UA Little Rock Student Position on the Board of Visitors Proposal

Student Government Association

UA Little Rock - Office of the Chancellor

Date: 10/15/2026

Purpose

The Student Government Association proposes establishing a permanent student representative position on the UA Little Rock Board of Visitors, held by the sitting SGA President. This position would give students a direct, consistent voice in the discussions and recommendations that shape the University's direction.

Rationale

SGA is charged with representing students in the University's decision-making process. Fulfilling that responsibility requires meaningful access to the groups that influence institutional priorities. The Board of Visitors advises the Chancellor, UA System President, and Board of Trustees on matters affecting UA Little Rock's development and operations.

Students experience the effects of university decisions firsthand. Their perspectives can help identify needs, anticipate consequences, and inform recommendations before decisions are finalized. Although the Board's current operating policies permit student input, a permanent position would make student participation an established practice rather than an occasional invitation.

Proposed Position

SGA recommends that the University and Board pursue the necessary policy changes to:

- Establish a permanent student seat held by the SGA President for the duration of their elected term.
- Provide advance access to meeting agendas and materials appropriate to the position.
- Allow the representative to participate in discussions, present student concerns, and offer recommendations.
- Include a standing SGA report on regular meeting agendas.
- Require the representative to gather student feedback and report appropriate Board updates to the SGA Senate.

Expected Impact

This position would strengthen shared governance, improve communication between students and university leadership, and ensure that the Board's recommendations reflect the experiences of the students it serves.

Students should have a consistent voice where the University's future is discussed. Establishing this seat would give SGA a direct avenue to fulfill its representative responsibility and make student participation a lasting part of UA Little Rock's institutional structure.