



STEPHEN ROGERS - COLLIN COLLEGE

ADVISOR OF THE YEAR AWARD





TJCSGA REGIONAL ADVISOR OF THE YEAR (2021 SUBMISSION)

COLLIN COLLEGE PROUDLY NOMINATES STEPHEN ROGERS (A.K.A. "CAPTAIN AMERICA") FOR THE REGION 2 ADVISOR OF THE YEAR AWARD.



Stephen Rogers currently serves as the Assistant Director of Student Engagement at the Collin College-Plano Campus. He has worked for Collin College for over 8 years. His current duties including supervising our Campus Ambassador tour guides and campus visits, coordinating our new student orientation efforts for the entire Collin College district, developing and executing leadership programs for the district (including managing the Student Leadership Camp), managing and providing oversight to all student organizations at Collin College, planning and implementing student activities and events, and serving as an advisor for the Student Government Association. Stephen has worked in higher education for over fifteen and a half years and has been advising student organizations ever since.



JOINING THE COUGARS.

ROGERS' DEBUT AT COLLIN COLLEGE.

Our very own “Captain America,” (sharing his first and last name with the beloved Marvel superhero - “The First Avenger”) initially got involved at Collin College as the Coordinator of Programs for New Students. In this role, he oversaw new student programs for multiple campuses of Collin College, coordinated the Mentor Program (matching students with faculty/staff mentors through guided mentorship), and organized on-campus tours and group visits of the Collin College district. Rogers was responsible for the production and development of the New Student Orientation workbook, orientation videos, online orientation, documents, advertisements, and logos.

He then became our Assistant Director of Student Engagements. Here, Stephen manages the operations of the Plano Campus Office of Student Engagement. He continued to coordinate new student orientation program as well as the Mentor Program. He served as the Evening Administrator remaining on-call for crisis management during evenings and weekends since August of 2013. Further distinguished involvement included his roles in: LEAD Student Leadership Camp Planning Committee; SpringFest Planning Committee; All College Council; First year Experience Planning Committee, and; the Discipline Appeals Taskforce.





DISTINGUISHED SERVICE:

CAPTAIN AMERICA'S SERVICE TO THE COLLIN COLLEGE SGA.

Stephen started working with student government at Collin College when the faculty advisor for the organization stepped down in December 2018. Until that point, only faculty members could serve as the SGA advisor and no professional staff member in the Office of Student Engagement was able to serve as SGA Advisor. With his role overseeing all student organizations at Collin College, he filled in temporarily until a new advisor could be found. Even though this was temporary, Stephen worked diligently to help organize, advisor and mentor the SGA officers and make sure that items did not fall through the cracks.





COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Stephen is not only involved with mentoring and developing students at Collin College, but it also involved in the community. Stephen is a member of the Kappa Sigma Fraternity and after graduating he has given back to the organization by serving as an alumni advisor for numerous chapters for over fifteen years. He currently works with Kappa Sigma chapters in Northeast Texas and helps advise them on brotherhood development and oversight. During those fifteen years, Stephen was acknowledged by the fraternity with one Outstanding Alumni Advisor Award and two Outstanding Assistant District Grand Master Awards.

Stephen has been involved with the professional association NODA-The Association for Orientation, Transition, and Retention in Higher Education for over 10 years. In 2017, Stephen served on the Region IV Leadership Team and served as the 2017 Region IV Conference Co-Host. Stephen also served on the 2020 NODA Annual Conference Planning Committee where the committee transitioned from planning an in-person event to the association's first virtual conference. Stephen has also volunteered on numerous roles (regional conference committees, award reviewer, committee member) in the association and presented at numerous Region IV conferences.

In 2020, Stephen was acknowledged by NODA as the Region IV Outstanding OTR Professional Award in May 2020 and the NODA Outstanding OTR Professional Award in December 2020.

This award is given to one person each year based on the criteria of outstanding contributions to the orientation, transition, and retention profession, development or enhancement of a model orientation,

transition, and retention program that meets the varied needs of students, outstanding regional or association-wide leadership, and eight years or more of professional experience in higher education.

Stephen also volunteers with the Dallas Sports Commission for over 11 years now and has served as a volunteer for large sporting events in the North Texas region such as Super Bowl 45, NBA All Star Game, the NFL Draft, the NCAA Men's and Women's Final Four, Wrestlemania 32, Lonestar Conference Basketball Tournament, and the Red River Rivalry Game (TX/OU).

Finally, Stephen has volunteered with his church for large events such as the Fall Festival, the Veteran Wall of Remembrance, and Sanctuary cleanup after service.



BEYOND LOCAL CHAPTER...

Our "Captain America," advised SGA and attended the TJCSGA Region 2 Spring Conference in 2019, coordinated the upcoming SGA officer elections, and attended the TJCSGA State Convention 2019 with the group. It was at this conference, where Stephen's mentorship and guidance made a huge impact on the success of the organization for years to come.

At the conference, Collin College won the TJCSGA Event of the Year Award for their "Love Does Not Hurt: An Oath Against Violence" event that SGA hosted. Not only did Stephen help review and give advice to the SGA officers to make the application better prior to the conference, Stephen was also instrumental with planning the event with the SGA President before he was the SGA advisor.

Throughout the conference, Stephen emphasized focusing on planning for the future success of the organization and looking at ways to increase Collin College's involvement at the regional and state level. In 2019-2020, involvement increased as Collin College would see its membership increase from 10 students to over 80 members during meetings. Collin College also submitted nominations for numerous regional and state awards and placed in many of them. Their involvement grew to having a Collin College serving on the TJCSGA state board as Host School and TJCSGA Region II as Public Relations, including Stephen serving as a Region II Co-Advisor where he provides support for the current executive board.

During the pandemic, Stephen has worked to get officers additional online parliamentary procedure training and having all officers take part in the NACA SGA Institute in Summer 2020, so the team could still grow as a team even without in-person meetings. Stephen also helped get items to improve our SGA office spaces and coordinated the Plano Campus Student Center renovation that saw the SGA office get more usable space. Stephen has attended both the TJCSGA Region II Fall and Spring Conferences in 2019, 2020, & 2021 and has attended the TJCSGA State Convention in 2019, 2020, and will attend in 2021. In 2019-2020 Stephen helped with the Awards Committee during the judging process and during the fall conference committee meetings, presented during the 2020 TJCSGA Region conference on conflict resolution.





ACCOLADES:



"Stephen is an excellent leader who encourages everyone to do and be their best. He leads by example and not just by words. Stephen is always prepared to help students by doing whatever is necessary. He always seeks opportunities for students to get involved in leadership roles and by offering training so they succeed. Stephen pushes students because he cares, he simply cares, which is an excellent quality in providing student leadership." - Donna Okaro, Retired Primary Advisor of SGA, and employee of Collin College for over 30 years.



"When I first became involved with SGA, as a Frisco Senator, SGA was in the process of rebuilding itself after losing several senators and having no advisors. Mr. Stephen Rogers took the call to action to ensure our student's voices were not affected by the instability by stepping up to be the acting Primary Advisor. His passion for not only his employees' success but also the success of organizations and the students of our college is exceptionally contagious. Rogers's impact may be seen at our SA as he mentored and developed passionate student leaders who rebuilt our SGA within several months. Within those months, our hard work was celebrated as our organization earned various awards at region and state. What was once a crippled organization now is one that's been recognized at the college, region and state (level). ." - Juan Sanchez, Collin College Student Body President, 2020-2021 Academic School Year.



"Stephen Rogers has been able to see the talent and leadership in people that they might not see in themselves. He did that for me. He's the mentor, friend, and practically family, that we need. In many respects, I feel like he's the best Primary Advisor that I've had in any student organization!" - James (Michael) Goodman, Collin College SGA Member of the Year (2019-2020), Collin College SGA Parliamentarian-Historian (2020-2021)



To say that Stephen Rogers has had an impact on the Collin College community would be an understatement and his presence as an advisor has been beneficial for all those who have had the privilege to work beside him. He is someone that is incredibly forward in his directives: he sets high expectations for those he works with and he expects the same level of passion that he puts into his workplace. That being said, he possesses the compassion to care for others and works to lift others, even in their lowest points. This altruism this is reflected in the relationships that he's built within our college community and within our region. He is both a wonderful colleague and mentor to myself and students alike. - Brooke Klinger, Collin College SGA Secondary Advisor