

## **STUDENT SENATE MINUTES**

**January 14th, 2020**

The Senate President called the Senate meeting to order at 7:31 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 74 senators present.

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

- Anderson
- Brown
- Chatoff
- Chou
- Freedman
- Karimi
- Le
- J Martinez
- Miller
- Oni
- Orban
- Rajaei
- Shaw
- Skinner

### **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

- Senator Bindi:
  - Gives congratulations to the LSU Tigers for winning the NCAA Football National Championship.
  - Makes a point that the Replacement and Agenda Committee under-represents the senate chamber.
  - All the people in this room are qualified to be on a committee.
  - All members of the United States Legislature sit on committees, with a couple exceptions.
  - All are qualified to hold a committee position.
  - Makes the point that less than half of the senators sit in a committee and are not heard as well because of this.
  - People did not come to this chamber to merely show up on a Tuesday.
  - One integral way to represent the students is to serve on a committee.
  - Personally serves on a committee now.

- Drafting legislation that allows all senators willing to serve on a committee if they desire.
- Only with unanimous vote can the Replacement and Agenda Committee turn away a senator to join a committee.
- Mark Merwitzer:
  - Would like to continue the speech that was given last week.
  - Recites a quote from the Federalist Papers.
  - The two assertions are:
    - No men are angels.
    - Second, there should be a check on the fact that no men are angels.
  - Announces two more cases to the SG Supreme Court.
  - Asks senators to “buckle up.”
  - Senator Chou is being accused of deleting video from a previous senate meeting.
    - Announces that he will go to court to complete a public records request for a video.
  - Is also accusing Senator Shaw from unconstitutionally removing replacement senate seats from this previous summer term of Senate.
  - Requests that the senators do not overstep boundaries.
- Senator Amrose
  - Says that the Inspire Caucus believes in students utilizing resources that are given to them.
  - Students pay about \$500 to the Student government annually and do not get enough out of their money.
  - Focus on prevention of sexual assault.
  - Further lists things that the Inspire Caucus stands for, as well as initiatives that they have worked on.
  - Entirely focused on serving the students and these important matters.

***\*\*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 MINUTES:**

- There were none.

**AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA:**

- There were none.

**OFFICE OF THE STUDENT BODY VICE PRESIDENT:**

- Anish Patel:

- On Thursday, “Articulating your resume” is being hosted from 6-7, with special guest Dr. Brian Ray.
- Invites students to attend.
- Reminds senators that this does count as constituency.

### **SENATE PRESIDENT’S REPORT:**

- Invites Captain Sasser from the UFPD.
  - Introduces different representatives from the UFPD.
  - Wants to teach senators how to properly assist in different cases.
  - Detective Jessica Sarathi is assigned to the criminal investigations branch.
  - Ashley Mitchell is a representative for victim services and a victim advocate with three years of experience.
  - Brittany Coleman is the head of the victim advocacy, with 6 years of experience and training.
  - Captain Sasser invited Detective Sarathi to present:
    - States the definition of sexual assault, which is unwarranted physical contact.
    - Many options to responding to sexual assault.
      - Call a patrol officer.
      - The patrol officers will then conduct interviews and collect evidence.
      - Can help you get transported to the hospital.
  - Ashley Mitchell presents about the office of victim services.
    - If you or a friend experienced sexual assault a while ago, the victim services office is a good place to go.
    - The office can advocate for you.
    - The office is open to both students and faculty/ staff.
    - Title 9 investigates any misconduct.
      - RAs, teachers and coaches must report under Title 9 if you tell them about sexual assault.
    - Campus security authorities are available on campus for additional resources.
    - If you are unsure at the time that you want to report to victim services at the time, you can get examined with a nurse without reported.
      - You have the right to have an advocate present during this exam.
    - Invites detective Sarathi back to further explain.
  - Recommends that you are encouraged to report sexual assault for the safety of yourself and safety of the campus.
  - Emphasizes that all officers go through a basic sexual assault training through the police academy and that all are aware how to handle the situation.

- Invited Brittany Coleman to the stand.
  - Informs senators on privileged communication.
  - Advocates out of the UF office is free and fully confidential.
- Business cards will be left on the table for the senators to use for more information.
- Anonymous reporting is available online.
- A victim advocate can walk you through the entire process of reporting.
- Ashley Mitchell takes the stand to emphasize the idea that if this information is not relevant to you, it may be relevant to a friend.
  - Get your friend to someone that can help you.
  - Always believe the victim.
- Captain Sasser closes the presentation with an overview on the options available:
  - Report the sexual assault.
  - Get the exam done afterwards but do not report.
  - Go through the Title 9 office.
  - Online reporting/ anonymous reporting.
- Blue lights will be put in in the next couple of weeks.
- The goal is for the blue lights to be fully installed by the end of April 2020.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

### **REPLACEMENT AND AGENDA:**

- Senator Sandifer welcomes the senators.
- Open Permanent Seats:
  - Education.
  - Medicine.
  - Nursing.
  - District B.
  - District C.
  - Graduate (2).
- Open Committee Seats:
  - Allocations.
  - Budget.
  - Information and Communications.
  - Rules and Ethics (2).

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### **BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS:**

- Senator White welcomes the senators.
- Roll refunds from last semester were completed this week.

- Informs the senators know that they have one open seat on the committee and encourages senators to apply.

### **ALLOCATIONS:**

- Chairwoman Girschick welcomes the senators.
- Committee met for 4.5 hours yesterday to allocate unused funds from the fall semester.
- Allocations and budget committee will continue to meet until the budget is used.
- There is one seat open on the committee.

### **JUDICIARY:**

- Chairman Pearson welcomes the senators.
- Passed a 300-code revision today for the next Senate meeting.
- All legislation is due next Monday at noon.
- The green dot training will be held on January 26.

### **RULES & ETHICS:**

- Chairwoman Morris welcomes the senators.
- Probation period is open until January 28, mandatory for all senators.
- Absences do roll over from the previous semester.
- Thanks the Judiciary committee for the 300 code revision.
- There is an open seat on the committee.
- Meeting will be tomorrow at 4:00pm.
- Chairwoman Morris moves to approve the Rules and Ethics Committee recommendations for the approved absences block by unanimous consent. Approved.
- Chairwoman Morris moves to approve the Rules and Ethics Committee recommendations for the failed absences block by unanimous consent. Approved.

### **INFORMATION & COMMUNICATION:**

- Chairwoman Jones welcomes the senators.
- Tabling information was sent to the senators last week through email.
- Mentor-mentee reveal is tonight after the meeting.
- There is one open seat on the committee.

### **FIRST READINGS:**

- There were none.

### **SECOND READINGS:**

- There were none.

### **BILLS PENDING SIGNATURES:**

- There were none.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- Senator Solomon: presents information on the IRHA meeting, which is this Thursday at 7:30 pm. This counts towards constituency.
  - All of the area government meetings will send emails this week.
- Senator Diaz: On January 26<sup>th</sup>, there will be Green Dot training.
- Senator Jackson: Gator nights is this Friday, this week it is “Museum Night.”
  - RPB recruitment is taking place until January 22<sup>nd</sup>.
- Senator Jesurajan: Indian Student Association is hosting a Bento fundraising night on January 15<sup>th</sup> at 5 pm, and the GBM will be on Thursday at 5:30pm.
- Senator Cordover: Wants to start up a Jewish Caucus.
- Senator Rush: First generation caucus will be set up shortly.
- Senator Nimer: Asks the senators to sing “Happy Birthday” to Senator Murshid.
- Senator Nelson: Working on a resolution to express support for the Green Dot program, new student government website will be going live this Friday Morning.

### **ROLL CALL:**

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

### **ADJOURNMENT:**

- The meeting was adjourned at 8:23 pm.