Executive Report
President: Nicole Updegrove ’14
Vice President: Andrew Trexler ’14

Executive Committee
This week in Executive Committee, we discussed last week’s General Assembly (which we generally thought went well). We would like to remind everyone that if a conversation doesn’t seem right for stack, any member can motion to use a moderated caucus format. We would also like to thank everyone for the positive tone in the face of criticism, and if anyone has follow-up thoughts about that conversation, please voice them. As we do every week, we also planned the agenda for this Sunday, which will be long - hang in there, guys. The Constitution and By-Laws are also finished and have been sent out for review - thanks to Grant Tanenbaum ‘15 for all his work over the summer.

Financial Aid Donation
Andrew presented a memorandum to President Roth on Wednesday regarding the creation of a new fund which would accrue through donations overall increases to the financial aid budget above the currently budgeted cap. President Roth was not initially receptive but the negotiations led to a compromise solution of targeting such a fund at GOLD alumni (Graduates of the Last Decade). President Roth is bringing the idea to University Relations and will hopefully have good news by next week.

Resolutions
There are a huge number of Resolutions coming to General Assembly this week, most of which Nicole had a hand in. (Andrew or) Nicole will be leading an introduction on writing resolutions on Sunday at 6:30 PM, and Nicole would be happy to help anyone on or off of the WSA with writing resolutions at any point.

To that end, please educated yourself on the issues that Wesleyan’s custodians have been experiencing related to their contract with Sun Services this weekend in anticipation of a Resolution being brought forward by the United Student Labor Action Coalition (USLAC) for
Open Forum this week.

**Privilege talks**

The schedule for the Privilege and Policy fora is as follows…

Thursday, 10/10 - DFC - *Class*
Monday, 10/14 - Allb311 - *Ability*
Thursday, 10/24 - Malcolm X House - *Race*
Monday, 10/28 - Allb311 - *Culture, ethnicity, religion*
Thursday, 11/7 - Fauver Res - *Sex, Gender, and Relationships*

Nicole is working to pull together about three facilitators for each one - if you have input on who might do a good job leading discussion, presenting ideas, and maintaining community standards around each of these issues, please let her know!

**Appointments**

The Appointments Committee performed 31 candidate interviews by Saturday evening - all that without an administrative assistant. Congratulations to Patrick Keogh ’14, Amarachi Asonye ’16, and Isabel Linzer ’17 as the new members of SBC, and to Richard Fessler ’15 as the new member of SAC. A big thank you to Nicki Softness ’14, Jacob Musinsky ’15, Kate Cullen ’16, and Alton Wang ’16 for all of their help with the process, and of course a big thank you to all of the fantastic candidates.

**Out of Context Quote of the Week**

“It’s okay to be crazy, because students aren’t watching” -- President Roth.
Academic Affairs Committee (AAC)
Chair: Grant Tanenbaum ‘15

Library
AAC met with Wesleyan Librarian Pat Tully to discuss the weeding project, the Art Library move, new initiatives, and the website.

❖ Science Library
➢ The library will be looking into moving the remaining bookshelves on the first of SciLi to another area to make more rooms for collaborative spaces.
➢ The library will be investigating adding more tables, chairs, and lamps to the 24-hour study space.

❖ Olin/Art Library
➢ Olin is preparing to receive the volumes from the Art Library this summer by creating an open section of the library using space from the Weeding Project.
➢ The new Art Section will receive extra-large tables and more reading spaces.

❖ Collaborative Spaces
➢ The library is focusing this year on creating additional collaborative spaces in their facilities.
➢ Examples include desks used at NASA:

/Help
AAC is working with the New Media Lab to build a new website that houses references to every academic resource on campus. Examples include: peer advising, peer tutors, process advisors, reference librarians, registrar hotline, etc…. Administrators from Student and Academic Affairs have said they support this new hub.
Peer Advising
The Chair and Lily Herman ‘16 met with the new Associate Dean for Student Academic Resources, Dean Patey to discuss the Peer Advising program.

❖ We discussed which methods aren’t working as well for Peer Advisers as they could, including assigning PA’s by dorm and the workshops they hold.

❖ We offered a few suggestions that Dean Patey was receptive to:
  ➢ Listing Peer Advisers majors so they can offer more insight into department-specific regulations
  ➢ Offering online office hours similar to the reference librarians for quick questions
  ➢ Offering video lessons on frequently asked questions
Community Committee (CoCo)
Chair: Alton Wang ’16

Student Group Recognition Meetings
Through a series of meetings Tuesday and Friday afternoons, CoCo approved over twenty (22) student groups this week! We’re at about 230 registered and approved student groups right now. (Interesting note: At this General Assembly meeting last year, we also had 230 registered student groups.)

CID and MidWes Appointments
Appointments for CID and MidWes took place this week, and these two committees will be formed and will convene shortly. Once they convene, they will formulate the direction they’ll take this year and plan out what they aim to do.

CID
Mike Greenwald
Kristie Cruz
Isis Chen
Sam Lieva
Eva Ravenal
Bulelani Jili

MidWes
Rosy Capron
Philip Lawler
Ben Florsheim
Aidan Berkey
Alexandra Bacchus
Kate Suslovic

Student Group Outreach
Will be talking and working with OEAC to further flesh out how we can better reach out to student groups and student group leaders, as well as how to better disseminate information and have them voice their concerns.

Student Group of the Week
Body Fruit. Their mission: “We hope to educate and be educated by greater communities about the products we use everyday and to recreate them in a naturally sustainable way. You should be able to eat anything you put on your body, and through blogs, videos, workshops and outreach, we plan to prove it.”
Organization and External Affairs Committee (OEAC)
Chair: Jacob Musinsky ’15, Coordinator

This week, OEAC met for lunch on Wednesday to try out a new meeting time. The time worked well for everyone and might become our set meeting time (12:30-1:30, location TBD). We had lots to discuss in response to the issues raised with the WSA’s outreach as expressed by LaNell Williams ’15 and Jalen Alexander ’14 during Open Forum of this week’s General Assembly. We thank them for attending and expressing their concerns.

General Assembly
The Committee of the Week this week is X! Members of X will be responsible for set-up and breakdown of the room. One member of X should also volunteer to take minutes.

Outreach
OEAC plans to really increase the amount of WSA outreach done throughout the year. Our next steps are as follows:

- We plan to establish a weekly newsletter. We are working on ideas right now and hope to institute the official newsletter by GA next week (10/13/13). The newsletter will be sent to the entire campus through email, and each week, WSA members will post copies in the bathroom stalls of an area of campus (dorms, academic buildings, Usdan, etc.). We hope that this will allow the newsletter to reach more students, so that many students will know exactly what the WSA is working on at any given time. We also hope to post a YouTube video expelling information about the WSA in place of a newsletter about once a month. Finally, we hope to potentially place copies of the newsletter in student group leader’s mailboxes so they may disseminate information to their groups.
  - Within the newsletter we want to mention: what’s going on in GA, what happened last week in GA, big projects being worked on, invitations to big events sponsored or supported by the WSA, contact information, and a sincere request to please contact us if you are working on a project similar to ours or are knowledgeable on a topic we are working on.
  - We also hope to have space for advertisement for student groups and links outwards to the Tumblr or blog so people can read more on projects they are interested in.

- Ben, Lily, Alton, and I are working on a space for student group leaders to come and talk to the WSA about what we are currently working on and to ask them for advice. We hope to do this to ensure that the students feel informed and represented at all times. If you would like to work on this project with us, we will be meeting for lunch next week. Email me if you would like to get involved.
• We also discussed other social media outlets for outreach. The YouTube and Tumblr pages are LIVE! The Tumblr page (wesleyanstudentassembly.tumblr.com) will be tied to the blog and will also feature topics such as “Get to know X Committee/WSA Member”. This week we will start with AAC, the Committee of the Week.
  ○ Furthermore, please send your Tweets to me! If you have anything you would like to be posted on the WSA Twitter account (such as an interesting article, or sentence or two about a project you are working on), send it my way and I will post it.

• Furthermore, we plan on inviting student group leaders personally to attend General Assembly when we are discussing an issue that is relevant to their work. This will begin this week for our discussion on our Resolution about fossil fuels divestment.

• Finally, to continue with the tradition for last year. We will be setting up a tabling event for the Freshmen representatives in Usdan. They will have reps at the table during lunch hours on Friday, October 11, to introduce themselves and ask about important issues. A tab

**WSA+Office Bonding**
We will be hosting a WSA Olympics event not this weekend but the following. It will consist of various events and one committee (or the office workers) will reign supreme! OEAC will be planning this, so if you want to get involved because you have good ideas about games, etc. please email me!
Student Affairs Committee (SAC)
Chair: Kate Cullen ‘16

Welcome to our new member, Richard Fessler ‘15! Congrats on getting through the appointments process and we’re all excited to have you on the SAC team.

SAC had a productive week, jumping into our respective sub-committees and projects. Great work this week everyone!

Fire Safety and Facilities Appeals Board
Julio Angel ‘16 has been doing great work this week getting the committee started. The Board, including Lily Herman ‘16 (our incredible temporary member) and Victor Zhao ‘17, met for three hours on Friday to get through all the summer appeals. Julio also met with Chris Cruz to talk about the ongoing list of Fire Safety and Facilities inspections reforms that the WSA has helped produce. If you have more questions or want to get involved in the reforms process, email Julio!

Residential Life
URLC met for the first time this week. We set our agenda for the year, got to know each other, went over the new technology used for first year room assignments this year, and talked about freshman orientation. Chris Caines ‘16, Bruno Machiavelo ‘16, and Martin Malabanan ‘16 voiced almost all of the points that were brought up in GA last week. Fran agreed to incorporate many of those changes into next year’s orientation.

An idea has also come up to change the placement of RAs in WestCo so that only RAs that apply to work in WestCo are put in WestCo. Residents of WestCo have expressed concerns that the community feel of the dorm is compromised when the RAs don’t agree with the mission. We will move forward by bringing this up with Fran and URLC.

Public Safety and SJPB
Public Safety Review Committee and the Student Judicial Policy Committee are in the process of being formed. SAC members are set, but I’m working with Scott Backer now to fill the rest of the spots and set an agenda. I’ll keep you posted!

Student Health and Drinking
SAC talked this week about ways to improve UCAB programs, including changing the time and developing more engaging and unique programs. We also talked about the hiring of a new Alcohol Edu program and if one-on-one meetings with a health center officer would be more effective. Victor Zhao ‘17 brought up the idea of a student led video where upperclassmen would talk about their experience navigating drinking culture and how they have learned to make
healthy decisions.

**Student Budget Committee (SBC)**
*Chair: Nicki Softness ‘14*

This week, the SBC funded some more groups.

![Table of funded groups](image)

**New people**
We are very excited to have our new members this week. As fun as it was feeling incomplete and lonely, it was definitely time to complete our group. Thanks to a great appointments team (Andrew Trexler and Jacob Musinsky) and the GREAT candidates who have joined our SBC family:

- **Amarachi C Asonye ’16**
- **Patrick D Keogh ’14**
- **Isabel A Linzer ‘17**

**New things**
New exciting things: there is a new page on the WSA website, where we will post the list of student groups each Monday and track our movements via the website. This way, students don’t have to hang around outside the SBC room waiting their turn. Technology is fun, and thanks Alton for setting it up. Under the tab ‘student groups’, you’ll find a tab called “SBC Meeting Updates.” We’re hoping for some happy student group waitees.

http://wsa.wesleyan.edu/groups/

- Endowment
  We put $26,303.60 into the equities side of the endowment. This comes from the surplus from last year, and some funds we found that were sitting in external bank accounts receiving mysterious deposits.

Green Fund
Green Fund interviewed five candidates, and chose a fantastic candidate, Keren Reichler ’15, who spent a year living on an ecological permaculture farm in Israel learning how to recycle and live environmentally cleanly. Welcome, Keren!

Spring Fling
Spring Fling chose its members as well this week. Welcome to:
Evan Low ’14, Brockton Barritt ’14, Jacob Musinsky ’15, Eric Lopez ’15, Oscar Parajon ’16, John Burgess ’16, Lynn Ma ’16, Gabriella Giangola ’17, Isabella FitzGerald Harewood ’17

A common theme in budget requests this week:
Sustainability, Finance, and Facilities Committee (SuFFaC)
Chair: Justin Gitlin ’15

Student Accounts Resolution from last week
The resolution we passed last week was sent to the Student Accounts Office. After sitting down with Karen Hook, it came to light that the perceived issue centered around a misconception on the part of the tech store in Usdan—which can likely be chalked up to some sort of miscommunication between them and the Student Accounts Office. As it turns out, the Student Accounts Office had enacted a policy a few years back after conducting a study which demonstrated that the vast amount of academics-related purchases at the tech store occurred during the first month of each semester. After such time, most of the purchases were just students finding cool gadgets in the store and charging them to their student accounts.

As a result, the Student Accounts Office implemented a policy whereby after the first month of each semester, a student could not charge $100 to their student account without first consulting their office. The effort was not intended to mitigate the amount of unpaid debt eaten by the University, but rather to encourage responsible spending from students so as to ensure that students did not rack up excessive, irresponsible charges that would put them in financial binds.

The Student Accounts Office reports that since its implementation a few years ago, they have only seen ~10 students who have sought to exceed the spending limit. According to Karen Hook, these meetings have preventing students from racking up gratuitous amounts of debt. An example of this would be that Karen saw a student last year who wanted to purchase 4 mini iPads, and was able to talk the student out of said purchase.

The disconnect occurred as a result of a miscommunication with the tech store. Earlier this year, the Student Accounts Office contacted the tech store asking that they distribute a message to notify students of this policy. Unaware that this policy had already existed, and unaware of the intention and effects of the policy, the tech store contacted the WSA about the potential detriments.

Transportation Committee
- We are working with the Box Office to fill University-run shuttles to and from New York (Penn Station), New York (Grand Central Station), New Haven, Bradley International Airport and Boston.
- We are still searching for one more person to serve as a Monitor for the shuttle to and from Grand Central Station. This person would get the price of their ticket reduced significantly upon their commitment to take attendance on the shuttle. If you know anybody who would like to do this, please let me know.

Sustainability Task Force
Though the logistics and objectives of the Sustainability Task Force are still in the works, we hope to primarily serve as a liaison between the WSA and environmental groups on campus. We intend to keep the WSA updated with "green" initiatives on campus (including Green Fund activities) and also serve as a resource to environmental groups that may want to work with the WSA on a project. We would also hope
to help streamline environmental projects and make sure that environmental groups work together instead of doing redundant work.

**Quote of the week:**
“The world doesn’t revolve around me.” --Ellen Paik ’16, an existential revelation which is bound to alter all of our world views and senses of self.