



# Annual Executive Board & Organization Report

The Student Government Association of  
Marian University  
2021-2022

# *Table of Contents*

<b>Page</b>	<b>Content</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Letter from the President</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Executive Vice President</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>Vice President of Finance</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>Vice President of Engagement</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>Vice President of Mission &amp; Identity</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>Senate President</b>
<b>8-17</b>	<b>Organization Reports</b>

# A Letter from the President



Students, Faculty, and Staff,

This year has definitely been one for the books! We, as a community, had some challenges but they didn't compare to the number of accomplishments and milestones we celebrated. In the fall semester there was still some uncertainty as to what this academic year would look like, but, when it came down to it, we all did our part in ensuring the safety of one another. By doing so we were able to start slowly transiting campus back to our new normal. The Student Government Association would like to thank every Marian Knight for doing their part in keeping campus healthy and safe during these times. As Student Body President,

it's an honor to be a part of this community that has continually supported and encouraged others both academically and personally, no matter what is going on in our lives. Our Franciscan Values have truly shined through, and it has set our community apart from the rest. We have remembered the need to ensure the dignity of human life is protected while being responsible stewards for our environment. Peace and justice shined through when we needed to share our gifts and talents to protect those we care about. Lastly, reconciliation helped us to recognize those who may be in need so that we could reach out and offer assistance. I'm proud to have seen what the Marian Community has accomplished this year, and I know moving forward it will continue to strive for greatness as we expand.

This year was a busy year for the Executive Board and our community. Our goal as the Executive Board was to focus on building and growing within our community, by doing so we moved the location of our Senate meetings to a more welcoming environment to encourage conversations. We also rebranded this year with a new logo that was voted upon by the student body and implemented professional development opportunities for both the senators and Executive Board. This year alone we had a huge milestone to celebrate, and it was an honor and privilege to have President Elsener and Mrs. Elsener at one of our senate meetings to recognize them for celebrating 20 years of leadership within Marian University.

I wouldn't want to have done all these amazing things without my Executive Board by my side. I couldn't have asked for a better team to serve with this year, and I thank them all for what they have taught me along the way. I hope you all take the time to read through each letter written to see what actions the Student Government Association Executive Board took to overcome each obstacle while still celebrating the victories. It has truly been an honor to serve the Marian Community as Student Body President, I want to thank everyone for what they do to continue to make the campus a welcoming environment. Marian University has become a home too many thanks to the amazing people that it's made up of, and I will forever be grateful for this experience.

Go Knights!

Ryan Penry, 2021-2022 Student Body President

# *Executive Vice President*

No report given.



# Vice President of Finance



First off, I want to thank everyone involved for an amazing 4 years. The many experiences I have gained from being a part of SGA will live on with me as I enter a new segment of my life. Though, it is not just me moving on, you all are on your own paths of success but based upon what you all have demonstrated to me is that at the end of your path their will most definitely be success. Marian University and our advisors for your organizations give the students the power to put on campus events and spread your club message to just about every corner

of campus. I want to leave you all with a couple things. One, you have a voice, and your voice is meant to be heard, so speak loudly and proudly for what you believe in. Two, be the change. If you see that Marian is lacking in certain areas, do something about it. Finally, as a student leader this is your campus. Make it a goal to have your name remembered and leave this campus better than you found it. Some of you still have time to get involved and break out of your shell, which is awesome because after this life will get a little more hectic. For me, I am done. Not done being a knight, because once you're a knight you're always a knight, but the torch will be passed on and the responsibilities I hold will be placed in front of all of you amazing people.

Colton Keasey,  
VP of Finance SGA

# Vice President of Engagement

Hello! I am Brylee Koontz, the 2021-2022 Vice President of Engagement. My student government story is different from other peoples. I was emailed about running for this position and after I submitted my application, I got the opportunity to speak at a senate meeting. After going back and forth, I decided to put together a speech, went to



the senate meeting, and was voted into my position right there in front of everyone. It was very nerve-wracking. This was my first college experience stepping outside of my comfort zone and going for something.

Being the only sophomore on the Executive Board this year and everyone else being a senior, it has been scary having such big shoes to fill when all my fellow officers leave. I remember walking into retreat before this school year started being so scared of all these seniors that I was going to have to work with. However, I did not realize what an impact these amazing students would have on me and Student Government Association

as a whole. The ladies on the team have shown me how to become the confident, boss woman I want to be while the men on the team became my big brothers and people I look to for advice. I am very fortunate and thankful to have had Connor, Colton, Ryan, Chelle, and Kate to all look up to throughout the school year in both a professional and friendly way. We were all constantly challenging the way one another thought in a positive way to help accomplish so much throughout the school year.

As the Vice President of Engagement, I have been in charge of social media. Within social media, I am to advertise our meetings, organization and club events, candidates for elections and so much more. By being creative and thinking outside the box, I was able to get a lot of interaction on our Instagram page.

Coming into the SGA Vice President of Engagement position, I had been told that the marketing side of Student Government Association is something that had lacked in previous years, so I made it a goal to completely transform our Instagram page. When I took over the page in August, it only had somewhere in the low one-hundreds for followers. However, with some TLC, it was completely transformed with posts that stood out to students, pictures of our executive board, and all about what Student Government does to improve our campus life. I am finishing off the year with 249 followers. As I pass my position on to the next person, I hope that social media is able to stay as vibrant, fun, and active as it was this year.

I am so thankful for the amount of faith that the seniors and our adviser, Sarah Balana Molter, had in me coming into Student Government. I never thought I would be a part of something so amazing that has helped me grow each and every week. Thank you from the bottom of my heart for believing in me.

# Vice President of Mission & Identity

No report given.



# Senate President



Student Government Association, thank you so much for a fantastic year. I am so proud of SGA's growth, commitment, and community. Each year the number of organizations on Marian's campus continues to grow, and I am beyond proud of the myriad different clubs that SGA continues to oversee. This past year, I was overjoyed to be the Senate President for SGA. From leading SGA meetings to working with the executive board, I am so thankful for the community this position has blessed me with. I hope and

pray that SGA continues to thrive and make Marian's campus that best it can be.

Go Knights!

Kate Grabowski

Senate President



# Organization Reports

## **Alpha Delta Gamma**

No report given

## **Alpha Psi Omega**

No report given

## **American Sign Language**

The American Sign Language club's mission is to support and invite the Marian student body, faculty, and staff to gain a greater awareness of Deaf culture and language. With this purpose in mind, the ASL Club and its members seek to bring awareness to and advocate for the Deaf community, celebrate diversity, and remain rooted in the Franciscan Values, especially Dignity of the Individual and Peace and Justice. This year we had more consistent participation in the club's activities. We got an opportunity to form a partnership with College Mentors for Kids. We also heavily advocated for changing the official Marian University policy to recognize ASL as a foreign language, which we successfully did. We struggled with finding a meeting time that would be accommodating for as many schedules as possible. We are looking forward to another exciting year of ASL advocacy on campus!



## **Asian Student Association**

No report given

## **Association for Women in Mathematics**

No report given

## **Be the Match**

The mission of Be the Match on Campus is to educate, recruit, and fundraise. We want to educate students and faculty about the realities of bone marrow donation, recruit more students to join the registry, and fundraise money to donate to the national Be the Match organization in order to continue to support patients and research treatments. This semester, our strengths were definitely improving our Instagram page and planning more "fun" events for members and others to participate in. However, we really struggled to get students to come to our events, and we had low attendance this year. Nevertheless, we plan to continue putting in

the effort to try and get our name more well-known throughout campus and at Marian University. Some annual events we want to highlight are the EcoLab service project we partner with Young Americans for Freedom and raffles that we do at the end of each semester. Overall, Be the Match has grown in passion and energy this past school year and we are excited for the next school year and the upcoming future to grow its potential as a student organization.

### **Best Buddies**

Best Buddies is a non-profit organization that works alongside individuals with intellectual disabilities! Our mission is to include everyone and make sure they have



a safe place to go and be! Our goal is to make friends and be the lifelong buddy to these individuals! This semester and year have been a bit harder for us, we had a small number of participants and few buddies that came to our events. We struggled a bit with getting people to join and now we aren't sure if the club will continue into next year due to the whole board being seniors and low number of other participants. Strengths were that we were able to make buddies happy and provide them with a fun and safe environment, we enjoyed getting

together and having our pizza party! We also got to do our annual duck pin bowling and many of our buddies really enjoy getting out and bowling! Best Buddies is going to work hard to try and get our numbers up for next year!

### **Campus Activities Board**

CAB had a lot of successful events this past school year! Our movie night was able to host 2 new Drive-In events with more than 80 attendees at both. We were able to host a "Roaring 20's Formal" with more than 200 students in attendance. This doubled the previous formal hosted in 2019. Additional events with successful turnout and interest included our Homecoming Week Events, Late Night Breakfast, BINGO Nights, Pacers Game, and Trivia Night. Our club was also able to host a canned food drive to donate items to Knightro's Pantry. We will have a very new executive board next school year since 5 of our 8 members are graduating in May 2022!



### **College mentors for Kids**

College Mentors for Kids is a national program that pairs an elementary student with a college mentor. Our chapter here at Marian partners with Holy Angels Catholic School. We have a total of 30 little buddies who meet with their mentors every Thursday in the Norman Center. Our activities are focused on higher education as well as community service. We are excited that we've been able to return to our traditional in-person format for this year and look forward to what the future holds!

Nothing we do would be possible without our WONDERFUL mentors!



**MARIAN  
COLLEGE  
MENTORS  
FOR KIDS**

### **Fellowship for Christian Athletes**



Fellowship of Christian Athletes, or FCA, is a national organization whose mission is to lead every coach and athlete into a growing relationship with Jesus Christ and His Church. In doing so, athletes grow in their faith so that they can be strong leaders and role models for others through the image of Christ. Marian University has a huddle that meets every Sunday night to share in faith and fellowship together. We start each meeting by playing a game and catching up and then enter into a bible study in which we discuss how the Scripture relates to our lives as athletes and how we can best serve our teammates and others through the Gospel. FCA welcomes people of all faith backgrounds as everyone has a voice to be heard! This year FCA had a solid core group during the fall semester. Throughout the spring semester, the FCA Huddle has expanded to include athletes from a larger number of different athletic teams. The organization has struggled since the pandemic to host bigger events they have held in the past such as the 3 v. 3 soccer tournament, the dodgeball tournament, and the sand volleyball tournament. However, several events were still very successful this year. The call-out meeting included a well-attended outdoor game night. Another highlight of the year was the College Athletes Day of Prayer in which we collaborated with student-athletes from Butler and IUPUI for fellowship and prayer.

### **Freshman Class Board**

The Freshman Class Board was reformed in September with 4 new officers from the incoming class. Following a callout meeting for more members, we hosted our first event in October, a freshman class tailgate. Prior to the home football game that day, we had fall-themed and football-themed games, treats, giveaways, and contests out in front of Doyle. That December, we hosted a Freshman Holiday Party in Alumni Hall which drew in over 100 participants for holiday trivia, crafts, games, cookie decorating, Christmas giveaways, and other fun activities. In the spring semester, we did freshman class valentines in Caito-Wagner and Doyle lobbies, where students made over 200 candy-grams for friends and classmates. Then we did a March Madness themed event for the NCAA tournament sweet 16. We are wrapping up the year with our big End of the Year Celebration on April 26th at the Fountain. Overall, this was our best year yet for Freshman Class Board. All 4 of the events so far were well attended beyond our expectations, and we expect a big turnout at the End of the Year Celebration too.



### **Junior Class Board**

No report given

### **Just Earth**

No report given

### **Kappa Delta Pi**



Marian University's Kappa Delta Pi is the education honor society dedicated to serving, mentoring, and networking with current and future teachers. As Kappa Delta Pi is a national organization, Marian University's chapter is titled Alpha Alpha Tau. This past semester and year, we have had the pleasure of putting on many events, including personal development sessions like Support the Spectrum and Equitable Teaching Put Into Practice, our service project at Cold Spring School titled Passport Around the World Literacy Night, the annual book auction, Christmas cards to Marian residents and interns, as well as a collaboration event with Sophia Club, titled Theology on Tap, which surrounded a presentation from Rabbi Sasso on teaching faith in children's

literature. Most recently, we have completed our Spring 2022 service project, making breakfast bags for teachers, faculty, and staff at Matchbook. Our upcoming event is the Kappa Delta Pi initiation ceremony. If you are an education student, thoughtfully consider joining Kappa Delta Pi!

### **Knights for Life**

Marian University's Knights for Life is an organization dedicated to advocating for the lives of those from the moment of conception until natural death. Members seek to promote respect for life at Marian University and in the surrounding community and to educate on life issues and the laws surrounding these issues through tabling events, and meetings held throughout the year that give all students an opportunity to pursue the truth. We held many events ranging from an event on Fatherhood to Pro-life issues in a Time of War. This year we had the opportunity to stand up for life at the March for Life in D.C. We held our annual Choose Life Night where we focused



on what happens after a woman chooses life and made many connections with local resources which connect pregnant and parenting students. We prayed outside of the Clinic for Women and provided bags with information and support for the women considering abortion. Our committees work on specific areas of the Pro-life movement which include Standing with You (Previously known as Pregnant on Campus), End-of-life, Prayer/Clinic, and our newest committee the Post-roe/Foster care and Adoption Committee. We strive to continue to support the culture of life on campus as we grow our Pro-Life organization.

### **Knights for Rights**

No report given

## **Marian Alliance**

The Mission Statement of the Marian University Alliance “is to create a space where students can explore and celebrate sexual orientation and gender identity in community and fellowship, focusing on the four core Franciscan values.” With the value of Dignity of the Individual, we believe that all people, regardless of race, ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation, ability, etc. deserve to be treated with respect and work to create an atmosphere of inclusion. With the value of Reconciliation, we seek to mend the divides that exist among us and always respond with forgiveness and love when wronged by others. With the value of Peace and Justice, we aim to use our voices to speak for the silent and fight against all forms of injustice. With the value of Responsible Stewardship, we understand that we have a responsibility to the Marian community and strive to cultivate what we have been given for those who come after us.



By putting these values into practice, the Marian Alliance has hosted a myriad of educational and community-building events. In addition to our repeating Alumni Closet Talks Speaker Series and Transgender Day of Remembrance Prayer Service events, we hosted author and journalist Michael O’Loughlin for an event regarding the Catholic Church and the AIDS epidemic, we partnered with healthcare organizations to educate us for World AIDS day, and we had two Conversation Hour discussion events regarding Bisexuality and Nonbinary and Asexual identities. One strength of our organization this year was our success in deepening our impact on students and solidifying our presence on campus. Whether or not someone goes to an event we host, they still know that the Alliance is an inclusive and safe space for them when they need it. We hope to increase our participation rates and inspire more leaders out of the underclassmen. We are close to accomplishing this goal as well. Within our organization, we offer students support, advice, and community so that LGBTQ+ students can have a full, and positive college experience. We are also committed to service, connecting with other LGBTQ+ organizations and programs in Indianapolis, and working with other on-campus groups and departments to build up an inclusive and cooperative campus. To learn more or get connected with our organization, email us at [mualliance@marian.edu](mailto:mualliance@marian.edu) and visit our Instagram page [@mualliance](https://www.instagram.com/mualliance).

### **NAMI**

No report given

### **Phi Alpha Theta**

No report given

### **Pre-Health**

The Pre Health-Club's mission is to create a group of people centered around people interested in pursuing health professions. This year we successfully held many events including a talk about the process of IVF, suture nights, medical movie nights, and medical themed game nights. We brought in some new members this year and had great attendance and participation at our events. We were so excited to be able to hold all of these events! Overall, Pre Health had a great year and hopes to continue to improve next year!

### **Psychology Club**

No report given

### **Senior Class Board**

No report given

### **Sigma Delta Pi Alpha Alpha Chi**

No report given

### **Sigma Zeta**

The Sigma Zeta National Honor Society's mission is to help students in STEM meet, collaborate, and further their academic careers by offering independent research opportunities, networking opportunities, and career preparation opportunities. We were able to do 2 service projects and extended our outreach to the Indianapolis community through donations to nursing homes and Second Helpings. This year we held events in connection with the medical school, graduate schools, and mentors within the school. This allowed our group to expand their knowledge on several science fields and prepare better for their future. Several of our students participated in the Sigma Zeta National Convention by conducting and presenting their research to organizations all over the country. Some annual events that our organization hosts that are open to all students are our Nitrogen Ice Cream event, where with the help of one of our amazing professors we make ice cream using liquid nitrogen, which is held in April each spring. We also have several

professional panels including medical students, current doctors, and graduate school professors throughout the year. We also recently began a collaboration with the medical school to help strengthen our connections and networking abilities for our undergraduate students. And lastly, our semester kick-off lab coat mixer where students receive free safety goggles to decorate as they wish, and students from different major backgrounds get to network and meet their future professors and classmates. Our chapter of the Sigma Zeta National Honor Society began in 2012 and has grown stronger each year with the help of our many members and dedicated advisors Dr. Joyce Horton and Steve Dougherty!

### **Social Work Student Association**

No report given

### **Sophia Club**

No report given

### **Student Nursing Association**

The nursing association is a pre-professional organization for nursing students. It allows pre-nursing and nursing majors to build a support system both academically and socially for greater success as a nursing student. MUSNA prepares its members for becoming nurse leaders upon graduation. This past year we expanded our executive board to 12 members. We had an extremely successful second semester service event where we were able to make 40 care packages for the nurses in the surgical ICU at IU Health. We were able to have most of our events in person this past academic year which was a welcome change from doing virtual events for Covid. This year we also implemented making educational flyers once a month that got hung around campus and the subjects focused on public health issues and other health related topics. Next year we hope to continue gaining attendance at our in-person events and promoting our education events to nursing students.



### **Student Organization of Latinos**

The student organization of Latinos (SOL) is just one of the few multicultural groups on campus. As a group, our mission is to improve and enhance the educational experience of Latino students at Marian University by implementing academic, cultural, and social programs designed to address Latino needs and further individual success as well as create cultural awareness on campus. The strengths that we have developed this semester are adaptability, an enhanced sense of community, and community engagement. As an organization, the struggles we have



experienced are in active participation and retention of members. Now, the annual events that we would like to highlight are Fiesta Latina, Dia de los Muertos, and Voces Latinas. All of these events not only highlight aspects of our culture, but also bring awareness and opportunities to learn more.

### **Tabletop Games**

No report given

### **The Ultimate Club**



The purpose of the Ultimate Club is to cultivate a community of sportsmanship, athleticism, competition, and most importantly: fun! We do this by teaching rules and strategies of the sport

and practicing twice a week. This semester, we got funding for the first time to purchase discs, cones, and pennies for the club. The biggest struggle for our club is scheduling around the other sports that need to use the field, but we remain flexible, and we practice whenever we get the chance! We are also really excited to be planning our very own tournament where we will host 3-5 other teams Fall 2022 :)

### **Theta Phi Alpha**

No report given

### **Union for Black Identity**

No report given

### **Young Americans for Freedom**

The YAF chapter here at MU is dedicated to creating a college campus environment that advances and expresses the traditional American values of personal responsibility, freedom of expression, right to bear arms, individual liberty, and

limited government. This year we invited three speakers to campus: Nathan Crankfield, a black American veteran, Catholic convert, and host of the Seeking Excellence podcast, along with Tony Kinnett, the executive director of The Chalkboard Review and Choice Media, and Robert Evans, an Indiana Policy, and Civil Law analyst. We surpassed our goal on the number of events we wanted to hold each month; however, we did find we had to use our budget to boost attendance through incentives. Additionally, we held displays and prayers services for Afghanistan and Ukraine. We were also proud to hold our annual 9/11 prayer service and EcoLab service project this school year.

