

# Brookhaven Student Government Association

## Chapter of the Year

Vision Twenty-  
Twenty

2019-2020



Brookhaven SGA Executive Board



Vice-President  
Brandon Valdez



President  
Jennifer Benitez



Parliamentarian  
Allen Wiese



Treasurer  
Keesje Petersen



Secretary  
Julie Olivares



Public Relations  
Liliana Cruz



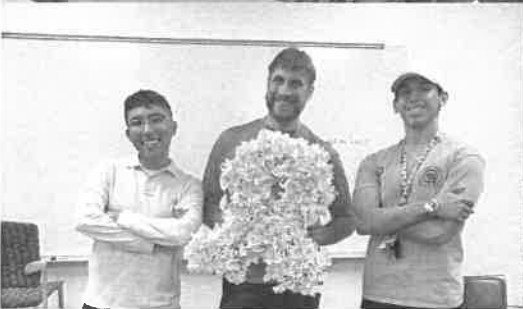
Special Event Coordinator  
Nancy Muniz



Special Events Coordinator  
Axell Camarillo

**THE KEY FOR OUR ORGANIZATION**

**BROOKHAVEN COLLEGE  
STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION SENATORS**



Senators are a key to our success. They are always willing to help our community and chapter.

Each one of them provides ideas on how to serve our campus, not only are they students but they are advocates for change around the campus.

Ten senators were inducted during fall semester



**Our TJCSGA Region II Representatives**  
Brookhaven is honored to have held different  
position in Region II this past year.



**Community Service Chair: Jennifer Benitez**  
As the Chair of the Community Service  
Committee, Ms. Benitez was in charge of  
providing Region II with different service events  
that help our community and help us come  
together as a region.



This year we are honored to hold the parliamentarian  
position. Our representative is Allen Wiese. Allen was  
born in Dallas Texas and has been a part of  
Brookhaven SGA for the last three years, his goal is  
to major in communication.



**Spirit/ T-Shirt/ Social Committee Co-Chair: Liliana Cruz.**  
Ms. Cruz was in charge of planning social events and  
guiding the process of the design for the Region II  
T-shirt.



**Award Co-Chair: Keesje Petersen.**  
The awards committee is in charge of deciding the  
different award categories and writing of the award  
guidelines. Ms. Petersen assists the chair of the committee  
in the all the decision making.



**Legislative Committee Co-Chair: Brandon  
Valdez**  
The Legislative Committee reviews the  
constitution and makes sure that everything in it  
is updated. Mr. Valdez helped the Chair in the  
decisions about the constitution.



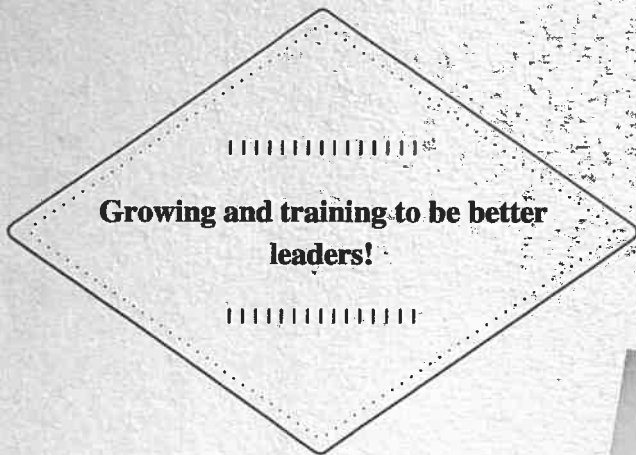
**Resolution Secretary: Luis Gutierrez**  
The Resolution Committee has the duty of  
creating resolutions that address the issues that we  
face as college students. Mr. Gutierrez takes  
minutes for every meeting.



**Legislative Committee Secretary: Kevin Cabrera**  
Mr. Cabrera takes minutes every time  
the Legislative Committee meets.

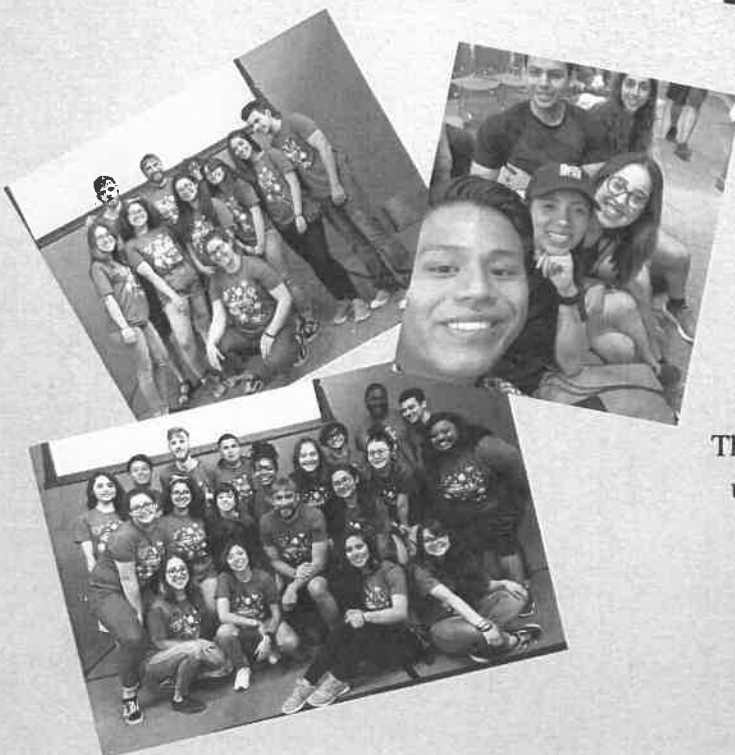
## Executive Board Event

In order to guide and serve others, our executive board decided to build a stronger bond. At first, most of our executive board did not know much about each other. We believed that creating a stronger bond and getting to know each other a little more would allow us to do a better job on our campus. We spent an evening bowling to get to know each other so we could learn to work better as a team.



**Leadership Summit**  
This event was created for all the DCCCD colleges, to have a day where we could learn different leadership skills to bring back to our campus.

## Leadership Retreat



We connected with students from all seven colleges in the DCCCD. This event helped us to create a bond with not only.

The Leadership Retreat was for all the DCCCD students and help us to work as a team and grow as leaders. We created stronger bonds.

## American Student Government Association

Each year the American Student Association does ten conference around the country. Brookhaven was proud to be the host school for the American Student Government Association Convention in Dallas for the second consecutive year.

On that day, we learned how to make our student government better and what it means to be part of SGA.

Each member had the opportunity to make new friends and connect with other students from across the country





## Meet Your Executive Board Event

Meet Your Executive Board was an event created to introduce students to their local SGA. We tried to recruit new members and we tried to speak with as many students as we could.

## Recruiting Events

We welcome new students to by providing them with more information about SGA and the benefits of being an active member.

Reaching out to more students was one of our goals this year. We talked to students all around campus and we encouraged them to join our local chapter. We connected with students from all walks of life including first time students, veterans, continuing education students, and students in other organizations.



## New Student Orientation, Fall Clubs and Organizations Fair, and Spring Clubs and Organizations Fair



## Women's Sports Team Celebration

We are celebrating the soccer team for winning the NJCAA national championship and the volleyball team for placing third at the national championships. We went to show our support and how proud we were of all their work.



## Breast Cancer Awareness

This year we wanted to spread more awareness about breast cancer. We made flowers that students would later use to form the shape of the breast cancer ribbon. Every student that came by was given a pink ribbon to show their support for all the patients with breast cancer.



## What is on Your Mind? Event



Knowing what the student body needs is essential for SGA, our goal is to serve and provide help to the best of our ability. At the end of Fall 2019, we decided to collect comments, suggestions, and complaints about our job at Brookhaven College.

We received many complaints and many compliments, but we were surprised by how many great suggestions we got. Some suggestions were about what students wanted to see change on campus and others were about how we can make ourselves more known on our campus.



## Community Service

### ANGEL TREE 2020

*Happy to help*



*And Gift*



*Happiness*



BHCSGA has had the opportunity to set up a Angel Tree on our campus for over 9 years. We collect gift donations for the Genesis Women's Shelter so they give them away during the holidays to children that have been affected by domestic abuse. Students, faculty, staff, and members of the community come by to pick up angels and drop off their gifts.

### SCHOOL CLEANUP



With Brookhaven's sustainability goals in mind, the senators decided that it would be a good idea to pick up trash around campus, not only to help our environment and local ecosystem, but to make our campus look nicer as well.

## Power to the Polls



Elections are around the corner. Brookhaven College is proud to be an early voting location for Dallas County residents. As Student Government, we took the initiative to partner up with the Debate Club, the League of Women, and Move Texas to engage with the students and make them excited about voting. We provided the students with mock voting. The League of Women created a summary of all the candidates and the different positions they were running for. We talked to many students, and many were not registered to vote, so Move Texas helped us register students. Our goal was to make sure students knew how to make their voices heard.



*B H C S G A*  
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**FUNDRAISER**

Our tradition for the past several years has been selling Chick Fill A once a month; so we could give students a different food option on campus.



*Chick-fil-A*



Dear Brookhaven SGA chapter,

I want to start by saying thank you for all the support during this year. I would love to say tons of thank you to my executive board for doing a fantastic job. Thank you for your dedication and hard work. For deciding to ride along with me during this journey together. Since the beginning, our vision was to be transparent. We had done our best to serve and create a better environment for the students.

Senators, thank you for the hard work you had put into this organization. You all are a key to our success. I am proud of you all for creating new ideas on how to help our community and campus.

To my advisor, Brian Borski and Clara Saenz, thank you for all your dedication, support, and work that you give to us. For being a guide during this year. Sincerely,  
Jennifer Benitez Brookhaven Student Government Association  
President 2019-2020

"Thanks to SGA, I have friends who support me and push me to be the best version of myself. Getting involved in my college campus has changed my life. From growing as individual to changing the lives of others, SGA has been an experience I will be thankful for the rest of my life." -Keesje Petersen  
Brookhaven SGA Treasurer 2019-2020

"Student government is all about connecting with other people, and it has allowed me to meet so many people and learn about so many different cultures."- Allen Wiese Brookhaven SGA  
Parliamentarian 2019-2020

"I would never have placed myself in a position in which I would be in politics. Or anything that would have to do with the law that is the image that I had in mind when someone brings up student government. That is until some friends had told me to join SGA it's something as I said, not what I would have imagined getting involved in given what I had first thought that it was also I never had friends asking me to join anything. SGA was a first joining an organization, and since I got in the habit of getting out of my comfort zone and trying new things, SGA was just that to change things up. This is my second semester in SGA, and I would say that all that I had in mind about the organization was wrong, although not entirely, it still involves laws but not so deep that it's something you would see being televised when sitting at home watching the debates from congress. It's nothing not like I have enjoyed my time in it even if I am not the most active of the bunch, but it's not to say I'm inactive. It's still a challenge in some ways do to the fact that I'm a bit of an introvert, but given that I offer to help whenever I see someone from the group struggling with something or if they ask for help, which is what SGA is known to help the individual student yet at the same time the large student population."

-Geovanny Berrios Brookhaven SGA Senator 2019-2020

"Student Government is an organization of that pushes you to be more than just a student. SGA makes you an advocate for the change necessary to improve the college experience and effectiveness for those around you."- David Leon Brookhaven SGA Senator 2019-2020

"When I first arrived at Brookhaven College, I never imagined I would be an executive board member of SGA. I would see the previous presidents and vice presidents around campus, but I never bothered to ask them how to become more involved. I knew they had meetings and events, but I never bothered to go. I eventually became tired of the same old routine of going to class and going home. I wanted to feel more connected to my campus, my peers, and my community, so I decided it was finally time to join SGA. I had no idea SGA could open so many doors for me. SGA has given me so many opportunities and the chance to meet so many amazing people. I'm so grateful for everything SGA has done for me and all the friends I've made."- Brandon Valdez Vice President of Brookhaven SGA and PTK 2019-2020

"Before Student Government I was just another high school student that wasn't involved in any extracurricular activities; despondent of any communal interaction. I didn't necessarily know what Brookhaven had to offer nor did I think I was allowed to participate. It wasn't until a friend introduced me to the Student Government at Brookhaven and told me I was allowed to join. Their mission statement of being the communication for the student body was intriguing, so I decided to apply for a position as a Secretary. Experiencing what it's like to be in student government has inspired me to learn and appreciate the people that are involved in our school, especially those in Student Government. It involves a lot of dedication and it has taught me how to work with people as a team whose collective interest is to better their Student Government Association."- Julie Olivares  
Brookhaven SGA Secretary 2019-2020

"SGA has been such an amazing experience. Not only have I met multiple people who are now some of my greatest friends but I have have also had multiple learning experiences in my time with this organization. I am grateful for the opportunities that SGA has offered me throughout this year and I hope to encourage other student on campus to join SGA." Liliana Cruz SGA  
Public Relations Coorninator2019-2020

"My experience in SGA has been incredible. Being in SGA has changes my education journey in the most positive way possible."  
Nancy Muniz SGA Special Event Coordinator 2019-2020