

General Assembly Meeting  
(10:30am, May 22, 2025)

Patrycja Krakowiak (outgoing president) took notes.

Dr. Dodd called the meeting to order at 10:26am and noted there was a quorum present. Minutes approved by motion by Donnie Sewell, Brad Wrayford seconded. Any old business? No

Election of two officers commenced.

President coming in. Ashley Hicks and James Katowich accepted nominations. Allyn asked for nominations from the floor. None came. Ashley and James left room. Vote and counting commenced. Ashley received 30 votes. James received 28. Ashley Hicks was named incoming President.

President elect voting. Rowan Lay was nominated prior to meeting. Tom Dempster nominated James Katowich during the meeting. Rowan Lay received 15 votes. James Katowich received 36 votes. James Katowich was named President Elect.

Vote on proposed changes to the constitution. Brad moved to vote on each change individually and Betty Brown seconded. Vote commenced. Yays have it, no nays, Donnie Sewell abstained.

Everyone took out their laptops and voted during the meeting. Each point was individually read by Allyn, and discussion was invited.

Page 73: There was a question about Deans to be added to the list. Donnie Sewell moved to add it and Mary Leigh seconded, the new language was:

“The faculty, staff, and administration of ASMSA believe the school is best served through a shared decision-making model that utilizes the knowledge, skills, and values of its collective members to advance recommendations to the **Deans/Directors, University of Arkansas System Leaders** and Board of Trustees”

All Yes, no Nos, no abstentions. → Change passed unanimously.

Page 74 (Authority): Jack Waddell moved to vote on the change as written and Mary Leigh seconded the motion to vote on it as written in the Google Form. 52 In Favor, 2 Opposed, 4 Abstained → Change approved.

Page 74 (Meetings): Mary Leigh moved to accept the change and Donnie Sewell seconded the motion to vote on it as written in the Google Form. 42 In Favor, 12 Opposed, 4 Abstained → Change approved.

Page 75 (Membership #1): Betty Brown moved to vote on the change and Zac Cowser seconded. 37 In Favor, 17 Opposed, 4 Abstained → Change approved.

Page 75 (Membership #2): Jack Waddell moved to vote, James Katowich seconded.  
Proposed change: “All other members” to “all members” 36 in favor, 8 opposed , 14 Abstained  
→ Change approved

Page 75 (Authority): Mary Leigh moved to vote, Tom Dempster seconded. 55 In Favor, 2 Opposed, 1 Abstained → Change approved

Page 76 (Meetings): Jack Waddell moved to vote and Rowan Lay seconded. 51 in Favor, 5 Opposed, 2 Abstained → Change approved

Page 76 (Committee Appointments): Vote to change “Department Chairs” to “Academic Leadership”. Discussion ensued about being vague with what Academic Leadership is. Mark Turner moved to vote and Ashley Hicks seconded. 24 In Favor, 29 Opposed, 4 Abstained.  
Change did not pass. Original language stands.

Page 76 (Policy Committees, Teaching and Learning Committee):

Point 1: Mary Leigh moved to vote and Nathan Groot seconded. 37 In Favor, 16 Opposed, 5 Abstained → Change approved

Point 2: Betty Brown moved to vote and Tom Dempster seconded. 36 In Favor, 4 Opposed, 17 Abstained → Change approved

Page 77, (Policy Committees, Facilities and Operations Committee #1):

Point 1: Mandy Glass moved to vote and Ashley Hicks seconded. 51 In Favor, 2 Opposed, 5 Abstained → Change approved.

Point 2: It was pointed out that before it said “or” and now it would include each department. Mary Leigh moved to vote, Zac Cowser seconded. 38 In Favor, 12 Opposed, 7 Abstained → Change approved

Point 3: Mark Turner moved to vote and Donnie Sewell seconded it. 47 In Favor, 3 Opposed, 7 Abstained → Change approved

Page 77, (Policy Committees, Facilities and Operations Committee #2): There was a question about what the point means and it was explained. Rowan Lay moved to vote and Tom Dempster seconded. 50 In Favor, 5 Opposed, 3 Abstained → Change approved

Page 77, (Policy Committees, Facilities and Operations Committee #3): Jack Waddell moved to vote and Tom Dempster seconded. 53 In Favor, 1 Opposed, 4 Abstained → Change approved

Page 78, (Policy Committees, Mission & Innovation Committee):

Point 1: Jack Waddell moved to vote and James Katowich seconded. 52 In Favor, 4 Opposed, 2 Abstained → Change approved

Point 2: Clarification of language was offered. It was asked if “every academic department” includes the library, then the one person representing it would be on every committee as the only member of the library department. What constitutes an academic department? This vague language is difficult. Phil Grace moved to vote, Tom Dempster seconded. 38 In Favor, 14 Opposed, 4 Abstained → Change approved.

Point 3: What does “At large” mean? An explanation was offered that outreach no longer exists. Betty Brown moved to vote and Ashley Hicks seconded. 42 In Favor, 9 Opposed, 6 Abstained → Change approved.

Page 78, (Policy Committees, Student Affairs Committee):

It was mentioned that Academic Departments may decrease the number of represented members if departments are merged. Mary Leigh moved to vote, Tom Dempster seconded. 52 In Favor, 18 Opposed, 3 Abstained → Change approved

Page 79, (Advisory Committees and Work Groups #1):

Phil Grace moved to vote, Tom Dempster seconded. 53 In Favor, 4 Opposed, 1 Abstained → Change approved.

Page 79, (Advisory Committees and Work Groups #2):

Donnie Sewell moved to vote, James Katowich seconded. 47 In Favor, 9 Opposed, 2 Abstained → Change approved.

Page 79, (Constitutional Amendments):

Is it Council or Counsel? Mary moved to vote, Betty Brown seconded. 49 In Favor, 3 Opposed, 6 Abstained → Change approved.

Page 80, (Glossary #1): Donnie Sewell moved to vote, Lola Warren seconded. 55 In Favor, 0 Opposed, 3 Abstained → Change approved.

Page 80, (Glossary #2): Mark Turner moved to vote, Mandy Glass seconded. 55 In Favor, 1 Opposed, 3 Abstained → Change approved.

Page 80, (Glossary #3): Jack Waddell moved to vote, Brian Isbell seconded.

Discussion: Outreach Department no longer exists (it is under Admissions now). 44 In Favor, 6 Opposed, 8 Abstained → Change approved.

Everyone present was invited by President Dodd to add comments to the Google Form on any of the points under vote.

General Assembly requests should please be brought to the Governing Council so please bring them to our attention.

Any new business? No. Josh Ulrey moved to close the meeting and Mary seconded.