



Student Senate Meeting Minutes for August 26, 2025

Date: 26, August/ 2025

Time: 7:00 PM

Location: Chem & Nat Science BLDG 100

Preparation:

No preparation needed at this time.

Please review:

Nothing to review at this time.

1. **Call to Order** by Vice President Kelly Lohman on *August 26, 2025 at 7:08 p.m.*
2. **Moment of Silence**
3. **Roll Call: 31 Seats (21 Senators present, 4 absent, 0 excused absence, 14 seats vacant), 4 Officers, and 1 Advisor.**

Present

1. Hailey Poydras
2. Noah Stephan
3. Amira Morales
4. Kathryn Kamlade
5. Kaylin Williams
6. Elizabeth Moon
7. Abi Clifton
8. Saru Tamang
9. Arielle Magee
10. Kaitlyn Apperley
11. Autumn Meadors
12. Samaria Spears

13. Katelyn Dunn-Vinson
14. Lawson Marchand
15. Ciente Downs
16. Keirsten Dixon
17. Brayden Timmer
18. Brook West
19. Jordan Gray-Span
20. Cecil Pradhan
21. Jira Sheppard

1. Hannah Habisreiteringer
2. Kelly Lohman
3. Gabrielle Thomas
4. Laura Lee Mayfield
5. Adv. Chris Williams

Absence

1. Ashon Fields
2. Drake Prunty
3. Gwendolyn Smith
4. Blake Guerrero

Excused Absence

4. Approval of Last Meetings Minutes

- a. No minutes to be approved at this time.

5. Guest Speaker(s)

6. N/a

- a. College of Arts, Education, and Sciences
 - i. *No Report*
- b. College of Business and Social Sciences
 - i. *No Report*
- c. College of Health Sciences
 - i. *No Report*
- d. College of Pharmacy
 - i. *No Report*
- e. College of Graduate School
 - i. *No Report*

7. Department Head Updates

- a. Student Life and Welfare
 - i. *Senator Spears discussed recent and upcoming student life and welfare activities. She mentioned a successful week of welcome dinner social, which was held in the evening to accommodate students' schedules. She expressed gratitude to those who helped with the event. Senator Spears introduced the idea of "Welfare Wednesdays," aiming to increase student engagement and visibility for the SGA. They highlighted plans for Suicide Prevention Month, including a "Shine Bright Yellow Day" with promotional items like stickers and ribbons, in partnership with other organizations. Additionally, they emphasized anti-hazing efforts and collaboration with campus wellness services to provide resources and information. Senator Spears encouraged ideas for homecoming and other events, inviting input from the senators.*
- b. Promotions
 - i. *Senator Clifton shared that SGA will be starting our weekly recaps next week. She would like to push the initiative of telling SGA's story and encouraged senators to reach out with any ideas for the cause.*
- c. Research and Judicial Affairs
 - i. *Senator Morales, welcomed students interested in joining the Student Government Association (SGA) and encouraged them to enjoy and participate. She mentioned upcoming activities and required volunteers for the election commission meeting on Thursday, September 4th, at 5 PM to review votes from the associate senate election. she discussed office hours starting next week and to be prepared to approve physical flyers for the associate senate. The election week for the associate senate was outlined, with applications closing on Friday, and ballots opening on Wednesday, September 3rd, and closing on Thursday, September 4th. She booked the polling stations for Wednesday and Thursday from 11 AM to 2 PM and planned to send out a sign-up sheet. Homecoming nominations opened yesterday and close on Friday, September 5th. To be*

nominated for homecoming court, an RSO president must nominate the student, and nominations are based on classification rather than college.

d. Academic Enhancement

- ii. *Senator Kamlade let the senate know that Lets Talk Warhawks is going to be next week and to submit any questions senate may have. She added that senators need to be on the lookout for donuts with the Seans at the hub on Sept 8th. Pizza with the Prez will also be happening soon where our ne president will talk to students and pass out pizza. Lastly, during homecoming week, we will have meet the senators each day of the week.*

Executive Board Reports

d. Treasurer

- i. *Treasurer Mayfield, presented the budget for the academic year, detailing how student fees and funds are allocated. She explained the breakdown of expenses, including payroll, travel, operating services, supplies, and contractual services. Treasurer Mayfield noted an increase in the budget for Mardi Gras week and collaborations with other campus organizations, such as CAB for Spring Fever. They emphasized the importance of understanding the budget, as it involves significant amounts of money, and encouraged senators to ask questions or provide input on allocations. Treasurer Mayfield also mentioned the projected total spending and the available wiggle room for unexpected expenses. They invited senators to visit during office hours for further discussion and clarification on the budget.*

e. Secretary

- i. *Secretary Thomas addressed several administrative and organizational matters. She announced the start of office hours in the third week of school, with a sign-up process that is first-come, first-serve. She explained the procedure for tracking service hours, which involves using SignUpGenius for advance sign-ups and Microsoft Forms for day-of attendance verification. An incentive program for service hours was introduced, with prizes like a "get out of office hour free" card. Secretary Thomas also discussed the submission of service hours, encouraging timely submissions to maintain accurate records. They mentioned managing the calendar for SGA events and updating it regularly. Additionally, they talked about the executive committee's office hours and encouraged senators to reach out if they have questions or need assistance.*

f. Vice President

- i. *Vice President Lohman, provided updates on various SGA activities and initiatives. She highlighted upcoming elections for the associate senate and homecoming, noting the service hour opportunities available with polling stations and election commissions. They introduced the "Senator of the Week" initiative to recognize active senators, replacing the previous "Senator of the Month" initiative. Vice President Lohman also discussed plans for Mardi Gras week, encouraging ideas to enhance student life and mentioning potential partnerships with other campus organizations. They emphasized the importance of student involvement and communication, expressing excitement for the upcoming year and encouraging senators to engage with the student body.*

g. President

- i. *President Habby provided a comprehensive update on SGA activities and plans. She thanked those who participated in the summer senate and highlighted successful events, such as the week of welcome.*
- ii. *President Habby explained the new Senate structure, which includes organizational senators to increase engagement with campus organizations. She mentioned vacancies in the associate senate and the freshman senator-at-large position, with plans to fill these after elections.*
- iii. *The president discussed upcoming fall projects, including the installation of benches and a turtle feeder. Additionally, she encouraged senators to check the updated SGA website for accuracy.*
- iv. *A full senate retreat was announced for September 7th, and a suicide prevention event was scheduled for September 10th. President Habby emphasized the importance of communication and maintaining an open-door policy for any questions or concerns. They also mentioned the relaunch of the suggestion link for student feedback and expressed enthusiasm for the year ahead, encouraging senators to reach out if they need anything.*
- h. Advisor(s)
 - i. *SGA Advisor Chris, provided important updates and reminders for students. He discussed the Talon Tunnel opportunity for first-time students to get involved on the field and emphasized the importance of completing hazing prevention training, which now requires two hours—one in-person and one online. Advisor Chris outlined the available dates for this training and stressed the necessity of 100% compliance to avoid organizational shutdowns.*
 - ii. *He also mentioned the SGA composite photo session scheduled for September 25th during homecoming week, encouraging participation and explaining the attire requirements. Advisor Chris highlighted the importance of accountability and urged students to ensure they complete the necessary training to avoid repercussions for their organizations. He concluded by expressing his commitment to supporting students and maintaining open communication, despite changes in the student affairs structure.*

8. Old Business

- a. No report

9. New Business

- No report

10. General Discussion

- a. Senator Magee sked about the approval process for the budget, to which it was clarified that the budget would be voted on the following week.
- b. Treasurer Mayfield Invited senators to visit during office hours for any questions about the budget and mentioned having snacks and a comfortable space for discussions.
- c. Senator Fields: Raised a question about transparency regarding financial allocations, which was addressed by President Habby.
- d. Senator Fields also inquired about the SGA's involvement in decisions typically made by CAB, and it was confirmed that SGA would have a say in those matters.

- e. President Habby Explained the timeline for receiving financial transparency documents and assured that updates would be provided as soon as they were available. They also discussed the importance of maintaining communication with Dr. Hersey regarding financial allocations.
- f. Advisor Chris Provided clarification on the organizational structure and emphasized that their office remains open for student concerns, despite changes in the student affairs office.
- g. Secretary Thomas added to the discussion by highlighting the importance of advocacy and mentioned plans to implement a "ULM Hot Takes" segment for students to voice concerns directly to the Senate.

11. Meeting Adjourned by Vice Lohman at 7:49 *p.m.*, by way of motion by Senator Magee and seconded by Senator Dixon.