

STUDENT SENATE MINUTES

January 17th, 2023

Senate President Green called the Senate meeting to order at 7:30 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:

- **Aldazabal**
- **Holder**
- **Kopelman**
- **Montes**
- **Mys**
- **Panish**
- **Pecora**
- **Rassel**
- **Rubin**
- **Unland**

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- **Senator Solomon:**
 - Good evening, senators.
 - I would like to promote UF Hillel's "Spread Cream Cheese Not Hate" campaign.
 - "Spread Cream Cheese Not Hate" is an initiative to equip students to combat antisemitism and all forms of hate at the University of Florida.
 - Nearly 1/3 of Jewish students experience or witness acts of Antisemitism on their college campus.
 - This year, it is our goal to collect 2,500 signatures.
 - Together, by supporting SSB 2023-1003 and by signing this pledge, we can make our campus and community a more welcoming and safe place for all people.
 - The pledge reads as follows, "I commit to combating antisemitism and all forms of hate. I will join my fellow gators to ensure UF and my community are a welcoming and safe place for all.
- **Senator Shoemaker:**
 - Good evening, senators.
 - I am very passionate about restoring 24/7 libraries.
 - I have sent nearly 50 emails about trying to restore 24/7 libraries.

- When I asked the senate president about this in October 2021, his response at the time was to talk to the Assistant Provost.
- After meeting with Dr. Lindor, I was asked to begin a report.
- Thus, into the new year of 2022, I stayed in Marston until 1am nearly every night trying to get survey responses.
- I managed to get over 1,000 responses.
- When presenting this information to the Student Body President, she seemed disinterested in this cause.
- This became a big talking point for the Gator Party, who did not want academic dollars put towards academic buildings.
- In this time, I gathered years of data, created a committee, and developed a report.
- I'm elated to hear that Marston will become a 24/7 library this year.
- I was shocked that Lauren had reached out to them regarding 24/7 libraries.
- Understandably, Lauren was busy and did not want to work with me, but now we are back to square one in the pilot year of 24/7 libraries.
- I believe more collaboration would have created a more sustainable plan.
- I recognize the work of the executive branch, but I also see its faults.
- I implore senators to pursue what they are passionate about.
- Do not stop or let others stop until everything is seen through to the end.
- Shoutout to everyone who was instrumental to my studies and this project as a whole.
- I am looking forward to seeing everyone in Marston at late hours.
- Senator Damera:
 - Good evening, senators.
 - I want to congratulate the student body on our newfound access to 24/7 library hours in Marston.
 - Gator Party has never opposed 24/7 libraries.
 - President Lemasters pledged to have 24/7 libraries.
 - Activity and service fees should not be paying for libraries, our tuition dollars should be.
 - Academic dollars are for academic buildings, and student dollars should belong to the students.
 - This is a victory for students in more ways than one.
 - This deal would not have happened if we approved the minority party's amendment to activity and service fees in the fall.
 - If Senate would have enacted the amendment, \$300,000 would have been stolen from student organizational funds.
 - This plan even received opposition from minority party senators.

- While student voices were an important factor in this process, this deal was ultimately struck between the office of the provost and the current student government administration.
 - This is a win for all students, not just one party or another.
 - Let's remind ourselves to look at the facts.
 - I am so excited to be sleeping in Marston every night.
- Senator Faisal was issued a warning.
- Minority Party Leader Corbett:
 - Good evening, senators.
 - Tonight, I am beyond excited to triumph along with students celebrating our win of library funding for a 24-hour schedule.
 - This fall, Senator Faisal said I am starting to sound more and more like a politician on Twitter.
 - I think someone needs to say something very similar to Mr. Fineberg.
 - "Anyone can shout from the rooftops if they want 24/7 libraries, but it took a dedicated group of people working diligently for a long time to get the job done".
 - Although I was witness to hundreds of students asking for this, I think information about this dedicated group is lacking.
 - To the chamber, I pose the philosophical question: "If a tree falls in the forest and no one hears it, did it make a sound?".
 - This question is concerned with observation and perception.
 - I pose this question tonight to ask you how often you allow your constituents and each other in on your work.
 - Our amendment was neither proposing taking from student organizations, nor was it the equivalent of \$300,000.
 - It doesn't make any sense for our senate to waste its resources and spread itself so thin when we could have collaborated on our project.
 - Ms. Lemasters, all it took for you, your cabinet, and your senators to make a tangible change for the student body was for you to lose a majority in the election and your decision to approve Ben Sasse.
 - So tonight, let's celebrate another year of 24/7 libraries.
 - This is not enough to save this administration's face.
 - Senator Stephens:
 - Good evening, senators.
 - Presents legislation.
 - The budget funding committee forum occurred over this past Wednesday.
 - I feel that some things were unclear, so I have taken it upon myself to write some legislation to clear this up.

- The Budget Off-Campus Events Funding Equalization Act changes funding for off-campus events from ½ to ¾.
- The Budget Online Resources Accessibility Act calls for an 800 Codes summary document that provides critical information for student organizations to reference.
- It also makes sure that the tape recordings of these meetings are posted on the website.
- I am happy to be a part of a caucus that is focused on action.
- I hope you guys take these amendments, and talk to me if you have any concerns.
- I plan on proposing to rescind the decision of the Judiciary Committee.
- If you have any questions on the resolution, please come up to me after senate.

AMENDMENTS TO THE MINUTES:

- There were none.

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA:

- Majority Party Leader Cox moves to strike Kylie Coolican from the ASOE Nominations by unanimous consent. That motion passes.
- Majority Party Leader Cox moves to make a special rule to hear the ASOE Nominations as a bloc by unanimous consent. That motion passes.
- Majority Party Leader Cox moves to approve the bloc of ASOE nominations by unanimous consent. That motion passes.
- Majority Party Leader Cox moves to approve Dorian Simpkins for the Bridges Agency Head by unanimous consent. That motion passes.
- Majority Party Leader Cox moves to approve the bloc of Replacement & Agenda committee recommendations by unanimous consent. That motion passes.
- Majority Party Leader Cox moves to approve the bloc of approved and failed absences by unanimous consent. That motion passes.
- Majority Party Leader Cox moves to approve Student Senate Bill 2023-1001: Gender Neutral Wording Amendment to the Student Body Constitution by unanimous consent. That motion passes.
- Majority Party Leader Cox moves to approve Student Senate Bill 2023-1003: Resolution to Recognize and Promote the Spread Cream Cheese Not Hate Campaign by unanimous consent. That motion passes.
- Majority Party Leader Cox moves to approve Amendment 1 to Student Senate Bill Student Senate Bill 2023-1009: Town Hall Productivity Act - 300 Codes Revisions by unanimous consent. That motion passes.
- Majority Party Leader Cox moves to approve Student Senate Bill 2023-1009: Town Hall Productivity Act - 300 Codes Revisions by unanimous consent. That motion passes.
- Senator Stephens moves to rescind the decision of the Judiciary committee on Student Senate Bill 2023-1007 by unanimous consent. That motion passes.

EXECUTIVE BRANCH:

SENATE PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

- Senate President Green:
 - Good evening, senators.
 - My office hours have been updated on the website.
 - Make sure to send in your presentations for public comment beforehand.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

REPLACEMENT AND AGENDA:

- Senate Pro-Tempore Giordano welcomes the senators.
 - Good evening, senators.

Open Permanent Senate Seats

- Medicine
- Pharmacy
- Dentistry
- Nursing
- Law
- Veterinary Medicine
- District C
- District D
- Lakeside
- Graduate (5)

Minority Report

- Minority Party Leader Corbett:
 - Good evening, senators.
 - Presents budget for the fiscal year 2022-2023 amendment.
 - I just wanted to give everyone the correct numbers.
 - We added \$130,000 to library support, which was pulled from ACCENT and Student Government Productions.

JUDICIARY:

- Chairman Harkins:
 - Good evening, senators.
 - Legislation will be due on Friday.
 - Clarifies voter record.

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

BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS:

- Vice Chairman Kanfer:
 - Good evening, senators.
 - We will be sending out information for the next funding cycle very soon.
 - If you have any questions, please email me at budget@sg.ufl.edu.

RULES & ETHICS:

- Chairwoman Clark:
 - Good evening, everyone.
 - I just wanted to remind you all that probation is due on February 1st at 11:59 pm.
 - If you have any questions, please email me at rules@sg.ufl.edu.

INFORMATION & COMMUNICATION:

- Chairwoman Funai:
 - Good evening, senators.
 - On January 26, I&C will be hosting a mentor/mentee reveal as well as a social from 6:00-8:00pm.
 - If you attend, you get a half-absence back.
 - Keep signing up for tabling.
 - I have adjusted some of the dates on the excel sheet.
 - If you have any questions, please email me at info@sg.ufl.edu.

FIRST READINGS:

- There were none.

SECOND READINGS:

- There were none.

BILLS PENDING SIGNATURES:

- There were none.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Senator Solomon: I will be putting the QR code up for the bagel day pledge by the voter records.
- Minority Party Leader Corbett: The group of students who reached out to me to work on the contraceptive vending machines and I are going to start working on research and development for this project.

ROLL CALL:

- Chairwoman Clark moves to use voter records as the final roll call by unanimous consent. That motion passes.

ADJOURNMENT:

- The meeting was adjourned at 8:11 pm.