

UNA Staff Senate
January 12, 2026
10:00 AM
GUC 200

- I. Call to Order- President Anna Leigh Rossi began the meeting at 10:03am.
- II. Roll Call (Senators, Proxies, & Visitors) Members present and comprising a quorum were: Mr. Adrian Miller, Ms. Amanda Willingham, Ms. Anna Leigh Rossi, Ms. Anna Milwee, Ms. Brett Cagle, Ms. Cala Flippo, Ms. Catherine Martin, Ms. Debbie Williams, Dr. Kathleen Richards, Ms. Erin Wittscheck, Ms. Hollon McCullar, Ms. Janet Jones, Mr. Jeremy Martin, Mr. John LeMay, Ms. Kari-Kay Cassady, Ms. Kendra White, Ms. Mary Harber, Ms. Megan Simmons, Dr. Molly Mathis, and Ms. Salena Denton. Ms. Hope Buckley, Mr. Jarrod Russell, and Ms. Michelle Aycock were absent with no proxies.
- III. Approval of Agenda- Mr. Jeremy Martin made a motion to approve the agenda. Ms. Cala Flippo seconded and the motion carried.
- IV. Approval of Minutes- Ms. Hollon McCullar made a motion to approve the December 2025 minutes. Ms. Catherine Martin seconded and the motion carried.
- V. Staff Senate President's Report-
 - a. President Anna Leigh Rossi shared vacancy on the Shared Governed Committee in the Artificial Intelligence Committee. The vacancy must be filled with a staff member from Enrollment Marketing and Digital Communications. President Anna Leigh Rossi has sent information to the Director of EMDC – Mr. Lee Taylor – for recommendations on someone who can fill the vacancy. If there is more than one interested candidate, we will vote.
 - b. UNA Founders' Day is being celebrated today in the GUC Atrium at 11:30am, and it will be highlighting the Briggs Family Entertainment Industry Department.
 - c. President Anna Leigh Rossi shared that if any staff members are interested in being a part of the Faculty/Staff Step Sing performance this year, they can email Calviee Tandy at ctandy@una.edu for more information about rehearsals. Step Sing will be on January 29-31 at 7pm.
- VI. Committee Reports
 - a. Staff Attitude Survey- President Anna Leigh Rossi shared that the Staff Attitude Survey Committee will begin looking at the survey

and making edits for the 2026 survey in the next few weeks, and they are looking to distribute the survey in early Spring. Dr. Molly Mathis mentioned that Faculty Senate is sending their survey out earlier, and Staff Senate could consider moving their survey earlier as well. President Anna Leigh Rossi and Dr. Molly Mathis said they can look into it further to see if that is something the Staff Senate would be interested in doing.

- b. Staff Merit- No report.
- c. Staff Visibility- Ms. Megan Simmons thanked everyone for their involvement in, donations to, and attendance at Staff Senate's successful Cookies & Cocoa event in December 2025.
- d. Distinguished Staff Employee of the Year- No report.
- e. Staff Affairs- Vice President Bretta Cagle stated that the updated Search Committee Memo has been sent to Dr. Minette Ellis for discussion in EC. Once it is approved, it will go into effect. VP Bretta Cagle also encouraged Staff Senators and their constituents to attend the Open Enrollment Vendor Presentation on Wednesday, January 21, 2026. There will be two times offered for staff to attend the presentation: 9am or 1pm. The focus of the Open Enrollment Vendor Presentations will be on Supplemental Insurance. President Anna Leigh Rossi asked that Senators try to attend at least one of the sessions to support. Additionally, there will be a coffee station at the presentations hosted by both Faculty and Staff Senates.

VII. Unfinished Business- None

VIII. New Business- None

IX. Discussion

- a. Mr. Jeremy Martin shared that one of his constituents requested that Staff Senate look at the Tuition Remission policy as it applies to accelerated/8-week courses. He mentioned that in the program his constituent is a part of, students are required to take 7 credit hours each semester. Current policy covers 6 credit hours. Ms. Kari-Kay Cassady recommended asking Ms. Dana Gurley about the definition of both credit hours and semester as it is referred to in the policy. In discussion centered around specifics of the policy, it was stated that the handbook mentions 6 total credit hours are covered, but the website has a page that mentions two courses are covered.
- b. Mr. Adrian Miller asked when the next ice-cream social may be – Senators shared it will likely be on Spring semester Study Day (April 30th). President Anna Leigh Rossi asked about possibly securing

additional funding from Advancement for this event.

- X. Announcements- None
- XI. Adjournment- The meeting was adjourned at 10:17a