

STUDENT SENATE MINUTES

January 11th, 2021

The Senate President called the Senate meeting to order at 7:30pm 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 69 senators present.

Not there for roll call:

- **Bartlett**
- **Corbett**
- **Gomen**
- **Gray**
- **Hazzard**
- **Hoyos**
- **Jetter**
- **Kienegger**
- **Lattras**
- **Nguyen**
- **Rosenfelt**
- **Terner**

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- **Senator Gaines:**
 - Introduces himself as the senator ambassador for study edge
 - The code will give you 5% off and will be donated back to the senate.
 - The code is UFSENATE.
 - Reach out to fgaines@ufl.edu with any questions.
- **Minority Party Leader Adekunle:**
 - Wants to discuss the response with COVID.
 - Thanks Senate President Groux for reminding senators to wear masks to this meeting.
 - Hopes to discuss an authorization to early voting, which needs to be approved 5-6 weeks before voting begins.
 - Please reach out if you are interested in joining this initiative.
- **Jonathan Stevens:**
 - Attended the R&A Committee meeting this past Sunday, as he previously ran for senate and wanted to see which criteria the senate looks for.

- Believes there were a few choices made during this meeting that made this selection biased.
- Discusses candidate Rachel Leos who was interviewed over the weekend.
- The discussion to table this candidate came without reason, and hurts the representation throughout UF.
- Understands that they are looking for a larger pool of candidates, yet in the District E seat that was voted in December 7th there was only one candidate for the seat.
- We can see the leadership put into these roles are not fulfilling what they said they would do.
- Ferociously crave a student government that has readings that are communicated to people.
- Would like an explanation on how they can do better and how they can get involved in other ways.
- Representation matters.
- Senator Santiago:
 - Holds a presentation on Constitutional Amendments which he had proposed to the Judiciary committee.
 - Our constitution states that we need a $\frac{3}{5}$ majority vote to ratify something.
 - The Judiciary committee tabled a bill that would make this interpretation so that the Supreme Court could overturn it.
 - They failed a bill that would have codified our constitution the provision that it is in the 300 codes Fall Replacement Senators for IA students who are elected in the Spring
 - If this does get ruled unconstitutional, we would leave IA students unable to participate in the Senate.
 - Finally they postponed a bill that would have lowered the number of signatures to propose constitutional amendments.
 - The reasoning given was they still want to represent those students who did not vote.
 - We currently have outdated clauses in the Constitution.
 - The Student Honor court is still in the Constitution, even though this body does not exist.
 - Finally, the senator has been emailing back and forth with the Supervisor of Elections, who agrees there is an issue.
- Pro Tempore Fineberg:
 - This past week a constitutional amendment was brought to the Judiciary Committee as mentioned previously.
 - This proposal is aimed at Innovation Academy students, who would be expected to have a full time fall replacement senator.

- The senator was told during question and answer that these provisions already exist under Title 3 of our student body statutes.
- The colleague then threatened the committee and stated he would bring this to the Supreme court if it did not pass
- As a former PACE student, I know just how it felt when I first got accepted to the program and if I belong to UF.
- Wants to ensure that PACE and IA students feel just as valued and empowered as every other student on campus.
- Offended that the senator would use PACE and IA students as a political pawn just because his legislation did not pass.
- Will always be a supporter of PACE and IA students who want to gain representation and put time into SG.

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

AMENDMENTS TO THE MINUTES:

- There were none.

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA:

- Majority Party Leader Brinkman moves to approve Feraby Hoffman to be Chairwoman of the Action SG executive agency by unanimous consent. That motion passes.
- Majority Party Leader Brinkman moves to approve Mikhail Mikaylov for the open District D seat by unanimous consent. That motion passes.
- Majority Party Leader Brinkman moves to approve SSB 2021-1001: Constitutional Powers Act - 200 code revision by unanimous consent. That motion passes.
- Senator Santiago moves to add the ratification of Amendment 1 to the agenda. Seconded. In a standing vote, that motion fails.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

EXECUTIVE BRANCH:

- Student Government President Brown:
 - Paul Camardo was the winner of the SG Bowl Pool.
 - Wants to thank everyone for approving Feraby Hoffman for approving the new agency head for Action SG.
 - The last agency head is now studying abroad this semester and had to resign.
 - If you have any questions, reach out to her at actions@sg.ufl.edu
 - I want to discuss what SG has been up to recently.

- Brought up the mental health importance to the Board of Trustees, and a subcommittee has been formed including Dr. Mull, two Board of Trustees members, and myself..
 - Will come up with a recommendation to the board and hopes to come to a positive outcome for the students.
- NightLife Navigators has been doing a great job this past semester.
 - Recently handed out 1200 drink cover scrunchies to UF students in order to prevent drink spiking.
 - There will be a drink spiking event with several campus partners on January 18th.
- Wants to touch on the Faculty Senate cancelling class on February 9th.
 - Putting together a task force to come up with thoughtful programming that will be based around UF's core values on February 9th.
 - There will be an SGP concert on February 8th, the previous night.
- Also working on a new bus route that is more accessible to the graduate and family housing.
- Wants to provide a brief update on the Veteran's Memorial in the Reitz Union Pond.
 - Faculty believes that the fountain is not good for the environment within the pond.
- Class councils will be putting on the Gator Gala on January 29th, which is targeted at the Junior Class.
- The Senior Sendoff will be April 29th.
- The cabinet has over 40 events planned for this semester.
- Working with enrollment management to recruit students we want to attend UF to increase admission rates.

SENATE PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

- Senate President Groux:
 - Wear your masks and stay safe, respect everyone else and look out for each other.
 - I will be in my office, please text me or email me if you would like to sign up for a one on one.

REPLACEMENT AND AGENDA COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:

- There were none.

REPLACEMENT AND AGENDA:

- Pro Tempore Fineberg welcomes the senators.
- Open Permanent Seats:
 - District D

- Graduate and Family Housing
 - Arts
 - Dentistry
 - Design, Construction, and Planning
 - Graduate (9)
 - Medicine
 - Veterinary
- These applications will close this Friday at noon.
- Email senatepresidentprotempore@sg.ufl.edu for any questions or to set up one on ones.
- Message from Libby Putnam: SG has been invited to attend the day of service on MLK day through the Graham Center.
- As mentioned by President Brown, I have joined the task force for events surrounding February 9th.
 - We are currently in the process of gathering information, input, and feedback surrounding the day.
 - Would love to hear from all of you if you have any ideas.
- Had my first meeting with the Parking and Transportation committee since September with the TAPS department.
 - There are over 40 drivers, so they have had to make cuts.
 - There is a significant decrease in decal purchases, so there is talk of increasing the cost of decals.
 - Pro Tempore made it known that any increase in fees is opposed, as parking on campus is already very difficult.

JUDICIARY:

- Chairwoman Mason:
 - The Judiciary Committee will meet this Sunday at noon, so please submit all legislation by Friday at noon.

BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS:

- Chairwoman Hartzog:
 - The organizational budget bill has been sent out over winter break.
 - If you have any specific questions, please email budget@sg.ufl.edu.
 - If you are interested in knowing more about what budget does, please reach out!

RULES & ETHICS:

- Senator Consolo:
 - We will continue to update the constituency calendar.
 - Get started early on your constituency!

INFORMATION & COMMUNICATION:

- Chairwoman Locasio:

- Please fill out the google form after the meeting.
- This would be a 5–7-minute testimonial on what you like most about the senate, as well as submit a headshot.

FIRST READINGS:

- Consideration on SSB 2022: 1000: Legislative Prerogative Act.
 - The procedure will be as follows, five minutes of presentation from an author or sponsor, five minutes of non-debatable technical questions, 3 rounds of debate, following that we will move into the consideration of Amendment 1.
 - Pro-Tempore Fineberg presents the bill to Senators and describes what this legislation would do.
 - Only elected leaders by the student body should be able to present legislation, not appointed leaders.
 - Pursuant to Rule VI, Section (1)(c)(6), the senate will now move into the consideration of Amendment 1.
 - Minority Party Leader Adekunle presents the Amendment. This amendment finds it important for cabinet positions to be able to pass legislation, as well as make it more accessible to the public.
 - Pursuant to Rule VI, Section (1)(c)(6), the senate will now move into final privilege.
- We are now in line for a vote on Amendment 1. In the opinion of the chair the nays have it and the motion is not agreed to.
- The question is on the approval of SSB 2022-1000: Legislative Prerogative Act. In the opinion of the chair the ayes have it and the motion is approved.

SECOND READINGS:

- There were none

BILLS PENDING SIGNATURES:

- There were none.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Chairwoman Mason: Please add to the bottom of your voter record the discharge of ratification as well as the student body constitution amendment.
- Senator Santiago:

ROLL CALL:

- Senator Consolo motions to use the voter record as final roll call by unanimous consent. That motion passes.

ADJOURNMENT:

- The meeting was adjourned at 8:19 pm.