



SGA Senate
Senate Minutes
10 April 2025

- I. CALL TO ORDER
- II. ROLL CALL
- III. MOMENT OF SILENCE
- IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- V. PASSING OF AGENDA
 - There was a motion to amend the agenda.
 - The agenda was unanimously passed as amended.
- VI. PASSING OF MINUTES
 - There was a motion to pass the minutes as presented.
 - The minutes were unanimously passed as presented.
- VII. SPECIAL BUSINESS
 - There was no special business to be presented.
- VIII. STUDENT FORUM
 - The students did not have anything they would like to say.
- IX. OFFICER REPORTS
 - President Mardis
 - She would like to say how proud she is of everyone for everything they have accomplished this year!
 - She has been planning another administrative meeting to gather up final details for the Lucky Lion Race.
 - Her, along with Pro-Tempore Fitz, attempted to negotiate lower prices for the SNAP vehicles we have been looking into purchasing. They negotiated a slightly lower price, but not by much.
 - The Shared Governance Executive Committee had their final meeting on Monday to discuss the overall structure of these committees, as well as change this structure.
 - The parking election ballot results have been posted on our social media.
 - Vice-President McGinnis
 - Communications Director Sommer has posted the parking election ballot results on our social media. Please be sharing these graphics so students know that their voices are heard!
 - She is following up with Dr. Byrd to confirm that she will be speaking at the last Senate meeting of the year next week.
 - Everyone should be working on their end-of-the-semester reports that will be due next Thursday!
 - She would like to thank everyone for all their hard work this year!
 - Treasurer Batchelor
 - She is waiting for the Cheeztah Chicks check from the food truck that we had last week.
 - She has been following up with the Lucky Lion Race food trucks.
 - The Endowed Scholarship Selection Committee will be making their final selections for the scholarship recipients.
 - Secretary Kusz
 - She has ordered the programs for inauguration!
 - She will be picking up the awards for inauguration soon.
 - Freshman Forum Advisors Anthony & Ballenger
 - If you can make it to any of Freshman Forum's events, please do so! They have a lot of events coming up very soon!
 - The Service Committee will be holding a service event next Tuesday in honor of Earth Day.
 - She asks the Senate if there is a group of senators who would like to go participate and show their support for Freshman Forum!
 - The Student Welfare Committee has a survey that will be going out to the freshman class on Friday! They are also doing Freshman Farewell goodie bags on April 30.
 - Pro-Tempore Fitz
 - No report.
 - Chief of Staff Britton
 - Today she is presenting the Student Activity Fee Resolution during new business. She asks the Senate to seriously consider the changes that will be made.
 - Historian Plunkett
 - She is still working on finishing the Annual Report.

- DIA Saunders
 - His article that was published in the Flor-Ala is now out and available to students!
 - He has been working on drafting legislation with Senator Gilliland that will be presented in new business.
- Communications Director Sommer
 - She has been working on graphics for Pride Points.
 - She would like to shout out everyone who worked the SWAG Wagon and sandwich boards on Tuesday.
 - She has been posting the graphics for the parking election ballot results.

X. CHAIR REPORTS

- Academic Affairs Chairwoman Winston
 - The Pride Points flyers are now finalized and looking good! Thank you to Communications Director Sommer for working on these!
 - Please be reposting the Pride Points flyers on your social media!
 - They have been talking about ideas for the winners of the Pride Points initiative.
- Budget Oversight Chairman McCuston
 - They have one more week of meeting. The funding period for this go-around ends tomorrow!
 - They are looking at a slight change to the Budget Oversight Committee manual.
- Elections and Recruitment Chairwoman Rhoades
 - Their committee met before Senate due to inclement weather coming in later today.
 - They are working on their end-of-the-semester report and getting everything organized into Teams.
- Legislative Affairs Chairwoman Hamilton
 - No report.
- Student Welfare Chairwoman Thomas
 - They had their Fun in the Sun Event on Saturday at McFarland Park! It was a success!
 - Their committee has been working on their end-of-the-semester report.

XI.

SHARED GOVERNANCE

- The Live Lions Committee met towards the end of March and determined that currently, we do not have the funding to bring a live lion back to campus right away. However, a temporary solution is being investigated. Bringing a live lion back to campus will be something that will be reevaluated in the years to come.
- The Safety and Emergency Preparedness Committee will be having their last meeting of the semester next Wednesday.
- The Bicentennial Planning Committee met yesterday to discuss the beginning of their preparations for the 200th anniversary of UNA's opening and presence as a university.
 - They brainstormed ideas and filled out a survey for the subcommittees within the singular committee.
 - They are very open to student and faculty ideas.
- The Multicultural Advisory Committee met yesterday and talked about potential scholarship recipients and the criteria that they will need to meet to meet these scholarships.
- The Athletic Committee is meeting tomorrow, and we need proxies to attend this meeting.
- The Food Service Committee had their last committee meeting of the semester today. The university has decided to renew its contract with Chartwells.

XII.

AD HOC COMMITTEES

- SGA 5k
 - We will be having our final day of coordination meeting next week.
 - We are right at 70 participants running in the race, which is great!
 - Next Friday at 5 PM, we will be having a preparation party to get the supplies ready the day before the event!
- Parking
 - The Parking Ad Hoc Committee met on Monday. In the meeting, we prepared a document to share the parking election results with students, faculty, and administration on campus.
 - They talked about a lot of action steps that can be taken for the remainder of the semester.

XIII.

OLD BUSINESS

- There was no old business to be presented.

XIV.

NEW BUSINESS

- Bill 25-14: Student Activities Distribution of Funds for Campus Groups & Feeding the Pride Management Software Update Act
 - Senator Hanback will be presenting the first piece of legislation on the Senate floor today!
 - The purpose of this bill is to update the amount of money to be allocated from Student Activity Funds for the Campus Groups and the Feeding the Pride Management Software for future years.
 - Our SGA advisor Matthew (it's his birthday today!) clarified the reasoning for this bill and reminded Senate of what we discussed in our meeting last week.
 - The Senate unanimously passed this bill as presented. Congratulations!
- Bill 25-15: Clarification of Dual Branch Senators Act
 - Freshman Forum Advisor Anthony will be presenting the second piece of legislation to the Senate to the floor today!
 - This bill basically clarifies that the Pro-Tempore and the elected Freshman Forum Advisor are not a part of the standing committees in Senate.
 - Chairwoman Hamilton believes that this bill should be passed so that it aligns with the Code of Laws and Constitution accordingly.

- DIA Saunders asks about the wording of the bill. Senator Joyner also asks about the wording of the bill. President Mardis clarifies that one advisor is elected, while the other advisor is elected. Only the advisor that is elected can retain their voter rights.
 - There was a motion to pass the bill as presented. The motion was heard and properly seconded.
 - The bill was unanimously passed as presented by the Senate. Congratulations!
- Bill 25-16: DIA Duties Act
 - The third piece of legislation on the Senate floor is being presented by Senator Gilliland and DIA Saunders.
 - The purpose of this bill is to clarify the duties of the Diversity and Inclusion Advocate (DIA).
 - Senator Huffman asks what the process of heading the RSO outreach initiative looks like.
 - They also decided to add an additional chapter for the duties of the DIA, to make it align with the other appointed extended executive council positions in the governing documents.
 - Senator Joyner thinks this is an excellent bill and sets up the next DIA position for success.
 - There was a motion to go into a vote on this bill. The motion was heard and properly seconded.
 - The Senate unanimously voted to pass this bill as presented. Congratulations!
- Resolution 25-02: Student Activity Fee
 - Chief of Staff Britton will be presenting the Student Activity Fee resolution today.
 - President Mardis believes that this resolution is very beneficial and that Chief of Staff Britton's hard work on this initiative has been excellent.
 - Senator Strait thinks this resolution was written very well and does an excellent job detailing why the increase in the student activity fee is needed, as well as why the percentage changes were made.
 - Senator Mwaura thinks this resolution is excellent and points out a small grammatical error at the beginning of the resolution. Other than this, she thinks this was done very well!
 - There was a motion to go into a vote on this resolution. The motion was heard and properly seconded.
 - The Senate unanimously passed the resolution. Congratulations!
- 5K Job Assignments
 - Senator Hanback will be presenting what positions everybody will be working for the Lucky Lion Race next weekend!
- Parking Referendum Vote
 - President Mardis will be going over the parking referendum vote questions that we are trying to get pushed out to students before this administration's time is up this year.
 - She would like to say that facilities and administration is open to the idea of debt-financing a new parking deck.
 - They are exploring options and looking at potential ideas to make something happen and formulate a parking plan.
 - More options for a potential parking plan would become more feasible and happen quicker with student financial support.
 - She explains the reasoning behind the questions in the referendum vote, as well as what was discussed in the meeting with administration yesterday.
 - She also goes into detail to explain the strides that have already been accomplished so far in order to attain more parking.
 - Chairwoman Winston asks where the new engineering building will be constructed. It will be over by the Mitchell Buford Science Building and the kinesiology lab.
 - She tells the Senate that this vote will determine the willingness of students to contribute money towards the construction of a new parking deck.
 - Senator McDonald asks if there is a way to add a map or a visual aid to the referendum vote. President Mardis replies that she does not want to clutter up what is on the referendum vote, but she could include it in the statement that will go out to the students.
 - DIA Saunders thinks that the referendum vote looks great and would be beneficial to students. He asks if we could include a sentence in the vote detailing the percentage of students who initially voted in favor of paying for a parking deck. President Mardis thinks this would be a good idea.
 - Senator Mwaura asks who all will be paying the proposed parking fee if it is voted through. The fee will only be paid by undergraduate and graduate students who attend in-person classes at UNA.
 - Freshman Forum Advisor Anthony asks if it would be beneficial for students to understand that not only students would be paying this fee – faculty and staff could potentially be paying for this parking fee as well if they vote it through. President Mardis thinks this could be a good idea.
 - Chairwoman Thomas thinks an FAQ graphic posted on SGA's social media would be an excellent idea and could inform the students about everything they need to know for this referendum vote.
 - Senator Mwaura asks if we can say in the referendum vote when this would be implemented. Vice-President McGinnis states that we can guarantee the time of implementation while we are waiting for administration to approve it.
 - There was a motion to extend our meeting time by 10 minutes. The motion was heard and properly seconded.
 - There was a motion to move into a vote on sending out the referendum vote. The motion was heard and properly seconded.
 - The Senate unanimously voted to pass this referendum vote.
 - We also need people to sign up and help campaign in the GUC to encourage students to vote!
- SNAP Vehicle Purchase Vote
 - President Mardis would like to move into a vote on the purchasing of a new SNAP vehicle.
 - Senator Moore moves to go into a vote on the SNAP vehicle. The motion was heard and properly seconded.

- The Senate unanimously voted to pass this initiative. Congratulations!

XV. OPEN DISCUSSION

- Undergrad Lifestyle Shoot
 - The university is looking for students to participating in an undergraduate lifestyle shoot! Please let President Mardis know if you would be interested in participating in this.

XVI. ADVISOR'S REPORT

- He wanted to congratulate everyone on a great year!
- Allocations close tomorrow! This is the funding period for summer and early fall!
- They are gearing up for Mane Month and the Big Deal!
- He encourages everyone to stay safe during the inclement weather.

XVII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Last Senate – April 17
- End of Year Party – April 17 at McFarland Park @ 5:30 PM
- Lucky Lion Race – April 19

XVIII. SGA MEMBER OF THE WEEK

- Our SGA Member of the Week is Chairman McCuiston!

XIX. PEP

- Pep to Matthew for his birthday!
- Pep to Chairwoman Winston
- Pep to Senator Hanback!
- Pep to the Flor-Ala!
- Pep to Pride Points!
- Pep to everyone for the resolutions they presented!
- Pep to Senator Gilliland and DIA Saunders!

XX. ADJOURNMENT