



The Student Government Association Hosts General Interest Meeting, Highlighting the Spring 2025 Election

Arrianah Jones
Contributing Writer

The Student Government Association (SGA) hosted a general interest meeting on Feb. 4 in the Pafford building from 4:15-5:15 p.m. SGA Vice President of Budget and Finance, Chase Williams, led the discussion, covering the association’s role, available positions, election timeline and answered questions from the attendees.

SGA serves as a bridge between the students and faculty while acting as a representative body to ensure students’ voices are heard at an administrative level. Board members meet with the Vice President of Student Affairs, the interim present and various other department heads on a regular basis.

Additionally, SGA hosts signature events like luncheons where students can meet and discuss any concerns. Dedicated to implementing change and improving life on campus, SGA advocates for better resources, policy changes and new initiatives.

“It gives us time to really connect with students and see what’s going on,” said Williams.

One example of their advocacy involved concerns over dining hall hours. Students were complaining that the East Commons dining hall was closing too early, making it difficult for those with late classes or commitments to access meals. SGA met with the director of dining to discuss means for change, and organized a general body meeting where students could ask questions. When complaints continued, administration finally made the decision to extend hours.

Another example of SGA’s effectiveness on campus is the ongoing construction of housing. Arbor View Apartments and the University Suites are currently undergoing renovations due to student complaints about limited living spaces on campus.

“Without an SGA, campuses will suffer because the administration won’t know what’s going on,” said Williams.

To become part of SGA’s board, students must be appointed or elected in. Williams outlined the election process, explained their responsibilities, and how each role contributes to the organization as a whole.

- Elected positions include:
- President
 - Executive Vice President
 - Vice President of Budget and Finance
 - Vice President of Student Life
 - Chief of Justice
 - Senator

- Appointed positions include:
- Chief of staff
 - Secretary of Public Relations
 - Secretary of Registered Student Organizations
 - Vice chief justice

Packets were also given to attendees, detailing application deadlines, campaign meetings, the SGA debate, voting and the winners announcement. This prepared prospective candidates for what to expect during the upcoming months and how to navigate the election process.

To close out the meeting, Williams conducted a Q&A, giving attendees the opportunity to ask questions about specific roles, election procedures, voice any concerns and offer feedback on his performance as president. He encouraged them to tell others about how to get involved, restating that their mission is to improve student life.

“We want to make sure everyone feels represented and heard,” said Williams.

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With the SGA election right around the corner, Williams hopes to see more student engagement—in the polls, participating in discussions, etc. The association promotes a collaborative environment where students can engage in healthy conversation and voice their opinions freely.

“People should be involved in SGA because they want to improve the campus,” said Williams. “And because they care about their fellow students.”

To learn more about SGA as an organization visit their website. To apply for an appointed, or elected position, click here.



Photo: Arrianah Jones, *The West Georgian*

UWG's Dr. Laura Miller Kicks Off The College of Arts and Humanities Lunch and Learn Series With a Lecture on Love Stories

Abbie Klein
News Editor

The University of West Georgia's College of Arts and Humanities is celebrating Valentine's Day all month with lectures centred on love through the February Lunch and Learn Series. UWG's own Dr. Laura Miller kicked off the series with her lecture on love story depictions in both film and literature. The lecture took place on Feb. 12 in the Humanities building with pizza and drinks available for the students and staff who attended.

Dr. Miller's lecture focused on answering the question, "What makes a good love story?" She discussed what works well for these stories and what doesn't. Depictions of romance in entertainment have always been such a crucial part of our society but there's a certain satisfaction in emotional connection that is lacking in more modern love stories.

"I think it's one of the things that cross pollinates our culture and is something where most of the people I've spoken to about contemporary love stories have felt that some things are missed," said Miller.

A lot of current love stories are now focused more on sex and sexual attraction rather than a more innocent and intimate connection that leaves people with a sense of belonging.

"You can still be a very sex positive person and still see a problem with this," said Miller. "Sexuality and attraction are not identical to the process of falling in love."

When identifying what makes a good love story, Miller broke it down into 10 elements of good love stories: play, falling, language, creation, seeing, blooming, mutuality, longing, time and sacrifice. These elements make the best and most lasting love stories.

"One classic example of this is the film Casablanca," said Miller. "Where we see the love story between Rick and Ilsa kind of in flashbacks but it's almost foreordained that Rick has to let her go."

Other examples that Miller offered were novels like Tomorrow, and Tomorrow, and Tomorrow by Gabrielle Zevin and Louisa May Alcott's Little Women. Along with films like An Affair to Remember and Roman Holiday, but one film she really focused on was James Cameron's Titanic.

"If you look at these 10 concepts they're all right in there and they're all identified and sketched out really

efficiently," said Miller.

While these elements are great in establishing an emotional connection between characters the structure of these stories is just as important as the elements used and can really elevate it into being a timeless love story.

Miller explained this specific structural rhythm as a cycle consisting of falling in love, bonding, parting and reconnecting. This specific structure can begin at any part and repeat as many times as necessary and this is where variation in love stories comes from.

Miller praised the great romance novelist Jane Austen for her ability to utilize this cycle to create love stories that are not only realistic, but very human.

"Austen is brilliant at manipulating the timing of her love stories and often exaggerates one or more of these components beyond what many writers would feel comfortable doing," said Miller.

Miller used both Pride and Prejudice and Persuasion as examples of how this structure can be used in two different ways but still effectively.

"In Pride and Prejudice Lizzy doesn't realize she loves Darcy until really late in the book," said Miller. "And in Persuasion so much of the love story has happened before we even get there."

"And the ultimate reconnection where [Anne] finally learns how [Wentworth] feels about her is about five pages from the end of the book," continued Miller.

The combination of the 10 elements used in this specific structure is what has made these stories so timeless and classic. Love does not change over time and authors like Jane Austen are a testament to that.

"I think it's important to recognize what is missing when stories miss the mark and how to articulate what we want from entertainment," said Miller. "Giving people something that is emotionally satisfying to them and not just pretty people and their problems I think is something that's really missing."

The College of Arts and Humanities will be continuing these lectures on Feb. 19 with Dr. Kathy Skott-Myhre. Dr. Skott-Myhre will be speaking about revolutionary love in terms of love becoming a biopolitical event. Then on Feb. 24, Dr. Nathan Rees will be diving into how polygamy was featured in nineteenth century art through both critique and admiration.



COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES,
ARTS, AND SOCIAL SCIENCES



Photo courtesy of Patrick Erben

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Hit Series Twisted Love is Filled with Drama, Passion and Forbidden Romance That Keeps Readers Wanting More

Cindy Martinez
Feature Editor

Twisted Love by Ana Huang is an exciting romance novel filled with drama, secrets and forbidden passion. The story follows Alex Volkov, a man known for his cold, dangerous personality and Ava Chen, the sister of Alex's best friend. When Alex is asked to watch over Ava, their lives take a dramatic turn, and what starts as a simple protective relationship quickly becomes far more complicated than either of them expected.

Alex is a man who is used to getting what he wants. He is a calculated man who keeps everyone at a distance. However, when it comes to Ava, he finds himself unable to stay away no matter how hard he tries. Ava, on the other hand, has always admired Alex, but she never expected to see him in such a vulnerable light. The chemistry between them is undeniable, and their connection builds slowly, full of tension and emotional moments.

Throughout the book, the characters face personal struggles that deepen the story. Alex has trust issues and a painful past, which causes him to push others away. Ava, meanwhile, is learning to overcome her own fears and take control of her life. Their journey is not only about finding

love but also about healing from their pasts and understanding what they need from each other.

The book explores themes of love, loyalty and trust. Both Alex and Ava have troubled histories, making their relationship more intense and emotional. As the plot unfolds, readers watch their bond grow, but not without facing obstacles. The author does a great job of showing the inner struggles of the characters, making them feel real and relatable.

One of the standout parts of the novel is the way the author builds suspense. The tension between Alex and Ava keeps readers hooked, and it is clear that their relationship will not be easy. The dramatic moments, combined with deep emotions, create a perfect balance of romance and suspense.

Another highlight of Twisted Love is the undeniable chemistry between Alex and Ava. Their connection is electric, but it is also clear they both have a lot to learn about love, forgiveness and each other. The book keeps readers on the edge of their seats as the characters navigate tough choices and powerful feelings.

While the story is full of romantic moments, it also has plenty of twists

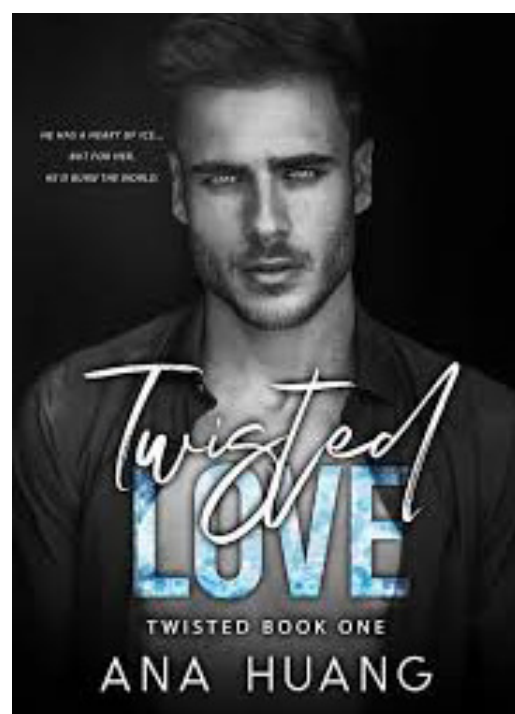


Photo courtesy of Google

and turns to keep things exciting. Readers are kept captivated from start to finish with surprises, betrayals and tensions.

Overall, Twisted Love is a captivating and emotional book, perfect for those who enjoy romance with a touch of drama and suspense. It is a fast-paced and thrilling story that will leave readers thinking long after turning the last page.

Marvel Rivals Takes Over the Hero-Shooter Genre

Kailie Bridges
Copy Editor



Photo courtesy of Marvel Rivals

The hero shooter sub genre is beloved by many in the gaming community with Team Fortress 2 and Overwatch being its most defining titles. In the latter's early years, it provided diverse gameplay and an ample amount of content with new heroes and maps every few months.

In 2023, Blizzard released its sequel Overwatch 2 which replaced the first edition leaving many players enraged. Along with it, came a battle pass players had to purchase to earn rewards instead of the free loot box mechanic.

The sequel also changed core fundamentals of team formations and left players without game modes they were promised by Blizzard. With the community upset with the state of

Overwatch 2, players searched for a new hero shooter game.

Marvel Rivals (2024), a Marvel Games release with a style very comparable to Overwatch very quickly filled the hole Overwatch had left in the gaming community. On launch day alone, player count peaked at over 600,000. Many argue what Marvel Rivals has done right, or what Overwatch has over it: what do the Wolves on campus think?

"Rivals just has an overall familiar feeling and cast to Overwatch and also the fact they have a plan to add more characters faster than Overwatch will," said freshman Corbin Xayabouth, when asked what Marvel Rivals has done to be a successor to Overwatch.

Marvel Rivals has a few characters very comparable to its predecessor's cast that allows players to easily translate their skills from one to another, making the transition between games very player friendly.

"The switch to Overwatch 2 damaged the game and removing 6v6 for 5v5 was an unpopular decision," said junior Charity Paschall, when asked what Overwatch 2 has done wrong to keep its players. "Marvel Rivals continues to take constructive criticism, especially during the beta and early release versions of the game."

With a 6v6 playstyle typically having two tank heroes, two damage heroes, and two support heroes, incorporating a 5v5 playstyle limits both teams to having one tank. This change not only hurt players who loved playing within the tank category, it also hurt how a team is supposed to position themselves on the field. Players must make up new strategies, playstyles and hero picks.

Overall, our Wolves say Overwatch 2 damaged how the player base felt about itself and while the original release was very loved, the changes are too much to bear. Marvel Rivals presents itself to making sure its community is happy and continues to provide worthwhile content.