Not even Blizzard Nemo could stop the WSA from having a productive week. During the storm, I was involved in making sure critical facilities hours updates were sent out to students, and I also worked with the administration to ensure that the office could still be somewhat up and running, despite the absence of our administrative assistant. Administrators have expressed some interest in rescheduling the floating day, and I have met with students to strategize to resolve the issue in a way that’s most beneficial to students.

Here are some other highlights:

- Finalized Jacques Steinberg as the New York Times-sponsored speaker for April 9th.

- The Student Budget Sustainability Task Force received an official response from administrators. Now we are planning our next steps, and we will be presenting our recommendations this evening.

- Met with Pat Tully to discuss the potential for Wesleyan to start a Rotary Club (or Roteract, the 20-something version) to bridge the divide with Middletown

- Held a meeting with a Head Resident (Kate and Jesse were also in attendance) to discuss reforms that would lead to better Res life programming and more financial sustainability.

- Met with two students planning an upcoming diversity event

- Jason and Christian have done some great research related to the all NESCAC Conference. More information should be available on that soon.

- I sent the student group fair brochure to all students and posted it on our website.
COCo did some slight reorganization this week. In order to increase information flows, Glenn Cantave ‘15 serves on the Middletown Relations Committee and is liaison to Activism (Charitable/Service) groups. Ellen Paik ‘16, who formerly had these groups, is now liaising to the environmental activism groups.

**Community Panel.** A new idea this week is for a panel or forum about the concept of community that we have been grappling with this year. Such a panel would draw on faculty of different disciplines, student affairs professionals, and others. One of the potential focuses is on what constitutes membership within a community. Send suggestions about speakers or specifics to Syed.

**CollegiateLink/OrgSync.** Nicki Softness ‘14 is doing some amazing peer research on CollegiateLink! She has been in contact with schools such as Carnegie Mellon, Pomona, Connecticut College, Tufts, Ithaca, Illinois, and Johns Hopkins! In that same vein, VP of Information Technology David Baird is setting up a conference call with ITS at his former home, Colgate, to talk more intimately about implementation strategies. ITC Chair Grant Tanenbaum ‘15 is working on funding.

**Student Group Handbook.** Ellen Paik ‘16 is working on revising the guide. Last week she updated out-of-date information about the WSA and added a section on category liaisons. This week she is adding sections on administrative contacts, advertising, contracts and other SALD resources. Ellen is also researching peer institution equivalents. Have any ideas for the Handbook? Let us know!

**Online Resources.** Alton Wang ‘16 has reached out to the appropriate administrators at ITS and the WSA Office to streamline the process of attaining student group online resources such as a Gmail @wesleyan.edu, a WordPress website, and a Lyris listserv.

**Wes-to-Wes.** Chloe Murtagh ‘15 and Ellen have been making strides to making the dream of Wes-to-Wes’s a reality. They created a beautiful new website, obtained a text-to-donate phone number from University Relations, and are working on tees to support the cause.

**Board of Trustees.** The Board brings many notable and intelligent alumni to campus several times throughout the year. This week, we’ll be working on pairing those Trustees to relevant student groups to push for fostering those relationships.

**Recognitions.** We approved a handful of new student groups this week, bringing our total to 280 now.

**Blog Posts.** Check out what COCo members have to say:
- Christian Hosam ‘15, “Ally-ship within our Community”
- Jacob Musinsky ‘15, “Student Group Leader Summit: Review & Next Steps”
Middletown Relations

This week, the leaders of the Middletown Potluck student group came in and talked us about their initiatives. They are planning for up to five potlucks this semester that bring together members of the Wesleyan and greater Middletown communities, and we helped them plan those events. Adam Wechsler ’13 will be working on developing some sort of listserv or Google Group to link together student groups that work with/in Middletown. Chair Gabriela De Golia ’13 is looking into helping the Center for Community Partnerships (CCP) with its Did You Know? campaign. One or two members of MidWes will be attending meetings of the Middletown Youth Services Bureau this semester.

On COCo and MidWes this week, we also discussed WSA Resolution 9.24 and its implications. Note that the Middletown Planning and Zoning Committee hearing has been rescheduled. This week, we are discussing the aforementioned as well as Middletown Remix, “An ongoing project in collaboration with Wesleyan University to engage the university and broader Middletown community in discovering, sharing, and repurposing the sounds around them.”

Spirit and Events

SEC planned out our projects for the semester. We decided that we are going to work on: a dance battle in Beckham, a Wesleyan themed amazing race style scavenger hunt, the Multicultural Show, and the Carnival. I am going to be meeting with Gretchen on Tuesday to discuss dates, locations, etc. for the events. We hope to have the dance battle and the scavenger hunt before spring break, leaving the other two for afterwards. After I talk to Gretchen, we will send out an email to all student group leaders asking about their interest in the show and carnival. We are all starting to write clues and think of locations and activities for the scavenger hunt. We think we are going to include Middletown a lot in the carnival thing, including vendors and inviting young families. Also, we are trying to figure out how we can create an incentive for hosting a booth, because student groups don’t really get anything out of it. So in general right now I am waiting to meet with Gretchen to really start putting things in motion.

Inclusion and Diversity

The Committee for Inclusion and Diversity (CID):

- Got approval for the Wesfest Forum. It’ll be happening on Thursday, April 18th at 4PM
- We had a follow-up discussion about our recommendations and prioritized them in order of both importance and practicality because this week we will be having meetings with the MEI Task Force as they prepare to send out a final set of recommendations to the Board of Trustees
- We put the finishing touches on our faculty panel, which is happening this Tuesday at 7PM in the DFC and will feature Sarah Mahurin (English/AFAM), Kehulani Kauanui (ANTH/AMST), Bob Steele (PSYC), and Manju Hingorani (MB&B). It's going to be a fantastic event!

The idea that Alton Wang ‘16, Kate Cullen ‘16, and Ellen Paik ‘16 had for the Social Justice Leadership Conference (SJLC) will now be incorporated into the closing session.
**Educational Policy Committee (EPC)**
Did not meet this week due to the snow.

**Minors**
Lily and Alex are working on an official petition to send to departments with requests for follow-up meetings with the department chair and interested students.

**Peer Advising**
Meetings and outreach have continued and will continue into next week. The committee is looking into the implementation of an online chat service similar to the one employed by the reference librarians.

**Advising Task Force**
Is meeting on Tuesday to discuss next steps and faculty reactions following the presentation of our report to the faculty.

**Summer Session**
Austin met with Sheryl Culotta to discuss ideas regarding the second part of the summer session including concerns about low enrollment levels and ideas for expanding the scope to appeal to more high school students who are interested in taking college credits over the summer.

**Student Forums**
Outreach is ongoing. Alex is working on finding if any professors would support the implementation of a graded model.
**Student Affairs Committee**

**Nicole Updegrove ’14, Chair**

**Undergraduate Residential Life Committee**
This week URLC discussed housing and GRS technology updates – the system now encompasses Copenhagen applications, among other things. Six-person clusters have been eliminated for this year. We are pleased to announce that no sophomores will have to live in Butterfield one-room doubles for the 2013-2014 school year!

Concerning GRS changes for this spring, we are discussing the concept of splitting and merging, the way in which registered groups change their size and composition. Splitting has been used (unfairly?) in the past to take advantage of housing bumps. More importantly, group changes make it hard for other groups to plan their strategy, since the number of groups ahead of them on the list may change. We will continue discussing at our next meeting on February 27th.

Additionally, SAC will be hosting a forum to discuss the role of RAs with the RAs themselves. More information soon.

**Fire Safety and Facilities Appeals Board**
Last week FSFAB had 11 appeals; the Board accepted 3 and denied the rest. Lily Donahue ’15 (chair) has identified problems with the SJB/FSFAB “double-jeopardy” that some students face after fire alarm pulls, fire extinguisher usage, and other issues; she will meet with Chris this week to discuss potential changes. Lily is also planning a meeting with Deb Holman to discuss facilities fines changes.

**Student Judicial Process Committee**
SJPC this week met to discuss the student satisfaction ratings from last semester, which were generally high in the categories of understanding the process, timeliness, fairness of sanction, and other categories. The SJB plans to do outreach this semester to freshman dorms to discuss noise violations, alcohol, and other common problems they’ve faced this year. Additionally, we discussed portions of the Code that need to be adjusted, including Harassment and Abuse and Disruptions. Thanks to new members Scott Elias ’14 and Jason Shatz ’14 for their contributions.

**Queer Task Force**
Ted Shabecoff ’16 is meeting with Vice President Manjon next week to discuss online resources for the LGBT community.

**Search Committees**
The Medical Director search committee had some very successful phone interviews next week with candidates who will hopefully come to campus for meetings with students. The Associate
Dean of Student Academic Resource search is nearing the end of phone interviews to determine candidates who should come to campus.

**Public Safety Advisory Committee**

PSAC did not meet this weekend, but at our next meeting they will discuss ways to address Public Safety interaction between students and all levels of organization, such as hosting a Public Safety/Police movie series with films such as Police Academy, for a day of the week during the Wesleyan Film Series, which was suggested at the Public Safety Review Committee. Additionally, PSAC will likely get a meal with the new Public Safety Officers as part of their training/hiring process to acclimate them with campus culture.

All current Public Safety officers have now gone through MEI and racial profiling training. Additionally, Dave Meyer plans on bringing Kevin Dillon to campus to host a required training on the use of force.

**Public Safety Review Committee:**

The Public Safety Review Committee convened this week in the first of a number of meetings scheduled to address concerns raised in the November 2012 Diversity forum. The committee recently added Gena Yoo, a co-chair of the Student Judicial Board. Additionally, another member will be recruited to replace Malik Ben-Salahuddin who no longer wishes to serve on the committee. The committee discussed the Public Safety Alerts and whether to include race as a category, and whether creating a standardized template for notifications would be less contentious than communication through prose. In particular the committee established a goal of distinguishing between the Cleary Act federal requirements and how we enact them on our campus. We discussed whether the goal of the alerts should be to notify students of an event or to get more information about incidents after they have happened, and noted that there is a difference between what information is useful for Public Safety/Police to gather, as opposed to what information should be disseminated to the Wesleyan Community. Additionally, the committee agreed that its goal will be to create an interim plan that the external audit will review. The University has agreed upon an external audit, Margolis Healy and Associates, LLC, a leading professional services firm specializing in campus safety, security, and regulatory compliance for higher education and K-12. Next meeting we will be addressing protocols and procedures that Dave Meyer will provide us with, how to create a better feedback mechanism to address Public Safety complaints, and how to improve Public Safety interactions.

Thanks to Scott Elias ’14 for these very thorough reports and for his work with Dave Meyer.
Finance and Facilities Committee (FiFaC)
Andrew Trexler ’14, Chair

Finance and Facilities Committee
Andrew Trexler, Chair

New Member!

The Finance and Facilities Committee (FiFaC) has appointed its final member, Mary Diaz ’14, to the Committee! We look forward to her contributions this semester. Thanks to the Appointments Committee and to all the great applicants!

Bookstore Delivery

Unbeknownst to just about everybody, you can, in fact, order you textbooks from Broad Street Books and have them delivered to your address for the slim price of $7.50 additional.

Business Continuity Committee

The Business Continuity Committee (BCC) met recently; I was, however, unaware of this as the Chair of the BCC unexpectedly left the University and the new Chair (Dave Meyer of Public Safety) was unaware that I am a member. I am working to get this resolved, and presumably BCC will meet again soon to discuss University performance during Winter Storm Nemo.

Committee for Investor Responsibility

The Committee for Investor Responsibility (CIR) is hard at work constructing several documents, including a How-To guide for filing shareholder resolutions and two proposals for new community investment opportunities (one with opportunities outside Connecticut, one with more local banks). Additionally, the CIR may have an opportunity to shift a large sum in the General Operating Account to a money-market with a socially responsible bank.

Co-Generation Facility

The proposed co-generation facility at Freeman Athletic Center is going forward as the engine has been ordered. Despite some opposition (particularly from students), the loose consensus of the Sustainability Advisory Group for Environmental Stewardship (SAGES) was to let the project go forward.

Dining Committee

The Dining Committee met for the first time this semester and discussed the long lines produced by this semester’s schedule tempo and possibilities for Winter Break dining. To relieve long lines at Usdan, Usdan staff (and the Dining Committee) will make greater efforts to advertise Summerfields as a lunch possibility. To relieve lack of seating, Usdan will also create signage encouraging diners to make use of the tables in the Usdan basement and the Multi-Purpose Room (B25) when available. Fire Code, unfortunately, forbids putting more tables and chairs in any of the second floor or first floor areas.

Michelle Myers-Brown and Michael Strumpf will begin conversations with Nate Peters about Winter Break dining plan possibilities. Having Weshop open a few hours each day would
have relatively minimal staff and facilities costs, and seems to be the most viable option. Bon Appetit will also be examining the data produced this summer as we experiment with a new Summer Session dining plan.

Sam Usdan ’15 will be writing a post on the Assembly blog about halal dining options, emphasizing the prepared halal packages available at Weshop. Angus McLean ’16 will continue his work toward obtaining a microphone for both Summerfields and Usdan (for Late Night). The Dining Committee will be meeting again next week to return to conversations about increasing weekend breakfast options via Summerfields next year.

Facilities

Facilities staff and contractors worked extraordinarily hard over the weekend to clear snow from Winter Storm Nemo. If you see any of them, say thanks.

Usdan is in the process of installing a half dozen phone charging stations throughout the building. These may be particularly handy if we have any power outages in the future, as the Usdan is the third building to come online under emergency power. Look for these soon.

Green Revolving Fund

FiFaC has agreed with the Wesleyan Consulting Group that it would be best to retain the Green Fund as separate from a Green Revolving Fund if possible. The Revolving Fund’s structure, then, would be more integrated with staff and faculty advisors but maintain a student majority, if possible. To avoid donation cannibalism, the Revolving Fund would have both a cap and a pledge requirement that any donation to the Revolving Fund would need to be matched (partially, wholly, doubled, trebled, or anywhere in between) with a donation to either Financial Aid directly or the endowment. FiFaC will be bringing this proposal to University Relations and other stakeholders soon.

Transportation

The new Transportation subcommittee of FiFaC and SAGES will be co-chaired by Dave Hall of Facilities and me. We will be meeting next week to determine the rest of the structure and mission. In the meantime, Facilities needs to expand its fleet of trades vehicles by four and will be doing so by hybrid vehicles only. Bill Nelligan and Jen Kleindienst are leading the search for possibilities.

Sustainability

SAGES is hosting a “think-tank” discussion on campus heating and temperature control next Wednesday from 4-5pm in Usdan 110. Please attend if interested!

Angus McLean ’16 and I are working on a social-norming campaign to reduce unnecessary elevator use, as this accounts for many of our spikes in energy consumption and often causes to buy energy on the grid rather than simply using our locally co-generated energy.

FiFaC Frivolous Fact of the Week

The cat is the only animal in the world history to have domesticated itself. Approximately 5000 years ago, a group of wild cats wandered into a village in what is today’s Syria and settled. All modern-day domestic cats are descended from these ancient lazy animals.
Member Of The Week: Lily Herman

Lily compiled and sorted over 400 responses from the minors survey, starting working on the proper strategy to use the responses to best convince departments and set up a number of meetings to try to revamp the Peer Advisor system. “Pretty impressive stuff.”

WSA-Career Center Committee
Thank you to Jason, Grant, Zach, Trexler, Chloe, and Martin for attending the forums with the Career Center director finalists this week and last. We strongly preferred one of the candidates and will be submitting our final recommendations to University Relations soon. If you attended any of the sessions and would like to provide your feedback please talk to Zach or me.
Wayne is compiling a document with recommendations for the Career Center including an online appointment scheduling system, pre and post appointment information forms and single sign-on. Thank you to Lily H. and Trexler for coming to our OEAC meeting and sharing their CC suggestions.

**Social Media**
Check out Martin’s blog on using the Career Center on the WSA website!

**Constitutional Review**
OEAC will begin reviewing the constitutions and bylaws during our meeting next week. We will be meeting with committees during the first three weeks in April, but contact Grant if you need to set up an individual meeting.

**Publicity**
Lots of events are happening among subcommittees and standing committees, remember to use this [form](#) to get OEAC to publicize your event.

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**Technology (ITC)**

*Grant Tanenbaum ’15, Chair*

**Student Group Resources**
Alton Wang ’16, in addition to his regular heroic WordPress efforts, will be revamping the series of pages we have devoted for student groups to access resources and combining them into a single page.

**Writing Workshop**
Erik Islo ’15 is meeting with Anne Greene of the Writing Workshop to create online resources for students to get help with their writing.

**Collegiate Link**
The Chair is in talks with the CIO Dave Baird to procure funding for Collegiate Link
This Week the SBC Funded $11,504 to Student Groups across campus.