

USA General Meeting Minutes Date November 20, 2025

- **Welcome**

- Daniela Valenzuela started the meeting at 10:00 am. She gave a reminder that the meeting will be recorded and posted online. Approval of October Minutes, motion to approve, and seconded. Passed as written.
- Gratitude

USA Committee Reports

- **President and Vice President Update**

- Updates from President Walker:
 - Provost Search Committee
- Events:
 - HR Open House December 3rd: 2-4pm
 - Holiday Reception December 17th: 3pm
- USA Volunteer Information
- #USAppreciates: Recognition Wave Campaign

- **Fundraising Committee, Chair Venus Turner**

- Bay Area Food Lovers Discount Cards (BAFLC)
 - Not selling fast. Due date to sell them is 11/21/2025
- Looking at dates for the next Vendor Fair in the Spring

- **Program Planning Committee, Chair Mary Shelley & Ashley Connelley**

- Dec 9 | 12pm – 2pm | Forest Room
 - Winter Lunch & Games – Enjoy BYOL lunch, play some games, and show off your best (or worst!) Ugly Sweater for a chance to win a prize!

- **Professional Development Committee, Chair Shannon Samuelson**

- Preparing for Professional Development in December: Empowering Staff, Enriching Campus

- **Scholarship Committee, Chair Sergio Martinez**

- The scholarship will open on November 30, 2025, and will close on December 14, 2025.
- Looking for new members to join the committee

- **Welcome & Outreach Committee, Chair Johnathan Davis**

- New Employee Orientation will be Wednesday, December 17, 2025
- The Hawk Onboarding Team is looking for new members!
 - If interested, email davisjt@uhcl.edu for more information
- Mandatory Training ends November 21, 2025

- **University Events Committee, Chair Calvin Nguyen**

- No updates

- **Treasurer's Report, Chair Panya Milliner**

- Current Account balances were given regarding the USA Support fund, USA fund, and the USA scholarships fund.

Campus Committee Updates

- **Campus Recreation Advisory Board: Marguertie Alix & Larisa Landry**
 - No updates
- **Campus Bookstore Advisory Board: Jenny Perna & Theresa Rodriguez**
 - No updates
- **Dining Advisory Committee: Dolce Perez & Kimberly Duren**
 - The Dining Advisory Board met on October 24, 2025.
 - Susan Griffin with Compass Group presented on dining sustainability efforts and local sourcing achievements
 - Purchasing includes cage-free eggs, reduced antibiotic poultry and fair-trade coffee
 - Local sourcing is defined as within a 250-mile radius and includes 214 gallons of milk and 596 pounds of produce. This produce includes tofu, mushrooms and watermelon.
 - The Waste 2.0 Program tracks and aims to reduce food waste
 - Their goal is to reduce waste by 50% by 2030
 - Currently 95% of pre-consumer waste is composted through Zero Waste Houston
 - Composting efforts have prevented 92,489 pounds of emissions
 - Food Recovery and Student Involvement
 - Susan has proposed a food recovery effort involving student participation
 - Leftover packaged food could be sent to the Hawk's Pantry
 - Transportation will be needed to facilitate food recovery
 - Student Government and other student groups could assist in efforts
 - There is the potential to start a Food Recovery Network chapter at UHCL
 - Student Feedback on Dining Services
 - Students expressed a need for more affordable dining options
 - Vegetarian and vegan options are requested by students
 - A Dining survey was open until the end of October – Once the results are reviewed the information will help create an action plan for dining improvements
 - Upcoming Dining Events and Promotions
 - Thankful Celebration on November 20th focuses on community and gratitude
 - Special offers and promotions are listed on the next screen
 - Catering and Special Offers
 - Training sessions are available for using the new catering services
 - Boost Mobile offers specials as does the Hawks Coffee House – next screen
 - Post-Consumer Waste Management
 - There is an interest in exploring post-consumer waste management at UHCL
 - Zero Waste could assist with awareness activities
 - Potential for collaboration and environmental science faculty

Hawk Spirit Award!

- Presented to Pallavi Tetali, Accounting Specialist, Accounts Payable. Congratulations!

Open Forum/Announcements

- Interested in presenting at a USA meeting? Email USA@uhcl.edu

Meeting concluded at 10:53 am

Next USA general meeting is November 20, 2025 at 10:00am