



SGA Senate
Senate Minutes
8 January 2026

- I. CALL TO ORDER
 - Called to order at 3:31 PM.
- II. ROLL CALL
- III. MOMENT OF SILENCE
- IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- V. PASSING OF AGENDA
 - Voting in of new senators was added to the agenda and then the agenda was passed.
- VI. PASSING OF MINUTES
 - The minutes were passed as presented.
- VII. SPECIAL BUSINESS
 - Voting in of new senators
 - Anne Youngblood
 - She is a clinical psychology major, and she loves being involved. She wants to give back to UNA.
 - Christian Miller
 - He is an IT major, and he wants to better UNA.
 - Both senators were approved.
 - Chief Kusz will swear them in next week.
- VIII. STUDENT FORUM
 - Nothing was said during student forum.
- IX. OFFICER REPORTS
 - President Rhoades
 - She gave a couple of general reminders such as, dress code, nametag, and to remain unbiased.
 - She attended interviews for the new senators and chairs.
 - She is putting together the information from the audit.
 - She will be putting together a resolution for that soon.

- She will be sending a couple of graphic request forms for different things.
 - She also sent out an email about training of new senators.
 - She says they were not able to move commencement yet, but they did put the issue out there and they are working on a ticket transfer.
- Vice-President Ballenger
 - She got to train the new chairs this past week.
 - She had paper chairs this week.
 - She's starting to plan for retreat next year.
- Treasurer Hanback
 - He has updated the budget.
 - He has sent out emails to people who oversee different areas of the budget.
 - He is looking forward to 5K planning.
 - He will be checking the inventory of the storage room and the cabinets in the chambers.
 - He got supplies for the "Take What You Need" event.
- Secretary Plunkett
 - She has been doing her normal duties.
 - She went over the absence policy and talked about the difference between three absences and four absences.
- Freshman Forum Advisors Ebert and Buford
 - They had a committee meeting yesterday.
 - They got an updated budget from Treasurer Hanback.
 - They want to say thanks to Chairwoman McDonald and Senator Anthony for their Robert's Rules presentation.
- Pro-Tempore Winston
 - She wants to do a game night in late January.
 - She will be doing a Valentines Freshman Forum and SGA mixer.
 - She will be working on pride points and finalizing a week for that.
 - She wants to give more resources to the food pantry.
- Chief of Staff Thomas
 - She has a meeting coming up with Cindy Conlon and Kendra White with facilities about the victory flame.
 - We could not host the "Take What You Need" event and she wants to host that soon.
- Historian Holcomb

- She updated teams today and is getting ready for next semester.
- If you have an event, bring the summary cards.
- DIA Byrd
 - She is finishing up survey questions that she will be presenting soon.
 - She is drafting an email to Dr. Ellis to speak soon.
 - Brainstorming ideas for a spring event.
- Communications Director Mwaura
 - She is looking at doing to food drive in February.
 - She finished up the CPH survey and had almost 200 responses.
 - She's had people send graphic requests.
 - She will be meeting with the new senators soon for headshots.
 - She will be sending emails about gluten free options.
 - She wants to do a hype video for Higher Ed Day.

X. CHAIR REPORTS

- Academic Affairs Chairwoman McMahan
 - She met with Vice President Ballenger about initiatives.
 - Senator Powell is working on a video they will be posting soon.
 - She is hoping to send emails about parting with different resources on campus.
- Budget Oversight Chairman McCuiston
 - They will have their first meeting next week and go over requests.
 - They will be going over the budget manual.
- Elections and Recruitment Chairwoman Vezina
 - They got to sit in on interviews.
 - The committee met and talked about ideas.
 - She is looking at the first week of February for the first campaign interest meeting.
 - She says you will have to run for elections again if you would like to run and you have to attend the interest meeting to run.
- Legislative Affairs Chairwoman McDonald
 - Higher Ed day sweatshirts and signs are ordered.
 - She went to the City Council meeting and the city has changed their budget for the year.
 - She reached out to the mayor's executive assistant about the mayor speaking on the 29th.
- Student Welfare Chairwoman Strickland

- She reached out to committee about meeting times.
- Her committee will be working on accessibility.
- Philanthropy Chairman Moore
 - They will be meeting tonight about the ending of crews and brews and the start of the 5K.
 - He has been brainstorming for the 5K.
 - He is planning on closing crews and brews next week.

XI. SHARED GOVERNANCE

- Treasurer Hanback says he's on the facilities and infrastructure committee and they never reached out to him.
- Chairwoman McDonald is on the undergrad and readmissions committee, and they had one appeal to be readmitted and they interviewed and readmitted them.
- President Rhoades attended the Light the Fountain meeting, and they went over the t-shirt design, lapel pins that are in. She asked for an unofficial vote for who would be interested in getting face tattoos and half of senate would be excited.
- Food service committee met, and they went over the January newsletter. They sent out a survey about new restaurants on campus and they are hoping to get all of that data collected and went over. Starbucks will have caramel protein drinks now. They will be having a healthy service circle with different healthy ideas. They will be having weekly pop ups in mane market. They are doing different tastings and discounts for transact mobile. There is a Meet the Dietician event on campus on January 15th. Senator Anthony will be taking Communication Director Mwaura's spot in the food service committee.

XII. AD HOC COMMITTEES

- Student Transportation
 - President Rhoades and Vice President Ballenger talked about discontinuing this committee because there are no new projects.
 - The gem cart has been sent back and says that there is nothing wrong with the cart even with his low battery.
 - President Rhoades is going to meet with officer Kirby about if it is working okay.
- Constitutional compliance
 - Constitution compliance will be going through the documents and practices that we have and see if we are all in compliance.

XIII. OLD BUSINESS

- There was no old business presented.
- XIV. NEW BUSINESS
 - There was no new business presented.
- XV. OPEN DISCUSSION
 - Alma Mater
 - It was an administration decision of not singing the alma mater because of wording. We do play the tune of it.
 - Chairwoman McMahan says that it would be controversial to sing it since it has not been sung but suggested changing it.
 - The discussion was tabled.
- XVI. ADVISOR'S REPORT
 - He has been updating the website.
 - He says last semester was really good academically.
 - He says Olivia Oliphant is the new UPC Advisor.
- XVII. ANNOUNCEMENTS
 - Swearing in of new senators – January 15th
 - Mayor Ron Tyler speaking to senate – January 29th
 - Higher Education Day – February 19th
- XVIII. SGA MEMBER OF THE WEEK
 - Madilyn Hanback won SGA member of the week!
- XIX. PEP
 - Pep to new senators!
 - Pep to new year!
 - Pep to Mr. Matthew's sea legs!
 - Pep to core four and elections!
 - Pep to Senator Hanback!
 - Pep to Treasurer Hanback!
 - Pep to Secretary Plunkett!
 - Pep to chairs!
 - Pep to Dan!
 - Pep to Chairwoman McDonald and Senator Call for getting engaged!
 - Pep to Senator Anthony!
 - Pep to Chairwoman McDonald!
- XX. ADJOURNMENT