



THE UNIVERSITY  
OF ARIZONA

# Student Affairs Policy Committee

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# Students' Concerns and Requests

The SAPC asked our student representatives to discuss areas of concern that they have heard about from other students and to identify ways the University can address them.



# Positive Actions



BearDown Rundown Newsletter

Mental Health Support Expansion

Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Efforts: Cultural Centers

ASUA Engagement

Campus Safety Enhancements: UAlert system improvements and more transparent communication. Safety Walks with Chief Patterson.

Career Readiness Support: Growth of internship programs, career fairs, and mentorship opportunities.

- Strategic Initiatives=students are a focal point
- President Garimella's survey

# Support for Students



## Concerns

- Basic needs and rising costs
- Safety across campus
- DEI, marginalized students

## Suggestions

- Food drives (on and off campus)
  - Sustained funding model
- Continue making safety related changes (lighting, visibility, cameras)
- Within legal rights, not doing anything preemptively around immigration enforcement
- Have a “know your rights” training workshop
  - Have more available resources—red cards

# Transparency



## Concerns

- Few opportunities for students to offer input
- Unclear communication for International students
- Little communication in regard to the political situation

## Suggestions

- **Host Regular Town Halls or Open Forums**
- **Publish Meeting Notes and Decisions**
- **Provide Clear Timelines for Initiatives**
- **Follow Up on Student Feedback**
- **Be Visible & Accessible**
- **Have more defined policies for the current political situation**
- **Involve student leaders in decision making processes and conversations re: issues of significance**

# Communication



## Concerns

- Lack of effective communication

## Best Ways for Admin to Communicate with Students:

- **Social Media:** Use platforms like Instagram, TikTok, and Twitter for quick, engaging updates.
- **BearDown Rundown:** Continue using it for consistent, summarized updates.
- **Email:** Use for detailed or official communications.
- **Campus Apps / D2L/Catcloud:** get out recourses or information.
- **In-person or Virtual Forums:** Allow for real time interaction and clarity.
  - Announce when ICE comes on campus and keep students informed.
  - Reevaluate free speech and protests: revise the campus policy to ensure that protesting can't be used as grounds for visa revocation.

# Inclusivity



## Most Effective Ways to Gather Information:

- **Surveys:** Keep them short, focused, and linked to action.
- **Engagement Analytics:** Use data from emails, social media, or apps to track interest.
- **Focus Groups:** Small group discussions to dive deeper into student concerns.
- **Student Advisory Boards:** Ongoing input from diverse student representatives.
- **Event Feedback Booths or QR Codes:** Collect real-time feedback.
- **Forum:** important that any such forums provide a genuine means of communication for students to admin, faculty (i.e., not admin providing a 15-30 minute comment period following a major announcement).

# Next Steps:

## Actions Speak Louder than Words

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### Requests:

- Outline a schedule for and conduct the requested workshops, forums, focus groups, food drives, etc. for the next academic year (2025-26).
- President Garimella, Provost Prelock, and/or their designees work collaboratively with SAPC.
- Next fall and spring, give an update to Faculty Senate on the progress of these requests.