

# STUDENT LIFE

## Student Government Association Statement

The Student Government Association (SGA) of St. Francis College is concerned with the affairs of the student body in its relation with the College and the surrounding community. The purpose of the SGA is to act as a sounding board for all student interests, while at the same time assuming the task of providing efficient and productive leadership for the student body.

Elected annually by the student body, the SGA derives its power from, and is responsible to, the students of the College. It is the responsibility of the SGA to act as the legitimate representative of the student body. The powers and duties of the SGA are vested in a Student Government Constitution. The SGA is funded by a Student Activities Fee paid by all full time day students taking 50% or more of their classes before 6 p.m.

## Welcome Letter from the SGA President

Dear SFC Family,

My name is Kroda (real name Kledi Roda), and I am an international student from Albania. I have been part of this great community for 3 years now and going into my senior year, I will be serving as the President of the Student Government Association (SGA).

Being far from home, I am a happy to consider SFC a second home and I hope that everyone can feel the same way about this College. This school year I want to encourage every student to **"Dream, Serve and Achieve."** We can do this by taking the time out to learn about each other's goals and aspirations.

Moreover, I have been fortunate to see an increased number of student leaders and organizations. Despite these large numbers, I've also learned that everyone is truly unique in their own way. As such, I believe that together we can continue to increase and develop our community because in the words of Tim Fargo: "Leadership is Service, not position."

As SFC prides itself with a variety of events, 40+ clubs and organizations and now 23 Division I Athletic teams, there is truly an endless opportunity for all to find a place where they belong. As president of the SGA, I share here now that I have set a personal goal to try to pay my experiences forward with every member of the SFC community.

Please remember – "All our dreams can come true if we have the courage to pursue them." I wish you all a great school year together, and let's make the most out of it.

Yours truly,  
Kledi Roda  
SGA President 2019-2020

## Awards

### Dr. John Clifford Memorial Award

For many years Dr. John Clifford served as a dedicated and concerned Dean for Student Affairs. His love for our community and understanding of its students has left an indelible mark on the college. To commemorate his spirit, loyalty, and dedication, the SGA has established this special award in his name. The award is given annually to the graduating senior

who best represents the genuine unselfishness and the Franciscan Spirit so exemplified in the life of Dean John Clifford.

### Franciscan Spirit Award

The purpose of this award is to recognize students, faculty, administrators, staff, and benefactors of St. Francis College for extraordinary service to the College community or service to others performed without thought of reward. Students nominated for this award must be at least in their junior year. The award may only be received once. A maximum of ten individuals may receive this award each year.

### Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges

This award is presented to students who deserve special recognition because of outstanding involvement and achievement in academic, extra curricular, and community activities. The committee consists of the Assistant Director of Student Activities, Faculty Committee for Student Activities, the SGA Vice President and two students he/she selects. Students applying for this award must be at least in their junior year. A maximum of twenty-five individuals receives this award each year.

### Emerging Student Leader Award

This award is presented to developing student leaders. Students nominated for this award are assessed based on their generous contributions in time and energy to make extra curricular activities at the College flourish.

### The Erinn Siemer Fighting Spirit Award

This award was established by the SGA to honor the fighting spirit of Erinn Siemer, a superb student athlete at St. Francis College, who was in an accident that led to a coma. The award is given annually to one student who best demonstrates prowess in academics and sports. Applicants should have at least a 3.0 grade point average, and provide a personal essay and at least two (2) letters of recommendation; one from a faculty member or administrator, and one from an administrator within the sports program.

### Bene Merenti Award

This award was established to recognize students who, over a period of one year, make great improvements in GPA. This award can be granted to only three (3) students within a given year.

### The John Fitzgerald Kennedy/Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Award

The JFK/MLK Award was established by the Student Government in the memory of the ideals and standards of two great American leaders. A monetary award is granted to each of three graduating seniors meeting the following criteria:

1. Scholarship and Participation in Activities: 3.0 grade point index and two (2) letters of recommendation by a faculty member or an administrator of the college.
2. Participation in Activities only: 2.5 grade point index and two (2) letters of recommendation by a faculty member or an administrator of the college.
3. Scholarship only: 3.6 point index and two (2) letters of recommendation from a faculty member or an administrator of the college.

An award in the amount of \$200 dollars is also to be granted to one graduating evening student meeting the following criteria:

1. Minimum of 60 credits taken at St. Francis;
2. Minimum of 3.0 G.P.A.;
3. Recommendation by a faculty member or an administrator of the college;
4. More than 50% of classes were taken after 6:00 p.m.;
5. Exemplified the Franciscan Spirit.

### The Thomas Ashton Memorial Award

This award was established by the SGA in honor of Thomas Ashton, Member of the Class of 2001, who tragically passed away during the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center, on September 11, 2001. Tom touched people's hearts and lives with his genuine, kind and humble spirit. His spirituality and love of God was reflected in Tom's deeply thoughtful, respectful and kind nature. Tom's patriotic spirit and belief in American values was evident in his study of government and politics.

To commemorate Tom's genuine spirit, this award is given to a member of Student Government who represents the kindness, humility, respect and spiritual strength so exemplified in the life of Thomas Ashton.

## Student Clubs and Organizations

**Accounting Society** seeks to stimulate interest in the profession of accounting through a program of guest speakers, field trips, and other activities.

**African Student Association** is dedicated towards helping students learn about and share African culture and traditions.

**Anime, Cinemates and Video Game Club** collaborate to produce and extend varied video game tournaments and short film studies.

**Asian Club** is dedicated towards helping students learn about and share Asian culture, people, and attractions.

**Astrology Club** provides insight on astrology while studying zodiac signs, birth charts and compatibility.

**Balkan Society** seeks to serve as an outlet and exchange for international students of European origins.

**Caribbean Students Association** promotes constructive social/cultural relationships with the college through cultural exhibits, lectures and field trips.

**Chemistry Club** seeks to stimulate interest in the field of chemistry.

**Christian and Nursing Fellowship Club** provides students with an opportunity to engage in bible study and community service.

**College Choir** was created to provide a musical outlet to students. The group performs at special College events and sponsors concerts throughout the year.

**Colorful Souls** is dedicated to providing students with an outlet for artistic expression via spoken word, poetry, song and dance.

**Dance and Step Team** study multiple dance forms each year. Special team performances can be found during school events, Athletic games and fundraisers.

**Economics Society** was founded to promote awareness and interest of economic issues.

**Education Society** is primarily composed of students who plan careers in the area of education. The group sponsors various community-related events for underprivileged children. These events help promote educational and social growth in the children and provide the club members with field experience.

**Entrepreneur Club** works towards providing students with an outlet to learn about and shadow both small and large business owners.

**Finance Club** focuses on matching students with careers in the financial services industry. We encourage interaction, learning, mentoring, and socialization of our members.

**Greenhouse and Environmental Club** was created to promote awareness on environmental causes and the College's Greenhouse.

**History Club** serves as a resource for students to explore and extend research beyond classroom discussions and debates.

**International Cultural Club** facilitates major and career explorations across global markets and initiatives.

**Jewish Club** advocates for cultural competency, diversity and discussion about Judaic and culture.

**Latin American Society** fosters an interest in Spanish culture at St. Francis by means of lectures, movies and its most noted function - the Spanish Fiesta.

**LGBTQ Club** promotes awareness on LGBTQ issues and supporting events.

**Model UN Club** is a group of students interested in researching international issues and current events. Activities include role play and United Nation round table topics.

**Muslim Students Association** was created to provide members with a forum to share Muslim culture and history. Past events have included an Interfaith Dialogue Series, Henna Tattoos, and dance instruction.

**Nursing Club** offers student a chance to network and increase exposure to Nursing related activities and professional development.

**Photography Club** was created to offer students a platform to share and develop photography skills via workshops, field trips and exhibits.

**Pre-Law Society** fosters professional network opportunities and mock trial simulations

**Pre-Medical & Health Professional Club** promotes interest in the medical and health profession through research, conferences and symposiums.

**Psychology Club** stimulates interest in psychology, specifically in those areas that are not covered in course work. This goal is achieved by means of guest lecturers and field trips that are open to all students.

**Radio Club** was started to provide Communication Arts majors with field experience in news writing, program development and advertising.

**SFC Terrier News** and Terrier Sports Network represent staff reporters whom cover a wide- range of SFC sports and activities.

**Troupers** is the College's dramatic organization. The members act, produce, and direct several full-length and one-act plays each year.

Guests from the professional theater demonstrate techniques at meetings. Its aims are not only cultural and literary, but also practical since it offers experience in theater arts.

## Fraternities & Sororities

**Alpha Phi Delta** is a scholastic and social fraternity, whose Beta Sigma chapter was founded at St. Francis College in 1962. Alpha Phi Delta is a national fraternity.

**Kappa Theta Nu** was founded in the spring of 2010. Their primary philanthropy is Autism Speaks. Additionally, the group promotes women's studies and community development.

**Mu Sigma Upsilon Sorority Inc.** is a regional, multicultural sorority whose chapter was founded in 2007. Their current philanthropy centers on mental health awareness

**Tau Kappa Epsilon** is a national, social fraternity that was founded during the fall of 2010.

**Zeta Gamma Delta** is a local sorority founded at SFC during 2015.

## Dun Scotus Honor Society

The Duns Scotus Honor Society primarily aims to encourage among students a love and desire for excellence in scholarship and service to all the activities of the College. Its secondary aim is to honor and recognize worthy students who, by outstanding attainment, have won the esteem of the faculty, administration, and fellow students. To be eligible for membership a student must have completed 60 semester hours and two years of residence at St. Francis College. Applicants must have accrued a GPA of 3.7 by the spring semester when they will be inducted into the Society, if qualified, and must show satisfactory evidence of distinguished participation in at least two extra-curricular activities at the College. Applications for membership are available once a year in October. See Dr. Greene, Duns Scotus Honors Society Moderator, for more information. (Room 6004)

## National Honor Societies

**Alpha Kappa Delta** is a national sociology honor society whose purpose is to encourage scholarship among sociology majors, stimulate interest in sociology and sponsor research into social problems. The Xi Chapter was founded at St. Francis College in 1973. Membership is open to juniors and seniors who have completed at least 10 credit hours in sociology and have attained a 3.0 both as a cumulative index and index in sociology.

**Alpha Kappa Psi** is a professional business fraternity whose Zeta Iota Chapter was established at St. Francis in 1964. The fraternity's aims are to further the welfare of its members, foster research in all facets of business, appreciate and demand higher ideals from the business world and to promote and advance in colleges and universities courses leading to degrees in business administration. In accordance with these goals, the fraternity annually conducts a professional program intended to educate and broaden the interests of its members.

**Alpha Psi Omega**, Pi Zeta Chapter of the National Drama Society, was founded at St. Francis College in 1961. Membership is open to students who have participated in at least two College dramatic productions.

**Chi Beta Phi**, Alpha Xi Chapter, is a national science honor society (honorarium) established in 1969. The honor society is open to all junior and senior biology and chemistry students who have a minimum of 60 credits, minimum index of 3.0 in their major field and a cumulative minimum index of 3.0. Students must have completed one year each of biology and chemistry, as well as one of organic chemistry and a second year of biology courses. Chi Beta Phi is an associate member of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

**Eta Sigma Gamma**, Alpha Chi Chapter is a national professional honor society in health science (education) whose principal purpose is to elevate the standards, ideals, competence and ethics of professionally trained men and women in the discipline of health science. The College chapter was founded in 1979. Membership is open to those with a cumulative index of 2.7 and who have completed 12 credits in health science with an index of 3.2.

**Kappa Delta Pi** is a national honor society dedicated to fostering scholarship among students in education. The St. Francis College Xi Rho Chapter was established in 1978. Membership is limited to juniors and seniors participating in teacher training programs at the College. They must have completed at least 12 credits in the professional study of education and must have a cumulative index of 3.2.

**Kappa Mu Epsilon**, New York Theta Chapter of the National Mathematics Honor Society, is a vehicle for discussion and undergraduate research in mathematics. Membership is limited to sophomores, juniors and seniors who have an index in mathematics of 3.0 and a cumulative index of 2.75 or better. Members must be mathematics majors and have completed at least 12 credits in mathematics.

**Omicron Delta Epsilon**, Eta Chapter, is an international economics honorary fraternity. The St. Francis Chapter is limited to juniors and seniors who have a cumulative index of 3.0 and have earned 12 credits in economics with better than 3.0 average.

**Phi Alpha Theta** is a national history honor fraternity whose Theta Nu Chapter was established at St. Francis College in 1961. Membership is limited to juniors and seniors who have an index in history of 3.0 and a cumulative index higher than 2.8. Members must have completed at least 12 semester hours in history.

**Phi Gamma Nu** is a national professional honor society in business. Beta Psi Chapter was established at St. Francis College in 1976. A 3.0 index is required for membership.

**Pi Sigma Alpha** is the Political Science National Honor Society. The St. Francis Chapter was established in 2000. Pi Sigma Alpha membership is determined by the achievement of excellence in Political Science. All candidates must have completed 60 college credits and 12 credits in the field of Political Science while maintaining a minimum of 3.0 quality-point index in both Political Science and overall. The St. Francis chapter was recently recognized as "Best Chapter" in colleges with fewer than 6,000 students.

**Psi Chi**, the national honor society in psychology, serves to recognize psychology as a diverse science by encouraging students to develop research and clinical interests, attend regional and national conventions and become familiar with academic and clinical settings in the metropolitan area.

**Sigma Delta Pi** is the national Spanish honor society whose Zeta Theta Chapter was formed at St. Francis in 1967. Membership is limited to

juniors and seniors who have an index in Spanish of 3.0 and rank in the top 35 percent of their class.

**Sigma Tau Delta** is the national English honor society. Membership is open to students who have completed 12 credits in English and attained an index in English of 3.0.

**Theta Alpha Kappa** is the national religious studies/theology honor society whose Tau Chapter was formed at St. Francis College in 1978. Membership is limited to students who have completed a minimum of 12 credits in religious studies with a 3.5 average and a cumulative index of 3.0. The purpose of this society is to encourage scholarship among its members, to further the pursuit of religious studies on the undergraduate level, and to bring students, teachers and writers of religion together both intellectually and socially.

## Student Publications

*The Cord* is the student handbook, which contains the traditions, policies, procedures, and regulations of the College. Also included are descriptions of student services and activities. It is published annually to acquaint the student with life at St. Francis College.

*SFC Today* is the college's online newspaper. It contains feature articles, editorials, and college sports information.

*The Franciscan* is the College yearbook. It is a yearly summary of student life with emphasis on the graduating seniors and their contributions to St. Francis College.