

STUDENT SENATE MINUTES
November 10th, 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 a total of 85 senators present.

Not there for roll call:

- **Baez**
- **Chaparro**
- **Xu**
- **Geis**
- **Giordano**
- **Kim**
- **Klingenberg**
- **Lin**
- **Loftis**
- **Magana**
- **Terner**

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- Big Event Chairwoman Kristen Driver
 - Introduces herself and her position for the Big Event this year.
 - Hopes to increase name recognition and communication on campus.
 - Have created more defined roles for each position within the event.
 - Have created official team emails to make the organization a bit more professional.
 - Have created a team google drive so each position can better understand their responsibilities.
 - Will be serving on the day of service as well as the committee.
 - Also, on the communication and leadership subcommittee.
 - Hopes to have a better connection between the two events to increase annual impact.
 - Will take place on March 20, 2021.
 - Not exactly sure how it will look but precautions will be made in case it needs to be held virtually.
 - Has been working with the student government advisor to better prepare for this.
 - Will have a community impact regardless.
- External Affairs Chairman Will Sandifer:
 - Introduces his position.
 - Working with several groups outside of campus to make a better place for students.
 - Have several priorities to get to in the coming months.
 - Discusses the reality of state government budget cuts due to COVID-19, which could impact higher education.
 - Encourages senators to learn more about the Gainesville community. A presentation will be held in a future senate meeting.
- Senator Saini:
 - Represents the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.
 - Presents a resolution to the student senate.
 - UF does not use electronic transcripts, which causes a delay in transcripts to graduate schools.
 - Caused many UF students' applications to be delayed by several weeks.
 - I want to address this limitation at UF.
 - UF currently does not know when they will implement electronic transcripts.
 - We are attempting to reach a Top 5 public school stance.

- Other top 5 schools have implemented this electronic system already.
- Has shown President Trevor Pope this resolution.
- Please reach out with any questions.
- Senator Lea:
 - Serves as a graduate senator.
 - Wants to express the R&A meeting from yesterday.
 - Currently have 3 graduate open seats this term.
 - A recent applicant was rejected despite her qualifications.
 - The reason for her rejection was because there were not enough applicants to compare her interview and application to.
 - Urges the committee to judge applicants on skills and qualifications.
 - The chair of R&A has not upheld the statement that at the beginning of each interview.
 - Essentially suppressing the voices of graduate students.
 - Hopes to be better senators for all students.
- Senator Utt:
 - Hopes to reiterate what senator Lea said.
 - The hypocrisy was striking.
 - The graduate seat was left opened yet again.
 - We will be objecting to the block-- every student candidate should have proper qualifications.
 - The senators should be appointed based on fair representation and proper qualifications.
 - Students on UF emails were sent voter suppression emails by Tehran.
 - This is very frightening; it implies that a foreign government has information of UF students.
 - Is working toward a resolution to condemn Tehran for suppressing students, as well as office of the registrar for handing over public records.
 - The Sunshine Law only applies to citizens of the state.

*****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 Utt moves to change the Yulee area title to Murphree Area by unanimous consent. Approved.

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA:

- Chairwoman Groux: Motion to hear all absence petitions as a block by unanimous consent. That motion passes.
- Chairwoman Groux: Moves to approve the block of absence petitions by unanimous consent. That motion passes.
- Majority Party Leader Robinson: Moves to table Student Government Productions Comptroller nominee Jake Siegal to the next round by unanimous consent. That motion passes.
- Senator Utt: Moves to strike Georgia Seacrest from the agenda. Seconded.
 - There was one minute for pro and one minute for cons, with a total of two rounds.
 - In a roll call vote of 77 to 7, the previous question has been called.
 - In a raising hand vote of 13 to 64, that motion fails and Georgia Seacrest is not striked from the agenda.

OFFICE OF THE STUDENT BODY PRESIDENT:

- Internal Affairs Chairwoman Gabriela Hernandez:
 - Introduces herself and her current position.
 - We have closed application for vice chairs this past Friday and hope to formalize applicants soon.
 - Hopes to execute incredible projects for this coming year.

- Recaps with what she has been working on so far.
- Student Government is trying to create a preventive culture rather than a reactionary culture in reference to sexual assault.
- Is providing stronger services for survivors.
- Working alongside the UF Bookstore to provide free caps and gowns for MFOS students.
- Currently working alongside Student Legal services to expand the charter to include immigration services in the future.
- Invites senators to ask questions.

SENATE PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

- Senate President Brown welcomes the senators.
 - Introduces Senator Green, the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion liaison:
 - Presents on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion.
 - Plans to host an event with Gator health on mental health exclusively with the senate.

REPLACEMENT AND AGENDA COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Open Judiciary Seat:
 - Majority Party Leader motions to call the previous question. That question is moved and seconded. In a vote of 67 to 7, that motion passes.
 - In a raising hand vote of 66 to 12, that motion passes.
 - Majority Party Leader Robinson moves to call the previous question on Adeel Markatia for the open Judiciary seat by raise of hands. Seconded. In a vote of 72 to 7, the previous question is called.
 - In a raising hand vote of 76 to 0, that motion passes.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

REPLACEMENT AND AGENDA:

- Senate President Pro-Tempore Zlatanoff welcomes the senators.
 - Congrats to Adeel and Georgia.
 - Open Committee Seat:
 - Budget
 - Open Permanent Seats:
 - Graduate (3)
 - Dentistry
 - Graduate and Family Housing
 - Medicine
 - Please do not forget your voter record.

BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS:

- Chairwoman White welcomes the Senators.
 - The Budget hearings took place this past week for Spring 2021.
 - Congrats to this body for passing a great piece of legislation regarding the budget hearings.

ALLOCATIONS:

- There were none.

JUDICIARY:

- Chairman Luis welcomes the senators.
 - The judiciary committee will be meeting this Friday.
 - Legislation is due by this Friday at noon.

RULES & ETHICS:

- Chairwoman Groux welcomes the senators.
 - Make sure you are completing your constituency.
 - Constituency needs to be photographed.
 - Voter Record will no longer be used as a final roll call, it will be called at the end of the meeting.
 - Missing voter record will still result in half absence.

INFORMATION & COMMUNICATION:

- Chairman Kays welcomes the senators.
 - The Senate retreat is in the works, dates will be locked down in the future.
 - Mentor and mentee forms will be emailed out tomorrow, please complete the application on time.
 - There will also be a form sent out for class cohorts.
 - Please reach out with ideas for information and communication, as there will be a committee meeting this week.
 - Please reach out to info@sg.ufl.edu .

MINORITY LEADER REPORT:

- Minority Leader Seaberg:
 - Disappointed that experience in legislation is not a requirement for applicants to join the judicial committee.
 - Both recommendations for Judiciary committee have no experience.
 - Graduate applicant gave a stellar interview.
 - Wants to apologize to Mackenzie Kreid, who woke up early for the interview, was more than qualified, and was rejected from senate.

FIRST READINGS:

- There were none.

SECOND READINGS:

- There were none.

VETOED LEGISLATION:

- There were none.

BILLS PENDING SIGNATURES:

- There were none.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Senate President Brown: Turn in your affiliation form by TONIGHT. If you do not complete this, you could lose your senate seat.
- Senator Kantemneni: Wants to shoutout the budget and appropriations committee, as the hearings were long and took place on election day. It was incredible to work with you all.
- Senator Saini: Please reach out to sponsor the resolution.
- Senator Hartzog: Shoutout to budget committee especially chairwoman white.
- Senator Jee: Class counsel is holding a raffle. The winner will receive two free tickets to the game this weekend.
- Senator Trejor: Hopes to restart the Latinx caucus.

ROLL CALL:

- There was a motion to use to complete a final roll call vote by unanimous consent. Approved.

ADJOURNMENT:

- The meeting was adjourned at 8:18pm.