Executive Report

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

Executive Committee
This week in Executive Committee, we discussed:
- Upcoming agenda items
- The Office
- Plans for the Career Center
- Upcoming Board meeting on 2/28
- Task force on the academic situation at Wesleyan
- Revised withdrawal proposal

Upcoming General Assembly Agenda Items
Next week (3/2)
- Roth Report
- Final appeals recommendations from SAC
- Board of Trustees Report
- NESCAC Conference Report

Update on Custodial Services
Nicole met with Fran on Tuesday to discuss the results of the discussion and convoluted straw-poll conducted at last week’s General Assembly meeting. Although she has concerns regarding the reduction of services at the largest program houses, the cleaning of appliances (due to risk of fire if not done regularly), and the reduction in work loads not being as substantial as we all might like, she is willing to consider our proposals! Nicole will be meeting with the Area Coordinators to continue discussion next week.

Espwesso
All official barriers to expanding Espwesso’s operating hours into the afternoons have been lifted; we are now working with the Cafe managers to implement the expansion plan (hiring more staff, etc.).

Raise the Cap Fund
To be announced this Thursday. Stay tuned.
**Student Budget Sustainability Task Force Recommendations**

The final recommendations are being presented to the Board of Trustees next week and implementation of many of these recommendations will be a major Executive effort for the remainder of the Spring semester. The recommendations will be made public to the community in the coming days.

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**Academic Affairs Committee (AAC)**

*Chair: Grant Tanenbaum ‘15*

**Withdrawal - Grant**
Proposal has been amended to reflect changes and amendments from EPC discussion. Also, new data from the Registrar’s office sheds light on the patterns of withdrawals on campus across class year and month-by-month.

**WSDR Professor Education - Bruno**
Sarah Kalish ‘14 and I met to discuss the current state of professor education regarding political correctness in the classroom and the ways by which this can be improved. Ideas include a handout about terminology, general respect and understanding and potential student situations.

**Admissions Committee - Bruno**
Our first meeting will be happening soon and will be an informal gathering of all the student members that will serve to discuss member ideas, potential projects, and current initiatives to send to Dean Meislahn. Dean Meislahn has contacted me and will probably be able to meet sparingly until after the admissions cycle has ended. Update: We had our first meeting today (Sun, 02/23) and we discussed the financial aid marker on applications, recruitment, international admissions, and admissions priorities.

**Transfer Student Policy - Rebecca Hutman**
The Committee reviewed the goals of Transfer Task Force and brainstormed solutions for Transfer-specific academic issues.

**EPC Proposal for Religious Holiday Absences - Rebecca Hutman**
Izzy Linzer ‘17 and Rebecca Hutman ‘17 are working with Nicole Updegrove ‘14 to draft an EPC Proposal concerning the policy for those observing a religious holiday, which conflicts with a class meeting time or academic assignment.

**Community Committee (CoCo)**
*Chair: Nicole Brenner ‘15*

**Student Group Activities Fair**
Today CoCo hosted the Student Group Activities Fair in Beckham Hall. 80 Groups signed up for the Event today from 1-3pm and we had a great showing!

**Kickball Tournament**
Key Session and Lizzie Shackney are continuing to plan a school wide kickball tournament, and are just waiting to hear back from the athletic department regarding dates!

**Student Group Leadership Summit**
Thanks to Lizzie, the Student Group Leadership Summit will take place on March 4 from 7-9pm in Usdan 108. There will be cookies and coffee and everyone is welcome to join!

**Questbridge Scholars**
Aidan Martinez and the Quest Scholars are having lunch this week with Michael Roth to talk about the future of the Questbridge program at Wesleyan.

**Midwes**
Glenn Cantave has been working with Wesleying and now there will be a Weekly Middletown Update on the website, potentially featuring a comparison of Grilled Cheese options available around town! Look out for it on the website!!

Special Thanks to Lizzie for making me an awesome card!!!

**Organization and External Affairs Committee (OEAC)**
Chair: Jacob Musinsky ‘15, Coordinator

This week, the members of OEAC continued work on their respective projects that they have been working on for much of this semester.

**WSA Review**
Lily drafted a proposal for her internal/external WSA review. She hopes to continue to speak with members of the Wesleyan community about the WSA to receive some feedback.

**Outreach**
The Newsletter went out as per usual. A “News Flush” is being drafted and will be ready to be hung out around campus early this week. Thank you for all of your help last week, and I hope you will help me out again this week.

Lily posted some great pictures of CoCo on the Tumblr page, so be sure to check that out.

**WSA History**
From Fred: “I managed to sneak in a half-hour in the Argives (woo-hoo!) and from what I can gather, some of the original functions of the student governments before 1902 (the incarnation of our current organization) included organizing interclass sports matches (that is, a freshmen vs. sophomore football game, for instance). I also believe that had some control over funds, but I’ll look into that further.”

**ITC**
“Points Calculator” / ATAC

ATAC is having its big semester meeting either this Thursday or Friday (I'll know by tomorrow) so if anyone wants things brought up they should let me know. Mansoor met with some members of ITS, and a document regarding directions in which the website could be taken will be sent out.

Also, the “points calculator” (on the subject of meal plans) has become popular, and ITC is thinking of ways they may formalize with the help of the university.
Student Affairs Committee (SAC)
Chair: Kate Cullen ’16

Residential Life
This week the WestCo Presidents attended URLC to discuss ways to improve the relationship between RAs and residents of WestCo. Moving forward, the Presidents will clarify the WestCo mission, include more RAs in Guidance meetings, plan monthly meetings with the RAs, encourage sophomore residents to take on a greater leadership role in the community, and meet with new and returning RAs before fall semester.

Sara Dean and Chris Caines are looking at the role of RAs in alcohol education on campus. In addition, Simon Chen met with Fran about his room change policy suggestions. We will be discussing them at the next URLC meeting.

Student Health
Victor Zhao is performing research on medical transportation policies at our peer schools. On STI testing, Victor Zhao is planning an all campus survey to see how many students are interested in a free clinic. To reduce costs we’re looking at having more testing days with less providers at each to give more students the possibility to attend.

Wesleyan Appeals Board
Sara Dean conducted research on our peer schools and found a feasible model at Hamilton. They have an Appeals Board of three faculty members (elected by the faculty) and two students appointed by the previous year’s committee. The faculty are elected for a three year term, rotating out at different years so there is a turn over of one member each year. In cases of sexual assault a subset committee is formed comprised of the Appeals Board Chair and two faculty members. However, when a member must recuse ze’s self a student member is called in.

Other
Julio Angel is working on the Gender Resource Center Task Force as the SAC member. The student members of the Fire Safety Appeals Board are looking at an alternative model of the Board to make the process clearer and fairer.
Student Budget Committee (SBC)

Chair: Nicki Softness ‘14

This week, the SBC funded:

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Total: $17,661.37 | $16,219.18 approved

Request of the Week: NEAT Mentors

NEAT Mentors (North End Action Team) matches up Wesleyan students with kids living in the North End of Middletown. One very generous Wesleyan-connected ice rink owner offered a huge discount to the program so that the Wesleyan students can take the younger kids ice skating.
Sustainability, Finance, and Facilities Committee (SuFFaC)
Chair: Justin Gitlin ’15

Sustainability Conference
Both Scott Elias ’14 and Ellen Paik ’16 attended the Wesleyan Sustainability Conference. Scott sat on the committee that discussed the sustainability of Wesleyan’s energy. The committee focused on efforts to improve to campus usage of sustainable energy and discussed divestment from fossil fuels. Ellen, on the other hand, sat on the sustainability action plan committee, which looked primarily at ways to improve and coordinate sustainability activity on campus. After speaking to members of EON, this conversation with the effort of SuFFaC to consolidate their efforts and bring them under the umbrella of the WSA.

Dining Committee
Nadia Georgieva ’16 and Colin O’Keeffe ’17 are working to arrange a tour of the dining facilities with a few different goals in mind. Nadia is looking to evaluate the Bon Appetite facilities and come up with a list of proposals for how to improve the conservation of food and mitigate the amount of food waste. This effort will include a push to get the company to adopt food composting principles.

Colin will instead evaluate the facilities from a sustainability point of view. Colin will take the tour and come up with a list of recommendations on how to improve the sustainability efforts of the dining community. Both efforts are in the beginning phases with contacts being made and research being done.

Transportation Committee
Spring Break shuttle schedules were released this past week—please consult the WSA e-mail for more information on times and locations.

Additionally, Martin Malabanan ’16 is working with the transportation department on making public transportation more accessible to the Wesleyan community.

Independent Projects:
· Martin is in the beginning of working on a project to add more water bottle filling stations to more facilities around campus. As all are aware, the campus does not sell bottled water, and more filling stations would help encourage students to use more sustainable consumption practices.
· As was addressed last semester, elevators and handicap doors are a large use of energy. As such, Mary Diaz ’14 is doing research on the actual energy and cost value of the usages. Upon obtaining this information, Mary will work on a project to disseminate and encourage students from unnecessarily using these.
Ellen is working on an effort to educate students on how to handle their heating in the winter months. A lot of people do not know how to operate their heating systems—some of which are dysfunctional. As a result, many students open their windows instead of merely turning down the heat, which wastes a lot of energy and subsequently a lot of the University’s money. Ellen is looking to create more student ownership by better educating students on this issue.

Scott is working on a proposal to install solar panels on the roofs of the senior wood frame houses. As many are aware, the University is not too fond of the houses as they are expensive to maintain and unsustainable. Scott is working on a proposal to install these panels, which would lessen the environmental impact of said houses as well as their costs.