

# **SGA Handout**

## **Who we are & What we do**

### **What is the SGA?**

We represent the students at UAM. As stated in our constitution, “It is the established purpose of the Student Government Association of the University of Arkansas at Monticello to promote the interests and opinions of the students on matters that affect them. To establish and promote projects that are beneficial to the student body, and to be the official voice of the students on matters of policy and its implementation.”

### **DUTIES OF THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION**

- To serve as the governing body of the student body.
- To actively establish and execute programs and projects that are beneficial to the students.
- To serve as the official channel of communication with the faculty and administration, and with all levels of government with respect to the needs, wishes and opinions of the student body.
- To ensure fair and active representation in the various decision-making functions of our campus by appointing qualified students to faculty-student and administrative committees, and to the UAM Assembly.
- To promote and improve relations between the community of Monticello, and the students of the University of Arkansas-Monticello.
- To exclusively supervise, conduct, and publicize all campus-wide student elections.

### **Senators**

Two senators are elected from each department to represent their department and the interest of its students. The Senators review, recommend, and vote on issues that affect the student body and how SGA should address these issues. The five at-large senators assist the departmental senators and represent the entire campus. Some of the requirements for senators are listed below.

### **REQUIREMENTS FOR SENATE MEMBERS:**

There shall be a general requirement of a 2.00 cumulative grade point average. Senators must maintain a 2.00 cumulative grade point average while serving.

Roll shall be taken at each meeting of the Student Senate, and Senate members with three unexcused absences shall cease to hold office. In such case, the President may nominate and, with approval of the Senate by a majority of Senators present and voting, may appoint, a representative to fill the vacancy thus created.

If you are unable to attend an SGA meeting, excuse forms are available at the Student Programs office. Excuse forms should be submitted at least 24 hours in advance. Excused absences shall be given for the following reasons: death in family, special emergencies, and for serving as an official representative of the University. Excused absences shall be determined by the SGA President.

### **Types of Legislation used by Student Government**

- Enactments deal with legislative proposals that do not need to be sanctioned by any authority other than the Student Senate, which create programs, and/or initiate actions. Enactments may be passed by a majority vote of the Student Senate present and voting. In the event of a President Veto, the Veto may be overridden by a two-thirds vote of the entire voting Senate. **(Senate proposals, activities initiated by SGA, and/or programs for the general student body. Usually only affect students and SGA)**
- Resolutions deal with any subject that the Student Government Association wishes to address and make public as its opinion. Resolutions may be passed by majority vote of Senators present and voting. **(No action is required. Used to vocalize support or opposition to a situation)**
- Petitions shall deal with matters upon which the Student Government Association wishes to express its views and that require action or support of a higher authority. Petitions may be passed by a majority vote of the Senators present and voting. **(Involves action with UAM Administration. May involve the implementation of a new policy or a revision to an existing one.)**