

**SGA Senate**

**Senate Minutes**

**26 September 2024**

1. **CALL TO ORDER**
   * **The meeting was called to order at 3:30 PM.**
2. **ROLL CALL**
3. **MOMENT OF SILENCE**
4. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
5. **PASSING OF AGENDA**
   * **A motion was made to amend the agenda.**
   * **The agenda was passed as mended.**
6. **PASSING OF MINUTES**
   * **A motion to pass the minutes was presented.**
   * **The minutes were passed as presented.**
7. **SPECIAL BUSINESS**
   * **There was no special business to present.**
8. **STUDENT FORUM**
   * **The students present did not have anything they would like to say.**
9. **OFFICER REPORTS**
   * **President Mardis**
     + **She attended the Homecoming Captains meeting this week.**
     + **She said we will start working on the banner next week.**
     + **Trustee Jim Page is coming to speak to us. He is a past SGA president!**
     + **If you are on an Ad Hoc committee, your primary form of communication is in** **the GroupMe. If you have anything you can contribute, please send it in there!**
     + **She heard back from the CFO (City of Florence). Their initial quote for their parking deck was 10 million, and it ended up costing around 13 million.** 
       - **We are looking at about 15 million for a new parking deck.**
       - **The parking committee will meet this Monday at 3.**
   * **Vice-President McGinnis** 
     + **She met with the Freshman Forum advisors and their new Executive Chair. She made a speaking template for the Freshman Forum Executive Chair.**
     + **She and President Mardis will not be here from October 3rd to the 11th. They will be on a study abroad trip!**
     + **She reminds everyone during debate to follow Roberts Rules properly.**
   * **Treasurer Batchelor**
     + **She will be presenting the budget later on in this meeting.**
     + **UNA PD confirmed the parking spots for Smile Bev Co!**
     + **She has been working with the committees to spend the remaining funds left for this year.**
     + **We raised $130 from the 306 BBQ Spirit Night!**
   * **Secretary Kusz**
   * **Freshman Forum Advisors Anthony & Ballenger**
     + **They had their retreat this Sunday.** 
       - **They elected their new Executive Chair and Clerk. Their Executive Chair is Kennedy Key, and their Clerk is Destinee Buford.**
     + **They had their first meeting yesterday! They did some committee chair interviews and will be doing more next week as well.**

* **Pro-Tempore Fitz**
  + **They will have homecoming sign-ups later in today’s meeting.**
  + **All the supplies for the Homecoming Parade have been ordered.**
  + **Come out to Falling for Freshman Forum tonight!**
  + **Chief of Staff Britton**
    - **The voter registration event will be next Wednesday!**
    - **She has also been working with Elections and Recruitment to get flyers to hang up in all of the academic buildings.**
    - **Later today, we will be having sign-ups for the voter registration event.** 
      * **We need to be able to fill in any spots that SAC** **has not.**
      * **If you are not registered to vote, please register to vote!**
    - **She emailed Dean Ellis about the alma mater, and Dean Ellis will be taking it to President Kitts in their next meeting.**
  + **Historian Plunkett**
    - **She will be presenting her newsletter in open discussion.**
    - **She has finished the bulletin board outside!**
  + **DIA Saunders**
    - **He will be assembling a sign-up sheet for SGA to see when and where the RSO Outreach Initiative meetings will be taking place.**
  + **Communications Director Sommer** 
    - **She has been working with Chief of Staff Britton and Chairwoman Rhoades on voter registration.**
    - **Swag Wagon Merch has been ordered!**
    - **The best way to determine the dates for the Swag Wagon dates is to send them out to the committees to sign up.**
    - **She met with the new Freshman Forum Clerk yesterday to share more about her role.**

1. **CHAIR REPORTS**
   * **Academic Affairs Chairman Hester**
     + **They are figuring out what to do for an event to spend the remainder of the budget.**
     + **They are partnering with all of the committees, mainly Student Welfare, on an event at the Ampitheater. Students can stop by at the event, and they will be able to assemble goodie bags.**
   * **Budget Oversight Chairman Cantrell**
     + **They had their meeting on Tuesday. They had 6 approved requests, 3 required modifications, and 2 requests were denied.**
   * **Elections and Recruitment Chairwoman Rhoades**
     + **We are in the middle of Homecoming nominations and elections!**
     + **The ballot for court goes out on September 30th.**
     + **Their committee decided to use the rest of their budget to get the flyers for voter registration.**
     + **Their committee also shared some of their budget with Academic Affairs and Student Welfare to help with their committees with their upcoming event.**
     + **Be sure to repost the graphics on the SGA Instagram!**
   * **Legislative Affairs Chairwoman Hamilton**
     + **She is presenting a bill today!**
     + **She is working on a potential DIA bill to keep up with SB-129 once it goes into effect.**
     + **Senator Gilliland is working on a potential bill that will account for the circumstance that the secretary is absent during a Senate meeting.**
     + **Mayor Betterton is coming to speak at our meeting on October 24th.**
   * **Student Welfare Chairman Holcombe**
     + **They are spending the rest of their committee’s budget. Thank** **you Treasurer Batchelor for helping with that!**
     + **They are going to have the QR code for student feedback on all of the goodie bags.**
2. **SHARED GOVERNANCE**
   * **The Live Lions Committee met for the third time. They will be sending a survey to the Shoals community. It is really simple, just three to five questions!**
   * **Last Friday was the first Athletic Committee meeting. They showed us what they want to do with the football and baseball stadium. This process will consist of three phases.**
   * **The Academic and Student Welfare Committee had their first meeting this week. They need to submit a vote on some documents that were sent out to them.**
   * **The AI Committee is establishing their leadership and going over draft documents.**
3. **AD HOC COMMITTEES**
   * **The consensus within the SGA 5K committee is that everyone would like to have it. We need more feedback. Please respond in it, and if you would like to be added to it, please let President Mardis know.**
4. **OLD BUSINESS**

* **There was no old business to be presented.**

1. **NEW BUSINESS**
   * **Budget Presentation**
     + **Treasurer Batchelor will be giving a brief overview of the new budget for this fiscal year.**
     + **Some parts of the budget are written in the code of laws or committed, so those cannot be changed. Other parts have either been increased, decreased, or done away with altogether.**
     + **Shifting to Earl Trent for the SGA retreat gave us more wiggle room with the SGA Retreat budget.**
     + **College Colors Day is a new line in the budget, because there was no specific line for that event in the past.**
     + **Since Freshman Forum is now completely under SGA, their line has been split into two portions: Freshman Forum Admin, and Freshman Forum Programming.**
     + **SGA Branding is a new line that was created to create some wiggle room for SGA merchandise.**
     + **Marketing and Lucky Dip budgets have been increased.**
     + **The committee budgets have remained the same. This allows the committee budgets to be equitable, and the committees are able to work together to adequately use all of their money.**
     + **The miscellaneous line is available for anyone to pull from if they need to.**
     + **Senator Gilliland moved to go into a vote. Senator Vezina seconds. The budget passes as presented.**
   * **Bill 24-16: City Council Involvement Act**
     + **Vice-President McGinnis reminds everyone to debate the bill, not the person presenting it or anyone else in the room.**
     + **Chairwoman Hamilton says that the people being affected by this bill is her committee. The Chamber of Commerce does not have public meetings. They have been attending City Council meetings, and they would like to attend these council meetings** **in place of the Chamber of Commerce meetings.**
     + **President Mardis would like to point out that the there is a separate section regarding the SGA advisor. Chairwoman Hamilton says that there is another separate bill being written for this purpose.**
     + **Vice-President McGinnis asks if the bill will be conflicting in the Code of Laws. Chairwoman Hamilton says that it will not be contradictory of itself.**
     + **Dr. Tammy says that basically, we are removing a section. She says that this is fine, we will just need to clean it up soon.**
     + **Chief of Staff Britton says that there are capitalization and punctuation errors. Other than this, everything about the bill looks great! She just wants to make sure that when writing the other bill, we are not getting our numbers wrong.**
     + **President Mardis thinks that the bill is good, and the point behind the bill is good. She thinks we should table this bill so that we can pass this bill with the new one being written.**
     + **Senator Gilliland moves to table this bill in discussion. The motion was seconded. The motion was heard by** **Senate, and this bill will be tabled for future discussion.**
   * **Bill 24-17: Oversight Accord Act**
     + **We are trying to maintain checks and balances without punishing Budget Oversight committee members for being on the committee and being involved in an RSO being funded by student allocations.**
     + **Senator Thompson says that there is a punctuation error in section II.**
     + **Chief of Staff Britton says that in section III, instead of leaving it blank, we should implement the proper wording needed for a bill.**
     + **Senator McDonald asks for an example of an event for clarification on why this bill is being written. Chairwoman Cantrell says that he would not be able to attend a Model UN Conference because he is a part of the Budget Oversight committee.**
     + **Senator Mwaura asks where it says that the committee cannot benefit from allocations. Chairman Cantrell says that there is a checks and balances system put in place in the allocations manual.**
     + **Freshman Forum Advisor Ballenger moves to pass the bill. The bill was passed.**
   * **Voter Registration Sign-Ups**
     + **We are going to fill up the Swag Wagon first. This is because this is something that only SGA can do. The Swag Wagon will not run for the first hour, or the last hour.**
     + **Other slots to fill include the photo booth, helping at the Amphitheatre, standing at the front of the GUC, standing at the tables, and handing out pizza.**
     + **Chief of Staff Britton thanks everyone for signing up! Please wear your SGA shirt and your nametag. It is important that students recognize us on campus.**
2. **OPEN DISCUSSION**
   * **Newsletter Rough Draft**
     + **Historian Plunkett is presenting the newsletter rough draft to** **Senate!**
     + **Chairwoman Hamilton asks where the photo of the Lucky Dip is from. She wants to make sure that we give credit to whoever took the photo to prevent copyright issues.**
     + **Senator Joyner says that we should maybe format the link to the website in a different way.** 
       - **President Mardis says that you can type in the link simply in the UNA website.**
   * **DSS Disability Visibility Event**
     + **Treasurer Batchelor says that Megan from DSS told her to tell** **Senate that they are bringing back the DSS Disability Visibility Event. Participants in this event will visit all eight** **tables, and walk away with new knowledge surrounding the stigmas and associations with different types of disabilities.** 
       - **They need volunteers to pass out sweatshirts and speak about their personal experiences at each table.**
       - **Vice-President McGinnis says that it is a fun event for everyone to get to know each other!**
       - **This event will be on October 9th.**
   * **Homecoming Event Sign-Ups**
     + **We are making sure that everyone is still good to work on the banner and compete in their events. If you would still like to sign up, they can!**
     + **If you are artistic, please help with the banner! We need help!**
     + **The parade** **is first come first serve for the lineup.**
     + **The service project this year is making dog toys!**
   * **Meal Plans**
     + **Senator Joyner says her roommate signed up for a meal plan this** **year, and got a bigger refund than what was expected this year. She just got the basic plan.**
     + **For International students and people whose meal plans are messed up, we should use this opportunity to help advertise events that provide free food on campus.**
     + **We should think a lot about free food at our events because we can attract a larger crowd of people.**
     + **This can be beneficial for the student body as a** **whole to grow our community together.**
     + **Communications Director Sommer says that UNA Dining is doing surveys among students to see if they should implement purchasing new meal plans during the semester.**
     + **Chief of Staff Britton says that you can add dining dollars using the ETransact app using your credit card.**
   * **Swag Wagon Dates**
     + **Olivia asks if there is a way that we decide on dates at their first committee meeting of the month.**
     + **An issue with this idea is that the Budget Oversight committee must meet during that specific time.**
     + **There will also not be as much student traffic on campus later in the afternoon.**
3. **ADVISOR’S REPORT**
   * **We got a key to the SGA Feedback boxes! There is some good feedback that we can get from this. We will be actively monitoring this.**
   * **Senator Vezina got a shoutout for her Live Lions Committee in the Flor-Ala!**
   * **Alexandra, on behalf of the Study Abroad Program, would like to come speak to** **Senate!**
   * **Family Weekend went well! We gave out about 600 lions from Stuff-A-Lion.**
   * **Preview Day is coming up on the Monday of Homecoming week.**
   * **Next Tuesday, October 1, is the RSO reregistration deadline.**
   * **October is Careers in Student Affairs month!**
     + **If you are interested in a career in Student Affairs, come out and talk to someone.**
   * **Today is Dr. Tammy’s birthday! The Senate all wished her a happy birthday and sang very out of tune.**
4. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

* **Healthy Lions Council Applications – Open until 9/30**
* **9/26 - Falling for Freshman Forum (After Senate)**
* **10/2 – Voter Registration (10 AM – 2 PM)**
* **10/12 - Homecoming**
* **10/16 - Smile Bev Co: GUC Parking Lot (11 AM -3 PM)**
* **10/21 – Taco Mama Spirit Night (4 PM – 10 PM)**
* **10/24 – Speaker Mayor Betterton (Senate Meeting)**

1. **SGA MEMBER OF THE WEEK**
   * **This week’s SGA Member of the Week is Communications Director Sommer!**
2. **PEP**
   * **Pep to Dr. Tammy for her birthday!**
   * **Pep to Freshman Forum Advisors Anthony and Ballenger for all of their hard work!**
   * **Pep to Treasurer Batchelor for presenting the budget!**
   * **Pep to Pro-Tempore Fitz for her Falling for Freshman Forum event!**
   * **Pep to Academic Affairs and Student Welfare for their upcoming event!**
   * **Pep to Chairwoman Rhoades and her committee for Homecoming elections!**
   * **Pep to everyone who presented a bill today!**
   * **Pep to Student Forum for being present at our meeting!**
   * **Pep Chief of Staff Britton, Communications Director Sommer, and Chairwoman Rhoades for their hard work for the voter registration event!**
3. **ADJOURNMENT**