

STUDENT SENATE MINUTES

May 31st, 2022

The Senate President called the Senate meeting to order at 7:01pm 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 55 senators present.

Not there for roll call:

- **Alvarado**
- **Bloyer**
- **Bonnilla**
- **Clark**
- **Durst**
- **George**
- **Gerzenshtein**
- **Ghozali**
- **Hautamaki**
- **Johnson**
- **Leach**
- **Locascio**
- **Mbua**
- **Molyneaux**
- **Mullaney**
- **Quetant**
- **Riklan**
- **Soukup**
- **Thompson**
- **Vaknin**
- **Zepeda**

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- **Senator Damera:**
 - Presents a video showing racial discrimination against Indian American student, including verbal and physical assault.
 - The video that just played showed Shaan Pritmani, a student who was attacked at his middle school by his classmates.
 - In the following week, Shaan was suspended for three days.
 - His aggressor was suspended for one day.

- This occurred amid Asian Pacific Islander & Desi Heritage Month, and it was a slap in the face to our community.
- We watched in disgust, but not one of us watched in surprise.
- This behavior is to be expected against our community, including strong racial undertones, unwarranted aggression, and a tendency of our schools to blame the victim, something almost everyone in our community has experienced.
- For this reason, I propose a resolution.
- Nearly 15% of our student body identifies with the APIDA community.
- UF students are uniquely affected by events such as this one.
- With APIDA Heritage Month coming to an end, it is vital to express that the issues that affect our community do not end with the month of May.
- It is imperative that our body expresses support for the APIDA community.
- You should be supporting your friends, families, and every APIDA student that steps on campus, whether that is in the past, present, or future.
- I want to thank the Senate South Asian Caucus for helping bring this resolution to the floor, including Senator Talati, Senator Natarajan, Senator Ali, and all others. Thank you for forming this caucus and bringing these issues to the forefront of Senate.
- I also want to thank Senate President Hartzog, Pro-Tempore Green, Chairwoman Giordano, Majority Party Leader Pecora, and Chairman Brinkman for their support of the resolution.
- I want to announce that fellow APIDA leaders, the South Asian Caucus, and I are going to be starting an initiative to further support APIDA students on campus.
- If you are interested in joining, please reach out.
- Let's keep working for our student body and pass some legislation. Thank you.
- Joseph Andreoli :
 - Good evening senators.
 - I am an applicant for the graduate student senate seat.
 - Today I would like to share some of the ideas I shared with the R&A committee.
 - This talk is called “The Utility of Network Analysis in UF Student Government.”
 - One of the themes of my interviews is talking about how we can use network analysis to better improve the legislation coming out of this body.
 - I'd be happy to teach this stuff.
 - If you haven't heard it yet, network analysis is used in all sorts of disciplines.
 - If you think of any problem as a series of dots and lines, those dots being nodes and the lines being links, you can use network analysis to solve all sorts of problems.
 - For example: it can help solve environmental, transportation, and location-related problems.
 - Why not in UF student government?

- In two of the three R&A interviews, I presented this idea: We should have a 24/7 dining hall located at Gator Corner.
- I have also used network analysis to approach problems related to bus routes.
- I went above and beyond just analysis; I also shared the draft legislation.
- Now is the time to do a 24/7 dining location since the Chartwells contract begins July 1st.
- I have also presented draft legislation for the RTS bus route.
- UF contributes 48% of RTS's budget, so I think we should have a say in bus routes better serving our students, including graduate students.
- I've shown analysis and legislation, and now is time for the four questions I have for you sitting senators:
 - 1. Do you want to learn more about network analysis?
 - 2. Are you interested in being an author or sponsor for any of the legislation I have presented?
 - 3. Do you want my help in using network analysis on any of the legislation that you're writing?
 - 4. Could you please give me some advice for the application and interview process?
- Please reach out to me at andreoli5978690@ufl.edu.
- Senator Stephens:
 - We, the UF student government, recognize that our campus is located on ancestral and traditional territory of the Seminole tribe of Florida and the Timucua tribe.
 - We recognize the displacement and violence against indigenous people has led to severe plights for those today and in the past.
 - Despite these circumstances, the indigenous communities across this nation have continued to stay connected with each other and with their cultural ways-of-life.
 - We pay our respects to the elders and descendants of the past and present.
 - We hope that the future generations of student government leaders continue to support indigenous sovereignty and culture within and beyond the University of Florida.
 - The Indigenous Land Acknowledgement Act was failed by the Judiciary committee.
 - You can obviously expect another public comment digging at Judiciary, but I'm not doing that tonight.
 - This is on our hands, every single person sitting in here
 - We fail these types of legislation, and we keep enabling individuals to be able to make arguments and not work towards trying to get those ratified.
 - We don't see the change we're looking for.
 - I've met so many different individuals who represent the indigenous diaspora, and I have been blessed to discuss this legislation with them.

- Many of us may not know exactly and understand the specific plights that many indigenous people go through every single day.
- What I find frustrating is the hypocrisy when individuals will sit here and vote on bills and say they represent all students, but then vote down bills and refuse to work with the minority party.
- Many different indigenous people don't want to explore their identity because of the fear of lack of representation and the fact that their identity will be seen as a way for them to get a minority representation card.
- Furthermore, indigenous women are at severely high rates of rape, kidnapping, and murder in comparison to non-indigenous counterparts.
- Indigenous land is still being stolen for profit by companies or others, and they disregard how sacred the land is.
- It is ridiculous that in 2022 we are failing these types of legislation.
- I could go on and on, but I'm not here to sit here and complain.
- I'm here to provide the resources, like Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women USA organization.
- I think it is important that the External Affairs chairperson looks at these resources.
- We may call Florida our home, but indigenous people have very few territories that they can call home.
- I still see people go on Snapchat and be complicit to these types of issues.
- I don't want applause because this is about taking action.
- It's ridiculous that we do things for political gain instead of representing the constituents that voted us in.
- Many of you had indigenous people that voted you in.
- Senator Faisal:
 - Good evening, I'm here to talk tonight about the amendments that are going to be heard.
 - Last meeting, an announcement was made about debating respectfully, and I agree with that sentiment.
 - But we cannot debate properly if the majority party continues to move to previous question, which retroactively cuts debate out.
 - That's the only reason that we, the minority party, make so many points of information and order because we don't have a chance to voice our concerns.
 - There is a call to previous question by unanimous consent, we object, we lose the vote, and then it gets passed anyway. We don't get a chance to say why we want to object.
 - Last week, we saw a dissenting report get denied, and then we used a point of order to get it back. That is why we used points of order.
 - We don't get to voice our opinions.

- Time and time again, Change senators make public comments about making legislation and if anybody wants to assist them or sponsor.
- We get white noise from Gator senators.
- This week, Gator wrote a lot of legislation, and from those five, two of them were amended today because they strike pretty close to home to a lot of our caucus members.
- When reading legislation put on the agenda—when we weren't asked to be put as sponsors—is disheartening.
- They would have loved to work with you guys.
- Instead, Minority Party Leader Corbett had to call Chairman Brinkman an hour before the Judiciary committee meeting and tell them about the mistakes in legislation.
- After their meeting ended, there were still mistakes in the legislation.
- We submitted so many amendments because we know you don't want all the amendments to pass, so we submitted many so some can fail and some can pass.
- That being said, this meeting is probably going to go very long because we have six amendments, Change is using our voices to go against a piece of legislation, and we have to sit through another election.
- Gator Party, please reach out to us next time.
- Thank you, and go gators.

AMENDMENTS TO THE MINUTES:

- There were none.

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA:

- Majority Party Leader Pecora moves to approve Timothy Shin's absence for the 5/10/2022 meeting by unanimous consent. That motion passes.
- Majority Party Leader Pecora moves to approve Emily Pecora's 5/24/2022 meeting by unanimous consent. That motion passes.
- Majority Party Leader Pecora moves to approve Shelby Schultz's failed absence for the 5/24/2022 meeting by unanimous consent. That motion passes.
- Chairman Brinkman moves to approve Student Senate Bill 2022-1009: Resign to Run Act by unanimous consent. Objected.
- Majority Party Leader Pecora moves to approve Student Senate Bill 2022-1010: Resolution Acknowledging the Conclusion of Asian Pacific Islander Desi American (APIDA) Heritage Month by unanimous consent. That motion passes.
- Majority Party Leader Pecora moves to approve Student Senate Bill 2022-1012: Resolution Endorsing System to Track Parking in Reitz Union Welcome Center Parking Garage by unanimous consent. That motion passes.

- Minority Party Leader Corbett moves to approve Student Senate Bill 2022-1014: Authorization of Special Project Funds to Rollover into FY 22-23 by unanimous consent. That motion passes.
- Majority Party Leader Pecora moves to approve the bloc of Replacement & Agenda committee recommendations by unanimous consent. That motion passes.

STUDENT BODY OFFICER ELECTIONS:

- Senator Liu nominates Senator Cable. Senator Cable accepts.
- Senator Faisal nominates Senator Santiago. Senator Santiago accepts.
- Senator Cable - 5 minute presentation:
 - Hello everyone, I'm Jacey Cable, I'm an advertising major from St. Augustine, Florida, and tonight I am running for Member-at-Large.
 - In my first year at UF, I have seen amazing things occur in senate, as well as the many different minds that are necessary to make this body flow efficiently.
 - I have been able to observe the people before me that have been successful in their roles.
 - I am confident that I can be an asset to the Replacement & Agenda committee.
 - I have been interviewed by the R&A committee twice, and I believe my experience with both will be beneficial for this role.
 - For many individuals, interviews are their first impression of the senate body, and I would be honored to be the person who welcomes them and encourages them through this process.
 - I have a firm grasp of aspects that make this committee successful.
 - 1. It is vital that everyone has a voice.
 - 2. It is crucial to this role to be unbiased.
 - In my role as director of sales in speech and debate tournaments, I led a team of five assistant directors, all of which I would carefully select from a pool of many applicants.
 - During this process, I had to employ my collaboration and decision-making skills.
 - This experience has prepared me well to be Member-at-Large because of the unbiased selection process and careful evaluation of applicant's skills across many facets.
 - All in all, I am grateful for this opportunity to represent our chamber and be entrusted with this tremendous responsibility.
 - I am confident that I can serve this body well in this role. Thank you.
- There was a five minute question and answer period.
- Senator Santiago - 5 minute presentation:

- Good evening, senators. My name is Oscar Santiago, and I am a second-year political science and criminology double major with a minor in mass communication.
- I am running to hopefully be your next Member-at-Large.
- I have served in the senate for the past eight months, and I have served as the R&A clerk and chair of LGBTQ+ Caucus.
- Outside of senate, I serve as treasurer for the Pride Student Union, an assistant director for the Spanish/Latinx Heritage Month closing ceremony, and as the student representative in the RTS advisory board.
- These positions have given me a rich background that helps form my identity and serve as a senator that gives a voice to marginalized communities.
- The Member-at-Large position is such an important role that I am well-equipped to take on.
- I want to use this position to continue to represent the diverse group of people within the senate.
- As a clerk for R&A, I act as a nonpartisan taker of minutes for the committee.
- These meetings have given me an insight on what type of applicants come through.
- I also served as the interim representative for the minority caucus during the first week of the summer term, where I saw twenty seats get filled.
- This is the type of efficiency I want to see from the committee if I am elected to the position.
- I recognize that I have my bias.
- It would be naive to believe that nobody has biases.
- As a result, I intend to advocate for the candidate that is best-suited to the seat they are applying to in a fair and objective manner.
- I intend to look for candidates with ideas that are pertinent to the constituency or committee they applied for.
- Also, I want to reach out to applicants after the interview and give them tips if they are not selected.
- I wish to serve the best interests of the student senate, and that is what I plan to bring to the table.
- Thank you, and go gators.
- There was a five minute question and answer period.
- In a standing vote, Senator Cable has been chosen for the First Member-at-Large.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

EXECUTIVE BRANCH:

- Chairman Fineberg:
 - It is truly great to be back here in the senate chambers.

- I am the chairman for External Affairs.
- I am excited to be working with President Lemasters
- We are writing up our legislative agenda for the year, which is the series of policies, initiatives, bills, and other things that we want to get approved or get the attention of local, state, or federal officials.
- If you have any ideas or input, please feel free to email me at externalaffairs@sg.ufl.edu , or you can stop by my office.
- The university committee applications are out now.
- They are an excellent opportunity for you to get involved.
- The committees are made up of student-voted and faculty-voted members to deal with a wide range of issues, like parking, land-use, and Title IX.
- They are open through mid-July.
- I highly recommend you apply.

SENATE PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

- Senate President Hartzog:
 - Good evening senators.
 - Yields time to senate secretary:
 - Moving forward, we're only going to be collecting main motions, so the whole appeals situation should not be happening again.
 - Also, I made a mistake on the voter record. I forgot to add the Member-at-Large vote, but someone is going to say to add it later.
 - Additionally, remember to fill out the google form because that is going to be the voter record I put in.
 - If you made mistakes on the physical voter record, you can make up for them by filling this out.
 - Don't forget the back side of today's voter record.
 - Remember to fill out everything completely and accurately.
- Senate President Hartzog resumes her report.
 - I want to go over a few clerical things.
 - If you can speak in public comment, that's amazing. However per rule IX 1b in Rules and Procedures, the notice for having a public comment needs to be sent to myself and the senate secretary.
 - Also, you must designate the matter on which you wish to speak on.
 - My whole goal is to be a communicative president with you all.
 - Communication is a two-way street, and there's no way for me to communicate with you guys if you don't communicate with me.
 - If you have any issues, questions, comments, concerns, anything—like I say every week my office hours are 3pm-5pm Monday-Friday.

- If those office hours don't work, we can always set up a zoom or do anything so that we can talk.
- I am here to serve as a president that you all feel comfortable talking to.
- Our last kickball game is tomorrow at 7:30. Please show up at SW Rec!
- Constituency for Summer A is going to be due June 14.
- Tabling is a requirement under all constituency.
- Tabling can be accessed by Chairwoman Funai.
- Preview and Turlington tabling both count as your tabling requirement.
- Next Tuesday on June 7, we will be having Meet-Your-Senator Day at Newell Hall, it is from 5pm-6pm. This counts as an SG event, so you can use this towards your constituencies.
- If this day does not work out with you, we will be having this event again on June 9 from 4pm-5pm in Turlington Plaza.
- Show up and interact with your constituents!

REPLACEMENT AND AGENDA COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:

- There were none.

REPLACEMENT AND AGENDA:

- Pro-Tempore Green welcomes the senators.
 - Congrats to all that got approved!
 - Also, to clarify, as of May 24, the clerk position has been vacant, so if anyone wants to take minutes, I would love that.

Open Summer Replacements

- Summer A:
 - District C
- Summer C:
 - Murphree
 - Graham
 - Building Construction
 - Education
 - Law
 - Nursing
 - Pharmacy
 - Engineering
- Open Permanent Senate Seats:
 - District E
 - Graduate and Family Housing
 - Graduate (2)
 - Tolbert

- Dentistry
- If you have any questions, please email me at senatepresidentprotempore@sg.ufl.edu .

JUDICIARY:

- Chairman Brinkman:
 - Please submit all legislation to judiciary@sg.ufl.edu by noon on Friday.
 - We will be meeting this weekend at a time and place to be determined.

BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS:

- Chairwoman Giordano:
 - Good evening, senators.
 - The Summer B/Fall 2022 Student Organization Budget bill is being reviewed by Dr. Mull.
 - The amended Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Activity & Service Fee Budget was heard today by the Budget & Appropriations committee.
 - We will officially hear the bill next week during first reading.
 - Thank you guys for passing Student Senate Bill 2022-1014: Authorization of Special Project Funds to Rollover into FY 22-23. The Big 5 entities are really excited about that.
 - Email me if you have any questions at budget@sg.ufl.edu .

RULES & ETHICS:

- Senator Marcus:
 - Please submit constituency! Chairwoman Thompson sent an email with some upcoming events.
 - We will be meeting on Thursday at 12:30pm.
 - If you have any questions, please email me at rules@sg.ufl.edu .

INFORMATION & COMMUNICATION:

- Chairwoman Funai:
 - Good evening, senators.
 - Tabling has been extended until Tuesday, June 14.
 - I am going to send out the updated sign-up sheet.
 - Merch and senate nametags are on their way!
 - Mentor/mentee forms are going to be sent out tomorrow.
 - I encourage all of you to sign up so you can meet senators you haven't interacted with.
 - If you have any questions, please email me at info@sg.ufl.edu .

FIRST READINGS:

- Majority Party Leader Pecora moves to call the previous question on Student Senate Bill 2022-1009: Resign to Run Act. Seconded. In a standing vote, that motion passes.
- Majority Party Leader Pecora moves to approve Student Senate Bill 2022-1009: Resign to Run Act. Seconded. In a voice vote, that motion passes.
- Majority Party Leader Pecora moves to call the previous question on Student Senate Bill 2022-1011: Resolution Celebrating Pride Month 2022 and LGBTQ+ Students.
- Amendment 1:
 - Senator Stephens:
 - This presentation is for recognizing POC queer femmes within this bill.
 - When we talk about events like Stonewall, we have to recognize these individuals were integral in the momentum of the queer liberation movement of the late 60s.
 - For Marsha P. Johnson to risk her life and throw the first brick at law enforcement upholding homophobic tropes deserves the recognition within our chamber.
 - To watch women like Sylvia Rivera help create STAR to provide aid for LGBTQ+ persons was instrumental in protecting those of the past and ultimately providing a chance for a lively future for LGBTQ+ people today.
 - We talk so much about supporting all individuals, and I can't stress enough how much POC queer femmes have contributed to American culture.
 - That cute prom/homecoming dress you got made was probably done by a POC queer femme.
 - That one choreography member that a dance group performed was most likely choreographed by a POC queer femme.
 - That one drag queen that "slayed" the number at University Club probably done by a POC queer femme.
 - When we're obsessed with terms like "slay, work, hunty, and the timeless 'and I oop,'" these all were coined by POC queer femmes.
 - The American culture that we inhabit today was built off the backs of POC queer femmes of the past, present, and future.
 - I hope that this legislation can serve the needed justice for them in the fight for equality and representation. Thank you.
 - Majority Party Leader Pecora moves to call the previous question on Amendment 1 by unanimous consent. That motion passes.
 - Majority Party Leader Pecora moves to approve Amendment 1 by unanimous consent. That motion passes.

- Senator Stephens moves to call the previous question on Amendment 2 by unanimous consent. That motion passes.
- Senator Stephens moves to approve Amendment 2 by unanimous consent. That motion passes.
- Senator Stephens moves to call the previous question on Amendment 3 by unanimous consent. That motion passes.
- Senator Stephens moves to approve Amendment 3 by unanimous consent. That motion passes.
- Senator Stephens moves to call the previous question on Amendment 4 by unanimous consent. That motion passes.
- Senator Stephens moves to approve Amendment 4 by unanimous consent. That motion passes.
- Senator Stephens moves to divide the question for the line of authorship and the remainder of Amendment 5 by unanimous consent. That motion passes.
- Senator Stephens moves to amend Amendment 5 by striking Jonathan Stephens from the line of authorship and adding Jonathan Stephens to the line of sponsorship by unanimous consent. That motion passes.
- Senator Stephens moves to call the previous question on Amendment 5 by unanimous consent. That motion passes.
- Senator Stephens moves to approve Amendment 5 by unanimous consent. That motion passes.
- Majority Party Leader Pecora moves to call the previous question on Amendment 6 by unanimous consent. That motion passes.
- Majority Party Leader Pecora moves to approve Amendment 6 by unanimous consent. That motion passes.
- Senator Stephens moves to approve Student Senate Bill 2022-1011: Resolution Celebrating Pride Month 2022 and LGBTQ+ Students, Faculty, and Staff by unanimous consent. That motion passes.
- Student Senate Bill 2022-1013: Resolution Memorializing the Lost Lives of the Robb Elementary School Students and Teachers in Uvalde, Texas.
- Amendment 1:
 - Senator Faisal:
 - I want to show the changes we're making, particularly fixing names and adding ages.
 - There will be multiple friendly amendments made to this amendment.
 - We struck the first "whereas..." and inserted a new one.
 - We added other clauses, as well as including sources.
 - Please work with us in the future, and this won't have to happen again.
 - Senator Faisal moves to divide the question for the line of authorship and the remainder of Amendment 1 by unanimous consent. That motion passes.

- Senator Faisal moves to amend Amendment 1 by striking Gabriela Montes and Mohammed Faisal from the author line and then adding Mohammed Faisal to the sponsorship line by unanimous consent. That motion passes.
- Senator Faisal moves to call the previous question on Amendment 1 by unanimous consent. That motion passes.
- Senator Faisal moves to approve Amendment 1 by unanimous consent. That motion passes.
- Senator Faisal moves to add Gabriela Montes as a student contributor into the proviso line of SSB 2022-1013 by unanimous consent.
- Senator Faisal moves to approve the second half after the division of Amendment 1 of SSB 2022-1013 by unanimous consent. That motion passes.
- Senator Faisal moves to call the previous question on Student Senate Bill 2022-1013: Resolution Memorializing the Lost Lives of the Robb Elementary School Students and Teachers in Uvalde, Texas by unanimous consent. That motion passes.
- Senator Faisal moves to approve Student Senate Bill 2022-1013: Resolution Memorializing the Lost Lives of the Robb Elementary School Students and Teachers in Uvalde, Texas by unanimous consent. That motion passes.

SECOND READINGS:

- There were none.

BILLS PENDING SIGNATURES:

- There were none.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Pro-Tempore Green: Applications will open immediately following the meeting and will close on Friday at noon. R&A will meet on Sunday at a time and place to be determined. Thank you for passing my and Senate President Hartzog's resolution. Thank you so much, Senator Faisal and Gabriela Montes, for helping.
- Senator Stephens: I want to send a very big thank you to Judiciary Chairman John Brinkman. I know that we are archnemeses, but today, I did appreciate the civility. Thank you.
- Senate President Hartzog: Clarifies how to fill out voter record.
- Chairman Fineberg: Apply to the university committees by June 17.

ROLL CALL:

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

ADJOURNMENT:

- The meeting was adjourned at 8:26pm.