



SGAC National Conference Agenda Feb. 10-12, 2017

Fri 2/10:

6pm-9pm

Sign-ins, Watch *Pills Profits Protest* Writing post-cards and valentines to our Members of Congress, with pizza!

Sever Hall

Our first action! We'll write to our Members of Congress about why funding for global health matters to us, eat pizza, and watch the movie *Pills Profits Protest*, which tells us the detailed history of the effective national and international grassroots movement for AIDS treatment activism, which gave birth to SGAC.

Saturday 2/11

All activities today held in Sever Hall

8:30-9:00

Breakfast

Coffee, fruit, and bagels before the day begins, and get to know who else is at the conference!

9:00-9:30

Intros and Icebreakers

SGAC Steering Committee and National Organizer
Welcome! Establishing guidelines for the weekend on how to respect our space and each other, housekeeping things, and getting to know our fellow activists!

9:30-10:30

US Intervention in the Global AIDS Response and Why it Matters

Rebecca Ableman, UPenn Medical Student and SGAC Fellow

Dr. Joia Mukherjee, Chief Medical Officer at Partners in Health (tentative)

The US provides treatment for 11.5 million people, the largest initiative by any nation to combat a single disease internationally. How has US involvement affected the global AIDS response, what does it look like in-country, and how could the new administration affect our opportunity to end AIDS by 2030?

10:30-10:45

BREAK

10:45-11:15

Our First 100 Days Campaign

Emily Sanderson, SGAC National Organizer

In the first hundred days of this new administration, we are focusing all efforts on keeping the pressure on Congress to advance the end of the global AIDS epidemic. While the president is head of state, Congress holds the purse strings, and we have a plan to win.

11:15-11:40

The Role of Young People in the AIDS Movement

Trish Siplon, Political Science Professor, Saint Michael's College

Young people have played a critical role in shaping the AIDS movement by being bold and innovative, while understanding and using the different levers of power we have access to to create necessary change.

11:40- 12:20

The Intellectual Property Regime

Brook Baker, Health GAP Senior Policy Analyst and Law Professor, Northeastern University

What is intellectual property, and how do laws surrounding it affect access to medicines? How do we predict the Trump administration will affect intellectual property during his time as president?

12:20-1:15

Lunch

Lunch is provided, and make sure to sit with someone you haven't met yet! Ayla is running a break out group to discuss how to start a chapter.

1:15-2:00

Media Spokesperson Training

Jessica Bassett, Health GAP Director of Communications

The media that you contacted showed up at the action you worked hard to plan! Now, how do you get them to tell the story you want them to? What's your motivation for being there, and how do you get that across effectively?

2:00-4:00

Action Planning

Hilary McQuie, Health GAP, Director of Grassroots mobilization and Emily Sanderson, SGAC National Organizer

In this session, we will discuss the use and history of protest and direct action, and where it fits into a campaign. We will review four phases of putting together an action: Planning, Organizing, Day of and Follow Up, and plan an action together. As a large group, we will clarify what goals we are trying to accomplish – concrete, tangible, and winnable. We will determine our targets - who has the power to decide and what the strategic reasons are we are focusing on them. We will decide our most effective messaging and demands, and construct an outline of an action scenario that tells our story in a visual and impactful way.

4:00-4:15

BREAK

4:15-5:15

Positive Youth Activism—Ticknor Lounge

A panel of HIV+ youth share with us how their experiences have influenced their life and their activism. We'll have food, great conversation, and time for questions.

5:15-5:30

Wrap-Up

6:00-7:30

Life after SGAC: Alumni Lifelong Commitment to Social Justice

SGAC alumni often say the most meaningful part of their time in university was being part of SGAC because they were taught to create real change. Four alumni answer questions over dinner about using their experiences with SGAC in living a life committed to social justice.

Sunday 2/12

All activities today held in Ticknor Lounge

9:00-11:00

Using Your Power for Good, Not Evil

Kaytee Ray-Riek, Trainer/Facilitator, SGAC Alumni
So, you want to change the world? It helps to know about how power and privilege work in our lives, our activism, and the world. In this workshop, we'll explore the ways in which society grants all of us some unearned privilege, and how that same society puts hurdles we didn't ask for in our way (and some of us have a lot more hurdles than others!). Then we'll connect that to our work fighting AIDS, and learn about how to use the power and privilege each of us has for good.

11:00-11:45

CHOOSE ONE

Birddogging training

Ayla Heder, Graduate Student in Public Health and SGAC Fellow and Emily Sanderson, SGAC National Organizer

We are most effective when we interact face to face with our Members of Congress because there is no middle man and they are making statements in front of the public. Here, we will teach you how to have a successful interaction with your Member of Congress in public, and how to follow-up. This tactic is most commonly used on the presidential trail, but it is really effective for all politicians if they are making public appearances.

OR

Writing an LTE/op-ed

Ortal Ullman, SGAC Alumni, Organizer with Union of Concerned Scientists

When someone writes with strong evidence and passion for an issue to their local newspaper, targeting their Member of Congress, people take note. An effective Letter to the Editor or op-ed can go a long way in pressuring our Members of Congress.

11:45-12:30

Legislative Visits 101

Justin Mendoza, Partners in Health Engage Organizer

Having a meeting with your Member of Congress or their staff is a great way to show our power, build relationships, and get commitments to advancing our issue in congress, but where do you start? What do you say? How do you schedule a visit? What do you do after the meeting?

or

Caring for Ourselves in the Midst of Struggle

Kate Bailey, SGAC Alum, Graduate Student of Health Advocacy

"Caring for myself is not self-indulgence, it is self-preservation, and that is an act of political warfare."-Audre Lorde. Being an activist can make us do wild things like staying up until 3am making banners, having conference calls early in the morning, and forgetting to eat. This session focuses on taking care of yourself and your comrades.

12:30-1:00

Wrap-Up!

1:00

Lunch and goodbyes!