultural Day



9th STEM Olympiad



9th STEM Olympiad Awards Ceremony



Valentine's Day Event



Special Thanks

We would like to thank the following offices and individuals:

Offices

Hostos Student Leadership Academy

Office of Student Activities

Nurse's Office Career Services

Student Success Coaching Unit

Athletics Department

College Discovery Program Public Safety Department

CUNY EDGE

<u>Individuals</u>

President Dr. David Gómez Vice President Nathaniel Cruz Provost Christine Mangino Dean Johanna Gómez Dean Ana García-Reyes Professor Ernest Ialongo Professor Amy Ramson Professor Yoel Rodríguez

Ken Acquah Jason Libfeld Rhonda Smith Jerry Rosa

Fabián Wander

Emily Tenzer-Santoro

Eric Rodríguez María Cano

Nurse María Vásquez

Raymond Pérez

and everyone else who supported our efforts.