

# Student Government Association

## **Minutes for meeting held Wednesday, October 29<sup>th</sup>, 2025**

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 October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2025 were approved.

### **Special Order of Business:**

- **Mr. James Blankenship** – speaking on behalf of Career Services; *see pages 5 and 6*

### **Student Open Forum:**

- *Update from last week:* The HVAC system in the Science Building will be completed by the end of Thanksgiving Break
- SGA is working towards projects that will enhance student experience; a QR code survey was distributed prior to the meeting to gauge which projects should be prioritized
- **If you have suggestions that were not options on the survey, please send them to the SGA e-mail!**
- The two most popular choices were ice machines for the residence halls and a campus mini golf course; other choices on the survey included updated North Tower lobby equipment, an outdoor study area, and additional mindfulness spaces
- There is a concern that things the campus actually needs aren't being given priority over leisure activities like mini golf; functional elevators were given as an example of a need
- A suggestion was made to create study lounges for every academic department in the building where most of that department's courses are taught
- Food stamps/EBT for November have been delayed due to the federal government shutdown; SGA will be organizing a food drive to ensure that the food pantry is well-stocked for students relying on food stamps
- The Student Veterans Association will be putting out a list of what they would like to see more of in the food pantry; easy snacks were given as a big need, but canned food and bigger meals are also needed for students with families
- The food pantry is located in the Student Center game room, with another one in the library; while the locations of campus and local food pantries can be found under "Student Basic Needs" on Concord's website, there seemed to be a need to better communicate this
- 24/7 boxes to accept donations will be set out by the Student Veterans Association
- SGA could get a list of needs from local off-campus food pantries

### **Officer Reports:**

Faculty Executive Board Representative – Ms. Zoey Shamblin

- Ms. Shamblin attended the FEB meeting on October 27<sup>th</sup>, where handicap accessibility was discussed; the general feeling is that Concord is ADA-compliant, but not ADA-friendly
- Dr. Meighen gave a report on student census/enrollment data:
  - We are up on students by 3 percent
  - Transfer and returning student enrollment is up; transfer enrollment gains is likely because of football
  - Hope that “Two States, One Rate,” where Concord is extending in-state tuition to Virginia residents, will increase freshman enrollment
- The University is looking at modifying the first week of classes in the fall so that classes start on either Tuesday or Wednesday instead of Monday
- Our Provost, Dr. Huffstetler, is retiring; the search for his replacement is ongoing

Board of Governors Representative – *Mr. Garon Wiseman*

- As a reminder, Mr. Wiseman’s office hours are on **Fridays from 12 to 1 PM**; anyone with concerns to bring to the Board of Governors is welcome to stop in!

Judicial Liaison – *Mr. Ben Bailey*

- The 1<sup>st</sup> Student Court was *finally* held on October 23<sup>rd</sup>
- The next court meeting will be on October 30<sup>th</sup>

Ombudsman – *Ms. Maren Boblits*

- Ms. Boblits addressed some concerns from students at the CUSAC meeting
- One of these concerns was centered on the Counseling Center not being inclusive of all students in their services
- The e-mail that has been the subject of concerns was not sent out for political purposes, but because multiple students had approached faculty that social media content had disturbed them
- Another concern requesting a cooler be placed in the Student Center was addressed; it was noted that a similar cooler used to be in place and was not widely used

Parliamentarian – *Ms. Elena Chamness*

- As a reminder, Ms. Chamness’s office hours are on Mondays and Thursdays

Secretary – *Mr. Brian Strickler*

- Mr. Strickler has once again updated the paddles; please notify the Secretary if your organization is in need of a paddle
- **Please fill out the excusal form if you or your organization is unable to attend the Senate meeting!**

Business Manager – Ms. Kenzie Franson

- Ms. Franson reminded the Senate that her office hours are **from 12 to 1 PM on Tuesdays and Thursdays**
- Ms. Franson will be adding 45 minutes to her office hours on Thursday, October 30<sup>th</sup> to work on timecards
- The budgetary request presentation that was supposed to be given at the October 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting will be given at a later date

Vice President – Mr. Matthew Atwell

- Mr. Atwell has started working on Spring Fling activities; if you have any suggestions, please forward them to Mr. Atwell during his office hours, which are **12 to 1 PM on Mondays and 11 AM to 12 PM on Wednesdays**

President – Ms. Abby Stovall

- President Stovall announced that Dr. Meighen will be speaking at the Senate meeting on November 5<sup>th</sup> to share projects she has been working on
- There will be an interim legislative session at Pipestem this weekend; there will be legislators on-campus on Sunday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>, **so please be courteous!**

**Committee Reports:**

Budgetary Commission – Ms. Kenzie Franson

- There has yet to be a budgetary request from a student organization this semester

Philanthropy – Mr. Matthew Atwell

- Mr. Atwell will announce the November Philanthropy Event at the November 5<sup>th</sup> Senate meeting

CUSAC – Ms. Maren Boblits

- CUSAC members need to be checking their e-mails as their next meeting will likely be the week of November 3<sup>rd</sup>

Technology – Mr. Brian Strickler

- The Technology Committee will be meeting on Thursday, October 30<sup>th</sup> at 8:40 in the morning; SGA webpage improvements will be the main focus

**Unfinished Business:**

- *No unfinished business*

**New Business:**

- *No new business*

**Announcements:**

- **Alpha Psi Omega** - (*Mr. Ryan Johnson*) APO is sponsoring a “ghost tour” of the campus starting at 7 PM on October 29<sup>th</sup> in the Ballroom. Their next general meeting will be on Monday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> at 5 PM
- **Hopper-Turing Society** - (*Emilio Bosma*) The Hopper-Turing Society is starting a multi-week career-prep workshop. At 6 PM on Tuesday, November 4<sup>th</sup>, they will start by discussing the different career opportunities available with a computer science degree. The following week (the week of November 10<sup>th</sup>), they will be working on resume writing.
- **Aramark** - (*Ms. Linsey Umberger*) There will be “Meatball Mania” in the cafeteria for lunch on October 30<sup>th</sup>. On October 31<sup>st</sup>, pumpkins will be judged for the decorating contest. For dinner on Monday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>, there will be craft night appetizers.
- **Mr. Colton Lively** – On Wednesday, November 5<sup>th</sup>, there will be “Clearly You Crystals” from 10 AM to 2 PM. The craft allows you to get a picture engraved into a crystal.
- **Ms. Anna Hardy** - “Creepy Cabaret” will be taking place in the main auditorium at 7 PM on both October 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>

**Meeting was adjourned at 4:42 PM**

*Brian L. Strickler, Secretary*

**Presentation by Mr. James Blankenship**

**Given on behalf of Career Services**

### **Upcoming Career Fair:**

- There will be a career fair on November 12<sup>th</sup> in the Ballroom

### **Services offered by Career Services:**

- **You are here to one day get a job!**
- Career services can help with mock interviews, job shadowing, and interviews

### **Tips:**

- Employers' main complaints about Concord students are 1. bad resumes and 2. no work history
- If possible, get a part-time job while you're at Concord

### **Contacting Career Services:**

- The Career Services office in Student Center room 211
- Mr. Blankenship is available through e-mail
- Appointments can be made through Handshake, accessible through the myCU app (click on the "Student Employment" button).

### **Internships:**

- Southern Highlands just bought the large building across from the Princeton post office on Mercer Street; this will be a good source for careers and internships in the future
- Internship opportunities can be found at the upcoming career fair

### **Mock Interviews:**

- Career services is able to bring in people from specific fields to tailor mock interviews to specific jobs

### **Student Employment/Handshake:**

- All on-campus jobs are supposed to be posted through Handshake
- Your Concord single-sign-on account will get you into Handshake

### **Resumes:**

- Will be required for all on-campus jobs
- Mr. Blankenship can give feedback on resumes
- Be cautious about using AI, as it's obvious when AI was used to write a resume
- Never use the same resume twice; try to tailor it for whatever job you're applying for