

SGA fills open seats, swears in new senators, discusses plans for semester

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During their second meeting of the semester, the Arkansas State Student Government Association (SGA) discussed a few of the projects planned for the semester and also swore in the peer-voted freshman senators.

SGA swore in a group of seven freshman senators before moving on to fill a sophomore and junior seat. The meeting also gave the senate members a chance to meet with the deans of their colleges.

From the staff reports, the executive board announced their presence at the ribbon cutting for the new Windgate Hall of Art and Innovation on Sep. 11. SGA President, Kate Malone, a senior strategic

communications major from Germantown, Tennessee said it is important for SGA to attend these kinds of events in order to engage the student body.

"We're the faces of the students' voices, so we want to be at everything that we're able to be at," Malone said. "If we can connect with the right people, we can really make change on campus."

Another announcement during the staff reports was regarding this semester's financial wellness initiative campaign. Chauncy Betts, a senior strategic communications major from McGehee, Arkansas, said the team plans to create more resources for students to promote personal finance while aiding students in obtaining funds to cover tuition.

"There's a lot of students that don't understand how to handle their personal finances when it comes to their bills and things of that nature," Betts said. "My

overall idea is for there to be a financial worker center on campus with more peer-to-peer or one-to-one conversations so I can come up to somebody and say for instance, 'I'm gonna graduate. How much do I need for an apartment?'"

For the association's future endeavors, Malone said she hears the major concerns of the student body such as parking and housing and is working with the respective departments to figure out solutions.

"We've definitely brainstormed in the office things we would love to do, but there is a line of what is realistic and within our jurisdiction," Malone said. "There is a reason why things have not been done, even if it seems obvious."

Malone said a few resolutions are in the works to fix smaller issues around campus as well, such as repairing the cell phone charging stations and adding campus flex dollars as a currency



Photo by Allie Carson | Editor-In-Chief

Interim chancellor Calvin White speaks to the members of the Student Government Association during their second meeting of the semester.

for the vending machines.

"It's all things that we are concerned about and wanting to fix. It's just a matter of connecting with the right people," Malone said.

During the meeting,

interim chancellor Calvin White attended to give a few motivational remarks to the association and wish the senators well on their work this semester.

"We want to hear your voices

this year," White said. "We want to hear your concerns this year, but we also want to hear your solutions to some of the problems you will experience on campus."

Arkansas State fans show support for Red Wolves in Memphis

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Across the river, the Arkansas State University Red Wolves faced the Memphis Tigers over the hot Labor Day weekend. The heat and away game didn't stop Red Wolves fans from supporting their team.

In Memphis' territory, surrounded by a sea of blue, some red stood out at the Arkansas State Alumni tailgate. Alumni and students alike took a timeout from their busy schedules to support their Red Wolves in the rivalry game.

Jackson McGinnis, a sophomore accounting and business economics double major from Marion, attended, along with multiple members of his fraternity Phi Delta Theta.

"I believe everyone should make an appearance at every game as best as they can, and that I'm trying my best to show my support for A-State," McGinnis said. "I hope to tailgate at every single game, home and away,

and just be a good presence in the stands and cheer them on."

During the tailgate, the A-State band and spirit squads performed for the fans, playing the fight song and other game day songs in preparation for kickoff.

Angela Austin, an A-State double alumni was an undergrad from 1996 to 2000 and a graduate student from 2000 to 2003, has attended many A-State tailgates and away games over the years.

Austin said she attended several big games over the years, including the Red Wolves' game against the Razorbacks and the last Memphis vs A-State game in Tiger territory. She also attended multiple bowl games including one against Bowling Green and another in New Orleans.

Austin said she really enjoyed participating in the Memphis tailgate.

"All of the alums coming from around the world," Austin said. "Just seeing the

camaraderie among the fans, and we're excited to cheer on our Red Wolves."

A-State fans gathered around tables to eat, drink and socialize, while others played Connect Four or watched the television that was set up at the tailgate.

Mark Wiggins, a 2007 A-State graduate attended the tailgate and the game with his family. He said his favorite part of tailgating is the atmosphere.

"The music, the food, the friends, the laughter, the band. It's just a great day to be a Red Wolf," Wiggins said.

While the result of the game wasn't what these A-State fans were looking for, Wiggins said he thinks the team has improved since the last time the Red Wolves played the Tigers.

"I think we've done a really good job bringing in quality talent from the portal and retaining as much as we had from last year. I'm looking forward to another bowl-winning season," Wiggins said.



Illustration and photos by Allie Carson | Editor-In-Chief

Alumni, students, spirit squads and band at the tailgate and in the stadium during the Arkansas State Red Wolves rivalry game against the Memphis Tigers.

Pre-Law Club kicks off semester with local judge and taco table

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LIFE EDITOR

The Pre-Law Club held its first meeting of the semester Thursday, kicking off the new school year by welcoming a local district court judge as speaker, on the third floor of the A-State Humanities and Social Sciences building.

The opening event for the Pre-Law Club was accompanied with a Build-Your-Own-Taco stand, courtesy of the local Mexican restaurant Casa De La Fiesta. As attendees lined up to build their taco, executive staff of the club welcomed the crowd of arriving students, overflowing with both returning and new club members.

The Pre-Law Club aims to organize efforts that will best prepare A-State students for their career path in the legal field. Levi Seward, a senior political science major and Pre-Law Club president from Blytheville, Arkansas, shared his intent for the club following their first meeting.

"As far as this year, we just want to be a guiding light for the students, for the student

community, in absence of a law school," Seward said. "It's our student organization's role to fill those gaps to prepare students for life beyond undergrad and a career in law."

Moving forward from past years, the Pre-Law Club is seeing a renovation in their Law School Admission Test (LSAT) study sessions, another service offered by the club to assist undergrad students with law school applications.

John Thompson, a junior political science major and Pre-Law Club government, law & policy chair from Pine Bluff, Arkansas, discussed the priority of this new initiative moving forward.

"Our main goal [this year] is just trying to prepare students for the LSAT, we are actually going to be doing that very differently this semester because we actually want people to be able to retain information and just be able to give the LSAT their best foot forward," Thompson said.

As students sat for the meeting's initiation, they were greeted by district court Judge Tommy Fowler, who was the

guest presenter for the club's opening event. A night of delicious Mexican food paired with an insight of the realities of a career in the legal field, as Judge Fowler shared his perspective and experience with student attendees.

An A-State alumni and 1993 R.E. Lee Wilson Award recipient, Fowler represented the university upon his return, spreading wisdom to current students looking to follow in his footsteps in the legal field and emphasizing the value of integrity for future members of the profession.

As the meeting came to an end, the new members of the club left with a promising introduction to the Pre-Law Club. Anthony Lopez, a third-year economics major and Pre-Law Club business chair from Jonesboro, said he hopes students interested in law stop by a meeting.

"If you're a student interested in law, [the Pre-Law Club] wants you to know that we're here to help you," Lopez said. "Even if you don't know what you want to do yet, just come, stop by, and give law a try."



PHOTO COURTESY OF LEVI SEWARD, PRESIDENT OF THE PRE-LAW CLUB

Those in attendance for the first Pre-Law Club meeting of the semester pose for a photo on the stairs in the Humanities Building. Judge Tommy Fowler was in attendance for this meeting and is featured in the photo.