

Freshmen Senators 2020-21 Goals

Senator Pruitt:

- As a freshman coming into college at one of the worst possible times, I find it easy to say that a goal of mine is to make other freshmen more comfortable, but I think it goes above and beyond that. During this horrendous global pandemic, we are not all in the same boat.
- A goal for this semester is to help SIUE realize and pinpoint those differences. For the freshman trying to study online at home in a toxic household or for the freshman that is battling mental illness, I think it is important to target these issues and give them the assistance they need.
- Another important factor is the effect this pandemic has on lower income students. These students are incredibly vulnerable for several reasons. To begin, lower income students are less likely to attend college, let alone finish it. Many low-income students could also be acting as a babysitter for their siblings or attempting to get a job to help their family with the bills.
- Universities in general have a history of being elitist institutions and I believe that SIUE needs to target these past ideals and work towards truly being an all-inclusive campus.
- My goal is to reach out to these low-income students and emphasize the resources available. I do believe that SIUE has many resources available, but they are not emphasized and encouraged as much as they could be. Whether it be events or emails, it is important for freshmen and all students to understand the resources that are readily available for them.

Senator Sheahan:

- I would like to increase the number of events and campus awareness activities surrounding mental health throughout the year. I am already achieving this by working with the Panhellenic Council to co-host a Mental Health Week this fall. This fully virtual event will help students learn about resources on campus, as well as learn ways to incorporate activities to better your mental health into your everyday life. I hope to continue these events during the winter and spring as well, all in virtual formats so they are accessible to students on and off campus.
- Another goal I have is to increase the year-round sustainability of campus dining, events, and giveaways. I hope to host seminars on daily aspects of life students can change to live more sustainable lives, discuss sustainable takeout options with campus dining, host town halls with students to hear what things they believe are needed for campus sustainability, and talk with event planning staff at SIUE to ensure giveaways have items that will be used by students, not thrown out.