



Regular Meeting Minutes

April 08, 2026

10:00 am

Wingo 315

Senators Present: 23

Senators Absent: 4

Ex-Officio: Present

I. Call to Order

A. Meeting called to order by President Kern at 10:00 am.

II. Approval of the Minutes from the previous meeting

A. Minutes from the previous meeting have been approved and are on the website.

III. Guest Speakers

A. Kylie McGraw- SGA President

1. Need 5 advisors - 3 vacancies - Attached is an overview of responsibilities and benefits of being an advisor for SGA.
2. Especially interested in a financial advisor who would work closely with SGA's VP of Finance and Chief of Staff.
3. Commitment is for a 2 year term.

IV. Officer Reports

A. President, Sherita Kern- No report

B. Vice President, Dylan Richardson - Candidate bios have been sent out and ballots for elections will be sent out on April 20. Please vote when they open.

C. Treasurer, Shalia Delph

1. Treasurer Updates - Accounts are on point.

D. Secretary, Teresa Burton -No report

E. Parliamentarian/Historian/Assistant Treasurer, Melanie Straw-Watson- No report

F. Ex Officio, Carlos Herrera -No report

V. Senate Committee Reports

A. Courtesy Committee- 5 cards

B. Spring Social Committee

1. FF Teams - Family Feud game will be played between the President's office team and Staff Senate team, starting at 12:00. Donations accepted to the foundation fund each player is representing. Come out and enjoy a day of fun.
2. Pick up of mugs will be available at Spring Social for those who have not received them yet.
3. Donations for Future Ready Bears school supplies will be collected at Spring Social.

C. Future Ready Bears Adhoc Committee

1. Donations- Collection boxes are in Bernard, Harrin and outside of IT Help Desk in Burdick. Please help donate school supplies.
2. Working on a way to take monetary donations as well.

VI. University Committee Reports

A. Veteran's Committee -Plan being made for November event. Be watching for more information as the date approaches.

B. Employee Benefits Advisory- Discussion of benefits, specifically regarding eye care options in Conway. Retirement account adjustments and changes being made to benefit employees.

- C. Traffic and parking- Appeals- 1 approved, 1 denied and 1 adjusted. Tentative date of next meeting is April 28 if needed.

VII. Constituent Concerns/Communication

- A. I work in the Mashburn building. A lot of the people who work in Mashburn park in the lot behind the Christian Cafeteria. I have noticed that Aramark has been given five more reserved spots, on top of the four they already have (they are in a prime location, too). Why do they keep getting reserved spots? This is taking away from actual UCA employees. The only person in Mashburn with a reserved spot is the Dean of the College of Education. If Aramark is getting reserved spots, why are the chairs of each department not getting reserved spots (there are three chairs from College of Ed and one chair from Psychology)? I have observed throughout the past year that out of the four reserved spots that Aramark has, two of them are not being used as they should be (one being for the Head of Aramark and one being for the head Chef). Those two spots are not really being used as they should be. The Head of Aramark and the Head Chef usually do not park in those spots and are letting other Aramark employees use them. This is a grave misuse of parking. UCA employees should have precedence over non UCA employees (Aramark employees) when it comes to parking.

Response: At the request of the General Manager of ARAMARK, three additional parking spaces were allocated for managerial staff. Due to the nature of their responsibilities—including making deliveries and supporting various dining locations across campus—these employees frequently use their personal vehicles to transport supplies. As a result, it is necessary for them to have convenient access to parking near the cafeteria. To accommodate this need, two existing spaces on the west side of the cafeteria were removed and reconfigured, with all designated spaces consolidated on the south side of the building.

- B. **Concern:** I have a need for the TReC to allow some type of child care in conjunction with another department on campus ie CoE or something. This can be where students can earn hours or something to maybe tutor, play games or just spend time with our/my children so that I can go use the TReC to work out. I have not been able to utilize the weight machines to exercise my knee since my surgery because I have no where my children can be while I work out. I spoke to Richard about it Wednesday and he mentioned I am not the only one who has voiced this concern, even some students have inquired, but because of the legalities, it is currently not allowed. Is this something that can be addressed?

Response: The TRec is operated based on student fees and staff have the option to utilize it. There is a litany of liabilities with having childcare center or service on campus and it is not an option that could be achieved at this time. There are alternative options within Conway that offer childcare services and/or discounts such as: Conway Community Center, Conway Regional and Crossfit Conway. There are No plans to offer childcare on campus (beyond the Child Study Center).

- C. **Concern-** Concern with the annual performance review/evaluations from several constitutes is that they are based on a calendar year, January 1 - December 30, instead of an academic year, July 1 - June 30. An academic year is better for many on campus.

Response -Regardless of academic vs calendar year, there will be the same amount of time in between. Currently, there are plans for it to remain as it is. If there are ever future non-tiered merits associated with the evaluations, administration would need to know before the next fiscal year.

- D. An email was sent out to some Faculty and Staff to vote in SGA elections. For clarification- Faculty and Staff do NOT vote in SGA elections.

VIII. Old Business- None

IX. New Business

- A. By-laws/Constitution Edits- Review of the changes and adjustments to these documents. Proposed changes will be voted on after Senators have had ample time to review them.

X. Good and Welfare

- A. Senator Johnson- Gowns for Grads program- Undergrad students can apply for the loan of a cap and gown. Applications open until April 17. Priority will be given to pell grant eligible and First Gen students first, but anyone can apply. There is a program available to borrow a gown for pictures, through UMAC. For more information, please contact Travis Johnson at tjohnson56@uca.edu
- B. Senator Turner- SGA has a new Exec board that will take over on April 20. Funding allocations are being processed as quickly as possible.
- C. Senator Hammond- T-REC pool closing April 13-May 25. Basketball courts will be closed for 3 weeks in May after graduation. Golf Tournament May 4, 2026 for more information contact Richard Hammond at rhammond@uca.edu
- D. Senator Erickson- Finals Countdown April 15, RWSC Ballroom 4-6pm. Stress relief activities and 10 day study plans available for students. April 22- Late Night Breakfast 10pm. All residence hall lobbies will have donation bins for students to use as they are packing up and leaving, for items they no longer want/need.
- E. Senator Harris- Pick a Room has started. Other housing options will be available when all the dorms are full.
- F. Senator Vangsnes- Peer coaching available through Student Success. Group tutoring sessions will be available as well to help prepare for finals. Worksheets are available also.
- G. Senator Wolfe- Registration is ongoing. Encourage students to talk to advisors for registration help.

XI. Adjournment

- A. Motioned by: Senator Smith-Todd at 10:59 am.
- B. Second: Senator Watson

Important Dates:

- Spring Social- April 24th 11-1
- Commencement
 - April 30th @ 5 pm
 - May 1st @ 9 am, 12 pm, 3 pm, 6 pm



UCA SGA Advisor Overview

UCA Student Government Association

- The Student Government Association is the organization that represents and advocates on the behalf of the entire UCA student body. SGA is composed of 40 senators and 4 executive board members representing each college and classification and includes graduate and nontraditional students.
- Having the motto “Students First”, SGA specifically considers student input, allocates student activity funds, serves as the liaison between students and faculty, staff, and administration, addresses student-related policies, and formally represents the UCA student body at all times, under all circumstances.
- The SGA constitution mandates that SGA has at least 3 advisors: at least one must be a faculty member and at least one must work within Student Affairs. Advisors serve in two-year terms.

Duties and Responsibilities

- Advising and guiding all members of SGA, particularly members of the executive board, on specific day to day activities to bigger picture events and ideas.
- Attending meetings and events, including:
 - Weekly senate meetings on Mondays at 5 pm
 - Meetings with the executive board and cabinet, usually weekly
 - SAFA hearings and deliberations once per semester
 - SGA retreats and banquets, each once per semester.
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Responsibilities and involvement can be flexible between advisors, with communication and additional meetings coordinated based on availability. The only standing meeting that does not change is the weekly Senate meeting on Mondays at 5:00 p.m.

Benefits of Advising

- \$500 transferred from SGA to the advisor’s respective department each semester that may be used for professional development, conferences, equipment, office supplies, etc.
- The ability to work with a group of bright, talented student leaders and guide them along their college journey.
- The chance to work and interact with other faculty, staff, and administration, and gain insight into the inner workings of UCA.



Previous Accomplishments of SGA

- SAFA created to help fund RSOs (1999)
- Improved recycling programs on campus (2000)
- Established 24 hour study rooms (2005)
- Bear Patrol program (2016)
- Free feminine products in every female and gender neutral bathroom (2018)
- Virtual counseling program (2019)
- New COPA bikes and racks (2022)
- Diversity food truck festival (2023)
- Student sexual assault survival kits (2024)

For more information, please contact our President:

- Kylie McGraw, ucasga.president@gmail.com

Or our current advisors:

- Denicha Kemp, denichak@uca.edu
- Tiffany Turner, tturner10@uca.edu
- Dr. Taine Duncan, tduncan@uca.edu