



ANNUAL REPORT 2009

Associated Student Government - Northwestern University - June 2009

accomplishments of 2008 - 2009

SERVICES + RESOURCES

- **Chicago Express** - a shuttle that goes directly from campus to downtown Chicago every Saturday
- **Shuttle GPS for Fall 2009** - allows students to track the real-time location of shuttles
- **ASG Rideshare + ASG Airport Shuttle** - shuttles that took students to the airport for a reduced rate; saved students over \$30,000
- **Northwestern Undergraduate Research Database (NURD)** - a "one stop shop" for undergraduate research opportunities
- **ASG Peer Academic Link (ASGPAL)** - a website that provides peer-to-peer academic advising
- **ASG ListIt** - a website for students to exchange books and other items
- **ASG OCHE (Off-campus Housing Evaluation)** - a website that helps students with their off-campus housing search
- **Off Campus Housing Guide** - provides helpful info for students moving off-campus

STUDENT LIFE

- **iTunesU at Northwestern** - lobbied for students to access NU content via iTunes
- **Center for Civic Engagement at NU** - lobbied for a center that promotes a connection between classroom learning and service in the community and the world
- **New financial aid initiatives** - lobbied for the QuestBridge Scholars Program & the no-loan grant program to encourage and support socioeconomic diversity at NU

- **Improvements to Norris** - lobbied to get new furniture, video screens and lighting improvements through UBPC
- **Improvements to residential halls** - lobbied to get air conditioning and whiteboards through UBPC
- **Light walk** - worked with administrators to determine where more lighting is necessary for safety and installed lighting accordingly
- **Alcohol Safety Task Force** - a joint student-administrator effort to approach alcohol safety issues on campus
- **New student center in the 50-year Campus Framework plan** - lobbied to make getting a new student center a priority for administrators
- **Student feedback on the 50-year Campus Framework plan** - puts a student perspective on administrators' 50-year plan to improve campus
- **oNe Northwestern** - an organization dedicated to exploring Northwestern's underlying sense of community
- **Minority enrollment ad-hoc committee** - helped coordinate student initiatives to increase minority enrollment
- **Funding for student groups** - allocated \$1.2MM
- **SafeWalk** - program that dispatches defense-trained students to walk other students home at night when they are not feeling safe
- **Martin Luther King Jr. Day Celebration** - funded the honorarium to bring Mavis Staples and worked with the MLK Day committee to put on the MLK Day programming
- **Acapella recording studio in Norris** - allocated space and purchased equipment



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more accomplishments of 2008 - 2009

EVENTS

- **Big Bite Nite** - annual "Taste of Evanston" with free samples and coupons from Evanston restaurants
- **US Empowered mentorship event** - brought 70 minority CPS highschoolers to campus for two days of programming with 35 NU student mentors
- **Fall & Winter Activities Fairs** - Over 2,000 students attended the fairs showcasing 230+ student groups
- **ASG Academic Advising Fair** - gave students access to advisors from all six schools and other academic organizations
- **Student Leadership Training (SLT)** - provided training sessions to every student group President and Treasurer
- **NU Decides** - worked with Student Affairs and MSA to get over 1,300 students to vote in the national election
- **NU PICKS** - encouraged students to vote in the local election
- **Communiversality Day** - help bring together the Evanston and Northwestern community
- **Evanston ReNUvation** - worked with Evanston residents to clean and beautify the Evanston area
- **Aldermanic Forum** - gave students the chance to get to know the aldermanic election candidates
- **ASG Faculty-Administrator Honor Roll** - honored faculty and administrators nominated by students
- **Community Picnic** - off-campus students were introduced to their new community and enjoyed free food
- **ASG Senator Informational Panel** - gives info on the roles and responsibilities of a senator

ORGANIZATIONAL IMPROVEMENT

- **Caucus system** - improved Senate's overall productivity and made Senators more accountable to their constituents
- **Increased senator accountability and accessibility** - required senators to hold office

hours, open forums, and attend their constituents' exec board meetings

- **Vice President role** - improved ASG's collaboration and productivity
- **Streamlined Constitution and Code** - ensured that no rules were outdated or unnecessary
- **ASG Operations Manual** - consolidated the ASG Constitution and Code into a readable format that is easy to understand
- **ASG Committee applications** - provides an opportunity to get dedicate members
- **ASG-wide retreat** - creates organizational cohesiveness
- **More than doubled the size of Academic, Public Relations, and External Relations Committees** - demonstrates a dramatic improvement in student interest and engagement with ASG
- **Revised student group-related forms** - made the process of starting a student group, applying for a senate seat, and acquiring B-status funding easier
- **ASG Roast + Socials**

COMMUNICATION

- **New ASG website** - improved the primary means of communication with students, allowing them to submit ideas/questions and showing the progress of all projects
- **ASG Winter Campaign** - gathered student input about ASG and improving Northwestern
- **Weekly office hours** - enables accessibility to all ASG Executive Board members
- **Weekly open Executive Board meetings** - increases organizational transparency
- **ASG I.T.K.: "In the Know"** - provides a weekly update of all ASG projects and activity
- **ASG Quarterly Reports** - provides a quarterly update of all ASG projects and activity
- **ASG Blog + Podcast**
- **ASG "Little Instructions for Life" posters**
- **Stall Street Journal**
- **ASG Press Kit**



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looking ahead to 2009 - 2010

- **Shuttle route improvement** - currently working with University Services to streamline the shuttle route system so that it reflects student demand
- **eBook/Course packet Project** - have course packets put online so that students will save paper and money
- **Winter Internship Fair** - create a fair with UCS for students to get feedback on their resumes and interviewing skills
- **Syllabi on CTEC + CTEC Rankings** - give students access to syllabi from previous versions of a course and have CTEC compile the top classes
- **Open courseware** - give students access to materials from other classes or related classes through a system similar to Blackboard
- **Establish American Sign Language classes + expanded environmental courses**
- **Off-campus website** - a centralized online resource for students who need info about Evanston news and opportunities
- **Community Newsletter** - monthly/quarterly newsletter for student and Evanston residents to generate better communication between the two communities
- **Unofficial Student Guide to NU** - a comprehensive guide to the NU experience for students by students
- **Meal Plan Guide** - gives students recommendations on choosing and best utilizing their meal plans
- **On-Campus Housing Guide** - provides students with suggestions on the residential halls or colleges they can live in
- **Restaurant Guide** - update the current ASG restaurant guide with new student reviews and additional useful info
- **ASG Tailgate** - promote enthusiasm and build excitement for Northwestern surrounding major athletic events
- **Budget transparency** - provide a breakdown of the ASG Activities Fee and description of the ASG Operating Budget on the ASG website
- **Plan-It-Purple Improvement** - currently working with NUIT to improve the functionality of Plan-It-Purple and increase student usage
- **Laundry improvements** - short-term solutions such as whiteboards and laundry bins
- **NUTV upgrades** - work with NUIT to include a greater selection of channels and greater quality service
- **Food service improvement** - review the quality of food, price of meal plans, and operating hours of all on-campus dining locations in order to pursue improvements that meet student needs
- **ASG Activities Fee increase** - reinstate the 3% increase for the ASG Activities Fee every three years, this way student groups have a growing pool of funds
- **Establish a valuable relationship with incoming President Schapiro**
- **Improve student group relations** - create information sessions for all student groups on campus to highlight opportunities available to work with ASG committees and exec members
- **Improve ASG's relationship with students** - communicate effectively what ASG is working on and getting done for the student body
- **Improve the culture of Senate** - empower senators to make significant and tangible changes on campus
- **Increase senator accountability** - continue to enforce regulations and establish a public record of attendance and completed duties
- **Archiving project** - continue to compile all ASG files into a searchable online database