



SGA Senate  
Minutes  
29 August 2024

- I. CALL TO ORDER
  - The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m.
- II. ROLL CALL
- III. MOMENT OF SILENCE
- IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- V. PASSING OF AGENDA
- VI. PASSING OF MINUTES
- VII. SPECIAL BUSINESS
  - Professional pictures and headshots were taken at the Amphitheater.
- VIII. STUDENT FORUM
- IX. OFFICER REPORTS
  - President Mardis
    - She would like to say a big thank you to Matthew and Elijah for helping with the Cramton Bowl!
    - TRIO has reached out to us about speaking to them. Pro-Tempore Fitz spoke about Senate, and Communications Director Sommer spoke about Freshman Forum.
    - Historian Tease has resigned, but we have emailed three people interested in the position. President Mardis thinks that she has made her selection. She would like to make sure everyone makes them feel welcomed!
    - Chief of Staff Britton and President Mardis have been working on rewording the Alma Mater this year, because the words commemorate the South and the Confederacy.
    - We are reaching out to the City of Florence this week about how much their parking deck downtown costs.
    - She will be meeting with the staff and faculty senate presidents soon!
    - She is part of the homecoming committee, so if anybody has any questions or needs help with homecoming, come talk to her. We will be having event sign ups during open discussion.
  - Vice-President McGinnis
    - Thank you all for being here and being on time! You all look great for pictures!
    - We did not have chairs this week. We attended the Transfer Social.
    - The committees are starting their meetings this week.

- If you would like to come to a chairs meeting, they are on Mondays at 5. We will not have one this Monday because of Labor Day.
- Her office hours have changed!

#### Treasurer Batchelor

- She has been working on the budget for the new fiscal year. She will present it in the middle of September.
- She is working on spirit nights for this semester that will be going towards fundraisers for the Endowed Scholarship. These include Taco Mama, Voodoo Wings, and Mugshots.
- She is also reaching out to food trucks to come onto campus.
- She is going to meet with Chairman Holcombe for initiatives for his committee.
- Worked on SGA sticky notes with Chief of Staff Britton!

#### Secretary Kusz

- She has begun preparations for the Past Officers Breakfast that will take place the morning of Homecoming.
- She reminded everyone to let her know if they will be absent from events or meetings.
- She told everyone what her office hours for this semester would be.

#### Freshman Forum Advisors

- They had the Pancake Dinner on Tuesday! It was a success! Thank you to everyone who came and helped, and everyone who came out to support.
- The applications to be on Freshman Forum ends this Saturday.
- They would like for interview time slots to be sent out soon, and for interviews to take place as soon as possible.

#### Pro-Tempore Fitz

- She is planning a fun activity after Senate on September 26<sup>th</sup>
  - Would like for Senate and Freshman Forum to attend!
- Homecoming sign-ups will be during open discussion.
- She will be traveling during September so she will be joining meetings via zoom, but if you have any questions please do not hesitate to reach out!

#### Chief of Staff Britton

- The Freshman Scavenger Hunt was a success for SGA!
- She will be working on getting the Alma Mater to get it changed. She has an appointment next Thursday to go to the archives.
- There will be two voter registration events – one in September, one in October. She is working on dates for this.
- She met with Chairwoman Rhoades and her committee for the voter registration events.
- Meet your Senators is September 10<sup>th</sup>, so if you cannot attend please get someone to fill your spot!

#### DIA Saunders

- He has been reviewing submissions for the SGA RSO Outreach initiative.
- We are going to resend out the link for RSOs to sign up for the Outreach initiative in case some of them missed the initial send out.
- We do not have a timeline yet to have senators and officers come to these events, but we will have a timeline soon!
- Minette Ellis will come to speak to Senate on September 19<sup>th</sup>.

Communications Director Sommer

- She says thank y'all so much for being here for pictures!
- She will be sending out a Google form for the Instagram that will go with headshots.
- The graphic request form is on CampusGroups.
- She will be working on the bulletin board so let her know if you would like anything posted!
- Chief of Staff Britton has already reached out to start posting and making videos about voting registration, so if anyone have any ideas please let Communications Director Thea know!

## X. CHAIR REPORTS

Chairman Hester

- They had their first meeting this week and went over some things that we want to see happen.
- They are looking at fundraising for more scholarships, raising awareness for tips and tricks for passing classes (did you know?)
- All committee members are in different colleges, and they will be visiting different professors to get tips and tricks for these specific academic colleges.

Chairman Cantrell

- The Transfer Social was this Monday! Thank you to everyone who came, it went great!
- We did not meet this Tuesday because allocations do not open until September 1<sup>st</sup>. will be meeting the Tuesday after next week

Chairwoman Rhoades

- This past week was our first committee meeting. We have been brainstorming ideas for voter participation in homecoming and elections.
- We have brainstormed ideas with Chief of Staff Britton about the voter registration event.
- She met with Dr. Tammy and Matthew and went over the dates and timeline for homecoming nominations and elections.
- The homecoming ballot will be posted September 1<sup>st</sup>
- She will meet with Communications Director Sommer to explain the posts they will need for homecoming elections.
- Today hopefully we will get the details finalized for budget!
- She is also thinking about doing a table to inform students about homecoming nominations, homecoming elections, and see who we are as Senate and what questions we can answer for everyone.
  - They are thinking about doing a drawing that if you vote in homecoming elections, you could potentially win a prize!

Chairwoman Hamilton

- The Legislative Affairs Committee met on Monday.
- Their committee decided they are going to send delegates to a city council meeting next Tuesday at 5!
  - Everyone is welcome to come with the committee!

Chairman Holcombe

- They had their first meeting on Tuesday.

- They are going to have a booth this Wednesday for Suicide Prevention Awareness in the GUC.

#### XI. SHARED GOVERNANCE

- Senator Thomas is having to step down from the food service committee and needs a proxy because she cannot attend their meeting times (preferably someone who is not on a committee).
- Senator Gilliland says the Academic Affairs committee will be voting on a chair.
- Freshman Forum Advisor Ballenger says the International Program committee is meeting sometime in September.
- Senator McDonald says the Parking committee will have their first meeting on September 9<sup>th</sup>
  - Pro-Tempore Fitz says that if someone can proxy for her, that would be great!
- Secretary Kusz says that Athletic committee is figuring out a time for their meetings.
- Senator Vezina says that their committee is trying to become certified to build an enclosure in order to get new lions.

#### XII. AD HOC COMMITTEES

- There was nothing to be reported for ad hoc committees.

#### XIII. OLD BUSINESS

- There was nothing to report for old business.

#### XIV. NEW BUSINESS

- Dress Code
  - Vice-President McGinnis put this slideshow in the general folder if you need to reference it!
  - She will walk you through all of this if you have any questions.
  - She asks that once everyone votes on this, that everyone follows through with the dress code and that it is taken seriously!
  - Please wear your nametags!
- College Specific Outreach
  - President Mardis says that we are selecting different people to lead each college. Come up with one way to be visible to your college!
  - You can decide what you do, whether you do an event, etc.
  - Whoever is in charge will be in charge in creating a GroupMe, heading up the messages, etc.
  - Senator Joyner says that she would like to lead the College of Business.
  - Vice-President McGinnis tells everyone that Ad Hoc Committees is when we will be talking about college specific outreach committees
  - Senator Elijah Winston asks if there are any other ideas instead of doing tables.
    - Chief of Staff Britton says that CASE talked about working with the Ambassador program. Whenever events are held, senators could go to it and wear their SGA nametags; however, this would be easier for CASE instead of a smaller college, like ACONP.
    - Vice-President McGinnis says that even going to an Ambassador meeting would be helpful!

- President Mardis says the purpose of this is to be visible to your college because you were all elected by that college.
- Senator Thomas says she would be interested doing CASE.
- Senator Jada Winston says she would like to head COEHS.
- Senator Vezina says she would like to head is doing ACONHP.
- Chief of Staff Britton tells everyone to reach out to the leaders to make sure that they know that you are in their specific college they are making the group chat for.

#### XV. OPEN DISCUSSION

- Homecoming Parade and Events
  - Pro-Tempore Fitz is heading up homecoming. President Mardis and Vice-President McGinnis will be on study abroad and will not be present for the week's events.
  - First event is banner drop on Monday!
  - We would like a good turnout for the scavenger hunt because this will be super fun!
  - Communications Director Sommer asks if we can sign up later since this is so far in advance.
    - Pro-Tempore Fitz says we have to give UPC a heads up in advance if we are participating or not – some events have a required number of participants.
  - Do not sign up if you are participating with another RSO!
  - These will count for volunteer points.
  - Parade details – arrive by 9:45, because we will be lined up on Pine Street at 10:45.
    - We will be doing a banner, but not a float.
- Mascot Uniforms
  - Senator McDonald says that the mascot uniforms look rough. She suggests that everyone fundraises and partners with Freshman Forum.
  - Chairwoman Hamilton says new costumes exist and are on the way.

#### XVI. ADVISOR'S REPORT

- Matthew says that SGA was mentioned a few times in the Flor-Ala, and encourages everyone to regularly follow what they post.
- SGA was also in the local news!
- Paint the Paws Initiative will start next week.
- Let him know if there needs to be any updates to the website.
- Matthew and Senator Cantrell presented to over 100 RSOs about allocations.
- Founder's Day will be on January 10<sup>th</sup>.
- Light the Fountain will be on March 13<sup>th</sup>. He is asking for suggestions for influencers to flip the switch that is both student and admin friendly.

#### XVII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The SGA Rules Test will be on September 12<sup>th</sup>!

#### XVIII. SGA MEMBER OF THE WEEK

- We have two winners this week – Senator Cantrell and Vice-President McGinnis!

#### XIX. PEP

- Pep to Mia for working on the budget!
- Pep to the Freshman Forum Advisors for the Pancake Dinner!
- Pep to Will for letting us use his truck!
- Pep to Will for the Transfer Social!

- Pep to Matthew for the Budget RSO Meeting!
- Pep to Jada for the Big Deal!
- Pep to everyone's outfits today!

XX. ADJOURNMENT