



SGA Senate  
Senate Meeting Minutes  
21 August 2025

- I. CALL TO ORDER
  - The meeting was called to order at 3:33 PM.
- II. ROLL CALL
- III. MOMENT OF SILENCE
- IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- V. PASSING OF AGENDA
  - Voted to pass the agenda with amendments and it was passed.
- VI. PASSING OF MINUTES
  - Voted to pass the minutes as presented and it was passed.
- VII. SPECIAL BUSINESS
  - Bicentennial Survey
    - The Bicentennial for the university is coming up in 5 years, and Matt would like for everyone to fill out the survey so the Bicentennial Planning Committee could have student input.
  - Dress Code
    - Vice-President Ballenger went over the dress code for senate meetings, and stated the difference between business professional, smart casual, and casual wear.
  - Swearing in of new senators
    - There was a motion to suspend the rules to when Abigail gets here to swear in the new senators, and the motion passed.
    - Abigail is swearing in Adi Sharma as one of the new senators.
    - Senator Adi Sharma is officially sworn in!
- VIII. STUDENT FORUM
  - There was no student forum present.
- IX. OFFICER REPORTS
  - President Rhoades

- President Rhoades is on her way back from College Colors Day in Montgomery, Alabama, and will not be in attendance. Vice-President Ballenger will be giving her report.
- Core four met with Cala Filippo to talk about how SGA can help support international students.
- President Rhoades attended the CLA meeting and Board of Trustees meeting over the summer.
- Core four met a couple of times over the summer and also met with the success center to see how SGA can support them.
- She is planning to meet with faculty and staff senate next week to collaborate on ideas.
- She wants to thank everybody who helped with the Lucky Dip.
- She spoke to UNA police officers about the new snap cart and the usage of it.
- Vice-President Ballenger
  - Vice-President Ballenger wants to thank everyone for helping with the Lucky Dip.
  - She wants to remind everyone that Senate pictures are September 4<sup>th</sup> at Coby Hall.
  - Senate rules test will be September 18<sup>th</sup>, and senators have to make a 75% or above. Core four has to make a 90% or above.
  - Chair meetings are at 4:30 on Wednesdays if anyone would like to attend.
  - Executive Council will meet at 5:30 on Tuesdays.
  - Next Tuesday Vice-President Ballenger and Secretary Plunkett will be meeting with Dean Ellis.
- Treasurer Hanback
  - Treasurer Hanback is glad to be back on campus, and over the summer he attended a couple of meetings, such as the Bicentennial Planning committee, the Environmental Services meeting, and the Board of Trustees meeting.
  - He has been tracking the budget and everything is up to date.
  - The budget refresh will happen in October.
  - The miscellaneous line has \$1400.68 in it.
  - The Philanthropy committee has to use miscellaneous line because they will not have a budget until October.
  - He encourages everyone to go to the Big Deal.
- Secretary Plunkett
  - Secretary Plunkett has been working on minutes and agendas.

- She is planning on meeting with the former secretary and Bishop Alexander to work on planning Past Officer's Breakfast.
- Freshman Forum Advisors Ebert and Buford
  - Freshman Forum Advisor Ebert says they are working on the pancake dinner, and we will be having sign ups later.
  - They are planning the Freshman Forum retreat.
  - Applications for Freshman Forum close August 29th.
  - The advisors will be presenting a bill.
- Pro-Tempore Winston
  - Pro-Tempore Winston want to let everybody know that homecoming is October 18<sup>th</sup>, so be on the lookout for more information.
  - She is starting to work on pride points for the year, and she encourages everyone to go the Mane Month activities.
- Chief of Staff Thomas
  - Chief of Staff Thomas is not in attendance because she is attending College Colors Day with President Rhoades and Chairwoman McDonald.
  - She has been reaching out to Mr. Matthew to work on Constitution Day.
- Historian Holcomb
  - Historian Holcomb is working on the September newsletter.
  - She wants to talk about ideas later, and she encourages everyone to take pictures and put them in the photocircle.
- DIA Byrd
  - DIA Byrd is planning an event with the Student Engagement Office and Student Welfare.
- Communications Director Mwaura
  - College Colors Day is August 29th, so make sure to take pictures.
  - Communications Director Mwaura encourages everyone to fill out the media request form and the "about me" forms.
  - She says if you do fill out a media request please send 3-4 weeks in advance.
  - Senate Pictures are September 4<sup>th</sup>.
  - She is talking to Freshman Forum Advisors about headshots and taking an assistant from Freshman Forum.
  - She is going to start livestreaming meetings starting Sept 4<sup>th</sup>, which will not happen at every senate meeting.

- She is working on an allocations Instagram reel.

#### X. CHAIR REPORTS

- Academic Affairs Chairman Murray
  - Chairman Murray failed to meet with Mr. Matthew about the Academic Affairs campus initiative, but he will be planning a meeting with him soon.
  - The Academic Affairs meeting will meet after SGA meetings.
- Budget Oversight Chairman McCuiston
  - On Tuesday Chairman McCuiston and Mr. Matthew hosted a RSO training event.
  - The first funding for RSOs is August 22<sup>nd</sup>.
- Elections and Recruitment Chairwoman Strait
  - Chairwoman Strait said their committee met and talked about the goals and how to outreach elections.
  - The committee meeting will be on Thursdays at 2:30.
  - Homecoming is on October 13-18<sup>th</sup>.
- Legislative Affairs Chairwoman McDonald
  - Chairwoman McDonald is at College Colors Day.
  - She attended the STARs conference in Destin, Florida.
  - The tentative date for the Dreams to Reality caravan will be November 13<sup>th</sup>.
  - She encourages the Freshman Forum to go to the Freshman Leadership Conference.
  - Senator Lachowicz attended the Florence City Council meeting.
  - College Colors Day at UNA is August 29<sup>th</sup>.
- Student Welfare Chairwoman Strickland
  - The Student Welfare committee meeting is Monday at 4.
  - Chairwoman Strickland is collaborating with DIA Byrd for her event.
- Philanthropy Chairman Moore
  - The Philanthropy committee meeting is following the senate meeting.
  - There was a form sent out by Secretary Plunkett for a philanthropy idea bank.

#### XI. SHARED GOVERNANCE

- Vice-President and Treasurer Hanback explained shared governance to the senate.
- Communications Director Mwaura is on the food services committee with DIA Byrd and President Rhoades and they were confirming they

are meeting and it is the second Friday at 10 would be a good meeting time

- The first meeting is September 12<sup>th</sup> and Cala Filippo is the Chair.
- The Strategic Planning committee will meet eventually.
- The Media committee is getting phased out this year.

XII. AD HOC COMMITTEES

- Student Transportation
  - Vice-President Ballenger is heading the Student Transportation committee.
  - This committee would help expand the shuttle, SNAP and putting up signage and what we can research to help support this.
  - The people interested in this committee is Senator Madilyn Hanback, Senator Adi Sharma, Chairman Ian McCuiston, Senator Anna Gottman, Senator Angela Staggs, Senator Bryson Looney, Senator Ellie Vezina, and Senator Madeline McMahan.

XIII. OLD BUSINESS

- There was no old business presented.

XIV. NEW BUSINESS

- Bill 25-01: Freshman Forum Executive Chair and Clerk Voting Bill
  - This would give time to Freshman Forum members to vote on the executive chair and clerk.
  - Senator Anthony and Senator Looney say it's a great bill.
  - Communications Director Mwaura loves the bill, and asks if they would do it at the first formal meeting.
  - Senator Woods clarifies Communications Director Mwaura's question that they would vote at the end of the first meeting.
  - Communications Director Mwaura wants to clarify the bill should say "on" instead of "by".
  - There were amendments on the floor.
  - Bill was motioned to table to next week.
  - There was division, which led into a standing vote that voted that the bill would be tabled.

XV. OPEN DISCUSSION

- Freshman Forum Pancake Dinner Sign-ups
  - People signed up for the pancake dinner.
- Ideas for the SGA Newsletter
  - Historian Holcomb wants to hear any ideas or updates to the newsletter.

- Senator Anthony wants to do SGA favorites, such as favorite restaurant, etc.
- People would like to see themed newsletters.
- Senator Hanback thinks it would be fun to do a “catching up with SGA” section.
- Transfer students have voiced opinions on not knowing where things are on campus.
- People would like for us to try to use more social media to help students know where things are.
- A senator suggested to maybe try something like a tool kit for transfer students.
- Budget Oversight helped put on the transfer student social last year, and used their budget for the transfer student social
- Senator Anthony makes a point because some students need the information very clear.
- A senator suggested to give out transfer-specific information.

XVI. ADVISOR'S REPORT

- Mr. Matthew is not here, he is getting ready for the big deal.
- Mia is here to give a report and she says if you need help let her know.

XVII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The Big Deal – August 21<sup>st</sup>
- College Colors Day – August 29<sup>th</sup>
- Freshman Forum Pancake Dinner – August 26<sup>th</sup>
- Senate Pictures – September 4<sup>th</sup>
- Senate Rules Test – September 18<sup>th</sup>
- Reminder of office hours
- If you need to purchase something, find Matt, Mia or Mr. Matthew
- Please wear UNA or neutral colors to senate pictures.

XVIII. SGA MEMBER OF THE WEEK

- Vote for a member who stood out during the week.

XIX. PEP

- Pep to Damari!
- Pep to Nicole!
- Pep to Mia!
- Pep to Matt!
- Pep to Mallory and Destinee for bill!
- Pep to Mackenzie!

XX. ADJOURNMENT