

STUDENT SENATE MINUTES
February 25th, 2020, Meeting 1

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 62 senators present.

Not there for roll call:

- Barocas
- Blomeley
- Davis
- Girschick
- Goel
- Groux
- Kanouse
- Murshid
- Jones
- Phillipot
- Oni
- Portugues
- Rodell
- Silva
- Whitted
- Wikan

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- Sarah Louis:
 - Second year student at UF.
 - Coming here as a general body member of the Black Student Union.
 - Second VP of Gator Chapter of the NAACP.
 - Here to talk about Black History Month.
 - Gives history of coming of Black History Month. Originally named Negro History wee.
 - Felt that she would not have a home at a predominantly white university like UF.
 - Was pushed to join organizations under the BSU.
 - Last February, there was an event every single day of Black History Month. Had a wonderful opportunity to learn about black history.

- Because of BSU and this wonderful institution she has been pushed to grow in her identity.
- Friday was the 50th anniversary of the African American Study Program at the college.
- Gives shoutouts to some students who are both still here and graduated.
- Here to let people know that Black History Month is just as important as any other month celebrating minorities and people of color.
- Erin France:
 - Here with UF PR assisting Bateman Team
 - Explains what Bateman is.
 - The Census Bureau is their client this year.
 - If you live in a city for more than six months, you are counted as living in that city.
 - The city lost over 300 million in funding because students did not know as students they counted as residents in Gainesville.
 - Census will be available online starting March 12., with a code you receive, you can fill it out online.
 - The Census funding is provided for other the next ten years in Gainesville, Florida. This funding will help with better infrastructure and funding.
 - Census is completely safe, confidential, and official. No government official can use your information.
- Senator Rush:
 - Senator Rush gives her goodbye speech.
- Senator Ragan:
 - Senator Ragan gives her goodbye speech.
- Senator Nelson:
 - Asking for the support of the chamber in writing two resolutions.
 - One is celebrating Black History Month and the Black Community at UF.
 - Second piece is the expression of support by the Senate for the Green Dot Program.
 - We have the power to bring an end to violence and sexual assault on our campus. Hopes that Green Dot is just the beginning for this.
- Senator Bindi:
 - Senator Bindi gives his goodbye speech.
- Chairwoman Morris:
 - Chairwoman Morris gives her goodbye speech.
- Senator Jesurajan:
 - Senator Jesurajan gives her goodbye speech.
- Senator Diaz:

- Wanted to talk about the issues he was wanting to work on while running for Student Body President.
- One issue he heard over and over again was the lack of student access to mental health. There are many variables affecting this and we are all aware of that.
 - Cultural sensitivity training for those who work in mental health on campus is crucial on our campus.
- Tomorrow morning will be meeting to discuss these topics.
- Will also be working on outreach methods for places such as the field and fork pantry.
- Another issue he heard was the issue of not full use of undocumented programs for undocumented students.
- Finally, tells the new senators welcome, and hopes that this room will become a space of debate and relationships to come.
- When problems arise, it is not you vs them, it is all of us vs that problem.
- We are here to make campus a better place.
- Do not let SG take over your well-being.
- Senator Solomon:
 - Yields his time to the chair.
- Senator Zimmer:
 - Yields his time to the chair.
- Majority Party Leader Hernandez:
 - Majority Party Leader Hernandez gives her goodbye speech.
- Chairman Pearson:
 - Chairman Pearson gives his goodbye speech.
- Ben Lima:
 - Here to talk about the student body statues
 - Sitting in the Elections Commission Hearings.
 - Feels there is some bipartisanism in these meetings.
 - Feels there are some wording issues in our laws that need to be updated to reflect our times more accurately.
 - Thinks that there is an opportunity for changes to be seen.
 - Changes need to be made.
 - Feels that people forget that laws can be changed due to lack of communication about them.
 - Advocates for a bipartisan committee.
 - We can decide on things as a legislature, and not have to defer them to the Elections Commission.
 - Things need to get done, even if they fail a few times.
 - Wants codes to be updated in a way that everyone would be proud of.
- Senator Glover:

- Senator Glover gives his goodbye speech.
- Senator Karimi:
 - Senator Karimi yields her time to the chair.
- Senator Zimmer:
 - Congratulates all new senators.
 - Excited to see all the things they do in this chamber
 - To outgoing senators, he wishes them good luck. He knows that they will do great things outside of this chamber.
 - Gives shoutouts to Senator Bindi and Senator Ragan.

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

AMENDMENTS TO THE MINUTES:

- There were none.

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA:

- Chairman Brown moves to approve Student Senate Bill 2020-1005 Line Item Transfer for HOPE Ministries by unanimous consent. Approved.
- Chairman Brown moves to approve Student Senate Bill 2020-1006 Line Item Transfer for Inter Residence Hall Association by unanimous consent. Approved.
- Chairman Brown moves to approve Student Senate Bill 2020-1007 Line Item Transfer for the Benton Engineering Council by unanimous consent. Approved.
- Chairman Brown moves to approve Student Senate Bill 2020-1008 Line Item Transfer for Plant Pathology Graduate Student Organization by unanimous consent. Approved.

- Majority Party Leader Moves to approve the Replacement and Agenda Committee Recommendation for the open Graham Area Permanent Replacement Senate Seat: Samuel Hodge by unanimous consent. Approved.
- Majority Party Leader Hernandez moves to approve the Replacement and Agenda Committee Recommendation for the Simon Jee in the open district D seat Approved.
- Majority Party Leader Hernandez moves to approve the Replacement and Agenda Committee Recommendation for Samuel Hodge the open Graham Area district seat Approved.
- Majority Party Leader Hernandez moves to approve the Replacement and Agenda Committee Recommendation for the in the open graduate family housing seat Permanent Replacement Senate Seat: Logan Russell by unanimous consent. Approved.

- Majority Party Leader Hernandez moves to approve the Replacement and Agenda Committee Recommendation for the Florida Student Government Institute Chairperson: Libby Shaw by unanimous consent. Objection.
- Majority Party Leader Hernandez Moves to approve the Replacement and Agenda Committee Recommendation for the approved absence block by unanimous consent. Approved.
- Majority Party Leader Hernandez moves to approve the 2020-1003 Resolution Celebrating Black History Month by unanimous consent. Approved.
- Majority Party Leader Hernandez moves to approve the 2020-1004 Resolution Supporting Green Dot Bystander Intervention by unanimous consent. Approved.

OFFICE OF THE STUDENT BODY TREASURER:

- Kevin Trejos currently serves as the assistant treasurer.
 - Stay Fresh Laundry Gram Program,
 - Must be a UF student
 - Must be currently living on campus or living on campus during Summer A.
 - Thankful to serve in the SG office.
 - Will be resigning due to 130.4 code, since he got elected as Heavener Business School Senator, and will move into serving as a senator.

SENATE PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

- John Michael Stratton Award:
 - There was a motion to open the floor by unanimous consent. Approved.
 - Chairman Brown nominates Majority Party Leader Hernandez.
 - Chairwoman Hernandez accepts.
 - Chairwoman Morris nominates Senator Alexander.
 - Senator Alexander accepts.
 - Senator Solomon nominates Senator Diaz.
 - Senator Diaz declines.
 - Senator Glover nominates Senator Rush.
 - Senator Rush accepts.
 - Senator Karim nominates Senator Chou.
 - Senator Chou accepts.
 - Senator Tio nominates Senator Bindi.
 - Senator Bindi accepts.
 - Chairwoman Girschick is nominated.
 - Chairwoman Girschick declines.
 - The winner of the John Michael Stratton will be presented at the end of the year banquet.
- Paul Clark Memorial Award: Most Outstanding Chairperson

- There was a motion to open the floor by unanimous consent.
- Senator Solomon nominates Chairwoman Girsschick.
 - Chairwoman Girschick accepts.
- Senator Chairman Pearson is nominated
 - Chairman Pearson accepts.
- Chairwoman Morris is nominated.
- Chairman Brown is nominated.
 - Chairman Brown accepts.
- Chairwoman Jones is nominated.
 - Chairwoman Jones accepts.
- Senate President Dunson is nominated.
 - Senate President Dunson does not accept.
- There was a motion to close the floor by unanimous consent.
- The winner of the Paul Clark Memorial Award will be presented at the end of the year banquet.
- Certification of Elections:
 - Supervisor of Elections Stephanie Siler:
 - Presents the results of this past election.
 - In a standing vote, in the eyes of the chair, election results have been certified.
- Senate President Dunson gives her goodbye speech.
- Presents chairpeople awards
- Presents “paper plate” awards.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

REPLACEMENT & AGENDA COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION.:

Florida Student Government Institute Chair nominee: Libby Shaw.

- Majority Party Leader Hernandez moves to call the previous question. In a standing vote of 46 to 14 that motion passes.
- In the eyes of the chair, Libby Shaw has been approved.

REPLACEMENT & AGENDA:

- Open Permanent Replacement Seats:
 - District B
- Senate President Pro-Tempore Sandifer gives his goodbye speech.

BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS:

- Chairman Brown says a few thanks to those leaving.

ALLOCATIONS:

- Chairwoman Girschick welcomes the senators.

- Gives thanks to the senators who are leaving tonight.

JUDICIARY:

- Chairman Pearson welcomes Dr. Adajumo who will be speaking on Black History Month.
- Dr. Adajumo:
 - Presents on some key figures that have shaped the contribution at the University of Florida.
 - We are in a crisis because of undergraduate students at the University of Florida there are only 720 black males and 1,300 black females pursuing a degree.
 - Compared to how many total students are at UF, and the amount of students who are black that have attended University of Florida in the past, Dr. _ asks if we can do better than what we are doing today.
 - Charges Student Government to do better than the 3% black females and 2.2% black males pursuing a degree at the University of Florida.
 - Reads an excerpt regarding representation of black students at UF.
 - Gender equity is 8.6% below the national level.
 - Out of 5,305 full time faculty, there are only 97 full time black males.
 - This is a percentage of 1.8%
 - Pleads everyone to do better.
 - Encourages the senate to create a committee that represents “Black African Americans.”
 - We need to work on retention not just entrance into the University of Florida for our Black community.
 - Charges students to draft a resolution that can create steps towards the benefit of black students at the University of Florida.
- Recognize two members of the committee that are also not returning for the next term.
- Thanks everyone for letting him serve.

RULES & ETHICS:

- Chairwoman Morris wishes Senators a good evening.
- Thanks to various people during her time as a senator.
- Recommends new senators to apply for the Rules and Ethics Committee.

INFORMATION & COMMUNICATION:

- There was no report.

FIRST READING:

- There were none.

SECOND READING

- There were none.

BILLS PENDING SIGNATURES:

- There were none.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Senator Solomon: April 1st in Plaza of the Americas, “Take Back the Night” Event.
 - Thanks all the senators leaving the chamber and gives a big shoutout to Senate President Dunson.
- Senator Jackson: No Gator Nights this week, but it will be partnered with live music on March 13th.
- Senator Maniti: Thursday, Gamma Eta is having a fundraising event at Menchies from 12:00pm-11:00pm
- Senator Rush: Dominican Independence Day on Thursday, there will be an event at La Casita.
- Senator Hoffman: Will be talking roll call at the next meeting and does not want to butcher any names, please talk to her to help her after this first meeting.
- Senator Kaughin: Encourages people to apply to Gators of Tomorrow.
- Senator Cordover: Chomp the Vote’s Public Policy Day on March 10th from 11:30-4:30 PM in the Rion Ballroom.
- Senate President Dunson: Gives out more thank-you’s and last paper plate award.

ROLL CALL:

- A motion to use voting records for final roll call by unanimous consent. Approved.

ADJOURNMENT:

- The meeting was adjourned at 10:21 pm