



## NEWSLETTER #3 — HSA

We're proud that we not only offer a challenging but interesting curriculum, but that our students have created a vibrant, inclusive, and engaged community. One of the pillars of the community is our Honors Student Association. For this week's newsletter, we hand it over to two leaders of our HSA: President Amanda Wickman and the leader of the mentorship program, Jacob Beebe.

But before we get started, we want to know what interests and activities you're hoping to have in your first year of college. We've put together a survey with a lot of questions about what you like, what you want to do with your free time, and where you might even want some help. Click on the image below and help us know you better!



#### WHY IS HONORS IMPORTANT TO YOU?

"Honors gave me the opportunity to explore topics that are very relevant to what's happening around the world today."

UPPERCLASS  
*spotlight*



Amanda Wickman

## WHAT IS HSA?

HSA provides many opportunities for students inside and outside of the honors community to grow as a community and work together to accomplish goals around campus and the community. Built on the pillars of harmony, selflessness, and advancement, we have many committees to help you get involved. Harmony emphasizes our commitment to being inclusive towards all and forming bonds with new people. We have committees such as fellowship and mentorship to carry out this goal. Our committees such as service and community garden allow students to give back to the community and carry out our mission of selflessness. Our value of advancement is about furthering our organization and ourselves to be the best we can be.

# WHAT DOES HSA DO?

Our committees sponsor many activities and events throughout the year. We offer a variety of opportunities, so that members can get involved however they would like. Our work is coordinated around our HSA values.

## *Harmony*

- Mentorship Committee: plan and organize HSA's mentorship program
- Marketing Committee Chair: ensure all HSA members receive important information about upcoming events, community meetings, etc.
- Fellowship: plan and host events for all HSA members to have fun and to foster a sense of community and friendship

## *Selflessness*

- Service Committee: plan and host various service and service-learning events for HSA members to gain a connection with the local community and to improve the lives of others
- Alternative Spring Break Committee: plan and host a week-long community service trip that takes place during spring break
- Community Garden Committee: maintain a community garden where all the produce grown is donated to local food pantries

## *Advancement*

- Academic Committee: plan and host events that will aid in HSA member's academic success
- Escape Room Committee: plan and host an escape room in Lovejoy Library during the spring semester for the entire SIUE campus
- Constitutional Review Committee Chair: review and make edits to the HSA constitution as needed

# WHAT OUR STUDENTS SAY ABOUT HSA

Hear from some of our officers about what they didn't know about HSA prior to joining:



**CARA (SENIOR CLASS REPRESENTATIVE)**

There is a variety of events you can participate in hosted by the different committees: meme painting, sand volleyball, the gala, etc.

**MELISSA (AT-LARGE REPRESENTATIVE)**

I definitely didn't know the variety of committees offered. I think it would also be valuable to highlight that many of the projects are completely student led, which is a little different from other organizations.



**KIYA (AT-LARGE REPRESENTATIVE)**



One thing I didn't know was how easy it is to get involved! Doing something as simple as attending events or community meetings can open up a bunch of opportunities for you. You can join a committee, become a committee chair, join the board, become an exec member, or even just attend events every once in a while. All of these positions are fun ways to socialize, give back to the community, and meet awesome people.

# GET INVOLVED — RIGHT NOW!

Don't wait to get on campus to join. You can join the HSA right now and be ahead of the game!

1. Go to <https://getinvolved.siue.edu/organization/honors>
2. Click the blue "Sign-In" button on the top right corner of the website, and sign in using your SIUE credentials (your e-id and password)
3. Click the blue "Join" button on the top right corner of the website
4. Once an organization officer accepts your request, you then will be a member of HSA

Check out all the ways to stay engaged with HSA. Just click on the icons to get started.



# HSA MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

WHY IS HONORS IMPORTANT TO YOU?

"I found a community while pursuing engaging educational interests."

UPPERCLASS  
*spotlight*



Maybe you would like someone to help you get started in your new college career. Maybe you'd like some peer guidance on pursuing your major, or even finding one to explore. Maybe you'd like someone to help you get more involved in clubs and extracurriculars. MAYBE you know everything about college and how it will go, and you just want another friend to hang out with. Regardless of what you want to know or what you want to do, you won't be alone with HSA's mentorship program as you delve into your college career.

Our mentorship program pairs new students up with an upper-level honors mentor, who is committed to helping with academics, extracurriculars, and beyond. Mentors are paired with mentees through academic and extracurricular activities (or through mutual requests), so new students know they'll get the most relevant, helpful guidance from someone excited to give them that help.

In addition to regular HSA activities, the mentorship program hosts special activities just for mentorship participants, including the opening mixer and service events.

You can sign up to get started with the mentorship program now! Click on the icon below to get started.



# REMINDERS

It's getting closer ... but no need to panic yet! Here are a few things to remember, or check.

## CHECK YOUR BILLING & FINANCIAL AID

By this time, your bill you be updated and reflect your registration and any other costs (housing, meal plan, fees). You should check now and make sure that it looks correct to you. If it doesn't you should reach out to the Financial Aid or Bursar's Office with your questions. {Just remember, I can't see your financial accounts, so you'll need to talk to those offices}.

## CHECK YOUR REGISTRATION

So it's not uncommon for some changes to your registration to happen. You may have gotten a notice from the Registrar's Office (to you SIUE e-mail) that a class you're in may have been cancelled. If that's the case, you should try to find an open section of the same class. If you can't, you can reach out to Ian.

If you're unsure, you should log into CougarNet and check your schedule. Hopefully, it will look like it should!

## START CHECKING YOUR SIUE E-MAIL

Ian told you that we'd continue to e-mail your regular e-mail address until the start of school. Not all offices will do that, though. You should start making the effort to check your school e-mail address. That's where notices from other offices will go.

It's a good habit to always check your SIUE e-mail, but especially important for the next few weeks.