



## **USA Meeting Minutes**

April 14, 2022 | 6:00 pm

### I. Welcome & Roll Call

- A. Jess Wojciechowski - University of Utah
  - B. Penny Mills - Dixie State University
  - C. Benjamin Ferney - Weber State University
  - D. Brady Curtis - Snow College
  - E. Nouman Kante - Southern Utah University
  - F. Lucas Stevens - Utah State University
  - G. Lindsay Simons - Salt Lake Community College
  - H. Paul Victor - Brigham Young University
  - I. Karen Magana-Aguado - Utah Valley University
  - J. Tanner Marcum - Student Representative
  - K. Cathryn Fitzpatrick - Chief of Staff
- New Presidents:
- L. Ethan Baker (BYU)
  - M. McKay Pollmann (SUU)
  - N. Jackson Rowley (Snow)
  - O. Taylor VanderToolen (UofU)

P. Devon Rice (UTU/Dixie)

Q. Clara Alder (USU)

R. Ashley Potokar (WSU)

S. Lexi Soto (UVU)

## II. Introductions

## III. Mission/Purpose/History of USA

A. USA works with many organizations across Utah in order to promote civic responsibility among students statewide.

B. The structure of USA has changed over the years to allow more responsibilities and power to the student body presidents at each institution.

C. USA supports and networks between every institution within the State of Utah. They also work closely with the Commissioner's office, Board of Regents, and individual Board of Trustees.

D. USA should not endorse any political agenda. USA represents over 190,000 students. Discuss all decisions and information as a group and institution presidents, VP's, and advisors.

E. Future meetings:

1. May 11-13th, Utah Tech campus: ULA

2. July 13, 2022, 6:00pm, Heber City, UT

3. July 14, 2022, 9:00am: Meeting with UPSIL

## IV. Past and Current Initiatives

A. This year's initiatives included: Lauren's Promise (domestic violence victim support), Menstrual Products (gender equity in education), FAFSA Campaigns (socioeconomic equity in education), and Names

& Pronouns (inclusive and safe learning environment). Each institution has worked on these initiatives on their campuses. A USA resolution was passed for Lauren's Promise.

V. Budget

A. Incoming presidents have to make the decision on how much FTE funds they will request. The budget is available to all presidents on the USA Google Drive Folder.

VI. Student Regent Job Responsibilities

A. The Student Regent is among the Utah Board of Higher Education. This person attends every USA meeting and presents on events occurring at the state level.

VII. Overview of the Board of Higher Ed & Strategic Plan

A. Utah Board of Higher Education oversees the Utah System of Higher Education. Under USHE are the 8 institutions and 8 technical colleges. The Campus Safety and Advisory Council is a part of USHE while USA operates among the 8 institutions (plus BYU).

B. There are 6 areas of focus that the Board covers. These include system unification, access, affordability, completion, workforce alignment, and research.

C. Utah's College Access Advisors: College access advisors are recent college graduates who support high school students on the milestones to college. They are reaching over 80% of Utah's senior class.

VIII. Adjourn



## USA Meeting Minutes

April 15, 2022 | 9:30 am

### I. Welcome & Roll Call

- A. Jess Wojciechowski - University of Utah
  - B. Penny Mills - Dixie State University (Utah Tech University)
  - C. Benjamin Ferney - Weber State University
  - D. Brady Curtis - Snow College
  - E. Nouman Kante - Southern Utah University
  - F. Lucas Stevens - Utah State University
  - G. Lindsay Simons - Salt Lake Community College
  - H. Paul Victor - Brigham Young University
  - I. Karen Magana-Aguado - Utah Valley University
  - J. Tanner Marcum - Student Board Member
  - K. Cathryn Fitzpatrick - Chief of Staff
- New Presidents:
- L. McKay Pollmann (SUU)
  - M. Jackson Rowley (Snow)
  - N. Taylor VanderToolen (UofU)
  - O. Devon Rice (UTU/Dixie)

- P. Clara Alder (USU)
- Q. Ashley Potokar (WSU)
- R. Lexi Soto (UVU)
- Not in attendance: Ethan Baker (BYU)

## II. Student Regent Interviews

- A. The Student Board Member position works collaboratively with USA. The SBM is a non-voting member of USA. The role includes keeping USA informed about initiatives from the Utah Board of higher Education, as well as about student feedback they hear as the chair of the USHE Campus Safety and Equity Advisory Council.
- B. The interview format included 8 questions from the presidency. The interviews lasted around 20 minutes. The presidency asked the questions and the interviewee directed answers to the presidency.
- C. The questions asked were as follows:
  1. Tell us about yourself.
  2. What is your understanding of this position and why are you interested in becoming the Student Board Member?
  3. What is the systemic issue in higher education you're most passionate about and how have you demonstrated solidarity with and/or advocacy for students affected by this issue?
  4. Tell us about a time you had a disagreement with a supervisor or peer. How did you approach the disagreement and work towards resolution of the issue?
  5. Tell us about an accomplishment you're most proud of. Why is it your proudest and what is the biggest lesson you learned?

6. If you were appointed Student Board Member, what would be your strategy for receiving student feedback from marginalized students across the state who may not be involved in traditional and formal leadership roles?
7. The Student Board Member position can require 10 or more hours of your time per month. Tell us about a time there were a lot of competing priorities and demands on your time. How did you balance your time and resources to ensure you could fulfill your obligations?
8. Do you have any questions for us?

D. The order of interviews were as follows:

1. Dallin Tripp
2. Aarushi Rohaj
3. Xitlalli Villanueva
4. Parker White
5. Morgan Olson
6. Kyson Ercanbrack
7. Ermiya Fanaeian
8. Luis Ramirez

### III. Candidate Deliberation & Ranking

- A. Each candidate was discussed. Following this discussion, each outgoing and incoming president ranked the 8 candidates to provide a top 3 list to send to the Governor's office.

### IV. Adjourn

USA Meeting- ULA  
St. George, Utah  
Utah Tech University Campus

2:30 Meeting Minutes

## USA Elections

- USA Elections
  - Utah has not paid dues, no vote as of right now
  - BYU is not a state institution, do not have a vote
- Presidency positions
  - No extra travel except maybe one trip for legislature
  - President \$750, other positions \$500 per semester
  - Advisors are typically whoever the advisor of the elected president are
- Budget
  - Very limited budget as of right now, possibly in the red unless everyone pays dues
  - If dues are not paid, no voting rights are given and expenses are not paid for during meetings/trips

## Initiatives

- Must be beneficial to the general body not just to one school
- Ideas
  - More transferable credits (Idea from UVU, backed by Utah)
    - More information is wanted but it appears to be a popular idea among the group
    - Credits from 2-year to 4-year schools but also 4-year concurrent enrollment credits to 2-year schools
  - Mental Health Initiative, Possibly App Access (Idea from UVU, backed by Utah)
    - BYU offers a mental health app with student ID
    - UT steering away from more apps
    - Needs to be a broad statement, nobody opposes
  - Student Retention (Idea from SLCC)
  - Hispanic Serving Institution (Idea from SLCC)
  - Student Engagement (Idea from Snow)
    - All-encompassing idea to help with retention, mental health, etc.
    - Peer groups, mentorship programs, etc. Utah and UVU have seen benefits
  - Social Security Numbers required for concurrent enrollment high school students, disheartening to students without a SS number (Idea from UVU)

- Athletes, other groups required to participate in other events to involve to unify student body (Idea from Snow)
- Marketing the resources that are already available (Idea from UT)
- Faculty pay increases are affecting tuition costs, look into what effects are being seen (Idea from USU)
  - 5.75% increase in wages was seen in state employees EXCEPT FOR higher education



USA Meeting- ULA  
St. George, Utah  
Utah Tech University Campus

5-13-22

9:00 AM Meeting Minutes

Initiatives (continued from Wednesday USA meeting)

- Undocumented students (continued from Wednesday)
- Transfer of credits (continued from Wednesday)
  - Zero cost idea, partner with board of education with the idea
  - Tying in undocumented students in this initiative, removing the necessity of social security number
  - Difference between the idea and the programs that already exist that allow you to see where and how credits will transfer
  - Is it something that needs to be taken care of at this level or can we do this alone at our own institutions?
- Do more research on initiatives and find out what our institutions need then come back with more information and deciding then what the initiatives should be
- Motion to research and come back with more information in July and vote on initiatives then
  - Initiatives that will be researched and revisited
    - Transfer Credits
    - Mental Health
    - Wage Increases in Tuition
    - Undocumented Students

Hotels and Meals for UPSIL meeting from USA funds were approved



## USA Meeting Minutes

July 14, 2022 | 6:00 pm

- Welcome
- Approval of last meetings minutes
  - *Moved: President VanderToolen/ Seconded: President Alder/ Vote: Unanimous*
- Elections for USA Presidency
  - *Mr. Lake read the responsibilities of the presidency and president.*
  - *Nominees included President Simons, President Alder, and President VanderToolen. A motion was made to close nominations by President Alder, seconded by President Simons, and unanimously voted upon. The board then decided to hear two minutes of presentation with questions to follow.*
  - President Simons: I'm from SLCC and my pronouns are she/her. I am a non-traditional student, and it was difficult to go back to school as I feared feeling a sense of belonging. I was proven wrong. I felt like I belonged, and I want all students to feel that way. I want to focus on two things: connections and collaboration. Building relations when we go through something hard or need advice. Once we have established those relationships, we can learn how to work together. I want us to all be able to use our unique perspectives to problem solve. This is my second year and I believe I have necessary experience.
    - President Rice: What would you like to accomplish this year that you didn't this year.
      - President Simons: We missed out on building connections. We didn't use each other as resources throughout the year like I feel like we could have.
  - President Alder: Please reference the paper I handed out for what I want to deliver on. I'm a very empathetic leader and I want to emphasize our voices with our initiatives. I recognize that we are busy with our schedules and timetables. I want to be realistic. I want to help lead our group. USU is present in almost all of our counties, so I understand the diverse needs of our state. I have time to dedicate to this organization. I'm very familiar with USHE and have worked with them before. We need to update the constitution, create a welcome packet for all students, and advocate against the 5.75% proposed student increase. The things I want to change in the constitution is update the portion about the budgets and stipends. Also, explore the need of the legislative vice president.

- President VanderToolen: I want this group to contribute to things statewide. I want our students to benefit the whole state. I want to understand all your initiatives and work to move things to USHE and other state departments. I'll keep you all in loop.
  - President Rice: What would you like to do to get the University of Utah back in the picture?
    - President VanderToolen: Getting our advisors more involved with USA and mend relationships with this group as well as UPSIL. I want to open communication channels.
- *President Simons and President Alder were the nominees and President Alder was ultimately voted to be the new USA President for the 2022-2023.*
- *President Alder then went through the responsibilities of the Executive Vice President. President Simons and President Soto were the two nominees interested in the position. The representative filling in for President Soto, Mr. Bennett, spoke for President Soto.*
- Mr. Bennett: Lexi has hit the ground running. Lexi was one of the best senators last year, in my opinion. She is very dedicated. You can definitely rely on her. She is a business major and has that kind of experience.
  - President Rice: Why was she interested in this over the president?
    - Mr. Bennett: She wanted to focus on things at UVU.
- President Simons: I want to emphasize that I support Clara. I would love to work with her. I have prior experience that I can bring along with the interests of our different campuses.
  - President VanderToolen: What were some of your favorite initiatives last year
    - President Simons: At my school, we got free period products. I wish we could have worked more with different campuses, particularly the ones that already finished that initiative.
- *The first initial vote was a tie. President Pollman was able to leave a meeting to hear the same presentations from the candidates and cast his vote. After a revote, President Simons was selected as the Executive Vice President.*
- *President Alder then explained the responsibilities and duties of the Legislative Vice President. Mr. Bennett indicated that President Soto was interested in the position. President Simons nominated President VanderToolen who rejected the nomination. President Soto was voted on and approved as the Legislative Vice President.*
- *The board unanimously approved closing the voting process with a motion from President VanderToolen and a second from Ms. Mortensen.*
- Budget and fees
  - *Ms. Zimmerman explained the previous years budget and the carry-over into this year of \$8,802.34.*
- Advisors meeting update
  - *Ms. Zimmerman explained that an advisors meeting took place yesterday during the UPSIL conference. She explained that colleges used to pay fifteen cents per full-time equivalent that went into the commissioner's office. That structure changed in 2013. Last year, USA collected five cents and all advisors felt*

*comfortable keeping that. They want to update the constitution. Westminster would like to have a seat at the table again. Advisors suggested looking at the financial needs, which included the stipends for the presidency, the student regent interviews, and UPSIL. It is suggested the other meetings be moved exclusively to a virtual option. Typically, initiatives don't cost that much money. Advisors felt that if they did cost money, that it could be split up equally or the institution could simply pay for how the initiative is conducted on their campus. They would also like each institution to pay for their own dinners and meals while traveling for USA related business. That could also include private institutions being a part of the presidency if they are paying the same amount in fees.*

- *A discussion was opened regarding the fee for the upcoming year. President Rice indicated that lowering the fee would put a burden on his institution. President VanderToolen expressed concern over the perception of the costs moving exclusively to the institutions.*
- *President VanderToolen moved to table the discussion of setting a fee until September with a second from President Rice. The board unanimously approved.*
- *A motion was made by President VanderToolen to amend the agenda to explain the updated USA Website, Ms. Mortensen seconded, and the board approved.*
- Website
  - *Mr. Lake explained the updates to the website.*
- Constitution/House Rules
  - *President Alder announced that the USA Presidency will bring a draft in a future meeting of the constitution and house rules in a future meeting. Suggestions are welcome.*
- USA Future Meetings
  - *September 2, 2022 (Zoom)*
  - *October 7, 2022 (Zoom)*
  - *November 4, 2022 (In-Person, location TBD)*
  - *December 2, 2022 (Zoom)*
  - *January 6, 2023 (Zoom)*
  - *February 3, 2023 (Zoom)*
  - *April 13, 2023 (New President Training)*
  - *April 14, 2023 (Student Regent Interviews)*
  - *A discussion was opened on frequency of meeting in person. President Simons expressed her appreciation for the every-other meeting being in-person. President Rice said he would like to meet at least once more in-person before April.*
- UPSIL Presentation
  - *President Alder explained that there will be a presentation tomorrow during the UPSIL conference introducing USA and Katie Mazzie.*
- Initiative's Discussion
  - *President VanderToolen expressed his desire to reduce his mental health professional sign-up time at his university. President Simons expressed her desire to advocate for undocumented students and become a support to them including prioritizing funding for them. President Alder discussed her desire to lobby the state to pay the full 5.75% increase for higher education rather than just three-quarters of it and putting the remaining amount on institutions which would likely*

*be paid through raising tuition. Mr. Bennett suggested working on making credits at institutions more transferrable to other institutions. The board decided to take the main initiative proposed and discuss those with institutional presidents and student councils to decide what was most important for each university. Those initiatives were to advocate for the state to pay the full 5.75%, focus on undocumented students in the state and how to best assist them, and mental health wait lists.*

- Campus Updates
  - *President Rice said the campus community likes the new branding. They desire to make a big new impact with the new name. President VanderToolen expressed how his institution is trying to expand and improve. Ms. Mortensen said they are working on student involvement and marketing. President Baker is creating an app for student life. President Simons is wrapping up trainings for the year. Mr. Bennett is having a ribbon cutting ceremony for new dining on his campus. They are also working on cross-campus collaboration. President Alder discussed her statewide tour of all the USU campuses. President Rowley talked about how they have an interim president and no advisor. Snow is trying to get people back together post-covid. President Pollman discussed how his institution's president search will conclude tomorrow. SUU is focusing on mental health.*
- Adjourn
  - *President Simons made the motion, President VanderToolen seconded, and the vote was unanimous.*

Present: President Clara Alder, President Lindsay Simons, President Devon Rice, President Jackson Rowley, President Ethan Baker, President McKay Pollman, President Taylor VanderToolen, Mr. Keaton Bennett, Ms. Colette Mortensen, Mr. Timothy Davis. Ms. Linda Zimmerman. Mr. Dexton Lake



**USA Meeting Minutes**  
**September 2nd Meeting**  
**12:30-1:30pm | Zoom**

**Attendance:** Sydney Kap, Linda Zimmerman, Clara Alder, Jackson Rowley, Lindsay Simons, McKay Pollmann, Taylor VanderToolen, Devon Rice, Lexi Soto, Ashley Potokar, Xitali Villanueva

**Not in Attendance:** Ethan Baker

**Welcome** - Clara Alder – President, Utah State University

USA Appointment

- o Approval and Introduction of Sydney Kap, Chief of Staff
- o Approved and appointed Sydney Kap- unanimously

Campus updates

- Lindsay Simmons, President, Salt Lake Community College (IN DEPTH)
  - ◆ First Orientation/ convocation
    - 2,000 attendees
  - ◆ Mega Fairs → club fairs and campus resources
    - Career fair as well
  - ◆ Last year's dance was the first dance in fifteen years
    - Well attended and loved by the community
  - ◆ HACU, working on becoming a more inclusive Latinx community
- Clara Alder (usu), 73% of our freshman class is enrolled

- Super busy connections program
- Up on enrollment
- HUGE day on the quad
- Big turn out this year for everything
- The campus is full of energy

→ Lexi Soto (uvu)

- ◆ Convocation, Huge turnout
- ◆ Ending their second week

→ Mckay Pollmann (SUU)

- ◆ Had a good tailgate
- ◆ Got to meet the new football coach
- ◆ Campus has been really social

→ Ashley Potokar (WSU)

- ◆ Late night at weber went super well
- ◆ Super social week and future look at all the campuses
- ◆ Future Drag show at weber state

→ Xitali Villanueva

- ◆ Board meeting
  - SUU approval for the president
  - Research roles in general and how we can use our research
  - Campus safety and equity committee has at least one person per campus on the committee and it supports safety regionally and within campuses

→ Jackson Rowley (Snow College)

- ◆ Snow College won football
- ◆ HUGE turnout from outside of Ephraim as well

→ Taylor VanderToolen (University of Utah)

- ◆ SUU will be playing at UU
- ◆ Excited to be doing recycle rice eccles
  - Free tickets if you recycle

- ◆ Working on being more social on their campus
  - Post covid had hit them hard and there is a huge turn out for events in general

→ Devon Rice (Utah Tech)

- ◆ Code Red was just created, similar to blue crew
  - Quadrupled applications this year
- ◆ Foam Dance had to get set back (because weather) was able to have two foam dances instead and had a lot of people.
- ◆ Huge turnout for their events
  - 30% attendance or higher
- ◆ Mental health is up from last year
- ◆ Big concert big next year
- ◆ Focus on engagement is turning out great

Budget

- FY22 Current budget
  - General consensus approval of 5 cents
  - Devon Rice, notion
  - Lexi
  - Ashley
  - Passes unanimously
- Discussion for USA FY23 fee (FTE)

New Business

- CAMPUS CUP
  - Voter registration challenge
    - The most voters have a lot of points
  - Other things to increase your points
    - Visit the county clerk's office
    - Contact Lexi for more information
  - SUU has won the past few years
  - Updates every Monday once it starts
- Future meeting discussion
  - Next USA Meeting: **October 7th, 12:30-1:30, Zoom**
  - Works for everyone, need to keep it quick



## Initiatives

- Tuition increase
  - State Regent
    - Utah State and the University of Utah have the largest problems
    - Need to work within institutions
  - Utah State
    - Leaning towards tuition increases
    - We have increased every year outside of 3 years
    - Technical colleges are covered 100% by the area you live in
  - Weber State
    - The focus is more on undocumented students
    - Tiny tuition increase
    - Making sure that people can be safe
  - SUU
    - Relies on the addition of students instead of tuition increases
    - Leaning towards undocumented students
  - SLCC
    - Does not support all the tuition initiative
  - UVU
    - Undocumented students are being covered by no need for social security for concurrent enrollment
    - The Mental health initiative is important and they are working on hiring new therapists
  - Snow College
    - Mental Health support and working on the food bank
  - University of Utah
    - Sees why USU and University of Utah need to be teamed together for this
    - Thinks we need to work together
    - Work on FASFA
    - Wants to work on funding
    - Make an Op-ed informing the legislature that they understand what is going on when it comes to tuition. Informed on what is occurring amongst tuition

- Mental health, working on it along with SUU
- Utah Tech
  - 25% match of what the state is making
  - Thinks it is worth thinking about the wage increase
  - More money to put into admin wages
  - Competitive pay but housing is super difficult in Saint George so something that needs to be thought about
  - Undocumented students don't have a lot of information on them within Utah Tech, president Biden should be watched before they change everything
- Undocumented students
  - Across all of Utah state, there is already a huge push on Hispanic communities
  - Talk about getting as much information for each campus
  - Grants and different scholarships are worth thinking about

#### Adjourn Meeting

- Lindsay notioned to end the meeting
- Devon seconded



## **USA Meeting Minutes**

### **October 7th Meeting**

### **12:30-1:30pm | Zoom**

Welcome - Clara Alder – President, Utah State University  
Public Forum

- No one had anything to talk about

Presidents Report

- Split the two main initiatives into groups
- Approval of the minutes from last month
  - Lexi moves
  - Mckay seconds
  - Unanimous

Unfinished Business

- Initiatives (groups)

New Business

- Budget Approval
  - WordPress and GoDaddy budgets approved
  - Utah student association name will be 21 dollars
    - All are annual charges for the amount
  - The budget will be around 3,700 after we decide on these things
  - 43 views on our website from last month
  - Budget Approval
    - Mckay motions
    - Jackson seconds
    - Unanimous

Initiatives discussion

- Talking about groups and interests
    - No one so far has had anything negative to say
    - Cesar says Devon is definitely in the right place with tuition
  - Future meeting discussion
    - Next USA Meeting: November 4th, 12:30-1:30, Zoom
- \*Weber might need to do the 11th

Campus Updates

- Lexi Soto, Utah Valley University (in-depth)

- Why it matters conference
  - UN came, and talked about the decade of action (2020-2030)
  - Service projects
  - Fashion shows
- My voice matters (next week)
  - Campaign her
    - Women in office come and talk about local politics
    - Practice running your own campaign
  - Voter registration
  - Mike Pence came to UVU
    - People protested and they felt their voices were heard
  - Lemonade with Lexi
    - Intentions to get to know their president better
  - Mascot Name Change
    - Athletics Meeting
    - Student-Athletes meeting
    - Didn't end up changing it
  - Vision 2030
    - Include
    - Engage
    - Archive
  - What's next?
    - Redesigning generals
      - For more transfers in and out available
    - Wednesday start day: starting next year
    - Insomnia
      - Halloween tradition
        - Blender events
        - Event design
        - Fun drinks
    - Fall enrollment
      - 41,262 (6.09% up from last year)
- Clara Alder (Utah State University)
  - Homecoming week
  - Safety tools for statewide
  - Safety walk for the area
- Cesar Ruiz (Utah Tech)
  - Chaos for Halloween is on the 29th of this month
  - Creating a student center (\$5 million dollars that will be matched if raised outside of that)
  - Foam dance attendance (3,600 last year) 4,200 this year. 800 Increase in engagement
  - 25,000 engagements this year. Increase and ahead of last year
  - Reaching a goal of more of a social campus
- Mckay Pollman (SUU)
  - Homecoming week
  - Inauguration for president this week
  - Broke student record for most attendance at a football game
    - 4500 students in their student section
  - Steve Young visited and so did Governor Cox
  - Working on getting more initiatives from last year

- Mental Health initiative
    - Crisis' is down from the previous year
    - Took 4 more weeks than last year to fill up their psychologists
- Ethan Baker (BYU)
  - 40% increase in social media engagement
  - Homecoming next week
  - Green week next week
  - Increase in attendance at Cougars Skate
  - Working on consolidating the student life calendar, so clubs and student-led organizations can access and organize it
  - The campus is empty with so many kids going down to watch Notre dame v. BYU
- Taylor Vandertoole(UU)
  - Swae Lee came for homecoming last night
  - Played Oregon State last week
  - Lots of traditions happened
  - Campus Climate, initiative
    - Recycle Rice Eccles
    - Sustainability
    - Planting White cherry blossom trees
  - College Gameday for ESPN is coming next week
- Jackson (Snow College)
  - Homecoming next week
    - Tackled the S to the mountain
  - Ordered 350 pairs of skates
    - Skate nights
  - New On Campus Hospital
    - Mental Health and student discounts
    - Medical needs
  - Swing Dance
    - 550 kids come out to swing
- Xitalli (Weber State update)
  - Powerpuff this week
  - New UVU app
  - Homecoming week
    - Hair is purple
    - Pool is purple
    - Super fun
  - Undocumented students
    - Legislature has already been passed to give the schools choice
    - The legislature could take steps away from the work we have already down
    - Try to educate yourself and your colleges the best way you can
    - Don't take steps back
- Xitlalli Villanueva, Student Regent
  - Undocumented students
    - Legislature has already been passed to give the schools choice
    - The legislature could take steps away from the work we have already down
    - Try to educate yourself and your colleges the best way you can

- Don't take steps back
- Tuition increase
  - Research the support that we can get from the commission office
  - Be aware of resources and mental health already
    - High-impact involvement can impact the way we talk about mental health
    - Involvement could affect it positively or negatively so look into that
  - Food pantry
    - Make sure it has proper availability
    - And has the right kinds of food
  - Safety board
    - Talks about Equity and safety
    - A promising avenue to work on getting more charges for these kinds of issues
    - Disabilities are also going to be talked about
    - The next board meeting is in November at Weber state if anyone wants to come
      - Use the resources as best as you can for the initiatives we are working on

#### Advisor Announcement

- Next meeting we will meet in groups and talk about what we need
- Most schools just use the state's model for DEI inclusion
  - USU is working on revamping and restructuring
  - BYU has the office of belonging
    - Personalized because of the church
    - Got a new president for the office
      - Religion first and states model second

#### Adjourn Meeting

- Jackson moves to adjourn
- Ethan Seconds
- Unanimous to end the meeting



**USA Meeting Minutes**  
**November 4th Meeting**  
**12:30-1:30 pm | Zoom**

Welcome - Clara Alder – President, Utah State University

Attendees:

Lexi Soto (UVU)

Clara Alder (USU)

Dexton Lake (advisor fill-in)

Lindsay Simon (SLCC)

Ethan Baker (BYU)

Jackson Rowley (Snow)

Sydney Kap (chief of staff, USU)

Devon Rice (UT)

Taylor Vandertoolen (UU)

Approve the minutes:

Devon Motions, Lindsay seconds, passes unanimously

Clara Alder- Thank you to everyone that has turned in their dues:  
please turn in your dues. Needing to turn them in as quickly as we can

## Presidents Report Jackson Rowley-

### Unfinished Business

- Initiatives
  - Lexi- constitution
    - No one on the committee has found anything that is uninclusive
    - Wanting to change some of the words that are more about being inclusive for students in general
    - Changing the name of the USA chief of staff to something else also would clarify a lot of that stuff
    - Fix typos in there as well
    - more name changes and combining a subarticle
    - We will need to meet together and vote and approve the constitution
    - Trying to have everything approved by the next meeting
  - Lindsay - alternate FASFA form
    - Ashley is exploring at weber what they have been using in the past
    - Taylor is also ready to support and be involved as much as he can be
    - How do we bring this issue straight to the legislature
    - Is the student on the hill happening?
    - If we want to do this, this year
  - Clara Alder - Tuition changes
    - Governor Cox doing a tuition freeze
    - Want to collectively write a letter of support for this bill
    - Will be able to go by the time we meet next time
    - If we are being able to help out with the tuition freeze, we will be able to help them suggest they help us alleviate some of the stress we have overall everything
  - Lindsay says that she doesn't understand why they are expected to support this letter if they aren't all supportive of it



- Clara- this is just us being able to talk about everything and be able to support something, not an expectation that we need to do anything besides support this
- Devon Rice- the tuition freeze would kill Utah Tech, they would have to fire 8-18 full-time employees, and senate bill 102 has a ton of surplus money in it. We use this momentum to target them to help us cover our wage increase instead. Possibly this is what we need to do instead of targeting other things. If we need to do this, we should instead be pushing extremely hard for them to help us fund this situation.
  - Jackson also supports this for Snow College
  - Jackson, Devon, and Clara will be presenting to Senator Wilson and go and speak on this.

## New Business

- Budget Approval
  - Lindsay brings up a budget and paying dues → does not have anything to update besides that an email will be going out this week to the schools that haven't done anything yet.
- Future meeting discussion
  - Next USA Meeting: December 2nd or 9th, 12:30-1:30, Zoom
    - The second would need to be 1 pm on the second

## Campus Updates

- Jackson Rowley, Snow College (in-depth)
  - Number one two-year school in the US
  - Looking into starting some four-year programs
  - Two campuses: Ephraim, Richfield: more of a tech program in Richfield
  - Snow college just got a wrestling team at the Richfield campus
  - our snow, our time → try to make it feel more official for everyone that comes for two years so they feel more supported overall
  - 24 languages represented there by international clubs and

other things

- New advisor and new interim college president
- A small town that is super fun and busy going on
- Very rural area
  - Ax throwing, roller skates for the first time, and lots of clubs and things to get involved in
- LDSSA, pride club
- Well known for their sports, snow college football is ranked number 5, internationally known for their national stage as a whole
- Athletes get really well known for how many people get picked up from there
- Sheep run: Farmers have their sheep run through campus to get home to their farms for the winter
- Jackson Rowley, GETTING A GIGANTIC S on the campus
- Having offices on campus that are better for involvement
- Homecoming week was super fun and busy across all campus
- Lexi Soto (UVU)
  - Annual scholarship donors' ball
    - 200-300 dollars per seat and even more per table
    - Helps raise money for the presidential scholarships (whole bachelors degrees)
    - Hosted a growth and prosperity summit
      - She presented
      - Gives alot of hope for the end of the year
    - Breaking attendance records for volleyball games
    - Insomnia dances (similar to the howl for usu) rebuilding traditions
- Devon Rice (UT)
  - Homecoming week this week
    - Playing SUU this week
  - Revived the 60-year-dead tradition
    - Battle of the Ax: ended up being killed off because of the ugliness of all the fans
  - Engaged, 5x the whole enrollment (equivalent to every student showing up to 5 events)

- Had a Halloween dance event (this is named chaos), did not hit the goal, but was still good. 3500 attendance → super large amount we have had
  - Working on a sense of belonging (mental health initiatives)
  - LANY could possibly be going on to their campus
    - Shoots for 5000 tickets, trying to find a sweet spot. Could move to a larger venue if they sell out quickly
- Lindsay
  - Reorganizing the whole student association
  - Want to focus on representing the whole student population
  - Advisors will be taking over more of the events
  - Student associations will be taking over more of the serious issues with slcc, retention crisis, talking to more students, and reaching out further
- Ethan Baker
  - Had a large Halloween event → most expensive one they have ever had
  - Got approval to air the world cup games on their large screen in the garden center
  - Just started a panel called untold stories, share on the heavier topics for BYU: LGBT, byu dreamers (undocumented students)
  - A faith and values conference in Washington DC next week
- Taylor Vandertoolen
  - Sustainability within football and climate practices have been talked about that
  - MUSS appreciation game and dream game this week
  - Planted Cherry Blossoms around the block U, which has helped with sustainability conversations
  - Elections packets are starting to be filled out
  - Excited and pumped about the things to come for the U
- Clara Alder (USU)
  - Howl sold out, 5700 attendees: resells were crazy
  - Fort valley state, just paired up together with them this week to be sister colleges

- Will help us with internships and becoming more involved and inclusive
- They are an HBC
- Just finalized Aggie Action which is the plan for the next 5 years
- Land, water, and air research center → giant presentation for the legislature so people will know what we need
- Proud to wear the USU uniform campaign → get to know our public safety and get to know the connections with public safety officers
- Up 15% in attendance within underrepresented groups
- Aggie Impact → raise half a billion dollars with donors for all of us
- Ethan baker: what does collabing with fvsu mean
  - Answer: we have a lot of interns who work together for our land grant universities, agriculture research, and creating pools for us to be able to teach classes and research together.

Adjourn Meeting

NEXT MEETING December 2nd at 1 pm.



**USA Meeting Minutes**  
**December 9th Meeting**  
**12:30-1:30 pm | Zoom**

Welcome - Lindsay Simmons – President, SLCC

Attendance: Clara Alder (part of the meeting), Taylor Vandertoolen (part of the meeting), Jackson Rowley (snow), Xitlalli (student regent), Lindsay Simmons, Linda Zimmerman, Devin Rice (UT)

Public Forum

Presidents Report

Special Guest Presentation - Degree Insurance

- A presentation on degree insurance and what we should be doing with them
- Trying to work with schools within Utah to create more coverage for everything
- Every year for five years post-graduation help them with tax returns
- A new novel concept to introduce the product to their groups of people
- Utah tech has already had this presentation
- Wants to understand how to best present to the student body and present to them what they are doing
- Market - university at large or the students
  - Sells to the university or a program
  - So things like transfer students or other students
- Schools make money by graduating their students

- Lindsay → student forums and the best ideas with it
- Taylor → thinks this could be problematic with graduation rates and things like that
  - Wants more resources and who they think has the ability to get that money
  - Students aren't asking for insurance so they aren't sure where to reach out
  - Humanities college at the University of Utah has had some public attention on this
  - Taylor wants Wade to email slides and more things like that
  - Oklahoma has been looking at buying this at the state level for your company
  - Insurance is an interesting concept to think about based on what he is saying

## Unfinished Business

- Initiatives
  - Devon Rice (Utah Tech)
    - Students are not in support of a tuition freeze because most of the state's institutions aren't in support
      - Most of the government is also NOT in support
    - Governor Cox said that only Utah Tech isn't interested but when looking at all of the presidents and administrations feels that it could be a political stunt
    - Also, most of the chairs of trustees are supporting it but they aren't as close to the group
    - Asking if we can draw up the letter to the board of higher education
      - This is a good strategy instead of emailing the legislature
    - Asking if anyone has support for it
  - Xitlalli brings up the facts that if we are freezing tuition freezes then we will have student fees issues
    - SUU hasn't changed its tuition in 7 years and that could be a model to look at
    - Committee meeting next Friday on affordability and

those kinds of things

- Jackson wants to write this letter as well from Snow to show how governor Cox could be doing this because he doesn't understand or know what is going on
- Devon wants to push this letter before December so that people can be getting ideas and information to everyone
  - Utah Student Association is some of the only people who can reach out and push them to be a certain way
- Clara → trying to approach this in a careful manner
- Xitlalla → believes everyone should be going to a board meeting so that we can be talking to them in the way we need to
  - Will help draw up a plan or the letter to be sent with them
- Clara feels that Xit would best help us by guiding us through this process and best understanding this process
  - Coming up with a month-by-month and step-by-step email and letter campaigning plan
  - What should the timeline be?
    - Xit → we need everything to be done by March because that is when tuition raises come up
    - Believes that tuition raises are done without much thought and this way we are saying let's just be more careful with this
    - Also let's finish by march and open this conversation up
    - Need to be bringing this up and bringing this to the commissioner the way we want it done
- Jackson Rowley → thinks the board of education is helpful, the executive appropriation committee is super helpful and getting everyone on the radar is helpful
  - Because these people are put in by Governor Cox
    - Affordability conversation is definitely the biggest conversation
- New Business
- Budget Approval
  - Book hotel rooms for next semester

- Hold on voting until more members
- Future meeting discussion
  - Next USA Meeting: January 13th, 12:30-1:30, Zoom

## Campus Updates

- Clara Alder (USU)
  - Board of trustees, meeting about freezing tuition
    - This would make us lose 85-100 employees
  - The President of the university is leaving
- Lindsay Simmons (SLCC)
  - Working on retention this month
  - Bookstore scholarships and FAFSA scholarships coming
  - Will be changing presidential cabinet views
- Devin Rice
  - Thursday Updates
    - Updates on what he is doing as a president on his Instagram
    - Gives some introductions to people who know one who knows
    - Being raw and having no filters gives everything out
    - Utah Tech sports have been up and a lot bigger this year, talking dirt on SUU
    - Looking into Digital Signage on campus
    - Getting rid of the A-frames that aren't doing anything useful for us
    - Bus stop signs and digital signs on buses and things to be able to update things faster and make it easier
  - Jackson Rowley (Snow)
    - Snow just started a committee to search for a new college president
    - Just got roller skates for their skate nights starting soon
    - Just barely missed the national playoffs for football
    - Had an end-of-year ball (big attendance of 6500 students)
  - Xitlallti (weber standin for Ashley)



- The student section is growing
- Changing the campus from a multicultural club situation to every culture having its own club so that we can be more supportive
- For student regent
  - Safety and equity on campuses, meeting up next week
  - Affordability conversations, very passionate about them and excited to see this
  - Everything is going well and will be for the future
  -

### Adjourn Meeting

- Motions: Clara
- Seconds: Jackson Rowley
- Unanimous approval of adjournment



**USA Meeting Minutes**  
**January 20th Meeting**  
**12:30-1:30 pm | Zoom**

Welcome - Clara Alder – President, Utah State University

- Clara opens meeting
  - o Entertains motion to approve last month's meeting minutes
    - Lexi moves
    - McKay Seconds

Public Forum

Presidents Report

- Clara talks about meeting with senator Milner from Ogden, and how the senator asked to remove student reagent from the higher board of education
  - Senator Milner wants to remove her in the process of them cutting the board in half
  - In Texas this led to a fractured relationship with the board of trustees, the board of higher education and the student presidents
  - o Also they have talked about having a different group of people interviewing, and if they changed this we wouldn't have as much say as an association
- Debate about if we should have our training dates as April 13-14<sup>th</sup> and if that will need to change based on what we do when it comes to electing the student reagent.
  - o Student reagent letter of support is attached
- Devin rice (utah tech) suggests that we change to more of you

need us angle v. a we need this from your angle of the letter.

-

## Approval of Constitution changes

- Lexi Soto and Committee
  - Changing the constitution to be clearer and more concise
    - One of the smaller changes, CSSO to student affairs
  - Trying to make sure that presidents know that they are supposed to be sending a proxy if they can't attend a USA meeting
  - Xitlalli suggests that we should be adding that student reagents would be able to be reappointed to the position for more than one year
    - An option to reapply so that we could see or possibly have more terms but have to apply amongst new options as well
      - Clara suggests we wait until after the outcome of the student reagent issue comes to terms then
  - Motions to table to approval until a later date
    - Clara motions
      - Devin seconds
    - Unanimous votes for tabling
  - Side note Lexi is working with our Facebook page to create president highlights so everyone can get to know our organizations more and understand purposes

## Letter writing for Student Regent

- Clara Alder
  - Talked about in the presidents report

## Day on the Hill

- Xitlalli Villanueva
  - Presidents are invited on February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023 to the day on the hill luncheon to get to know each other
  - Isn't happy that students aren't invited anymore
  - Will be invited now

## New Business

- Budget Approval
  - Devon moves to use our budget for our April trainings
    - Jackson Seconds
    - Everyone approves
- Future meeting discussion
  - Next USA Meeting: February 10th, 12:30-1:30, Zoom

## Campus Updates

- Xitlalli Villanueva, Student Regent
  - Talks about her position:
    - Her position needs to be more involved with USA, and tuition freezes
      - Her position helps open up advocating for the students and advocating for what our say in something is
        - The government is oftentimes a very exclusive club which the student reagent is able to stand and help push for us more
      - Has a meeting with senator Milner because she is at danger with losing the importance of what a reagent is
      - A student that votes and sits on the higher board of education
      - Also, her board position is almost too small because she is in charge of representing all college students in the state of Utah
      - Talks about how to better connect as student reagent and USA and how to make the USA a larger voting power for students
      - The bill is being read the February 7<sup>th</sup>
- Ethan Baker (BYU)
  - Less recruiting for winter semester
  - UVU and BYU deans met together to create cohesion between the two
  - Creating service projects together
- Jackson Rowley (Snow)

- Softball player passed away in mountain green on Friday
- Been really difficult, somber night and lots of painful times
- Campus is feeling super close and really binding together
- Grand opening of the roller skates on Monday
- Western governors is invited
- New College President is coming
  
- Devon Rice (Utah tech)
  - Campus is kind of quiet but lots of events and involvement this year
  - Brings lots of social and campus community
  - Pretty chill at the moment, but going well, name change has helped a lot
- Lexi Soto (UVU)
  - In the middle of student fee hearings
    - Working with stewards and talk about where student fees went and where they will go
    - UVU is dealing with the tuition freeze
    - Elections are coming soon and elections committee is starting
    - Super excited for the future
- Clara Alder (USU)
  - Fee board meeting this week
    - Big change with tuition freeze
    - But positive narratives
  - Cool gift from Sawyer
    - Big check for events
  - Full swing in presidential search for new president for Utah State
    - Opportunities this week for students and professors to voice opinions
  - Last reminder that our group needs to look over and finish our letter for the student reagent so it can be finalized by the end of the day.

Adjourn Meeting

- Clara motions to close the meeting
- Devon moves
- Jackson seconds
- Everyone agrees



## **USA Meeting Minutes**

### **February Meeting**

**12:30-1:30 pm | Zoom**

The meeting started by Clara Alder

Public Forum

Xitlalli Villanueva

Day on the hill is business casual and attendees should arrive early to network

Be there around 11:20

Meet at the location that Xitlalli sends in GC near the parking

The bill has been interesting because there are so many positive aspects and the opportunity for two students to sit on the board and the size recommendation to keep at 16 members may be overshadowed

House-sponsored and in debate

The bill (SB 146 with senator Millner) is to shrink the size from 16 members to 9 members and 1 student member.

The bill has been interesting because of how many positive things it provides.

The size change may be getting overlooked and there are complications with this new size: The student will have to be versed in both technical college and degree universities.

USA should push for two students to best ensure representation

Meeting with decision-makers to decide what the next steps are after the bill passes

Lindsay and Xit joined a meeting about dreamer laws and the wording on some leaves choices to institutions

Look into policies around institutions to find the best ways for them to help dreamers

Presidents Report

Clara Alder

Tuition and state salary compensation

Board of trustees meeting is saying it is proposed that the coverage from state is 12.5% covered by institution  
Last year we had a 5.75% increase and this year is 8.75% which is incredibly high  
Even with that new coverage by state Utah State would still have to find  
~\$2million

SB 146

How can we make sure that the bill continues to be pushed and get the attention  
Personal updates about day on the hill from committee

## Campus Updates

Lexi from UVU

Elections have started  
Really great candidates  
No one to fill academic senate position  
Homecoming is this week  
Very excited  
Past month department heads have come in and given reports on spending  
Next steps: Board of trustees → Utah Legislature

Ashley from Weber

Candidates are declaring and elections are soon  
Creating centers of belonging  
Student fee recommendation committee  
Presentations → Final decisions

Carson from SUU

The government branch is coming to day on the hill  
Working on elections  
No candidate for senate academics

Taylor from UofU

Research day on the hill  
Pushed for day on the hill but got shut down by hinkling(?) Institution  
Xit spoke on the potential new day for USA day on the hill  
Bringing back day on the hill for multiple different schools. It  
would probably be next year  
Multiple attendees of today's meeting talked about their struggles with day on  
the hill and why it's so important  
Recommend reaching out to other schools about the positives  
Linda spoke about how before covid there were days similar to day on the  
hill:  
10 Students from each institution would lobby for the bills that  
will help higher edu  
Individual organizations will get assigned specific days and  
talk/lobby for whatever will fill the needs



We should meet with commissioner's office and push for more students to come rather than just presidents  
Xit talked about how it is important to go and lobby for new bills etc  
Clara talked about the value of creating a space for networking/shoulder rubbing. Ensuring that its not intimidating but overall it's a great event and shouldn't be a exclusive event

Elections are underway,

Big focus on mental health for this coming year and new centers

Clara alder

Police chief has stepped down due to family reasons

Will be moving to SLC

He did great work and he will be missed. Students will carry on the high standards he set

Legislative session

All of the things USU is lobbying for are very

Building a new building in the Navaho nation

Met with decision-makers and locals to best define how to ensure that the building helps the community

Elections

USU has started elections and has revamped with rank choice voting and hopefully more peaceful voting and campaigning

When others end elections USU needs a count on new presidents and their information to prepare for April 13/14 training

If we want to get the same hotel as last year we have to use hotel.com and prices are cheaper with no cancelation

Keeping April 13<sup>th</sup> is a go

For those who live in Wasatch valley – will they want to stay home or have a room at the hotel?

TBD depending on room availability

The updated budget is on google drive and there is not much change but available for review

Clara Motion to adjourn Clara

Ashley so moved

Carson second

Adjourn Meeting