

## **STUDENT SENATE MINUTES**

**August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

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 quorum was established with 78 senators present.

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

- Baez, Daniel
- Collin, Taylor
- Girschick, Sam
- Hoffman, Feraby
- Iannone, Emery
- McGee, Karen
- Kimbrough, Karli
- Montgomery, Hannah
- Momin, Bryan
- Shoaf, Alexander

### **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

- Student Body President Pope:
  - Talks about Service Learning that will be offered starting summer 2021.
  - Gives update on projects he has been working on and expresses opinion on recent budget changes.
- Hayley Price:
  - Gives update on Fall 2020 elections.
- Senator Solomon:
  - Thanks supervisor of elections for her update.
  - Gives feelings on how we are the only SEC school who does not do online voting and expresses opinion on Fall 2020 election decisions.
  - Speaks on his feelings on new Service-Learning project presented by Student Body President Pope.
- Melanie Halem:
  - Speaks on the 200 code revisions.
  - Thanks SG for their support throughout the years.
  - Points out reasons why the 200 code revisions benefits and better fits FLC.
- Marcos Vivot-Cavanagh:
  - Speaks on the 200 code revisions and how it best fits FLC.

- Claudia Tio:
  - Speaks on the Gator Party and ways she feels they have been discriminatory and unfair. Urges people to vote for anyone except the Gator Party.
- Senator Traycik and Kaighin:
  - Updates everyone on their project on trying to get free printing near Norman Hall.
- Senator Glasserman:
  - Gives goodbye speech and thanks multiple senators in the chamber.
- Brendan Wernisch:
  - A Hume constituent.
  - Feels appalled by the leadership in the chamber.
  - Mentions his feelings towards the video posted on Student Government's Instagram.
  - Expresses his feelings towards how SG Rent Relief was handled.
  - Mentions how the money being used for SW Rec could be used in other more useful ways such as COVID19 testing, rent relief, etc.
- Senator Gonzalez:
  - Gives goodbye speech.
- Mark Merwitzer:
  - Thanks those who reached out to him after he spoke last week on the code revisions and talks about the next steps that are being taken.
  - Talks about the IT "reply all" email event that occurred Monday.
- Senator Sahil Patel:
  - Speaks on bills that are trying to be passed tonight and ways he disagrees.
- Senator Utt:
  - Gives goodbye speech.
- Senator White:
  - Points out ways he feels that the chamber has failed, which he states is a disappointment.
  - Talks about ways he feels the chamber has pushed forward positive action and thanks Trevor Pope for what he has done.
- Minority Party Leader Zimmer:
  - Speaks on the 700 code amendments.
- Senator Chou:
  - Reminds the chamber how he is disappointed.
  - Does not understand why mail in voting is being restricted.
  - Thinks printing in Norman is cool but does not understand why a resolution is being passed. Tells them good job.
  - Talks on how he feels Senate does not give you much power or resources to enact change.

- Re-emphasizes how rent relief was in the works before Trevor Pope came into office.
- Feels we should do another round of Rent Relief.

***\*\*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:**

- Senator Patel moves to change all instances in minutes where it says roll call vote to say by a raise of hands by unanimous consent. Motion is approved.

#### **AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA:**

- Majority Party Leader Zlatanoff moves to vote on the University Committees as a block.

##### **Round One of Pro:**

- There were none.

##### **Round One of Con:**

- Senator Solomon: Wants to reject this motion because he hates the idea that 30 something people would be elected in positions of power while everyone debates and votes for them at one time. He is on the list, and he is going to have to vote against himself because he does not agree with some that were appointed into these positions.

##### **Second Round of Pro:**

- There were none.

##### **Second Round of Con:**

- There were none.

##### **Roll Call Vote:**

- In a roll call vote by a raise of hands of 50 to 18, that motion passes.
- Majority Party Leader Zlatanoff moves to approve the University Committee block by unanimous consent. Motion is objected.
- Senator Groux moves to approve the absence for Daniel Baez by unanimous consent. Approved.
- Senator Groux moves to approve the absence for Karli Kimbrough by unanimous consent. Approved.
- Senator Groux moves to approve the absence for Feraby Hoffman by unanimous consent. Approved.
- Senator Groux moves to approve the absence for Casey Mason by unanimous consent. Approved.
- Senator Groux moves to approve the absence for Karen McGee by unanimous consent. Approved.

- Senator Groux moves to approve the absence for Bryan Momin by unanimous consent. Approved.
- Senator Groux moves to approve the absence for Suzanna Barna by unanimous consent. Approved.
- Chairman Luis moves to approve Student Senate Bill 2020-1055: Resolution Supporting the Expansion of the University of Florida Student Government Print Services to Norman Hall by unanimous consent. Motion is approved.
- Chairman Luis moves to approve Student Senate Bill 2020-1041: 200 Codes Revision by unanimous consent. Motion is approved.
- Chairman Luis moves to approve Amendment I to Student Senate Bill 2020-1043: 700 Codes Amendment by unanimous consent. Motion is approved.
- Chairman Luis moves to approve Student Senate Bill 2020-1044: Accountability in Student Government Officials Act by unanimous consent. Motion is approved.
- Chairman Luis moves to approve Student Senate Bill 2020-1047: Gender Neutral Wording Act – 100 Codes Revision by unanimous consent. Motion is approved.
- Chairman Luis moves to approve Student Senate Bill 2020-1048: Gender Neutral Wording Act – 200 Codes Revision by unanimous consent. Motion is approved.
- Chairman Luis moves to approve Student Senate Bill 2020-1049: Gender Neutral Wording Act – 400 Codes Revision by unanimous consent. Motion is approved.
- Chairman Luis moves to approve Student Senate Bill 2020-1052: 800 Codes Revision by unanimous consent. Motion is approved.
- Chairman Luis moves to approve Student Senate Bill 2020-1054: 300 Codes Revision by unanimous consent. Motion is approved.
- Minority Party Leader Zimmer moves to refer for Student Senate Bill 2020-1043: 700 Codes Amendment to the committee of the whole.

**Round One of Pro:**

- Minority Party Leader Zimmer: Talks about how moving the legislation to a committee of whole would be beneficial because he believes the legislation is salvageable but there are parts that need to be changed in order for there to be bipartisan support.
- Senator Patel: Echoes what Zimmer says and clarifies the rules that follow the procedure.

**Round One of Con:**

- There were none.

**Round Two of Pro:**

- Senator Solomon: Supports this motion because he feels it is a great bipartisan move.
- Senator Utt: There is a great unique opportunity to have Hayley Price speak on this legislation.

**Final Round of Con:**

- Majority Party Leader Zlatanoff: Feels the legislation has been reviewed and discussed thoroughly enough.

- Chairman Kays: Echoes what Zlatanoff said.

**Roll Call Vote:**

- In a roll call vote by a raise of hands of 28 to 43 that motion fails.
- Senator Solomon moves to strike the 700 codes amendment from the agenda.

**Round One of Pro:**

- Senator Patel: Feels that the legislation in its current state should not be passed.
- Minority Party Leader Zimmer: Disagrees with the statement that it was thoroughly reviewed.

**Round One of Con:**

- Majority Party Leader Zlatanoff: Legislation has already been reviewed.
- Chairman Luis: Echoes what Zlatanoff said.

**Round Two of Pro:**

- Senator Solomon: Points out the use of the “boogey man” tactic being used by using a buzz word such as bi-partnership and then not addressing it.
- Senator Utt: Yes it has been reviewed but that doesn’t mean it can’t or shouldn’t be reviewed again. Uses analogy with cancer testing.

**Round Two of Con:**

- Majority Party Leader Zlatanoff: Reiterates points she made earlier.
- Chairman Kays: Echoes Zlatanoff’s statement.
- Senator Wildermuth: Echoes same thoughts as last two speakers.
- Minority Party Leader Zimmer motions to extend debate process by one round. In a vote of 25 to 44 that motion fails.
- In a roll call vote by a raise of hands of 23 to 49 the motion to strike the 700 Codes Amendment from the agenda, fails.
- Senator Solomon motions to remove Senator Franco Luis as the chairman of the judiciary committee.

**Round One of Pro:**

- Senator Solomon: Franco, this is not a direct attack on you, but rather the actions you have taken the past four weeks. This past week you had another chance to pass legislation trying to end prison slavery. Yet you did not. Racism is not tolerated in this chamber or at the University of Florida.

**Round One of Con:**

- Majority Party Leader Zlatanoff: Thinks Franco is a great chair and it would not benefit anyone by removing him.
- Senator: Franco has upheld the rules and it is ridiculous to try and remove him.

**Round Two of Pro:**

- Senator: What is the definition of a great job? He has been unqualified from the beginning.

- Senator Utt: Franco has done an okay job but the committee as a whole is broken.

### **Round Two of Con:**

- Senator: Finds its ridiculous that people are trying to remove someone from their position due to disagreement.
- Senator Allen: The job of the chair is to uphold the rules and standards in the committee which he has done a great job of doing.
- In a roll call vote by a raise of hands of 20 to 51 the motion to remove Senator Franco Luis as Judiciary Chairman fails.
- Senator Utt moves to strike Student Senate Bill 2020-1043: 700 Codes Amendment in its entirety with an amendment by unanimous consent. Motion is objected.

### **STUDENT BODY OFFICER REPORTS:**

- There was none.

### **SENATE PRESIDENT'S REPORT:**

- Senate President Garner greets the senators.
- Thanks everyone who served as a replacement senator.
- Echoes sentiments by Student Body President Pope on Gator Care Kits.

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

#### **University Committees 5 Minutes Q+A:**

- Majority Party Leader Zlatanoff moves to call previous question on the University Committee block. In a roll call vote by a raise of hands of 49 to 21 that motion passes.
- In a roll call vote of 63 to 6 the motion to approve the University Committee block is approved.

#### **Assistant Supervisor of Elections 5 Minutes Q+A:**

- Majority Party Leader Zlatanoff moves to call previous question on the ASOE block. Motion is withdrawn.
- Senator Solomon moves to approve the block by unanimous consent. Motion is objected.
- Majority Party Leader Zlatanoff moves to call previous question on the ASOE block. In a roll call vote by a raise of hands of 60 to 10 that motion passes.
- In a roll call vote of 70 to 0 by a raise of hands, Lauren Amos is approved as ASOE.
- Senator moves to approve the remaining of the block by unanimous consent. Motion is approved.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### **REPLACEMENT AND AGENDA:**

- Senate Pro-Tempore Brown greets senators.
- Announces open seats.

- Minority Party Leader Zimmer gives minority report.

### **BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS:**

- Chairwoman Girschick greets senators.
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### **ALLOCATIONS:**

- No report.

### **JUDICIARY:**

- No report.

### **RULES & ETHICS:**

- Senator greets senators.
- Will be meeting with I&C tomorrow at 6 to talk about online constituency.

### **INFORMATION & COMMUNICATION:**

- Chairman Kays greets senators.
- Reiterates work being done with livestream equipment.
- Talks about joint meeting with Rules and Ethics tomorrow at 6.
- Invites for anyone with ideas to reach out to him.

### **FIRST READINGS:**

- There were none.

### **SECOND READINGS:**

#### **Student Senate Bill 2020-1042: 300 Codes Amendment:**

- Majority Party Leader Zlatanoff moves to call previous question on Student Senate Bill 2020-1042: 300 Codes Amendments. In a roll call vote of 49 to 20 by a raise of hands, that motion passes.
- In a roll call vote of 49 to 24 by a raise of hands Student Senate Bill 2020-1042 passes.

#### **Student Senate Bill 2020-1043: 700 Codes Amendment 5 Min Bill Presentation:**

- Majority Party Leader Zlatanoff presents on the bill and talks about election and campaign changes.

#### **Debatable Non-Technical Questions:**

- Senator Utt: Who did you envision this would help?
- Majority Party Leader: Anyone involved in elections.
- Minority Party Leader Zimmer: Do you think having to subpoena campaign finances made things more transparent?
- Majority Party Leader: No. Does not think it affected transparency. Just made the process more efficient.

- Senator: Who has the power to subpoena these financial reports?
- Majority Party Leader: Not sure it is clarified in the legislation so she would have to check.
- Senator Patel: Who submitted this bill?
- Majority Party Leader: Chairman Luis.
- Senator Chou: Yes or no, would the public still be able to request finance reports for a campaign after the passage of this bill?
- Majority Party Leader: I believe so, yes.
- Senator Utt: My question is for the authors or sponsors of the bill. What are the legal grounds for obtaining a subpoena?
- Majority Party Leader: Within the UF system? I am unsure.
- Senator Patel: You just answered Senator Chou saying that people would be able to find reports online but how would that work if no one is submitting receipts?
- Majority Party Leader: I said I believe; I would have to look into it since I don't know it off the top of my head. Those receipts are still available once they are subpoenaed and then it is public knowledge.
- Senator Chou: Yes or no, would the public be able to view those documents without a subpoena?
- Majority Party Leader Zlatanoff: No, it would require them to have a subpoena.
- Senator Utt: So, you agreed to author or sponsor this bill without knowing the legal grounds needed for a subpoena? Yes or no?
- Majority Party Leader: Yes.
- Senator Rodriguez: What was your intention in crafting this legislation and amendment?
- Majority Party Leader: To clean up some of the processes in the election process. There were a lot of technical things wrong with the 700 codes. The intention was to make the processes more accessible and clearer, easier, and safer for students.
- Chairman Kays: What was this bill going to do to livestream our election process?
- Majority Party Leader: Paper based absentee ballots, the subpoena process.
- Minority Party Leader Zimmer motions to extend Q+A round by 2 minutes. In a vote of 26 to 48, that motion fails.
- Minority Party Leader Zimmer motions to have previous motion by roll call vote. In a roll call vote of 25 to 51 by a raise of hands, the motion to do a roll call vote on previous motion fails.

### **Round One of Pro:**

- Majority Party Leader Zlatanoff: bill was debated heavily last week. Reiterates what was said last week. Is excited to hear the amendments being heard today and the benefits.

### **Round One of Con:**



- Senator: Does not feel that convenience is a good enough reason to pass legislation. Feels that if some other changes had been made, it could be passed, but in its current state feels it should not be passed.
- Senator Nelson: Does not believe it would be appropriate at this time to pass this legislation considering the effects it would have on positions.
- Minority Party Leader Zimmer: Hopes that amendments will be heard considering Majority Party Leader just said she was excited to hear it. Does not feel it is an appropriate bill to pass in its current state unless amendments are approved.
- Senator Utt: During Q+A it was made clear that grounds for a subpoena was not known, how can we pass that if we don't know what that process is to begin with?
- Senator Solomon: Does not understand how this bill could be passed despite all the consequences that have been discussed concerning the changes.
- Senator Patel: Finds it interesting that no one who wrote or sponsored the bill understood legal or technical terms of their legislation.

#### **Round Two of Pro:**

- Chairman Kays: Feels that the process of sending out this bill was clear, and everyone had the resources needed to look through it. Urges a vote to be allowed.

#### **Round Two of Con:**

- Senator Patel: We are not discussing whether we are going to be voting on this bill or not. We are discussing the merits of this bill, which chairman Kays did not talk about. Those in favor of this bill do not want to answer the question about a subpoena because they know the answer. That being that only two people can subpoena financial records which is the opposite of transparency.
- Minority Party Leader Zimmer: We keep talking about how this was already debated but this bill makes a huge change for our elections, which is only supported by one party, which speaks volumes on the state of the bill. Hopes the amendments are heard for this bill. If not, there will be negative consequences to passing this bill.
- Senator Chou: This disenfranchises people by not allowing people to turn in ballots the day of. Removing transparency with finances is wrong.
- Senator Rodriguez: Reiterates what Chou said. This does nothing to address what is happening during a pandemic. They also want to eliminate transparency during student elections which is wrong.

#### **Round Three of Pro:**

- There were none.

#### **Round Three of Con:**

- Senator Nelson: there is an ethical and legal reason why this legislation goes through two readings.

- Senator: Finds it interesting that no one spoke during pro. We have been clear that we do not like this bill. The point of debate is to try and convince us that you are right, which you are not doing by sitting there quietly.
- Minority Party Leader: Please pass the amendments to salvage this bill.
- Senator Chou: If you pass this bill you are making it harder for people.

**Final Round of Pro:**

- There was none.

**Final Round of Con:**

- Senator: Clearly, no one spoke during pro. No sponsor, not even the author, spoke on it. That says a lot about the legislation.
- Minority Party Leader Zimmer: Does not understand how the change with the supreme court helps students during a pandemic.
- Senator White: Everyone knows that this is a bad bill, no matter what side you are on. If you vote yes on this, everyone is watching.
- Senator Rodriguez: This bill does nothing for the community. Urges someone who identifies as Latin on the other side to speak on how this legislation helps their minority community, which is disproportionately affected by COVID19 and misrepresented in voting.
- Senator Chou: This bill makes it harder for people's ballots to be counted. This very clearly is voter disenfranchisement. If you are a political science major, you either fail your classes, or know exactly what you are doing.
- Minority Party Leader Zimmer: This is a bad bill. Please do not pass it. If you do, at least pass the amendments.

**Presentation for Student Senate Bill 2020-1043: 700 Codes Amendment II:**

- Senator Chou: Tells story on how he has been doing research to see what other universities are doing, and no one else does this. Doing this will eliminate transparency with finances. Invites people to pass this so he can get money from NY Times which might go towards their campaign in the future.
- Majority Party Leader Zlatanoff moves to call previous question on Student Senate Bill 2020-1043: 700 Codes Amendment II. In a roll call vote of 50 to 21 by a raise of hands, that motion passes.
- Senator Patel moves for a roll call vote on the motion to pass Student Senate Bill 2020-1043: 700 Codes Amendment II in a vote of 25 to 49 that motion fails.
- In a vote of 30 to 47 by a raise of hands, Student Senate Bill 2020-1043: 700 Codes Amendment II fails.

**Presentation for Student Senate Bill 2020-1043: 700 Codes Amendment III:**

- Senator Chou presents on the amendment.
- Majority Party Leader moves to call previous question. It is objected. In a vote of 24 to 48 motion to object the previous question fails.

- In a vote of 51 to 21 the motion to call previous question on Amendment III passes.
- In a vote of 31 to 44 Amendment III fails.

### **3 Minutes of Final Privilege:**

- Minority Party Leader Zimmer moves to recess for 10 minutes. In a vote of 22 to 50 that motion fails.
- Senator Patel moves for a roll call vote on Student Senate Bill 2020-1043. In a vote of 25 to 49 that motion fails.
- Senator moves to object the reconsideration. In a vote of 26 to 47 that motion fails.
- In a vote of 45 to 27 Student Senate Bill 2020-1043 is approved.

### **BILLS PENDING SIGNATURES:**

- There were none.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- Minority Party Leader Zimmer will be making a committee, if you want to join, send him an email.
- Chairman Kays reiterates Gator Kit shifts and asks anyone who can to join.
- Senator Solomon speaks on what a personal attack is.
- Senator Glasserman reminds everyone that primary elections are the 18<sup>th</sup> of August, and that it is too late to request a mail in ballot but encourages people to vote early. Deadline to turn in mail in ballot is 7pm on August 18<sup>th</sup>. General election is 84 days away. Reminds everyone to register to vote. Deadline is October 5<sup>th</sup>. If you want to vote by mail, you should be able to request a mail in ballot already. The deadline for that is 5pm 10 days before general election day.
- Senator Rodriguez feels disgusted by what just occurred in the student chamber.
- Senator White talks about his experience at Wing Stop and about what happened at the meeting tonight. Feels that the voter suppression passed tonight was not shocking, but it is a deadly choice. Thanks Jacobi, the SG advisor.
- Senator wishes everyone good luck.
- Senator Utt thanks everyone for working with him this summer. Promotes Gator Well services.
- Senator Patel thanks everyone for being summer replacement senators. Is writing legislation and invites anyone interested in collaborating to reach out.
- Senator Marti speaks on legislation he is working on and invites anyone who wants to collaborate to email him at [kevinmarti@ufl.edu](mailto:kevinmarti@ufl.edu).
- Minority Party Leader thanks summer replacement senators and everyone who has worked with him.

**ROLL CALL:**

- Senator Groux motions to use voter records as final roll call by unanimous consent.  
Motion passes.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

- Meeting adjourned at 9:49 PM.