

# The Hornet Tribune

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The official student newspaper serving the Alabama State University and Metro-Montgomery communities

## Student Senate fails to pass a budget after six months

BY DAVID LEE KING JR.  
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Sen. Timothy Egbo, a microbiology doctoral candidate, expressed his concerns during the Student Government Association senate's regular meeting on Jan. 25 regarding the SGA operating

without an approved budget, yet spending is still occurring by the SGA Executive Branch.

As the university transitioned into new leadership during the month of October, the Alabama State University Board of Trustees delayed passing the university's operating budget for the 2017-18

academic year to allow the President Quinton T. Ross, Ed.D., the opportunity to determine the funding goals and needs of his administration.

Once the budget was approved and passed, the university loaded half of the appropriated funds into each department's budget, for basic operations, including the

SGA. The other half of the budget was to be loaded at a later time.

As senators expressed their concerns about not having an approved budget and questioning when a budget would be presented, SGA Treasurer Devin Smith, a finance major from Atlanta, Ga., blames the delay of the

budget presentation on the loading of a partial budget by the university and the Senate Allocations and Appropriations Committee.

"I have attempted all semester to connect and build the budget with the Appropriations and Allocations Committee chair in the Senate, to get the interests of the

senate in the budget," Smith said. "However, I have not received their cooperation, input or feedback to be part of the budget building process," he expressed.

Smith explained that with the partial loading of the budget (50 percent of the budget building process), he expressed.

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PHOTO BY SHANICE BROWN/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER  
Student Government Association Executive Vice President Malik Bridgers listens carefully as Sen. Timothy Egbo states the allegations leveled against Bridgers.

## STUDENT SENATE VOTES "NO"

### Senate rejects Egbo's "Articles of Impeachment" charges against Bridgers

BY DAVID LEE KING JR.  
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While presenting his motion before the Student Government Association Senate to pursue "Articles of Impeachment" against the SGA Vice President Malik Bridgers, Sen. Timothy Egbo, was met with resistance.

The Jan. 25 senate meeting convened in the John F. Knight Conference Room. Bridgers, a junior political science major and native of Baltimore, Md. presided over the senate meeting, which included the portion dedicated to Egbo's motion of "Articles of Impeachment."

"The articles were filed officially with the Chief Justice and Attorney General," Egbo explained, "but no response or action has been taken."

Egbo further described "out of concern" conversations with university administrators regarding the negligence, who advised him



PHOTO BY SHANICE BROWN/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER  
Sen. Timothy Egbo presents his motion before the Student Government Association Student Senate.

to "allow the system to work and let's see if it works." "It has not worked yet," Egbo said. He sought their support to pursue the power of impeachment, "but no response or action has been taken."

Citing Article IV, Section 13, Sub-section E, which states, "The Senate has the power to conduct the trial of impeached SGA officials,

both elected and appointed. A three-fourths (¾) vote of a quorum is required to convict on one or more articles of impeachment," Egbo used this as he defended the right of the Senate to pursue this

power of charging Bridgers. "Due to the Vice President's gross negligence of duties, we have been unable to put forth various actions that have been approved by

by this honorable house, however, because of the absence of the vice president, the action was never pushed forward through the proper channels for execution or enforcement," Egbo explained. "We've made several decisions and passed several pieces of legislation and those, too, have not made it to the president for execution."

When asked by The Hornet Tribune for clarity on the matter regarding topics, numbers, and details behind bills, Bridgers was unable to answer.

"I do not know the bills that the senator is speaking of," Bridgers said.

However, several bills have been passed by the senate since the academic year began in the fall.

"I am sorry," Bridgers said, "I knew what I was coming into, but with football and a new coach and trying to adjust, things just became difficult."

Recognizing there was this body and should have been forwarded to the Executive Branch," he said.

Providing an example, Egbo described the passage of a memorandum that was directed to the Attorney General James Baldwin demanding he retract several statements made in his first opinion released during the fall semester.

"This action was passed

by this honorable house, however, because of the absence of the vice president, the action was never pushed forward through the proper channels for execution or enforcement," Egbo explained. "We've made several decisions and passed several pieces of legislation and those, too, have not made it to the president for execution."

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## 'Read and Rise' to promote the importance of literacy

BY ALEXIS BUTLER  
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Alabama State University's "Read and Rise" program provides ASU students, alumni, staff and faculty the opportunity to promote the importance of literacy while reading their favorite children books to students at Montgomery elementary schools.

This once-annual Alabama State event faded away over time, but has been revived by the University's project manager and ASU alumnae, Taylor Noeller.

"This is just a great activity to get ASU involved in the community," Noeller said. She believes this event is both beneficial for students at the schools and members of the ASU family.

Currently, 60 volunteers have signed up but hopes are to at least register a minimum of 150 volunteers for the event.

"There can never be too

See **PROMOTE** on page 5



Attorney Bakari Sellers

## Sellers to speak at Acadome

BY NEFSA'YATT BROWN  
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Attorney and CNN contributor, Bakari Sellers, is scheduled to address the topic of "Student Activism: The Key to Change" to the Alabama State University family on Feb. 6 at 11 a.m. in the Dunn-Oliver Acadome.

Sellers, who recently launched his podcast, "Viewpoint with Bakari Sellers" on Westwood One, with guests that have included Hillary Clinton, Mark Cuban, and Charles Barkley was a former member of the South Carolina House of Representatives, and 2014 Democratic Nominee for Lieutenant Governor of South Carolina. Presently, he is the first vice chairman of the South Carolina Democratic Party.

Sellers made history in 2006 when, at just 22 years old, he defeated a 26-year incumbent State Representative to become the youngest member of the South Carolina state legislature and the

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## Students desire extended hours for Hardy Center

BY ALEXIS BUTLER  
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The John Garrick Hardy Center serves as a student-friendly center that houses the bookstore, theater, housing office, financial aid office, a game room, printing areas, a food court, and many other things that help serve the students.

Although the center's purpose is to cater to students, several of Alabama

Slate University's students are not happy with its operational hours, complaining that they are "grossly inconsiderate to student schedules," said sophomore Christian Bond.

The center's usual operation hours span from 7 a.m. until 10 p.m., but for many on-campus students, that is not enough. Students would like to have access to the center until midnight.

Freshman Shalyn Brown, a native of Mobile, Ala. is

one of those students. "I would suggest that the union stay open at least until midnight, especially the food areas," Brown said. "There's a lot of students who don't have transportation and eating in the food court and cafe are their only options. Students are up late nights studying and even hanging out so we need late night access to food."

Several other students be

See **DESIRE** on page 5



The John Garrick Hardy Center was constructed in 2012 and stands as the centerpiece of the campus for students.

# The Hornet Tribune

## DIGITAL AND INTERACTIVE DIVISION

## **Job Summaries for Managing Editor for Digital and Interactive Media, Website Content Editor, Website Standards Editor, Audience Engagement Editor, Analytics Manager, Podcast Producer**

### **Managing Editor for Digital and Interactive Media**

The Managing Editor for Digital and Interactive Media is responsible for thehornettribuneonline.com: its appearance, its contents, its graphics and its social media presence. He or she has ownership and direct responsibility to deliver the highest number of visitors to The Hornet Tribune Online website, and to maximize user experience and conversions. The position requires expertise and experience in search engine optimization, email marketing, social media, and analytics. To run a website, The Hornet Tribune Online needs multiple students creating content, posting pictures, and keeping readers interested. Throughout the development process, the Managing Editor for Digital and Interactive Media keeps everything in order and ensures that consumer needs are being realized by the site.

### **Website Content Editor**

The Website Content Manager reports directly to the Managing Editor for Digital and Interactive Media and is responsible for the content and images used on a website. He or she assist in planning the content of The Hornet Tribune Online. The Website Content Manager is tasked with posting relevant news on the website that promotes the website. He or She must be able to craft content that optimizes SEO, as well as create social media posts that attract followers. The Website Content Manager must be able to craft content, whether it's home page copy, a blog or a video and combine it with visual elements in order to keep people interested and coming back to the website.

### **Website Standards Editor**

The Website Standards and Ethics Editor reviews all copy and is the first line of defense to ensure clarity, consistency, accuracy, fact checking and the agreed upon news style.

### **Audience Engagement Editor**

The Audience Engagement Manager reports directly to the Managing Editor for Digital and Interactive Media. He or she will enhance The Hornet Tribune brand and build strong online communities through the various social media platforms. The Audience Engagement Manager will be responsible for developing and administering social media content that is designed to engage users and create an interactive relationship between The Hornet Tribune readership and The Hornet Tribune Online at Alabama State University. The successful candidate will also be required to collect and review social media data to develop more effective campaigns.

### **Analytics Manager**

The Analytics Manager reports directly to the Managing Editor for Digital and Interactive Media. The Analytics Manager will work closely with leaders in sales, and marketing to support and implement high-quality, data-driven decisions. He or she will ensure data accuracy and consistent reporting by designing and creating optimal processes and procedures for analytics to follow. They will use advanced data modeling, predictive modeling and analytical techniques to interpret key findings from company data and leverage these insights into initiatives that will support business outcomes. The right person for the job will apply their exhaustive knowledge of data analysis to solving real-world problems faced by our company and finding opportunities for improvement across multiple projects, teams and business units.

### **Podcast Producers**

The Podcast Producer reports to the Managing Editor for Digital and Interactive Media and his or her job is to oversee the production of each podcast episode while pitching fresh ideas for shows. He/she also needs to have a high-level knowledge of podcasts and episode concepts. A podcast producer needs to look for guests or influencers who can share their expertise or experiences based on the episode's topic. He/she needs to find interesting people that will help to increase the number of podcast followers. Aside from that, booking and scheduling is also part of their job. In other words, they are in charge of the recording, editing, and even the publication of each episode.

# The Selection Process for Students who are interested in working in the Digital and Interactive Division

To be selected to work in the Division of Digital and Interactive Division of The Hornet Tribune is a monumental achievement and is relatively one of the highest honors that a student can receive while attending Alabama State University. Any student who is selected to the positions of Managing Editor for Digital and Interactive Media, Website Content Editor, or Website Standards Editor and Audience Engagement Editor must have worked for at least one semester on a media staff before he or she can be considered for this position unless this requirement is waived by the General Manager.

## THE SELECTION COMMITTEE

**The Selection Committee** is made up of the Editor-in-Chief and the General Manager. The process is divided into preliminary and final stages unless the number of applications received is very low. Selection of finalists for the Managing Editor for Digital and Interactive Media, Website Content Editor and Website Standards Editor is based upon the following criteria:

## STUDENT'S JOURNALISTIC BACKGROUND AND ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE (OPTIONAL)

This rating illustrates the candidate's commitment to scholarship. It consists of a look at the courses the applicant has taken and the grades earned in college. List the computer classes or desktop design workshops taken in high school and college (journalism) on a separate sheet of paper and submit them with this application. In addition, the Selection Committee would like to review any portfolios authored by you and published at Alabama State University, high school or any other university publication.

## BASIC SKILLS PHOTOGRAPHY EXAMINATION

This is a 60-minute examination covering basic knowledge that every person who works on the website should know and understand if he or she wants to take photographs for The Hornet Tribune. The person who monitors the examination will hand you a sheet of specific instructions to read before the start of the timed examination. You will be allowed to keep these instructions with you as you take the examination. A score of "75" or above is required on this examination in order to be considered for this position.

## STUDENT MEDIA BOARD CONSTITUTION EXAMINATION

This is a 120-minute examination covering the contents of the Student Media Board Constitution. All students who are interested in becoming the Managing Editor for Digital and Interactive Media must understand the function of the Student Media Board and the relationship between the Student Media Board and the various staffs that it manages and oversees. The person

who monitors the examination will hand you a sheet of specific instructions to read before the start of the timed examination. You will be allowed to keep these instructions with you as you take the examination. A score of "70" or above is required on this examination.

## THE ESSAY

The essay of each finalist is read, graded and averaged by the Selection Committee members. It usually receives special attention in the final evaluation. The purpose of the essay is three-fold: (1) to get an idea of how the applicant writes and develops a story; (2) to take a look at the applicant's critical thinking and analysis skills and (3) to measure the uniqueness of his or her responses. After all criteria are considered, the Selection Committee determines which finalists to interview by telephone or in person. That decision is made by re-evaluating all parts of each finalist's application and includes telephone calls to teachers and others listed as references on the application form. Two references are required.

## INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

Here are some of the interview questions that have been asked in the past of candidates who applied for the Managing Editor for Digital and Interactive Media position: Why do you want to be a managing editor for Digital and Interactive Media for The Hornet Tribune? What do you believe you can bring to the position in terms of skills, attitude and goals? What have you done in the past that demonstrates you would be an asset to this publication, and if selected, and what will you do to move it forward? Each applicant should prepare well as your responses will weigh heavily on the decision made for the position being sought.

## RESUME

The resume' will be carefully analyzed to determine how much time and effort has been given to its preparation. Remember, first impressions are lasting and in a situation where several people are competing for a position, your resume' may be the deciding factor. Therefore, ensure that your resume is clean, modernized and without errors. Resume's submitted with errors will be trashed. Any employment experiences that relate to journalism or media should also be included on the resume with detailed information regarding references and time periods for holding the respective jobs. We wish you much success.

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# The Hornet Tribune

## Division of Digital and Interactive Media

### STAFF APPLICATION

OFFICE USE ONLY		
Interview	1.	_____
Grades	2.	_____
Essay	3.	_____
Experience/Writing Samples	4.	_____
Resume'	5.	_____
TOTAL		_____

Position Applying For: \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Last First Middle

Gender: \_\_\_\_\_ Male \_\_\_\_\_ Female Classification \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number(s) where you can be reached easily: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you a U.S. citizen? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No SID# \_\_\_\_\_

#### Home/Permanent Address

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Apartment # \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_ Web Address \_\_\_\_\_

#### University Mailing Address

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Apartment # \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_ Web Address \_\_\_\_\_

#### Personal Information

The Hornet Tribune makes a special effort to attract applicants who are members of racial or ethnic minority groups.

Please check one category: \_\_\_\_\_ Caucasian \_\_\_\_\_ Hispanic \_\_\_\_\_ Asian/Pacific Islander  
\_\_\_\_\_ American Indian/Alaskan Native \_\_\_\_\_ African American

## Academic Information

List your undergraduate major \_\_\_\_\_

If you listed journalism/communication, indicate your emphasis or concentration

\_\_\_\_\_ Advertising      \_\_\_\_\_ Public Relations      \_\_\_\_\_ Visual      \_\_\_\_\_ Design  
\_\_\_\_\_ Broadcasting      \_\_\_\_\_ Online      \_\_\_\_\_ Multimedia      \_\_\_\_\_ Print

Which of the following courses have you taken or will have completed by the end of the Spring semester?

\_\_\_\_\_ Beg. Photography      \_\_\_\_\_ Beg. Videography      \_\_\_\_\_ Photo Editing  
\_\_\_\_\_ Inter. Photography      \_\_\_\_\_ Inter. Videography      \_\_\_\_\_ Newspaper Design  
\_\_\_\_\_ Adv. Photography      \_\_\_\_\_ Adv. Videography      \_\_\_\_\_ Online Editing  
\_\_\_\_\_ Page Design      \_\_\_\_\_ Video Editing      \_\_\_\_\_ Multimedia

If you had to say which area that you would excel the best would it be photography or video? \_\_\_\_\_

## Practical Journalistic Experience

Have you ever worked for a high school, college or professional (newspaper, yearbook or literary magazine)?

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes      \_\_\_\_\_ No      Name of Publication \_\_\_\_\_

Check duties performed      \_\_\_\_\_ Copy Editing      \_\_\_\_\_ Reporting      \_\_\_\_\_ Design  
\_\_\_\_\_ HTML Coding      \_\_\_\_\_ Photography      \_\_\_\_\_ Proofreader

Check all of the positions that you have held on a staff

\_\_\_\_\_ Executive Editor      \_\_\_\_\_ Content Editor      \_\_\_\_\_ Feature Writer  
\_\_\_\_\_ Managing Editor      \_\_\_\_\_ Design Editor      \_\_\_\_\_ Art Critics  
\_\_\_\_\_ Columnist      \_\_\_\_\_ Reporter      \_\_\_\_\_ Copy Editor

How many hours a week do you plan to devote to this endeavor if you are selected to lead the staff?

\_\_\_\_\_ 1-5 hours      \_\_\_\_\_ 6-10 hours      \_\_\_\_\_ 11-15 hours      \_\_\_\_\_ 16-20 hours      \_\_\_\_\_ 21-25 hours  
\_\_\_\_\_ 25-30 hours      \_\_\_\_\_ 31-35 hours

Are you serving as a stringer or freelancer for a professional newspaper, magazine or online publication?

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes      \_\_\_\_\_ No      Name of Publication \_\_\_\_\_

If so, how many stories, on the average are published during a month? \_\_\_\_\_

Indicate in which of the following areas you have better than average skills:

\_\_\_\_\_ Proficient in hypertext markup language (HTML)      \_\_\_\_\_ Proficient in graphics and design  
\_\_\_\_\_ Proficient in reporting, writing and editing      \_\_\_\_\_ Proficient in marketing or telemarketing  
\_\_\_\_\_ Proficient in video and video editing      \_\_\_\_\_ Proficient in computer generated charts  
\_\_\_\_\_ Proficient with graphics and page design      \_\_\_\_\_ Proficient in photos and photo editing  
\_\_\_\_\_ Proficient in sales and advertising      \_\_\_\_\_ Proficient in public affairs and promotion

Indicate why you believe that you would be the best person to fill this position \_\_\_\_\_

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**Academic Information (Continued)**

Junior High School Attended \_\_\_\_\_

Senior High School Attended \_\_\_\_\_

University Attended \_\_\_\_\_

**Personal Information**

Have you ever been convicted of a crime (other than a traffic violation) or been imprisoned during the last seven years? A conviction will not necessarily bar you from employment. \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No. If yes, explain: \_\_\_\_\_

Names of friends or relatives that are employed by The Hornet Tribune \_\_\_\_\_

**Employment History (Begin with most recent employer)**

1. Employer \_\_\_\_\_ Dates Employed \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Beginning Salary \_\_\_\_\_ Ending Salary \_\_\_\_\_ Position held \_\_\_\_\_

Reason for Leaving \_\_\_\_\_

2. Employer \_\_\_\_\_ Dates Employed \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Beginning Salary \_\_\_\_\_ Ending Salary \_\_\_\_\_ Position held \_\_\_\_\_

Reason for Leaving \_\_\_\_\_

3. Employer \_\_\_\_\_ Dates Employed \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Beginning Salary \_\_\_\_\_ Ending Salary \_\_\_\_\_ Position held \_\_\_\_\_

Reason for Leaving \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Military Service

Branch of Service \_\_\_\_\_

Dates of Service \_\_\_\_\_

Duties/Special Training \_\_\_\_\_

### Additional Information

Do you have any disabilities that may require special accommodations on the part of The Hornet Tribune staff in order for you to function efficiently? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No If yes, please elaborate \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## References

List the name, title, address, email address, office and home telephone numbers of two people (professors, former high school teachers (no relatives) who are familiar with the abilities that are needed for the job in which you are applying. Be sure to include area codes for telephone numbers and zip codes for addresses. Screening Committee members will call them during the selection process so please be sure they are aware that you have listed them as references. Do not list peers as references.

1. Name \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Home Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Office Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_ Cell # \_\_\_\_\_

Professional Title \_\_\_\_\_

1. Name \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Home Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Office Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_ Cell # \_\_\_\_\_

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1. Name \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Home Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Office Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_ Cell # \_\_\_\_\_

Professional Title \_\_\_\_\_

## Applicant's Statement (Signature Required)

I have read all of the information pertaining to The Hornet Tribune and if selected by the Student Media Board, I agree to honor my commitment to complete my year as an administrative editor unless I become medically disabled. All of the information I have given in this application is true.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

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# CHECKLIST

The following materials must be submitted in order for you to be considered to work in the Digital and Interactive Division of Student Media.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Digital and Interactive Division Application. Everything must be printed. The application will not be accepted with cursive handwriting.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. A typed resume.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. A 500 word essay. The application will not be accepted without the essay.

## Your Essay . . . An Important Part of the Committee's Decision

Your 500-word eessay must be typed in an easy-to-read computer print font. It is permissible to make minor editing marks, should you spot errors while proofreading.

Often panelists read and re-read an essay when deciding which students will advance to the finalist stage. Therefore, it is important to write a well-organized, straightforward piece.

**TOPIC:** Write an essay regarding how we can improve the statistic that says that there is nearly a 70 percent chance that an African American man without a high school diploma will be imprisoned before he is 40.

**BE SURE TO TYPE YOUR FULL NAME AT THE TOP OF EACH PAGE OF THE ESSAY**

**Please staple the essay to this page**

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