STUDENT ADVOCATE VICE PRESIDENT

The role of the Utah State University Student Association (USUSA) Executive Council is to enhance the quality of student life through academics, student concerns, activities, public relations, athletics, clubs, organizations, extension, graduate, and legislative student representation.

Charter

USUSA Student Advocate Vice President hereafter referred to as the Student Advocate Vice President

I. Duties:
   1. Represent student concern and opinion to student services, auxiliary services, student government, and university administration.
   2. Represent student concern and opinion to local, state, and federal governments.
   3. Serve as a member of the Executive Council and any committees, sub-committees, or boards as identified in the USUSA General Laws and Charters.
   4. Maintain relationships with key faculty, staff, and administrators to aid in bringing about positive change for students.
   5. Work to ensure students have opportunities to share their opinions and concerns on student government and university issues.
   6. Organize, direct, and chair the USU Government Relations Council (GRC) and Student Lobbyist Program.
   7. Oversee the Student Legal Services program.
   8. Oversee and direct the myVoice program.
   9. During the week of elections, the USUSA Student Advocate Vice President will be the financial auditor for candidates running for that same position. In case of the officer re-running for the same position, a member of the elections committee will be the auditor.
   10. Officer will adhere to university, divisional and departmental fiscal policies and procedures.
   11. Perform or delegate appropriate research and publicity of legislative issues that will affect students; communicate current legislative issues to the Public Relations Director to be advertised on campus.
   12. Officer will ensure that every member of their council or committee receive the opportunity to be QPR trained through an office sponsored training during the fall semester of the academic year.

II. Programs Sponsored:
   1. Student Advocacy
      i. Shall provide for a process where students can air their grievances concerning university policies, procedures, and decisions. Grievances may be received in written form or by appointment.
      ii. Serve as a resource in providing justification and understanding for policies, procedures, and decisions.
iii. Shall act as a moderator or liaison in finding solutions and/or corrections for student grievances.
iv. Shall represent student concern and opinion to faculty, staff, and administration and actively advocate on behalf of students.

2. Government Relations Council (GRC) and Student Lobbyist Program
   i. The Government Relations Council and Student Lobbyist Program is a branch of USUSA that advocates for student interests to governments at the city, county, and state levels and works to raise student awareness on campus of current civic and political issues. The GRC works to involve students in the civic and political process and lobbies on behalf of students at the Utah State Legislature each spring. Voter registration and student voter turnout are also a major focus of the GRC.
   ii. The Student Advocate Vice President shall:
       1. Serve as chair of the Government Relations Council and oversee all of its operations.
       2. Appoint a director to assist in directing the day-to-day operations of the council.
       3. Shall appoint students to serve on the council via an open application process.
       4. Be responsible for scheduling, planning and carrying out Aggie Ice Cream Day at the Utah State Capitol.
       5. Coordinate with on campus student civic and political groups that have common goals.
       6. Coordinate student lobbying efforts with the USU Director of Government Relations.

3. Survey and Polling
   i. The Student Advocate Vice President shall be responsible for surveys and student opinion polls concerning student services, academic policies, auxiliary services, and any other area when deemed necessary.

4. Student Legal Services
   i. Free legal advice from a competent, qualified lawyer will be offered by USUSA to the general student body.
   ii. The Student Advocate Vice President shall:
       1. Oversee the execution of the Student Legal Services program and the USUSA Student Attorney.
       2. Work to publicize this resource to students and ensure appointment scheduling information is posted on the USUSA website.

5. myVoice Program
   i. myVoice is an online platform that allows USU students to share comments, concerns, or opinions to USUSA about any aspect of the university.
   ii. The Student Advocate Vice President shall:
       1. Oversee the execution of the myVoice program and ensure its accessibility to students.
       2. In coordination with the USUSA President, shall assign submission categories to other USUSA officers or committee members.
       3. Shall maintain a database of points of contact for departments and offices throughout the university who can assist in solving university issues that are identified using myVoice.
4. Shall work to actively promote the myVoice program as a resource available to students.

6. Excellence in Student Advocacy and Support Award
   i. The Excellence in Student Advocacy and Support Award is given to outstanding faculty, staff, or administration who go above and beyond for students in any area of student life. Any USU student shall be able to submit nominations for this award, which should be given out monthly during fall and spring semesters.
   ii. The Student Advocate Vice President shall:
       1. Ensure students are able to submit nominations via the USUSA website.
       2. Convene a committee which shall include at least two other USUSA officers to determine award recipients.
       3. Order award plaques and organize the award presentations during Executive Council meetings.

III. Committee Assignments

1. Aggie Life and Wellness Center and Legacy Fields Policy Board
2. Americans with Disabilities Act Task Force
3. Athletic Council Gender and Minority Issues Subcommittee
4. Faculty Evaluation Committee
5. Government Relations Council (Chair)
6. Learning Resources Council
7. Parking and Transportation Advisory Committee
8. Residency Appeals Committee
9. Space Management Committee
10. Stater’s Council
11. Taggart Student Center Policy Board
12. University Student Fee Board (USFB)
13. University/Community Relations Executive Committee
14. USU Campus Store Committee
15. USUSA Ad Hoc Committee Assignments
16. USUSA Building (Stadium/Spectrum) Administrative Fee Committee (Chair)
17. USUSA Executive Council
18. Student Media Advisory Board
19. myUSU Portal Advisory Council
20. USUSA Diversity Cabinet

IV. Time Expectations:

1. Officer will complete at least 2 hours daily in assigned office, for 10 hours a week unless approved by two SILC advisors and the USUSA Student Body President by 2/3 majority.
2. Officer will complete 1 info booth hour weekly.
3. Officer will respond to all assigned myVoice submissions weekly.

I hereby agree that I fully understand my charter and accept full responsibility for my duties as the Student Advocate Vice President.