

STUDENT SENATE SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
June 19th, 2019

The Senate President called the Senate meeting to order at 8:00pm and announced that the meeting may be filmed or audio recorded and may be available to the public. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

ROLL CALL:

Roll was called and a quorum was established with 56 senators present.

Not there for roll call:

- Bucci, Natalie
- Charles, Kevin
- Dougan, Skye
- Fernandez, Aidan
- Gessner, Joshua
- Gunby, David
- Jackson, Kristen
- Katare, Annika
- Kendrick, Tyler
- LeMaire, Jacob
- Loy, David
- Meisner, Michael
- O'Meara, Christopher
- Scurry, Daziah
- Shaw, Libby
- Staviski, Peter
- Townsend, Thomas
- White, Wynton

PUBLIC DEBATE:

- Senator Ortiz:
 - Welcomes the newly confirmed senators to their first full senate meeting.
 - Takes this opportunity to talk about those who are deciding affiliation.
 - Gives caution to those who might be deciding on being an independent senator.
 - One might be in the dark until something actually happens in Senate.
 - Takes the opportunity to welcome any future independents.
 - Wants to also briefly discuss something relating to the 800 Codes revision.
 - Regarding the composition of committees in the codes, there are rules that allow for simple majorities that bypass $\frac{2}{3}$ majorities in the Senate Rules and Procedures.
 - Recalls the recent “drama” in the Student Senate.
 - Thinks it might be relevant to revise the Senate Rules and Procedures to make them clearer.
 - Welcomes any senators who have any ideas on this initiative.
- Senator Amrose:
 - Thinks it is important why people come up a lot.
 - Many of these people are not senators, who are hoping to be one day.
 - “Why are they coming up, and not you?”
 - Initially came to public debate regarding adding referendum ballots last spring.
 - Many can recall that these were not added to the ballot.
 - The Supreme Court continued to strike down these initiatives.
 - Asks what recourse students have if they want to cause change in student government.

- Senator Dormeus:
 - On a lighter note, today is a holiday, Juneteenth.
 - Explains what Juneteenth is:
 - This holiday commemorates the end of slavery.
 - This was established two and a half years after President Lincoln’s Emancipation Proclamation.
 - Asks those to celebrate and be happy that you are free.
- Collin Solomon:
 - Makes a speech tonight in the spirit of forgiveness.
 - Believes those who make mistakes should be held accountable for them.
 - Everyone deserves the chance to apologize.
 - Gives one senator the opportunity to apologize for his actions, “Majority Party Leader Pearson.”
 - Mentions those that were involved in Student Senate Bill 2019-1062: Respect Student Identities Act, and mentions that the Judiciary Committee and Pearson were not involved in the drafting, despite their claims to.
 - States that Senator Pearson putting his name as an author was unacceptable.
 - Finds a problem with Pearson’s motion to adjourn the meeting yesterday.
 - Feels that Senator Pearson did not take into account the needs of the LGBTQ community.
 - Yields thirty seconds of Solomon’s time to allow Senator Pearson to apologize.
 - After realizing that he cannot do this, he invites Pearson to apologize at any given time during the week.
- Ashley Grabowski:
 - Received an email stating that she has been removed from the senate based on resignation by non-attendance.
 - Disregard of Senate Rules and Procedures is something that Senate Leadership has followed before.
 - Claims that becoming constructively absent in yesterday’s meeting should not have been done, as it was against the rules.
 - Claims Chairwoman Morris illegally gave her an absence at yesterday’s meeting.
 - Claims that Chairwoman Morris previously made a sexist remark.
 - “The easiest way to give up your power is to pretend that you don’t have any.”
- Chairman Brown:
 - Wants to discuss Student Senate Bill 2019-1067: 800 Code Revisions.
 - Shares his appreciation for everyone coming out tonight for a second meeting this week.
 - We will go through the same procedure as we did yesterday regarding the proposed legislation.
 - Hopes to field all questions about this comprehensive code revision.

*****If you wish to hear any speeches given during public debate please request the recordings from senatesecretary@sg.ufl.edu*****

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA:

- There were none.

SECOND READING

Student Senate Bill 2019-1067: 800 Code Revisions

5 Minutes of Presentation:

- Wanted to present the revisions in front of the senate one more time to avoid any confusions that senators might have.

- Based off of feedback from organizations, they wanted a more streamlined process, in order to remove the “middle-man.”
- For the Big 3 budget, it will still be presented as a bill of law.
- Talks about the evaluative criteria for organizations and event requests
 - Cites point 810.2 Student Senate Bill 2019-1067: 800 Code Revision.
 - This new model will be on a first-come, first-served basis.
 - Mentions a change in deadlines for organizations’ events.
 - The membership requirement has changed
 - An organization previously required 20 members. However, now it is only 10 members to register.
 - An organization would no longer require a year of waiting before coming onto the budget cycle. If you are registered and with 10 members, you will be eligible for funding.
- A lot of this legislation is simply language based.

Five Minutes of Non-Debatable Technical Questions:

- Senator Amrose: Cites a point in the legislation, and is confused. Will students with no ties to organizations be able to receive travel grants?
- Chairman Brown: Not exactly sure about the answer, however, I was told that students with no ties to organizations are eligible for travel grants.
- Senator Bindi: Cites point 804.5. Is there any point regarding overspending that applies to the Allocations Committee and other entities?
- Chairman Brown: That definition refers to line items solely regarding the Budget and Appropriations Committee. This can interpreted that this does not apply to the Allocations committee.
- Senator Amrose: Do you know what the situation is going to be like for the Merit’s Council?
- Chairman Brown: I will be meeting with the President of the Merit’s Council on July 3rd, and am excited to meet with them. I cannot give you definitive answers at this point.

Point of order. A senator mentions that because a member of the public was not allowed to finish speaking in Public Debate, the passing of this legislation could be nullified, as this violates state law. Senate President Pro-Tempore Dunson rules that this person yielded his time to the chair, and thus forfeited the privilege to speak further.

First round of con:

- Senator Amrose: Raises a concern on a specific section on the legislation, and is still unsure what to make of how this language will treat organizations with no ties to organizations.

Senator Bindi moves to rescind the decision of the chair. That motion is seconded. This motion is debatable. Senator Pearson moves to call the previous question by standing vote. In a standing vote of 45 to 11, that motion passes in calling the previous question. In a standing vote of 46 to 10, that motion fails.

First round of pro:

- Senator Bindi: Enjoys the drafting of this legislation so much, that he must ensure a fair passing of the vote.

Senator Pearson moves to call the previous question. In a standing vote 45 to 11, that motion passes.

Chairwoman Morris moves for a 5 minute recess by unanimous consent. Approved.

The meeting was recalled at 8:58.

Not there for roll call:

- Bucci, Natalie
- Charles, Kevin
- Dougan, Skye
- Fernandez, Aidan
- Gessner, Joshua
- Gunby, David
- Katare, Annika
- Kendrick, Tyler
- LeMaire, Jacob
- Loy, David
- Meisner, Michael
- O'Meara, Christopher
- Scurry, Daziah
- Shaw, Libby
- Staviski, Peter
- Townsend, Thomas
- White, Wynton

Quorum was reestablished with 56 senators present.

In a standing vote of 55 to 1, Student Senate Bill 2019-1066: 800 Code Revisions has been approved.

BILLS PENDING SIGNATURES:

- There were none.

ROLL CALL:

- There was a motion to conduct a final roll call. In the eyes of the chair, that motion passes.

Not there for roll call:

- Bucci, Natalie
- Charles, Kevin
- Dougan, Skye
- Fernandez, Aidan
- Gessner, Joshua
- Gunby, David
- Katare, Annika
- Kendrick, Tyler
- LeMaire, Jacob
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- Meisner, Michael
- O'Meara, Christopher
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- Shaw, Libby
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- Townsend, Thomas
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ADJOURNMENT:

- The meeting was adjourned at 9:15pm.

