



Regular Meeting Agenda
May 31, 2023
10:00 am
Wingo 315

Senators Absent:

Alison Taylor, Courtney Bryant, Danielle Kraus, Jennifer Day, Jennifer Olson, Michael Hopper, Natalie Shock, Paige Dutton, Richard Hammond, Ricky Harris, Tajaro Hudson

Senators Present:

Angela Jackson, Audreka Peten, Carlos Herrera, Christy Dade, Elizabeth Gayfield, Eric Fulton, J.W. Calvery, Jennifer Ruud, Jessica Taylor, Lynetta Morris, Melanie Watson, Myron Kuykendall, Nadia Eslinger, Robby Burton, Robyn Smith, Sherita Kern, Tina Wells, Travis Johnson, Veneta Fricks, Whit Ables

I. Call to Order

A. President Herrera called the meeting to order at 10:02 am.

II. Approval of the Minutes from previous meeting

A. 05/10/23 meeting minutes approved via email.

III. Guest Speakers

A. None.

IV. Officer Reports

A. President, Carlos Herrera

1. 05/25/23 UCA Board meeting items: Annual end of year report for Senate, camps approval, provisional positions approval, tuition/fees increase and the operations budget for next fiscal year.
2. If you haven't already, please complete the polls that were sent out for retreat food vendor, polo sizes, senate awards and committee interest.
3. RFP committees will meet for bookstore and drink vendor contract bids.

B. Vice President, Jennifer Ruud

1. Shout out to Whit Ables for coordinating the 2023/2024 committee assignments, great job!

C. Treasurer, Angela Jackson

1. No report.

D. Secretary, Christy Dade

1. No report.

E. Parliamentarian/Historian, Melanie Watson

1. No report.

F. Ex Officio, Nadia Eslinger

1. No report.

V. Senate Committee Reports

A. Courtesy

1. Three cards to be sent out.

B. Professional Development

1. Will meet soon to review applications for Quarter 1 funding. There is \$8,000 per semester available to award.

C. Employee Recognition

1. EOY met and it has been decided that for the EOY this year, we will still have one classified and one non-classified winner. Next year there will only be one (as everyone will be moved to non-classified beginning 07/01/23. Nominations will open tomorrow. Nominate your colleague here: [EOY Nomination](#)

- D. The food truck festival will be an ongoing event each semester and we should probably create a new committee for it. This will need to go to the Committee on Committees. Will be considering charging the vendors a fee to offset some of the costs related to the festival. Looking into trying to recruit local banks to come and offer a free grill so everyone can participate in the festival regardless of ability to pay. The next festival dates are scheduled for October 27, 2023 and April 19, 2024.

VI. University Committee Reports

A. Retirement

1. Committee met and discussed the TIAA CREF fund investments evaluation.

B. Veterans

1. Music is being coordinated at this time.

VII. Constituent Concerns

A. COLA/Salary Compression

Question: I just saw on the Board of Trustees Agenda that UCA is asking for the minimum wage for all full-time staff to be raised to \$13 per hour. That's great, but it also means that my salary as an Admin III with 15 years of service will be only about \$1000 more per year than the salary of an Admin II with 6 months of service. Do you know if there's any kind of plan in the works to at least attempt to offset that salary compression?

Answer from President Herrera: This is a huge win for sure for our employees and a step in the right direction. This will be a great task for the Compensation Committee to further look into next year.

VIII. Old Business

A. On June 9th, a poll will be sent out to campus to vote to approve the proposed Staff Senate President stipend. Deadline to vote will be June 13th. It will need a majority approval vote from those who participate in the voting process.

IX. New Business

A. None.

X. Good and Welfare

A. The offices of the Registrar, Advising, Outreach and Financial Aid have open positions, to apply visit the [Human Resources career webpage](#)

B. Senator Eslinger is pleased to announce that 168 students will be participating in Bear Life this fall.

C. Senator Fulton won a contest at first pitch at the UCA softball game.

D. Starting on Monday, June 5th, Summer hours are now in effect at the library.

E. Reminder about the sendoff today for Jada Simpson heading to the Miss Arkansas pageant.

F. Senator Smith would like to remind staff/faculty that any videos that are posted on a UCA website need to be captioned correctly. All documents need to be accessible as well. They have a Captioning program available and if you would like assistance with updating your website, please contact her. This is VERY IMPORTANT to be in compliance.

G. Remember that Monday, July 3rd is a remote day, if your position/office is able to participate.

XI. Adjournment

A. Motion to adjourn at 10:31 by Senator Watson, seconded by Senator Fricks.