



SGA Senate  
Senate Minutes  
17 October 2024

- I. CALL TO ORDER
  - The meeting was called to order at 3:30 PM.
- II. ROLL CALL
- III. MOMENT OF SILENCE
- IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- V. PASSING OF AGENDA
  - The agenda was passed as presented.
- VI. PASSING OF MINUTES
  - The minutes were passed as presented.
- VII. SPECIAL BUSINESS
  - Study Abroad Speaker Alexandria Buttgerreit
    - UNA has lots of study abroad opportunities, and she would like to tell the Senate more about getting involved with these opportunities.
    - Faculty-led study abroad opportunities are open to everyone!
    - These opportunities are shorter term, and you can get some class credits out of the way.
    - She encourages everyone to start out with a trip that's shorter!
    - ISEP is a type of study abroad program that allows you to visit abroad for one semester.
    - There are programs for every major in every college!
    - Scholarships, grants, and financial aid can all go towards studying abroad.
    - She says studying abroad is life-changing and can really be rewarding for future life experiences.
    - Studying abroad can help you grow personally and professionally!
    - She is providing the Senate with information packets to ensure that everyone is aware of the opportunities available to them.
    - She says that everyone should make sure to get ahead of the game and plan their study abroad trip accordingly.
    - If you have any study abroad content, please share it with the marketing team for the study abroad programs! They are restarting the Instagram and starting Feature Fridays!
  - SGA Step Sing Form
    - This form was presented to the Senate to gauge their interest in having an SGA Step Sing team this year!
- VIII. STUDENT FORUM
  - There were no students present at this meeting.
- IX. OFFICER REPORTS
  - President Mardis
    - Congrats to everyone who helped with Homecoming!
    - She met with Senator Gilliland to work on the resolution for Roy S. Stevens.
  - Vice-President McGinnis
    - Congrats to everyone who helped with homecoming!
    - She met with the AI Task Force Committee this week.
    - She has coordinated the rules test with three senators who have not yet taken it.
    - She cleaned out storage shelf and filing cabinet in the chambers. Please keep the chambers clean!
    - If you are planning an event and you need paper plates, do not go buy some. We have plenty here.
    - There are only 5 Senate meetings left this semester. Finish strong!
  - Treasurer Batchelor
    - She served as a proxy for President Mardis on Friday for the Food Service Committee.
    - She has worked on the advertisement this week for Smile Bev Co! Thank you to everyone who helped me with getting the signs taped down and placed around campus. She is waiting to hear back about how much we raised.
    - She is working on the expense report for the month of October.
    - If you hung up a flyer for the event around campus, please take it down next week!
  - Secretary Kusz
    - Past Officers Breakfast was a success! Thank you so much to everyone who helped set up and take down the event. There was a great turnout and it was a great way to kick off Homecoming!

- She is organizing all of her documents for Past Officers Breakfast and working on getting them into Teams.
- She will be gradually working on grammatical changes to the Code of Laws for the remainder of the school year.
- Freshman Forum Advisors Anthony & Ballenger
  - Yesterday the committees set goals for the year!
  - Their headshots are now posted on the UNA website.
  - They are planning a Halloween party for their committee meetings on Halloween.
  - Will Driver will be speaking to them at their next meeting, and telling them how to plan events.
- Pro-Tempore Fitz
  - Shoutout to everyone who helped with homecoming!
  - We are having a spirit night at Taco Mama with everyone this Monday. This will be a bonding event for Senate.
  - She is getting more information on Step Sing once we gauge interest on who would like to participate.
- Chief of Staff Britton
  - She has been teaming up with UNA Dining Services to get some super important self-identification allergy forms displayed all over campus.
  - Flyers are ready to roll, and she will be hanging them up next week in any spots their marketing manager might've missed.
  - Keep an eye out for their new flyers, A frames, and TV graphics!
  - She encourages the Senate to use their social media powers to help promote any of Dining Services' campaigns—especially highlighting their allergen menu. We would like to make this initiative more visible, and SGA should be there to help get the word out.
  - Yesterday, she went to the Safety and Emergency Preparedness Committee meeting and they are looking into budgeting for some new security cameras on campus. They also discussed the emergency blue buttons and some more information that will come from the police department, and she will be sharing an update at next week's meeting.
- Historian Plunkett
  - If anyone would like anything included in the November newsletter, please let her know!
  - She has started working on the fall annual report for the end of this semester.
- DIA Saunders
  - No report.
- Communications Director Sommer
  - She posted the first video of the year on the SGA Instagram and TikTok!
  - She has been working with Freshman Forum Public Relations Committee on the t-shirt/sweatshirt fundraiser.
  - She has been working with UNA Dining Services on posting information.

#### X. CHAIR REPORTS

- Academic Affairs Chairman Hester
  - Their committee is talking about things they can do for finals that are coming up soon.
  - Their main focus is on their joint event with the Student Welfare committee next Wednesday.
  - They are strategizing ways to begin Pride Points again, and ways to market this initiative better to the students.
- Budget Oversight Chairman Cantrell
  - There were no allocations this week, as allocations for the semester have closed.
  - They are now talking about what they will be doing with the allocations manual.
  - Matthew made a graphic with all of the allocated events for students!
  - They will be taking over the Swag Wagon next Tuesday!
- Elections and Recruitment Chairwoman Rhoades
  - Congrats to everyone who participated in homecoming!
  - Thanks to her committee for everything they have done to help with Homecoming elections.
  - She would like to give a big thank you to Communications Director Sommer, Dr. Tammy and Matthew for all their help!
  - All three winners for the AirPods were chosen and they all received their gifts.
  - Their committee will begin preparing for SGA elections next week.
- Legislative Affairs Chairwoman Hamilton
  - Their committee is currently working on two new bills concerning DEI training.
  - Their committee attended the city council meeting this week.
  - At our next Senate meeting, Mayor Betterton will be here!
  - Their committee is preparing a lunch for legislators on November 14<sup>th</sup>
- Student Welfare Chairman Holcombe
  - No report.

#### XI. SHARED GOVERNANCE

- The students on the parking committee have access to the system, but they cannot vote on stuff as of right now.
- The AI committee has added a policy that will not allow campus to use AI-generated images.
  1. They have also added a policy for professors using AI-generated grading tools.

#### XII. AD HOC COMMITTEES

- Parking Update – President Mardis
  - The Parking Ad Hoc Committee met on Monday.
  - We are starting to compile a research document to present our case for more parking.
  - Planning to have a resolution by December BOT Meeting.

- President Mardis has created and sent parking surveys like the one that our Senate took to the Faculty and Staff Senate.
- She has emailed Molly Mathis with Parking Research Project.
- She presented the current parking situation to the Senate.
- SGA 5k
  - The new co-captains for this committee are Senator Hanback and Senator Joyner!
  - The date for this 5K is March 15<sup>th</sup>. This date will not change.
  - We are going to try to make this mandatory for everyone to be there, so put this date in your calendars!
  - If you are on this committee, be prepared to get to work on this.

XIII. OLD BUSINESS

- There was no old business to be presented.

XIV. NEW BUSINESS

- RSO Outreach Sign Ups
  - Everyone will be signing up for the organization they would like to go to, and what day they would like to go
  - You will have a script of what to say and what to email to the organization.
  - We are just doing this to help get feedback from different organizations, so you will just be giving a 5–10-minute spill to the organization you are presenting to.
- Review Senate Goals
  - President Mardis would like to review the Senate goals so that way, we can get things in place for the spring.
  - Senate, we are halfway through the first semester! Let's please review the goals that we set at the beginning of the year and make sure that we have the students at the forefront of our mind.
  - At this point in the semester, everyone should be settling into their committees and each having individual tasks. Just remember that if you are working on something, communicate that you are working on something so that everyone is aware of what is being worked on, and what is not.
  - She is really proud of everyone for all the work they have done! We have accomplished a lot for it to only still be October!
  - If there is anything you are really passionate about doing, try to get it off the ground before spring!

XV. OPEN DISCUSSION

- Thanksgiving Break
  - International students don't go home for Thanksgiving break.
  - Senator Joyner wants everyone to keep them in mind and think of ways we can support them during the break!
  - Last year, there was a huge buffet outside of Rice Hall for Thanksgiving.
  - Matthew says that the Campus Coalition for Basic Needs will be giving out food for students staying on campus this year.
  - They are trying to give out more food than just traditional Thanksgiving food options.
- Water Fountains
  - The water fountains in Stevens had red filters that indicated they needed to be changed.
  - SGA could contact Facilities so that someone can change the water filter. We could also file a maintenance report to get this water fountain fixed.
  - There was a motion to end open discussion. The motion was heard and properly seconded.

XVI. ADVISOR'S REPORT

- Happy Fall Break! Be safe if you are traveling.
- Paint the Paws is next Saturday. Do not park at the GUC parking lot because it will be closed!
- If you have notes or information on things you are working on, leave it for the next SGA, and leave SGA better than you found it!

XVII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 10/21 – Taco Mama Bonding Event (6 PM)
- 10/24 – Speaker Mayor Betterton (Senate Meeting)
- 11/12 – Nashville Hot (10:30 AM – 2 PM)
- 11/18 – Voodoo Wings Spirit Night (5 – 9 PM)
- 11/21 – Speaker Jim Page (Senate Meeting)

XVIII. SGA MEMBER OF THE WEEK

- Our SGA member of the week is Senator Mwaura!

XIX. PEP

- Pep to Freshman Forum Advisor Ballenger!
- Pep to Treasurer Batchelor!
- Pep to Secretary Kusz!
- Pep to Vice-President M
- Mia
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XX. ADJOURNMENT