# **CAMPUS LIFE**

The purpose of the Office of Student Engagement is to enhance student learning through civic engagement and leadership opportunities. The office offers to assist in the retention of students, to foster personal development, to promote an environment in which cultural diversity is valued and respected, and to improve the overall educational experience of students. The staff is responsible for providing assistance and resources in all aspects of program planning to student organizations, as well as campus departments.

Our mission is to provide both personal and professional customer service that transcends the Albany State University community by promoting student recruitment, retention, and holistic learning through the establishment of a safe, secure and inclusive environment, where students are free to express themselves and engage in co-curricular activities that encourage student leadership, ongoing development and total wellness in order to matriculate, graduate and successfully progress into a competitive workforce that will challenge them to utilize and maximize their full potential. This is accomplished through the promotion of student governance, cultural, intellectual, social, recreational, and leadership activities outside the classroom.

The Office of Student Engagement recognizes that its mission is accomplished through the close interaction of students, faculty, and staff working together to meet the extracurricular and co-curricular needs of the students attending Albany State University.

The Office of Student Engagement offers a number of programs and services to fulfill its mission. For example, the department is responsible for Student Programming, Community Service Projects, Intramural Sports and Recreation, Greek Life, Student Leadership Development Programs, Student Clubs and Organizations, and Men Advocates for Leadership, Excellence, and Success (M.A.L.E.S.).

The Office of Student Life & Engagement is also responsible for advising the following groups:

- · Student Government Association
- · Student Activities Advisory Board
- Mr. & Miss Albany State University and the Royal Court
- · Class Kings and Queens
- · ASU Fraternities and Sororities

Events such as Coronation, Mr. & Miss ASU Showcase, and the Student Government Association Elections are just a few activities the Office of Student Engagement sponsors.

### **Student Government Association (SGA)**

The purpose of Student Government Association at Albany State University is to serve and represent the student body; to serve and work toward the betterment of the University; to provide sound, democratic self-government; encourage cooperation among students, faculty, administration, and community; and to promote school spirit and loyalty to Albany State University. SGA is the organized advocacy outlet for ASU students to enact change, and aid in meaningful interpretation of the concept of the University community. This premier organization has been established for the betterment of the student body, the customers who buy into the business of this institution.

Specifically, SGA specializes in enacting various initiatives in order to advocate on behalf student needs, rights, and welfare. In addition,

through the implementation of advanced programs, activities, and events, our goal is to maintain the Student Body's morale at a high level, valuing, involving, and encouraging every student's participation in progressive programs that will continue to augment their mental, physical, spiritual, and social selves long after their commencement.

The enhancement of the Student Body is the motivation, inspiration, and highest goal that the Student Government can aspire to achieve as the students make everything possible. At Albany State University, we are building success stories and strongly encourage you to get involved in Recruiting, Retaining, and Re-branding our university.

### **Student Activities Advisory Board (SAAB)**

The purpose of SAAB is to enlighten the student body through the implementation of co-curricular and extracurricular activities on the campus of Albany State University. Considering that SAAB is a separate entity from SGA, this organization is able to provide direct service to students in the form of quality programming. The SAAB staff is hospitable at events and promotes school spirit and collaboration among students, faculty, staff, alumni, and the local community.

#### **The Student Center**

The Student Centers are gathering places for the campus, creating a sense of community among students, faculty, staff, alumni and friends of Albany State University.

The facility is designed to support the fulfillment of cultural, educational, developmental, and recreational desires of all students of Albany State University. The Student Center is designed to provide a clean, comfortable, holistic and safe environment for both formal and informal events, as well as quality services, for the University and the ASU community.

Various programs and activities are planned and supervised by the Office of Student Engagement to broaden the experiences of each student.

The facilities and services of the Student Center are available for full use by students. The facility includes conference and meeting rooms, ball rooms, lounges, Recreational Centers, the ASU Bookstore, Post Office, Laundry Services, Chick-fil-A, ATM, Bank Mobile Card System, and an information/customer service desk and vending machines. Offices include Student Government Association, Student Activities Advisory Board, Counseling and Disability Services, Student Recreation & Intramural and Club Sports, Greek Life, and Dean for Student Engagement.

Normal Office hours of operation are from 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. on Monday -Friday. Normal Building hours of operations are from 7:00 a.m. -10:00 p.m. However, hours are subject to change due to student needs.

### **Campus Organizations**

Albany State University encourages students in the development of their special interests and talents through participation in student organizations as the aims and objectives of the organizations are consistent with those of the university. The value of student organizations serves as means of providing opportunities for students to enrich their educational experiences outside of the classrooms and laboratories is recognized by the university.

The university recognizes the role which organized activities serve in enlarging the educational experiences of the members of the University

community. Intellectual and personal growth takes place in student organizations which have effective leaders and effective members.

## Men Advocates for Leadership, Excellence, and Success (M.A.L.E.S.)

MALES Mentors (Men Advocates for Leadership, Excellence, and Success) is a newly developed initiative on the campus of Albany State University. The goal of MALES Mentors is to develop astute male student-leaders through community and civic involvement and scholastic success encouragement. The development of this program is instrumental in addressing and bridging a two-fold subject matter that affects the majority rural, low-income communities in which Albany State University is located. Annually, we host youth summits, a leadership development conference, mentorship training, as well as Saturday academies that allows our university community to engage in strategic programming that fosters pathways from high school to college graduation.

To perpetuate the aim of Albany State University's mission, MALES Mentors will assistance male students enrolled in the program by providing services that enhance/improve participants' grade point averages while engaging them with community and service learning initiatives. These effort are vital to increase the retention rate and soft skills of members. For more information please visit us at: https://www.asurams.edu/student-affairs/student-engagement/males/