



SGA Senate  
Senate Minutes  
29 January 2026

- I. CALL TO ORDER
  - Called to order at 3:30 PM.
- II. ROLL CALL
- III. MOMENT OF SILENCE
- IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- V. PASSING OF AGENDA
  - The agenda passed as presented.
- VI. PASSING OF MINUTES
  - The minutes passed as presented.
- VII. SPECIAL BUSINESS
  - Mayor Ron Tyler speaking to senate
    - He spoke about his journey on how he became mayor.
    - He talked about how he is originally from Huntsville but went to UNA for college.
    - He talked about how he became a law enforcement officer while he was at college at UNA.
    - He was in law enforcement for around 30 years and was the chief of police for 12 years.
    - He wrote an article about how come people with mental health crisis's call the police first before they call anyone else.
    - He had many people tell him and his family he should run for mayor, so he started to think about it.
    - He wanted to be mayor so he could make decisions today so he can have great possible outcomes later.
    - He wants to make Florence attractive, so they are nicer careers locally and people want to start having families here in Florence.
    - He went to Florence Middle School to hear what they had to say about different problems in Florence.

- He talks about how Florence relies on sales tax and that if there is not a lot of sales tax revenue then Florence is not able to support all of the renovations and ideas that Florence people would like to see.
- Secretary Plunkett asks if there are shelters who serve food in Florence, and the mayor says there is some programs, but it has a lot to deal with grant money and staying in GASB standards. He says that they partner with community action who are to help people in need become self-sufficient.
- Treasurer Hanback asks how he handles solving complex problems. He says he does a lot of research in other communities and see how it will best benefit our community.
- Chief of Staff Thomas asks for advice for someone aspiring to run for a public office. He says that it is definitely worth it because you are trying to make a positive impact on your community.
- He says leave a map for people who come behind you and leave a positive impact.
- He says you are going to face a lot of criticism and to do the next right thing.

#### VIII. STUDENT FORUM

- Dr. KC speaks to us about how the mayor was so great to come speak to us.
- Will Driver said that we are doing such a great job.

#### IX. OFFICER REPORTS

- President Rhoades
  - She is still working on the audit, and she will be messaging everyone who worked on the audit.
  - The link to her new scheduling system is in her outlook signature.
  - She is going to working on a resolution to say thank you for all the different departments on campus who helped during the snow.
  - In open discussion she will be going over all the goals that everyone went over in retreat.
  - She emailed Dr. KC White about meeting with her about understanding some of the policies that were discussed during the executive shared governance committee meeting.

- She will be scheduling a meeting with core four and Mr. Matthew.
- She is looking into ordering stolls for past officers for graduation.
- She will be having a homecoming meeting soon to plan for next year.
- Vice-President Ballenger
  - Her and Mr. Matthew will be attending the Florence exchange meeting to gain more information about an exchange club.
  - She got to talk to Josh Bowling who spoke to her about the exchange club.
  - She's had a lot of chair one on one meetings.
  - She has a space reserved for retreat, but she has a meeting with Bear Creek to see about a different option.
- Treasurer Hanback
  - Thank you to Pro Tempore Winston and Chairwoman McDonald for using the p-card.
  - They will be having a constitution compliance meeting soon.
  - 5K planning has been going great. We have sponsors and runners!
  - He is looking at the endowed scholarship selection committee.
- Secretary Plunkett
  - She has been doing her regular duties as secretary.
- Freshman Forum Advisors Ebert and Buford
  - They had a formal meeting this past week and Pro Tempore Winston came to speak to them about Pride Points.
  - Elections and Recruitment came to speak about elections.
  - They have a new Outreach and Philanthropy chair.
- Pro-Tempore Winston
  - She spoke to Freshman Forum about pride points.
  - President Rhoades and Mr. Mather and her spoke about pride points ideas.
  - Valentines' mixer is February 12<sup>th</sup>.
  - There was a lot of positive feedback from her wellness survey.
  - There were over 50% that said they would like to return next year to SGA.
  - She is looking toward the March event, and she is thinking about something outdoors.

- She said pride points will be a week-long series of events that people can get pride points for.
- Her, Mr. Matthew and President Rhoades will have another meeting about Pride Points.
- Chief of Staff Thomas
  - She sent out a message that she has a meeting with athletics about the victory flame.
  - She is planning an international grocery trip soon. She is hoping to have two vans and they will be going to Huntsville. They are planning to go to five different grocery stores.
  - Take What You Need is next week and it should be a great event.
  - The event has been posted to campus groups and please share the graphic.
- Historian Holcomb
  - She will be presenting the newsletter and summary cards today.
  - She is hoping to get the newsletter and summary cards up by February 2<sup>nd</sup>.
  - She will be meeting with Mr. Matthew about getting the documents up.
  - She has been setting everything up for the annual report.
- DIA Byrd
  - Her meeting with Dr. Bishop got rescheduled.
  - She will be meeting with President Rhoades soon.
  - She got her survey questions finished.
- Communications Director Mwaura
  - She thanks everyone who has sent in graphic requests.
  - She got to speak to CPH about the survey answers.

## X. CHAIR REPORTS

- Academic Affairs Chairwoman McMahan
  - They have been emailing with the student success center about their initiative.
  - They have been talking about personal goals.
  - They have been submitting different forms.
  - Senator Powell is making a logo for their initiative.
- Budget Oversight Chairman McCuiston
  - They had four requests this past week.
  - Please continue to reach out to RSOs to submit forms for money requests.
- Elections and Recruitment Chairwoman Vezina

- She wants to remind everyone about the future tabling event and the campaign interest meeting.
- The campaign meeting will be from 4-5 PM.
- Please sign up for the future tabling event.
- She got to speak to Freshman Forum about elections.
- She appreciates Senator Woods and Senator Youngblood on the presentation.
- She says to encourage everyone to run for elections.
- Legislative Affairs Chairwoman McDonald
  - She says they have a city council meeting next week.
  - They have been assigning roles for Higher Ed Day.
  - She had a Higher Ed meeting with higher up people.
  - She says the governor will be speaking at Higher Ed Day.
  - Sweatshirts will be done soon.
  - She got an email about our communications director get a Media Pass.
  - Mr. Matthew will be working on excuses for Higher Ed Day.
  - She has been updating the Code of Laws with the bills.
- Student Welfare Chairwoman Strickland
  - She says her committee has been working on routes for the accessibility walk.
  - She has her one-on-one next week.
- Philanthropy Chairwoman Gaertner
  - She says there are three runners so far.
  - There are eleven sponsors in the works right now.
  - She says to go to Blvd Nutrition spirit day next Tuesday.
  - There is a Slim Chickens spirit night March 2<sup>nd</sup>.
  - She is speaking to different FSL groups about the 5K.
  - She has been updating her teams folder.
  - She has updated the route with arrows on it.

## XI. SHARED GOVERNANCE

- President Rhoades had the shared governance homecoming meeting today for planning next year's homecoming. She says they will be announcing the day of homecoming very soon. She says they will be talking about a possible theme that will cover the new stadium and the bicentennial is coming up. She says let her know if you have themes. They have a work group in place for tailgating ideas. She says parking and ticketing is on the website for football games at the new stadium.

- The undergraduate readmissions committee will be meeting again but Chairwoman McDonald cannot attend.

XII. AD HOC COMMITTEES

- Constitutional compliance
  - Communications Director Mwaura says if you are in this committee to please be checking your email.
  - Communications Director Mwaura says she met with Mr. Matthew about different documents in the Code of Laws focusing on Academic Affairs.
- Alma mater
  - Senator Anthony says they had their first meeting today and that it went well.
  - Senator Anthony says she will be drafting a list on who to contact to help with the alma mater.
  - She also says Chairwoman McDonald will be drafting an email template.

XIII. OLD BUSINESS

- Bill 26-03: Scholarship and Salary Clarification Act
  - This bill is to clarify the scholarship and salaries for paid positions in SGA.
  - Pro Tempore Winston says that the bill looks great!
  - The bill is passed.

XIV. NEW BUSINESS

- There was no new business presented.

XV. OPEN DISCUSSION

- Goals for SGA review
  - President Rhoades goes over the goals for SGA that senate went over at retreat.
  - Our goals that we have decided on is campus facilities and services, outreach and partnerships, transparency and accountability, diversity and inclusion, and student wellbeing and belonging.
  - President Rhoades says that we have done a lot to achieve each of these goals.
- Newsletter and Summary Cards
  - Historian Holcomb went over the February newsletter and summary cards.

XVI. ADVISOR'S REPORT

- He says to update Teams as we go.

- The campus groups co-curricular transcripts.
- He is also working on meeting with people about the branding for campus groups.

XVII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Step Sing – January 29-31<sup>st</sup>
- Sponsorship Day – January 31<sup>st</sup>
- Declaration for candidacy – February 1<sup>st</sup>
- Lagrange Interest Meeting – February 3<sup>rd</sup>
- SGA Spirit Day at Blvd Nutrition – February 3<sup>rd</sup>
- Future Senators Tabling event – February 4<sup>th</sup>
- Campaign Interest meeting – February 4<sup>th</sup>
- Take What You Need event – February 5<sup>th</sup>
- Dr. Ellis speaking to senate – February 5<sup>th</sup>
- Miss UNA – February 7<sup>th</sup>
- Campaigning starts – February 9<sup>th</sup>
- SGA x Freshman Forum Mixer – February 12<sup>th</sup>
- Higher Education Day – February 19<sup>th</sup>
- College of Business Slim Chickens Spirit Night – every Thursday in February

XVIII. SGA MEMBER OF THE WEEK

- There was no SGA member of the week presented.

XIX. PEP

- Pep to Dr Tammy!
- Pep to Mayor Ron Tyler!
- Pep to Step Sing!
- Pep to the newsletter!
- Pep to Sami and his game.
- Pep to Mia!
- Pep to Chairwoman McDonald!
- Pep to Chairwoman Gaertner!

XX. ADJOURNMENT