

Good afternoon, for those of you who I have not met before, my name is Ella Burrows and it is my honor to serve as the 2023-2024 Student Government Association President. I would first like to express just how grateful I am to be back on campus and to have the opportunity to collaborate with you as we strive to improve the student experience here at FHSU. Although I am incredibly excited for what is to come, I would like to take a moment to thank each and every one of you for the work you have done and are continuing to do on behalf of our students. I am confident that our students have the best faculty and staff of any university in the country and we cannot thank you enough for your commitment to enriching the quality of education at FHSU. SGA is incredibly grateful for the tremendous support we have received from university administration, faculty, and staff, none of the work we have done thus far would have been possible without it.

Before my Vice President, Emma Day, and I left campus for the summer, we had the pleasure of selecting four truly exceptional students to serve on our executive staff. For this academic year, Jackson Sinsel will serve as Treasurer, Austin Ruff will serve as Legislative Affairs Director, Aspen Patrick will serve as Public Relations Director, and Joanna Carillo will serve in the newly-established role of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Director. In addition to putting together our dream team of Tigers, Vice President Day and I formulated our vision for our term and have aligned our goals and initiatives with both SGA's purpose and the student success goals of FHSU's strategic plan.

The purpose of SGA can be split into six distinct areas:

1. to preserve the Student Government Association as an effective means of representing students
2. to provide a constructive line of communication between students, faculty, and administration
3. to foster student involvement in all on-campus activities
4. to enhance the educational, social, and cultural experience of all students
5. to provide a sense of inclusion to a diverse community of individuals
6. and most importantly, to provide an environment conducive to the education of all Fort Hays State University Students.

We hope that under our leadership, the Student Government Association will have a strong sense of community, integrity, and transparency as we strive to execute the purpose of our organization not just in word, but in deed. What will this look like?

1. Building on progress made by the Stanley/Ruff administration
2. Continued shared governance and communication amongst university leadership, SGA, Faculty Senate, Staff Senate, and AAUP
3. Strategic Partnerships and Initiatives aimed at promoting diversity and inclusion through our newly established Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Director and International Student Senate Seat
4. A continued focus on Sustainability

- a. Recycling
- b. The Green Event
- 5. Advocacy
 - a. Higher Education Day
 - b. KBOR Meetings
 - c. Increased communication with local and state government
- 6. Relationships with faculty, staff, and students at our new technical college partners
- 7. Campus and Community Involvement
 - a. Big Event
 - b. On-Campus partnerships

As you can see, it will be a very busy year for SGA and I am looking forward to working with you over the next term. Once again, thank you for all that you do for our students. Please do not hesitate to reach out if there is any way SGA can be of assistance to you. Thank you and Roll Tiges!