

## STUDENT SENATE MINUTES

May 10th, 2022

The Senate President called the Senate meeting to order at 7:15pm and announced that the meeting may be filmed or audio recorded and may be available to the public. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Majority Party Leader Pecora moves to call a recess by unanimous consent. That motion passes.

Majority Party Leader Pecora moves to conclude recess by unanimous consent. That motion passes.

### **ROLL CALL:**

Roll was called and quorum was established with a total of 52 senators present.

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

- **Brinkman**
- **Kukos**

### **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

- Senator Mia:
  - Good evening senators.
  - This summer, I will be serving as Grace Shoemaker's replacement, and she asked me to give her remarks in this public comment.
  - Starting on last year, I have been working on extending library hours for Marston.
  - I have spoken to many officials, students, and leaders within the Student Government.
  - I have learned several things over the course of my progress, like how change does not happen overnight.
  - However, continual work and faith in your work will pay off in the long term.
  - UF does not sit on a pot of gold. In order for us to have longer hours, there must be a compromise on funding between the Provost office and the Student Government.
  - We must do extensive research to convince the Provost offices and Student Government to extend hours.
  - I hope to make a report which can be utilized for future purposes.
  - I want to put together a library committee, which will be meeting frequently this summer, and we would put together surveys and discuss data collection.
  - I need as many people as I can get.
  - I encourage you to join this committee.
  - I have displayed a QR code for all of you to scan.

- I think that this is what a senator does, which is hearing the needs of our constituents and addressing them in any way we can.
- I look forward to a productive summer term with all of you, and I thank you for having me.
- Senator Santiago:
  - Good evening senators.
  - I want to thank the R&A committee for allowing me to serve as the interim Deputy Minority Leader.
  - Our efforts were able to confirm 20 people for replacement seats.
  - I hope to see the committee continue its efforts in filling seats in an efficient and speedy manner.
  - I also want to reintroduce myself to all the replacement senators as the LGBTQ+ caucus chair.
  - As a caucus, we want to help improve the quality of life for LGBTQ+ students and advocate for LGBTQ+ causes, as well.
  - Anyone can join, whether an ally or a member of the LGBTQ+ community.
  - Please reach out to me if you are interested.
- Senator Corbett:
  - First of all, I would like to introduce myself as the Minority Party Leader for the summer term.
  - I would like to recognize Mohammed Faisal as the Deputy for Change caucus.
  - I would also like to reintroduce myself as the co-leader for the women's caucus, along with Cat Giordano.
  - We're going to resend a form so summer senators can share their ideas.
  - For those of you who don't know, the women's caucus was created to focus on gendered issues and to look for solutions not only on C\campus, but in greater Gainesville.
  - If you are a replacement, you can absolutely sign up.
  - I have been given the honor to be Women's History Month director for WSA.
  - If you have any kinds of insights, connections, or networking, I would love to work with you to see what we can do with WSA through senate.
- Senator Stephens:
  - Hello everyone, I will be representing the former Senator Gorelick as the District D senator.
  - I am excited to be working with all of you to accomplish some work for the student body.
  - I have four specific initiatives that I have been working on, and I am looking to promote them to be reviewed by either the Judiciary or Budgetary committee.
  - I would like to explain them to give you some context so I can get your support.

- The first one I have is going to be called the Referendum, Initiative, and Constitutional Amendment Submission Accessibility Act (700 Codes), and this act allows for different sorts of campaigning activity to occur with referendums, initiatives, and constitutional amendments.
  - More context on a legal standpoint, there's only a 10-day period within both election cycles where different parties or institutions can be able to campaign for many of these initiatives, which isn't efficient to gain the 6,000 votes to get that done.
  - This is a way for those who are passionate about many different issues and want to be able to organize behind it to have that accessibility.
- Moving on to the next one, which is the Student Government Voting Advocacy Expansion Amendment (200 Codes).
  - This one focuses on utilizing Chomp the Vote's power to be able to help support Student Government elections and trying to move people to the polls.
  - This would help our platforms, as well as any other affiliation's platform, to be seen, which is important for getting more engagement for our Student Government processes.
- The next one is the Student Organization Health and Wellness Accessibility Act, which is specifically an 800 code revision that is going to be focused on being able to create an exception with Rule 15 of Code 808.12.
  - It allows for an exception for women's health products, sexual health products, and medical aid products.
  - I've spoken with both President Hartzog, President Pro-Tempore Green, and Chairwoman Giordano, and I have gotten more context on how this has been interpreted.
  - I want to specifically codify it so there's an opportunity for many different organizations, whether it's the Students for Sensible Drug Practices all the way to WSA, people who really give those products out to individuals, especially our student body.
- The last one is the Indigenous Land Acknowledgment Act (600 Codes).
  - This is a 600 code revision, and it would input within our general statutes a land acknowledgement agreement, which is a way for many institutions to be able to recognize the many different aspects in which indigenous people have been—I wouldn't necessarily say persecuted—but a more of a lesser term, as in how this land wasn't built for the UF, rather the land for indigenous people.
  - It's an opportunity for us to showcase that representation and how we do recognize that, as well as showcasing the commitment that we will try within our proceedings to promote indigenous life.

- Again, if you have any question about any of these revisions, please come up to me.
- I want everyone's opinions because I want to see some change in Student Government for the betterment of both affiliations and for the student body.

#### **AMENDMENTS TO THE MINUTES:**

- There were none.

#### **AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA:**

- Majority Party Leader Pecora moves to strike Bianca Barrios from Summer C District C seat by unanimous consent. That motion passes.
- Majority Party Leader Pecora moves to add Bianca Barrios as the Summer A District C replacement by unanimous consent. That motion passes.
- Senator Stephens moves to pass the block of Replacement & Agenda committee recommendations by unanimous consent. That motion passes.
- Senator Stephens moves to approve the block of absences by unanimous consent. That motion passes.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

##### **EXECUTIVE BRANCH:**

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

- Senate President Hartzog:
  - I am happy to welcome you all to the first meeting of summer senate!
  - We will not be having senate next week, but we will be having a senator orientation at 7:00pm next week in the chambers.
  - This is something all new senators are required to attend, including anyone who is in a new permanent seat or is a summer replacement.
  - You can be removed from your seat if you miss the orientation.
  - As we move into this new term, I want to remind everyone that Pro-Tempore Green and I are a resource for you to use.
  - Our doors are always open, so please swing by.
  - My office hours for the summer are: Monday-Friday at 3:00-5:00pm, though I should be in the office almost all day Tuesday.

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

- There were none.

#### **REPLACEMENT AND AGENDA:**

- Pro-Tempore Green welcomes the senators.

- I want to say congratulations to everyone who came out to interviews and have been confirmed.
- These open seats will open tonight and close the Friday before May 22nd, and that is when we'll have the next R&A meeting to hold interviews.

### Open Summer Replacements

- Summer A:
  - Freshman
- Summer C:
  - Murphree
  - Graham
  - Infinity
  - Jennings
  - Building Construction
  - Education
  - Law
  - CLAS (1)
  - Nursing
  - Pharmacy
- Open Permanent Senate Seats:
  - District D (1)
  - Graduate and Family Housing
  - Graduate (3)
  - Tolbert
  - Dentistry
- Open Committee Seats:
  - Rules and Ethics (5)
  - Information and Communications (3)
  - Judiciary (4)
- Email me if you have any questions.
- Also, for all the replacement and permanent people, you should have gotten an email from me about senate affiliation forms, which have to be filled out.
- Congratulations again!

### **JUDICIARY:**

- Senator Vaknin:
  - Congrats again to all the new senators.
  - Chairman Brinkman would like you to know that the Judiciary committee will be meeting in room 3305 of the Reitz Union on Sunday, May 22nd at 5:30pm.
  - If you have any legislation that you would like to be heard, please make sure that it is submitted by noon on Friday, May 20th.

- If you have any questions, please email Chairman Brinkman at [judiciary@sg.ufl.edu](mailto:judiciary@sg.ufl.edu) .

### **BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS:**

- Chairwoman Giordano:
  - Summer is our busiest season, so there's a lot coming up.
  - We're finalizing the Summer B/Fall 2022 budget and appropriations bill for the operational, travel, base-funding, and event requests.
  - Once it is signed, I will send it out to the senate Listserv.
  - If you have any questions, you are welcome to talk with me after senate.
  - We will be hearing the amended budget on May 31st between 8:00am-2:00pm.
  - Please email me if you have any questions at [budget@sg.ufl.edu](mailto:budget@sg.ufl.edu) .
  - Congrats to the new senators.

### **RULES & ETHICS:**

- Chairwoman Thompson:
  - Thank you for being here, and congratulations to the replacement senators.
  - There are many open committee seats, so please apply.
  - What rules and ethics does is go through attendance and approve constituency.
  - Keep an eye out for an email about constituency probation.
  - Have a great night!

### **INFORMATION & COMMUNICATION:**

- Chairwoman Funai:
  - New senator orientation will be next Tuesday at 7:00pm.
  - It is very important that you come to this.
  - I'm excited to meet all the new faces.
  - The tabling sign up form is going to be sent out tomorrow.
  - The first day to table is May 23rd, and it will be in Turlington.
  - Everyone is required to do two hours of tabling.
  - Congratulations everyone!

### **FIRST READINGS:**

- There were none.

### **SECOND READINGS:**

- There were none.

### **BILLS PENDING SIGNATURES:**

- There were none.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- There were none.

**ROLL CALL:**

- Senator Thompson moves to use voter record as final roll call by unanimous consent.  
That motion passes.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

- The meeting was adjourned at 7:54pm.