

## **STUDENT SENATE MINUTES**

**July 2nd, 2019**

The Senate President called the Senate meeting to order at 7:00 PM 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 62 senators present.

#### **Not there for roll call:**

- Bertolett, Corby
- Castro, Benjamin
- Charles, Kevin
- Espinosa, Maria
- Faubion, Jacob
- Goel, Nandini
- Gunby, David
- Jon, Che
- Maroun, Evan
- Patel, Sneh
- White, Wynton
- Zlatanoff, Gabi

### **PUBLIC DEBATE:**

- Joe Andreoli
  - Welcomes the senators.
  - Reads statements from constituents supporting former Senators Lima and Grabowski, and that they were wrongfully removed from Senate.
  - Is proud of what Lima and Grabowski has done, and hopes that they will be reinstated.
- Vibhor Nayar
  - Welcomes the senators.
  - Comes to represent the APIDA task force; Asian & Pacific Islander Desi American.
  - Wants to talk about the developments happening now:
    - Currently advocating for additional resources for the Asian American Studies minor.
    - Also advocating for additional resources for APIA affairs
      - Wants to get the Provost and other officials to get behind long-term solutions.



- States he is writing two pieces of legislation and wants those in the chamber to support the drafting of these pieces.
  - First one is aimed at the United States and celebrating holidays.
    - Mentions the “Honor America Days”
    - These are times to celebrate America.
    - Will be drafting legislation with various senators to honor the 21 days of this event.
    - If anyone is interested in sponsoring or authoring, please reach out.
  - Second one is aimed at continuing support for Living and Learning Communities on the UF campus.
    - Has imperative academic benefits.
    - LLCs provide students with study spaces, resources, and academic help.
    - If anyone is interested in sponsoring or authoring, please reach out.
- Senator Amrose:
  - Mentions that many are unhappy that senators are being illegitimately removed, and senators have been reading statements from these people.
  - States that many of these people who are being quoted are students and alumni; not involved in Student Government at all; states that he feels this should “say something to everyone”.
  - Reads some statements regarding the reinstatement of former senators Grabowski and Lima.
- Senator Wilson
  - Reads some statements regarding the reinstatement of former senators Grabowski and Lima.
  - Wants to speak on her own behalf.
    - “Sick of seeing consistently corrupt stuff”
    - States she does not plan on donating to UF if the way things work will remain this way.
    - Mentions how resume lines do not mean anything if there was nothing done regarding that position.
- Christina Pugliese:
  - Was always able to speak about voting for Senate President Shaw in positive light.
    - “You may be the founder of the Women's Caucus, but it does not make you a feminist”
    - States that Senate President Shaw has “fallen to internalized sexism”.
    - Notes that the potential to empower women has been lost and failed.
    - “Feminism is so much more than saying, ‘I’m a feminist’.”
    - Must ask why it is needed to bring down “one of your sisters”.

- Believes Senate President Shaw does not have women’s best interest in mind.
- States that Senate President Shaw “belittled” former senator Grabowski.
- After this, says that she respects Shaw, but does not know if she ever wants to vote for Senate President Shaw again.

***\*\*If you wish to hear any speeches given during public debate please request the recordings from [senatesecretary@sg.ufl.edu](mailto:senatesecretary@sg.ufl.edu)\*\****

**AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA:**

- Senator Pearson moves to suspend Rule X and postpone the elections for the Member at Large to the next meeting by standing vote. Seconded.
  - In a standing vote, in the eyes of the chair, that motion passes. That motion will be heard.
  - In the following standing vote, in the eyes of the chair, that motion passes.
- Senator Pearson moves to adopt the agenda by a standing vote.
  - In a standing vote, in the eyes of the chair, that motion passes.

**AMENDMENTS TO THE MINUTES:**

- Senator Pearson moves to amend the minutes from 06-18-19, to state that Senator Grabowski was ruled constructively absent, and update the roll call votes accordingly.
  - In a standing vote, in the eyes of the chair, that motion passes.

**STUDENT BODY OFFICER REPORT(S):**

**Office of the Student Body Vice President**

- Vice President Abraham welcomes the senators.
- States she is a resource and ally to all of the senators.
- Office hours: Every Wednesday and Friday from 11:00 AM - 5:00 PM.
  - Email at [vicepresident@sg.ufl.edu](mailto:vicepresident@sg.ufl.edu)
- Neal Patel is her Chief of Staff; feel free to reach out to him via email.
- States her cabinet has “amazing ideas” and is excited to start the year.
- Feel free to reach out if anyone has any ideas for programming.

Senator Pearson moves to amend his previous motion -- to suspend Rule XI of the Senate Rules and Procedures.

Senator Pearson's previous motion is rescinded.

In a standing vote, in the eyes of the chair, the motion will be amended and re-heard.

In a following standing vote, in the eyes of the chair, that motion passes.

### **REPLACEMENT AND AGENDA COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- Senator Pearson moves to adopt the special rules drafted by the Replacement and Agenda.
  - Senator Amrose moves to approve the motion via a roll-call vote. Seconded.
    - In a standing vote of 10 to 58, that motion fails.
    - Point of Inquiry:
      - Senator Bindi asks where the definition of “block” is in the Senate Rules and Procedures.
      - The Parliamentarian states that it is not found. However, the idea of hearing things at once can be understood very easily.
  - In a standing vote, in the eyes of the chair, that motion passes.
- Senator Pearson moves to call the previous question regarding the Committee Seat and chair nominations for Allocations, Budget & Appropriations, Rules and Ethics, and Information & Communication committee seats by standing vote.
  - In a standing vote, in the eyes of the chair, that motion passes.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

#### **Replacement & Agenda:**

- Senate President Pro-Tempore Dunson welcomes the senators.
- Thanks senators who had 1 on 1's with her.
- Heard that there's a consensus to know other senators better within Senate.
  - Encourages everyone to seek out someone they have not met before and express the reason why you are in Senate.
- Will be sending out a new doodle for Senate 1 on 1's for the rest of Summer B.
- States the open seats from the Agenda.
  - States that there are actually 5 open Judiciary committee seats.

### **MINORITY PARTY REPORT:**

- Deputy Minority Party Leader Bindi welcomes the senators.
  - States that he objected to a lot of individual committee seats during the R&A committee meeting.
  - The entire Information and Communications committee appointees were ‘approved incorrectly’, ignoring Coalition Leader Wilson's expertise and recommendations.

- States he recused himself from Rules & Ethics in regards to himself being introduced to the Agenda; did not receive a second despite the R&A committee not requiring ‘seconds’.
- Beliefs on the implementation of special rules:
  - The constitution supposedly prohibits hearing things as a block.
  - This also disobeys Robert’s Rules of Order.
- Did not fill Judiciary seats because there were only four applicants and they desire for there to be more diversity in the committee.
- States that the Senate is not able to pass legislation without a quorum for Judiciary committee.
- Coalition Party Leader Wilson
  - Has issues with some people appointed to the Rules & Ethics Committee.
    - States that some new senators were considered “more qualified” than senators who had been there for months and with experience on legislation.
  - Wants to touch on I&C as well.
    - Believes she knows what she is talking about regarding I&C, since she has ample experience with this subject.
    - Suggested Senator Ragan, and there was only one con on her (which Senator Wilson believes was a lie), yet still was not voted in.
  - Believes more people within the R&A committee should recuse themselves if they know the applicants personally.
    - Deputy Minority Leader Bindi refused himself to vote on a candidate, since he knew the person.
    - Encourages the senators to exercise this behavior.
    - Believes using “brotherhood” as a qualification is unethical.
  - Asks senators to “do your job”; wonders what they “really vote on”.

Senate President Shaw grants Senator Ortiz one minute to clarify a piece of information shared by Senator Bindi.

### **Budget & Appropriations:**

- Chairman Brown welcomes the senators.
- Wants to clarify that the Senate does more than pass legislation, including approving a \$21 million budget.
- States that nearly all student organizations are allowed to apply for funding from the Budget & Appropriations committee.
  - These committees are required to be registered with SAI and have at least 10 members.
- Operational Budgets are due on July 7th.

- Congratulates his committee.
- Big Three budget hearings are occurring next week.
- Questions:
  - Senator Amrose: Are previously funded organizations the only ones receiving emails regarding applying for funding; any remedial action that can be taken for organizations that were not aware of the whole process being available?
  - Chairman Brown: Since the fiscal year has begun, we want to make sure these applications are being brought in.
  - Senator Amrose: Mentions that the “pot of money” may already be drained before these committees would have a chance to apply to them.
  - Senator Ortiz: Asks if a ‘pardon’ for organizations to apply late in order to fix the problem of organizations not knowing of the application process would be available?
  - Chairman Brown: If budget is pushed back and if a valid excuse is given, then an accommodation can be given.
  - Senator Jackson: Is there a way for SG Finance and SAI to communicate better in the future in order for information to be disbursed to ALL student organizations?
  - Chairman Brown: Attempting to get this information out on Gator Connect in order for all organizations to access this information.
  - Senator Espinosa: Would you be able to share the response rate of organizations that have applied so far for funding?
  - Chairman Brown: No number off the top of my head right now; will reach out.

#### **Allocations:**

- Chairwoman Girschick welcomes the senators.
- Excited to get started with her newly appointed committee seat.
- Will be sending out a Google Doc for any requests for meeting times.
- Will be having our first meeting next week.
- Asks all committee members to meet in the front after the committee.

#### **Judiciary:**

- Chairman Sandifer welcomes the senators.
- Committee currently does not have quorum.
- We will be meeting tomorrow in the Thompkins Suite outside of the SG Office.
- No legislation was submitted by the time of scheduling the meeting so no need for an email to be sent out via Listserv.
- Feel free to reach out at [judiciary@sg.ufl.edu](mailto:judiciary@sg.ufl.edu).

#### **Rules & Ethics:**

- Chairwoman Morris welcomes the senators.

- Congratulates the newest members of the committee.
- Constituency was due; will vote on this.
- Questions:
  - Senator Bindi: Asks for clarification regarding constituency probation.
  - Chairwoman Morris: Clears that the make-up for missed constituency is necessary by a specified time on top of Summer B requirements.
- Absences must be submitted within 7 days.
- Meeting is tomorrow at 4:45 PM.

**Information & Communication:**

- Chairwoman Jones welcomes the senators.
- Congratulates the new members of the I&C committee.
- Sent out an email regarding many topics, including “Why Senate Wednesday.”
- Mentions summer feature form.
- Mentions the Senate Intramural Basketball Team; invited most of the senators via UFL email.
  - Possibly playing Wednesdays; time TBA.
- A graphic regarding the budgeting process has been created and posted. Asks the senators to share this graphic.
- Asks the new members to meet after the senate meeting ends.

**FIRST READING:**

- There were none.

**SECOND READING**

- There were none.

**BILLS PENDING SIGNATURES:**

- There were none.



### **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- Chairman Brown: Budget committee to meet in front of the room for a picture.
- Senator Pearson: Tomorrow, the executive branch will be opening various opportunities to get involved.
- Senator Greenwald: Talked about the Jewish caucus and sending an email through the Senate listserv; watch out for them to be sent out via personal email.
- Senator Amrose: There's a piece of legislation passed by the Florida Legislature regarding early voting locations, and it could be a detriment to the Reitz Union
- Senator Ragan: The letter drive regarding the APIDA task force is accepting online submissions.
- Senator Jackson: LGBTQ caucus will be sending out interest forms.
- Pro-Tempore Dunson: Clarifies how to fill out the voter record.

### **ROLL CALL:**

- There was a motion to collect final roll call via voter records by unanimous consent.  
Approved.

### **ADJOURNMENT:**

- The meeting was adjourned at 8:48 PM.