

Student Government Association

Minutes for meeting held Wednesday, January 14th, 2026

The meeting was called to order at 4:01 PM by President Abby Stovall. Attendance was taken and a quorum was established. The minutes for the meeting held on December 3rd, 2025 were approved.

Special Order of Business:

- As recommended by President Stovall, the Honors Program moved to waive Article II: Section II of the SGA constitution (“No student of Concord University may hold more than one position in or between any of the three branches of the SGA”); seconded by the Society of Nursing Majors
- As recommended by President Stovall, the Student Veterans Association moved to approve Zoey Shamblin as the new Business Manager; seconded by Bonner Scholars
- As recommended by President Stovall, the Student Veterans Association moved to approve Garon Wiseman as the new Judicial Liaison; seconded by 4H Club
- As recommended by President Stovall, the Student Veterans Association moved to approve Emma Simmons for the position of arbiter; seconded by the Hopper-Turing Society
- As recommended by President Stovall, the Honors Program moved to approve Zoie Thomas for the position of arbiter; seconded by Bonner Scholars
- As recommended by President Stovall, the Student Veterans Association moved to approve Landon Skeens for the position of arbiter; seconded by Delta Zeta
- Ms. Shamblin, Mr. Wiseman, Ms. Simmons, and Mr. Skeens were inaugurated into their respective positions by President Stovall

Note: Mr. Wiseman and Ms. Shamblin will continue to serve as Board of Governors and Faculty Executive Board Representatives, respectively

Student Open Forum:

- *No comments or concerns*

Officer Reports:

Faculty Executive Board Representative – Ms. Zoey Shamblin

- Ms. Shamblin went over the FEB meeting held on January 12th.
 - Dr. Meighen reported that retention as of January 12th appeared to be between 70 to 80 percent
 - An outside firm is being used to review Concord’s financial aid strategy; they will be speaking at the next FEB meeting

- Two women's sports have been added! Women's triathlon and wrestling
- AI usage was discussed; faculty desire more transparency from students on when AI is used. Ethical AI use will be taught in UNIV 100 next year
- Ms. Shamblin's office hours this semester will be on **Fridays from 4 to 6 PM**

Board of Governors Representative – *Mr. Garon Wiseman*

- Mr. Wiseman's office hours this semester will be on **Wednesdays from 12 to 1 PM and Fridays from 10 to 11 AM**

Judicial Liaison – *Mr. Garon Wiseman*

- *No report*

Ombudsman – *Ms. Maren Boblits*

- Concerns are already being received; Ms. Boblits will review these and address them next week
- If anyone has any concerns to bring to SGA's attention, please fill out the concerns form on the SGA website
- Ms. Boblits's office hours will be on **Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11 AM to 12 PM**

Parliamentarian – *Ms. Elena Chamness*

- Ms. Chamness's office hours will be on **Mondays and Thursdays from 2 to 3 PM**

Secretary – *Mr. Brian Strickler*

- Mr. Strickler has submitted a work order for the SGA webpage to be updated; another update will be done soon to include the new arbiters
- **Attendance will be enforced this semester!** If you or your organization are unable to attend Senate, please fill out the excusal form!
- The next university technology committee meeting will be in February; in the meantime, please make use of the IT known outage reports that will be sent to your e-mails
- At this time, Mr. Strickler's office hours will be on **Wednesdays from 2 to 4 PM**

Business Manager – *Ms. Zoey Shamblin*

- Ms. Shamblin will meet with President Stovall to be trained for her new position
- Again, office hours for both positions will be on **Fridays from 4 to 6 PM**

Vice President – *Mr. Matthew Atwell*

- Mr. Atwell's office hours will be from **11 AM to 12 PM Mondays and Wednesdays**
- Planning for Spring Fling is being wrapped up; events will be announced sometime in the coming weeks

President – Ms. Abby Stovall

- President Stovall will be meeting with Dr. Meighen on Wednesday, January 21st before the Senate meeting
- Dr. Meighen will also be speaking at the January 21st Senate meeting
- Office hours this semester will be on **Mondays and Tuesdays from 4 to 5 PM**

Unfinished Business:

- *No unfinished business*

New Business:

- Secretary Strickler moved to consider amending Article III: Section VIII (“Organizational Recognition and Attendance”) to read as follows (seconded by Vice President Atwell):
 - *No more than two unexcused absences, three excused absences, and two university absences, totaling no more than seven meetings in a semester, shall be permitted*
- Alpha Psi Omega moved to table discussion on the amendment until the January 21st meeting; seconded by the Hopper-Turing Society
- *See page 4 for rationale*

Announcements:

- **Alpha Psi Omega** - (Mr. Ryan Johnson) Rehearsals for the spring musical *Firebringer* are underway; anyone interested in being involved may see stage manager Ms. Shamblin
- **Ms. Carolyn Worley** – Camp mugs and beanies will be given away at the Welcome Center on Thursday, January 15th while supplies last. Blacklight bingo will be on Thursday, January 22nd.
- **Physician’s Assistant Student Organization** - (Ms. Danielle Jonas) The PA Students’ organization has recently been organized. Anyone with questions on what a PA is or CU’s PA program specifically may speak to Ms. Jonas or Ms. Amy Walker, PA admissions counselor
- **Aramark** - (Ms. Linsey Umberger) There will be hot chocolate and cookies at dinner on January 14th. On January 15th, there will be DIY door hangers
- **Mr. Brian Strickler** – Anyone who has had both semesters of general chemistry (CHEM 101/111 and CHEM 102/112) and would be interested in tutoring at PikeView High School, please see Mr. Strickler, Dr. Heather Shepherd, or Dr. Katherine Hatzis
- **Student Veterans Association** - (Ms. JeAnna Derby) SVA is still running the campus food pantry; donations can be made at the SVA office by the Subway stage or in any of the boxes around campus

Meeting was adjourned at 4:20 PM

Revised Attendance Policy

Proposed January 14th, 2026

- I. **Rationale:** The Student Government Association expects its participants to regularly attend student senate meetings to better facilitate debate, communication, and engagement on issues across campus. With that being said, occasional absences are recognized as a necessity, including due to university commitments. The Student Government Association further recognizes that students can face repercussions for failure to attend these university commitments, such as practices, games, and meets. For this reason, faculty are required by the university to honor university excuses for absences without question. Up to this point, however, SGA has treated absences due to university commitments no differently from absences for any other reason.

For this reason, SGA seeks to modify our existing attendance policy to provide some grace for absences due to university-mandated events while still maintaining professionalism by stressing presence and punctuality.

- II. **Applicable Bylaws:** This policy, if approved, amends Article III Section VIII of the SGA bylaws (“Organizational Recognition and Attendance”)
- III. **Amendment in Full:**
- No more than two unexcused absences, three excused absences, and two university absences, totaling a missing of no more than seven meetings in a semester, shall be permitted.