President’s Report
Zach Malter ’13, WSA President

This was another great week for WSA. There is great momentum heading into spring break.

For the first time last week, the WSA held a conversation directly related to a board of trustees resolution, namely on tuition. Student representatives took these conversations into account, and we will continue to do get input from the assembly before all future board meeting. Votes were taken and recorded for all items. For the next board meeting, I am hoping to present a resolution or agenda item from the WSA. If you have any ideas for either, please let me know.

Budget Sustainability Task Force - The budget sustainability task force will be working on a draft of our final recommendations over spring break. We will be holding meetings and events after spring break to fine tune those recommendations so that they can be submitted for the May Board meeting.

Role of RAs - Mari and I are working together to supplement SACs great work and home in on the particular issue of RAs as enforcers. Using research conducted by Kate and Nicole, we will be reaching out to peer schools that use a non-enforcement RA model (I’m talking to Williams folks tomorrow), and we are also talking with current and former RAs. More updates on that are forthcoming.

WesMiles - Sam made some progress this week on WesMiles and we are reaching out to airlines to discuss ways to scale up the program.

Arts spaces - I am reaching out to arts student groups to get their testimonials about why they need more spaces, so that I can formulate a proposal to the Dean of Arts and Humanities.

Based on comments I’ve heard, I am interested in holding conversations on race and/or socio-economic status as it relates to the WSA. I will be reaching out to various campus leaders before holding open meetings. Please let me know your thoughts about this.
This week’s COCO meeting focused primarily on advising individual/subcommittee projects rather than taking to many overarching issues.

**CollegiateLink.** We may have finally overcome the barriers to entering CollegiateLink financially, but continue to hit walls in terms of some of their budget tools. We may finally have finalized funding and are setting up meetings about the finance/budgeting side.

**Online Resources.** Alton mocked up the page and its ready pending cooperation from ITS Administrative Services and/or the WSA Office. It’ll be in effect soon!

**Student Group Handbook.** Ellen?

**Student Group Registration.** There are currently 288 active registered student groups. We are discussing how late student group registration should go for and general reforms of the student group recognition process.

**Wes-to-Wes.** Ellen Paik ’16 and Chloe Murtagh ’16 presented to the Board of Trustees and their guests on Friday night! They are moving forward with a website and tee-shirts.

**Spirit and Events**
Yesterday, the Spirit and Events Committee (SEC) hosted a very successful *The Amazing Race: Wesleyan Edition!* Thirteen teams participated, making for 52 people. The winning team will receive a grand prize of $100 and other teams who finished the competition should be receiving consolation prizes. Kudos to SEC members for their great work--the committee met twice this week! Thank you to Bruno Machiavelo ‘16 for his help.

Outside of the main SEC operation, Glenn Cantave ‘15 is looking into bringing back the *Cardinal Night on Main* for later this spring. Glenn will be doing research over Spring Break on the topic. We are also considering planning *Movie Night on Foss* for next fall.

**Inclusion and Diversity**
This week on the Committee for Inclusion and Diversity (CID), we followed up on the MEI recommendations and planned out our work over Spring Break. Kelsey Henry ’15 is going to be planning an event related to disability rights on campus in addition to brainstorming to include our work in Take Back the Night. Mike Greenwald ’16 and Christian Hosam ’15 are going to be following up with the work of the Public Safety Review Committee, Aissa Gueye ’15 is going to take the lead on our Wesfest forum, Prince Carter ’14 is going to be doing work with Jacob, Christian and SEC on the Multicultural show and Glenn Cantave ’15 is going to be brainstorming ways to assist SAC with judicial reform. Lot of work to be done!

Syed met with Sonia Manjon for two hours on Thursday so that we could give updates on each others work among other things. We are institutionalizing a biweekly meeting between the COCo Chair and VP of Institutional Partnerships/Chief Diversity Officer similar to the structure currently in place between the SAC Chair and the VP of Student Affairs.
Middletown Relations
Youth Services Bureau

- Danila gave us a recap of the YSB meeting he went to on Tuesday and is going to follow up with the Chair about a potential Wesleyan-Middletown mentor program idea they discussed (CC Gabriela, Elita and Adam on that email thread, and please and forward us the meeting notes / agenda)
- Another idea we had was trying to organize a "super Saturday" or some other type of event where tutees of the various Wesleyan administered programs would come to Wes to hang out with their tutors on campus for a bit. They could go to the WESU station, to a sports game, anything! Elita, want to take this task up? (i.e. finding out if it already happens and if it doesn't trying to implement it?)

Sports Mentorship Program with High School

- Pat and Glenn: try follow up with the person you already email and contacting a couple other people as well
- Maeve: please ask Cathy if sports mentorship programs already exist now. Maybe also ask her about programs such as the one mentioned above (i.e. having middleschoolers come here for a bit)

Multicultural Show

- Jacob is waiting on an EMS request to get Crowell reserved for the evening of April 26th. Potential Middletown contacts are:
  - Pamela Tatge at the CFA
  - The Buttonwood Tree could give you some advice on the local music scene!
  - Mr. Romeo at MacDonough school if you want young kids (ask Elita for his contact info)
  - Italian Radio show guy (ask Adam for his contact info)

WESU concert series (open to Middletown residents)

- WESU had a concert in the Chapel this past Friday, where 1/3 to 1/2 of the attendees were Middletown residents! Adam: keep us posted on the next one!

Middletown Student Group Summit!!

- We are going to contact relevant student groups in the next week about a potential student group summit that will happen right after break, maybe send a doodle along with it to determine what date works best for them.
- Adam is going to set up a GoogleGroup and contact the relevant group leaders once he write a draft email that he will send by us first (will send you the student group names in another email shortly). Don't forget: Elita is down to help you with all that!

Meeting with Jim Khubat of WCC about internship program in City Hall

- Jim Khubat firmly supports the idea of having a Wesleyan-City Hall internship program and gave Gabriela all the relevant info to get that started. She sent that info on to the Deputy Mayor and the Mayor's Chief of Staff and is waiting to hear back from them.

MidWes met on Thursday with John Meerts, who is taking the lead on the administration’s investigation into bettering Middletown Relations (post-Diversity Forum). We discussed ideas that could get us on the same page in terms of middletown relations. There was an emphasis on using athletic activities as a medium to connect the high school with the university.
Academic Affairs Committee
Sam Ebb ’13, Chair

Educational Policy Committee (EPC)
Did not meet this week. More to come next week (along with hopefully a new academic calendar).

Study Spaces
We have found out that the 24-hour study space has been used (aka someone has scanned their card to get in) 3461 times since December by 752 individual students and 26 faculty and staff. That is a huge number and we will continue to work on ways to further improve study-space concerns throughout the remainder of the semester. Austin is working on talking to building managers to see what we can advertise as available and if there are possibilities to extend hours slightly for certain buildings during the finals period.

AAC-IT
Jesse talked to Anna van der Burg, the Registrar, about the suggestions that the committee came up with last week for linking from WesMaps to the syllabus library and opening Moodle to the general campus community for drop-add. Those have been, “added to the ITS project list.”

Minors
Meetings will begin this upcoming week. Music will happen on Monday, Classics on Wednesday and talk to Alex and Lily for more info about other departments and times!

Peer Advising
Lily is working on meeting with Scott Backer to discuss the committees ideas on the Peer Advisor program. She will have an update on his views soon.

Advising Videos
Are happening! April 5th in my living room, AAC will be cooperating with the New Media Lab to create videos from a panel discussion and 1:1 interviews/monologues about what makes good advising. We will also work on culling information from the session to see if we can make an informational video for students as well about what to expect from their advisors. We will be doing a dry run/talk through session the week before for which I will buy people pizza (or something like that). Interested parties let me know. I’m trying to get some non-WSA folks to join the endeavor too so tell your friends (all of them).

Advising Task Force
Is meeting on Wednesday. There are high hopes.
Student Affairs Committee
Nicole Updegrove ’14, Chair

Undergraduate Residential Life Committee
This week, URLC continued discussing splitting and merging - the root of the question is as follows: Who should get "bad" housing? Should it be entirely lottery-based, or should bureaucratic walls increase equity of housing? This discussion will be finalized next week. Please give your ideas about GRS as well as about how to make Hewitt more appealing to juniors.

Public Safety Review Committee
Race has been dropped as the key descriptor from Public Safety alerts, the new list for all descriptors for internal use has been finalized, and the proposal has been sent to the desk of Dave Winakor to determine whether we can upload the actual Public Safety policies/procedures to the Public Safety website (as most PSRC members agree that they should). Thanks to Scott Elias ’14 for his work! Great victories on this front.

Student Judicial Process Committee
- Upcoming talk on the role of activism in the context of the disruptions policy.
- Regulation 2: Harrassment and Abuse being revised to take out intencionality - sometimes, people are inadvertently punched in the face, and that’s still abuse. We will, however, widen the point range.
- Privacy and Tranquility will be renamed Disturbance of the Peace and Tranquility; removed intentionality language, slight new phrasing.

Search Committees
Committees interviewed two interesting external candidates as well as one internal candidate each for the Medical Director and Associate Dean of Student Academic Resources positions last week. There are two more Associate Dean candidates next week; hopefully by our next meeting I can tell you about the choices! Thank you to Kate Cullen ’16, Bruno Machiavelo ’16, and Jason Shatz ’14 for stepping up to interview the medical director candidates, and Christian Hosam ’14 for being on the Associate Dean student panel.

Student Health Advisory Committee
Kate Cullen ’16 emailed the Assembly about five of your best ideas that she’s working on implementing with the health center. Hooray for follow-through!

SAC - If I’ve forgotten anything, please chime in!

Upcoming Work
Planning RA forum next week (including contacting co-hosts)
GRS decisions
Tour de "Egg on Face"
J-Term
International Student Outreach
Finance and Facilities Committee (FiFaC)
Andrew Trexler ’14, Chair

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Budget Priorities Committee
The Budget Priorities Committee met again to discuss new money requests, and made some additional, grinding progress. See last week’s report for additional details.

Campus Climate Log Committee
The Campus Climate Log Committee met to discuss several new postings to the Log, as well as some outstanding dissemination issues. Much of the conversation centered on all-campus emails communications. Some members felt that these should be avoided to prevent “diversity fatigue,” while others felt that this was a crucial piece of expanding the Log’s presence and pushing the community to recognize the very real and continued relevance of these issues to our campus community.

Committee for Investor Responsibility
Forthcoming.

Financial Aid
The Financial Aid Committee met recently, and has established clear goals for support programs for first generation college students at Wesleyan. Sisi Miteva ’15 and Chase Knowles ’16 will outline these at General Assembly.

Fossil Fuel Divestment
Angus McLean ’16 is gathering student support for a divestment campaign, encouraging the University to divest any direct holdings in top fossil fuel extraction enterprises. He has formed an action plan for the remainder of the semester and is currently working on actualizing the plan.

Green Fund
The Green Fund, under the direction of Adam Brudnick ’13, continues to allocate funds for green projects. Most recently, the Committee funded a group for the establishment of an environmentally friendly t-shirt printing capability for the campus and another group for the Washington protest on the Keystone XL pipeline. Conversations with the Farm at Long Lane about expansions are ongoing. The Green Fund is working with Grant Tanenbaum ’15 to re-design their website.

Planning and Zoning Commission
The Middletown Planning and Zoning Commission held its public hearing on the proposed zoning text amendments for MX zones in Washington Street and South Main Street
areas. After a nearly 90 minute presentation from Centerplan’s legal representatives, the Commission heard statements for and against the proposal from the public. At this time, Resolution 8.34 was read into the record.

**Sustainability**

The Sustainability sector has been very active. I had an extremely productive meeting with Bill Nelligan and Peter Staye regarding electric vehicle charging stations on campus. Our installation at Freeman Athletic Center can support up to four more stations for very little additional infrastructural costs, and this may encourage more faculty to purchase a plug-in for their next vehicle purchase (several have already called for information in this regard). Additionally, we have identified Admissions (parking Lot E) as a possible location for a separate charging station. At the suggestion of Chloe Murtagh ’15, I will be looking for potential commercial partnerships with EV companies to reduce installation and maintenance costs.

Sam Usdan ’15 is continuing his work with solar paneling of dorms. The current step is to identify a company and have them do a site check and present their opinions on viability.

Angus McLean ’16 and I are working to eliminate unnecessary use of elevators (going to class, etc.). Angus has designed some signage and is researching materials; I will be working with Facilities on installation once this phase is complete.

Drawing upon the excellent work of the Wesleyan Consulting Group, I will be meeting with Barbara-Jan Wilson of University Relations immediately following break to present a detailed plan for a Green Revolving Fund.

**Transportation**

The Transportation Committee (now as a subcommittee of SAGES) will be meeting, at long last, late this coming week. This meeting will be to review the status ongoing initiatives and to set goals for the remainder of the semester.

The deadline for reserving shuttle tickets for Boston and New York is this Wednesday. Please encourage any of your peers that intend to purchase a ticket to do so soon. I have already identified a bus monitor for each bus, so sadly you cannot offer them any free rides.

Mary Diaz ’14 and Sam Usdan ’15 are continuing their work on Transportation projects.

**FiFaC Frivolous Fact of the Week**

Members of the fascist party in Turkey greet each other via head-butting.
Members of the Week -- CollegiateLink Theme Week

Nicki Softness ‘14 has come back to the WSA harder than ever, killin’ it on CollegiateLink research. Nicki has been in contact via email and telephone with more colleges than I can ever remember, inquiring about the impact that the service has on their campuses. We have been looking especially at the budgeting features lately, and it has been extremely helpful to have a member of the Student Budget Committee (SBC) on board. Softness plays hard.

Grant Tanenbaum ‘15 has also been bending over backwards to make CollegiateLink a reality and the help from the information technology side has been incredibly helpful. As a former Chair of the Information Technology Committee (ITC), I can say that Grant's been killin’ it all year in the position. Much of what we started working on last year has become a reality this year under Grant's guidance. He's gone above and beyond with other projects as well. TanenBAM!

WSA-Career Center Committee
The new director of the Career Center was chosen last week: Sharon Belden Castonguay. She was the first choice candidate of the WSA members who attended the interviews and we are
thrilled with the decision. Sharon will begin in mid-May and we hope to work closely with her to improve the Career Center.

We completed the recommendation for the Career Center and after presenting them by GA for any changes or new proposals we will bring them to the Career Center.

**WSA-Admissions Committee**
The WSA-Admissions Committee met this week. Dean Nancy Meislahn and Associate Dean Jillian Baird-Burnett presented on the admissions process, including the criteria that are used to assess applications and a sample “workcard” that is completed for every applicant. One fact we were not aware of is that whether or not an applicant is applying for financial aid is included on the top right corner of the workcard. The Admissions staff insisted that was not factored into considerations and is merely on the workcard for organizational purposes. The WSA members suggested removing it when the application process moves entirely online next year, something we will continue to push for.

We also discuss institutional priorities in the admissions process, some of which include a gender balance, doubling the international student population by 2020, the recent increase in students pursuing the natural sciences, as well as racial and socioeconomic diversity. As it stands these priorities are mostly determined through administrative decisions or proposals from departments (the sciences) or student groups (debate, chess club). We suggested making the process of determining institutional priorities in the admissions process more open and transparent and plan on proposing a clear process involving students and faculty.

**Surveying**
Lily Herman met with Michael Whitcomb of Institutional Research and got some great feedback on how the WSA can improve its polling. He suggested ways in which we can be neutral in our survey questions, solicit more responses by sending surveys from personal email addresses and offered to help out with future surveys.

**Technology (ITC)**
*Grant Tanenbaum ‘15, Chair*

**CollegiateLink**: There is news. It is good. Rejoice.

**Writing Center**
Moving forward. We will look into online office hours via google+ or tiny chat as well as providing resources for multimedia projects in addition to the writing services they already provide.

**WesMaps**
See AAC’s awesomeness
Post Office
Happening (finally). Will be implemented for all WesBoxes in the 2013-2014 academic year.

Group Resources
From the venerable Alton Wang ‘16: “I have created a new form for student groups to create that I will publish really soon (like later today). That page will be able to be found at wsa.wesleyan.edu/groups/online. Student groups can now go to that one page to apply for a blog/site, an email, and Listserv. I'm now working on trying to figure out how ITS can verify if a group is registered with COCo.”
This week the SBC allocated $18,501 to student groups across campus.