

RESIDENCE HALL ASSOCIATION

The VOICE of on-campus students



IN THIS ISSUE

Message from the President

PAGE 1

About RHA

PAGE 2

Message from the Outgoing Vice President

PAGE 2

Advocacy

PAGES 2-6

Student Fees

PAGE 7

Programming

PAGE 8

Regional Report

PAGE 9

Year-End Recognition

PAGE 10

ACE Winners

PAGE 10

New Executive Team

PAGES 11-12

Message from the Incoming Vice President

PAGE 13

Thank You

PAGE 13

A Message from the President

Dear campus community,

It is hard to overstate how difficult a time this has been for the world. I have especially seen firsthand the impacts that this sudden change of life has had on our residential community, both on-campus and off, as students try their best to finish a semester in conditions they had not prepared for or even expected. I hope that every student reading this is proud of themselves for finishing the semester in one of the most difficult times of our lives -- especially when school is likely not the first thing on our minds. You did it, and I hope you are able to now get some well-deserved rest.

At the end of every semester, RHA releases a newsletter summarizing what we have been up to. Before our time together ended, our resident councils worked hard to put together events to bring their communities together and serve their residents (see page 8), and our Senate body met bi-weekly on Tuesday nights to advocate on residential issues (see pages 2-6). The immense thought, research, and planning that went into each of these events and resolutions was meaningful and I am thankful for everyone who dedicated their time to each. It is my hope that discussions regarding the resolutions that are not realistic to address right now will continue when it is feasible to do so.

This would have usually been a very busy time for RHA, as we typically plan block parties all over campus in celebration of our residents' hard work throughout the year. Though we were not able to continue that tradition, RHA's Senate body worked hard to continue meeting online to discuss

important resolutions. We also elected positions for 2020-2021, worked with the Student Government Association (SGA) to release a [student fees report](#), continued developing an organizational strategic plan, and put together a [year-end video](#) recognizing our members for their hard work. To everyone who helped us during this transition, and who continued showing leadership and commitment during this time, thank you.

As decisions are made regarding what life for members of the UMD community will look like next semester, RHA will continue to adjust to ensure that we can continue serving our community as much as possible. I am thankful to have been able to spend the last year as president of RHA, and am honored to have the chance to apply what I have learned in this position to continue working next year. There are many ways this organization can grow to better serve as the voice of on-campus students, and I look forward to working with students, organizations, our wonderful new Executive Team, and our departmental partners to grow together next year.

I hope to see you all in the fall. Please do not hesitate to reach out to marylandrha@umd.edu with anything that we can do for you during this time. Remember that the [Campus Pantry](#) and the [Student Crisis Fund](#) remain available to you, and see [SGA's guide](#) for more resources.

Stay safe, stay healthy, and be kind to yourself.

All my best,
Emily Berry

About RHA

RHA is the primary student-governing body that **represents the interests of the over 12,500 resident students** at the University of Maryland. Each of RHA's **15 hall and area councils** works to represent the interests of their hall or area's residents and to **build community** through fun and engaging events. Representatives from each council, called Senators, convene biweekly at RHA Senate meetings to **debate and vote on campus-level legislation**. RHA prides itself on its ability to **effectively communicate student concerns to university administrators**. RHA regularly serves the Departments of Resident Life, Residential Facilities, Dining Services, Transportation Services, and the Office of Sustainability in an advisory capacity. The organization also advocates for **resident-driven policies** and priorities on behalf of students living on campus. RHA is committed to **empowering its student leaders** to work to facilitate community development and campus engagement. It hopes to nurture a generation of leaders, ready to tackle the challenges of tomorrow.

A Message from the Outgoing Vice President

Over the course of the last three years, RHA has taught me a lot. The organization has given me so many opportunities to improve the life of students across campus. It has given me amazing leadership opportunities that I never even thought I would be able to take on coming into college. It has given me fond memories of fun events, programs, and other activities. It has given me the ability to attend multiple national and regional conferences, where I met other engaged student leaders from across the country. And, I would be remiss if I did not mention all the great lifelong friendships that I have made throughout my time in RHA.

With my college graduation being in my living room at home, and probably having walked on campus

as a student for the last time, I have done a lot of reflecting recently. Although the end to my college career was not what I imagined it to be, I will always be able to look back on this experience in a positive light.



In closing, I want to give my full support to both Emily Berry and Alec McCarren, as well as the rest of the RHA Executive Team for next year. I believe this passionate group of student leaders will be able to continue to move the organization into a positive direction. I am extremely excited to see all of the great things that you will accomplish next year!

Zach Schlaich

Advocacy

Senate was busy this spring, tacking **13 additional resolutions** to the five heard last semester. Each of these resolutions were **very well thought out** and aimed to make **meaningful and positive changes on campus**.

Every year, each of the departments that RHA works with present a budget to the Senate body and work with their respective committees on the mandatory fee proposals. These fee proposals are then brought to Senate in the form of a resolution. At these meetings, senators discuss the merits of the fee proposals, and ultimately either vote to support or deny the department's proposal. RHA **approved the fee proposals for the department of Dining Services and the Departments of Resident Life and Resident Facilities**. Other resolutions heard during the in-person period of the semester include: the establishment of the chief of internal affairs position for the Executive Board, support for the Department of Transportation's partnership with the First-Year Innovation and Research Program, and changes made to the Standard Operating Procedures for the spring 2020 semester.

During the three virtual Senate meetings, RHA's Senate body passed five resolutions, in which many were **important for the organization and campus moving forward**. The first meeting featured a resolution calling for the Department of Resident Life to explore the expansion of Hagerstown Hall's Period Poverty Program to other residence halls. Later, the body altered the structure of the Executive Board for next year, reinstated the Resident Police Committee on an ad-hoc basis for next academic year, and formally made the Diversity and Inclusion Action Committee a standing committee.

Dining

The **Dining Services Advisory Board (DSAB)** met biweekly on Wednesdays at 3:30 p.m. Committee members regularly polled residents about dining services and relayed that feedback to Colleen Wright-Riva, Head of Dining Services. The first bill of the Spring semester announced the committee's **approval of the Department of Dining Services' proposed fee changes**, which passed with wide support in the Senate. During meetings, the committee discussed how to **market new dining initiatives** to students and how to **increase student awareness about important programs**, such as the Purple Fridge initiative for students with allergies. DSAB also began to research the creation of a new partial dining plan for students with internships in Washington, D.C. that included a subsidized Metro U-Pass. Even though current circumstances prevented DSAB from conducting in-person research, the committee is eager to begin these projects in the upcoming fall semester. Finally, the committee would like to issue a special "thank you" to all Dining Services administration and staff for prioritizing the health and safety of students as students face unprecedented challenges surrounding COVID-19. Although residents are largely unable to utilize dining services at UMD, DSAB is excited to continue to work alongside administration to prepare for the upcoming year.

Diversity and Inclusion

This semester, the **Diversity and Inclusion Action Committee (DIACom)** met biweekly on Thursdays at 4 p.m. Before the committee's actions were cut short due to COVID-19, it was able to establish diversity and inclusion guidelines for Resident Assistants in the residence halls.

Diversity and Inclusion Guidelines

Tips for programming, specifically during the holiday season:

- Be mindful of religious holidays when scheduling a program
- Use decorations that are not linked to any specific religion, such as snowflakes, snowmen, non-colored lights
- Use phrases like "Happy Holidays" rather than words centered around any one holiday

-Many religions have strict diets so having alternative or vegetarian options can promote inclusivity

Ideas for Inclusivity:

- Displaying an interfaith calendar can spread awareness of all of the different holidays celebrated during the year
- Residents can feel more involved if they have direct input into planning an event by directly asking for their ideas or opinions

Also, DIACom planned two campus-wide events. A cultural fashion show was in the works to **showcase style and apparel from different heritages**, as well as a Diversity Day panel in order to discuss **sensitive and/or heavy topics** such as implicit bias, systematic racism, and mental health astigmatism. The committee hopes to carry these programming initiatives into the fall 2020 semester.

Police

This semester with the **Resident and Police Committee (RPC)** was abbreviated due to the advent of the COVID-19. In the short time that RPC had together, it had planned and accomplished some of the tasks it set out to achieve when it first convened in the fall of 2019. The committee brainstormed to create a **safety "Jeopardy" game** that was to be used by the councils and will hopefully be used next semester if students are back on campus. The committee fielded and discussed **numerous issues related to safety on campus** and discussed the best way to handle these issues, such as: whiteboard hate bias incidents, blue lights, and police auxiliary awareness. In the fall semester, the committee hopes to complete a campus safety survey for on campus residents and host a safety tailgate for a fall sporting event. The committee is excited for all the possibilities once students may return to campus!

Residential Facilities

This semester has been full of interesting and important conversations for the **Residential Facilities Advisory Board (ReFAB)**. With a lot of **exciting residential construction in the works** all around campus, ReFAB had a lot to cover. After extending an invitation to the Department of Residential Facilities' (DRF) "sit test," many of RHA's members were able to help give **valuable insight** into what pieces of furniture should be used in the two new residence halls on North Campus. On top of that, ReFAB spent time this semester discussing what uses the shared outdoor space between these new halls could be used for. Additionally, ReFAB and DRF had many discussions regarding the **North Campus Strategic Plan** and what things they would specifically like to see in the high-rises as they get renovated, which include mirror ledges, toilet covers, and green walls/roofs. After witnessing firsthand the success of the pilot program of "**Hammock Haven**" in the Cambridge Community, ReFAB is working on **expanding that program** to other communities around campus. Although COVID-19 forced an early stop to ReFAB's operations, the group is very happy to report that most of DRF's projects were not postponed due to the closure.

Resident Life

The **Resident Life Advisory Team (ReLATE)** met Thursdays biweekly with Director of Resident Life (DRL) Valronica Scales and other DRL representatives to continue **advocating for RHA's legislative priorities** from the fall semester. ReLATE worked with Resident Life to oversee the implementation of the Cecil Hall visitation policy changes in the 2020-2021 Housing Agreement, in accordance with RHA legislation passed in the fall semester. Additionally, ReLATE worked with Scales, RPC, and DIACom to initiate discussions around a potential **hate-bias prevention training module** to be provided to students as part of Fall Welcome programming. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, RHA was unable to act on these discussions during the spring 2020 semester; but ReLATE is pleased with the dialogue these discussions have sparked, and has provided guidance to future ReLATE committee members in order to continue these discussions. ReLATE also worked with President Emily Berry to propose the **expansion of the Period Poverty project** to other residence halls at UMD. The Period Poverty project started at Hagerstown Hall, and the program provides free menstrual products in restrooms in the hall, which the Senate passed a resolution in support of its expansion. ReLATE and ReFAB also held two joint meetings this semester with Director Scales, and Director of Residential Facilities Andrea Crabb in order to review their departments' student-fee proposal for Fiscal Year 2021. These meetings were very productive, with committee members asking thoughtful questions to gain an understanding of Resident Life's and Residential Facilities' budget. Members of ReLATE and ReFAB voted **favorably for a 3.98% student-fee increase**, with a 2.5% dedicated strategic housing plan appropriation that will support the new North Campus residence hall construction project.

Sustainability

The **Sustainability Committee of Maryland (SCOM)** had an exciting recycling program this past winter where members of SCOM brought large recycling boxes to their residence halls that could accept a specific type of plastic found most commonly in plastic bags. UMD is always trying to expand their recycling program, but little do many know, it is not easy to recycle every possible material while partnering with a reasonable number of recycling facilities. That is why it is important for organizations on campus, like SCOM, to help out by offering other ways to recycle. Aside from this plastic recycling program, SCOM began their annual plans for **Earth Day** celebrations, this year being the fiftieth anniversary. For this special occasion, groups across campus planned events to hold throughout the month of April. Although SCOM could not come together for these festivities, some **sustainable activity recommendations** to do at home include: making air fresheners out of old t-shirts, baking soda, and essential oils; going online to learn more about recycling in your neighborhood; picking up trash while out on a walk; up-cycling old clothes; composting; building a rain barrel; and purchasing fresh produce from a local farmers market.

Transportation

The **RHA Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC)** has worked on a biweekly basis with both the director and assistant director of the Department of Transportation Services (DOTS). TAC worked alongside DOTS on two initiatives: **enhancing student engagement and on-campus safety initiatives**. The committee presented legislation recommending DOTS to work cooperatively with the First-Year Innovation Research Experience and new parking locations for on-campus scooters. With the semester coming to an abrupt halt on campus, this did not hinder TAC discussions of rerouting Shuttle UM bus routes to accommodate the needs of on-campus students. TAC hopes to continue this discussion and collaborative work into Fall 2020. DOTS faces new challenges as COVID-19 has taken the department by storm and the committee hopes to work closely with the department to **prioritize student safety, security, and health**. Improvements and alternatives to issues such as over capacity, altering current bus routes, and more are all being reviewed by TAC and DOTS. The committee is excited to continue their work of prioritizing on **campus safety and accessibility** for the betterment of residents in the fall.

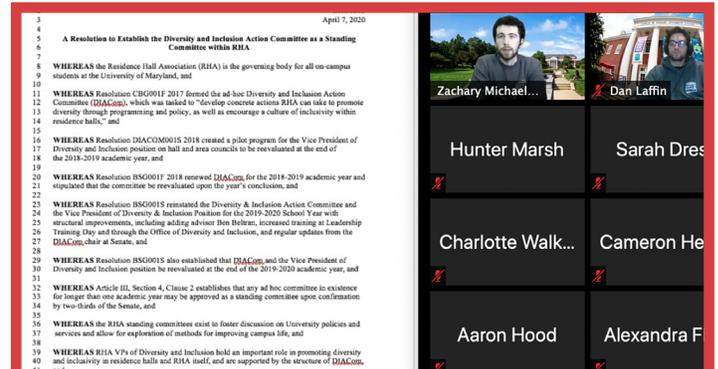
Advocacy in Action



All photos provided by The Diamondback NHAC President and Senator Sarah Dresh supports a resolution in favor of Dining Services proposed fee changes.



Senate meets over Zoom to discuss a resolution denouncing South Campus Commons and Courtyards response to COVID-19.



Senate votes to make the Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Committee a standing committee in RHA over Zoom.

This Year's Senate Legislation

JMC001F: *A Resolution to Approve the Standard Operating Procedures for the 2019-2020 Academic Year* by Julian Chiveral (Sept. 24, 2019)

EMP001F: *A Resolution Supporting the Student Crisis Fund as the Beneficiary of the Fall 2019 Dining Dollar Donation Drive* by Erica Patterson (Oct. 22, 2019)

CAB001F: *A Resolution Supporting Dining Services' Adoption of the Cool Food Pledge* by Craig Bruder (Nov. 5, 2019)

CAB002F: *A Resolution Supporting the Ocean Friendly Campus Campaign Project with the First-Year Innovation and Research Experience* by Craig Bruder (Nov. 5, 2019)

TJS001F: *A Resolution to Amend the Cecil Hall Visitation Policy* by Tyler Stitcher (Dec. 3, 2019)

CSH001S: *A Resolution Supporting More Parking Locations for On-Campus Electric Scooters* by Cameron Hewitt (Feb. 18, 2020)

NMR001S: *A Resolution Approving the Fee Proposed by the Departments of Residential Facilities and Resident Life for Fiscal Year 2021* by Neal Rodin (Feb. 18, 2020)

SMD001S: *A Resolution Approving the Fee Proposed by the Department of Dining Services for Fiscal Year 2021* by Sarah Dresh (Feb. 18, 2020)

ZMS001S: *A Resolution to Approve the Updated Standard Operating Procedures for the 2019-2020 Academic Year* by Zachary Schlaich (Feb. 18, 2020)

CSH002S: *A Resolution to Support the Department of Transportation Services Effort to Pilot a New Project with the First-Year Innovation and Research Experience* by Cameron Hewitt (March 3, 2020)

EHB001S: *A Resolution Calling for Dr. Pines to Meaningfully Engage with On-Campus Students Throughout His Tenure as President* by Emily Berry (March 3, 2020)

EHB002S: *A Resolution Condemning the University Administration's Efforts to Fund Strategic Initiatives Through a Reversion of Departmental Student Fee Money* by Emily Berry (March 3, 2020)

EHB003S: *A Resolution to Restructure the Administrative and Internal Affairs Duties of the Executive Board into a Chief of Internal Affairs Position* by Emily Berry (March 3, 2020)

BTK001S: *A Resolution Urging South Campus Commons and University Courtyards to Change their Response to COVID-19 to Better Meet Student Needs* by Kenyatta Thomas (March 31, 2020)

LHM001S: *A Resolution Supporting Hagerstown Hall's Period Poverty Program and Its Expansion* by Liam McCammon (March 31, 2020)

EHB005S: *A Resolution to Establish the Diversity and Inclusion Action Committee as a Standing Committee within RHA* by Emily Berry (April 7, 2020)

HCM001S: *A Resolution to Reinstate the Resident and Police Committee for the 2020-2021 Academic Year* by Hunter Marsh (April 7, 2020)

EHB006S: *A Resolution to Restructure RHA Hall and Area Council Positions* by Emily Berry (April 14, 2020)

Student Fees

This year, RHA's senators and Executive Team took a strong, focused approach to student fee advocacy through the student fee review process, legislation regarding certain fee proposals and campus-wide fee issues, and the creation of the first-ever joint RHA/SGA Student Fees Report.

Each year, students pay mandatory fees that are allocated towards departments such as -- but not limited to -- Athletics, Campus Recreation, the Student Union, and the Health Center. Students that have dining plans, vehicle permits, or housing plans also pay non-mandatory fees. In total, there are 15 different fees, and our campus holds a review process each year so that students can have a voice in changes to each fee; RHA is a critical part of multiple steps in this process.

Our Senate body serves as an advisory group to the departments of Resident Life, Dining, Residential Facilities, and Transportation Services. Through committee conversations and legislation, our senators give their approval or disapproval regarding the proposed fees. This year, the Senate voted to approve the on-campus housing/facilities fee and the dining fee, but voted against the vehicle permit proposal by the Department of Transportation Services. In addition to fee-specific legislation, the Senate body heard, and overwhelmingly passed, a resolution denouncing a massive campus fund reversion plan that allocated student fee money away from departments and to a central campus fund.

Members of the Executive Team serve on advisory committees for departments that propose mandatory fees and constantly communicate with departmental directors to channel the student voice to administration. And beyond this, RHA has a seat on the Committee for the Review of Student Fees (CRSF), the highest level of the review process that students partake in. This year, our Student Fees Coordinator Alec McCarren, President Emily Berry, and many Executive Team members worked to ensure that student concerns are projected at this level and that all votes are informed. During CRSF, all fees were approved with the exception of the shuttle bus fee, vehicle permit fee, and student activities fee. There was also notable discontent among students for certain fees that were approved by CRSF, including the athletics fee proposal.

Throughout the spring semester, RHA teamed up with the Student Government Association to create a student fees report. The report was designed with the intention to educate students and the general campus community on the student fee review process, provide a historical context for increases in student fees over the past decade, and give both an overview and breakdown of where student fee money is actually spent or held. In addition to this, the report specifies the impact of COVID-19 on student fees for the past academic year, includes a comparison of UMD's fees versus other Big 10 schools, and offers an explanation of the campus fund reversion. The student fee report can be found at ter.ps/studentfee20, where you can learn much more about issues relevant to student fees on campus and RHA's involvement.

SGA, RHA leaders denounce university's redistribution of money after state budget cuts

Diamondback Staff · March 08, 2020



The RHA met on Mar. 3, 2020 to discuss various matters. (Elliot Scarangelo/The Diamondback)

Programming

This semester alone, hall and area councils planned **over 20 events** around the themes of our **Program Good** initiatives and beyond. Although programming efforts were cut short, RHA members worked tirelessly to **engage residents up until the last day on campus**. Councils targeted their events to the needs and interests of their residents, putting on programs centered around self-care, managing stress, voter registration, alcohol awareness, black history month, and more! **Large-scale programming** for the spring semester consisted of our Spring Leadership Training Day; the Dining Dollar Donation Drive, which raised \$544 to support the UMD Campus Food Pantry; and the North Campus Carnival that was possible due to the efforts of our North Campus Hall Councils, Resident Assistant staffs, Resident Directors, Community Staff, and Dining Services. Under normal circumstances, students would have seen a large number of councils' host spring formals or other celebratory events, the spring South Campus Block Party, as well as the annual banquet-style Year-End Reception, but unfortunately these events had to be canceled due to COVID-19 closures.

Council Event Spotlight

The North Hill Area Council (NHAC) De-stress for Success event was put on to support residents during mid-terms. The program featured free facemasks, tea, cookies, donuts, coloring books, and more! RHA is so impressed with the collaboration of NHAC to plan and execute such a successful event for their residents while promoting self-care.



Pictured: NHAC President Sarah Dresh, NHAC Senator Charlotte Walker, and NHAC residents

Other residence council events

- Oakland Hall's Super Bowl Party to celebrate students return from winter break
- Cumberland Hall, North Hill Area Council, and Centreville Hall's Candy Gram events to show appreciation to friends and RAs on Valentine's Day
- BCC's Movie and Board Games event during mid-terms
- South Hill Area Council's Hidden Figures movie screening featuring Qdoba catering to celebrate Black History Month
- Cumberland Hall's "Terps Night In" program on two Saturday nights every month with fun games and activities
- Denton Hall's Mocktail Night to educate residents about alcohol awareness
- Oakland Hall's Bob Ross Paint Night during mid-terms
- Cumberland Hall's Voter Registration tabling event partnered with TerpsVote

Regional Report



Below: The UMD NACURH 2020 delegation prepares for conference over Zoom.



Above: The UMD CAACURH RBC 2020 delegation poses with the four awards that were received at conference.

In early February, the New Jersey Institute of Technology hosted the **2020 Regional Business Conference for the Central Atlantic Affiliate of College and University Residence Halls (CAACURH)**. Unlike the fall's CAACURH Regional Leadership Conference, this conference does not feature delegates and educational sessions; rather, the conference is dedicated to **voting representatives and legislation discussions**. In attendance at this conference was RHA President Emily Berry, National Communications Coordinator Dan Laffin, National Residence Hall Honorary (NRHH) Director of National Affairs Zach Schlaich, National-Communications-Coordinator-In-Training Michael Purdie, and Director-of-National-Affairs-In-Training Megan Berry.

After weeks of preparation for this conference, UMD submitted seven award bids to be considered by the regional voting representatives. UMD was ecstatic to hear that it won in **four of seven categories**: RHA President of the Year, NRHH Member of the Year, School of the Year, and Commitment to Diversity. Also at this conference, Dan Laffin presented his platform and was **selected to serve as the Regional Director for CAACURH** for the 2020-2021 academic year.

Unfortunately, due to circumstances regarding the COVID-19 pandemic, the **2020 National Affiliate of College and University Residence Halls (NACURH) Annual Conference** that was scheduled to occur at the University of Dayton was moved to an entirely virtual setting. While UMD's RHA was excited to send a delegation to a NACURH Annual Conference hosted in our very own region, it is thankful the University of Dayton was diligent enough to create a comprehensive conference experience online. In addition, the online format allowed UMD to send more delegates to a conference than ever before. The delegation included our voting representatives — newly-appointed National Communications Coordinator Michael Purdie, newly-appointed NRHH Director of National Affairs Megan Berry, and RHA President Emily Berry — and the **entirety of the RHA and NRHH Executive Teams**, who all participated in educational sessions presented by student leaders from all across the country. Sessions attended included information about connecting RHA and NRHH, recognizing marginalized groups on campus, advocacy and service opportunities for RHA, and more.

Looking forward, the **2020 CAACURH Regional Leadership Conference** will be hosted by the University of Toledo. UMD is hopeful that, if safe to do so, it will be able to send an in-person delegation to participate.

Year-End Recognition

Council Presidents of the Year

Krupali Daya
Cumberland Hall Council

Cameron Hewitt
South Hill Area Council

Senator of the Year

Tyler Sticher
Elkton Hall Council

Martin A. Taylor Distinguished Service Award

Dan Laffin

Rookie of the Year

Tiffany Jackson
South Hill Area Council

Council Member of the Year

Matt Ober
Oakland Hall Council

Outstanding Advisor of the Year

Aspen Shackelford
Easton Hall Resident Director

Richard Stimpson Award for Excellence in Service

Megan Berry

Council Building Block
Leonardtwn Area Council

Outstanding Leadership & Service Pins

Zachary Schlaich
Jason Spizuoco
Megan Berry
Sarah Dresh
Matthew Lischin
Jonathan Frank

Bronze Pins

Emily Berry
Erica Patterson
Dan Laffin
Neal Rodin
Claire Mudd
Alec McCarren
Cameron Hewitt
Steve Petkas

ACE Winners

ACE President

Cameron Hewitt

ACE VP of Community Development

Amelia Komisar-Bury

ACE VP of Communications

Amanda Drohat

ACE VP of Sustainability

Claire Mudd

ACE VP of Diversity and Inclusion

Tiffany Jackson

ACE Senator

Erin Ellington

ACE Council of the Year

Cumberland Hall Council

Meet the New Executive Team

Executive Board



Emily Berry, *President*

Year: Rising Senior

Major: Government & Politics

Previous Position: RHA President



Alec McCarren, *Vice President*

Year: Rising Senior

Major: Mathematics and Economics

Previous Position: Student Fees Coordinator



Kenyatta Thomas, *Chief of Internal Affairs*

Year: Rising Junior

Major: Public Policy

Minor: Nonprofit Leadership and Social Innovation

Previous Position: SCCAC Senator



Karina Perez, *Marketing and Technology Officer*

Year: Rising Senior

Major: Public Health Science

Previous Position: NHAC Vice President of Communications



Sarah Dresh, *Programming and Community Development Coordinator*

Year: Rising Junior

Major: Government & Politics

Minor: History

Previous Position: NHAC President and Senator



Quintin Harry, *Student Groups and Organizations Liaison*

Year: Rising Junior

Major: Philosophy, Politics, & Economics

Minor: Global Poverty

Previous Position: Senator-at-Large



Michael Purdie, *National Communications Coordinator*
Year: Rising Junior
Major: Journalism
Certificate: Women's Studies
Previous Position: Marketing and Technology Officer



Cameron Hewitt, *Student Fees Coordinator*
Year: Rising Junior
Major: Mathematics
Minor: Business Analytics
Previous Position: SHAC President and Senator

Senators-at-Large



Matt Blum
Year: Rising Senior
Major: Government & Politics
Previous Position: Senator-at-Large



Alexandra Figaro
Year: Rising Junior
Major: Public Policy
Certificate: African American Studies
Previous Position: Denton Hall Council Senator



Mel Mader
Year: Rising Sophomore
Major: Theatre
Previous Position: BCC Senator



Katy Clugg
Year: Rising Sophomore
Major: Criminology and Criminal Justice
Previous Position: Cumberland Hall Council Senator

A Message from the Incoming Vice President



Dear University of Maryland campus community,

Over the past three years, I have seen hundreds of RHA members passionately plan events for their communities, advocate for their peers, and develop invaluable skills that enable personal and profession-

al growth. It is a great honor to serve as the next vice president of an organization that has given so much to students, and I am excited to put all I can into this role.

My time in RHA has included a few months as a floor representative for Cumberland Hall, two terms in RHA Senate for Cumberland Hall and the Leonardtown Area, a semester as a vice president of programming and community development for Leonardtown, and a year serving as the student fees coordinator on the Executive Board. With these different involvements, I've seen firsthand what makes RHA so great: the opportunity it provides its members. If a resident wants to make a change on campus – whether it be increasing awareness of complex issues, fostering a sense of community through large-scale events, or directly improving campus processes – RHA is the way to make it happen. And through this, the organization offers a unique outlet for students to express creativi-

ty, develop passions, gain confidence, and forge strong friendships.

With that being said, there is room for improvement that I am confident we can achieve by working together. To truly be the voice of all on-campus students, we need to engage with as many residents and student groups as possible, advocate for those unable to advocate for themselves, and work more closely with administrators to attain substantive change. To meet the needs of our members, RHA needs to provide efficient training, consistent resources, and a spirited and comfortable environment so that every resident council can thrive.

Given the unprecedented circumstances surrounding COVID-19, we find ourselves in a moment where student advocates matter greatly. While it is unclear what issues RHA will be facing over the next year, I know our members will unite with the rest of the University of Maryland to promote fair, equitable, and efficient practices on campus. I look forward to working with the new Executive Team, campus departments, and general RHA body so we can all build a campus based on the values of empathy, resilience, and community. Have an amazing summer, and I hope to see you all this fall.

Best wishes,
Alec McCarren

Thank you for your support

RHA Advisors: Aaron Hood and Steve Petkas

Senate Committee Directors: Lisa Alexander, David Allen, Andrea Crabb, Valronica Scales, Colleen-Wright Riva, Ben Beltran, Chief Mitchell & Sgt. Hoaas

Hall and Area Council Advisors: Markell Saunders, Ray Ward, Tiffany Harris, Jordan Adams, Jorde Almonte-Florimon, Katie Wilhelm, Karlana Walker, Bria Jackson, Chelsea Bradford, Brittany Marxen, Nadéjjah Towns, Amanda Bogdan, Tynesha McCullers, Aspen Shackelford, Quiona Beason, Chris Carter

University Staff: Carlo Colella, Jay Gilchrist, Marsha Guenzler-Stevens, Mary Hummel, Warren Kelly, Adriene Lim, Anne Martens, David McBride, Marcio Oliveira, Patricia Perillo, Erica Bondarev Rapach, Ronald Zeigler

Shared Governance Partners: Student Government Association, Graduate Student Government
All Departments of Resident Life Staff