



# UNA SGA

2023-2024

ANNUAL REPORT

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# ACHIEVEMENTS AT A GLANCE

**\$ 104,726.78**

ALLOCATED TO STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

**27**

OUTREACH INITIATIVES

**19**

PIECES OF LEGISLATION PASSED

**\$ 2,000**

AMOUNT FUNDRAISED

# THE STUDENTS' HISTORY OF UNA

## NOTABLE AWARD RECIPIENTS

- **Miss UNA** - Madeline Cooper
- **Mr. University** - Reed Hill
- **Miss Black and Gold** - Jada Mitchell
- **Homecoming Queen** - Olivia Oliphant
- **Homecoming King** - Omar Figueroa Perez
- **Step Sing winners** -
  - Overall champion: Lambda Sigma Phi
  - Women's Division First Place: Alpha Gamma Delta
  - Men's Division First Place: Pi Kappa Alpha
- **Fraternity Man and Sorority Woman of the Year** -
  - Ryne McGuyer, Lambda Sigma Phi and Jada Mitchell, Alpha Kappa Alpha, Inc.
- **Undergraduate Service** -
  - Mia Batchelor, Rebekah Callahan, Olivia Oliphant, and Garret Statom
- **Hall of Fame** -
  - Abby Eggemeyer, Talon Pritchard, Amber Sandvig, and Meg Wilbanks
- **University Man and Woman of the Year** -
  - Mario Sanchez-Salcedo and Anna Grace Rye



Homecoming elections are managed by SGA Elections and Recruitment. The theme was "Cheers to Fifty Years."

## NOTABLE CAMPUS UPDATES

- Demolition of Lagrange Hall in preparation for a new residence hall
- Construction of a new Computing and Mathematics Building
- Planning of an on-campus football stadium
- Secured \$13 Million in federal funding for new Engineering Building

## SGA PRESIDENT

Amber's involvement in the Student Government Association spans four years. Serving in both Freshman Forum as well as Student Senate as committee chair in both. Notably, Amber was the first woman to serve as SGA President for two years. In this capacity, she actively participated in various campus meetings and sat on the Shared Governance Executive Committee. Additionally, Amber was a member of several Shared Governance committees.



## SGA AWARDS

- R. L. Potts Hall of Fame - Amber Sandvig
- Senator of the Year - Kerigan Mardis
- Freshman Forum Delegate of the Year - Zane Thompson.
- W. T. McElheny Award - Dr. K.C White
  - This award is given to a university employee who provided outstanding service to SGA. The recipient is voted on by the Student Government Association.
- Philanthropy Award - Mandelyn McGinnis and Olivia Britton



# ALLOCATIONS TO STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

**\$104,726.78**

Allocated to Student Organizations

**\$18,202.25**

Educational  
Programs

**\$18,000.00**

Entertainment

**\$10,112.60**

Diversity  
Programs

**\$36,054.40**

Social  
Programs

**\$5,466.12**

Philanthropic

**\$16,891.41**

Travel

Student Organizations have received funding from the Student Activity Fund since the beginning of the fiscal year, October 2023. These allocations are managed by the Budget Oversight Committee of SGA.

# SGA ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP

Scholarships were awarded to 4 students, totaling \$2,630.

Since the scholarship's creation, \$21,920 has been awarded to 32 students.

Raised \$2,000 by hosting 5 spirit events, 1 candy-gram sale, and a t-shirt, sweatshirt, and tote bag fundraiser to support the SGA Endowed Scholarship. It had a market value of \$66,753.72 as of April 2024.

The journey to establish the scholarship began in 2010, and it took five years to raise \$25,000 to endow it. The first scholarships were awarded in 2016. The SGA Endowed Scholarship is managed by the Treasurer who creates a committee to select the recipients.



# OUTREACH INITIATIVES

## HOSTED EVENTS

- The Lucky Dip
- Homecoming Elections
- SGA Past Officers Breakfast
- Finals Week Treats
- FSU v. UNA Football game (260 goodie bags for the band)
- Spirit Night Fundraisers at Taco Mama and Mugshots for the SGA Endowed Scholarship
- Hosted Smile Beverage Co. on Campus for SGA Endowed Scholarship
- 12 feedback tables in the GUC
- Hosted T-shirt/Sweatshirt sale for SGA Endowed Scholarship
- Pizza and Politics event to encourage voter registration
- Welcome Back Tables
- Spring into Finals event to provide resources to students
- Pride Points that encouraged academic participation
- SGA Elections
- Lions Give and Grab donation event for students to donate items when they move out

## SPONSORED EVENTS

- Homecoming events
- UNA Preview Day
- College Colors Day table
- Helped co-sponsor a student bus to first away football game of the season in Montgomery, AL
- Water Bottle Drive for the American Legion
- Donated funds to support the Cap Your Can Campaign
- The Big Deal
- Kilby Kids Halloween in the GUC
- Facilitated Donations for Citations Food Drive
- Donated two \$200 bookstore scholarships as giveaways for Light the Fountain
- Assisted Diversity Education Week events
- The Last Lucky Dip for Seniors





# HIGHER EDUCATION DAY



At Higher Education Day, Student Government Associations of public universities from across the state meet in Montgomery to advocate for more funding for higher education in Alabama. UNA's involvement in the event is managed by the Legislative Affairs Committee.



# COLLEGIATE LEGISLATURE

CLEG is the Alabama Collegiate Legislature Conference that is hosted annually in Montgomery, Alabama at the state capitol building. At CLEG students have the opportunity to participate in mock government in all branches of state government. This year was UNA's first year back to CLEG since 2019. SGA had the honor of winning the Speaker's Cup award which is voted on by peer institutions on overall character, professionalism, and knowledge of parliamentary procedure. Our delegation also had a mock bill pass through both houses and was signed into law by the YMCA Collegiate Governor.



Pro-Tempore Olivia Britton was awarded the Outstanding delegate award at CLEG



# LEGISLATION PASSED

## CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

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### Bill 23-01 The Senate

#### Re-Appportionment Amendment

Changed the number of senators based on college population to a set amount of 30 senators: 25 elected and 5 appointed. The seats shall be distributed to each academic college based on the percentage each college has out of the total student population.

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### Bill 23-02 The Freshman, International, and Transfer Seats Amendment

Amended the Constitution with regard to the five (5) appointed seats. One (1) is reserved for freshmen, two (2) each are reserved for international and transfer students.

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### Bill 23-03 The Freshman and Transfer Senator Constitutional Changes Amendment

Set up a temporary committee to re-evaluate the number of senators each year prior to an election.

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### Bill 23-04 The Constitutional Amendment Effective Date Change Amendment

Changed effective date of an amendment from the next academic year to the next semester.

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### Bill 24-01 The Freshman Forum Advisors Amendment

Added an additional SGA Advisor for Freshman Forum.

# CODE OF LAWS

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## **Bill 23-11 The Copies of Resolutions and Bills Act**

Provided the Secretary with paperless options to present legislation to senators.

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## **Bill 23-12 The Student Forum Act**

Updated the Code of Laws to require an open student forum at every meeting.

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## **Bill 23-15 Committee Re-Appportionment Act**

Required each committee to have at least 5 members and chair.

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## **Bill 23-18 The Cap Your Campaign Act**

Provided \$250 for the Cap Your Can Campaign to promote alcohol education and safety.

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## **Bill 23-19 The College Outreach Tables Act**

Provided funding for a Campus-Wide outreach tables in January.

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## **Bill 24-01 Coupe D'e Code Act**

Revised the method of Senator and Executive Officer evaluations.

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## **Bill 24-02 Valentine's Day Party Act**

Allocated Funding for an SGA social gathering.

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## **Bill 24-03 Light The Fountain Contributions Act**

Provided funding for two Bookstore Scholarships at Light the Fountain.

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## **Bill 24-04 Senate Reports Act**

Replaced Senator evaluations with Senate reports.

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## **Bill 24-05 Freshman Forum T-Shirts Act**

Provided funding for Freshman Forum's T-shirts.

## **Bill 24-06 Freshman Forum Advisors Requirements Act**

Replaced the UPC Freshman Forum Advisor with a second Freshman Forum Advisor from Senate and revised qualifications for both positions.

## **Bill 24-07 Freshman Forum Advisor Salary Change Act**

Revised the pay for the two Freshman Forum Advisors.

## **Bill 24-08 Freshman Forum Selection Committee Act**

Replaced the Director of Student Engagement with the SGA President in the Freshman Forum selection process.

## **Bill 24-09 SGA Freshman Forum Advisors Act**

Made the Code of Laws consistent with changes in regard to the removal of the UPC Freshman Forum advisor.

## **Bill 24-10 Freshman Forum Advisors Pluralizing Act**

Made the Code of Laws consistent with changes in regard to the additional Freshman Forum Advisor.

## **Bill 24-11 President and Vice-President Term Requirement Act**

Revised President and Vice-President qualifications to require that a person running must have served at least one semester in the Executive or Legislative Branch by the time election applications open.

## **Bill 24-12 Secretary and Treasurer Term Requirement Act**

Made the Secretary and Treasurer qualifications equal to the President and Vice President in regard to time served in SGA.

## **Bill 24-13 The Mandated Officers Debate Act**

Required that all candidates for President, Vice-President, Treasurer, and Secretary in order to run in the SGA elections, unless otherwise cleared by the Elections and Recruitment Committee chair.

# **RESOLUTIONS**

## **R-24-01 Expression of Gratitude to UNA Dining Services**

Recognized Chartwells employees for continuing to work on campus during the snowstorm.

# UNA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

## EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Amber Sandvig, President  
Rebekah Callahan, Vice President  
Mia Batchelor, Treasurer  
Averie Yeager, Secretary  
Madison Reese, Pro-Tempore Fall  
Olivia Britton, Pro-Tempore Spring  
Nicholas Wilder, Chief of Staff  
Micheal Gilliland, Historian  
Kaylee Elliott, Communications Director  
Abigail Kusz, Freshman Forum Senate Advisor  
Nicole Ballenger, Diversity and Inclusion Advocate



## STUDENT COURT

Garret Statom, Chief Justice  
Treasure Franklin, Justice  
Mackenzie Martin, Justice  
Emma Melton, Justice  
Maddilyn Willis, Justice

## LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

### **Academic Affairs Committee:** **Legislative Affairs Committee:**

Alexandra Rhoades, Chair  
Nadya Hazoury-Sanchez  
Kody Purinton

Kerigan Mardis, Chair  
Jacoby Bateman  
Victoria Hamilton (Spring)

### **Budget Oversight Committee:** **Student Welfare Committee:**

Mandelyn McGinnis, Chair  
William Cantrell (Spring)  
Kennedy Deamues  
Ivie Scott

Alyssa Ledlow, Chair  
Ryland Giles (Spring)  
Eleanor Fitz

### **Elections and Recruitment Committee:**

Anjalee Crawford, Chair  
Bryson Hewell  
Bailee Strait



Committee Chairs (L to R): Kerigan Mardis, Mandelyn McGinnis, Vice President Callahan, Anjalee Crawford, Alexandra Rhoades, and Alyssa Ledlow

# FRESHMAN FORUM

## Public Relations Committee:

Hanley Prestridge, Chair  
Carlie Harchfield  
Liz Williams  
Mallory Ebert  
Sydney Kate Ervin

## Student Welfare Committee:

Manuela Gomes, Chair  
Meadow McDonald  
Kennedy Poindexter  
Grayson Murray  
Gracyn Thomas  
Grace Anthony  
Elijah Winston  
Abigail McElwee

## Service Committee:

Anna-Bekah Cress, Chair  
Chesny Morrison  
Drew Morton  
Evy Bosko  
Hannah Grace Akers  
Makayla Williams  
Reed Willis  
Troi Cheeks

Abigail Kusz, SGA Advisor

Dessa Faulker, UPC Advisor

Bethany Wilder, Executive Chair

Thea Sommer, Clerk

## Social Committee:

Ilanthe Oosthuizen,  
Chair

Bailey Clark

B. P. Blair

Carlos Pullen-Marks

Jahtonia Wilson

Kaleigh Bohannon

Madison Wennberg

Nyla Brown

## Outreach & Philanthropy

### Committee:

Zane Thompson, Chair

Regan Ellis

Marti Sherman

Lyric Sheppard

Lilly Williford

Jenna Sample

Jaxon Yamaguchi

Jada Winston

Heidi Armstrong



## BILLS

- 23-05  
Freshman Forum Friendsgiving Act
- 24-01  
Feel the Love Event Act
- 24-02  
Pause for Paws Act
- 24-02  
St. Patrick's Day Trivia Night Act
- 24-03  
The Spring Market Act



## EVENTS

- Homecoming events: Parade, Lion Olympics, Window Painting Competition
- Finals Goodie Bag Tables
- Candy-Grams to benefit the SGA Endowed Scholarship Fundraiser
- Pause for Paws- Event to help de-stress students during midterms by petting a dog
- Habitat for Humanity Service Week- Promoting community volunteer work
- Easter Eggstravaganza- Scavenger hunt across campus
- Spring Market Event



# OTHER ITEMS OF NOTE

## ATTENDED EVENTS

- American Student Government Association Conference in Orlando, FL, July 14-15
- STARS Leadership and University Advocates Conference in Destin, FL, August 2-4
- College Colors Day with Governor Ivey in Montgomery, AL, August 24
- Higher Education Day in Montgomery, AL, February 22
- YMCA Collegiate Legislature Conference in Montgomery, AL, February 29-March 2

## TRAININGS

- Diversity and Inclusion Training by Dr. Hunt and Dr. Winston
- Disability Awareness training with Dr. Graham Sission
- Higher Education Day Partnership Training

## ORGANIZATIONAL REFORM

- Constitutional Changes passed and sent to a Student Referendum
- Code of Laws revisions passed
- Elections Manual revisions passed
- Allocations Manual revisions passed



College Colors Day  
Pictured left to right:  
Nicholas Wilder, Chief of  
Staff; Amber Sandvig,  
President; Governor Ivey;  
Una and Leo

# ELECTIONS FOR 2024-2025

**TOTAL VOTES:  
1 2 2 2**

ANDERSON COLLEGE OF NURSING AND HEALTH  
PROFESSIONS: 155 VOTERS  
4 CANDIDATES FOR 3 AVAILABLE SENATE SEATS

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND HUMAN SCIENCES:  
293 VOTERS  
5 CANDIDATES FOR 5 AVAILABLE SENATE SEATS

SANDERS COLLEGE OF BUSINESS AND TECHNOLOGY:  
301 VOTERS  
11 CANDIDATES FOR 9 AVAILABLE SENATE SEATS

COLLEGE OF ARTS, SCIENCES, AND ENGINEERING:  
473 VOTERS  
20 CANDIDATES FOR 8 AVAILABLE SENATE SEATS

TWO CANDIDATES EACH RAN FOR PRESIDENT,  
VICE-PRESIDENT, AND TREASURER.  
SECRETARY CANDIDATE RAN UNOPPOSED.

Elections are managed by the  
SGA Elections and Recruitment Committee



## STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

*We, the students of the University of North Alabama, in order to take a responsible part in the decision making processes of the University at large; to protect and defend the rights and responsibilities of the University to the students and of the students of the University; to provide for cultural, social, physical, and educational welfare; to foster a spirit of unity among students; to strive toward a better understanding between administration, faculty, and students; and to encourage individual responsibility, by the authority granted to us by the Board of Trustees and University President, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the students of the University of North Alabama.*

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:  
UNA.EDU/SGA**