

STUDENT SENATE MINUTES
November 12th, 2019

The Senate President called the Senate meeting to order at 7:33 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 quorum was established with 81 senators present.

Not there for roll call:

- Douglas
- Hutchinson
- Lovesky
- Marsh
- Miller
- Shaw
- White
- Wilder
- Wyche

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- Alfredo Ortiz:
 - Not expecting to be the first one to speak.
 - Here to speak on a bill that he has been working on with Mark Merwitzer.
 - Was here last week concerning others intimidating political candidates.
 - Came up with a bill that would move a political candidate to the Supreme Court if the same sort of situation occurred as they did this past spring.
 - What happened last time should not be happening again.
 - Will allow Merwitzer to speak more on this issue.
- Mark Merwitzer:
 - Has been reflecting the past few weeks on SG.
 - With current events happening right now, believes the bill he is proposing would help lead in SG with values at the forefront.
 - His bill would move any political candidate straight to the Supreme Court if they intimidate or threaten someone.
 - Bill is very straightforward.
 - Hopes everyone will support his bill.

- Ryan Eliason:
 - Here as a leader of an organization, hoping to bridge the gap between orgs and those who represent them, Student Government.
 - The legislation includes inviting student organization leaders to be invited to Student Senate Meetings monthly in order to speak on issues.
 - Everyone has concerns for their organizations, and he wants people to be able to speak on these.
 - Here looking for support and feedback from as many people as possible before he submits his bill to Judiciary.
- Senator Tio:
 - Inspire Caucus will be trying to move a resolution to the floor that states “We Believe Survivors”
 - Created a link to view the potential legislation.
 - Clears some misconceptions that people had about the resolution.
 - Legislation has passed by the Judiciary Meeting before.
 - The support has been reviewed before, and reasons for not passing it have changed every time.
 - Known fact that UF administration has not been effective at fighting against Sexual Assault.
 - Some people say that the resolution negates the “innocent until proven” argument.
 - Resolutions have been passed highlighting student’s organizations specific work.
 - Be educated when casting a vote, we need to stand with sexual assault survivors.
- Senator Diaz
 - Touches lightly on campus assaults. Asks those who wish to not hear about this to step out if they wish.
 - Throughout the semester, multiple articles have been released about sexual assault. Recently Campus Climate Survey was released with saddening numbers.
 - It falls on elected leaders to be voices of students, especially in times of crisis. This qualifies as one.
 - Resolution aims to expand Green Dot, by having more people be trained by it.
 - Explains Green Dot Sexual Assault Prevention program and those who would receive training in it.
 - This is not the only step necessary to make change. This is a good step, however.
 - Senator Kendrick and he will be working on making sure that Senators are trained in Green Dot. Invites anyone who has ideas on how to get that done to speak to them.
 - Senator Diaz will be here after the meeting to speak with anyone willing to help.
- Senator Garcia:
 - Talks about her brother, regarding sexual assault and him listening to Senator Garcia when speaking about this issue.

- Believes that we should listen to sexual assault survivors because they are humans, not just, because they are just your sister, daughter, girlfriend, etc.
- If it is hard to care, remember it can be anyone apart of your life.
- Talks about the legislation that is being intended to be added tonight, regarding advocating for sexual assault awareness and mental health resources.
- They deserve to know that their voices matter and that we believe them.
- Sexual assault is something that you understand, or you don't.
- You either believe sexual assault survivors or you don't.
- Thanks to those who have helped support the legislation.
- Majority Party Leader Hernandez:
 - Have been met with a struggle of communication with the Minority Party Leader.
 - Believes that lines of communication should be kept open to help discuss issues beforehand.
 - This is to shine a light that we can be doing more if we are in constant communication instead of speaking on the day of, for the sake of the student body.
 - We must hold each other accountable.
- Senator Amrose:
 - Points out the 600 code revision legislation on the agenda.
 - Notes that the Judiciary Committee spent "5 minutes" to pass it, and they reviewed it on a criteria of "clarity."
 - One of the criteria needed for bills, is clarity, challenges Senators to read it and ask yourself if no one would ever misinterpret it.
 - This was drafted in good intentions, but the legislation would not have the issues it does, if a member of the Minority Party were on the committee.
 - For those on the Judiciary committee, speak up; let a minority voice speak up. Even if people above you are telling you not to.
 - Speaks on the amendments that are intended to be motioned. Believes that more should be done.
 - One critical amendment would be that any student senators would be receiving political correspondence, not just leadership, for accountability reasons.
 - The current legislation lacks accountability, due to the fact that the Majority Party has most executive branch positions.
 - Notes that insignificant things are liable if the legislation stands as is.
 - Further clarity needs to be amended to this legislation.
 - There will always be amendments needed to a piece of legislation that was not reached across the aisle.
 - How can the other party say that we do not want to communicate, when not given enough time to make a decision as a caucus?
 - This is not enough to address what Student Body President Murphy did.

- Majority of people are in favor of impeachment.
- Hopefully, you will do the right thing when the time comes.
- Chairman Pearson:
 - Yields his time to the chair.
- Senator Lima:
 - Wants to respond to the comments made by Majority Party Leader Hernandez.
 - Feels that majority party leader is trying to make issues out of nothing.
 - Shares some messages that were exchanged between him and her.
 - Invited Majority Party Leader to support them at the sexual assault survivor legislation and received no response.
 - Feels that this problem is being mischaracterized.
 - We must not focus on pointless party bickering.
- Senator Chou:
 - Addresses what Senator Diaz brought up about Green Dot.
 - Gatorwell is implementing this in 4 phases, and Gatorwell is on phase 2.
 - Wanted to reach out and let everyone know that Gatorwell is already reaching out to student organizations, including SG.
 - Will be coming to the chamber to speak on this.
 - Try to not take more credit than is due.
 - If you are interested in pushing Green Dot, there is room for us to help them push the program.
 - Asks to be humble and truthful about these things.
 - Recently read an article where Donald Trump Jr. had to be escorted off stage from speaking event at UCLA.
 - Realizes that writers are not talking about what was paid to have the shows elsewhere.
 - If we paid him for something that he normally does for free, maybe we are not as good at negotiating well.
 - The 600 code revisions are “not something that we need.” Was painful for him to read as a political science major. Highly encourages amendments.
 - Thanks everyone for listening.
- Senator Solomon:
 - Will be working on legislation with Senator Blomeley and Wikan in support of rural students.
 - Although he does not look it, he grew up in a rural area, in the Midwest.
 - Rural areas struggle with deficiency in technology, lack of transportation, shortage of teachers, and others.
 - Important to treat rural students fairly at the University, due to their lack of resources.
 - Hope for the resolution to be wide reaching.

- If one is wanting to be an author or sponsor, “we would love to have you.”
- Mentions study done by UGA professor that touches about the issue.
- Asks those to reach out with questions and information to be given.

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

AMENDMENTS TO THE MINUTES:

- Senator Garcia moves to amend the minutes to reflect that Senator Garcia voted yes for opening the floor for nominations by unanimous consent. Approved.

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA:

- Majority Party Leader Hernandez moves to approve Replacement & Agenda committee recommendations for Assistant Supervisor of Elections: Chloe Judge by unanimous consent. Approved.
- Majority Party Leader Hernandez moves to approve Replacement & Agenda committee recommendations for Assistant Supervisor of Elections: Spencer Bober by unanimous consent. Approved.
- Majority Party Leader Hernandez moves to approve Replacement & Agenda committee recommendations for Assistant Supervisor of Elections: Caylyn Nord by unanimous consent. Approved.
- Majority Party Leader Hernandez moves to approve Replacement & Agenda committee recommendations for Assistant Supervisor of Elections: Emma Carter by unanimous consent. Approved.
- Majority Party Leader Hernandez moves to approve Replacement & Agenda committee recommendations for Assistant Supervisor of Elections: Mary Alfano by unanimous consent. Approved.
- Majority Party Leader Hernandez moves to approve Replacement & Agenda committee recommendations for Assistant Supervisor of Elections: Hayley Price by unanimous consent. Approved.
- Majority Party Leader Hernandez moves to approve Student Senate Bill 2019-1101: Resolution Recognizing Campus Safety Concerns and Recommending Additional Proactive Resources by unanimous consent. Approved.
- Senator Tio moves to add a piece of legislation to first readings from the floor. That motion is not well received. There was a motion to appeal the decision of the chair. This motion has been decided to not be debatable. There was a motion for a roll call vote, in a standing vote, in the eyes of the chair that motion fails.
 - There was a call for division. In a standing vote of 35 to 45, that motion fails.

STUDENT BODY OFFICER REPORTS:

Student Body Vice President Abraham:

- Nov 18-22 is Mental Health Awareness Week. Here to speak on it.
 - Monday: Mental Health Awareness Fair.
 - Tuesday: Series of “Lunch and Learns”
 - Through CWC, DRC, and Gatorwell.
 - “There will be free food.”
 - Wednesday: Field Day with slides and fun merchandise.
 - Thursday: Sunset Yoga.
 - Friday: Feel Good Friday.
 - Housing Fair is also on this day in the Reitz North Lawn.
- Please go share all the events to reach campus.

Chomp the Vote Chairman Adam Kozloski:

- Has had several voter registration events throughout the semester.
- Registered many voters until this point.
- Hosted an event to thank Veterans and their service. Event was displayed by ABC affiliate.
- Hosting:
 - November 25th: Political debate is happening with students from both sides discussing topics.
- Hopes to see everyone involved in their civic engagement.
- Carnegie Mellon, UNC-Chapel Hill and others will be coming to campus.
- If interested in hearing more, please reach out to him at chomp@sg.ufl.edu.

SENATE PRESIDENT’S REPORT:

- Senate President Dunson welcomes the senators.
- Wants to speak on the meaning and importance of Veterans Day.
- Commemorating and remembering those who have served should be honored all year long. An apostrophe is not added to the name of the holiday because of no one having ownership, and that it is meant for all to take pride in.
 - What does it look like to take leadership over events hosted on campus?
- Invites Alejandra, a Kognito representative from CWC.
 - Here to talk about mental wellness and programs that the CWC has.
 - Seeking support and partnership from Senate to move forward.
 - Kognito is an online tool to help people be more empowered to have difficult conversations, including suicide, eating disorders and more.
 - Recently the Board of Governors decided to make Kognito a resource for all universities.

- Spent a lot of money to bring it to our campus with no implementation of making it accessible to our campus.
 - Here to advocate all to take the training, and also gauging interest in writing legislation to recommend the implementation of this training into classrooms on campus.
 - Asking if someone will be able to write legislation that will help get this tool into the hands of faculty and students.
 - 1 in 10 college students are suicidal at any given point.
 - It is student leaders' job to speak up for students and make sure they have the tools needed for emotional health.
 - The responsibility cannot be solely handled by the CWC.
 - The CWC only has 40 licensed people in the office.
 - If you have 10,000 children seeing one pediatrician or 10,000 woman seeing one OB/GYN, it would never work.
 - This is the ratio that is being endured at the CWC.
 - Be able to pick up on signs and symptoms regarding emotional distress.
 - System is completely online, takes around 25 minutes, and helps you gain resources.
 - “Mental Health Sims.”
 - Expensive tool that is not being used enough.
 - Encourages people to share the flyers, and to take the training.
 - Reach out with potential partnerships in writing legislation.
 - Program can be found at ufl.to/kognito
- This weekend is the ribbon cutting for La Casita and IBC.
 - 11-2 PM November 17th for La Casita.
 - IBC will be 11-2 PM November 16th.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- Senate President Pro-Tempore Sandifer welcomes the senators.
- Open permanent Senate Seats:
 - Education
 - Graduate (5)
 - Medicine
 - Nursing
 - District C
- Open Committee Seat:
 - Information & Communication.

BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS:

- Chairman Brown welcomes the Senators.

- This semester, with \$812,137 to allocate, over \$260,000 has been allocated towards things like events, travel, and other requests. There is \$584,566.29 still left to be allocated for funding.
- New number of what is left to allocate will be released after the Allocations Committee meet this week.
 - Once this happens, will send out an email to orgs for transparency.
- Office hours will be released soon.

ALLOCATIONS:

- Chairwoman Girschick welcomes the Senators.
- Committee will be meeting:
 - Wednesday: 3:00pm-5:00pm
 - Thursday: 4:00pm-5:00pm
 - Friday: 3:00pm-5:00pm
- Will have office hours on Monday, will send hours out on listserv once she decides them.

JUDICIARY:

- Chairman Pearson welcomes the senators.
- Invites Majority Party Leader Hernandez to explain Student Senate Bill 2019-1103: The Political Correspondence Transparency Act - 600 Code Revision.
 - Explains the amendments that have been agreed on by both parties.
- Welcomes clerk, Senator Lloyd to his committee.
- Committee members, please meet at front of chamber.

RULES & ETHICS:

- Chairwoman Morris welcomes the Senators.
- Shows tracker for consistency.
- Sending out midterm emails this week.
- Please submit photos as a PDF.
- Going to email out calendar that she has been working on tomorrow.
- Congratulates Senator Goel for being chosen as the Vice Chair of the committee.

INFORMATION & COMMUNICATION:

- Chairwoman Jones welcomes the Senators.
- SG Polo order link has been sent out.
 - Closes tonight at 11:59 PM.
- Name tag order also closes tonight at 11:59 PM.
 - Venmo or contact Senator Cordover for payment.
 - Need to pay before form closes tonight.
- Senate Mentorship interest form closes tonight.

- If interested, please fill it out.
- Meet your Senator is next Friday, November 22nd.
 - 10 AM-1PM, will be passing out pizza.
 - Anyone can attend, doc sent out to sign up for passing out pizza.
- Senate Retreat, this Thursday in Reitz Game Room from starting at 8:00pm
- Tabling link will be sent out tomorrow.
 - Tabling event with the Field and Fork Renovation Opening will be Monday.
- If interested in applying to the committee, please reach out.

FIRST READING:

Student Senate Bill 2019-1102: Resolution Commemorating the University of Florida Ranking No.7 Among Public Universities:

Majority Party Leader Hernandez moves to amend the sponsorship line to include “Raisa Karim.”

Majority Party Leader Hernandez moves to call the previous question by unanimous consent. Approved.

Majority Party Leader Hernandez moves to Student Senate Bill 2019-1102: Resolution Commemorating the University of Florida Ranking No.7 Among Public Universities by unanimous consent. Approved.

Student Senate Bill 2019-1103: The Political Correspondence Transparency Act - 600 Code Revision:

Majority Party Leader Hernandez moves to amend the bill to read “Member at Large Rush” under sponsorship.

There was a motion to call the previous question by unanimous consent. Objected.

Senator Amrose moves to amend Student Senate Bill 2019-1103: The Political Correspondence Transparency Act - 600 Code Revision, under rule 601.2 by unanimous consent. Approved.

Majority Party Leader Hernandez moves to approve Student Senate Bill 2019-1103: The Political Correspondence Transparency Act - 600 Code Revision by unanimous consent. Approved.

Senator Tio moves to add a resolution to the agenda. This is a debatable motion.

1st Round of Con:

- Majority Party Leader Hernandez: This was not made available to the public necessarily, despite it being put on someone's Facebook page.

1st Round of Pro:

- Senator Karim: The other legislation on this agenda was also not made available to the public.
- Senator Tio: Defines what it means to be made available to the public. This legislation should not be controversial and it needs to be heard.

2nd Round of Con:

- Majority Party Leader Hernandez: Reiterates previous point.

2nd round of Pro:

- Senator Chou: This was made more publicly available on social media than on a listserv.
- Senator Solomon: 50 people is not more than the internet. The resolution is on Facebook right now and can be accessed at this moment. Making the comparison with the listserv is not comparable.

In a standing vote of 45 to 32, that motion fails.

SECOND READING:

- There were none.

BILLS PENDING SIGNATURES:

- There were none.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Senator Solomon: IRHA GBM on come Monday at 5:15 PM in Reitz Chamber.
- Senator Barrocas: Writing a resolution with Senator Jackson regarding UF apologizing for the Johns Committee in the 1960s.
- Senator Hernandez: Next Tuesday 10/19, legal professions day will be from 5-7 PM, invites everyone to come out.
 - Will be giving out raffle to LSAT prep.
 - Will be having fee waivers for Law School applications.
- Senator Jackson:
 - Asks to talk to herself and Senator Barrocas if curious about the Johns Committee and the resolution being made.
 - RFB Present: VanJess Thursday at 8 PM in Reitz Ballroom.
 - Monday: will be showing *The Farewell* in the Reitz Auditorium at 7:00pm.

- Gatornights this Friday. Will be having a “Potato Bar.” This is the second to last one of the semester.
- Senator Maniti: The ribbon cutting ceremony for IBC and La Casita.
 - 11-2 PM November 17th for La Casita.
 - IBC will be 11-2 PM November 16th.
- Senator Chou: Apologizes for anything that might have been offensive during his public comment about Green Dot. Congratulates Senator Kendrick and Senator Diaz.
- Senator Nelson: Will be working on legislation, including a 300 code revision. Contact him at marcus.nelson@UFL.EDU.
- Senator Kendrick: AEI is bringing City Commissioner Warren to speak on different topics. Will be from 6:00-8:00pm on 11/13/19.
- Senator Diaz: Clarifies that his resolution was worked on with the CWC. Also next week is National Indigenous People Week.
- Senator Amrose: CLAS Facebook page has a link to survey that is trying to gauge interest in creating a Neuroscience major. Asks to fill it out.
- Senate President Pro-Tempore: Instructs how to fill out the Voter Record Properly.

ROLL CALL:

- There was a motion to use voting records for final roll call by unanimous consent. Approved.

ADJOURNMENT:

- The meeting was adjourned at 9:29 PM.