

SGA VP Student Concerns

Town Hall: Dorm Processes, Campus Activities, and Safety Services

Welcome to the Southwestern College Student Government Association Town Hall for the 2025 Spring Semester. My name is Hannah Brown, and I am the VP of Student Concerns for SGA.

You are welcome to grab snacks, drinks, or enter in the prize drawing at any point in the meeting but please be respectful while doing so.

This Town Hall covers questions, concerns, and comments regarding the Student life and Student Affairs services on campus. These processes include the dorms, campus activities, and safety services on campus.

I want to thank Claire Nichols, Sarah Hallinan, Lena O'Quinn, and Teresea Nichols for taking time out of their evening to be with us tonight. Would you each please introduce yourselves including your name and position?

The agenda of this Town Hall will start with pre-submitted questions that I will read off to everyone. The audience can ask follow up questions to the pre-submitted question. Audience, please raise your hand and the speakers will answer one-by-one.

Once these questions are completed the floor is open for the audience to ask questions directly to the Student Service Representatives. Please be composed, appropriate, and respectful when asking questions directly.

What Questions or Concerns do you have for Student Affairs involving Dorm Processes? Lena O'Quinn

- Individuals have stated that if there is any need for maintenance, it often takes a long time to get through to the point where it could be considered a hazard to safety. What does the process look like to fulfill the maintenance needs of the students on campus?
 - Maintenance is a third party group and often does not involve RA's and RD's
 - Be very specific when contacting fix-it (name, dorm, room number, **Specific Problem**)
 - Follow up with fix-it if the problem is not acknowledged or solves in multiple days
- The laundry rooms, central heat and air, and ethernet cables in some of the dorms are outdated and often break down. What steps do you plan on taking to refurbish these appliances?
 - Do not overload washers
 - Contracts are being looked at to get new machines and fast maintenance for the washing machines
 - We are working with maintenance to get new window units for heat and air
 - No dorms have ethernet cables and maintenance quickly fixes wifi problems when they find that the signals are down

- Students prefer more hall programs to build communities within classes. What is the scheduling for required hall programs and can we make these activities more frequent?
 - We require 2 hall programs per RA, per month. These can also be combined activities by multiple RA's in each dorm
- Some freshman students experienced a lack of communication regarding the assignment of roommates and communication of space/furniture (dressers, closets, and storage) provided before move-in. How do you assign roommates and how do you suggest students maximize the space given in each dorm?
 - Usually, freshman roommates are placed based on sports in that building. As more students arrive, spaces will be filled by other housing applications
 - Lena bases her roommates on the housing applications that specify your cleanliness, sleep schedule, hobbies, etc.
 - User rubbermaid tubs and racks to provide extra space for clothes, snacks, and different items
- Some individuals feel cheated by the promise of the kitchen in Winfield Hall Lobby considering we aren't allowed to have most appliances. If they aren't allowed to have cooking equipment in their rooms, how will you make them otherwise available for use in dorms that don't contain kitchens?
 - The cooking appliances prohibited by admissions are regulated by fire marshals and are illegal for your safety
 - You are able to have a George Foreman, Rice cookers, and Crock Pots for cooking which can cook multiple different meals

What Questions or Concerns do you have for Campus Life involving Campus Activities? Claire Nichols

- The performing arts are often overlooked during plays and performances. What steps can campus life take to better communicate these events?
 - It is hard to schedule something without clashing with other activities. PLEASE check for activities on the Master Calendar before solidifying your events
 - Any SGA activity can be shared on social media by tagging Moundbuilders, SGA, and STUFU.
 - SGA has opened Performing Arts representative positions for Senators that can be filled to help represent that group of individuals
 - PLEASE contact SGA if you feel a student demographic needs more representation!!
 - Communicate with Claire Nichols if you see an event over a Performing Arts project (depending on what event was planned and added first)
 - The calendar can be accessed
- Individuals on campus would prefer more competition based activities like sports and field days outside of Homecoming. Is this possible and what processes would you follow to implement these activities?
 - We love the idea of intramurals and field days for campus activities. However, coaches do not want to put individuals at risk for injury in and out of season.
 - We need registration and headcounts beforehand to verify individuals and numbers

- Students interested in events on campus have requested earlier event communication and advertisement. What can you do to implement this?
 - Before publication is allowed, board members and SGA students need time to verify dates, times, buildings, and activities.
 - Most posts are times a week ahead of the event, but if information isn't verified, it causes confusion
- Students interested in events on campus have requested more inclusive event times (outside 11:00-1:00). What can you do to implement this request?
 - SGA and STUFU host multiple activities in and out of 11:00-1:00 each month. Our executives try to include as many times as possible but we cannot cater to everyone's schedule

What Questions or Concerns do you have for Student Affairs involving Safety Services?

- Some students feel unsafe walking alone at night. Would we be able to implement more street lights on campus? If not, what other services are available to alleviate this discomfort?
 - We have a long-term lighting project to implement street lights across the Southern end of the campus
 - Contact Teresea Nichols if you have concerns!
 - We implement a monthly lighting report to fix lights that have gone out
 - A service that is rarely utilized is security escorts across campus
 - **Campus Security:** (620) 229-0012
- Students notice that snow packed parking lots create a lot of ice which can create a safety hazard for those walking to the dorms. What processes does campus go through to solve these problems?
 - We have a contract with a snow plan to apply snow melt and move snow (when above three inches)
 - When we clear snow out of the parking lots, there may be instances where you get "plowed in" and security officers can help
- Transfer students on campus haven't noticed an enforcement or advertisement of title 9 training opportunities. Is that something we would be able to incorporate into admissions or orientations?
 - We are working on implementing a Title 9 training within orientation for both transfer and in-state students
 - We are implementing more Title 9 related activities on campus
- Some of the disabled individuals on campus have questioned the accessibility of campus involving sidewalks and parking. What steps can be taken to improve the accessibility of our campus?
 - We meet all ADA handicapped guidelines and would love clarification on the specific problems faced by handicapped individuals
 - Contact Teresea Nichols if you see individuals violating handicapped guidelines so they can be held responsible
 - We plan to paint handicapped spots to make them more visible