

STUDENT SENATE MINUTES

February 1st, 2022

The Senate President called the Senate meeting to order at 7:36pm 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 71 senators present.

Not there for roll call:

- **Bartlett**
- **Bean**
- **Fernandez**
- **Jafry**
- **Karim**
- **Locasio, Christine**
- **Markatia**
- **Talati**
- **Terner**
- **Thompson**
- **Turner**
- **Verville**
- **Welsh**

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- **Senator James:**
 - Presents on cabinet updates as the executive branch liaison.
 - There have been several events during the 2021-2022 academic school year.
 - Cabinet Structure:
 - Diversity Division
 - Leadership and Service Division
 - Student Life Division
 - Transfer Division
 - Upcoming Events: Women's health event on Feb 7.
 - Valentine Day with Cabinet on Feb 14.
 - Now @ufstudentgov on Instagram.
- **Senator DiBari:**
 - As I mentioned previously, the UFPD will be coming to the next Senate meeting (2 weeks from today).

- Wants to know what you are interested in hearing from the presentation.
- Please fill out the survey to indicate what you are most interested in.
- Jonathan Stephens:
 - Today begins the month-long commemoration of Black History Month.
 - This is a time to reflect of the atrocities committed and still committed against Black Americans.
 - This also stands for a celebration of innovations, expansions, policies, and inventions that Black people have developed throughout the eras and to this day.
 - This also must be a recognition towards progression for racial equity in America.
 - Wants to support the resolution being passed tonight for Black History month.
 - It is refreshing to understand that Black students are heard and appreciated by the student body.
 - This resolution shouldn't stop right here.
 - The right to vote.
 - We have seen countless depictions of difficulty to register to vote as well as the act of making it to the voting box.
 - Watching the atrocities occurring to Black folks in indescribable ways just for simply registering to vote, we as a student body need to understand the privilege of being able to vote.
 - We must understand the importance and power of the power to vote.
 - Wait times have extended into hours in recent election cycles.
 - One opportunity is to expand voting across campus in order to make it more accessible.
 - Historically we have seen more voting locations as compared to the 8 today.
 - These voting areas allow for different students to have easier access to voting without the concern of hour+ wait times.
 - I am asking you to rebuild the access to the voting ballot box.
 - This sets future precedents for leadership to continue accessibility to voting.
 - Democracy is, and always should be, the bare minimum.
- Minority Leader Adekunle:
 - Happy first day of Black History Month.
 - This is a time to dedicate and educate yourself on the issues that the Black community faces and celebrate the many accomplishments that have been made.
 - Thanks Jonathon Stevens for collaborating with me on this legislation.
 - In the process of creating a diversity and inclusion committee for Student government, and if you are interested you can email me at g.adekunle@ufl.edu.
 - Excited to announce the Take Action Florida will be hosting a protest on sexual assault prevention at the University of Florida, which will begin at 4pm this Friday.
 - We will also use that time to show support for the community.

- We will begin the march at 5:30pm with flashlights to symbolize blue lights.
- Our list of demands include:
 - We hope to increase the statute of limitations from 1 year to 4 years.
 - Mandatory sexual assault training for SAI.
 - Increasing blue light locations on Fraternity drive and other locations that lack them.
 - Expand staffing of nurses.
 - Increase accessibility to rape kits at Shands and other hospitals.
 - Increase transportation to off campus locations by decreasing costs of Lyft and making it more accessible to students.
 - Increase funding for drink safe technology.
 - Partner with Gainesville bars to implement drink safe technology and “Ask for Angela”.
- Senator Gorelick:
 - Each of us bring a multitude of communities and identities with us as we enter this room.
 - These identities make us better leaders and draw us closer to the student body.
 - One of my proudest identities that I bring into this room is as a Jew.
 - About a week ago, citizens of Miami beach and Surfside, Florida woke up to find weighted down bags reading “every single aspect of the COVID agenda is Jewish.”
 - Similar flyers were also found in San Francisco and officials believe these events are connected.
 - On an I-4 bridge near Orlando a group of over one dozen self-proclaimed Nazis held a banner that read “Vax the Jews!”
 - This group wore Nazi paraphernalia and chanted several antisemitic phrases and slurs.
 - There is also a claimed altercation that this group stopped a car and attempted to pull the man out, but authorities are still investigating this claim.
 - The governor’s own spokeswoman, “do we even know they’re Nazis or is this a stunt?” in a now-deleted tweet.
 - Anti-Semitism doesn’t always come this violently.
 - One book recently banned by a town in Florida was about the hardships of surviving the Holocaust.
 - I bring these cases up for several reasons.
 - The first reason I bring this up is due to my COVID-19 resolution regarding misinformation, which was postponed indefinitely.
 - The main reason I bring up these events is because I know something needs to be done.
 - Condemnation can only get us so far.

- Condemnation is nearly implicit. We need decisive action.
- Hopes to foster meaningful action around campus, such as training and inclusion.
- Wants to stress that he wants others to be involved.

*****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 Santiago moves to have the minutes reflect that I am the Funding Task Force Head for the Caucus by unanimous consent. That motion passes.

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA:

- Majority Party Leader Brinkman moves to approve Jackson Bailey for the open Beaty Towers senate seat by unanimous consent. That motion passes.
- Majority Party Leader Brinkman moves to approve Tanner Thompson for the open Rules and Ethics committee seat by unanimous consent. That motion passes.
- Majority Party Leader Brinkman moves to approve Johnny Liu for the open Budget and Appropriations committee seat by unanimous consent. That motion passes.
- Majority Party Leader Brinkman motions to add a rule to hear the Assistant Supervisor of Elections as a block by unanimous consent. That motion passes.
- Majority Party Leader Brinkman moves to approve the Assistant Supervisor of Elections block by unanimous consent. That motion passes.
- Majority Party Leader Brinkman moves to approve SSB 2022-1003 Resolution Commemorating Black History Month by unanimous consent. That motion passes.
- Chairwoman Consolo motions to add a rule to hear the approved absences as a block by unanimous consent. That motion passes.
- Chairwoman Consolo moves to approve the block of approved absences by unanimous consent.
- Chairwoman Consolo moves to approve the failed absence by unanimous consent. That motion passes.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

EXECUTIVE BRANCH:

SENATE PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

- Senate President Groux:
 - Hopes everyone is doing well during exam season.
 - Visit my office and reach out to me about anything.

REPLACEMENT AND AGENDA COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:

- There were none.

REPLACEMENT AND AGENDA:

- Pro Tempore Fineberg welcomes the senators.
 - Open Permanent Seats:
 - Graduate and Family Housing
 - Arts
 - Dentistry
 - Design, Construction, and Planning
 - Graduate (8)
 - Medicine
 - Veterinary
 - I come to you with an update from the Transportation meeting. TAPS Director Fox has backed off on increasing cost of UF decals.
 - As far as the buses go, COVID continues to take a toll on drivers and bus drivers are in a worker shortage.
 - The GNV ride RTS app is the updated version, which will give more accurate information on bus routes.

JUDICIARY:

- Chairwoman Mason:
 - The meeting this weekend is TBD. I will let you know if anything changes.

BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS:

- Chairwoman Hartzog:
 - Presents on how to submit a budget request.
 - The SG Budget link has links to everything budget.
 - This includes requests, resources, past fiscal year budgets, base funding walkthrough, and student organization funding limits and restrictions guide.
 - Base funding can be given out to ALL organizations worth \$500. Please let your outside clubs and involvements know about this.
 - Demonstrates how to complete an operational budget request for 2022.

RULES & ETHICS:

- Chairwoman Consolo:

- Absences and constituency forms have been updated.
- We will be meeting at 11:30am this Thursday and from now on.
- Make sure if you are submitting a constituency event as an SG funded organization, MAKE SURE it is SG funded.
- Will be working on a new form that will not require the PDF upload.

INFORMATION & COMMUNICATION:

- Chairwoman Locasio:
 - Nothing to report.

FIRST READINGS:

- There were none.

SECOND READINGS:

- There were none

BILLS PENDING SIGNATURES:

- There were none.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Pro-Tempore Fineberg: If everybody could please a big round of applause to Drew Baker, this is his final meeting as interim advisor.
- Chairwoman Mason: Make sure to add the special rule on your voter record for ASOE, as well as the special rule for approved absences.
- Chairwoman Hartzog: Gators of Tomorrow has extended their deadline to next Monday.

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 8:20pm.