

Student
Government Association



2024 - 2025
Accomplishments

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STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

Achievements at a Glance:

\$120,998.06

Allocated to Student Organizations

39

Outreach Initiatives

27

Pieces of Legislation Passed

\$4,480.35

Amount Fundraised

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The Students' History:

Notable Award Recipients:



- Miss UNA: Caroline Coleman
- Mr. University: Louis Alcala
- Miss Black and Gold: Venecia Lewis
- Miss Krimson and Kream: Shanya Anderson
- Miracle Man: Garret Statom
- Homecoming Spirit Challenge: Lambda Sigma Phi
- Homecoming Queen: Avery Dumas
- Homecoming King: Will Driver
- Step Sing Winners:
 - Overall: Alpha Gamma Delta
 - Women's Division: Phi Mu
 - Men's Division: Pi Kappa Alpha
- Fraternity Man and Sorority Woman of the Year: Charles Woods and Olivia Oliphant
- Undergraduate Service: Omarie Bartee, Olivia Britton, Madeline Cooper, and Krimsyn Jones
- Hall of Fame: Candice Buford, Kerigan Mardis, Garret Statom and Bricen Tapscott
- University Man and Woman of the Year: Skylar Saunders and Olivia Oliphant
- Lions Cup: Beta Alpha Psi

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The Students' History:

SGA President - Kerigan Mardis:

- Kerigan's involvement in the Student Government Association spans three years. She served in both the Freshman Forum and the Student Senate, holding committee chair positions in each. As SGA President, she actively participated in various campus meetings and served on the Shared Governance Executive Committee. Additionally, Kerigan founded the Parking Ad Hoc Committee and worked extensively to improve the state of parking on campus.



SGA Awards:

- R.L. Potts Hall of Fame: Mia Batchelor and Kerigan Mardis
- Senator of the Year: Matt Hanback
- Freshman Forum Delegate of the Year: Destinee Buford
- W. T. McElheny Award: Matthew Jones
- Philanthropy Award: Mandy McGinnis
- Volunteer Award: Mandy McGinnis
- Spirit of SGA: Nicole Ballenger

Notable Campus Updates:

- New baseball stadium is finished.
- Football stadium is in progress.
- Lagrange Hall is currently under construction.
- Basketball team made it to ASUN Championship.
- Basketball team won ASUN regular season title.
- Men's Tennis won ASUN regular season title.
- Alabama Supreme Court came to campus to hear oral arguments for a case.
- Marching band invited to Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade.

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Allocations to Student Organizations:

\$120,998.06

Allocated to Student
Organizations:

\$19,976.60

Entertainment

\$43,737.07

Social

\$26,121.00

Educational

\$31,163.39

Travel

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SGA Endowed Scholarship:

- SGA was able to raise \$2,104.37 for our endowed scholarship, and we are so happy to announce our winners for this year! We are so excited to award the following students: Autumn Wilson, Lacey Gross, and Madison Little!



The journey to establish this 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.

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Outreach Initiatives:

Hosted Events:

- Letters to Leo's Memorial
- SGA Swag Wagon
- Funded buses to the Cramton Bowl
- Meet Your Senators
- SGA Past Officers Breakfast
- Suicide Prevention Awareness Table
- Voter Registration Event
- Spirit Night Fundraisers for the SGA Endowed Scholarship:
 - Taco Mama, 306 Barbecue, and Voodoo Wings
- Food Truck Fundraisers for Student Counseling Services:
 - Smile Bev Co. and Nashville Hot, Boonas, Cheez Tah Chicks
- Falling for Freshman Forum
- Dreams to Reality Legislative Mixer
- Sweetness of Self-Care
- Stress Management Event



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Outreach Initiatives:

Hosted Events:

- Hot Cocoa and Candy Canes Finals Event sponsored by Academic Affairs and Student Welfare
- Shopping with SGA for International Students
- First Day of Class Welcome Back Tables
- SGA Interest Meeting
- Strike Out Bowling sponsored by Student Welfare
- Groceries and Galaxies sponsored by the Student Welfare Committee
- Coffee with the Candidates
- Tie-Dye the Stress Away sponsored by Academic Affairs
- Paint and Process sponsored by Student Counseling Services
- Official Candidate Debate
- Stock Up sponsored by Student Welfare
- Fun in the Sun sponsored by Student Welfare
- Student Ticket and Transportation Giveaway for ASUN

Championship Game



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Outreach Initiatives:

Supported Events:

- Homecoming Events
- The Big Deal
- Kilby Kids Halloween in the GUC
- The Lucky Dip
- UNA Family Weekend
- Paint the Paws
- Send Silence Packing
- Light the Fountain



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Items of Note:

Attended Events:

- Higher Education Partnership's SLUAC Conference, Destin, FL 8/5/24-8/7/24
- College Colors Day, Montgomery, AL 8/21/24



Trainings:

- Inclusivity and Leadership Training with Dr. Andrea Hunt at SGA Retreat in August. This training focused on the importance of representing and understanding all students.
- Educational Training at SGA Retreat led by SGA Officers. This training was intended to educate senators on organizational processes, procedures, and prepare them for the year.
- Executive Council and Committee Chairs in July. These trainings outlined position duties and helped the individuals set their goals for the year.

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Higher Education Day:



On February 20, 2025, the Student Government Association was invited to go to Montgomery, Alabama to encourage the decision makers in Alabama to support and help fund public universities all over the state. We had the privilege of attending and hearing from legislators all over the state as well as getting to represent the University of North Alabama. This event was organized by Chairwoman Victoria and the Legislative Affairs Committee.

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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 second year back since our break in 2019. UNA SGA was pleased to win the Speaker's Cup Award for the second year in a row. Other outstanding awards include: UNA's delegate of the conference given to Abigail Kusz, best bill for the house written by Nicole Ballenger and Abigail Kusz, and Most Outstanding Statesman of the Senate given to Eleanor Fitz.

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Legislation Passed:

Code of Laws:

- Bill 24-15: Funding Falling for Freshman Forum
 - Purpose is to fund a bonding event with Freshman Forum on September 26, 2024.
- Bill 24-16: Medici Oversight Accord Act
 - Purpose is to allow members of the Budget Oversight Committee to take part in and benefit from events funded by the Student Activity Fee contingent on the approval of the SGA President and Vice President.
- Bill 24-17: City Council Involvement Act
 - Purpose is to amend Chapter 605 Section 2, which refers to the Shoals Chamber of Commerce as an important contact within legislative affairs committee. This bill names the Florence City Council as the main city administration contact.
- Bill 24-18: Mandatory Training Removal Act
 - Purpose is to remove sections from Chapter 3000 in the Code of Laws that mandate DEI Trainings for the SGA Senate and Executive Branch. This change was made to comply with newly passed state legislation.
- Bill 24-19: The Trainings Removal Act
 - Purpose of this bill is to take out sections in Chapter 200, in order to make mandatory trainings no longer required, but still encourage.

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Legislation Passed:

Code of Laws:

- Bill 24-20: Funding Friendsgiving:
 - Purpose is to fund items for a function to celebrate thanksgiving and encourage internal bonding among SGA.
- Bill 24-21: Dreams to Reality Tour Hors d'oeuvres Act
 - Purpose is to distribute funding from the miscellaneous budge to purchase a variety of hors d'oeuvres from Chartwells Dining to host Alabama legislators, SGA Senate, UNA faculty, and the Florence City Council.
- Bill 24-22: Budget Oversight Composition Act
 - Purpose of this bill is to establish a definite number of members that compose the Budget Oversight Committee.
- Bill 25-01: Funding Winter Retreat/Lock-in
 - The purpose of this bill is to fun some items for the SGA winter retreat/lock-in.
- Bill 25-02: Funding SGA x Freshman Forum Valentines Day Party
 - The purpose of this bill is to fund some items for the SGA x Freshman Forum Valentines Party.
- Bill 25-03: Inter-President Council Disassembly Act
 - The purpose of this bill is to strike Title VIII, the Inter-President Council, from the Code of Laws, seeing as it has not been utilized following COVID-19, and the Student Government Association has focused its efforts on comparable endeavors.

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

Legislation Passed:

Code of Laws:

- **Bill 25-04: Mandatory Event Clarification Bill**
 - The purpose of this bill is to remove the Code of Laws Chapter 3000, Section 1 as it is redundant to Chapter 200 of the Code of Laws. This bill will also amend Chapter 200 to clarify that only SGA Legislative and Executive branch members are required to attend SGA's mandatory events.
- **Bill 25-06: Elections and Recruitment Elections Manual Bill**
 - The purpose of this bill is to amend section 601.2 of the Code of Laws to establish clear guidelines for the committee's role in following and editing the Elections manual.
- **Bill 25-07: Historian Duties and Obligations Act**
 - The purpose of this bill is to amend Chapter 2000 of the Code of Laws pertaining to the position of the duties and obligations tasked to the SGA Historian
- **Bill 25-08: Philanthropy Committee Foundation Act**
 - The purpose of this bill is to establish a Philanthropy Committee.
- **Bill 25-09: SGA Communications Team Enhancement Act**
 - The purpose of this bill is to amend Chapter 1000.1 of the Code of Laws to enhance the Communications Director's team with the addition of the SGA Historian.
- **Bill 25-10: Funding SGA End of the Year Cookout**
 - The purpose of this bill is to fund items for the SGA end of the year event following senate on April 17th.

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Legislation Passed:

Code of Laws:

- Bill 25-13: Freshman Forum Spring Social T-Shirt Funding
 - The purpose of this bill is to allocate funding from the Miscellaneous line item for the Freshman Forum Spring Social t-shirts to be held on April 14, 2025.
- Bill 25-14: Student Activities Distribution of Funds for Campus Groups and Feeding the Pride Management Software Update Act.
- Bill 25-15: Clarification of Dual Branch Senators Act
 - The purpose is to clarify that the Pro-Tempore and Senate Freshman Forum Advisor do not have to serve on standing committees.
- Bill 25-16: DIA Duties Act
 - The purpose is to better define the duties of the DIA.

Constitutional Amendments:

- Bill 25-01: Judicial Appointment Amendment
 - The purpose of this bill is to amend Article V, Section 2, G of the Constitution, which refers to the Justices being appointed two weeks before elections.
- Bill 25-02: DIA Duties Amendment
 - The purpose of this bill is to add to Article VI, Section 7 of the constitution in order to better define the position of the Diversity and Inclusion Advocate.

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Legislation Passed:

Resolutions:

- Resolution 24-02
 - To honor Roy S. Stevens on his 100th Birthday for his contributions to UNA.
- Resolution 25-01
 - A resolution advocating for the expansion of campus parking facilities.
- Resolution 25-02
 - A resolution asking for a slight increase in the Student Activity Fee and reallocation the appropriations in a manner that best serve students needs.
- Resolution 25-03
 - A resolution reporting to administration the student referendum vote regarding a \$50 parking fee, which students voted against implementing.



STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

Elections for 2025-2026:

Total Votes:

- 576 Students Voted

Anderson College of Nursing and Health Professions:

- Number of Votes:
 - 59 votes
- 4 candidates for 4 available senate seats

College of Education and Human Sciences:

- Number of Votes:
 - 104 votes
- 4 candidates for 5 available senate seats

Sanders College of Business and Technology:

- Number of Votes:
 - 160 votes
- 12 candidates for 8 senate seats

College of Arts, Science, and Engineering:

- Number of Votes:
 - 253 votes
- 10 candidates for 8 senate seats

Officers:

- The candidates for President, Vice-President, Treasurer, and Secretary all ran unopposed.

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UNA Student Government:

Executive Council:

- President: Kerigan Mardis
- Vice-President: Mandy McGinnis
- Treasurer: Mia Batchelor
- Secretary: Abigail Kusz
- Pro Tempore: Eleanor Fitz
- Chief of Staff: Olivia Britton
- Diversity and Inclusion Advocate: Skyler Saunders
- Communications Director: Thea Sommer
- Historian: Kinsey Plunkett
- Freshman Forum Advisors: Nicole Ballenger and Grace Anthony



Student Court:

- Chief Justice: Rebekah Callahan
- Justice: Averie Yeager
- Justice: Ivie Scott
- Justice: Nick Wilder
- Justice: Kaylee Elliot



STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

UNA Student Government:

Legislative Branch:

- Academic Affairs:
 - Chair: Jada Winston
 - Hollie Hardin
 - Damari Moore
 - Grayson Murray
 - Anna Gottman
- Student Welfare:
 - Chair: Gracyn Thomas
 - Alanis Armstead
 - Carmel Kalombo
 - Mackenzie Mwaura
 - Erica Strickland
 - Morgan Vincent
- Legislative Affairs:
 - Chair: Victoria Hamilton
 - Mallory Ebert
 - Sydney Kate Ervin
 - Micheal Gilliland
 - Meadow McDonald
 - Ellie Vezina
- Elections and Recruitment:
 - Chair: Alex Rhoades
 - Amelia Joyner
 - Bailey Luna
 - Nataly Serrano
 - Bailee Strait
- Budget Oversight:
 - Chair: Ian McCuiston
 - Carina Estrada
 - Matt Hanback
 - Ryan Huffman
 - Caroline White



STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

Freshman Forum:

Executive:

- SGA Advisor: Nicole Ballenger
- SGA Advisor: Grace Anthony
- Executive Chair: Kennedy Key
- Clerk: Destinee Buford

Public Relations:

- Chair: Maddie Clark
- Ava Dockery
- Johannah Harris
- Raya Leonard
- Dan Price

Student Welfare:

- Chair: Case Johnson
- McKenna Crisler
- Gillian Holcombe
- Brody McCluskey
- Allie Patrick
- Susie Williams
- Payton Woods

Social:

- Chair: Ava Byrd
- Clara Ashley
- Hannah Callahan
- Kenzie Dutton
- Kenslee Pennington
- Shaylee Terry
- Noah Ray

Service:

- Chair: Jesiann Myers
- Garet Redding
- Georganna Atkins
- Nick Busbin
- Lauren Doty
- Bryson Looney
- Heaven Puryear

Outreach and Philanthropy:

- Chair: Savannah Gaertner
- Christian Daniel
- Morgan Gervais
- Cadence Key
- Lily Kyle
- Anna Claire Norton
- Bethany Taylor

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Freshman Forum:

Bills:

- Greatful Pumpkins Funding Act
- Christmas Card Funding Act
- Sweeten the Stress Act
- Warm the Heart Funding Act
- Service Committee Earth Day
- Spectacular Act
- Freshman Farewell Event Act



Events:

- Freshman Forum
- Halloween Party
- Sweeten the Stress Event
- Grateful Pumpkins Event
- Christmas Card Drive
- Freshman Forum Christmas Party
- Warm the Heart Event
- Pause for Paws Event
- Spring Social Event
- Earth Day Service Spectacular
- Freshmen Farewell Event



STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

Student Government Association:



We, the students of the University of North Alabama, in order to take a responsible part in the decision making process 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 be 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