

## **STUDENT SENATE MINUTES**

**February 7th, 2023**

Senate President Green called the Senate meeting to order at 7:33 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 67 senators present.

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

- **Alvarez**
- **Antonszewski**
- **Baesler**
- **Bowman**
- **Bush**
- **Durst**
- **Hautamaki**
- **Hatch**
- **Holmes**
- **Howard**
- **Levine**
- **Murtha**
- **Pinsky**
- **Ruedas**
- **Wiener**
- **Whitaker**

### **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

- **Ronin Lupien:**
  - Good evening, senators.
  - I will be presenting results from a survey.
  - I encourage you to think about other ways and services you can use to reach out to your constituents.
  - In regard to the question “What do you want to see out of Student Government?”, some students said they wanted:
    - More transparency.
    - Increased funding for student organizations, graduate school students, and faculty.
    - More collaboration between both parties and less uneducated voting.
    - A greater concern with academic freedom and political interference.

- Higher involvement in improving student daily life.
  - Accountability for harassment given by Change party members to other senators during the summer term.
  - To start voting in favor of students as opposed to voting in favor of political affiliation.
  - Nothing, they don't affect my daily life and I don't want them to.
  - Checks and balances.
  - Better representation of minority students.
- I do not know anyone who gave comments in these surveys.
- I hope some of these responses are reflected upon.
- Senator Shoemaker:
  - Good evening, senators.
  - Reads bill about political encroachment in academia.
  - This bill is meant to serve as a list of events, as well as facts and actions, that have recently suppressed learning in all levels of education.
  - I recently spoke to my math teacher who had to get rid of an AP Statistics textbook because it references socioeconomics.
  - Freedom of speech, education, and much more is at stake.
  - I hope as senators we can continue to gain empathy and educate ourselves on current and past events.
  - As students and friends, talk to your peers and learn something.
  - I hope as a senate body, we can continue to champion DEI initiatives, protect students of all identities, and pursue truth in learning.
- Deputy Minority Party Leader Santiago Perez:
  - Good evening, senators.
  - I think that it's very concerning to see the state government continue its attacks on DEI.
  - We need to ensure that we continue to advocate for the things we have outlined in this resolution.
  - Additionally, my heart goes out to the Jewish community that had to face disgusting acts of Nazism occurring on our campus.
  - I never thought I would see such acts on our campus.
  - I hope that both of these resolutions are approved by both sides.
  - Gators chomp Nazis.

**AMENDMENTS TO THE MINUTES:**

- There were none.

**AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA:**

- Majority Party Leader Cox moves to approve the bloc of Replacement & Agenda Committee recommendations by unanimous consent. That motion passes.
- Deputy Minority Party Leader Santiago Perez moves to make a friendly amendment to Student Senate Bill 2023-1019 updating the title of Majority Party Leader Montes, Senator Corbett, and Deputy Minority Party Leader Santiago Perez by unanimous consent. That motion passes.
- Deputy Minority Party Leader Santiago Perez moves to make a friendly amendment Student Senate Bill 2023-1016 to update the titles of Deputy Minority Party Leader Santiago Perez and Minority Party Leader Montes by unanimous consent. That motion passes.
- Minority Party Leader Montes moves to make a friendly amendment to Student Senate Bill 2023-1016 to add Senator Ali to the sponsors line by unanimous consent. That motion passes.
- Minority Party Leader Montes moves to make a friendly amendment to Student Senate Bill 2023-1019 to add Senator Rassel, Senator Ali, and Senator Marcelino to the sponsors line by unanimous consent. That motion passes.
- Senator Corbett moves to make a friendly amendment to Student Senate Bill 2023-1016 to add Senator Perez and Senator Corbett to the sponsors line by unanimous consent. That motion passes.
- Senator Corbett moves to make a friendly amendment to Student Senate Bill 2023-1019 add Senator Perez to the sponsors line by unanimous consent. That motion passes.
- Majority Party Leader Cox moves to approve Student Senate Bill 2023-1016 by unanimous consent. That motion passes.
- Majority Party Leader Cox moves to approve Student Senate Bill 2023-1019 by unanimous consent. That motion passes.

**EXECUTIVE BRANCH:**

**SENATE PRESIDENT’S REPORT:**

- Senate President Green:
  - Good evening, senators.
  - I will be canceling senate on February 14th and 28th.
  - The housing fair is on March 17.
  - Good luck, and I hope everyone is feeling well with midterms coming up.

**REPLACEMENT AND AGENDA COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- There were none.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

## **REPLACEMENT AND AGENDA:**

- Senate Pro-Tempore Giordano welcomes the senators.
  - Good evening, senators.
  - My office hours on Wednesday will be moved to Monday.

## **Open Permanent Senate Seats**

- Medicine
- Pharmacy
- Dentistry
- Nursing
- Law
- Veterinary Medicine
- Murphree
- Graduate and Family Housing
- Freshman
- District C
- Graduate (6)

## **JUDICIARY:**

- Chairman Harkins:
  - Good evening, senators.
  - Since we won't have senate next week, my committee won't be meeting.
  - If you have any questions, please email me at [judiciary@sg.ufl.edu](mailto:judiciary@sg.ufl.edu).

## **BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS:**

- Chairwoman Pecora:
  - Good evening, senators.
  - We will be meeting sometime next week to go over some line item transfers.
  - If you have any questions, please email me at [budget@sg.ufl.edu](mailto:budget@sg.ufl.edu).

## **RULES & ETHICS:**

- Chairwoman Clark:
  - Good evening, everyone.
  - My committee met earlier today.
  - If you want to have an absence excused, you don't have to email me. You can submit the form on the SG website.
  - If you have any questions, please email me at [rules@sg.ufl.edu](mailto:rules@sg.ufl.edu).

## **INFORMATION & COMMUNICATION:**

- Chairwoman Funai:

- Good evening, senators.
- Leaders for Change applications are now out and are due on February 10th.
- The last day reserved for tabling is this Friday.
- We'll take a little pause tabling because of campaign season and pick it back up after elections.
- If you have any questions, please email me at [info@sg.ufl.edu](mailto:info@sg.ufl.edu).

**FIRST READINGS:**

- There were none.

**SECOND READINGS:**

- There were none.

**BILLS PENDING SIGNATURES:**

- There were none.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- Senator Urbenz: I want to say thank you to everyone who sponsored SSB 2023-1019.
- Senator Rafanan: This Thursday is museum night at the Harn Museum.
- Senator Vaknin: I wanted to share a similar sentiment about SSB 2023-1019. I'm happy we were able to work together on this effort. Sadly, there have been a lot of incidents of antisemitism during this school year. I'm really happy that we've been able to work as student leaders to continue to protect the Jewish community on our campus.

**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 8:02 pm.