



Meeting Minutes

Thursday, September 10, 2026, 7:00 p.m.
Southern Shoppe, Bietz 1st Floor

- I. Attendance - One senator was absent; quorum was present.
- II. Adoption of the Agenda
 - a. Heaven Robles moved to adopt the agenda. The motion was adopted, 20-0.
- III. Worship - Samuel Calvelage
 - a. Samuel Calvelage led worship from Numbers 21 and 2 Kings 18, encouraging senators not to lose sight of Christ as the purpose of their service and leadership.
- IV. Committee Updates
 - a. Mascot Management Committee - Samuel Calvelage
 - i. The committee reported that the mascot suit has an approximately two-week cleaning turnaround.
 - ii. The email address mascot@southern.edu was created for mascot-related communication.
 - iii. Three new employees were hired, and the committee is preparing for upcoming mascot appearances.
 - b. Bylaws Committee - Asher LeVos
 - i. The committee met during the week and is preparing a proposal regarding elections and the Elections Manual for the next Senate meeting.
 - ii. The committee plans to meet with Dr. Dennis Negron the following Tuesday to review the proposal.
 - c. Finance and Scholarship Committee - Jacob Koh
 - i. The committee reviewed plans for the remainder of the semester.
 - ii. John-Mark Touchard and Sarah will meet with Ms. Hostetler in Advancement regarding scholarship matters.
 - iii. The club appropriations application period is underway. The deadline is September 25.
 - d. International Student Committee - Don Lloyd
 - i. The committee is planning a welcome-back party for international students and finalizing the event budget.

- e. Social Committee - Heaven Robles
 - i. The committee is planning a celebrity look-alike contest for September 30 at 6:30 p.m.
 - f. Sustainability Committee - Isabella Dixon
 - i. The committee is continuing to establish its priorities and is researching water-bottle filling stations and possible areas for improvement.
- V. Project Proposal - Isabella Dixon
- a. Isabella Dixon presented a proposal to replace the School of Journalism and Communication TV studio intercom system.
 - b. The current system is more than 10 years old, two headsets are completely broken, the main hub does not function properly, and crew members frequently have to work without headsets.
 - c. The system is used for SAU News, Ignite, and other productions and events. Approximately 80-90 students use the system each year, as frequently as three to four times per week.
 - d. The proposed replacement is a Hollyland Solidcom SE Pro 9S nine-person wireless intercom system, which would provide one more headset than the current system.
 - e. The quoted cost is \$1,165.59 with the academic discount, or approximately \$1,273.40 if sales tax applies. Free two-day shipping is included, and no additional installation cost is anticipated. Dixon will verify whether sales tax applies.
 - f. The project was endorsed by Stephen Ruf, Associate Professor in the School of Journalism and Communication, and Dr. Rachel Williams-Smith, Dean of the School of Journalism and Communication.
 - g. Dixon proposed allotting \$1,273.40 to the School of Journalism and Communication for the purchase of the new intercom system.
 - h. Discussion addressed the applicability of sales tax, possible cost-sharing with the School of Journalism and Communication, comparable systems, and whether SA could access the studio equipment when needed.
 - i. A point of order was raised reminding senators to be recognized by the chair before speaking during discussion.
 - j. The proposal will return to Senate for a vote at the next meeting.
- VI. 2026-2027 Student Association Budget - Henry Valderrama
- a. Senate granted Henry Valderrama permission to address the body. The motion was adopted, 21-0.
 - b. Henry Valderrama presented the finalized 2026-2027 Student Association budget and reviewed the major adjustments across SA departments.
 - c. Discussion addressed senator compensation, prior-year rollover funds, GL accounts, the Social budget, Senate project funding, and budget account terminology.
 - d. Senate granted Alexis Grentz permission to address the body regarding senator compensation. She explained the senator pay structure and the budgeted maximum rate.

- e. Heaven Robles moved to extend discussion by three minutes. The motion was adopted.
- f. Don Lloyd moved to extend discussion by five minutes. The motion was adopted.
- g. Senate granted the Social Vice President, Ruthie Roque, permission to address the body regarding the Social budget. The motion was adopted.
- h. Don Lloyd moved to postpone consideration of the budget until the next Senate meeting. The motion was not adopted.
- i. Heaven Robles moved to extend discussion by four minutes. The motion was adopted, 17-4.
- j. Aaron moved to close debate. The motion was adopted, 21-0.
- k. Jacob Koh moved to approve the 2026-2027 Student Association budget as presented. The motion was adopted, 19-1, with one abstention.

VII. Announcements

- a. Proposal Hunt
 - i. Additional proposal ideas include improving access to the club storage cages and expanding pickleball facilities.
 - ii. Leadership reported that prior-year rollover funds are now part of the Proposal Budget, with approximately \$100,000 available for larger projects.
 - iii. Potential larger projects include dedicated pickleball courts and a kitchenette/serving-preparation space in the Grid. Three senators are needed to assist with each project, and an interest form will be distributed.
- b. Constituent Communication
 - i. Census has been completed and senator constituent assignments are available in Teams.
 - ii. Senators were instructed to email their constituents within two days with the August 27 and September 10 Senate minutes and relevant food-services information, and to solicit constituent feedback on current proposals.
- c. University Committees
 - i. University committee assignments have been finalized. Senators should contact their assigned committee chairs to introduce themselves and obtain meeting schedules.
- d. DEEP Sabbath
 - i. DEEP Sabbath is this Sabbath. Senators who volunteered to assist were asked to remain after the meeting for additional instructions from Alejandro.
- e. Senator Portraits - Will be scheduled after remaining Senate membership is finalized

VIII. Adjournment

- a. Jacob Koh moved to adjourn. The motion was adopted unanimously.
- b. The meeting adjourned at 7:49 p.m.

Matthew DeOliveira - Executive Secretary
 Student Association - Southern Adventist University