Colby SGA Informal Minutes
*All minutes are paraphrased*

I. Committees

- Jason: I’m going to list out the committees so that you all get a better feel for what you want to join. The first committee is the Academic Affairs Committee. The AAC oversees the curriculum and all educational policy. The Academic Honesty Committee oversees all academic infractions, plagiarism, etc. The Budget Committee recommends policies concerning student life to appropriate bodies. The College Affairs Committee oversees the co-curricular program. The Student Conduct Board presides over non-academic infractions and recommends specific action to the Dean of Students. The Admissions and Financial Aid Committee Addresses Colby’s admissions policy as well as advising the Dean of Admissions and Financial Aid. The Athletic Advisory Committee oversees athletic policy at Colby. Diversity and Inclusion focuses on Colby’s stance towards promoting DEI. Information and Technology is for people who like helping ITS and improving the ITS student experience. Off-Campus Study Advisory looks at policy regarding international study and makes recommendations to appropriate bodies. Parking just addresses parking ticket appeals. Security increases transparency between Security and students. The Environmental Advisory Group advises President Greene on issues related to environmental stewardship of the region. The Finance Committee oversees the approval of funds for student requests.

- Tivis: The committee looks at non-budget, one-time request funds and it meets once a week.

- Jason: The Community Engagement Committee works to build a community between students living Downtown and on campus.

- Cheshta: I was on it last year with Natalie (Last year’s Community Engagement Chair) and I want to change it up this year and maybe focus on including deals for Colby students.

- Jason: Oversight of Clubs on Campus, I’m the chair of this committee and we plan club fairs and we also oversee the approval of new clubs on campus.

- Jason: The Publicity Committee focuses on ways to to publicize the activities of SGA. Traditions examines Colby traditions and discusses the creation of new traditions and the reinstatement of old traditions. The Judiciary Committee usually meets on a case-by-case basis and oversees internal reform within SGA amongst other things.
II. Working Groups

- Laura: We're going to introduce this year’s working groups to give you all a sense as to which ones might be of particular interest to you. We try to give everyone at least one of their two choices but we guarantee that all of them have something to offer.
- Jordan: Colby housing has been changing as a result of the Class of 2025 and we’ve been getting a lot of feedback. Our goal is to make housing more equitable by increasing transparency. Our main goal is to streamline the application process for specialty housing (Heights Suites, Senior Apartments) and format it towards involvement on campus and incorporating DEI initiatives.
- Tivis: Our long term plan is to create planning for a multicultural housing pilot program.
- Lukas: For the Accessibility working group, we want to focus on transportation. We want to explore the option of expanding shuttle services from Colby to Augusta, and/or Portland.
- Nischal: We want to collaborate with SPB and Pugh to plan more trips around different parts of Maine.
- Laura: For the Social Life/School Spirit working group, we feel like there is a general lack of school spirit which seems to be present at a lot of bigger schools. We want to do some polling to get some background information on why that is. We want to answer a couple questions: What should our traditions be? Who are we right now? What’s important to this community. How can we instill feelings of inclusivity and belonging?
- Abby: Our main goal is to make the social aspect of Colby inclusive to everyone. Academics are always prioritized for students so the social life has unfortunately fallen to the wayside. We want to put on events/programming to promote a sense of belonging for everyone on campus.
- Chesta: The Sustainability working group’s goal is to implement change that promotes sustainability, a goal that aligns with the administration’s goal. Our main objective is to reduce food waste in the dining halls and around campus as well as improving accessibility and transportation in Colby and Waterville. More specifically, we want to increase education about proper waste disposal and increase ZipCar and Jitney services.