

STARS LEADERS AND UNIVERSITY ADVOCATES CONFERENCE 2026
DREAM BOLDLY
 AUGUST 5-7, 2026 SLUAC AGENDA

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 5

- 2:30 p.m. Student Leaders' – Sharing Solutions, Sparking Inspiration
 3:15 p.m. Conference Overview
 3:30 p.m. Welcome and Comments from Leaders
 - Dr. Don Killingsworth, Jacksonville State University
 - Dr. Nick Lawkis, University of South Alabama
 - Secretary Greg Reed, Alabama Department of Workforce
 - Distinguished Legislative and Community Leaders
- 4:30 p.m. Leadership Breakouts
 i. Be a Presidential Leader and Advocate University Student President's Council
 ii. Hosting Higher Ed Day & Dreams to Reality STARS Coordinator
 iii. Communicating the Message Press Corps and ATF
 iv. Make a Difference for Freshmen Freshmen Forum Leaders
 v. Impact Across Multiple Platforms Campus Organizational Leaders
 vi. Make a Difference for Future Leaders Faculty, Staff and Alumni Leaders -
- 5:00 p.m. Recap + Your SLUAC Strategy
 7:00 p.m. Dinner on the Beach Deck

THURSDAY, AUGUST 6

- 6:30 a.m. Breakfast Buffet
 7:30 a.m. Who, Why, How?
 8:30 a.m. Education Policy Briefing
 Representative Danny Garrett, Chairman, Ways and Means Education Committee
- 9:00 a.m. Key Issues Breakout Groups
 Healthcare Dr. Scott Harris
 Education's Impact – Graduate Deans Dr. Matt Ragland
 Elections and Staying Informed Todd Stacy
 Essentials of Leadership Dr. Dee Bennett
- 10:30 a.m. Resource Guide
 11:15 a.m. Developing Talking Points
 12:00 p.m. Waggoner Public Service Award Luncheon
 1:15 p.m. Small Group Conversation With Legislators
 2:15 p.m. Leadership Breakout Sessions
 3:00 p.m. Open Networking Time

THURSDAY, AUGUST 6

- 6:30 a.m. Breakfast Buffet
 7:30 a.m. Leadership Breakout Groups
 8:30 a.m. University Strategy Session
 9:00 a.m. Bring It All Together – Your Plan For the Year
 Student Led Presentations on Unique Advocacy Agenda
- 9:30 a.m. Legislative Leaders Discussion
 10:30 a.m. Board Meeting of the Higher Education Partnership