

STUDENT SENATE MINUTES

January 26th, 2021

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 72 senators present.

Not there for roll call:

- Dettra
- Gallagher
- Iannone
- Locasio
- Lorduy
- Mason
- Pecora

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- Senator Fineberg:
 - The deaths of Maggie Paxton and Sophia Lambert should have been prevented.
 - Glad that the senate has done their part to move swiftly in ensuring that their lives will be remembered and future accidents will be prevented.
 - The resolutions tonight will honor the lives of Maggie Paxton and Sophia Lambert.
 - The resolution will also urge UF to take necessary actions as soon as possible in order to better promote safety.
 - The resolutions tonight are merely a first step in change, not the end all be all.
- Senator Lea:
 - I want to talk about serious issues that you may not be aware of.
 - Hopes to discuss the housing crisis currently occurring with graduate and family planning.
 - UF currently plans on demolishing two of the two villages, which house over $\frac{1}{3}$ of graduate family housing.
 - I want to advocate for these students.
 - Will be submitting a resolution this week, which demonstrates we care about our graduate students and their children.
 - If you would like to sponsor this resolution, please reach out.
 - UF forces professors back into classrooms, while students get to choose. This article recently made national news via the Washington Post

(<https://www.washingtonpost.com/education/2021/01/23/florida-professors-covid-19/>).

- A good number of faculty members have expressed the dangers of hybrid and in person classes.
- We are in a pandemic.
- We have some of the highest cases as a University.
- The faculty union has made their stance clear that this is unsafe.
- Please follow the safety precautions if you are in person.
- If you are not mad, you are not paying attention. Wear a mask, socially distance, wash your hands, and get tested regularly.
- Minority Party Leader Seaberg:
 - 9 different students interviewed for the Keys and CLAS seats.
 - All seats were tabled for CLAS and Keys.
 - There was no justification as to why we tabled these seats.
 - Ultimately, I feel bad for the students that showed up to interviews this weekend when it was predetermined that the seats would be tabled.
- Senator Utt:
 - Hopes to speak about the legislation at hand today.
 - We need to take responsibility for the policies of this university.
 - Today's resolutions are headed in the correct direction.
 - The legislation put forward today did a great job.
 - Introducing a resolution that calls for a class to be taken with any UF decal purchase in order to increase education on traffic safety and UF parking policies.
 - Hopes to reduce the number of accidents on campus and make people more aware of traffic policies.
 - Believes this step is important because it will help prevent accidents before they happen.

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

AMENDMENTS TO THE MINUTES:

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA:

- Senator Utt motions to include the Washington Post article mentioned in Senator Lea's public comment. That motion is seconded. In a vote of 60-0, that motion passes.
- Chairman Luis moves to approve Student Senate Bill 2021-1001: Resolution Commemorating the Lives of Margaret Paxton and Sophia Lambert by unanimous consent. That motion passes.

- Chairman Luis moves to approve Student Senate Bill 2021-1002: School Zone Safety Act by unanimous consent. That motion passes.
- Chairman Luis moves to approve Student Senate Bill 2021-1003: Revised Rules and Procedures Amendment by unanimous consent. That motion passes.
- Chairman Luis moves to approve Student Senate Bill 2021-1004: Resolution requesting that the State of Florida review Pedestrian Safety Measures in and around the University of Florida Campus by unanimous consent. That motion passes.
- Chairman Luis moves to approve Student Senate Bill 2021-1005: Amendment Authors– Rules and Procedures Revision by unanimous consent. That motion passes.
- Majority Party Leader Robinson moves to add a special rule to hear all nominations as a block.
- Chairwoman Groux moves to add a special rule to hear all approved absences as a block by unanimous consent. That motion passes.
- Chairwoman Groux moves to approve said block of absences by unanimous consent. That motion passes.
- Majority Party Leader Robinson moves to approve said block of absences by unanimous consent. That motion passes.

STUDENT BODY PRESIDENT REPORT

- Student Body President Trevor Pope:
 - Wants to address the recent traffic tragedies that have occurred on University Avenue.
 - The administration is actively working to approve the situation.
 - Last Friday, I met with the COO to discuss both short- and long-term solutions.
 - Hopes to reduce the speed limit to 20 mph on University Avenue.
 - In the long run, hopes to re-engineer and restructure the roads on University Avenue.
 - This is an issue we have seen the administration unified on.
 - Met with President Fuchs today to ensure rapid action in regard to traffic safety on University.
 - Will Sandifer will make his way to Tallahassee next month to speak to the importance of safety.
 - The City of Gainesville has reached out to Pope to look for student leaders to come to a solution.
 - Former study body president, Jamal Sowell is here tonight to speak to the senate:
 - Presents on the importance of treating each other equally and reaching across the aisle.

SENATE PRESIDENT’S REPORT:

- Thank you so much to Secretary Sowell for speaking with us.

- If you are interested in having a one on one, please feel free to reach out.

REPLACEMENT AND AGENDA COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Majority Party Leader Robinson moves to approve Rocio Montero-Mask for the open District C seat.
 - Rocio Montero-Mask presents for three minutes on the position in question.
 - There were three minutes of question and answer.
 - There were 3 minutes of pro-con debate.
 - The Majority Party Leader moves to call the previous question by unanimous consent. That motion passes.
 - Majority party leader moves to approve Rocio Montero-Mask for the District C Senate seat by unanimous consent. That motion passes.
- Majority Party Leader Robinson moves to approve Lauren Roberts for the open District D seat.
 - Lauren Roberts presents for three minutes on the position in question.
 - The Majority Party Leader moves to call the previous question by unanimous consent. That motion passes.
 - Majority party leader Robinson moves to approve Lauren Roberts for the District D senate seat.. That motion fails. In a vote raising hands vote of 60 to 5, Lauren Roberts has been approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

REPLACEMENT AND AGENDA:

- Senate President Pro-Tempore Zlatanoff welcomes the senators.
- Open Seats:
 - District D
 - Graduate and Family Housing
 - Keys
 - Building Construction
 - Dentistry
 - Graduate (4)
 - Health and Human Performance
 - Medicine
 - Liberal Arts and Sciences
 - Agricultural and Life Sciences

BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS:

- Chairwoman White welcomes the Senators.
 - All rollover hearings are complete and we are now completing the bill.

- Happy Birthday to Jacobi.

ALLOCATIONS:

- There were none.

JUDICIARY:

- Chairman Luis welcomes the senators.
 - I want to thank Secretary Sowell for giving us great advice.
 - We will not be meeting this week.
 - Hopes to wish Jacobi a happy birthday.

RULES & ETHICS:

- Chairwoman Groux welcomes the senators.
 - Reminder to fill out your voter record.
 - Absences reset each term, not each semester.

INFORMATION & COMMUNICATION:

- Chairman Kays:
 - The name tags are in, you should have received a Venmo request.
 - Start thinking about senate retreat.
 - Testing the idea of a hybrid retreat, although it may be virtual.
 - Happy Birthday, Jacobi!

FIRST READINGS:

- There were none.

SECOND READINGS:

- There were none.

VETOED LEGISLATION:

- There were none.

BILLS PENDING SIGNATURES:

- There were none.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Senator Lea: Feel free to reach out if you are interested in sponsoring my bill.
- Senator Utt: Congratulations to the new senators, as well as Minority Party Leader Seaberg on getting accepted to Vanderbilt and Senator Lea for getting accepted to a prestigious school for her PhD.

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 8:09 pm.