

The United States Student Association's

61ST ANNUAL NATIONAL STUDENT CONGRESS

*Madison, Wisconsin
August 2-6, 2008*

EDUCATION IS A RIGHT



UNITED STATES
STUDENT ASSOCIATION





AGENDA AT A GLANCE

National Student Congress 2008 Agenda

Saturday, August 2

9:00 AM – 12:30 PM
1:00 PM – 4:50 PM
5:00 PM – 6:30 PM
6:40 PM – 9:00 PM
9:10 PM – 11:10 PM
11:30 PM – 1:00 PM

Board of Directors Meeting
Registration
Dinner: Opening Session
Grassroots Organizing Training
Issue Briefing
Karaoke

Sunday, August 3

9:00 AM – 10:15 AM
10:25 AM – 11:55 AM
12:05 PM – 1:20 PM
1:20 PM – 11:35 PM
1:30 PM – 3:00 PM
3:10 PM – 4:40 PM
4:50 PM – 6:50 PM
7:00 PM – 8:30 PM
8:40 PM – 10:10 PM
10:20 PM – 11:35 PM

So you want to be on the board & Workshops
Regional Meeting
Lunch: Officer Nominations
Submission Help
State and System Student Association Coalition & Workshops
National Women's Student Coalition & Ally Meeting
National People of Color Student Coalition & Ally Meeting
Dinner on Your Own & Committee Meetings
National Queer Student Coalition
Caucus Sessions 1

Monday, August 4

8:30 AM – 12:20 PM
8:30 AM – 9:30 AM
9:40 AM – 10:55 AM
11:05 AM – 12:20 PM
12:30 PM
12:30 PM – 2:30 PM
2:30 PM – 4:30 PM
4:30 PM – 6:30 PM
6:30 PM – 8:00 PM
8:00 PM

Submission Help
Queer Ally Meeting
Caucus Sessions 2
Caucus Sessions 3
Submissions Due
Lunch: Candidate Speeches & Candidate Q&A
Administrative Plenary & Officer Elections
Issue Plenary
BBQ
Issue Plenary cont.

Tuesday, August 5

8:30 AM – 11:30 AM
11:40 AM – 12:40 PM
12:50 PM – 2:05 PM
2:15 PM – 3:30 PM
3:40 PM – 4:55 PM
5:05 PM – 6:35 PM
6:35 PM – 7:30 PM
7:30 PM – 8:30 PM
8:40 PM – 9:40 PM
9:50 PM – 10:50 PM
11:00 PM – 12:00 AM
12:00 AM – 2:00 AM

Campaign Strategy & Planning Session
Lunch
Regional Meeting
State and System Student Association Coalition & Workshops
National Women's Student Coalition & Workshops
National People of Color Student Coalition & Workshops
Dinner on Your Own
National Queer Student Coalition
Caucus Sessions 1
Caucus Sessions 2
Caucus Sessions 3
Party

Wednesday, August 6

9:00 AM – 10:00 AM
10:10 AM – 4:00 PM

Board of Directors Transition
Board of Directors Meeting



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USSA WELCOME LETTER



United States Student Association

Dear National Student Congress Participants,

Welcome to the 61st annual National Student Congress! We are excited to hold this year's Congress on the beautiful University of Wisconsin – Madison campus – the site of the first National Student Congress. This is a critical time for students across the country as we unite under a collective voice to set the national student agenda.

Over the past year, we worked to increase students' grassroots power through issue campaigns, like affordability to higher education and the DREAM Act. USSA also is prepared to register and turn students out to vote. And we made our voices heard! In D.C., we assisted the passage of the College Cost Reduction and Access Act of 2007, which has been called the biggest boost to access since the G.I. Bill. We have also supported grassroots direct action on the campus and state level.

We hardly need to tell you what a historic moment we face this year. With a national presidential election just two months away and record youth voter turnout, our opportunity to come together to improve our everyday lives has never been closer. Our *studentsVOTE'08* campaign is poised to insure that historically excluded youth populations are at the forefront of demanding this agenda. We now have the opportunity as student leaders from across the country to institutionalize these successes and demand that our priorities be enacted for years to come.

During this week's conference, we will prepare for both the fall and the spring - to maximize our electoral muscles and act on the student agenda created here. As we work toward these goals, let us think strategically about the campaigns we choose and who, in the organization's leadership, will be accountable for their implementation. We hope that you will take advantage of every opportunity to learn from your peers and build relationships for the future. We hope you enjoy the conference and leave pumped to make historic leaps in access to higher education.

In Solidarity,

Gabe Pendas

Carmen Berkley



WELCOME TO MADISON



THE UNIVERSITY
of
WISCONSIN
MADISON

August 2, 2008

Dear Student Leader,

As Dean of Students at the University of Wisconsin–Madison, I would like to extend you a warm welcome to the 61st Annual National Student Congress. It is a pleasure to have you here on our campus as you vote on leadership and national priorities for the coming year.

University courses prepare students for the leadership opportunities that you are engaging in by attending this conference. As college students, you have incredible opportunities to be exposed to—and to create opportunities for others to be exposed to—a vast diversity of thought, background, and experiences. I have no doubt that these opportunities will prove to be among the most memorable and valuable of your college career. I commend you for your leadership in these realms, and hope that you know that those of us in administration recognize and appreciate how critical your efforts are to our campus communities.

I have been consistently amazed and humbled by the incredible work that our student leaders do here at UW-Madison. I feel lucky to be part of a community with such a distinguished tradition of, and dedication to, student involvement. Your participation in this conference demonstrates that what I am so excited about here is also true at your respective campuses as well. I hope that you are all able to gain valuable ideas and insights this weekend, make lasting connections with your peers at other institutions, and find some time to enjoy some of the wonderful things Madison has to offer.

UW-Madison sits right in the heart of the city, with the ideal combination of natural beauty, cultural offerings, outdoor recreation, a wide variety of restaurants, unique shops, vibrant nightlife and more. While you are here, I hope that you will be able to take a walk down State Street, a half-mile long pedestrian mall featuring restaurants, coffee shops and retail stores, serving as a connection between Wisconsin's state capitol building and our campus. Or, visit the Memorial Union Terrace, one of the most popular hangouts for students, staff and alumni alike. Located on Lake Mendota, the Terrace is a gathering place to listen to live music, watch outdoor movies, or enjoy a brat and some Babcock ice cream.

We are honored to be your host for this important meeting and once again welcome you to UW-Madison. I hope you enjoy your time here.

Sincerely,

Lori M. Berquam

Offices of the Dean of Students

75 Bascom Hall, 500 Lincoln Drive • Madison, WI 53706 • 608/263-5700 • TTY: 608/263-2400 • URL: www.wisc.edu/students

ASM Staff • Greater University Tutorial Service (GUTS) • International Student Services
LGBT Campus Center • McBurney Disability Resource Center • Multicultural Student Center
Center for the First Year Experience • Student Advocacy & Judicial Affairs • Student Organization Office • Vets for Vets





WELCOME TO MADISON



Office of the Mayor

David J. Cieslewicz

Room 403
210 Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard
Madison, Wisconsin 53703-3345
PH 608 266 4611
FAX 608 267 8671
TTY/Textnet 866 704 2340
mayor@cityofmadison.com

July 2008

Dear Students:

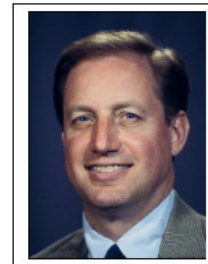
I am pleased to welcome you to Madison. I was delighted to hear of the decision to hold your annual Congress here, and I know you will not be disappointed by all that Madison has to offer.

Madison is a haven for students. The University of Wisconsin is at the very heart of Madison, and its 41,000 students define the city in so many ways. UW is the #1 research University in the United States. Year after year, UW leads the charge in stem-cell and alternative energy research. Madison has been called a "hotbed of biocapitalism," referring to our efforts in the fields of biology and energy. Madison consistently ranks in the top spots for WIRED magazine's most digitized and internet accessible cities in the U.S. There is a great diversity in what Madison offers, from the Memorial Union Terrace, to the shops along State Street, to the famed nightlife of the downtown area.

I hope that your 61st Annual Congress is fruitful, and that you explore Madison and take advantage of what our City has to offer. Enjoy Madison!

Sincerely,

David J. Cieslewicz
Mayor



MADISON, WISCONSIN 2008



WELCOME TO MADISON



TAMMY BALDWIN
2ND DISTRICT, WISCONSIN

Website: tammybaldwin.house.gov

COMMITTEE ON
ENERGY AND COMMERCE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON HEALTH
SUBCOMMITTEE ON
ENERGY AND AIR QUALITY
SUBCOMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT
AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

COMMITTEE ON
JUDICIARY
SUBCOMMITTEE ON CRIME,
TERRORISM, AND HOMELAND SECURITY

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

August 2008

2446 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
TEL.: (202) 225-2906
FAX: (202) 225-6942

10 EAST DOTY STREET, SUITE 405
MADISON, WI 53703
TEL.: (608) 258-9800
FAX: (608) 258-9808

400 EAST GRAND AVENUE, SUITE 402
BELOIT, WI 53511
TEL.: (608) 362-2800
FAX: (608) 362-2838

Dear National Student Congress Attendees:

I am pleased to welcome you to the University of Wisconsin-Madison campus for the United States Student Association's 61st annual National Student Congress. As a member of the United States House of Representatives serving the 2nd Congressional District of Wisconsin, I have the distinct honor and privilege of representing the student body here at UW-Madison. I am fortunate to be able to hear from students regularly on a wide range of issues.

As one of the nation's oldest and largest student-led organizations, the United States Student Association has the opportunity to give voice to thousands of students across the country on many issues including access to, and affordability for, higher education. The USSA's continued advocacy on behalf of students nationwide will help ensure that anyone who aspires to go to college and beyond can realize their dream without the fear of overwhelming financial debt. I firmly believe that it should be our country's highest priority to see that we make access to higher education a matter of personal ambition rather than financial security. Higher education can and should be an option for every American regardless of status, background, or identity.

Empowered and informed students like those of the USSA have always been crucial to advancing calls for social justice in our country. Young people eagerly engaged in the political process are vital to our democracy. The students of our nation's colleges and universities must remain committed to stimulating policy reform and social change so we may turn these longstanding goals into reality.

The State of Wisconsin and its university system are proud to host delegates to this year's National Student Congress. I applaud the work that each of you undertakes on your own campus and I look forward to supporting your efforts as you continue the USSA's legacy of advocacy and activism.

Sincerely,

Tammy Baldwin
Member of Congress

ORGANIZING & ADVOCATING SINCE 1947





WHAT IS IT ALL ABOUT?

MADISON, WISCONSIN 2008

What is Congress?

The National Student Congress is the annual membership conference held by USSA. It is one of the two opportunities a year that the entire membership is brought together to determine and implement USSA's agenda for the upcoming year. We hold Congress because we believe that students should be involved in the decision making process at every level of the organization. Because we are student-run and student-funded, our members determine the issues we prioritize in our Action Agenda campaigns, the types of strategies and tactics we use, as well as elect our National Officers and the Board of Directors.

USSA has a long and proud history of an inclusive and democratic process and this year is the 61st anniversary of setting the student agenda. This week each participant will become part of the formation of USSA's goals for the year and what we, as students, want to accomplish.

Conference Briefing

This is an opportunity for first-time Congress participants and returners to ask questions to staff and experienced Board members. By breaking into small groups, students go over the processes and procedures of Congress to gain a better understanding of the conference details and how USSA functions as a membership-driven organization.

Regional Meetings

Conference delegates will divide into regional meetings to get to know other students from their region and conduct regional business. Each region will elect representatives to the Congress committees, elect a Chair and Vice-chair that will represent the region on the Board of Directors and make its organizing plan for the year.

Each region is led by a Regional Chair and Vice Chair who sits on the Board of Directors and Advisory Council. Elections for incoming chairs will be held during your second regional meeting. **Remember that regional meetings are open only to participants from the states they represent. You must attend the first regional meeting in order to vote at the second.**

Caucuses and Affiliates

Identity-based caucuses and affiliates are part of USSA's structure. Affiliates and caucuses ensure that every constituency within USSA has institutionalized leadership and participation in making decisions. Each caucus and affiliate will elect a Chair and Vice-chair that will represent the caucus/affiliate on the Board of Directors and make its organizing plan for the year.

Each caucus and affiliate is also led by a Chair and Vice Chair who sit on the Board of Directors and Advisory Council. Elections for incoming chairs will be held during your second meeting. **Remember that caucus and affiliate meetings are open only to participants who self-identify with that group. You must attend the first meeting in order to vote at the second.**

Workshops

A mixture of skill-based and issue-based workshops provide conference participants with new information and tools to use on your campuses. The issue-based workshops are intended to allow participants and presenters to educate each other about the problems that currently affect students and offer solutions that make concrete improvements in the campus community. The skills-based workshops are designed to teach useful organizing skills, such as coalition building and media organizing.



WHAT IS IT ALL ABOUT?



ORGANIZING & ADVOCATING SINCE 1947

Congress Committees

There are three committees that are responsible for running Congress and to which your region will elect one representative for each Congress Steering Committee (CSC), Administrative Plenary Committee (APC) and the Issues Plenary Committee. It is crucial that you attend the first regional meeting to participate in the election process and to learn of any agenda changes or important announcements.

The **Administrative Plenary Committee (APC)** is responsible for reviewing and presenting amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws. APC is also responsible for reviewing and presenting Administrative Resolutions as well as organizing and clarifying proposals to be considered at the Administrative Plenary.

The **Issues Plenary Committee (IPC)** is responsible for reviewing submissions for Action Agenda Items and presenting items that meet all criteria at the Issues Plenary.

The **Congress Steering Committee (CSC)** is responsible for overseeing all elections and procedures of Congress. The results of all elections, including Affiliate and Regional Chairs and Vice-Chairs, must be reported to the Congress Steering Committee Chair immediately following the close of the voting period. CSC will facilitate elections upon request by a caucus, affiliate, or region if requested by someone from any of those groups. Members of CSC are not eligible to run for President or Vice President. During Congress, CSC makes sure that provisions in the Bylaws, Constitution, and Congress are followed and respected.

Plenary

The plenary is a meeting of the entire membership to decide important issues for the organization. USSA holds two plenaries:

- 1) The **Administrative Plenary** is convened to amend USSA's Constitution and Bylaws and to provide administrative direction to the organization, its elected officers, and staff. Proposals for the following items are heard during the Administrative Plenary:
 - **Administrative Resolutions** direct the Board of Directors, with the assistance of National Officers and/or staff to carry out certain tasks, projects and other administrative functions.
 - **Constitution and Bylaws Amendments** change the Constitution or Bylaws by adding, deleting, or rewording specific sections of these governing documents.
- 2) The **Issues Plenary** is convened to amend USSA's stance on issues and decide the priorities for grassroots legislative campaigns throughout the following year. Proposals for the following are heard during the Issues Plenary:
 - **Action Agenda Items** designate the priority issues that will be USSA's grassroots legislative campaigns for the following year.

Officers, Board of Directors, and Advisory Council Elections

Throughout the week, you will meet candidates for the position of USSA President and Vice President, as well as candidates for each of the Board of Directors seats representing the various caucus, affiliates, and regions. The only positions voted on in a general election of the entire membership are the President and Vice President. All candidates for these positions will address the body on Tuesday. The regional, caucus, and affiliate Board elections will be conducted in their second meeting. In order to participate in the elections, you must be a credentialed voting delegate from a member school and have attended the first meeting.





AGENDA

Saturday, August 2

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM | USSA 2007-2008 Board of Directors Meeting |
| MSC Satellite Conference Room | |
| 12:30 PM – 1:00 PM | Lunch on Your Own |
| 1:00 PM – 5:00 PM | Registration |
| Sellery Hall Main Lounge | |
| 5:00 PM – 6:30 PM | Dinner: Opening Session |
| Gordon Commons C4 | |
| 6:40 PM – 9:00 PM | Grassroots Organizing Training |
| Sellery Hall Main Lounge | Track A |
| Sellery 6 th Floor Den | Track B |
| Sellery 7 th Floor Den | Track C |
| Gordon Commons A1 | Track D |
| Gordon Commons A2 | Track E |
| 9:10 PM – 11:10 PM | Issue Briefing |
| Sellery Hall Main Lounge | Track A |
| Sellery 6 th Floor Den | Track B |
| Sellery 7 th Floor Den | Track C |
| Gordon Commons A1 | Track D |
| Gordon Commons A2 | Track E |
| 11:30 PM – 1:00 AM | Karaoke |
| Sellery Hall Main Lounge | |

All Submissions for Plenary due by Monday, 4th 12:30 PM!

Be sure to visit **Submission Help** at ASM 5th Floor Memorial Union / MCSC. Here you can get help from getting answers to your questions about how to submit an action agenda item to assistance in drafting an administrative resolution.

You can submit all forms into Submission Help or email them.

- Administrative.Plenary@gmail.com– for Administrative Resolution & Constitution/Bylaw Amendments
- USSA.Issues.Plenary@gmail.com– for Action Agenda Items

Submission Help Hours:

Sunday 1:20-11:30 PM

Monday 8:30AM-12:30 PM



AGENDA



Sunday, August 3

9:00 AM – 10:15 AM

So You Want to be on the Board / Workshops

Sellery Hall Main Lounge **So You Want to be on the Board**

Sellery 7th Floor Den

Understanding Policy

Caitlin Howarth, Roosevelt Institution

Winning any political or issue campaign requires strong organizing and mobilizing, from your college campus to the federal government. But campaigns also require ideas and information—policy proposals for how to change the system and data to back your claims. Come learn about the role that public policy research and message formulation plays in any successful strategy. This workshop provides a framework that is explored in more depth in the next workshop session.

Sellery 6th Floor Den

How to Run for Student Government and Win

Bill Shiebler, National Field Director

In this workshop we'll survey the key components of a successful student government election campaign. From organizing slates of candidates to working with online elections, you'll learn the various strategies to win your campaign. We'll also discuss how to unify and structure your student government to become agents of change after the election.

10:15 AM – 10:25 AM

Regional Meeting

Sellery Hall Main Lounge

Golden Pacific

Lowell Center B1B

Great Lakes

Sellery 6th Floor Den

Atlantic/Empire Garden

Sellery 7th Floor Den

Pacific Northwest

MSC Conference Room

Southeast

Mezzanine A/B Red Gym

New England

TBA

South Central/Rocky Mountain/Great Plains

12:05 PM – 1:20 PM

Lunch & Officer Nominations

Gordon Commons C4

1:30 PM – 3:00 PM

SSSAC / Workshops

Sellery Hall Main Lounge **State & System Student Association Coalition (SSSAC)**

Sellery 6th Floor Den

Voter Outreach and Registration

David Sievers, Training Director

Shannon Martin, EAT Trainer

This session is packed full with information on how to run a voter engagement campaign. You'll learn where to find the students you want to register and how to register them. The trainers will demonstrate how to use creative tools to collect data and survey students about the issues that are important to them. Finally, we'll discuss asking your administration to provide key resources to support your campaign.

Sellery 7th Floor Den

Policy in Practice

Caitlin Howarth, Roosevelt Institution

So ... what does policy that is a part of the student agenda look like? This workshop will put the world of policy into context by focusing on concrete issues that affect students' lives – Community College access and the DREAM Act. This workshop builds upon the framework laid out in "Understanding Policy" by bringing it to the real world. It is designed as the second of a 2-part series but will be useful to everyone.

ORGANIZING & ADVOCATING SINCE 1947





AGENDA

MADISON, WISCONSIN 2008

3:10 PM – 4:40 PM

Sellery Hall Main Lounge
Sellery 6th Floor Den

National Women's Student Caucus (NWSC) & Allies

NWSC
NWSC Allies

4:50 PM – 6:50 PM

Sellery Hall Main Lounge
Sellery 6th Floor Den

National People of Color Student Coalition (NPCSC) & Allies

NPCSC
NPCSC Allies

7:00 PM – 8:30 PM

Gordon Commons 49
Gordon Commons 30
Gordon Commons 32

Committee Meetings

Congress Steering Committee
Administrative Plenary Committee
Issues Plenary Committee

7:00 PM – 8:30 PM

Dinner on Your Own

8:40 PM – 10:10 PM

Vilas 4013

National Queer Student Coalition (NQSC)

NQSC

10:20 PM – 11:35 PM

Sellery Main Lounge
Sellery Classroom
Sellery 7th Floor Den
Sellery 6th Floor Den

Caucus Session

National Coalition of Students with Disabilities
Students of the Jewish Community
Working Class Caucus
Women of Color Caucus

Monday, August 4

8:30 AM – 9:30 AM

Sellery Hall Main Lounge

NQSC Allies

NQSC Allies

9:40 AM – 10:55 AM

MCS Lounge
Vilas 4013
Mezz. A/B
Sellery Main Lounge

Caucus Sessions / Workshops

Non-traditional First Generation Caucus
Queer Students of Color Caucus
Community College Caucus
Multi/Biracial Caucus

Gordon Commons A1

Messaging Guidelines

Jennifer Knox, University of California Student Association

In order to get students excited about voting we need to make the elections RELEVANT! The trainers will demonstrate how to engage people through having conversations about the issues that matter to them. The students will get a chance to create their own messages and get feedback from the group.

Gordon Commons A2

Developing an Electoral Campaign Plan

Rachel Ackoff, Electoral Project Director

So, your organization is readying to run a voter engagement campaign. You've got the membership, the energy, the skills, and the goal. Now you need to put all of those pieces together into one bomber plan! In this session we'll discuss how to create a backwards plan that incorporates your goals, tasks, deadlines and timeline into one streamlined, easy-to-use master plan.

11:05 AM – 12:20 PM

Mezzanine A/B
MSC Conf. Room (Red Gym)
Sellery Hall Main Lounge
MSC Lounge (Red Gym)

Caucus Sessions

International Students Caucus
Private College Caucus
Veterans Caucus
Graduate & Professional Caucus



AGENDA



Vilas 4004

Recruitment and Organization Building

Maria Escobar, SLAP Project Coordinator

Lindsay McCluskey, GROW Trainer

If your organization is just getting off the ground or has been established for years this workshop is for you. In this session you'll learn how to build an effective organization, develop leaders, create communication systems and more. We'll explain what motivates people to join organizations and guidelines that can be used to recruit and retain new members.

Vilas 4013

Advanced Recruitment

Tamara Henderson, Oregon Student Association

Are you an experienced organizer who has recruitment down? This workshop is designed for people who have been through a USSA recruitment training before and are looking for new ways to think about and act on expanding their organizations.

Vilas 4046

Economic Disparity: What Happened to our Future? What we're doing to take it back!

Maria Escobar, SLAP Project Coordinator

Carlos Jimenez, Jobs with Justice

In campuses across the country, more and more young people are coming together with workers to take a stand for social and economic justice. Come learn about the forces that have worked to create meaningful change in the lives of Americans, as well as learn the latest from the frontlines of the student and worker movements in the Student Labor Action Project (SLAP), USSA's collaboration with Jobs with Justice.

Humanities 1121

Developing Vote Coalitions

Chii-San SunOwen, EAT Trainer

Gabriel Pendas, President

You have big plans to register students on your campus, so now; you need people to do it! The solution: build a diverse vote coalition. You will learn how to engage a wide variety of student organizations to build a powerful vote coalition. The trainers will discuss how to avoid typical coalition pitfalls through developing a clear and effective structure, decision-making methods and roles and responsibilities.

12:30 PM

PLENARY SUBMISSION DEADLINE

12:20 PM – 1:30 PM

Mezz. A/B

MSC Conference Room

Mezz. C/D

Committee Meetings

Administrative Plenary Committee

Issues Plenary Committee

Congress Steering Committee

12:30 PM – 2:30 PM

Gordon Commons C4

Lunch: Candidate Speeches & Candidate Q&A

2:30 PM – 4:30 PM

Gordon Commons C4

Administrative Plenary & Officer Elections

4:30 PM – 6:30 PM

Gordon Commons C4

Issue Plenary

6:30 PM – 8:00 PM

Witte Backyard

BBQ

8:00 PM – 1:00 AM

Gordon Commons C4

Issue Plenary

ORGANIZING & ADVOCATING SINCE 1947





AGENDA

Tuesday, August 5

8:30 AM – 11:30 AM

Sellery Hall Main Lounge

Campaign Strategy and Planning Session

11:40 AM – 12:40 AM

Gordon Commons C4

Lunch

12:50 PM – 2:05 PM

Sellery Hall Main Lounge

Lowell Lounge Red Gym

Sellery 6th Floor Den

Sellery 7th Floor Den

Gordon MSC Conference Room

Mezzanine A/B Red Gym

MSC Conf. Room (Red Gym)

Regional Meetings

Golden Pacific

Great Lakes

Atlantic/Empire Garden

Pacific Northwest

Southeast

New England

South Central/Rocky Mountain/Great Plans

2:15 PM – 3:30 PM

Sellery Hall Main Lounge

SSSAC / Workshops

State & Systemwide Student Association Coalition

Vilas 4013

Managing Volunteers, Developing Leaders

Chii-San SunOwen, EAT Trainer

Shannon Martin, EAT Trainer

Every successful campaign has experienced leaders and a strong volunteer base. This session will focus on strengthening and increasing student involvement through targeted one-on-one conversations, new leader development, and effective volunteer management tools.

Vilas 4046

Achieving and Maintaining Equal Opportunity

Israel Garcia, Colorado Field Organizer

This workshop will examine the importance of Equal Opportunity / Affirmative Action in higher education . It will begin with background on the issue to place it into context and dispel myths and misinformation. It will also look at the current attacks on affirmative action in various states and what is being done to combat them, suggesting a new frame for our organizing on issues of equal opportunity.

3:40 PM – 4:55 PM

Sellery Hall Main Lounge

NWSC & Workshops

National Women Student Coalition

Vilas 4013

Electoral Grassroots Tactics for Action

Gabriel Pendas, President

Serena Unrein, Arizona Students' Association

In this session, we are going to talk about how to move people to action—and by taking action we mean everything from registering to vote, to volunteering, to turning out to vote. You'll learn how to plan and execute the most successful grassroots tactics used by student vote coalitions nationwide.

Vilas 4046

Can't Stop, Won't Stop: How to Avoid Burnout

Greg Cendana, GROW Trainer

There is always more to do than you could possibly get done. If you haven't seen burnout or experienced it first hand, then you are either a lucky organizer or doing something right. Come learn methods for staying sane so that you can keep doing great work.

MADISON, WISCONSIN 2008



AGENDA



5:05 PM – 6:35 PM

Sellery Hall Main Lounge

NPCSC / Workshops

National People of Color Student Coalition

Vilas 4013

Get Out the Vote

David Sievers, Training Director

So, you've registered everyone on your campus. Now, you need to get them to the polls on Election Day. You'll learn creative visibility tactics to remind people to vote. The trainers will also discuss everything that you need on Election Day from rides to the polls to making poll checks.

Vilas 4046

Election Protection

TBA

It's 2008 and we still have to worry about our votes counting! Young people are a target group for voter intimidation and disenfranchisement because they are often first-time voters. Come learn your rights and how to combat tactics aimed at keeping your voice out of the political process.

6:35 PM – 7:30 PM

Dinner on Your Own

7:30 PM – 8:30 PM

Vilas 4013

NQSC

National Queer Student Coalition

8:40 PM – 9:40 PM

Sellery Main Lounge
Sellery Classroom 49
Sellery 7th Floor Den
Sellery 6th Floor Den

Caucus Sessions

National Coalition of Students with Disabilities
Students of the Jewish Community
Working Class Caucus
Women of Color Caucus

9:50 PM – 10:50 PM

Sellery Hall Main Lounge
Sellery 7th Floor Den
Vilas 4013
Sellery 6th Floor Den

Caucus Sessions

Non-traditional First Generation Caucus
Community College Caucus
Queer Students of Color Caucus
Multi/Biracial Caucus

11:00 PM – 12:00 AM

Sellery Hall Main Lounge
Sellery 6th Floor Den
Sellery 7th Floor Den
Sellery Classroom 49

Caucus Sessions

Veterans Caucus
International Students Caucus
Graduate & Professional Caucus
Private College Caucus

12:00 AM – 2:00 AM

Madison

PARTY!

Wednesday, August 6

9:00 AM – 10:00 AM

MSC Lounge Red Gym

Board Transition

10:10 AM – 12:00 PM

MSC Lounge Red Gym

2008-2009 USSA Board of Directors Meeting

12:10 PM – 1:10 PM

Gordon Commons C4

Lunch

1:10 PM – 4:00 PM

MSC Lounge Red Gym

2008-2009 USSA Board of Directors Meeting cont.

ORGANIZING & ADVOCATING SINCE 1947

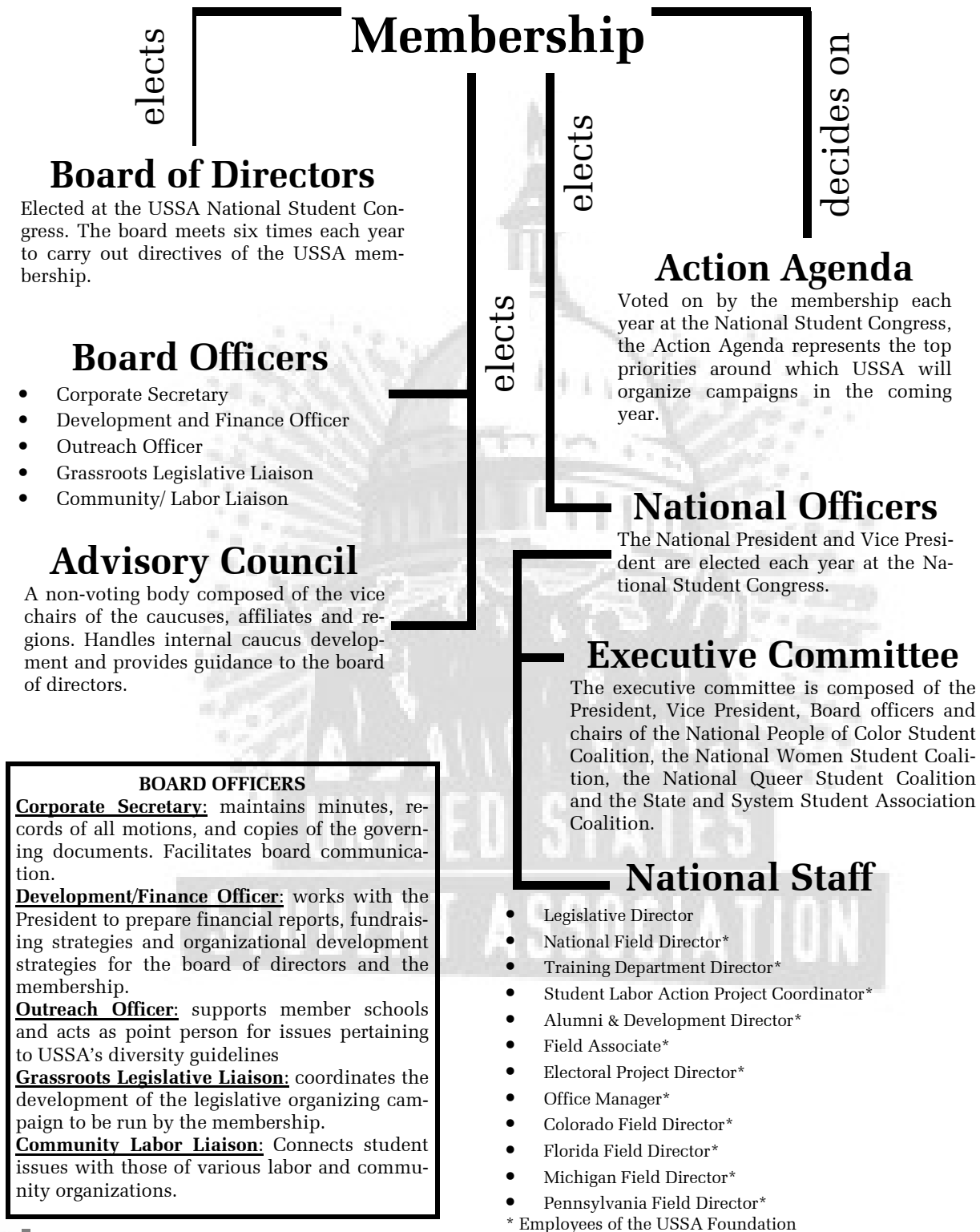




ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

The Power of the United States Student Association lies within our membership!

MADISON, WISCONSIN 2008



2007/2008 BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Lacey Ecker
University of Pittsburgh
Atlantic

Amanda Reed*
University of Pittsburgh
Atlantic

Anh Nguyen*
University of Wisconsin - La Crosse
Great Lakes

Christine Byon
University of California - Santa Barbara
Golden Pacific

Danny Montes*
University of California - Berkley
Golden Pacific

Lindsay McCluskey
University of Massachusetts - Amherst
New England

Sakeena Kazmi*
University of Massachusetts - Amherst
New England

Ryan Klute
Portland State University
Pacific Northwest

Mike Bogatay*
Central Washington University
Pacific Northwest

Kenasha Paul
Florida International University - Bis-
cayne Bay
South East

David Grimes*
Florida State University
South East

Chii-San SunOwen
University of Oregon
National People of Color Student Coali-
tion

Maya Henderson*
University of California - Riverside
National People of Color Student Coali-
tion

Tuyen Nguyen
University of California - Santa Barbara
National Women's Student Coalition

William Dennis
University North Carolina -Wilmington
National Queer Student Coalition

Jake Stillwell
Central Washington University
State and System Student Association
Coalition

Gabe Bohn
University of Wisconsin - Sheboygan
Community College Caucus

Josh Mann*
University of Wisconsin - Waukesha
Community College Caucus

Rudy Soto
Portland State University
First People

Martha Preciado-Brisegno
University of California - Riverside
La Coalición

Katrina Flores*
University of Wisconsin - Madison
La Coalición

Sandra Lane
University of California - Santa Cruz
Multi/Bi-racial Caucus

Kevin Dopwell*
University of Wisconsin - Madison
Multi/Bi-racial Caucus

Dionne Jirachaikitti
University of California - Berkley
National Asian Pacific American Student
Coalition

Kalwis Lo*
University of California - Santa Cruz
National Asian Pacific American Student
Coalition

Solymar Sola-Negron
University of California - Santa Cruz
National Queer Student of Color Caucus

James Birks*
University of California - Los Angeles
National Queer Student of Color Caucus

Jesse Melgar
University of California - Los Angeles
Non Traditional/First Generation

Emilio Lacques*
University of California - Los Angeles
Non Traditional/First Generation

Katiana Saintable
Florida International University - Bis-
cayne Bay
People of African Descent

Yemi Adewunmi
University of Pittsburgh
People of African Descent

Yalda Satar
University of California - Riverside
People of Middle Eastern and South
Asian Descent

June Hamad*
University of California - Santa Barbara
People of Middle Eastern and South
Asian Descent

Joe Mirkin
University of Massachusetts - Amherst
Students of the Jewish Community

Naomi Mitchell
University of Pittsburgh
Women of Color Caucus

Ali Sirleaf*
University of Wisconsin - Madison
Women of Color Caucus

Lisa Chen
University of California - San Diego
Working Class Student Caucus

Diego Hernandez*
University of Oregon
Working Class Student Caucus

David Partida
University of California - Santa Cruz
Community and Labor Liaison

Greg Cedena
University of California - Los Angeles
Outreach Officer

Sammie Dow
North Carolina A&T State University
Legislative Liaison

Stella Luong
University of Wisconsin - Madison
Development and Finance Officer

Hailey Snow
University of California - Santa Cruz
Corporate Secretary

**Bold Type indicates a member of USSA's
Executive Committee**
* Indicates a member of the Advisory Council

ORGANIZING & ADVOCATING SINCE 1947





NATIONAL STAFF

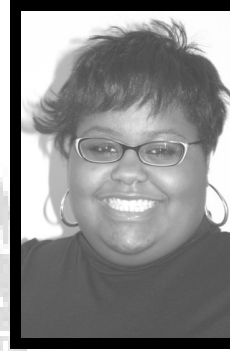
MADISON, WISCONSIN 2008



Gabriel Pendas
President

Quote: "Dejeme decirle, a riesgo de parecer ridículo, que el revolucionario verdadero está guiado por grandes sentimientos de amor."

-Che Guevara



Carmen Berkeley
Vice President

Quote: "I am convinced that the truest act of courage, the strongest act of manliness is to sacrifice ourselves for others in a totally non violent struggle for justice."

-Cesar Chavez



Angela Peoples
Legislative Director

Quote: "Greatness is not measured by what a man or woman accomplishes, but by the opposition he or she has overcome to reach his goals."

- Dorothy I. Height



David Sievers
Organizing Director

Quote: "Everyone has a favorite quote David."

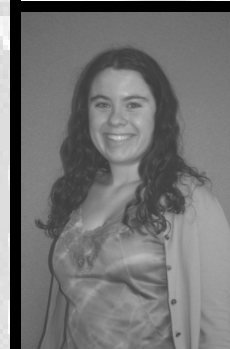
-Kathleen Templin



Timothy Bingaman
Alumni & Development Director

Quote: "Not everything that is faced can be changed. But nothing can be changed until it is faced."

-James Baldwin



Rachel Ackoff
Electoral project Director

Quote: "Change is inevitable. Change for the better is a full-time job."

- Adlai Stevenson



Bill Shiebler
National Field Director

Quote: "We have a duty to fight. We have a duty to win. We must love each other and protect each other. We have nothing to lost but our chains."

- Assata Shakur



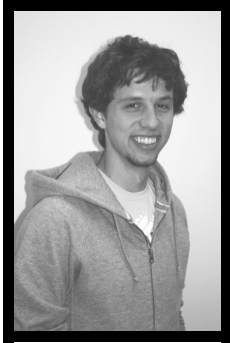
Try Onaghise-Coburn
Office Manager

Quote: "There is always something to do. There are hungry people to feed, naked people to clothe, sick people to comfort and make well. And while I don't expect you to save the world I do think it's not asking too much for you to love those with whom you sleep, share the happiness of those whom you call friend, engage those among you who are visionary and remove from your live those who offer you depression, despair and disrespect."

- Nikki Giovanni



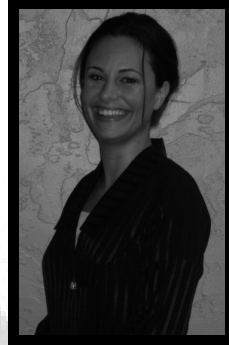
NATIONAL STAFF



Jonathan Doster
Michigan Field Director

Quote: "As you enter positions of trust and power, dream a little before you think."

- Toni Morrison



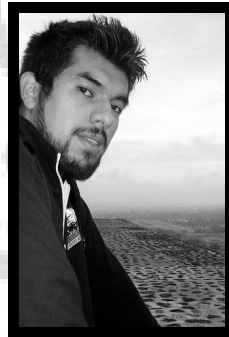
Jessica Williams
Florida Field Director



Israel Garcia
Colorado Field Director

Quote: "Si usted tiembla la indignación en cada injusticia entonces usted es un camarada mío. - If you tremble indignation at every injustice then you are a comrade of mine."

- Ernesto "Che" Guevara



Carlos Jimenez
Student Labor Action Project Coordinator

Quote: "A process cannot be understood by stopping it. Understanding must move with the flow of the process, must join it and flow with it."

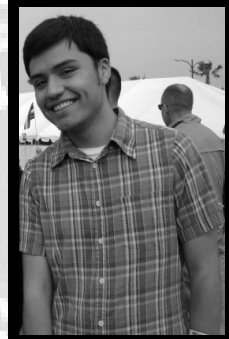
- The First Law of the Mentat, Frank Herbert, Dune



Maria Escobar
Student Labor Action Project Coordinator

Quote: "Freedom does not exist, only the search for it, and that search is what makes us free."

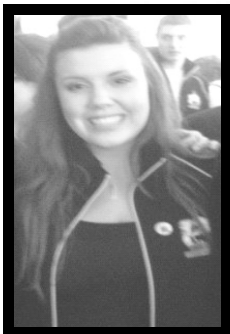
- Carlos Fuentes



Eddie Garcia
Summer Intern

Quote "We draw our strength from the very despair in which we have been forced to live. We shall endure."

- Cesar Chavez



Kathleen Templin
Summer Intern

Quote: "Never doubt that a small group of committed people can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has."

- Margaret Mead

ORGANIZING & ADVOCATING SINCE 1947



SO YOU WANT TO BE ON THE BOARD..



The USSA Board of Directors is the governing body of the Association. The Board performs a variety of functions, as well as gives students the opportunity to gain first-hand experience in running a national organization. In order to run for the Board, you must be willing and able to complete all the roles listed below. USSA is only as strong as the students who are committed to the organization. If you do not feel you can meet all of the requirements, talk to staff about other ways you can participate in USSA without being on the Board.

Positions Available

Each region, affiliate, and caucus (RACs) in USSA elects a Chair and Vice Chair during Congress. The Chair will serve on the Board of Directors and the Vice Chair will serve on the Advisory Council. (See page 31 for a list of the RACs.) In addition, the newly elected board will elect 5 members to the Executive Committee at their first board meeting on July 26th.

Eligibility

- In order to run for the board, you must be able to prove to your affiliate, caucus or region that your school/organization has the financial resources to be on the board.
- You must be a voting member at Congress and have attended the first and second meetings of the affiliate, caucus or region to run.
- Experience organizing a campus or statewide campaign is strongly encouraged.

Constituency Roles

- Create a network of at least 10 student organizations, made up of member schools as well as on other campuses around the country, who would be considered part of your affiliate/caucus/region and should be informed of USSA campaigns.
- Implement and follow through on your affiliate/caucus/region Work Plan as determined by your group during Congress.
- Provide monthly updates for your affiliate/caucus/region (either through e-mail or conference calls).

National Roles

- Members of the Board of Directors are responsible for attending 6 board meetings. The meetings take place in July (at Congress), October (in Washington D.C.), January (TBD), March (LegCon), May (TBD) and again in August (at Congress). Members of the Advisory Council are required to attend 4 board meetings.
- Board roles include but are not limited to submitting written reports to the board, review and approve the budget, hire staff, review and approve Congress and LegCon logistics, participate in monthly board calls, etc.
- Serve as a USSA representative at national conferences and on conference calls.
- Recruit new member schools to USSA.

Campus Roles

- Create a list of 10 large student organizations on campus, as well as other contacts on campus (including student government) to aid you in your organizing efforts.
- Organize at least 4 USSA Days of Action on your campus (Action Agenda call-in days, NTAAD, Day of Silence, SLAP Week of Action, etc.).
- Present a USSA Legislative Briefing to your student government, student organizations and the larger student body 2 times during the school year (Materials and updates will be provided by staff).
- Be knowledgeable of the fee process on campus and help USSA with membership dues.
- Set up USSA Action Team on campus that includes at least 5 student organizations and 30 students and connect with pre-established campus leader networks.
- Establish a relationship with your campus and local newspaper editorial boards.



A Brief History By Angus Johnston

Introduction

Although discussions of the student movement frequently begin and end with the radical activism of the 1960s, the real history of the movement in the United States begins far earlier. American students have been organizing on a national level for nearly a century, and USSA has been an important part of that organizing since the end of the Second World War---as a nascent national student union in the late forties, as a cautiously liberal organization in the fifties, as an increasingly activist federation of student governments in the sixties, as a radical antiwar outfit in the early seventies, and as a broad-based progressive advocacy group in the eighties and nineties. Today USSA remains the largest, most inclusive national student association in the nation.

The Beginning

In 1946 students from the United States and 37 other countries met in Prague, Czechoslovakia, to launch the International Union of Students, a confederation of national student unions. Although strong national student organizations had flourished in the United States in the 1930s, each had disbanded by the end of the war, and the Americans returned from Prague convinced of the need for a fresh start. Hundreds of students attended a planning meeting in Chicago that December, and the Constitutional Convention of the United States National Student Association (NSA) was held at the University of Wisconsin at Madison the following summer.

NSA was oriented around campus concerns from its earliest days, working to strengthen student government, enhance civil liberties on the American campus, and expand access to higher education. NSA's Student Bill of Rights was a milestone in American student history---one of the nation's earliest and most comprehensive articulations of the proposition that students were deserving of adult respect within the university.

From the beginning, some NSA members argued that the association should avoid taking on political causes, but others contended that the membership had a right to address any problem that affected students, and a responsibility to consider issues of national concern. NSA discovered early on that there was no easy way to make the distinction between 'political' and 'non-political' actions---the association alienated some of its members when it went on the record in opposition to educational segregation at its first meeting, and again when it elected Ted Harris, an African American from Pennsylvania, to its presidency in 1948.

In 1951 NSA condemned "mccarthyism" after a lengthy debate on whether capitalizing the term would be too personal an attack on Senator McCarthy himself, and in 1953 the association condemned South African apartheid, but only as it affected higher education. Such cautious liberalism drew harsh criticism from both the right and the left, with conservatives accusing NSA of being a Communist front while the Communist Party denounced it as fascist.

The Cold War and the Fifties

The 1950s brought financial difficulties, and in 1951 three of NSA's five staff positions were eliminated. The US government took a new interest in student politics as the cold war got underway, particularly once it became clear that IUS had aligned itself with the Communist bloc. Although NSA embraced a range of student voices, the group's leadership was generally moderate, and NSA's relationship with the government was a comfortable one.

It was in this context that the Central Intelligence Agency began working with, and funding, NSA's international office in the early 1950s. For more than a decade, a small clique of NSA officers and staff worked closely with CIA officials, while others in NSA leadership, particularly those who worked solely on domestic issues, were kept in the dark. Although a few of students later claimed that their co-operation had been coerced, for the most part they were motivated by self-interest and a sincere belief in the rightness of the government's cause.

ORGANIZING & ADVOCATING SINCE 1947





HISTORY

The Movements of the Sixties

By the end of the 1950s NSA was becoming more politically active, and in 1959 the group hired an alumna named Constance Curry to open a civil rights office in Atlanta. When student sit-ins against segregation began to spread throughout the South in early 1960, Curry provided funds and logistical support to the activists, and when the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) was organized that spring, she was made a member of its executive committee.

NSA played a vital role in the wave of student activism that rose in the early 1960s, doing much to advance a student-centered vision for the American university. Many of the founders of the Students for a Democratic Society (SDS) became involved in national activism through NSA, and thousands of students got their first glimpse of the civil rights and antiwar movements through NSA events. Although SNCC and SDS were often critical of NSA's national leadership's moderation, they relied on the association for volunteers, publicity, and national communication.

At the same time, right-wing criticism of NSA grew sharper. At the 1961 Congress the newly formed Young Americans for Freedom (YAF) attempted to seize power in NSA, charging that it was controlled by the "far left." In 1966 a California Congressman attacked NSA on the floor of the House, citing a State Department grant that had funded a trip to Vietnam by the NSA president, and urging Congress to "consider requiring the Department to cease its support of this radical organization which is subverting American foreign policy."

By the mid-sixties, many of NSA's incoming officers were perturbed by the group's CIA ties, and the association began taking steps to disentangle itself from the agency. By late 1966 CIA funding had slowed to a trickle, and the relationship was on the verge of disintegration.

Eventually the question of how to resolve the dilemma was taken out of NSA's hands. Michael Wood, a former staffer who had been informed of the arrangement, told a reporter from Ramparts magazine, which broke the story in February 1967. The Ramparts article exposed the CIA's links to a long list of supposedly independent organizations, and sparked a national scandal.

New Directions

In the wake of the revelations, however, NSA thrived. The 1967 Congress passed a resolution endorsing the Black Power movement's struggle "by any means necessary," and withdrew NSA from membership in the cold war international group it had founded. Delegates renewed the association's commitment to student power and university reform, and cheered when a network television commentator called NSA "a left-wing radical outfit."

That same Congress launched one of the most extraordinary campaigns in American political history. Allard Lowenstein, a former NSA president and Democratic activist, persuaded the group to initiate a task force to attempt to deny Lyndon Johnson renomination for President in 1968, replacing him with a candidate who was committed to ending the war in Vietnam. This "Dump Johnson" movement led directly to Eugene McCarthy and Robert Kennedy's antiwar candidacies for President of the United States, and culminated in LBJ's stunning 1968 announcement that he would not seek re-election.

NSA, the National Student Lobby, and USSA

NSA now reached out to constituencies it had slighted in the past. The 1969 Congress featured workshops on gay rights and a new pledge of support to activists of color, and in 1971 the association elected its first woman president, Marge Tabankin. At the same time, however, the ideal of liberal-left coalition that had guided NSA through the previous decade came under strain as the association's membership was further radicalized by assassinations, government brutality, and the continuing war. As the sixties closed and the seventies began SNCC faded away, SDS shattered, and NSA turned toward more radical attempts to achieve social change.

In 1972 NSA's president traveled to North Vietnam to gather evidence of US violations of international law, hoping to lay groundwork for a war crimes trial. Actions like these earned NSA a place on President Nixon's infamous "enemies list," and caused division among activists as well.



HISTORY



In 1971, a group of California students broke away, dissatisfied with NSA's lack of focus on legislative organizing. They formed a new group, the National Student Lobby (NSL), to lobby the states and the federal government on issues such as economic access to higher education.

But the pendulum was already swinging back. In 1974 NSA created a separate foundation to carry out non-political work. This move allowed the association to become more involved in lobbying, and encouraged cooperation with NSL. In August 1978 a joint meeting of the two groups overwhelmingly approved a merger, naming the new group the United States Student Association. Leadership was chosen from the ranks of both, and at the prodding of the National Third World Student Coalition, today known as the National People of Color Student Coalition (NPCSC), new guidelines were put in place to ensure the diversity of campus delegations.

Grassroots Legislative Work and Student Activism

USSA won legislative victories on a variety of issues in the years that followed. Direct funding referenda and other new income sources provided financial stability, and made it possible for the organization to provide new services. In the early 1980s USSA began to provide organized assistance to state student associations, and in 1985 the group co-sponsored the first Grass Roots Organizing Weekend (GROW) for campus leaders. In 1991 USSA entered a new era of activism with the hiring of its first regional field organizer.

The association took a bold step toward multicultural leadership in 1989 when the Congress mandated that people of color fill half the seats on USSA's Board of Directors. The diversity of the NPCSC delegation guaranteed that no racial group would gain a majority of seats, and ensured communication and organizing across racial lines at the highest levels of the organization. In succeeding years similar amendments ensured the representation of women and lesbians, gays and bisexuals on the board, and USSA entered its second half-century with a model of multiculturalism that was based on coalition and commonality of interest.

In recent years, USSA has run frequent organizing campaigns around the federal education budget, the reauthorization of the Higher Education Act, and voting rights, registration, and outreach. It has won significant victories in its federal lobbying efforts, and is currently in the midst of its largest membership expansion in more than a decade.

Conclusion

In 1949 an educational journal declared that NSA was charting a course "between the extremes" of American political thought, and two decades later Newsweek reported that NSA's membership extended "to the right of [YAF founder] Bill Buckley and to the left of [SDS founder] Tom Hayden." That both of these statements remain true today is a testament to USSA's strength, and indicates the unique position that the United States Student Association occupies in American history.

USSA is the oldest and largest student group in the country, and in many ways its story is the story of the last six decades of the American student movement. Few advocacy organizations have been as successful in adapting to changing times, and no group has ever educated and inspired to action as many students.

©2008 Angus Johnston. Angus Johnston is a historian and the founder of the website studentactivism.net. He served as USSA's National Corporate Secretary from 1990 to 1992, and is at work on a book-length history of NSA. He lives in New York and can be reached by email at johnston@fecko.com.

ORGANIZING & ADVOCATING SINCE 1947





PAST CONGRESS SITES

MADISON, WISCONSIN 2008

1947	Constitutional Convention, University of Chicago	1978	University of Colorado, Boulder
1948	University of Wisconsin, Madison	1979	University of Massachusetts, Amherst
1949	University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana	1980	University of Oregon
1950	University of Michigan, Ann Arbor	1981	University of Wisconsin, Madison
1951	University of Minnesota, Minneapolis	1982	Wichita State University, Kansas
1952	Indiana University. Bloomington	1983	Emory University
1953	Ohio State University	1984	University of Oregon, Eugene
1954	University of Iowa	1985	McCormick Center Hotel, Chicago, IL
1955	University of Minnesota	1986	University of Colorado, Boulder
1956	University of Chicago	1987	University of Wisconsin, Madison
1957	University of Michigan	1988	University of Hartford
1958	Ohio Wesleyan University	1989	University of California, Berkeley
1959	University of Illinois, Champaign- Urbana	1990	University of Nevada, Las Vegas
1960	University of Minnesota	1991	University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee
1961	University of Wisconsin, Madison	1992	Gallaudet University, Washington, D.C.
1962	Ohio State University	1993	University of California, Los Angeles
1963	Indiana University	1994	Northern Arizona University
1964	University of Minnesota	1995	University of Michigan-Flint
1965	University of Wisconsin, Madison	1996	University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
1966	University of Illinois, Champaign- Urbana	1997	University of Wisconsin, Madison
1967	University of Maryland, College Park, Baltimore	1998	University of Colorado, Boulder
1968	Kansas State University, Manhattan	1999	Portland State University, Portland
1969	University of Texas, El Paso	2000	University of Pittsburgh
1970	Macalester College	2001	University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee
1971	Colorado State University	2002	University of Colorado, Boulder
1972	Catholic University, Washington, D.C.	2003	University of California, Riverside
1973	Deauville Hotel, Miami Beach, FL	2004	University of Pittsburgh
1974	St. Louis, Missouri	2005	University of Wisconsin, Madison
1975	Mayflower Hotel, Washington, D.C.	2006	Portland State University
1976	San Francisco, California	2007	University of Pittsburgh
1977	Houston, TX	2008	University of Wisconsin, Madison



COALITION ORGANIZATIONS



20/20 Vision • ACORN/Project • American Association of Community Colleges (AACC) • Association of Retired Persons (AARP) • American Association of School Administrators (AASA) • American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU) • American Association of University Professors (AAUP) • American Association of University Women (AAUW) • American Council on Education (ACE) • American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO) • American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) • American Federation of Teachers (AFT) • American Friends Service Committee (AFSC) • American Indian Higher Education Consortium Student Congress • Americans Discuss Social Security • Americans for a Fair Chance • Americans for Democratic Action • Americans United For the Separation of Church and State • Anti-Defamation League • Arab American Institute • Asian American Justice Center • Asian Pacific American Legal Consortium (APALC) • Asian Pacific Islander American Vote (APIA Vote) • Asian Pacific Islander Coalition on HIV/AIDS • Association of American Universities • Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities • Association of Retired Americans • Association of Urban Universities • Black Youth Vote • Campaign for America's Future • Campaign for New Priorities • Campus Green Vote • Campus Outreach Opportunity League (COOL) • Campus Progress • Center for American Progress • Center for Campus Organizing (CCO) • Center for Community Change • Center for Policy Alternatives • Center for Third World Organizing • Children's Defense Fund • Choice USA • Citizenship Education Fund • Committee on Education Funding (CEF) • Common Agenda • Communication Workers of America (CWA) • Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute • Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO) • Democratic Socialists of America • Economic Policy Institute • Fair Immigration Reform Movement (FIRM) • Family Farm Coalition • Gay Lesbian and Straight Education Network (GLSEN) • Gray Panthers • Hillel • UNITE HERE • Human Rights Campaign (HRC) • Immigration Equality • Institute for Women's Policy Research • Interfaith Alliance • International Brotherhood of Teamsters • International Laborers Union • International Policy Studies (IPS) • Jobs with Justice • Justice Policy Institute • Leadership Conference on Civil Rights (LCCR) • League of Young Voters • Midwest Academy • Movement Strategy Center • National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education • National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) • NAACP Youth and College Division • National Association of College Admission Counselors (NACAC) • National Association of College and University Business Officers • National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities (NAICU) • National Association of State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges • National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (NASFAA) • National Coalition of Women and Girls in Education • National Coalition on Black Civic Participation • National Council of Educational Opportunity Associations (NCEOA) • National Council of La Raza (NCLR) • National Council of Senior Citizens (NCSC) • National Education Association (NEA) • National Gay & Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) • National Immigration Law Center (NILC) • National Organization of Women Legal Defense Fund (NOWLDF) • National Puerto Rican Coalition • Older Women's League • Organization of Chinese Americans • People for the American Way • Prison Moratorium Project • Public Allies • Rock the Vote • Service Employees International Union (SEIU) • Student Coalition for Action and Literacy Education (SCALE) • Student Environmental Action Coalition (SEAC) • Student Farm Worker Alliance • Student Peace Action Network • The 2030 Center • The Chickering Group • The College Fund • The Education Trust • The Fund for the Feminist Majority Foundation • The National Rainbow Coalition • The Organizing Institute • The United Methodist Church • The Washington Center • Union of Needle and Textile Workers International • United Auto Workers (UAW) • United Farm Workers • United Students Against Sweatshops US Action • Violence Against Women Taskforce • VotoLatino • Young Communist League • Young People For • Youth Action •

ORGANIZING & ADVOCATING SINCE 1947





USSA REGIONS, AFFILIATES, & CAUCUSES

Regions

Atlantic (DC, DE, MD, PA, VA, WV),
Empire/Garden (NY, NJ, PR, Vir. Islands)
Great Lakes (IL, IN, MI, MN, OH, WI)
Great Plains (IA, KS, MO, NE)
Golden Pacific (AZ, CA, HI, NV, Guam, Amer. Samoa)
New England (CT, ME, MA, NH, RI, VT)
Pacific Northwest (AK, ID, OR, WA)
Rocky Mountain (CO, MT, ND, SD, UT, WY)
South Central (AR, LA, NM, OK, TX)
Southeast (AL, FL, GA, KY, MS, NC, SC, TN)

Affiliates

National People of Color Student Coalition (NPCSC)
National Women's Student Coalition (NWSC)
National Queer Student Coalition (NQSC)
State and System Student Association Coalition (SSSAC)

Caucuses

Community College Caucus
First Peoples Caucus
International Student Caucus
Graduate and Professional Student Caucus
La Coalición
Multi/Biracial Caucus
National Asian Pacific American Student Coalition (NAPASC)
National Coalition of Students with Disabilities (NCSD)
National Queer Students of Color Caucus (NQSOC)
Non Traditional/First Generation
People of African Descent (POAD)
People of Middle Eastern and South Asian Descent (POMESAD)
Private College Caucus
Students of the Jewish Community
Veterans Caucus
Women of Color Caucus
Working Class Student Caucus



USSA ACRONYMS



ORGANIZING & ADVOCATING SINCE 1947

EAT	Electoral Action Training
Exec	Executive Committee of the Board of Directors
SEOG	Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant
GROW	GrassRoots Organizing Weekend
LegCon	USSA's Legislative Conference
LEAP	Leveraging Educational Assistance Partnerships (formerly SSIG)
NAPASC	National Asian Pacific American Student Caucus
NCSD	National Coalition of Students with Disabilities
NPCSC	National People of Color Student Coalition
NQSC	National Queer Student Coalition
NQSOC	National Queer Student of Color Caucus
NWSC	National Women's Student Coalition
Plenary	Membership meeting of USSA at our National Student Congress for the purpose of reviewing the governing documents of the organization and voting on the new priorities
POAD	People of African Descent Caucus
POMESAD	People of Middle Eastern and South Asian Descent
QSEP	LGBT/Queer Student Empowerment Project
R&R	Recruitment and Retention
SLAP	Student Labor Action Project
SOCCDP	Student of Color Campus Diversity Project
SSA	State Student Association
SSSAC	State and System Student Association Coalition (pronounced "Triple Sac")
USSA	United States Student Association
USSAF	United States Student Association Foundation





USSA GLOSSARY

MADISON, WISCONSIN 2008

Affiliate: Any duly constituted nationwide organization, caucus or coalition of students, which represents district constituents within the overall national student population and or USSA membership (Constitution Article 1.1.3). The National People of Color Student Coalition (NPCSC), National Queer Student Caucus (NQSC), National Women's Student Coalition (NWSC) and the State and System Student Association Coalition (SSSAC) are USSA's affiliates.

Campus Member: A college or university that pays dues to USSA and is granted all rights and privileges of membership. (Constitution Articles 1.1.1 and .2)

Delegates: Both voting and non-voting delegates are conference participants at USSA's Legislative Conference and at USSA's National Student Congress.

Dues: The fee that each campus or State Student Association pays to belong to USSA. Dues are best paid early in the year to secure financial stability for the organization and ensure that you don't miss any membership services. Non-payment of dues results in suspension of membership and privileges.

Electoral Action Training (EAT): The EAT helps to break the cycle of neglect between students and our elected officials and gives students the power to win victories on Election Day by learning key Get Out the Vote skills.

Executive Committee: Made up of primarily the officers and the affiliate chairpeople, the Executive Committee acts between meetings of the Board with the full powers of the Board of Directors in advising officers on the day to day direction of the national office. (Constitution Articles 3.10.1 and 3.10.4)

GrassRoots Organizing Weekend (GROW): GrassRoots Organizing Weekends, a joint project between Midwest Academy, USSA, and USSA Foundation. GROW trainings help students to develop organizing and strategy skills through Direct Action Organizing.

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender (LGBT) Student Empowerment Project: The project was developed to address the specific issues that queer students face in higher education. Supporting LGBT campus centers & LGBT student of color organizations, as well as running the national Day of Silence are just some of the issues this project works on affecting LGBT students in college.

National People of Color Student Coalition (NPCSC): An affiliate of USSA, NPCSC works to unite and organize students of color within USSA and throughout the nation. Membership consists of students of color registered as delegates to USSA's National Student Congress or Legislative Conference, plus many students of color and student of color organizations from around the country.

National Queer Student Caucus (NQSC): An affiliate of USSA, the National Queer Student Caucus works to network, organize, and advocate for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender students both within USSA and across the country.

National Women's Student Coalition (NWSC): An affiliate of USSA, NWSC works to unite and organize women students within USSA and throughout the nation. Membership consists of women students registered as delegates to USSA's National Student Congress or Legislative Conference.

Regional meetings: Ten (10) regions exist within USSA. (Constitution Article 5.1). The regional meetings provide time for planning and coordinating campaigns across states.

State and System Student Association Coalition (SSSAC): An affiliate of USSA, SSSAC works to facilitate networking and help develop state and system-wide student organizations throughout the nation. Membership consists of students belonging to a State or System Student Association that is a member of USSA.

State and System Student Association Development Project (SSADP): A project of the USSA Foundation was developed to provide additional resources for students and staff of SSAs and for students interested in starting one to strengthen the national student movement to make education a right and not a privilege.

Student of Color Campus Diversity Project: Assists students to break down barriers to education faced by students of color on college campuses. Three primary areas of focus are: strategy development, research (including some policy and legislative analysis), and direct services early intervention programs.

Student Labor Action Project (SLAP): Works with students and labor organizations to strengthen joint campaigns and victories on student-labor issues. This includes living wage campaigns, anti-sweatshop campaigns, divestment from prison labor campaigns, and more. This is a joint project between USSA and the National Jobs With Justice.

USSA Foundation: Formerly the National Student Education Fund (NSEF), the USSA Foundation is a tax exempt 501 (c)(3) educational organization that compliments USSA by raising money to conduct trainings and by publishing and distributing information to student activists on issues related to access to higher education.



PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURES



To Do This:	You Say This:	May You Interrupt the Speaker?	May You Be Seconded?	Is the Motion Debated?	Is the Motion Amendable?	Votes Required to Pass?
Introduce business	"I move that..."	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority
Object to incorrect procedure being used	"Point of order"	Yes	No	No	No	No vote is taken, chair rules
Seek clarification from the previous speaker	"Point of information"	Yes, if urgent	No	No	No	No vote is taken, chair rules
Object to something which prevents your continued participation (ex. Excessive noise)	"Point of personal privilege"	Yes	No	No	No	No vote is taken, chair rules
Object to a motion being considered	"I object to consideration of this motion"	Yes	No	No	No	2/3 majority
Consider something out of its scheduled order	"I move the agenda be amended in order to deal with the following item..."	No	Yes	No	No	2/3 majority
Overturn the ruling of the chair	"I challenge the chair on..." "I appeal the chair's decision"	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Majority
Change/Amend a motion	"I move that the motion be amended to read..."	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority
Have a motion studied more before voting on it	"I move to the motion be referred to"	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority
End further discussion on a motion until later in the meeting	"I move that the motion be tabled until..."	No	Yes	Only to time	Yes	Majority
Postpone consideration of motion until a future meeting	"I move that the motion be postponed until..."	No	Yes	Only to time	Yes	Majority
Raise a matter previously tabled	"I move that the motion...be lifted from the table"	No	Yes	No	No	Majority
Reconsider a motion already voted on earlier in the meeting	"I move that the motion...be reconsidered"	Yes	Yes	Yes (if original motion was)	No	Majority
End debate on a motion	"I call the question" or "I move the previous question"	No	Yes	No	No	2/3 majority
Suspend rules temporarily	"I move to suspend the rules so that..."	No	Yes	No	No	2/3 majority
Ask that everyone's vote on a particular motion be recorded in the minutes	"I call for a roll call vote"	No	No	No	No	No vote required, chair rules
Verify a voice vote by having members stand	"I call for a division" or "Division!"	Yes	No	No	No	None
Recess the meeting	"I move that the meeting recess until..."	No	Yes	Only to time	No	Majority
End the meeting	"I move that the meeting adjourn"	No	Yes	No	No	Majority

ORGANIZING & ADVOCATING SINCE 1947





PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURES

MADISON, WISCONSIN 2008

How do members get their say? They make motions!

A motion is a proposal by the assembly that TAKES A STAND or TAKES ACTION on some issue.

There are 4 general types of motions...

1) MAIN motions

introduce subjects to the assembly for its consideration. They cannot be made when another motion is before the assembly. They yield to privileged, subsidiary and incidental motions.

For example: "I move that we purchase..."

2) SUBSIDIARY motions

change or affect how the main motion is handled (voted on before the main motion.)

For example: "I move the question before the assembly be amended by striking out..."

3) PRIVILEGED motions

are most urgent...about special or important matters not related to pending business.

For example: "I move we adjourn."

4) INCIDENTAL motions

are questions of procedure that arise out of other motions...must be considered before the other motion.

For example: "I move to suspend the rules for the purpose of..."



Karaoke

☺ Sat. August 2nd

☺ Starts at 12 am

☺ The Angelic
322 W Johnson St.
Madison, WI
(608)-257-2707



Bring the beat, &
get your song on!!



WORD JUMBLE

USSA was founded on one principle:

_____!

To complete, first circle all words in the word list, then read through the leftover letters to reveal the puzzle above. Words in the diagram read forward, backward, up, down, or diagonally, and always are in a straight line. Each word when you find it and cross it off the list. Words often overlap, and some letters maybe used more than once.

- Access
- Bill
- Budget
- Caucus
- College
- Diversity
- Eat
- Hate Crimes
- Higher Ed
- Largest
- LegCon
- Lobby
- National
- NTAAD
- Oldest
- Organize
- PELL
- Right
- Run
- Sixty
- studentsVOTE
- Unions
- University

E	S	O	R	G	A	N	I	Z	E
U	T	D	U	U	Y	T	X	I	S
N	U	U	N	I	O	N	S	Y	C
I	D	C	A	U	C	U	S	B	A
V	E	H	T	R	E	B	T	B	C
E	N	L	I	I	A	U	I	O	O
R	T	E	O	G	T	D	N	L	L
S	S	G	N	H	H	G	L	I	L
I	V	C	A	T	R	E	O	N	E
T	O	O	L	E	P	T	R	I	G
Y	T	N	S	N	S	A	R	E	E
I	E	S	T	S	E	D	L	O	D
G	H	A	T	S	E	G	R	A	L
H	A	T	E	C	R	I	M	E	S
D	I	V	E	R	S	I	T	Y	T

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Turn your vote into a voice!
Lobby Congress!



**USSA's 40th Annual Grassroots
Legislative Conference & National
Student Lobby Day**

**March 21-24 2009
L'Enfant Plaza Hotel, Washington, DC**

Thank you for attending the 61st
Annual National Student
Congress!