



**56th Senate Meeting  
October 13, 2023**

***I. Call to Order 2:32 pm***

**A. Call to Order**

**B. Roll Call**

- Chair Fess
- Senator Rogers
- Senator Sims
- Vice Chair Wimberly
- Senator Franzini
- Senator Wright

***II. Adoption of Agenda***

**A. October 13, 2023**

-Agenda PASSES

***III. Approval of Minutes***

**A. September 29, 2023**

-Minutes PASSES

***IV. Administrative Address***

**A. Administration**

Dr. Tomso

- Hello, I came to introduce myself and let you know how your role intersects with my role. We are involved in student life and equity, belonging, and safety for students on campus. I wanted to come by before a possible war broke out; I also wanted to celebrate your success in student life this week. We had over 14,000 enroll and turned away freshman applicants for the first time this year. Students who graduate are earning the most post-graduation. I want to thank you for all of these successes. You make this place welcoming and open to all students from every background, even if we all disagree. You are our ambassadors. This year, the number of students from outside the county campus increased 20%. We have reached our peak international student enrollment this year.

There are more challenges today for students and student leadership. We have students here who are struggling. We have global and local problems. I want to challenge you to think about these global and regional issues. Leadership is about patience, perseverance, and dedication. A strong, thriving SGA is the key to a thriving university campus. Only student government has been left untouched by new regulations on diversity. This body is the only body left with spending influence on DEI. I have mentioned the Israel and Hamas situation. Please read up on that, as we have students on campus who are being directly affected. We have sent out letters for students who may need financial assistance and psychological assistance. You need to be prepared and informed to make responsible decisions regarding your conversations. No one else is here to lead but you. I wanted this address to be happy. We are at the top of our game. Incorporate these challenges into your leadership. Please invite me back if I can be of service to you.

Dr. Woods

- Good afternoon. It is a pleasure to serve under Dr. Tomso; I hope you know the impact of a leader like him. I just want to give a quick rundown of Homecoming. Our highest-attended event was Colchis, with 966 students. We hosted for the first time the Homecoming pageant. It was a good time and really entertaining. Canon Fest, 366 students came out. Argo Rally was very successful, a great partnership with athletics. There is no way we can be as influential without Student Government.

## ***V. Guest Speaker***

### **A. Greek Drive**

- Hi, we had a small drive between the FSL organizations, and we wanted to have a presentation for the most donations. We would like to support ATO and SAM, both raised many donations for local charities. Many other FSLs raised donations for other organizations and charities as well. I would also like to thank Dr. Woods, President Range, and Chair Bell for all of their help and support during Diversity Week.

### **B. Patti Spaniola, Director of Conferences and Events**

- Hello, we have a special event coming up that was put together with students in mind. We are having a No Defense PFAS Symposium. These are chemicals that, if entered into our bodies, will stay forever. We would like to inform you about this event so you can spread the word. We will have a documentary played and a panel after, including Sara Gaimm, Anthony Spaniola, Cathy Wusterbarth, and Craig Minor. They will also be

here the following day to speak on each of their specialties involving PFAS. We hope you will come out and attend and spread the word.

- PFAS does affect your body as an endocrine system and can cause cancer. It is exciting to be able to be able to part of the change. Thank you!

### **C. Chris Hinnant, Crime Prevention & Training Sergeant**

- Hello, I was asked to speak and tell you a bit about the police department, and the Vice President asked if we could work on some initiatives. I have been with the university for 17 years. The University of West Florida Police Department's mission is to support the university's values in enhancing the quality of life and allowing for a safe academic environment. How do we do that? You have to feel safe. We are a full-time operation. 24/7, 365. We are building 94, and the door is always open. We are fully accredited. We have been vetted by a board that is made up of people with set standards of what set qualities and means we need to meet. It took three years of work to get there. We have revamped the department's system and culture, providing you, as the students, a better environment. You can contact us through the Guardian app; you need your UWF email to download. It is a great way to contact us and for us to contact you. This app has a panic button and non-emergency numbers as well. There are also resources outside of the university as well. There is a map of the trails on campus as well. We also have blue lights on campus; these are built-in radios, and you can contact us immediately. You can also use the blue-light resource for non-emergent situations as well. You can also call 911; it will not go to us. The dispatcher will forward the call to us. We have a direct extension, and the red phones on campus will go directly to us. We also send out mobile alerts over the phone. We encourage family and friends to sign up for mobile alerts and emergencies. We have a safety escort program as well. We will walk you to your car or dorm if you feel unsafe. We also have the RAD program, which is Rape Aggression Defense. We will train people to have situational awareness and how to get out of these situations. These will show you basic self-defense techniques. We also have Operation Identification. We also have property theft. This is a way we can help find missing property, specifically tracking it through a serial number.
- The classes for self-defense are Saturday and Sunday, all day Saturday, and half day on Sunday after Sunday.
- A UPD officer will arrive on the scene to a blue-light system in around one minute at night and two to three minutes during the day. Our response to calls is swift.

## **VI. *Appointments***

**A. None**

**VII. *Unfinished Business***

**A. None**

**VIII. *New Business***

**A. Resolution IV**

- read by authors
- Questions: none
- Debate: Author- the year we have to pass that we endorse Civil Discourse.
- VOTE: 12
- RESOLUTION PASSES
- Motion for a second reading by Senator Dawson, seconded by Senator pass
- Debate:p we need to pass this
- VOTE: 12
- RESOLUTION PASSES

**IX. *Executive Addresses***

**A. President Range**

- Hello, We hosted ArgoRally, and 1,000 people attended the volleyball game; the event was a success—shoutout to Director Hicks for a great Diversity Week. Thank you to everyone who participated and helped; it's been great seeing everyone get involved. Take a break and some time off. Shoutout to Chair Bell for an excellent Homecoming. Thank you to everyone. this has been a lot, and we know you guys don't have to do this; I came into this with a lot of ideas, and to see it come to life has been amazing. and I am so grateful to all of you, and I appreciate you all. It has been amazing to see, and we are getting a lot of great feedback from faculty and students. I really appreciate you all. We are thinking of Pink Week for Breast Cancer Awareness Week; we would like to pick out the Commons and athletics. We are possibly doing an event with FSL as well. Please call if you have questions.

**B. Vice President Montoya**

- Thank you to everyone; it is very important that we sit in on Chair meetings; thank you so much for that. FC has a very busy week next week. Make sure that the mentors are helping your mentee. FC won second place in the Golden Fleece challenge, and we are so proud.

**C. Chief of Staff Nolan**

- None

**D. Treasurer Brown**

- None

**X. *Legislative Addresses***

**A. Senate Pro Tempore Hicks**

- Senators, we will be doing a Lighting Survey walk; this is mandatory for Senators; invites have been sent out. You do have a mandatory event per month; we do keep track. Make sure you are not on your phone for the Senate. Keep the integrity of the Senate. Have a great weekend.

**B. Secretary Johnson**

- Review the minutes, and let me know if you have any questions or issues.

**C. Budget & Allocations Committee Chair Pogreba**

- We received applications for group travel to Arizona; we can only allocate \$100 for that because of previous budgeting events. A project grant will be filming a short film on campus; we allocated \$300.

**D. University Affairs Committee Chair Fess**

- Hello. We have been advertising green fees, and we have received an application. If you have any questions, please contact me. We do have some tabling scheduling. We are working on a budget for tabling. After the green fee, we will begin working on other projects
- Dr. Woods: The Green Fee is open to all students and faculty.

**E. Student Affairs Committee Chair Bell**

- Hello, Thank you to everyone who volunteered for Homecoming. Thank you, FC, for signing up for Diversity Week. Congratulations on second place. I sent a Google sheet for Breast Cancer Awareness tabling. We are working on an event before or after Thanksgiving.

**F. Senate Addresses**

- None

**XI. Adjournment**

**A. Standing Committee Reports**

**B. Closing Announcements**

- Hello, UWF singers are doing a joint concert with TRF; this event is to raise awareness for pediatric cancer. The organization helps with family expenses.
- The entrepreneurship club is hosting an event with Sandy Sansing, and we will be hosting that next Thursday in the Commons.

**C. Public Statements**

- None

**D. Final Roll Call**

- Senator Rogers
- Vice Chair Wimberly
- Senator Wright

**E. Adjourn**

- **Motion to Adjourn by Senator Dawson**

- **Seconded by Chair Fess**
- **ADJOURNED at 3:42**