



Piecing Together
A
Better Tomorrow



COLLIN COLLEGE

CHAPTER OF THE YEAR

2020 2021

A HISTORICALLY UNPRECEDENTED TIME AND

THE CALL TO ACTION

The Collin College Student Government Association had recently gone through tireless efforts to rebuild their once memberless council to one that became an award-winning Chapter in multiple areas at both their region & state, all in under one year!

In the spring of 2020, they, and many colleges throughout our nation faced historically unprecedented times with the beginning of a pandemic. Spring break turned into weeks as our student, college, city, state, and federal leaders had to adapt to the unknown rapidly.

Due to the pandemic and the measures taken to secure the health & safety of their students, participation on campus & in organizations plummeted.

Nonetheless, several students decided to file their candidacy for the SGA offices to ensure the student voice and welfare remained intact and alive, all despite the numerous unknown obstacles they would face.

President Sanchez and the SGA executive officers recognized the catastrophic consequences of not being proactive during the newly uncharted waters.

As soon as the new SGA officers took over, they set up three meetings a week, and then daily meetings as they neared the reopening of their college shutdown.

They had to rethink and restrategize what they once knew to keep their momentum, their organization, & others afloat.

They attended several virtual leadership workshops in order to strengthen their leadership skills, most notably the NACA conference where they received substantial praise from the community & university advisors on their presentations and invaluable input shared with other delegates as they networked.

The new administration returned to their peers to brief each other on their findings and developed a comprehensive plan for the new year.

RECRUITMENT &

STUDENT EMPOWERMENT



Early on, the Student Government started efforts to brand & market their organization to maximize their message and reach a wide scope of students to build their college's diverse representation.

Collin College SGA had newly implemented a virtual campaign system to reach plenty of college students who were looking to further their involvement and impact on their college.

The system was comprised of a database that was targeted students who have previously attended leadership development camps, community-driven organizations & student employees.

Officers were then assigned specific students to contact via cell phone calls and follow-up emails. They also acted as a direct point of contact to answer questions, guide, and empower new members to become active leaders,

President Sanchez also prioritized the skills, talents, & interests of his potential new leaders in order to ensure they could flourish as leaders.

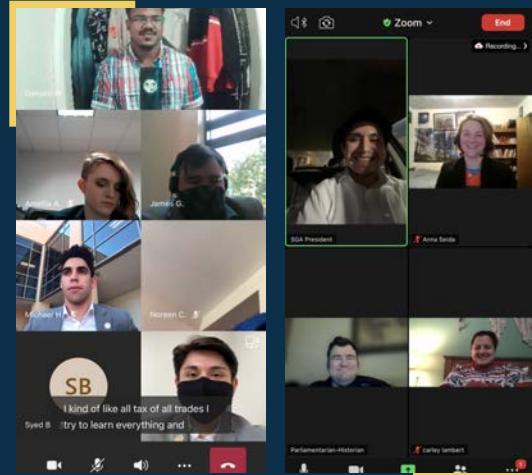
The executive team then held many interviews to address any questions students had about the various available officer and representative positions to them. The executive team examined the previous involvement of potential candidates and welcomed every student regardless of experience.

Collin College SGA executive leaders acknowledged the incredible asset a new leader can be. Especially during uncharted waters, as they have to think outside the box and explore the challenges, they will face with the pandemic.

President Sanchez appointed several student representatives for four colleges in their district to the Student Activity Fee Advisory Committee.

President of the Senate Andrews worked tremendously to ensure their main campuses had student senators create the bridge between the students and their SGA representatives and develop & pass initiatives to benefit the over 60,000 students.

OVERCOMING THE PANDEMIC BARRIER &

ENSURING AN EQUITABLE REPRESENTATION

During the most trying and stressful times it is very important to find the silver lining of every and all aspects.

The COVID-19 pandemic helped the Collin College SGA see a major flaw that had been occurring, the minimal representation of students who normally attended classes virtually.

Collin SGA proactively added in-person, hybrid, and virtual office hours to accommodate and ensure the health and safety of every student regardless of their presence on or off campus.

This new measure allowed a stronger bridge between SGA elected officials & their constituents. Moreover, the ability to easily schedule meeting times outside of the posted office hours created accessibility and communication that may not have seen before the pandemic.

These measures became very effective that the SGA team have made it a requirement for future years in order to have the best accessibility & communication.

SGA also understood that in order to efficiently serve their constituents they needed to go to their constituents directly, rather than waiting for them.

The Collin College Plano campus recently purchased nearby apartments to provide the many international students a home and a place to keep their Collin community thriving.

However, since the student housing did not have stoves the students were required to purchase meal plans. The SGA executive board & senate swiftly interviewed students & developed a survey to ensure the meal plans met their dietary needs & desires.

SGA also worked with other campus student organization representatives & partnered with Phi Theta Kapa to revamp the Meeting of the Minds table talk discussions. This focus group convenes monthly to tackle organization struggles and creates campus enrichment partnerships.

The SGA & PTK Presidents are proud to lead the way alongside other leaders to ensure organizations can recruit & retain members during the pandemic.

HONORING OUR FALLEN

COUGAR FAMILY

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

Resolution To Respectfully Recognize Deceased Students of Collin College

WHEREAS, it is the mission of the Student Government Association of Collin College to be the representative body, and the official voice of the students at Collin College; and has been entrusted to represent the best interests of our constituents; and

WHEREAS: there is currently no uniform process in place that properly recognizes currently enrolled Collin College Students who pass away, therefore be it

RESOLVED, the Collin College Flag be flown at half-staff for 24 hours, at the Collin Higher Education Center, upon the Dean of Students Office being notified of their death; and be it further

RESOLVED, the families of our fallen students be presented with a Collin College tassel to honor their time with us; and be it further

RESOLVED, that public acknowledgment of this recognition shall be optional to and only with the approval of the family; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Collin College Student Government Association wish to extend a sincere statement of loss with the death of our cougar family. Although we cannot replace any of our students, we will attempt to improve the rights, opportunities, and quality of life of every student in their honor

Submitted by:

Juan Sanchez

President, Student Government Association

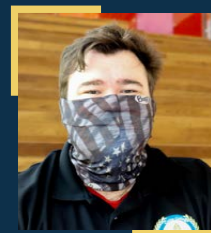
Respectfully Submitted on the 27th day of October of 2020

The Collin SGA strives to create and retain the pride and community atmosphere within their students, and acknowledges that every student plays an integral part and is a piece of a greater picture in their college.

The COVID-19 pandemic created many adversities and struggles for every student, faculty, staff & their families. SGA President, Juan Sanchez, had many conversations with his team and other students after he was briefed about one of their cougar family members' passing.

Moved by the briefing, the Collin College SGA unanimously voted to pass a resolution to respectfully recognize Collin College students' passing and attempt to improve the rights, opportunities, and quality of life of every student in their honor.

EXPANDING OUR SERVICE AT

OUR REGION & STATE

Collin College SGA rebuilt their organization in a matter of several months, and although they had not been active in earlier years in their state & region, they were confident that their hard work and incredible success would be an asset to their region & state.

Collin SGA is proud and honored to serve in a variety of elected leadership positions this year and have inspired their local chapter members to expand their service well past their college walls.

Currently, Collin College SGA delegates are serving their region as members for all committees and Secretaries for the Resolutions Committee, the Legislative Committee, and the Chair for the Recruitment & Retention, Committee.

Collin College's regional officers have worked to promote regional participation from local chapters and are looking to inspire future leaders from colleges who came from similar backgrounds.

The Collin College President of the Senate, Amellia Andrews, currently serves the many colleges throughout their region as the Region II Public Relations Officer.

Throughout her tenure as the Regional Public Relations Officer Amellia has managed the regional website & social media accounts to ensure that the communications, platforms, and initiatives of her region are relayed to all member schools in a prompt manner, especially during these uncertain times.

Collin College SGA President, Juan Sanchez serves his state SGA as the State Host alongside many dedicated students from around the State of Texas.

As the State Host, he has had the honor to coordinate this year's state conference, *Piecing Together A Better Tomorrow*. He also spearheaded a communications campaign in an effort to access the state of our chapters & work alongside the state executive board to bring a virtual conference to ensure the health & safety of all state delegates.

A DIVIDED NATION

A UNITED MISSION

One of the main missions of Collin College's SGA is to promote positive civic engagement within their college, especially within their communities.

Early on, the Collin SGA addressed the hyper-polarized political climate by passing a non-partisan resolution last year, however, the SGA wanted to promote the celebration of differing views and unification as well as the growth of the participation of the democratic process.

President Sanchez created the SGA Voter Turnout Initiative to increase civic engagement in politics in a wide scope of areas within the youth. His SGA administration coordinated with Collin County Election Officials to deputize eligible SGA officers to register eligible Collin County Residents to vote.

Five executive officers went through training and became certified under Collin County to register voters. They diligently advertised and set up appointments at their campus offices for eligible voters to register.

Despite the pandemic, which caused many to predict lower registrations, they meticulously planned and registered over 220 people to vote for the 2020 Presidential election, within a span of just a week!

During the time they were registering voters, they advertised their virtual Presidential watch parties. Having educated voters is a form of empowerment

that would create substantive discussions within opposing views and drive a larger population of people to show up and have their voice represented at the ballot box.

Proud of their accomplishments so far, they were still determined to expand their efforts. Collin College SGA partnered with the election officials to train their team to work on the historic November 3, 2020, Presidential Election.

Collin College's SGA President, Juan Sanchez was appointed and sworn in to serve as an Assistant Election Judge. This made him one of the youngest election Judges in the county to conduct, oversee, and manage a Presidential election.

As an election Judge, he was responsible to appoint and train his clerks, he worked with his SGA team to recruit five college students to serve as election clerks.

His team was incredibly diverse, as they strived to ensure they looked like and represented the communities they were serving to be more welcoming.

November 3rd finally arrived, and the monumental election of recent years was about to start. The Collin College students arrived before the sun rose and were administered their oaths.

The sun had set as they were processing the very last voters of the night, they still had to certify the ballot totals & paperwork. Still, even after they closed the last voting machine and locked the door for the night, they knew that it was only the beginning of such an important service to their communities!

A DIVIDED NATION

A UNITED MISSION



A CELEBRATION OF

SUCCESS

Coming together is a beginning;
keeping together is progress; working
together is success.

HENRY FORD

We have been surrounded by a variety of historical events in only a span of one year. Our world has been facing a global pandemic that not only has separated families, friends, and our neighbors but has also enlightened us on the many adversities that may have lurked in the dark and gone unnoticed. From a disparaging inequality in the access to broadband internet access to the inequity in our healthcare system to the polarization of our democratic process to the work that still has yet to be done to address our broken justice system.

However, there is one common factor amongst all the issues that come to light, and that is the need to come together, despite our religious beliefs, economic background, nationality, sexual orientation, or political views, and celebrate our differences and bring our own unique perspective to build a better tomorrow.

Our Collin College SGA is incredibly proud of the successful year we have had so far in terms of the invaluable knowledge acquired during our focus groups, partnerships with other organizations, and services to our communities and are excited to use it to create a pipeline of new initiatives in our college and throughout our region and state.