



Stephen F. Austin State University



Student Affairs Programs

# **OFFICE OF STUDENT AFFAIRS PROGRAMS**



# Department Overview

## Office of Student Affairs Programs

College is a great time for life to really take shape and for students to become the people they wish to be. The Office of Student Affairs Programs is dedicated to student involvement, student leadership, student engagement and just plain old fun! The many programs which make up our department believe that college should be a time that challenges you and also be enjoyable. From bonfires and pep rallies to student leadership and volunteering college is a time to learn about yourself and to develop a number of lifelong interests. Our office is here to help you make the most of your college career.

Programs sponsored by the Office of Student Affairs Programs

- Student Government Association
- AlcoholEDU
- University Directory
- Parent's Newsletter
- Civic Engagement Programs

## Office of Student Affairs Programming and Traditions

Student Affairs Programming is at the heart of what's happening on campus. Home to the Student Activities Association, SFA Traditions Council, SFA Homecoming and Jack Camp we produce over 150 events a year including major concerts featuring nationally touring artists, a first run movie series in our state of the art theatre, coffeehouses, interactive games and events designed to increase the school spirit and respect for traditions on the SFA campus.

## Office of Student Involvement and Greek Life

Student Involvement and Greek Life is here to help you find your place at SFA! As the coordinator of over 200 student organizations our office can help match you to the right involvement opportunity. Just come by our Involvement Center and meet with an involvement advisor or attend an organizations fair.

In addition we advise one of the most active Greek Life organizations in Texas.

## Office of Leadership and Service

The Office of Leadership and Service can help you build the leadership skills you will need to embark in a challenging career or simply help your student organization run more smoothly. We offer leadership opportunities for leaders of all abilities including the Freshman Leadership Academy, Lumberjack Leadership Academy, and the Omicron Delta Kappa Society. We also offer a number of service based activities including The BIG Event, MLK Day of Service, Service Saturdays and Alternative Spring Break. We are a proud partner with the President's Volunteer Service Award.

## SFA Spirit Programs

We got more than spirit! The SFA Spirit office is home to 18 national championships in cheerleading and dance and is known as a leader in cheer and dance innovation. The SFA Spirit program is made up of the Large Co-Ed and Small Co-Ed Cheerleading teams, SFA Pom Squad and Jack Attack. Each year you can find our teams cheering at over 100 athletics events including football, volleyball, and basketball.

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# Mission, Vision and Core Values

## Our Mission

The Department of Student Affairs supports the mission of Stephen F. Austin State University with the development of programs and services geared toward enhancing student learning, involvement, retention and civic responsibility.

We will Accomplish this by:

- **Initiative 1** - Providing a slate of programs and services designed to engage students in many phases of their development and interests. This includes entertainment programming, leadership development, social awareness, and global understanding.
- **Initiative 2** - Supporting the culture and traditions of the university and promoting a healthy level of school spirit and pride.
- **Initiative 3** - Contributing to a greater understanding of diversity by providing programs, services and events which highlight the diverse talents of our students, a greater understanding of our world and a development of collaborative programming.
- **Initiative 4** - Educating our students on a myriad of topics focusing on leadership, personal responsibility, and risk management.
- **Initiative 5** - Evaluating our progress through direct assessment of our students ability to acquire, understand, and utilize knowledge to make transformative progress.

## Our Vision

The Department of Student Affairs seeks to become a national model for student engagement activities which focus on student learning and development, civic responsibility and entertainment.

## Our Core Values

The Department of Student Affairs has identified a number of core values in which we espouse for the purpose of serving students, conducting ourselves in a professional manner, supporting the mission of our office and the university at large.

1. A focus on lifelong learning and a desire to assisting students to assume responsibility for their own intellectual development.
2. Incorporating an inclusive university that supports diversity.
3. Conduct ourselves with a sense of ethical and personal responsibility.
4. To implore a university that is civically engaged and takes responsibility for its social and community development.
5. To develop a school spirit that is inclusive, positive and enthusiastic.
6. To produce programs and services of the highest quality and eclipse standards accepted by the national status quo.
7. To maintain a knowledge base of the changing culture of higher education and have the courage to innovate and adapt to a changing higher education environment.
8. To develop programs with an understanding that student learning outcomes are paramount in their development and assessment.
9. To understand we are stewards of a tremendous amount of trust and resources and our stewardship of these resources with a fiscal responsibility.
10. The understanding we work on a university campus, with a unified mission, and our network should include collaborative programs with interested parties.

# Student Activities Association



## 2009-2010 Highlights

The SAA philosophy for 2009-2010 was based in developing new programs and making sure students had a variety of choices. While home spun events, popular with students for years, were still there, new events such as advocacy week showed students that entertainment can be not only fun but also help those in need. In addition a number of national touring acts graced our stage. Eric O'Shea, a very funny comedian and Christian pop act Casting Crowns packed in students to the grand ballroom and coliseum.

During the year over 35,000 students attended an SAA event including many events on the weekends. SAA continued its commitment to giving students an alternative to the party scene with great events and a world class movie line-up. SAA students also contributed educational sessions to the ODK leadership conference, paying it forward by teaching other student leaders.

SAA was also big on co-sponsorships by working with offices such as multicultural affairs, Residence Life and Student Foundation our programs reached new audiences and helped our student leaders branch out and create new connections. This fall the innovation continues with lots of events produced by our programming board. And watch out for later on this fall, we are currently working on a major concert we think you will all enjoy.

## Upcoming Events

Go to <http://www.sfasu.edu/studentaffairs/71.asp> for posted dates and times but here are some event highlights for the fall!

### September

- Summer Lovin' with SAA and Campus Recreation
- Preacher Moss: End of Racism Comedy Tour
- Parent's Day entertainment featuring Tommy Johnagin

### October

- Madden Tournament
- Can you dig it? Sand Volleyball Tournament
- SFA Field Day: College Edition
- A Boy, A Girl, A Virus Lecture
- SFA's Best Dance Crew
- Kickin' Axe Self-Defense

### November

- Open Mic Night
- SFAs Got Talent
- Rocky Horror Picture Show
- Chili Cook-Off

### December

- SFAs Iron Chef!

# Student Government Association



## 2009-2010 Highlights

The Student Government Association was an organization in transition in 2009 - 2010. For the past few years the members of this organization had built a reputation that they did not really want. For our senators and executives that all changed. This year the organization was active in the campus community sponsoring events such as Lumberjack Alley Tailgates, free speech days and a lecture series focused on the national and personal debt.

In addition the SGA sponsored the development of a student honor code that has now become the SFA Way. This important work is aimed at changing the way students, faculty and staff interact and how we all conduct ourselves. In February seven SGA senators went to the national SGA conference in College Station and was named the most spirited delegation.

During the spring Senior Andy Teel was elected by the student body as the SGA President, Sarah Feye was elected vice-president and Aaron Good (pictured) was named speaker of the senate. In July the oldest tradition at SFA, the Watermelon Bash, attracted over 400 students and staff. Held on the final day of the summer Board of Regents meeting the event was attended by Regent White who got to meet some of our top students.

## Our Legislative Agenda

SGA has a lot planned for the 2010-2011 year but there are three items they would like to really emphasize to our faculty and staff.

### Green Initiative

SGA would like to take the lead in helping students live greener. In the coming months they will present opportunities for recycling, conserving energy and living with a smaller footprint. This also includes the program sponsorship of the Polar Bear Project. This co-sponsorship with ODK is an effort to educate students in the residence halls to conserve water, use less power and share resources.

### Voter Registration

SGA has set, as its goal, to register over 1,000 students by the 2010 election deadline. They will also host transportation to the polls for students without vehicles.

### The SFA Way

It is our feeling every student should be able to attend class in a university environment where students expect excellence. SGA will support the SFA Way by promoting it to students and asking them to sign the SFA Way pledge card.

# SFA Spirit Teams



## 2009-2010 Highlights

Different year, same result, the SFA Spirit program won another national championship marking Large Co-Ed's 11th in 16 years. Facing tough competition the SFA Dance Team took second place and the SFA Small Co-Ed took 3rd. The program also saw partners Tim Wegner and Ashley Tucker win a national championship in partner stunts in Orlando in January.

In addition to their competition scores the SFA Spirit Teams also cheered for the Jacks on the sidelines at over 150 games. In December they traveled to Montana during the playoffs and braved the 20 degree temps. We even had to buy snow pants and ear muffs for the first time in program history!

SFA Spirit teams also help at over a dozen community service events every year. These events range from performing at the county fair to clinics for kids in the community. Head coach, Trisha O'Connor was named a finalist for the head coach of the year by the Spirit Industry Trade Association.

## SFA Spirit Teams Perform well at Camp!

The SFA Spirit program had its best showing at camp in years. The dance team, led by its purple squad won a gold and a silver bid and had three all-Americans named. In addition the purple team was named the most collegiate. The purple and white teams were established to give even more dancers a chance to compete at SFA. This spring three dance teams will compete in Daytona for our school including Jack Attack in the new hip-hop division.

The SFA Large Co-Ed also got a gold bid and the SFA Small Co-Ed took a silver bid. Eleven cheerleaders were named to the All-American squad (one in four cheerleaders at SFA is an All-American). This spring SFA plans on competing two teams in the cheer division and will get a chance to compete against Sam Houston State for the first time head to head. It should be fun!



# Traditions Council and Involvement Center



## Jack Camp 2010

Over 600 new students will descend on Jack Camp 2010 in Trinity, TX. These students will leave after meeting new friends, learning SFA traditions and even catching a quick break before the hustle of fall.

This year we are doing two sessions and have over 60 counselors ready to make this event memorable. If you are interested in visiting Jack Camp call Michael Preston at 468-2988 and we can work it out!

## 2009-2010 Highlights

The Traditions Council finished its most successful year to date with the Run for the Ring. This event allowed students to complete a 5K and win a mentor ring. Although the winner was a freshman he still has his ring on hold and just maybe we have retained that student.

The highlight of the year was their production of SFA Homecoming. For a week SFA was transformed into a giant Axe Em' pep rally. From a kick-off that got students pumped up to a spirited to a downtown parade featuring over 100 parade units.

Traditions Council also sponsor traditions tours for SFA 101 classes and other interested groups. I think it is safe to say that TC members are not only the most spirited students on campus they may be the most spirited students in the country.

The Involvement Center has become a national model for getting involved on campus. To date nearly 200 students have received Involvement Advising and students help inform the campus of upcoming events and ways to volunteer. There is no event these guys do not know about! We have nine involvement advisors who have been trained using our involvement menu to understand what a student needs and how they can help make their Lumberjack experience better!

## Lights, Camera- Axe Em'! SFA Homecoming 2010

The SFA Lumberjacks are going to have the Texas State Bobcats seeing stars on October 30, 2010 at Homer Bryce Stadium. Beginning with a Kick-Off Pep Rally on Monday, October 25th, students will be able to participate in activities throughout the week including the annual Homecoming College Bowl, Homecoming Court elections and various events sure to entertain!

# Greek Life and Student Organizations



## 2009-2010 Highlights

SFA Greek organizations continue to grow and prosper at SFA. This year thousands of SFA students donned their letters to help in the community, add to the SFA social calendar and give many students a network of peers unmatched anywhere on campus.

Highlights included, for the first time in years, the SFA Greek system matched the all campus cumulative GPA at 2.71. This showed a renewed commitment by all four councils to improve its academic standing. SGA Greek life also added 3 new fraternities and all members competed in the first all-Greek, Greek Week competing in all types of sports and service events.

Delta Zeta and Sigma Nu were named sorority and fraternity of the year at the SFA leadership awards this year. At the time of this publication SFA also cataloged over 220 active student organizations. Over 70% of our student body is active in at least one student organization.

Student academic travel helped over 150 students travel to present papers, compete academically for the university or conduct research.

## Greek Standards Program

For the first time in university history all four councils have joined to hold themselves accountable for the standards they set for themselves. The greek standards program is designed to give new members and the general public a snapshot of what our Greek program looks like.

Chapters are compared on a collection of national averages in academic performance, chapter operations, risk management, co-curricular involvement, and service. In its first year nearly 80 of all chapters participated and in the first report is available at [www.sfasu.edu/studentaffairs](http://www.sfasu.edu/studentaffairs).

We are challenging our new members to download the report and use this information to ask questions during the recruitment process. While the project is still in its infancy the reaction has been great. It is our hope to get 100% compliance from our houses this spring and give our students even better information.

# Leadership and Service



## 2009-2010 Highlights

During the past year SFA students really gave back to their communities. SFA was named a President's Service Honor Roll school for the 3rd straight year after reporting over 122,000 hours! SFA students participated in dozens of community service events including Alternative Spring Break, Service Saturdays, MLK Day of Service and the Big Event.

The SFA Service Program has established a relationship with United Way of Nacogdoches and the Nacogdoches ISD to provide volunteer opportunities for students year round.

Omicron Delta Kappa continued its stellar commitment to leadership by finishing as a superior circle and hosting the 2010 ODK national convention in Houston, Texas in June. ODK also sponsored the SFA Leadership and Service Awards, Dresses for Dreams, and the one day SEE Leadership Conference.

SFA Leadership programs started the Lumberjack Leadership Academy for rising student leaders. While the first class was small (9 students finished) there is real momentum building and this fall we welcome over 30 students into the program.

## 2010-2011 Calendar of Events

### August

31 - Welcome Week Blood Drive

### September

1 - Community Partners Breakfast

8 AM - BPSC Regents Suite A&B

3 - Welcome Week Service Project

18 - Service Saturday

### October

2 - Service Saturday

18-19 - Alternative Spring Break Interest Meeting

22 - Alternative Spring Break Applications Due

28 - Homecoming Blood Drive

### November

6 - Service Saturday

19 - Volunteer Time Sheets Due

### January

17 -MLK Day of Service

### February

5 - Service Saturday

### March

5 - Service Saturday

12-19 - Alternative Spring Break

### April

2 - Service Saturday

26 - Leadership Awards Banquet