Johns Hopkins SGA Fall Retreat - Details

Date: **Sunday, September 2nd**

Location: **Gilman 132**

Time: **9 AM to 4 PM**

Blue - Icebreakers; Purple - Workshops; Orange - Breaks

1. **9:00 AM: Breakfast and Introductions**
    a. **Breakfast**: Chairs arranged in a large circle. SGA members collect breakfast, agendas and documents, and nametags from the front tables. (9:00 AM)
    b. **Introductions**: Everyone introduces themself; name, major, position and a fun fact. (9:10 AM)
2. **9:25 AM: Icebreaker on Getting to Know Each Other**
    a. Activity: Where the Blue Jay Flies Circle (9:25 AM) **[Noh & AJ]**
        i. SGA members stand up (chairs remain). One person's chair is removed. Noh and AJ pick a random person to be "it" - they stand up and remove their chair. Once in the middle, they say "My name is *[their name]* and I like/love to *[activity, thing, or concept].* Anyone in the circle who shares a like/love for the activity, think or concept gets up and finds a newly empty seat; this rush continues until one person is left standing without a chair. They become a new "it", and the process repeats.
3. **9:45 AM: Workshop on SGA Structure and Expectations**
    a. **Presentation**: SGA Structure (9:45 AM) **[AJ]**
        i. Illustrates overall structure of SGA. Each member of Exec will describe their duties. Aspen, Mi and AJ describe the function of their executive agencies - CMC, SAC and PRDC respectively. Presentation outlines key administrators whom SGA members connect with in their work.
    b. **Activity**: Who's who?! (10:05 AM)
        i. SGA members given a blank infographic, and asked to have everyone sign their name next to their position.
    c. **Presentation**: Expectations and Civil Discourse (10:15 AM) **[Noh]**

i. Noh presents on SGA expectations for the year, including attendance requirements, communications expectations, and transparency and accountability.

d. **Activity**: Growing Expectations (10:35 AM) **[Kirsten]**
   i. SGA members will engage in an open brainstorm about additional or specific expectations they have of each other.

4. 10:50 AM: Icebreaker on Communication

a. **Activity:** Telephone Plus **[Aspen]**
   i. SGA split into 3 groups of 6 people. Each group sits in a line. Upon seating, each Exec member will be assigned to tell the first person in a group a predetermined, 3-4 sentence story about SGA's interactions with administrators. The story is whispered down the line. The last person is asked to repeat the story to the group. This process will repeat 1-2 more times, depending on time constraints.

b. Reflection (11:00 AM)
   i. SGA members are asked to reflect on the activity in regards to how important clear communication is to making progress in SGA.

5. 11:10 AM: Workshop on Making a Difference

a. **Presentation**: Making a Difference (11:10 AM) **[AJ & Aspen]**
   i. Presentation includes modules on policymaking, the writing of impactful legislation, and proper channels for different areas that SGA members may encounter in interacting with the Administration and the community.

b. **Activity**: Making a Difference/Policymaking in Action (11:30 AM)
   i. A "crisis" situation will be announced to the SGA, and after being provided with a 1-2 page information packet, each group will be asked to approach the situation from various policymaking perspectives. For example, some groups will be responsible for devising the legislation needed to address the issue, while others might focus on developing a game plan to engage student groups and administrators.

6. 12:00 PM: Lunch & Resource Journey

a. Resource Journey (12:00 PM)
   i. People are organized into random groups of people and sent on resource journeys around campus. The journey leads to the location of lunch.

b. Lunch (12:30 PM)

7. **1:00 PM: Workshop on SGA Life & Meetings**
    a. **Presentation:** Senate Meetings & Parli Pro (1:00 PM) **[AJ]**
        i. AJ discusses what a typical Senate meeting looks like, talks about parliamentary procedure.
    b. **Presentation:** A Week in the Life of SGA (1:10 PM) **[Aspen]**
        i. Aspen presents on what a typical week in SGA looks like.
    c. **Activity**: Let's Propose our Policies & Pass Our Legislation! (1:20 PM)
        i. SGA members present their work from the previous activity. Upon the completion of presentations, we host a miniature parli-pro session on something fun (food) and then on something serious (one of the courses of action presented by a group).
8. **1:45 PM: Icebreaker on Trust**
    a. **Activity**: Who We Are (1:45 PM) **[Aspen & Mi]**
        i. In a test of memory and stamina, SGA members will return to a circle and asked to couple their name with an adjective starting with the same first letter as their name. As we move around the circle, everyone will be asked to repeat the names and adjectives of those before them. (ex: Articulate AJ, Never-failing Noh, Mighty Mi, Adventurous Aspen, etc.)
    b. **Activity**: Vulnerabilities (2:05 PM) **[Noh & AJ]**
        i. SGA members are grouped into groups of 3 and asked to share one vulnerability and one happy memory with each other.
9. **2:20 PM: Workshop on SGA's Yearly Goals**
    a. **Organizer(s)**: Noh, AJ, Mi, Aspen
    b. **Presentation**: Relationships Between Goals (2:20 PM)
        i. AJ briefly outlines how to pursue goals at various levels of SGA, from councils to committees. He emphasizes that while we may have overarching themes, everyone is free to pursue their own projects as they are interested and qualified. He also shows a visual illustrating the collated goals from the summer committee survey and discussions. Mi and Aspen will outline, as an example, SGA Exec's six overarching pursuits for the year - civic engagement, mental health, diversity and inclusion, school spirit, environmental advocacy, and transparency and accountability.

Noh will direct the brainstorming session on overarching themes for the year.

c. **Activity:** SGA Yearly Goals (2:45 PM)
    i. SGA brainstorms overarching goals for the year, and SGA members have the opportunity to talk about their personal goals as well.

10. 4:00 PM: Announcements and have a wonderful weekend!

a. First SGA Meeting on Tuesday