



**The University of Alabama
26th Student Senate
2021-2022**

**Agenda for March 24, 2022
Regular Session**

Jillian Fields
President

Sam Rickert
Executive Vice President

Amanda Allen
Vice President for
Academic Affairs

Lauren Gilonske
Vice President for Diversity,
Equity & Inclusion

Madeline Martin
Vice President for
External Affairs

Sullivan Irvine
Vice President for
Financial Affairs

Jack Steinmetz
Vice President for
Student Affairs

Colin Marcum
Executive Secretary

Nathan Yamaguchi
Chief of Staff

Matthew Curl
Chief Justice

- I. Call to Order and Roll Call
- II. Announcements
 - a. Capstone Creed and SGA Mission Statement-
Taryn Geiger and Justin McCleskey
- III. New Business
 - a. Resolution R-18-22 A RESOLUTION
ENCOURAGING THE UNIVERSITY OF
ALABAMA TO BECOME A HUNGER-FREE
CAMPUS WITH SWIPE OUT HUNGER
 - b. Act A-05-22 AN ACT TO APPROVE THE
STUDENT ORGANIZATION FUNDING
REQUESTS SUGGESTED BY THE FINANCIAL
AFFAIRS COMMITTEE FOR THE MONTH OF
MARCH 2022
 - c. Act A-06-22 AN ACT TO ESTABLISH AN SGA
STIPEND
 - d. Resolution R-19-22 A RESOLUTION
ENCOURAGING THE UNIVERSITY OF
ALABAMA TO IMPLEMENT AN OBJECTIVE
COURSE EVALUATION WEBSITE HOSTING
GRADE DISTRIBUTION DATA
 - e. Act-07-22 AN ACT TO AID SENATE
TRANSITION BY PROVIDING INCOMING
SENATORS WITH BENCHMARKING
REPORTS AND CONTACT INFORMATION



Resolution R-18-22
The University of Alabama
26th Senate 2021-2022

Authored By: Ciara Callicott, Founder of Unite to Fight Poverty; Madeline Martin, Vice President for External Affairs

Sponsored By:

Endorsed By:

A RESOLUTION ENCOURAGING THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA TO BECOME A HUNGER-FREE CAMPUS WITH SWIPE OUT HUNGER

Be it enacted by the Senate of the Student Government Association assembled

WHEREAS, Swipe Out Hunger is the original architect of the Hunger-Free Campus Bill, which sends funding from state legislatures to public colleges that are addressing student hunger on campus; and

WHEREAS, The purpose of the grant funding shall be designated to address student hunger, leverage more sustainable solutions to address basic food needs on campus, raise awareness of services currently offered on campus which address basic food needs; and continue to build strategic partnerships at the local, state, and national levels to address food insecurity among students; and

WHEREAS, There is a Hunger-Free Campus Bill College Coalition composed of representatives from student government associations from University of Mississippi, Marshall University, and University of Arkansas; and

WHEREAS, This coalition encourages their individual universities to work with Swipe Out Hunger to advocate for the introduction and passage of this bill in their respective state legislatures; and

WHEREAS, The University of Alabama resides in Tuscaloosa county, whose population is 17.9% (22.2% of children) food insecure and 20% are living below the poverty line (Alabama Possible); NOW

THEREFORE, *be it RESOLVED*, that The University of Alabama Student Government Association expresses its support for the University of Alabama to become official partners of Swipe Out Hunger.

Be it further resolved, The University of Alabama Student Government Association expresses its support for the University of Alabama to lobby for the introduction and passage of the Hunger-Free Campus Bill in Alabama State Legislature.

Be it further resolved, the University of Alabama Student Government Association maintains a representative on the Hunger-Free Campus Bill College Coalition.

Be it further resolved, that copies of this resolution be to: Dr. Stuart R. Bell, President of the University of Alabama; Dr. Hood, Vice President of Student Life; Matthew Fajack, Vice President of Finance and Operations; Dr. Russell J. Mumper, Vice President of Research and Economic Development; Tonjanita Johnson, Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs, Dr. Christine Taylor, Vice President and Associate Provost for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion; Dr. Steven Hood, Senior Associate Vice President; Chapman Greer, Faculty Senate President; Dr. Stacy Jones, Interim Dean of Students; Jim Dalton, Executive Vice President and Provost; Donald Elswick, Executive Director in the Director's Office; Keely Brewer, Editor-In-Chief of The Crimson White; Jillian Fields, President of the Student Government Association; Dr. Chapman Greer, President of Faculty Senate; Angel Narvaez-Lugo, Advisor of the Student Government Association; Dr. Ruperto Perez, Associate Vice President for Student Health and Well-being; and others as may be deemed necessary at a later date.



Act A-05-22
The University of Alabama
26th Senate 2021-2022

Authors: Sullivan Irvine, Vice-President of Financial Affairs; Senator Benner Page

Sponsors: Senator Luke Schroeder, Senator Grant Haidu, Senator Will Goodloe, Senator Deborah Oberkor, Senator Grayson Shook

Endorsements: Jill Fields, President; Sam Rickert, Executive Vice-President; Amanda Allen, Vice-President of Academic Affairs; Jack Steinmetz, Vice-President of Student Affairs; Madeline Martin, Vice-President of External Affairs; Colin Marcum, Executive Secretary; Lauren Gilonske, Vice-President for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion; Nathan Yamaguchi, Chief of Staff

**AN ACT TO APPROVE THE STUDENT ORGANIZATION FUNDING REQUESTS
SUGGESTED BY THE FINANCIAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE FOR THE MONTH OF
MARCH 2022**

Be it enacted by the Senate of the Student Government Association assembled.

Section 1. Findings:

1. The Financial Affairs Committee met on March 7, 2022.
2. The committee heard 22 requests from 21 organizations before making its decisions.
3. \$15,488.70 was deducted from organizations' requested amount due to the funding price cap of \$7,500.00 per organization per fiscal year, merchandise and beverages not allowed for funding, the \$500 individual traveler cap per fiscal year, and the inability to request money for fundraisers.
4. 77.7% of the total requested amount was awarded.

Section 2. Legislation:

1. ***Therefore, be it resolved***, the Senate approves the following FAC funding requests by SOURCE student organizations for a total award of \$53,978.03 with details listed in the Excel sheet attached.
2. ***Be it further resolved***, that copies of this Resolution be sent to: Vice-President for Student Life; Dr. Ruperto Perez; Sherry Phillips, FAC Advisor; Rebecca Griesbach, *The Crimson White* Editor-in-Chief; Angel Lugo, The University of Alabama Student Government Advisor



Act A-06-22
The University of Alabama
26th Senate 2021-2022

Authors: Vice President for Financial Affairs, Sullivan Irvine

Sponsors: Jill Fields, President; Sam Rickert, Executive Vice-President; Amanda Allen, Vice-President of Academic Affairs; Jack Steinmetz, Vice-President of Student Affairs; Madeline Martin, Vice-President of External Affairs; Colin Marcum, Executive Secretary; Lauren Gilonske, Vice-President for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion; Nathan Yamaguchi, Chief of Staff, Senator Benner Page

Endorsements: Eric Doh, Treasurer; Katherine Crowe, Attorney General

AN ACT TO ESTABLISH AN SGA STIPEND

Be it enacted by the Senate of the Student Government Association assembled:

Section 1. The Senate finds the following:

- a. Article III Section 7, Subsection G of the SGA Constitution mandates that the Student Senate establish a pay scale.
- b. The extensive time commitment from officers within the Executive, Legislative, and Judicial branches often prohibits them from obtaining other employment.
- c. For many SGA officers, their weekly time commitment is in significant excess of the 12 office hours per week mandatory minimum for the Executive Council and the 6 office hours per week mandatory minimum for all other positions codified in the SGA Code of Laws.
- d. Stipends provide compensation to these officers and other members of SGA to ensure work of the highest standard and allow students with financial need to worry less regarding obtaining outside employment.
- e. The SGA Code of Laws, Chapter 200.3.5, states that no salary shall be authorized for an officer who has not met his or her minimum office hours.

f. Chapter 204.1 of the SGA Code of Laws states that in the event that a paid executive officer fails to complete any duty of office, the Executive Secretary will notify the Attorney General, who may *halt* a monthly payment if an officer does not complete his or her duties.

g. According to C-08-19, the Vice President for Financial Affairs shall “Prepare a pay scale for the upcoming Fiscal Year that will be presented to the incoming officers as their pay scale.”

h. According to C-08-19, “In the event that a position is added, modified, or deleted in the SGA Code of Laws or SGA Constitution, the incoming VPFA will retain the ability to modify the pay scale for that office.”

i. These recommendations are based on research of other Southeastern Conference Student Government stipend periods.

Section 2. The SGA Senate shall establish the following stipend schedule per C-08-19. This stipend schedule shall take effect immediately for the newly elected and duly sworn officers of the Student Government Association in the March 2022 elections:

1. The **SGA President** shall receive \$4,200 total over a period of twelve (12) months and is required to be present and working on campus. If the President will not be present and working on campus during May - August the President shall receive a prorated stipend for September – April equal to \$3,150.

2. The following positions shall receive the total amount noted below allocated over a period of twelve (12) months, and are required to be present and working on campus. If any person is not present and working on campus during May - August, the person shall receive a prorated stipend equal to nine (9) months of stipend for the time period of September – April.

- a. **Executive Vice President** - \$3,000 (yearly), \$2,250 (prorated)
- b. **Vice President Academic Affairs** - \$3,000 (yearly), \$2,250 (prorated)
- c. **Vice President External Affairs** - \$3,000 (yearly), \$2,250 (prorated)
- d. **Vice President Financial Affairs** - \$3,000 (yearly), \$2,250 (prorated)
- e. **Vice President Student Affairs** - \$3,000 (yearly), \$2,250 (prorated)
- f. **Vice President for Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion** - \$3,000 (yearly), \$2,250 (prorated)
- g. **Chief Justice** - \$1,920 (yearly), \$1,440 (prorated)

3. The following positions shall receive the total amount noted below allocated over a period of eight (8) months for September – April.

- a. **Executive Secretary** - \$2,250
- b. **Chief of Staff** - \$1,665
- c. **Speaker of Senate** - \$1,440
- d. **Attorney General** - \$765
- e. **Treasurer** - \$765
- f. **Director of Communications** - \$675

- g. **Director of Engagement - \$675**
- h. **Director of Programming - \$675**
- i. **Director of Environmental Affairs - \$675**
- j. **Director of Strategic Initiatives - \$675**
- k. **Director of IT and Webmaster - \$675**
- l. **Chief Administrative Officer - \$405**
- o. **Press Secretary - \$405**
- p. **Chief Advisor to the President - \$405**

Section 3: Provision Allowing for the Minor Adjustment: This legislation shall include a provision allowing modifications regarding the distribution, method of payment, or minor modifications related to the amount of payment, pursuant to Kendra Powell, Associate Director of Business Services for the University Division of Student Life and/or the Vice President for Financial Affairs if deemed necessary to carry out the payment of officers. These modifications, if at all necessary, would be communicated to Senate and would only be required due to errors or changes in University policy regarding the payment of students.

Section 4: Provision Allowing for the Dissolution of Positions: This legislation shall include a provision noting that, per the SGA Constitution, “In the event that a position is added, modified, or deleted in the SGA Code of Laws or SGA Constitution, the incoming VPFA will retain the ability to modify the pay scale for that office.”

Section 5: Distribution of Copies: Copies of this act be sent to Jillian Fields, SGA President; Sullivan Irvine, SGA Vice President for Financial Affairs; Angel Narvez-Lugo, Director of Student Governance and Citizenship; Mrs. Kendra Powell, Associate Director for Business Services; all members of the SGA whose positions are to receive a stipend via this Act; and The Crimson White Media Group for informational purposes.



**Resolution R-19-22
The University of Alabama
26th Senate 2021-2022**

Authored By: Senator Justin McCleskey

Sponsored By: Senator John Richardson; Senator John Dodd; Senator Drew St. Charles

Endorsed By: Jillian Fields, SGA President

**A RESOLUTION ENCOURAGING THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA TO
IMPLEMENT AN OBJECTIVE COURSE EVALUATION WEBSITE HOSTING
GRADE DISTRIBUTION DATA**

Be it enacted by the Senate of the Student Government Association assembled

WHEREAS, students rely on feedback in the course registration process to make informed decisions regarding the classes that they take; and

WHEREAS, major ranking platforms, including Rate My Professors, were found by an article in the Stanford Technology Law Review¹ to be “unfair evaluations of personal information taken out of context,” which can “lead to misjudgments or misunderstandings, potentially causing serious harm;” and

WHEREAS, institutional grade distribution data provides a more objective scale for students to evaluate classes and professors; and

WHEREAS, Georgia Institute of Technology published² grade distribution data by course code and professor, gaining over 8,000 site visits in 90 days; and

¹ Cheung, Anne and Schulz, Wolfgang. “[Reputation Protection on Online Rating Sites.](#)” SSRN, Stanford Technology Law Review, vol. 21, no. 310, 27 Sept. 2018.

² <https://critique.gatech.edu/>

WHEREAS, a journal analysis conducted for *Assessment and Evaluation in Higher Education*³ found quantitative institutional feedback to be “more valid assessments of instructor performance;” and

WHEREAS, a similar resolution⁴ was passed on 26 January 2021 by the University of Georgia Student Government Association, finding 94.5% of surveyed students indicating being “extremely likely” or “very likely” to use the grade distribution service; and

WHEREAS, such a system would simultaneously provide students with more relevant data to make registration decisions while providing fair, objective criteria for professors and courses;
NOW

THEREFORE, *be it RESOLVED*, that the University of Alabama Student Government Association expresses its support for the University of Alabama implementing a webpage publishing grade distribution data sorted by course code and professor.

Be it further resolved, that copies of this resolution be to: Dr. Stuart R. Bell, President of the University of Alabama; Dr. Steven Hood, Interim Vice President of Student Life; Tonjanita Johnson, Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs; Dr. Christine Taylor, Vice President and Associate Provost for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion; Meagan Bennett, Director of Customer Relations for the University of Alabama’s OIT Department; Dr. Stacy Jones, Interim Dean of Students; Jim Dalton, Executive Vice President and Provost; Donald Elswick, Executive Director in the Director’s Office; Keely Brewer, Editor-In-Chief of The Crimson White; Jillian Fields, President of the Student Government Association; Chapman Greer, President of Faculty Senate; Angel Narvaez-Lugo, Advisor of the Student Government Association; Dr. Ruperto Perez, Associate Vice President for Student Health and Well-being.

³ Felton, James, et al. “[Attractiveness, Easiness, and Other Issues: Student Evaluations of RateMyProfessors.com.](#)” SSRN, *Assessment and Evaluation in Higher Education*, vol. 33, no. 1, 2008, pp.45-61.

⁴ UGA SGA, [Resolution 33-05](#)



Act A-07-22
The University of Alabama
26th Senate 2021-2022

Authors: Senator Justin McCleskey

Sponsors: Senator John Richardson; Senator John Dodd; Senator Drew St. Charles

Endorsements: Jillian Fields, SGA President

**AN ACT TO AID SENATE TRANSITION BY PROVIDING INCOMING SENATORS
WITH BENCHMARKING REPORTS AND CONTACT INFORMATION**

Be it enacted by the Senate of the Student Government Association assembled.

Section 1. Findings:

- A. Newly-elected Senators can benefit from compiled resources and advice, boosting the efficiency of future senate efforts.
- B. Distributing contact information and encouraging newly-elected senators to meet with outgoing senators extends the possibility of heightened collaboration and efficiency.
- C. Unfinished business from current senators can be distributed to new members, maximizing the potential that Senators fulfill their duty to address the concerns of students⁵.
- D. The University of Georgia Student Government Association passed a similar Bill⁶ requiring a transition report from outgoing senators, dramatically easing the burden on staff introductory sessions and improving legislative efficiency.

Section 2. Legislation:

1. **THEREFORE, be it resolved**, that the University of Alabama Student Government Association Senate will create an internal benchmarking form collecting the following: email address, other voluntary contact information, elected term goals, actions taken in

⁵ UA SGA Constitution, ARTICLE III, Section 6, Part A.

⁶ UGA SGA, [Bill 31-01](#).

office, unfinished business from the previous term, and advice for newly-elected senators.

2. **Be it further resolved**, that the University of Alabama Student Government Association Senate commits to aiding the transition of incoming senators by completing the form prior to inauguration. Results will be compiled and emailed to newly elected senators no later than 10 days after inauguration.

Section 3. Copies:

Copies of this bill shall be sent to Jillian Fields, SGA President; Katie Beth Crowe, SGA Attorney General; Matthew Curl, SGA Chief Justice; Darius Thomas, Speaker of the Senate; Nathan Yamaguchi, SGA Chief of Staff; Angel Narvaez-Lugo, Student Government Association Advisor; The Crimson White and others as may be deemed necessary at a later date.