



**Regular Meeting Agenda
March 12, 2025
10:00am
Wingo 315**

Senators Absent: 3
Senators Present: 28
Ex-officio: Present

I. Call to Order

- A. President Ables called the meeting to order at 10:00 am.

II. Approval of the Minutes

- A. Will be sent for approval and then posted to Inform/website.

III. Guest Speakers

- A. None

IV. Officer Reports

A. President Ables

1. Board meeting updates
 - a) Property acquisition on Farris
 - b) Proposed 5% increase to room and board
 - (1) It's gonna be used for maintenance repairs and upgrades in housing.
 - c) Upcoming Events: Next week we have campus talk, during X period. Please attend if you're able. Also we have Wine and Cheese the same day in the sky box, 4:30 pm- 6:30 pm.

B. Vice President Fricks

1. Thank you for submitting committee reports and operations manual for 25-26 has gone out to committee chairs
2. Staff Senator election nominations are out
 - a) Everyone will vote one time

C. Treasurer Watson

1. No report

D. Secretary Kern

1. Minute clarification

E. Parliamentarian/Historian, Travis Johnson

1. No report

F. Ex Officio Ruud

1. Employee recognition and staff appreciation week, my director, Leigh Ann DenHartog, on April 14th, will be hosting a podcast where you can appreciate a fellow staff member at UCA and come talk about them on the podcast. You will have to sign up to have a short slot. So if there's someone you know that you want to tell them how much you appreciate them, that email to sign up will be going out to staff next week. So look for that.

V. Senate Committee Reports

A. Professional Development Committee

1. Met to discuss and award funds for Q4 professional development opportunities. Eight Q4 applications were submitted for review. The committee voted to award seven out of the eight applicants. Awarded funds totaled to \$9417.34. Total funds awarded for the 2024-25 fiscal year was \$32,045.

B. Staff Grants Committee

1. Upcoming meeting

C. Spring Social Committee

1. Trying to decide between fish or bbq; vendor, Vincent's BBQ, will see if they can accommodate both. Location is outside, but we are securing a rain location. Encourage f/s to come out on 04.25

D. Courtesy Committee

1. 2 cards

VI. University Committee Reports

A. Vector Training Planning Committee

1. Trainings have been selected for upcoming year; trying to avoid repeating the same material in the same way every year and to be more engaging
2. There is a test out option; if you are remotely interested in testing out, try to test out first.. If you start the module, you can't go back to test out

B. Strategic Planning Committee

1. Meeting with EAB rep to facilitate conversations and focus in on what the actual strategic plan will look like and establishing what UCA's identity is.
2. Complete the strategic planning survey sent via email by the Provost office.
 - a) Incentive: you can be entered into a drawing if the survey is taken within the first 48 hours

C. Academic Integrity and Discipline Committee

1. 1 decision made

D. Diversity Advisory Committee

1. The meeting opened with a presentation from Wendy Holbrook about the UCA Bear Essentials Food Pantry and the impact it has on the campus. Arkansas ranks number one in food insecurity and amongst the top ten of poorest states in the nation. The pantry typically sees over 100 shoppers a week, and is supported through student volunteers and donations from across the campus community. Staff Senate was mentioned as one of the campus partners who helps to facilitate food drives at many of our campus events (Winter Feast, Spring Social, etc.)
2. We went over the Diversity Strategic Plan Report for the previous decade. Nothing specific to report.
3. New Business: Requesting Committee Dissolvement: 1. Immigrant Experience at UCA & 2. Strategies Targeting Academic Representation (STAR). Both of the functions of these committees are being duplicated by VECTOR training. Motion was passed.

E. Parking & Traffic Committee

1. Three appeals were heard. One was changed to a warning. The other two were denied.

VII. Constituent Concerns/Communication

A. Custodial Contracts being outsourced; constituent feels it is purposeful to not hire full-time UCA custodians

1. UCA began using external vendors for some buildings in 2023. UCA still

advertises and hires for custodial positions through HR. Turnover and hiring are an ongoing challenge. Health insurance and other costs associated are not a factor in using external vendors. They use external vendors to fill in gaps to ensure all buildings are adequately staffed. If there are any questions with the concern of the level of service on a building please contact Kevin Carter.

VIII. Old Business

A. None

IX. New Business

A. None

X. Good and Welfare

- A. Senator Smith- OARS needs to hire three student workers to do captioning for videos for departments on campus. Requires pretty good reading skills and spelling skills. We can train them if they know how to use a computer. So if you know anybody that would be a good fit, we really need them 20 hours a week. They're gonna be trained for the rest of this semester by my current student worker. So if you know anybody that would be a great candidate, please encourage them to apply.
- B. Senator Goins- Day of Giving: the community care clinic is also taking donations as are several of your areas on campus. However, we have a donor who will do a match for us. So if you have extra money and you would like to contribute to the community care clinic for Day of Giving, please do that. And also remember that that is an external clinic that serves our population.
- C. Senator Taylor- So we have home tennis this Friday at the Conway Tennis Center. Our women's basketball team is in the championship game against Florida Gulf Coast on Saturday in Florida. So if you don't have anything going on at 1:00 PM on Saturday, you can watch that on ESPN+. Based off of that, we'll see if we're going to the NCAA tournament. And then someday we'll know if we get selected for any other post-season tournaments. So looking at WBIT or WNIT, we may have a chance to host and really excited for our women's basketball student athletes. Next week, the 19th and 20th, our student athlete advisory committee will be hosting a swab drive in the Student Center for the national bone marrow and bone or blood stem cell donor registry. Indoor track teams swept the IGA conference championships. Nice. Our head track coach, Jo Weaver, also got the men's and women's coach of the year for indoor track. This is the first indoor championship we've ever won. We also had a freshman Xavier Simkins that got the men's MVP
- D. Senator Vangsnes- Student Success many of you have cases for progress reports. So if you're advising them in any capacity, please try to close those cases if you can. Talk to your students to help them get into advising to register for next semester. And if they're not doing well, the drop date is coming, Monday, April 7th.
- E. Senator Hammond- After graduation on May 5th HPER will have our faculty and staff golf tournament. I've made some adjustments to it this year. Hopefully we get some teams increased. Instead of having to have 3 guaranteed UCA staff, I've dropped it down to 2. And they also opened up to the alumni flight. So if the team has to be total alumni, everyone has to be an alumnus of UCA. So if you know anybody who is interested in golf, let them know. No skill requirement
- F. Senator Calvery- Library: We have two copiers we want to get rid of. If anybody wants to accept the copier, please let me know. We have the bare biographies coming up on April 8th. Tomorrow we have the info table at the student center.

- G. Senator Smith-Todd- the Division of Student Affairs has a podcast called You at UCA. It's geared towards incoming students or first year students wanting to understand more about navigating campus, college, the college process, etc. Some of you have been wonderful guests on our podcast, which was nominated for our Catalyst award, which is a national award, and we won. If you haven't checked it out or, you know, somebody coming to UCA/parents who have students in UCA, have them check it out. It's a really good resource.
- H. Senator Langston- we're wrapping up admissions events, so you shouldn't see too many high school students around anymore . We do have one more day on April 5th, Bear Necessity Day. That is our junior preview day. It's already at max capacity, which is really cool. There'll be about 300 people on campus. nd or live professional development trainings. The live ones are from across the country. There's a chance to connect with other people and there's also micro-credentialing that you can go through. They are available to all faculty and staff.
- I. Senator Delph- I am hiring two student workers for the summer. The position is posted now. They will start this semester so they can be trained to work for the summer. So if you know anyone that's gonna be taking summer classes or if they live locally and looking for good summer work, please encourage them to apply.
- J. Senator Hall- As of Tuesday morning, Transfer Priority Week is officially fully booked. If you know of any transfer or readmit students who are still navigating their next steps or feeling uncertain about the process, please encourage them to reach out to our office at ucatransfer@uca.edu. We launched our referral process today, and over the next couple of weeks, students who did not attend Transfer Priority Week will begin receiving emails that connect them with their academic advisor.
- K. Senator Turner- Student Center will also be hiring about three student workers. So if you know anybody that's not afraid to pick up tables and chairs, and be active, send them my direction.
- L. Parliamentarian Johnson- Day of Giving is tomorrow, so please consider donating to the Office of Student Advocacy and Community. Funding will not look like it has in the previous years for us, so we can really use some funds to continue to serve the students. Second thing, transfer students: I have been working on a transfer week, which is gonna be April 9th and 10th. We have low student engagement from that population because when they come to UCA we still refer to them as transfer students, so we're trying to start referring to them as students in transition. There has been a survey that's been sent out to specifically tailor three days worth of events for students in transition that we will be doing. So if you have contact with any of those students, please let them know to keep an eye on their email.
- M. Senator Peten- If you have any students, we will be making phone calls and texts today to students who still owe a balance and have the possibility of being dropped from their classes and or having their meal plan suspended. Send them to the student accounts office. if they are in that situation. The week of Spring Break, we will be working remotely; however, there will be someone in the office Monday and Tuesday to service those students who may need to make a last minute payment. If a student has a hold, and you are faculty or staff with the ability to remove a hold, please don't. It leads to the student being in more of a financial hole.

XI. Adjournment

- A. Motion to adjourn at 10:38 am by Treasurer Watson; seconded by Senat

Important Dates:

- March 20th–Campus Talk (X-Period)
- March 20th–W(h)ine and Cheese (Skybox)
- April 25th–Spring Social