Executive Report

President: Nicole Updegrove ‘14
Vice President: Andrew Trexler ‘14

The Executive Committee met this week in the Van Vleck Observatory library. Each week, EC discusses the previous week’s General Assembly meeting, upcoming agenda items, cross-committee work, the Office, and brief committee reports. This week we talked about retention, a resolution (to be discussed at today’s meeting), and plans for the Board of Trustees Retreat.

Privilege and Policy

This week I met with Elisa Cardona, Director of SALD, to make plans for the Privilege and Policy series to be held in October. There are now five fora planned, each in the format of Privilege, _____, and Policy at Wesleyan. The five blanks will be filled in with the following foci: Race; Class; Sex, Gender, and Relationships; Ability; and Culture, Religion, and Ethnicity. I am working to identify students who could facilitate each of the fora, and to develop structures for the conversation to maximize their productivity. If you have recommendations, please talk to me!

Board of Trustees

The themes of this weekend’s Board of Trustees Retreat were diversity, equity, and inclusion in the contexts of admission, campus learning, and alumni engagement. The group did not settle on shared definitions, strategies, or visions for what directions Wesleyan will move in coming years, but rather set the tone for ongoing discussions for the rest of the year.

One poignant question from a trustee concerned priorities - how important is increasing diversity, equity, and inclusion in light of other competing priorities like small class sizes, expanding research opportunities, sexual assault, the evolving residential college experience? I would like to think about ways of gathering feedback (and students) to bring to the Board for
the November meeting - exactly where are we on these issues? How important are they? Given a limited number of financial and temporal resources, what attention should to Board be paying to these issues?

*University Relations Committee*

The UR Committee, one of three standing committees of the Board, met on Saturday to set its agenda for the year. Board working groups meet in person and via email and conference call to give specific attention to different issues. The two UR working groups this year will be Alumni and Parent Engagement at the Career Center and Alumni of Color Engagement. We also spent significant time on the Committee talking about issues surrounding marketing for donations - Wesleyan is in a rather grim financial situation and no one knows. A much better job can be done making clear to students and alumni exactly where we stand and what kind of commitment we need.

**Upcoming Agenda Items**
- Social Justice Training
- Campus Master Plan
- Labor
- Cars on Campus

**Out of Context Quotes of the Week**

**Canvassing Log**

Clark and Fauver are the dorms so far canvassed. The freshmen seem generally excited to be at Wesleyan and have had surprisingly few complaints. All action items have been directed to the relevant committees.

**Financial Aid and Donations**

There is currently no method by which alumni (or other interested parties) can donate to financial aid in such a way that increases the amount of financial aid actually awarded. President Roth and Andrew will be meeting this week to work through some possibilities on this front.

**Budget Priorities Committee**

The Long Range Plan for the budget will be undergoing some adjustments, particularly with respect to financial aid. With the need-aware policy still in effect, there has been a change in mood in the Finance Office, meaning that the target discount rate for the University is likely to be set at the 32 percent rather than the original target of 29 percent.

**Espwesso Cafe**
Andrew is working on a white paper proposal to greatly expand the scope, space, and purpose of Espwesso Cafe to make it a greater hub for community interaction and engagement in the future. This proposal assumes that the Cafe will remain entirely student run and will retain its low cost, no profits business model.

**Appointments**

We have a promising pool of candidates for most of our vacant positions; interviews will be conducted this week to bring the Assembly to full compliment by next General Assembly.
Academic Affairs Committee (AAC)
Chair: Grant Tanenbaum ‘15

Academic Affairs had its first meeting this Wednesday. The Chair is excited to welcome Nicole Brenner ‘15, Jason Shatz ‘14, Benjamin Marvin-Vanderryn ‘17, and Rebecca Hutman ’17 to the committee. Nicknames are forthcoming. AAC will meet every Wednesday at 4pm in 41 Wyly 111.

Subcommittees
Due to the small nature of AAC, all members will sit on each subcommittee. After our initial meetings of subcommittees we will determine the chair.

Winter Session
This week EPC approved the proposal for a Winter Session, a two week session of classes every January. Course offerings will include popular gateway courses; off-site field-based courses; and once-in-a-lifetime courses co-taught by Wesleyan faculty and prominent experts in emerging fields, distinguished writers, filmmakers, leaders in the non-profit and political sectors, activists, and journalists. Students would begin coursework during winter break: before the first meeting of class, read the majority of class materials, engage in online discussions with other students on questions posted by the instructor, and submit one or two written assignments. Research opportunities for credit will also be available. The first session, if approved by the faculty, will be this January!

Career Center
AAC is meeting with the Career Center this week for the first full meeting of the Career Center Advisory Committee (CCAC). Issues we will be raising:
❖ Lack of alumni support through online resources
❖ Continued discrepancy in methods and manner of communication with students about events, opportunities, and deadlines
❖ The state of their online offerings. Specifically:
   ➢ The confusing organization of their website
   ➢ The multiple resources they use when one would suffice
   ➢ The lack of information on career services online

Registrar’s Office
AAC will be meeting with administrators from the Registrar's Office this week for the first full meeting of the Registrar Advisory Committee. Issues we will be discussing:
❖ The state of course access at Wesleyan
❖ Changes in course demand
Punch list for WesMaps improvements

Library
AAC will be meeting with the Librarian, Pat Tully, this week for the first full meeting of the Student Library Advisory Committee. Issues we will be discussing:

❖ The library’s recent redesign of their website
  ➢ Plans for study spaces across campus
❖ Ways the library can proactively support student research

Board of Trustees: Campus Affairs Committee
This past weekend was the Board of Trustees’ September retreat. Alton, Kate, and I will be student representatives to the Campus Affairs Committee, which deals with life at Wesleyan in the broadest sense, from academics to student life. The two working groups of the Campus Affairs committee of the Board this year will be the Title IX Audit Working Group and the Campus Master Plan Audit Working Group.

Fun FAACt of the Week
There are more atoms in a single glass of water, than glasses of water in all the oceans of the Earth.
Community Committee (CoCo)
Chair: Alton Wang ‘16

The Community Committee, or CoCo, had its first meeting of the semester this past Tuesday. Welcome to members Sadasia McCutchen ‘17, Key Session ‘17, Lizzie Shackney ‘17, Aidan Martinez ‘17, and Glenn Cantave ‘15. CoCo meetings this semester will be at 8pm on Tuesdays in Usdan 104D.

Student Group Recognition Meetings
CoCo will begin recognizing new student groups this week, with a series of meetings on Tuesday and Friday afternoons. We hope to meet with approximately thirty groups this week. After these planned meetings, CoCo members will begin meeting with their student groups on a more flexible basis.

Student Group Category Liaisons
This year, we’ve narrowed the categories for our student groups, and the liaisons for these categories will be as follows:
- Activism - Lizzie
- Identity - Sadasia
- Performance & Visual Arts - Aidan
- Program House/Greek & Sports - Glenn
- Publications - Key
- Independent Projects, OCS, Other - Alton

Subcommittees
The Committee for Inclusion and Diversity and Middletown Relations Committee is currently looking for ex-officio members. The CoCo members sitting on these committees are as follows:
- CID: Aidan, Sadasia, and Key
- MidWes: Glenn (chair) and Lizzie

Mandatory Student Group Leader Training
We had two student group leader trainings on financial processes as well as OrgSync this past week, one on Tuesday and one on Wednesday. Both went well had we had a great turnout. Student group leaders learned how to get SBC funding, how WSA Office processes work, and how to use certain functions of OrgSync. There will be another completely optional financial training on WSA Office processes in a couple weeks.

Student Group of the Week
We’ve approved a couple new groups this week, one of which is REACT to FILM, an organization which will show films centered around different topics and have a discussion on those films, films that “promote social responsibility and spark civic engagement.”

We now have just under 200 registered groups!
Organization and External Affairs Committee (OEAC)
Chair: Jacob Musinsky ’15, Coordinator

The Organization and External Affairs Committee (OEAC) met for the first time this past Tuesday at 9:30PM. Our official meeting time has not been scheduled, but that will be resolved this week. Welcome to new members Fred Ayres ‘17 and Lily Herman ‘16. Welcome back to our ITC Chair Mansoor Alam ‘15. Fred will be joining Mansoor on ITC as the representative from OEAC. Fred will also be serving as the historian of the WSA during this year. Looking forward to a great and productive year.

Outreach
OEAC discussed various broad ideas for outreach to the student body this week. The ideas fell under two categories: social media outreach and personal outreach.

● Social Media Outreach
  ○ We hope to develop the WSA Twitter into a more enjoyable and entertaining handle to follow. @WSANews should insert itself into the already present and exciting Wesleyan Twitter community through more laidback tweets putting a more accessible personality to the WSA. WSA members will be allowed to submit tweets to be posted through the account which will be approved rapidly by OEAC members.
  ○ The Facebook page and WSA blog will remain places expelling information about projects and giving updates on projects and events which are WSA related.
  ○ Lily will be working on a Tumblr page for the WSA. We hope that this will be a chance for the WSA to give some more information about specific projects of specific members and also be a space for prospective students to learn a little bit more about Wesleyan and the WSA. We hope this will also help with recruitment for the assembly in the future.
  ○ Fred hopes to institute a YouTube account for the WSA which would be a more personal way of giving information about the assembly by adding a face and a voice to our Newsletters or emails.
  ○ Lily will be doing research on the Newsletters of other student governments at similar schools to determine what we will be doing as our Newsletter for the year.

● Personal Outreach
  ○ OEAC hopes to continue efforts of tabling and canvassing as done in the past. This will hopefully be done by the entire assembly about twice a semester as well as by OEAC on a more frequent basis.
  ○ We hope to create T-shirts or some sort of apparel that may identify members of the WSA around campus. We hope that this will then be a way for students to recognize members of the WSA and feel free to approach them, ask questions,
and/or give suggestions.

- OEAC also hopes to canvass to student group meetings. We will hopefully send members to various established student group’s meetings and chat with them about their relationship with the WSA and what they would like to see changed. We will hopefully work with both CoCo and the SBC on this outreach. We hope fora can be generated if many groups have similar issues to be discussed with the assembly.

**WSA External Review**
The WSA hopes to conduct an external review of our workings at some point during this school year to fully assess our effectiveness, productivity, inclusion, diversity, and overall success as a student government. We have decided to wait until the assembly has really come together, most likely sometime during November. Lily will be doing much of the planning of the study. We hope to pull in faculty members as well as student leaders to conduct the study.

**Elections**
We briefly discussed the elections process this past week during our OEAC meeting. We all decided that something should be done about the 2004 generated voting site. We hope to make some changes to the process.

Furthermore, I plan on making a few changes to voting policy which will be a topic for discussion over the next couple weeks.

**WSA History Fun Fact of the Week**
OEAC is interested in the upkeep of the WSA as one of the most powerful student governments in the country. Mansoor will be doing a little research on what makes us so powerful and how we have reacted to various events in the past that makes us the great student government that we are. To celebrate our history, I will try to post a fun fact about WSA history each week as part of my committee report. This week’s is as follows:

Nicole Updegrove ‘14 is the first female president of the WSA since the 2004-2005 school year.
Student Affairs Committee (SAC)
Chair: Kate Cullen ‘16

The Student Affairs Committee met for the first time this Tuesday at 5pm. Welcome to our members Angus McLean ‘16, Julio Angel ‘16, Victor Zhao ‘17, Bruno Machiavelo ‘16, and Chris Caines ‘16. Looking forward to a great year.

Subcommittees
This week we assigned subcommittee positions, the open positions will be filled by our to be appointed member.
- Undergraduate Residential Life Committee: Kate (co-chair), Bruno, Chris
- Fire Safety and Facilities Appeals Board: Julio (chair), Victor, and temporarily Lily Herman (many thanks!!) until our new member arrives
- Student Health Advisory Committee: Victor
- Student Judicial Policy Committee: Kate (co-chair), Victor, new member
- Public Safety Review Committee: Bruno, Angus
- Dining Committee: Angus
- Sexual Violence Action Committee: Julio
- Queer Task Force: Chris

Student Life Committee Meeting
In addition, we all met for the Student Life Committee (SLC) this Friday where we discussed the Student Affairs Office priorities for the year and a list of sexual assault and Title IX policy recommendations. SLC requested WSA’s input on the prompt President Roth sent out to the school about education in the residential setting. Dean Mike also told us about a mentoring program for the Class of 2017 that focuses on underprivileged students, which we plan to help him with throughout the semester. The committee established high risk drinking and sexual assault as two major issues on campus we wish to make a major impact on this year.

On a separate note, Dean Mike will be convening a Fountain Avenue Task Force this semester to look at ways to make its existence more sustainable. This group will include representatives from facilities, residential life, judicial proceedings, and residents of the street. One idea is to close off the street to cars. We will keep you in the loop as this develops.

Alcohol and Other Drugs
AOD had their first meeting this week, the same projects from NCHIP as far as bystander intervention training, judicial health education tracking, screening in CAPS and the DHC, late night programming, and community building in residence halls will continue in AOD. New developments include the creation of a parent letter and the potential replacement of AlcoholEDU. We’re working with Tanya Purdy on finding new Alcohol EDU options and brainstorming ideas to improve the UCAB program.
Student Budget Committee (SBC)
Chair: Nicki Sofiness ‘14

SBC Meeting #1
The SBC is proud and tearful to announce its wonderful new assortment of SBCers. Shout out to Madison Moore ‘16, Mika Reyes ‘17 and Matan Koplin-Green ‘15 for being on the most entertaining committee. People receiving their money everywhere will be forever grateful. You are superstars.

This week, the SBC met for the first time ever on a very quick turnaround. Props to my committee for adapting so quickly. You kept a great cool, calm, and collected demeanor amongst the students that were freaking out and nervous, so thanks guys - great job!

We also decided on a neat new way of operating - every time there is a request that isn’t completely approved or denied (ie, is deferred or we request more information), each member of the SBC is going to be their specific point person, and work with them until everything is resolved. This feels more personal and efficient. It was a really fun meeting, and we didn’t go as grossly over budget as the SBC tends to do on the first meeting of each year (since there are so many annual/semester budget requests), so that’s such a success!

Student Group Leader Training Sessions
The SBC also (with the help of guest star Nicole Brenner) helped with the mandatory student group leader training sessions. There were lots of questions, and even though one of the questions they asked me was why Nicole Brenner wasn’t coming, it was great. Thanks to Alton for putting in all that work - you are a spectacular human being.

Identity Months
We’re going to work with Elisa Cardona and Gretchen Streiff at SALD to help student groups work together to create a more cohesive plan for each month, and to make sure that every club has the opportunity to put on events and activities for their chosen affiliated identity moth. FYI - every identity month is guaranteed $2000 for related events. Pride Month is this October - get excited for that.

Green Fund
Interviews are happening this week. Thanks Nadia and Justin and Ellen for being a part of that - the applicants look really amazing.

Appointments
We are now eagerly awaiting our new members. Please tell your friends to apply - you can write their recommendations. Particularly with the discussion today, try to encourage people from different areas of campus to apply. Until then, we will march ahead.

This week, we funded the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Requested</th>
<th>Approved</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WesClimb (364)</td>
<td>Initial Climbing Budget</td>
<td>$3,063.00</td>
<td>$1,800.00</td>
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<td>Wesleyan Model United Nations (241)</td>
<td>Edited Semester 1 Budget</td>
<td>$600.00</td>
<td>$587.00</td>
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<td>J Street U at Wesleyan (293)</td>
<td>Breaking the Silence Speaking Event</td>
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<td>WU CT Forest + Park Association (916)</td>
<td>WesCEPA Info Session</td>
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<td>Men’s Water Polo Team (319)</td>
<td>Yale Tournament</td>
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<tr>
<td>Local Foods Co-op (568)</td>
<td>Gustavo Esteva</td>
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<td>Writers’ Bloc (503)</td>
<td>Ania Moglani Poetry Showcase</td>
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<td>$800.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Men’s Water Polo Team (319)</td>
<td>Middlebury Tournament</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shining Hope for Communities (818)</td>
<td>The Letter Yellow &amp; Live Footage</td>
<td>$600.00</td>
<td>$600.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>New Teen Force (416)</td>
<td>The Exquisite Corpse Project</td>
<td>$1,200.00</td>
<td>$1,200.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wesleyan Homebrewers Alliance (767)</td>
<td>Homebrewers' budget</td>
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<td>Zymurgy Collective (372)</td>
<td>Kombucha Supplies</td>
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<td>Nietzsche (313)</td>
<td>Nietzsche Factor period 1</td>
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<td>$937.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Precision Dance Company (202)</td>
<td>Annual Dance Showcase</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wesleyan Mock Trial (362)</td>
<td>Wesleyan Mock Trial Registration Fees</td>
<td>$725.00</td>
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Total: $15,701. Reasonable = fun!

Best named request: The Exquisite Corpse Project

Board of Trustees
Along with the entire assembled Board of Trustees meeting, the Finance Committee met to determine its agenda for the year. I served on this committee with Justin Gitlin ‘15. The committee talked about its agenda for the year, and we split up into two working groups: I’ll be serving on the Risk Management working group, and Justin will work on the Campus Master Plan. The finance committee is going to be generally looking into the health of the annual operating budget, and will adjust it until we create the new budget in May.
This week SuFFaC conducted our first meeting, where we brainstormed some goals for the year and organized ourselves into subcommittees. The subcommittee assignments are as follows:

**Financial Aid:**
Scott Elias (Chair)
Mary Diaz
Nadia Georgieva

**Green Fund:**
Justin Gitlin
Ellen Paik
Nadia Georgieva

**Dining Committee:**
Justin Gitlin (Chair)
Martin Malabanan
Mary Diaz
Colin O’Keeffe

**Freeman:**
Colin O’Keeffe
Ellen Paik

**Major Maintenance:**
Justin Gitlin

**Work-Study:**
Nadia Georgieva

**URLC:**
Martin Malabanan

**Transportation:**
Justin Gitlin (Chair)
Martin Malabanan
Mary Diaz
Colin O’Keeffe
Additionally, the Transportation Committee--largely Joe Martocci--has organized additional van pickups in New Haven for students traveling from New York City on Sunday to compensate for the expected delays.

The Usdan Tenants Committee met for the first time this week. All is fairly standard, though the committee is talking about setting up a clothes/food drive sometime soon. If anybody would like to get involved, please contact me. Also in the Usdan Tenants meeting, an issue over the implementation of caps on Student Accounts came to light.

Also, Dining Committee is looking into a disaffiliation with Barilla pasta in light of recent comments.