



# Staff Senate Meeting Minutes for August 2025

<b>Date:</b> Wednesday, August 27, 2025	<b>Time:</b> 10:01 AM	<b>Location:</b> ULIB 622   Zoom for Guests
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<b>Attendees</b>	<b>Senators Present:</b> Jessica Griggs, Shonnie Hall, Caitlyn Hillard, Jennifer Huey, Dana Mejia, Sara Webb, Wesley Welch, Karen Worsley, Alyse Smith, Emma Norwood, Keisha Chambless, Kelley Gentry, Stephanie Robinson, and Steven Burnside	<b>Senators Excused: None</b>  <b>Senators Absent:</b> Medria Buford  <b>Visitors:</b> Joanna Hunter, Gina White, Joey McNamara, Sabrina McClain, Allison Thompson, Mikki May
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## Call to Order

- August 2025 Staff Senate Meeting called to order by President Sara Webb at 10:01 am.
- Roll taken by Secretary Kelley Gentry.
- Visitors welcomed by President Webb.

## Approval of Last Meeting's Minutes

- Motion made by President Webb to approve the Minutes of the May meeting. Seconded by Senator **Welch**. The Senate approved the May meeting minutes.

## Guest Speaker(s)

- None

## Reports of Committees

President- Sara Webb met with President Castille to begin discussion on how the Senate will be utilized.

Elections- Senator Caitlyn Hillard stated that though we are going through a reorganization campus wide, the structure of the Senate will remain the same for 2025-2026. Currently we have two open seats that will need to be filled.

Secretary/Treasurer & Staff Welfare & Handbook- No report at this time.

Parliamentarian & Constitution & Bylaws- No report at this time.

Past President- No report.

Communications- No report at this time.

## New Business

### Appointment of Senator Welch as Parliamentarian.

- President Webb has appointed Senator Wesley Welch as our Parliamentarian.

### University Council representative

- President Webb asked for Senators to think about nominations for our second representative. This will be discussed more thoroughly at next month's meeting.

### Replacement of Senator Tolbird

- Senator Tolbird had one year remaining in her term. President Webb has appointed Gina White to fill this position.

### **Committee Assignments**

- President Webb will be emailing those who have assigned duties and will also be contacting all Senators to complete an interest form to join the current available committees.

### **Suggestions for Guest Speakers**

- President Webb tasked Senators with suggesting potential guest speakers for future Staff Senate Meetings. Suggestions named were the Faculty Senate president, Sami Owens, Dr. Anne Case Hanks, and Dr. Gina Craft.
- Dr. McEachern and President Castille will be our guest speakers for the September meeting.

### **Service Hours**

- President Elect, Caitlyn Hilliard will keep track of service hours. Senators are required to have 10 Hours per semester. This began University Week. A link will be emailed to senators to use to input their services hours.
- President Webb would love to have joint hours complete by the Staff Senate team. For example, a scheduled visit to the local food bank.
- Volunteer opportunities:
  - First home football game on August 28th. The Alumni Association will need help at their tailgate. Please contact Senator Hilliard if you can volunteer. Additional opportunities to assist the Alumni Association will be the Homecoming football game.

### **Open Discussion**

#### **Academic Affairs**

- Senator Griggs stated that they have an interim dean for Pharmacy, Dr. Gina Craft. Pre-Pharmacy advising has also shifted into their area.
- Senator Hall stated that the JC Penny Suit-Up event will be on September 7, 2025 @ 3:00PM-6:00PM at the Pecanland Mall. This is available to all ULM faculty, staff and students. ULM ID required to receive the event discount.
- Senator Burnside provided upcoming VAPA events.
  - CLUE is this year's play which will be held on Oct. 2-5th.
  - The Opera chosen this year is Rusalka which will be held November 23rd-25th.

#### **Alumni Affairs**

- Senator Hilliard reminded members that if they are not alumni members, that they can sign up for a lifetime Alumni membership which is \$42 a month. This can be set up as a payroll deduction for 12 months. Events mentioned as are follows:
  - Hawktober is scheduled for October 25th. This is an annual event. There will be beer tasting as well as a more family friendly environment this year with games and activities for kids to enjoy.
  - The annual Chili Cook-Off is scheduled for November 15th. This is the last ULM home football game.

#### **Business Affairs**

- Senator Mejia stated that move-in mania was a success and that the residential housing is full.
- Senator Chambliss stated that the Controller's office is currently in the middle of completing their annual financial report and still completing the last minute students coming in for the Fall semester.

#### **Enrollment Management and University Relations**

- NELA Fair is planned for October 7th and will be located in Bayou Pointe. Ahmaad Solomon may be contacted for any questions regarding this event.
- Browse on the Bayou will be held on November 1st. More details to come - Ahmaad Solomon is the contact for this event.

#### **Information Services and Student Success**

- President Webb stated that advising in the Student Success Center is plugging along. With the new

reorganization, they have had a few new colleagues move into their area.

#### **Adjournment**

- There being no other business, a motion to adjourn was made by Senator **Hilliard** and seconded by Senator **Huey**. Meeting adjourned by President Webb at **10:28AM**.
- The next Staff Senate meeting will be on Wednesday, September 17th. at 10:00 am in the Library Conference Room 622.