The University of North Alabama

Student Government Association

Senate Minutes

October 15th, 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

- Moved to add "Senate Rules Test Results" to Special Business. Agenda passed as amended.

VI. PASSING OF MINUTES

- Minutes passed as presented.

VII. SPECIAL BUSINESS

- Dr. Price speaking to Senate.
  - Introduces himself and says that he helps students find opportunities outside of UNA. He says he is there to help students reach their full potential.
  - He introduces the Fullbright U.S. Student Program and says that this scholarship can pay for a year living abroad for a year.
  - He introduces the Truman scholarship, which can help with law school, and higher education for students.
  - He tells SGA that what they do opens doors and it is worth hearing about opportunities. He asks SGA members to have a thirty-minute conversation with him.
- Mr. Matthew speaking about Alternate Breaks
  - Mr. Matthew introduces Alternative Breaks and talks about the upcoming trip to New Orleans in March. The trip is March 22-27, during spring break.
  - Students will need to apply and also interview.
  - The trip will allow students to help with disaster relief, and do community-based service.

- Applications are open now!
- Mr. Matthew explains that students will have to raise money to go on this trip. Mr. Matthew will help out a little bit, but students will also have opportunities to raise their own money.
- Mr. Matthew shows the application form and answers SGA's questions.

- Senate Rules Test Results
  - All three senators passed the test!

VIII. STUDENT FORUM

- Students say that they are very excited to watch SGA this week.

IX. OFFICER REPORTS

- President Hanback
  - Expresses sadness about Guillermo no longer being a part of Dancing with the Stars.
  - Reception for the Office of First Year Retention is coming up at the end of the month.
  - Been holding one-on-ones with the executive council.
  - Has been talking with Mr. Matthew to maybe add a question to the Homecoming Ballot about how to get students to stay during the whole football game.
  - Talking to Megan Dye about this issue and trying to get feedback to students.
  - Starting to plan the SGA 5K.
- Vice President McDonald
  - She voted on Monday and encourages SGA to as well.
  - Had a one-on-one with President Hanback.
  - Wrote a bill this week.
  - She tells senate that her bookings page has been weird so schedule a meeting with her during her office hours.
- Treasurer Woods
  - Let him know asap.
- Secretary McMahan
  - Had a meeting with Mr. Matthew to plan all things Past Officers' Breakfast. Have almost 60 guests coming.
  - Has a sign-up sheet for the event.
  - Meeting with Mr. Matthew and Laura Beasley on Monday to go through final plans.
  - Shoutout to Mr. Matthew for all his help!
  - Will have a QR code for question of the day suggestions.
- Freshman Forum Advisors Lachowicz and Chauncey
  - Working on the Freshman Forum banner this week.
  - Worked with Secretary McMahan to order a nametags and the gavel.

- Pie a Delegate is coming up along with some other Freshman Forum events.
- Pro-Tempore Ebert
  - Internal events are being paused due to homecoming.
  - Homecoming is next week so make sure you show up and show out!
  - Will be letting people know where the float location is soon.
  - Appreciates everyone's help and is so excited!
  - Swag Wagon ends on Friday.
- Chief of Staff Vezina
  - Spoke to Freshman Forum on Wednesday.
  - Talked with Chairwoman Staggs about maybe taking international students to SkyZone for a fun time off campus.
  - Submitting a media request form soon.
- Historian Whisnant
  - Has been collecting information for next month's newsletters.
  - Had a one-on-one with President Hanback.
  - Is starting to look into a new project.
- DIA Winston
  - Pride Points is over, so still getting data.
  - Meeting with Student Welfare next week.
  - Happy homecoming week!
- Communications Director Holcomb
  - Had one-on-one with President Hanback this week.
  - Starting to Live stream senate meetings.
  - Meeting with President Hanback at 9am on Friday about Code of Laws changing, etc.
  - Drafting an email to Megan Dye about key chains and new designs.
  - Working on getting more things ordered for SGA.
  - Shoutout Swag Wagon!
  - Helping Chairwoman Zaharko about homecoming tabling things.
  - Working on media requests.

X. CHAIR REPORTS

- Academic Affairs Chairwoman Powell
  - Waiting on new Lions Love Learning stickers.
- Budget Oversight Chairman Huffman
  - Had two requests. Both were approved. Fall budget is ending next Friday, so Spring requests are about to be put in.
- Elections and Recruitment Chairwoman Zaharko
  - Homecoming elections are going great!
  - Met with new senator Sandeep and it went very well.
  - Asks Senate to share feedback.

- About to go through the elections manual to go through the Elections Manual.
- Legislative Affairs Chairman Douglas
  - Dreams to Reality is less than a month away! Put it on your calendar.
  - Beginning to plan Higher Education Day.
  - Next Tuesday is the last day to register to vote in Alabama. If any senator has any questions about elections, let Chairman Douglas know!
- Philanthropy Chairwoman Gaertner
  - Three people signed up for the Side Hustle.
  - Tees and Totes are still live!
  - Donut NV are coming to campus on October 26th.
- Student Welfare Chairwoman Staggs
  - Kicking Off Kindness event is going to be in November.
  - Presenting a sign-up sheet later for that event.
  - Still trying to get in touch with Housing.

XI. SHARED GOVERNANCE

- Secretary McMahan reported that the Food Safety Committee is meeting next week.

XII. AD HOC COMMITTEES

- Appleby Safety Committee
  - Reaching out to the sororities to talk over the changes coming to Appleby.
- Homecoming Committee
  - Met last Monday and started working on the Skit. There will be another Skit practice on Thursday.
- Academic Honesty Committee
  - President Hanback explains that in response to Dr. Johnson's recommendation, he is forming a new Ad Hoc committee that will be led and chaired by Senator Turner. The committee will look deeper into what Dr. Johnson needs about the Academic Honesty Policy.

XIII. OLD BUSINESS

- Bill 26-46: Original Rules Test Revision
  - Chairwoman Staggs moves to vote on this bill.
  - Chairwoman Gaertner seconds.
  - Division is heard.
  - Chairman Huffman inquires what is going on.
  - Chairman Douglas moves to table the bill.
  - The bill is tabled.
- Bill 26-47: Senate Rules Test Revision
  - The bill is tabled.
- Bill 26-48: Judicial Rules Test Revision
  - The bill is tabled.

XIV. NEW BUSINESS

- Bill 26-55: Fall Outreach Funding
  - Freshman Forum Advisor Chauncey explains that this bill is for Kilby's Fall Festival and the Haunted GUC.
  - Chairman Huffman moves to vote on the bill.
  - Senator McGee seconds the motion.
  - Bill is passed as presented.

XV. OPEN DISCUSSION

- Kicking Off Kindness Sign-Up Sheet
  - SGA signed up to help with this event.
- Accessibility Project Sign-Up Sheet
  - SGA signed up to help with this event.
- Homecoming Tabling Event Sign-Up Sheet
  - SGA signed up to help with this event.
- SGA Question of the Day Form
  - SGA scanned the QR code.
- Past Officers' Breakfast Sign-Up Sheet
  - SGA signed up to help with the Past Officers' Breakfast.
- Light the Fountain Sponsorship
  - President Hanback explains that Dr. Tammy asked SGA to help sponsor Light the Fountain. Dr. Tammy needs about $10,000 this year, and then next year she asked if SGA could set aside money for Light the Fountain every year.
  - Mr. Matthew explains that any money that Budget Oversight does not give out, the money can be used for other things on campus. SGA was thinking of using the roll over money for Light the Fountain.
  - Mr. Matthew explains that in the past, SGA did a survey of which activity fees were actually used and if SGA needed to change the rates. Mr. Matthew asks that SGA reexamines the rates to include Light the Fountain in the future.
  - Vice President McDonald says that SGA would not be the only group sponsoring Light the Fountain.
  - Senator Turner asks if this is increasing the budget for Light the Fountain.
  - Mr. Matthew says that it is keeping the budget the same. Vice President McDonald agrees.
  - DIA Winston says that Dr. Tammy would allow SGA to use their name and logo if they sponsored Light the Fountain.
  - Senator Turner asks what SGA's sponsorship look like.
  - Mr. Matthew says that SGA would get to decide how involved they would be.
  - Secretary McMahan encourages SGA to look at this in detail and really hopes SGA considers helping Dr. Tammy out.
- Admissions and Student Preparedness Policy Review

- President Hanback explains that SGA needs to review the new work group that is looking at the test-optional requirement at UNA for incoming students.
- Michael Gilliand served on this group and it has been a big project.
- The work group wants enrollment stability and President Hanback needs senate's approval.
- Senate approves and President Hanback says he will send out the report to review.

- AI Literacy Work Group
  - Senator Shipp explains that he was appointed by President Hanback to help people be more literate in AI in the new Work Group.
  - Senator Shipp explains that his role is to get consensus from SGA and other students to give their input on AI. Senator Shipp wants inputs from SGA.

XVI. ADVISOR'S REPORT

- Mr. Mathew says that the constitutional amendment bills passed.
- Mr. Matthew says that October is a slump month so it is okay if you're tired or stressed. He encourages SGA to take care of themselves and each other.
- "If you stay organized, you don't have to get organized" – so stay organized in Teams!
- Happy Homecoming Eve! Have fun and make sure to support SGA!
- The library archives have put all the Flor Ala's articles online to be easier to access.
- He reminds senate if they need anything, like a resume, or interview prep, let him know!

XVII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Homecoming Court Elections Rd 2 – October 19th-21st
- Swag Wagon – October 12-16th
- Battle of the Bands – October 15th, 6pm in Norton Auditorium
- UNA Home Football Game – October 17th
- Homecoming Spirit Challenge – October 19th-23rd
- UNA Homecoming – October 24th
- Pie a Delegate– October 28th: 12-3pm
- Dr. Ellis Speaking to Senate – October 29th
- Kicking Off Kindness – November 9th, 9-11am

XVIII. SGA MEMBER OF THE WEEK

- Is Carson Douglas!

XIX. PEP

- Pep to everyone!
- Pep to Mia!
- Pep to Swag Wagon!
- Pep to our new senators!
- Pep to Gilly!
- Pep to Sophia!

- Pep to ending pep and adjourning!

XX. ADJOURNMENT