

Dear Campus Community,

Congratulations on making it to the end of the school year! Although this isn't quite the ending we all anticipated, I am trying every day to focus on the good. One thing that drives me forward is a feeling of pride for everything our community has accomplished this year despite immense challenges. For my last Student Body President Report, I'd like to focus on some of the exciting initiatives and goals your Student Government Association has completed over the last nine months.

### WHAT WE'VE ACCOMPLISHED

**RESPONSE TO COVID-19:** Since the announcement was issued from the UNC System to extend all spring breaks, I have been present at all COVID-19 mitigation meetings. Through these meetings, I've been able to relay important information back to student leaders and the student body via social media, and SGA continues to collect data for Administration and Strategic Communications to help make important decisions for the students, such as the adjusted grading policy and Commencement 2020.

**ENCOURAGING TRANSPARENCY & VISIBILITY:** This year, we have seen an increase in transparency of information and higher visibility of Administration in several ways. In the fall, SGA encouraged Administration to hold a Bailey Apartments informational meeting, as well as meetings to collect feedback face-to-face regarding the Chancellor Search and Tuition & Fees. During COVID-19, Chancellor Cole has been filming weekly video updates to deliver information and raise spirits. Although we still has a great deal of work to do to get to "full transparency," I am excited to see how UNCSA finds new ways to connect with the student body as we move out of our interim year.

**LISTENING TO THE STUDENT VOICE:** The Board of Governors has voted to **not** increase tuition and fees next year for the UNC System (however, housing rates will still increase- this did not need state-level approval). While this impact is initially good, I am concerned this could mean UNCSA will have to make a steeper increase to tuition and fees the following year to accommodate for the lack of increase this year. The student voice will be more important than ever on this committee. To ensure it is maintained, Chancellor Cole and I are working together to complete a list of "best practices" for this committee to follow in the future.

**PARTNERING WITH CLUBS & ORGANIZATIONS:** In partnership with Dr. Tracey Ford (*Vice Provost & Dean of Student Affairs*), SGA organized student leader "get togethers" throughout the year to give groups on campus a time to interact and collaborate. Additionally, this spring SGA has also begun to strengthen our relationship with the Graduate Student Council (GSC) and High School Student Government (*HS SG*).

### LOOKING AHEAD

**FINDING ADMINISTRATION:** The Chancellor Search Committee concluded our constituent interviews via Zoom, in which a small group of student leaders got to meet the top three candidates. The committee then recommended two candidates to UNC President Roper and the Board of Governors for the final decision. I'm looking forward our new Chancellor being announced in the coming weeks. Once the Chancellor is announced, other positions, such as Provost, Vice Provost & Dean of Student Affairs, and Interim Dean of Dance, should begin to fall into place.

**CONTINUING PROJECTS:** SGA had two exciting projects that were close to completion prior to COVID-19. Once normal operations commence, installation will continue for our new **gender neutral bathroom signage**, which has been approved to replace the current signage on all single-stall restrooms on campus. Next year, SGA will also continue working with the Association of Student Governments to secure a grant to fund the installation of more water bottle filling stations.

**NEXT YEAR'S LEADERSHIP:** I am so happy to announce that the **2020-2021 Student Body President is Nic Brown**, a rising third year in the School of Drama. This year SGA also voted to add the position of Student Body Vice President, which will be held by Jenna Cusack, a rising third year in the School of Film. It has been an honor to work alongside these two this year and see them grow into the powerful, compassionate, and fierce leaders they are today. Congratulations, Nic and Jenna!

Lastly, I would be remiss not to take a moment to congratulate the **Graduating Class of 2020** for their hard work and dedication to their craft, and resiliency to overcome any obstacle thrown at them. This last week of school is hard for all of us, but especially difficult for those of us unable to say a proper goodbye to the place many of us have learned to call home. Class of 2020: the pickle community is here for you, and excited to celebrate with you very soon. You are amazing.

**TO ALL THE PICKLES:** It has been one of the greatest honors of my life to serve this year as your Student Body President. Thank you for your support, kindness, and patience. I'll always root for you, and can't wait to see everything you do.

With Warm Regards,



**Maura Wetzel**

*Student Body President '19-'20*