



Student Report

Penny Mills

Dixie State University Student Association
President

PENNY MILLS

- Orem, Utah
- Senior – Communication Major
- Snow College – 1 semester
- LDS Mission to Oregon
- UVU – 1 year
- Then finally – Dixie State University!
- Served one year as DSUSA VP of Service
- Currently Serving as DSUSA President
- Recently elected to serve for a 2nd term as the DSUSA President



About the time of my election one year ago.... *Coronavirus* changed the world.

“What impact did it have on students?”

- Spring Classes – immediately changed to virtual delivery – Tough!
- We noticed a huge loss of social interaction, a sense of loneliness, and increased rates of depression were being experienced by some of our students.

IN RESPONSE:

- We began using the ***Student Pulse*** program to connect regularly with students
- We worked to plan and promote creative ways to socialize and interact
- We were **deliberate** in providing an engaged college experience by holding weekly ***Wednes “D”*** Events (drive in & dive in movies, virtual events in all shapes and sizes, outdoor socially distanced concerts, outdoor service events, Bingo in the Burns, etc.)
- We continued supporting the BWC through an increased student fee.
- Advocated for the return of face-to-face instruction this semester!

THE DIXIE NAME

- The Executive Council met to examine, study, and better understand the Dixie name change issue.
- As the DSUSA Executive Council, we determined a name change would be in the best interest of our students, which is always what comes first.
- As the DSUSA Executive Council, elected by the student body, we voted unanimously to support a name change recommendation.
- Prior to the session we hosted a forum with local legislators to share our ideas and concerns... and to ask for their support in voting to allow a name change process to proceed.
- We shared with them our view, that a name change for the institution, although difficult, would be the best thing for our student body.



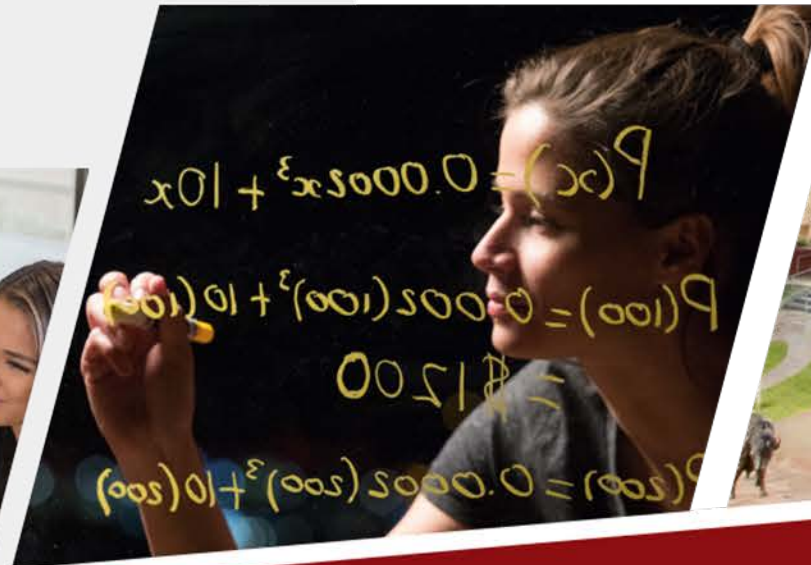
THE RALLY

- 50 DSU students spent a day in SLC during the session – we held a peaceful rally at the state capital building asking the senate to bring the bill to the floor for a full vote.
- A small group of us also met with Senate leadership to plead for their support of DSU students in passing a bill to change the Dixie name.



The year was challenging, but worth it.
We love DSU!

active learning.
active *life*



THANK YOU

Questions or Comments?

