



## UTAH STUDENT ASSOCIATION MEETING

### Zoom Meeting

<https://usu.zoom.us/j/84050603997?pwd=Dr7qVCb7XfmN07gSw4AIbt0UBIEDQU.1>

**September 21, 2026: 3:00 PM - 3:45 PM**

**Mission:** The mission and purpose of the Utah Student Association (USA) is to:

- Represent the interests and preserve the rights of the students of higher education in the State of Utah.
- Work with various government entities to initiate positive changes and be a voice for the students.
- Foster the educational goals and promote citizenship and civic responsibilities among students.
- Advocate for the students!

**Term Vision:** One Utah. One Voice. Is a platform of activism dedicated to equal representation, loud advocacy, and strengthened unity for all students across every college campus in Utah.

### **3:00 PM - COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

#### **3:00 PM – 3:05 PM - Welcome (5 min)**

- Call to Order
- Vocal Roll Call

#### **3:05 PM – 3:10 PM - Chief of Staff (5 min)**

- Candidate Discussion
- Vote

#### **3:10 PM – 3:15 PM - Board of Higher Education Student Member**

- Introduction

#### **3:15 PM – 3:25 PM - Institutional Reports (10 min)**

- Updates from each institution
- Common student concerns

#### **3:25 PM – 3:35 PM - Initiative Updates (10 min)**

- Social Media Presence: Beau
- College Week of Service: Abigail
- Student Fees: Kenzie
- Housing Support: Max

- AI Policy: Brighton & Emmett
- Lobbyist Relations: Erica

**3:35 PM – 3:40 PM - USHE Update (5 min)**

- Recent Meeting Updates
- Next Steps

**3:40 PM – 3:45 PM - Budget & Decision Items (5 min)**

- Budget Report: Linda
- Items Requiring USA Approval
- Additional Business

**3:45 PM - Adjourn**

---

**1. Call to Order**

3:05 PM, the meeting was called to order by Chair Beau Kendrick

---

**2. Roll Call**

Roll Call was conducted by Beau Kendrick

Present:

- Tyler Shumway: Board of Higher Education Student Member
- Brighton Jakeman: Westminster University
- Symbrei Wamsley: Salt Lake Community College
- Kenzie Porter: Southern Utah University
- Erica Stringham: University of Utah
- Max Alder: Utah State University
- Emmett Busby: Weber State University
- Herby Fullmer: Utah Valley University
- Talon Rasmussen: Snow College
- Beau Kendrick: Utah Tech University

Not Present:

- Abigail Hooper: Brigham Young University

Additional attendees included: Carly Venable, Caden Birch, Jill Tryhall, Luke Kerouac, Linda Zimmerman, David Higashi.

---

### **3. Chief of Staff Vote**

Beau Kendrick entertains a motion to make Carly Venable USA Chief of Staff

- Tyler Shumway motions to approve Carly as Chief of Staff
  - Max Alder seconds the motion
  - The motion passed unanimously
- 

### **4. Board of Higher Education Student Member & USHE Update**

Introduction of Tyler Shumway

- Tyler Shumway, a senior at the University of Utah studying Quantitative Analysis of Markets and Organizations, is the newest student member of the Utah Board of Higher Education for the 2026-27 academic year.

USHE Update:

- Tyler provided an update from the previous Higher Education Board meeting, where the Technical College Strategic Plan was discussed. A key focus was how technical college programs can better serve students, including how many students the programs are expected to serve and how institutions can best support them.
  - Beau asked how student leaders can support and contribute to ongoing conversations surrounding technical education.
  - Tyler shared that he will be reaching out to gather additional information and gain a more informed perspective on the technical college dynamic.
- 

### **5. Institutional Reports**

Talon: Snow College

- Snow College recently celebrated Homecoming, and overall things are going well. Student involvement has increased significantly this year, with events averaging approximately 650 students out of a total student population of around 3,500. Talon shared that there have been many opportunities to connect with students and learn more about what they would like to see to enhance their college experience. Snow College is also beginning work on its fee board process and is seeking student representatives to serve on those boards.

Herby: Utah Valley University

- Student attendance and engagement at events have exceeded projections so far this semester. UVU is working closely with departments across campus, focusing on fostering greater collaboration with areas such as the First-Year Advising Center and the library. Herby also referenced the September 10 Day of Service and noted that campus concerns

surrounding that date have now passed. Information regarding the USA fee will be shared soon.

Emmett: Weber State University

- Weber State is on a positive trajectory and continuing to make progress on its goals. This year, the Student Association is focused on the theme of “Leading with Unity.” The cabinet has been working together to strengthen unity across the student body. One initiative is a Unity Parade, which they hope to make an annual tradition highlighting the different groups and individuals who make up the Weber State community.

Kenzie: Southern Utah University

- SUU is currently celebrating Homecoming Week. Kenzie has also had opportunities to participate in meetings related to strategic investment and other institutional topics, allowing for greater understanding of different areas of the university. Students are excited to be back on campus, and the semester is off to a positive start.

Erica: University of Utah

- A major focus this year is increasing student engagement and collaboration across different campus communities. The University of Utah is working to launch a campus-wide tailgate in partnership with the MUSS to strengthen the game-day experience. They are also developing traditions such as Lawn Fest, a pop-up event series. They are finalizing advocacy priorities and will begin moving forward soon. In recent weeks, student health, safety, mental health awareness, prevention, and support have been major areas of focus following a scooter accident and a student death by suicide. Erica also noted challenges involving conflict among different campus groups and emphasized continued efforts to strengthen student support, mental health resources, and engagement.

Symbrei: Salt Lake Community College

- SLCC recently held campus safety roundtable meetings centered on shared decision-making. Last year, the college implemented a model defining different roles and responsibilities within the shared decision-making process. The college has had challenging conversations with department chairs, along with some organizational restructuring. A current priority is addressing concerns related to international students. SLCC is also working to increase school pride, including exploring a school hand sign. At the Herriman campus, they are continuing to strengthen connections with the University of Utah due to the shared campus environment.

Brighton: Westminster University

- Westminster recently held its presidential inauguration and Welcome Back Block Party. The year is off to a strong start, with all boards and senate positions filled at the beginning of the year, an important accomplishment for the institution. Student engagement has also been strong, particularly among first-year students.

Max: Utah State University

- Utah State is beginning Homecoming Week, with many activities planned. Weeks of Welcome events had strong attendance and engagement. Max also shared updates from

the Board of Trustees retreat, noting that enrollment is up and highlighting the addition of new cabinet-level members. Overall, things are going well at USU.

Beau: Utah Tech University

- Utah Tech had strong participation throughout Welcome Week, with student engagement and attendance higher than last year. Homecoming will take place in November, and the Student Association is working on an initiative to increase community involvement during Homecoming Week. Beau also shared that a student recently passed away, and a student vigil is being held this week.

Discussion: Shuttle Fee

- Talon asked whether institutions charge students a shuttle or transportation fee and whether the fee applies to all students or only those who use the service.
  - Max shared that students at the Logan campus pay a transportation-related fee.
  - Weber State also charges students a similar fee.
  - Salt Lake Community College shared that access to UTA transportation is incorporated into the student ID card.
- 

## **6. Initiatives Report**

Members were encouraged to continue working on their assigned initiatives and come prepared to report progress and possible action items at the next meeting.

AI Policy Update: Brighton and Emmett

- Brighton has been reviewing publicly available information and AI-related statements from institutions across Utah, while Emmett has been researching studies related to AI use and student perspectives. Their goal is to identify common ground and incorporate relevant research into the initiative they are developing together. Brighton noted that AI policies and practices vary significantly across institutions, with some universities providing designated AI resources or spaces while others have less transparent guidance. Snow College was noted as being particularly advanced in its approach to AI. Overall, Brighton and Emmett reported making strong progress on the initiative.

An Initiatives folder is available in the shared Drive and should be used for initiative-related materials, questions, and ongoing work.

---

## **7. Budget & Decision Items**

Linda shared that the updated budget is available in the Google Drive. The current budget reflects a deficit; however, this is expected to balance once student fee revenue is received. The budget will be updated monthly and will remain available in the shared Google Drive.

- Approval was requested to renew the USA GoDaddy website, estimated at \$140–\$179.
  - Beau entertained a motion to approve the GoDaddy renewal
  - Tyler made the motion
  - Kenzie seconded the motion
  - Motion passed unanimously
- 

## **8. Adjournment**

3:41 PM Beau entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting

Motion to adjourn: Kenzie

Second: Herby

The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned.

---