



**DECEMBER 2009**



### **CURRENT INITIATIVES**

#### Tiger Pride Day

Towson University's Tiger Pride Day, scheduled for February 17<sup>th</sup> 2010, is a great opportunity for students to advocate for higher education concerns and initiatives with Maryland's elected policymakers. Each year, the SGA creates a legislative agenda highlighting a relevant set of higher education concerns and initiatives. This year's legislative agenda focuses on access and affordability, two aspects of higher education that we believe are vital to public education's central mission. December's prime focus is on recruitment efforts, where the SGA will be reaching out for students interested in traveling to Annapolis for our 11<sup>th</sup> annual Tiger Pride Day.

#### Academic Advising Heats Up

The SGA spent the month of November coordinating and enacting efforts to address academic advising on a campus-wide level. During the month of December, the SGA will be conducting an academic advising survey and using the results to shape the direction of our work with the administration on this important issue. We are also meeting with representatives from the various colleges to collect intradepartmental feedback.

#### Finals Franticness & Winter Break Recuperation

The culmination of the Fall 2009 semester is just around the corner. During the week of December 14<sup>th</sup>, the SGA (alongside the entire undergraduate student body) will engage in countless hours of lost sleep, late-night trips to 7/11, and the successful completion (hopefully) of an array of final exams. We hope to use Winter break as an opportunity to seek much needed relaxation so that we come back for the Spring semester even stronger.



### **FOLLOW-UP AND FOLLOW-THROUGH**

#### *Black Studies Department Resolution*

Dean Cooney of the Liberal Arts College and Provost Welsh are working to bring in evaluators to analyze and provide feedback on the state of our current African American Studies Minor. From this evaluation, which will be conducted during the Spring 2010 semester, Dean Cooney and the College of Liberal Arts will be able to accurately gauge the potential for growth. The SGA will work with Dean Cooney and the Provost throughout this evaluation process as liaisons to the student perspective, ensuring accurate and dedicated student representation.

#### *Campus Safety:*

The SGA has formulated a detailed report of the Night Walk, highlighting specific elements of campus that we feel may jeopardize student safety. The SGA will work with Facilities Management and the T.U.P.D. to ensure these concerns and suggestions are addressed. On November 24<sup>th</sup>, the SGA passed Resolution #30, addressing the prominence of hate/bias incidents in University Police reporting practices. Detective Morgan and Captain Foracappo were present to inform the SGA on the University's current hate/bias reporting practices and to engage in a constructive discussion surrounding this issue.

#### *Student Voice*

Currently, the SGA is conducting a survey surrounding meal plans. The survey distinguishes between those who have a meal plan and those who do not. By gathering data from these distinct student constituencies, the SGA looks to gauge how often students are eating on campus and how much money they are spending.



### **HIGHLIGHTS**

THE SGA...

- is co-sponsoring the "One World, One Fight, One Meal" benefit dinner. All money raised will go towards "Movable Feast," a non-profit located in Baltimore City that provides meals for those living in poverty with HIV/AIDS.
- is hosting a faculty/staff appreciation luncheon.
- is sponsoring the "SGA Winter Food and Clothing Drive" throughout the months of December and January.
- is organizing the budgets of 65 plus student organizations who completed the SGA budgeting process during the Fall Semester. On November 20<sup>th</sup>, the SGA senate allocated over \$130,000 to these 65+ student organizations.
- is proud to be a part of groundbreaking student attendance at basketball games. The first three men's basketball games garnered an average attendance that was higher than any single home game attended last year.
- through CAB, our programming branch, has collected record numbers of responses of the Tigerfest survey and will continue to provide large scale social programming for our students!