**What We’re Working On For You…**

SGA has had quite the busy semester. Here is a list of just some of the initiatives we have been working on for you:

- **New Student Recreation Space**: SGA funded the construction of a fire pit on the East Side of Campus; open to use for all.

- **Fought For Spanish Minor**: Urged the Campus Senate to expand our language programs and offer UIS’ first ever language minor in Spanish.

- **Task Force for New Mascot**: SGA is analyzing possible new mascots to replace Cosmo.

- **99 Problems**: We sought your opinions and your voice on issues leading to efforts to increase parking and analyze the emergency pole system on campus.

- **Paperless Meetings**: We are working to be more environmentally friendly. SGA is switching to paperless meetings starting this semester.

We are eager to hear more about what initiatives are important to you. Send us an email at uissga@uis.edu or contact any SGA representative.

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**U of I Lobby Day** by: External V.P. Riley Quinlan

The 2013 U-of-I-Day at the Illinois State Capitol will be held on April 10th this year. This is an amazing experience and coalition among all three of the University of Illinois campuses lobbying the state of Illinois for various issues on higher education.

We will spend the day meeting with legislators and other vital members of the General Assembly and University of Illinois. UIC and UIUC will also have their SGAs and members of their student bodies present.

Transportation will be provided if you’re in need of a ride! It is in your best interest to attend, and you will gain real-world skills that involve communication beyond the textbooks.

If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact me at rquin2@uis.edu.

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Lobby Day: April 10, 2013 at the State Capitol
Transportation Provided
STUDENT ORGANIZATION FUNDING ASSOCIATION

BY: SOFA CHAIR BRANDON VALERIO

This semester SOFA will implement a Student Organization of the Month program, a new initiative that will reward student organizations for their many valuable contributions to student life here at UIS.

Each month, February through May, SOFA will accept nominations from the UIS community for events that occurred the month prior. One organization will be chosen each month by the board, and will receive a gift card to Papa John’s to be used for a pizza party or an event, a spot on a plaque, their own bulletin board for a month, and a feature on the SOFA home page. The winning organization will be chosen based on the criteria outlined in the SOFA vision statement, “promoting diversity, learning, community awareness, and civic engagement”.

The SOFA Board hopes that all student organizations take this opportunity to be recognized for the hard work that they do to make student life here at UIS robust and exciting.

Since August, the SOFA Board has been working on numerous by law changes to help streamline the funding process for student organizations and to clarify the bylaws to make requesting SOFA funding and using university property an easier process. Improving communication between student organizations, the SOFA Board, and Student Life is a top priority for the SOFA Board.

In closing, the Student Organization Funding Association would like to thank all of the student organizations that contribute to the diverse and exciting array of student life opportunities here at UIS, and give its wishes for a productive semester and many great student life events.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

BY: SAC CHAIR, DE’ANTRE BANKHEAD

Student Activities Committee (SAC) has had an amazing Fall semester.

Kicking off the semester we had everyone’s favorite Hypnotist, Frederick Winters, followed by several other great Welcome Week events. Decatur’s own "Icon for Hire" rocked out with us in September. Later in the semester we teamed up with QSA for their annual Drag Show bringing Shangela, who has been featured on RuPaul’s Drag Race and other fantastic shows such as Glee.

Finishing out the semester we had the outstanding sounds of "Austin Renfroe". Check us out during welcome week which is January 14-20th. We have from the hit television show "The Voice" Nelly Echo on January 17, 2013 at 9:00pm in Mary Janes Cafe.

SAC is here for the students as a whole when it comes to events. Any feedback or recommendations are greatly appreciated! Stay updated with events!! Like us: Facebook.com/uissac