

## **STUDENT SENATE MINUTES**

### **September 15th, 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 75 senators present.

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

- Aaron Chau
- Hannah Elmatouggi
- Cat Fabiano
- Noemi Galeano
- Mike Greenwald
- Tyler Kendrick
- Shruti Labh
- Christy Louis
- Yanissa Rodriguez
- Kyle Scott
- Colin Solomon
- Kimberly Williams

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

- Student Body President Pope
  - Has a few announcements for the senate.
  - The state of the campus address will take place October 27th at 6 pm before the next senate meeting.
  - Athletics sent out an email to all students about football tickets. There will be roughly 2000 student tickets in attendance, based on a lottery system.
    - Priority will be given to seniors.
  - Please engage in physical distancing. We want to be setting the example.
  - The cap and gown project initiative are aimed to remove the cap and gown expense for students with financial insecurities.
  - SG will collaborate with the Gator closet to do so.
  - Will try to implement by the fall commencement if not the spring.
- Senator Sanchez
  - Wants to speak about the failed diversity bill.
  - The goals of the senate are different from the goals of the executive branch.
  - We do not know if the cabinet members watch the senate meetings.

- Diversity training applied to the senate would be different than taught in the cabinet such as the implementation of an inclusive language.
- The committee is supposed to be the collective work of a group of people. The task should not be placed on one person's shoulders.
- Even though the bill failed, Senator Patel and Senator Trejos are working to form caucuses.
- Senator Trejos
  - As a senator who tries to make minority voices heard.
  - This piece of legislation would have hurt minority senators.
  - Doesn't think a diversity inclusion committee will have much effect on the senate.
  - Diversity training is critical for the senate, but task forces end up becoming the scapegoat.
  - Encourages chamber to think deeply for better reform and representation of minority students.
  - This month is Hispanic heritage month.
  - UF has the largest student run Hispanic heritage month celebration in the country.
  - Encourages senators to participate in these various activities.
- Senator Patel
  - I Want to talk about what happened in the previous judiciary committee meeting.
  - Every senator has had the opportunity to read this bill.
  - Acknowledges Senator Trejos but disagrees.
  - Spent time writing this bill and ensuring everyone heard about it and approved it.
  - Recognizes James Tyger for help with creating the bill
  - The only reason the committee gave was that the executive branch already had diversity inclusion measures.
  - Why are we pawning off responsibility to a different branch?
  - The executive branch is not working efficiently.
  - Doesn't want to collaborate with the legislative branch.
  - Moves to rescind the judiciary committee's decision on the diversity inclusionary bill (according to Robert's rule).
  - If you claim to stand up for minority parties, I encourage you to stand up and vote for this bill.
  - Thanks the senators for listening and encouraging them to vote.
  - Asks senate president Kyle to put this to a vote.
- Minority Party Leader Zimmer
  - Wishes the senators a good evening.
  - The inspire party will not be running a fall 2020 campaign.
  - Would like to declare the suspension of the fall 2020 campaign.

- Inspire was founded in fall 2017 on the pillars of inclusivity, accountability, and Transparency.
- Inspire was able to acquire 40 seats in this chamber.
- We supported and advocated for blue lights on fraternity row.
- It changed the codes to mandate live streaming.
- The Inspire Party has streamed the senate minutes themselves.
- This summer Inspire fought for civil rights bills despite intense opposition.
- Proud of the work that Inspire party has made, but the work is not done.
- The caucus will continue to promote its ideals.
- The goal was to represent thousands of UF students and will continue to fight on its behalf.
- Apologizes to Inspire supporters.
- The caucus has decided to continue the fight.
- Confident well-intentioned senators will continue to shine the light.
- Thanks to the senators.

***\*\*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:**

- Chairman Luis moves to approve Student Senate Bill 2020-1056: Spring 2021 reapportionment by unanimous consent. Objected.
- Chairman Luis moves to approve Student Senate Bill 2020-1057: Resolution Recognizing that Black Lives Matter by unanimous consent. Approved.
- Chairman Luis moves to approve Student Senate Bill 2020-1058: Resolution Celebrating the National Pan-Hellenic Council Garden by unanimous consent. Approved.
- Chairman Luis moves to approve Student Senate Bill 2020-1059: Resolution Supporting Increased University Avenue Crosswalks by unanimous consent. Approved.
- Chairwoman Hoffman moves to approve the absence excuse for Jadelyn Fleisher by unanimous consent. Approved.
- Senator Zlatanoff moves to approve Aidan McGraw for design and construction planning by unanimous consent. Approved.
- Moves to approve assistant supervisors of the election block by unanimous consent. Approved.

- Senator Patel moved to rescind the decision by the judiciary committee on the bill to create a diversity inclusion task force in the Senate and that it be added to the list of First Readings on the basis of rule 35 in the Robert Rule book.
  - Minority Party Leader Zimmer: The reasons the judiciary committee gave were greatly flawed.
  - We need to stop giving more power to the executive branch.
  - Does not think there is anything wrong with multiple diversity committees.
  - Senator Luis: Multiple cabinets in the executive branch already have the same goals in mind in the senate.
    - Diversity Affairs oversees diversity initiatives.
    - Diversity training has already been done.
  - Senator Patel:
    - This is a co-equal branch and we can have our own caucus as well.
    - Important to discuss important arguments to this.
    - We are a coequal branch; we are allowed to have a similar committee to them.
    - Agrees with Senator Trejos reasoning.
  - Senator Seaberg:
    - Legislative and executive branches are distinct entities.
    - They can have their own diversity measures.
  - Senator Luis:
    - Diversity affairs claims to already have a diversity training curriculum under work.
    - This is something that has already been going on.
    - Suggested to Senator Patel that he should speak to the diversity affairs secretary if he wants to improve those positions.
  - Senator Zlatanoff:
    - Counterproductive if we have already had the judiciary branch hear the bill.
    - The Judiciary chair has already met in regard to this issue.

In a raising hand vote of 23 to 40, that motion fails.

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

- There were none.

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

- If anyone would like to set up a zoom call with me, please feel free to reach out to me via email (senatepresident@sg.ufl.edu).
- I Hope everyone is doing well.

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

There were none.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

### **REPLACEMENT AND AGENDA:**

- Senate President Pro-Tempore Brown welcomes the senators.
- Open Permanent Senate Seats:
  - Agricultural and Life Sciences
  - Dentistry
  - Fine Arts
  - Graduate (2)
  - Graduate & Family Housing
  - Graham
  - Lakeside
  - Murphree
  - District B
  - District D
- Hope senators are having a good evening.
- Minority Party Leader Zimmer:
  - Wants to explain why he objected to the reapportionment bill.
  - Stems from the unavailability of the judiciary committee and to the senate.
  - If Chairman Luis would like to present the figures involved with the bill those during his report, please do so and he will listen and rescind his objection.
  - Does not believe that members of the judiciary committee should have to go through all the raw data used in the bill.

### **BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS:**

- Chairwoman Girschick welcomes the Senators.
  - Has a few announcements regarding student organization requests.
  - Spring requests are opening soon.
  - The base funding request will come out in the next two weeks.
  - Opening regular spring operational and travel requests in the first two weeks of October.
  - Make sure you are keeping student organizations in the loop so that everyone can get funded.
  - Everyone has the opportunity to get \$500 for the next semester.
  - Hopes that it will help student organizations stay on campus.

### **ALLOCATIONS:**

- Chairman Reineke welcomes the senators.
  - No report.

### **JUDICIARY:**

- Chairman Luis welcomes the senators.
  - Tonight, he will bring up the reapportionment bill.
  - Will be recommending to the senate that the numbers do not change based on the statistical data.
  - If you have questions, please email [judiciary@sg.ufl.edu](mailto:judiciary@sg.ufl.edu).

### **RULES & ETHICS:**

- Chairwoman Hoffman welcomes the senators.
  - Good evening senators.
  - Please fill out your voter record and that you are keeping up with the constituency.
  - If you have any questions, email [rules@sg.ufl.edu](mailto:rules@sg.ufl.edu).
  - You can turn in an absence excuse through the SG website.
  - If you'd like to know your absences, please email and will let you know.

### **INFORMATION & COMMUNICATION:**

- Chairman Kays welcomes the Senators.
  - Virtual tabling- there has been no issues so far, but it is important to get the word out.
  - Students can access this under public notice.
  - Remind students to attend the virtual tabling.
  - If anyone has any feedback or comments, please reach out at [info@sg.ufl.edu](mailto:info@sg.ufl.edu).

### **FIRST READINGS:**

- Student Senate Bill 2020-1056: Spring 2021 Reapportionment
- Student Senate Bill 2020-1057: Resolution Recognizing that Black Lives Matter
- Student Senate Bill 2020-1058: Resolution Celebrating the National Pan-Hellenic Council Garden
- Student Senate Bill 2020-1059: Resolution Supporting Increased University Avenue Crosswalks
  - There was a vote to call the previous question. In a vote from 46 to 17, that motion passes.
  - In a vote from 50 to 14 the bill is approved.

### **SECOND READINGS:**

- There were none.

### **VETOED LEGISLATION:**

- There were none.

### **BILLS PENDING SIGNATURES:**

- There were none.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- Senator Nelson: The big news this week is that we are now the 6th ranked public university tied with NYU. We passed the resolution that Black Lives Matter, now live up to that.
- Senator Patel: The Robert rules of Order 12th edition is now out, which is the new rule set for the senate going forward.
- Minority Party Leader Zimmer: Register to vote in Florida by October 5th if you are eligible. The Heat and Celtics are currently tied (Heat won). Wear a mask.
- Senator Hartzog: Leading Women of Tomorrow is having a first ever GBM on October 1st, all are welcome.
- Senator: Tampa Bay Lightning are in the playoffs in contention for the Stanley Cup.
- Pro Tempore Brown: Chairwoman Girschick and I are competing in the homecoming pageant so be on the lookout for that.

### **ROLL CALL:**

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

### **ADJOURNMENT:**

- The meeting was adjourned at 7:54 pm.