

STUDENT SENATE MINUTES

September 1st, 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 82 senators present.

Not there for roll call:

- Jadie Fleischer
- Mike Greenwald
- Christy Louis
- Yanissa Rodriguez
- Kyle Scott
- Kimberly Williams

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- Senator Nelson
 - Welcomes back fall senators who missed the summer.
 - We return at a time unlike any other, not just in our college, but in our country.
 - Over 184,000 Americans have died from COVID, yet we have returned to campus.
 - Calls for racial reconciliation at a volume unseen in over 50 years.
 - Many people of color have become sick and tired of how law enforcement treats them.
 - It is easy to do nothing and ignore prison labor at campus, the masses yearning to breathe free... but we should be the ones that commit to be the leaders and do the uncomfortable work.
 - This is a democracy, which should uphold freedom and values.
 - We should uphold the idea of liberty and justice for all.
 - Everything we do this semester we should do in the interest of the “Gator good”, liberty, and justice for all.
- Claudia Tio
 - Asks Senate President to ask senators to show faces on camera.
 - Sick and tired of doing Kyle Garner’s job for him.
 - While Claudia Tio was fighting for blue lights the Senate President was in his fraternity house.
 - No one is doing their job.
 - Kyle Garner’s chair was supposed to be Isabella Garcia’s.

- I am #retired.
- Urges senators to do something about the family and graduate housing ASAP.
- Has sent out multiple email and no one has properly responded to the situation.
- The most vulnerable families are quarantined next to rich kids.
- Another sexual assault occurred within a fraternity at UF.
- Tell President Fuchs to abolish Greek life.
- Caroline Pope
 - First time in public comment.
 - As a fifth-year Greek life survivor of sexual assault, feels like she needs to speak.
 - Not necessarily to abolish Greek life, but to do something.
 - Her twitter account has gained traction regarding Zeta Beta Tau.
 - Wants systemic change and an implementation of rules for Greek life, not necessarily abolish.
 - Offered to speak to the president, did nothing.
 - Reported incident to Title 9, but she had already reported it in 2017.
 - Wants something more to be done.
 - Wants Green Dot training to be implemented in fraternities.
 - A lot of cases do not get reported.
 - This incident happened this month.
- Senator Solomon
 - Good evening senators.
 - Had a lot of time for self-reflection during quarantine and throughout summer.
 - Wants to dedicate this speech to those who taught him to treat everyone with respect and equality.
 - Spent his time founding Action UF.
 - Was not part of the group that left the senate in a quorum bust or that allowed Brandon Pearson into a position of power.
 - He was the one that put his name and reputation on the line when he published the change.org petition and released screenshots of Brandon Pearson's comments.
 - Did what he could to work only for the student body.
 - Helped to create legislation for a LGBTQ+ LLC.
 - Stood his ground when others told him to be silent.
 - Did not believe politics would solve any of the problems around our campus at first.
 - Brandon Pearson allowed him to see the true colors of student government.
 - Allegations against Brandon Pearson were not made public or believed until summer of 2020.
 - Those who have been denied positions due to emotion toward Brandon Pearson deserve apologies, not just Colin Solomon.

- Will be creating a new political party that focuses on environmental, racial, gender, and sexual minority justice.
- Anyone can be a leader and can make a difference on our campus.
- Looks forward to the coming weeks.
- Senator Patel
 - Wishes everyone a good first week of school.
 - Discussing the bill that was sent to Listserv last week, which is a Rules and Procedures amendment.
 - Goal is to implement diversity inclusion within the government and create changes to promote diversity.
 - The importance of diversity inclusion is long overdue.
 - Please do not hesitate to email him at patelsahil@ufl.edu with any questions.
- Senator Lea
 - Wishes everyone a good first week of classes.
 - Wants to build on what Senator Patel discussed.
 - Students have been asking for this and believes it would bring several benefits to the campus and beyond.
 - Students would have a central place to discuss issues around campus.
 - Would create a body of senators that discuss race sexism, heterosexism, and any other issues as a group, rather than placing all this responsibility on one individual.
 - We all must become a positive change against racism.
 - Thanks Senator Nelson for his words this evening.
 - Proud of the work that they have done so far and hopes to work towards a sustainable solution.
- Senator Wilder
 - Something is wrong with the system.
 - When you have former prison inmates and recount to the senators the horrible slave labor conditions they faced, then it is not put on the floor, there is something wrong with the system.
 - Affiliated as an independent and thought his time with student government was over.
 - This summer he realized he needs to do more.
 - It does not have to be this way. We need representation in our government.
 - This chamber needs it, our students need it, and our communities need it.
- Zachariah Chou
 - Zachariah Chou gave his goodbye speech.

- Minority Party Leader Zimmer
 - Welcomes Senators back.
 - Shoutout to Zachariah Chou, who has completed nearly four years in the chamber. Without him, I would not be here doing what I do.
 - This summer in senate was bad.
 - We need to change for the better, specifically this chamber.
 - This summer nationally highlighted two issues that are not going away.
 - COVID 19.
 - Systematic racism which has always been in America but is being highlighted.
 - There is always something you can do to help your community and your neighbors.
 - This chamber has not done that.
 - Apart from the 800 bills, I do not know if we have passed anything worthy this summer.
 - This summer was nothing.
 - For the senators coming back, I hope you do better than your replacements.
 - We need to help our students.
 - If we are going to live up to that top 5 ranking, we need to step up and work together.

*****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 Patel moves that all votes were taken show of hands rather than by roll call by unanimous consent. That motion passes.

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA:

- Chairwoman Hoffman moves to approve the absence excuse for Karli Kimbrough by unanimous consent. Approved.
- Chairwoman Hoffman moves to approve the absence excuse for Karen McGee by unanimous consent. Approved.
- Chairwoman Hoffman moves to approve the absence excuse for Brian Momin by unanimous consent. Approved.
- Chairwoman Hoffman moves to approve the absence excuse for Alex Shoaf by unanimous consent. Approved.
- Chairwoman Groux moves to approve the absence excuse for Feraby Hoffman by unanimous consent. Approved.

- Majority Party Leader Zlatoff moves to approve Lamaya Kudradi for the Lakeside Seat by unanimous consent. Approved.
- Majority Party Leader Zlatoff moves to approve Joshua Edelman for the assistant supervisor of elections commission seat by unanimous consent. Approved.
- Majority Party Leader Zlatoff moves to approve Cameron Koslan for the assistant supervisor of elections commission seat by unanimous consent. Approved.
- Majority Party Leader Zlatoff moves to approve Andrea Connors for assistant supervisor of elections by unanimous consent. Approved.
- Majority Party Leader Zlatoff moves to approve Calhoun Wolverton for assistant supervisor of elections by unanimous consent. Approved.
- Majority Party Leader Zlatoff moves to approve Tina Plat for the assistant supervisor of elections by unanimous consent. Approved.
- Majority Party Leader Zlatoff moves to approve Grace Oldum for the assistant supervisor of elections by unanimous consent. Approved.
- Majority Party Leader Zlatoff moves to approve Ellen Oldum by unanimous consent. Approved.

OFFICE OF THE STUDENT BODY PRESIDENT:

- There were none.

SENATE PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

- Welcomes back senators for the fall semester.
- Will be leaving the senate chamber in the coming weeks in the next election.
- There will be a few programming events that Senate will be hosting throughout the next semester.
- Will share the details soon through the Listserv and in the next meeting.
- Senate should have the opportunity to discuss the Special Rules from the elections commission. The senate president allows 7 minutes for discussion.

REPLACEMENT AND AGENDA COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:

- There were none.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

REPLACEMENT AND AGENDA:

- Senate President Pro-Tempore Brown welcomes the senators.
- Open Permanent Seats:
 - Agricultural and Life Sciences.
 - College of Dentistry.
 - Design, Construction and Planning.

- Fine Arts.
- Graduate (2).
- Graduate Housing.
- Murphree Hall.
- Graham Hall.
- District D
- The CALS seat, the Graham hall seat, the Murphree hall seat, and the District D seat will all need another reading before being interviewed for, but all the others can be interviewed by next week.
- Congrats to Lamiya Kudrati who is a new Lakeside seat.
- Wants to start doing one on ones again.
- Email senatepresidentprotempore@sg.ufl.edu to set a one on one.
- Voter record: please fill it out or you will receive a half absent.
- We are the ones setting the example, please be smart.

BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS:

- Chairwoman Girschick welcomes the Senators.
 - Hopes everyone was quarantining.
 - Reach out to her email if you have any questions: s.girschick@ufl.edu .

ALLOCATIONS:

- No report today.

JUDICIARY:

- Chairman Luis welcomes the senators.
 - Judiciary committee will be meeting this weekend.
 - Please turn in any legislation by Friday at 12pm/
 - Email him at judiciary@sg.ufl.edu .

RULES & ETHICS:

- Chairwoman Hoffman welcomes the senators.
 - Welcomes senators back.
 - Wants to touch on constituency.
 - Everyone is required to do the same constituency.
 - 2 hours of virtual tabling, 1 SG event, and 1 SG funded event are required.
 - Please take a picture at start and finish, like a sign in sheet.
 - IF you have any questions about constituency or an event, reach out to her or any committee members.
 - Please turn in your voter records.

INFORMATION & COMMUNICATION:

- Chairman Kays welcomes the Senators.
 - Wants to talk about virtual tabling and how they will go about doing that.
 - Will look different in the actual tabling.
 - There is a spreadsheet you can sign up for each day, 3 hours available each day.
 - 5 senators can answer questions at one time.
 - Will be put on SG website.
 - Working on setting up QR codes in Turlington and within dorms.
 - You will take a screenshot of the beginning of your shift and the end of your shift.
 - If you have any questions, reach out to info@sg.ufl.edu .
 - Will send out the spreadsheet on listserv.

FIRST READINGS:

- There were none.

SECOND READINGS:

- There were none.

VETOED LEGISLATION:

- Senator President reads aloud the speech that Trevor Pope made that vetoed the bill.
- Cooper Brown
 - 808.8 section 14 made it clear that it needs to be deleted.
 - This needs to pass, please let it pass.
 - This bill was passed twice over the summer.
 - There will be a motion to strike that section from the bill.
- . That motion passes.
- Blake Robinson moves to strike code 808.8 section 14 by unanimous consent. That motion passes.
- Senator Solomon: Votes to approve by unanimous consent. That motion passes.

BILLS PENDING SIGNATURES:

- There were none.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Senator Solomon: IRHA president, this week is residence hall week. Opportunity for students to visit different IRHA tables in their table.
 - The UF IRHA webpage has all the dates for dorms.
 - Area government applications are open- please fill out an application!
- MPL Zimmer:
 - Register to vote. This election may be the most important in our lives.

- As student leaders, wear a mask and socially distance. Set an example.
- Shoutout to Miami heat.
- Senator Patel: Wrote the DNI standing bill-- please reach out to any of us if you want to sign or have any questions or concerns.
- Senator Wilder: If you would like to join the LGBT caucus please reach out to him at rwilder36@gmail.com .
- Senator Marti: Creating a LLC legislation to create a First Gen LLC. Shoutout Celtics. Reach out to him at kevin.marti@ufl.edu .
- Senator Saini: Shoutout to Tampa Bay Lightning.

ROLL CALL:

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

ADJOURNMENT:

- The meeting was adjourned at 8:16 pm.