

STUDENT SENATE MINUTES

August 27th, 2023

Senate President Santiago Perez called the Senate meeting to order at 8:38 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.

Senate President Santiago Perez gives a land acknowledgment.

ROLL CALL:

Roll was called and quorum was established with a total of 67 senators present.

Not there for roll call:

- **Arumilli**
- **Rafanan**
- **Berekhovski**
- **Jaiswal**
- **Jayanti**
- **LoSardo**
- **Mys**
- **Drashti Patel**
- **Pari Patel**
- **Patrick**
- **Scramoncin**
- **Singhal**
- **Valentin**
- **Wood Barron**
- **Wolcott**

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- **Senator Mia:**
 - I will give a recap from the summer, specifically about apportionment.
 - The Supreme Court ruled that the Fall 2023 apportionment map was unconstitutional and therefore the student senate must draw a new map.
 - Apportionment committee was made on 5/30/23.
 - Around 2,000 students were unaccounted for and there were some discrepancies made.
 - Gator party representatives proposed that we should make a 36-seat model.
 - We've never had an at-large model in many years and it would dilute many student voices.

- On 8/27/23, Gator party members obstructed and blocked apportionment from being added to Tuesday's Senate's agenda.
- The courts will conveniently be meeting at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, right before our Senate meeting.
- As you can see, they now propose a 37-seat at-large off-campus district which is one seat larger than their past proposed model.
- This would break Section II of the Civil Rights Act and the Voting Rights Act.
- Why are we so strongly against this gerrymandered map? Because it is fundamentally against civil rights.
- In the state of Virginia alone, maps were drawn to have at-large districts and to dilute Black voices.
- Districts C and D tend to be the most ethnically, socioeconomically, and politically diverse communities.
- This is the same tactic that was used by segregationists in the Civil Rights era, and this simply violates the Civil Rights Act.
- Failing this map today would put us on the track against segregation.
- Vote in favor of the apportionment bill today.
- Minority Party Leader Liang:
 - It has been a really fun game to try to predict Gator caucus' plan for reapportionment.
 - I'm reading this petition, and I find it odd.
 - President Green was invited by Chair Stephens to attend these meetings, but she never attended any of them.
 - Looking at the language, it looks a little hypocritical.
 - We spent many hours looking at data to make this apportionment act.
 - Our caucus was trying to add the reapportionment bill to the agenda, and Gator party kept shooting it down.
 - I also think it's funny that this brief says the Judiciary committee never agreed to plan for reapportionment during the summer of 2023.
 - We were trying to fill the Judiciary committee all summer.
 - I don't think it says in this petition that the Judiciary committee's approval is necessary.
 - We have apportionment placed on the agenda.
 - 2/3 of this chamber voted to approve this apportionment bill.
 - I find it funny that this petition violates the constitution because there is no seat given to the Honors Village as well as the fact that Springs and Keys are now combined into a single area of government so they cannot each receive an individual seat.
- Senator Giordano:
 - I'm hoping that we can actually get some stuff done this semester.

- I'm still confused as to why reapportionment didn't get passed then.
- GPAs and UFIDs are personal information, so don't include those in any of your presentations as they go against basic FERPA training.
- I hope we can further improve communication between both caucuses this semester.
- Senator Panish:
 - I was very dismayed to come back here to find that the reapportionment bill did not pass.
 - I know how Gator Party operates, so I understand that there are probably 4 or 5 key decision-makers and most of you probably don't understand the implications of everything you are passing.
 - Change party started winning seats.
 - I found out they were proposing a 37 at-large map.
 - One party will win all 37 of these seats.
 - This is bad, because it extinguishes the ability for any minority party to ever exist.
 - Gator Party controls about 250 out of the 300 positions in student government.
 - I take away fifty positions, and suddenly I am no longer allowed to exist.
 - The problem with this is that politically, it is amazing; strategically and morally, it is horrible.
 - You are letting this pass at a student government senate with no protest or anything.
 - You have the ability to stop this, and we can go back to a fair fight.
 - This is already so unfair for me because the map is actively being gerrymandered in front of my face.
 - This is extremely disrespectful to the thousands of hours I put into this.
 - If you vote to fail this bill, you are kicking us off student government and saying that you don't want us here or that our pieces of legislation don't matter.

FIRST READINGS:

- Chair Stephens presents on SSB 2023-1175:
 - This outlines the work that myself and members of both of the caucuses were able to accomplish in order for us to gain an apportionment map.
 - This adds Honors Village.
 - Keys and Springs have also combined in the past year.
 - District A gets 9 seats, District B gets 7 seats, District C gets 8 seats, and District D gets 10 seats.
 - This also adds a new at-large district which accounts for students not accounted for in the Registrar.
 - This ensures that all of our constituents have a clear form of representation.

- At this point, it's become too hard to play with the idea that the system doesn't exist.
- It's hard to look at the diversity in my caucus and think that it may die today because of the Gator caucus.
- I'm taking a stand against this political machine when they can regain legislature by advocating for fair policy and fighting for what their constituents ask them too, but I know it's blank stares.
- I hope that one day after you look at your decision, that you think about the decisions that you made and the ethic code that you lived by as well as that you chose to vote for yourself instead of voting for your constituents.
- There were five minutes of non-debatable Q&A.
- There were three rounds of con-pro debate.
- Chairperson Stephens moves for a three-minute recess or until called back by the chair. There was no second.
- Senator Mia moves to add another round of four-minute con-pro debate by unanimous consent. Objected.
- Senator Bowman moves to add another round of four-minute con-pro debate. Seconded.
- In a standing vote of 27-39, that motion fails.
- Senator Mia moves to add another round of three-minute con-pro debate by unanimous consent. Objected.
- There were three minutes of final privilege from Chairperson Stephens.
- Senator Mia moves to conduct this vote as a roll call vote by unanimous consent. That motion passes.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

- Ali- yes
- Ana Alvarez- yes
- Santiago Alvarez- no
- Amster- no
- Antonik- no
- Rafanan- yes
- Asuncion- yes
- Bader- no
- Banach- yes
- Bowman- yes
- Budhai- yes
- Clark- no
- Cox- no
- Damera- no
- Gangano- yes
- Ghozali- no

- Giordano- no
- Hazlett- no
- Holmes-yes
- Howard-no
- Huber- yes
- Imbrigiotta- no
- Islam- yes
- John- yes
- Kelley- no
- Khuddus- no
- Kinggard- no
- Lasch- yes
- Lekebusch- no
- Liang- yes
- Lieber- no
- Lin- yes
- Liu- no
- Locascio- no
- Marcelino- yes
- Mathews- yes
- Mia- yes
- McGinnis- Abstain
- Murtha- no
- Naidu- yes
- Nair- yes
- Natarajan- yes
- Panish- yes
- Pecora- no
- Pelton- yes
- Penin- no
- Platovsky- no
- Ponce- no
- Rappoport- no
- Rassel- yes
- Reich- no
- Roberts- no
- Robson- no
- Ruedas- no
- Russo- no
- Santiago Perez- yes

- Scanlon- yes
- Seifer- no
- Simes- yes
- Solomon- no
- Stephens- yes
- Thomas- no
- Vijayaraghavan- no
- Vigna- no
- Wang- no
- Whitaker- no
- White- no
- Wilson- yes
- Wood Barron- yes

In a vote of 30-37, that motion fails.

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA:

- Minority Party Leader Liang moves to approve Nyla Pierre, Jacob Kanfer, John Brinkman, Colin Lasch, and the alternate Kayla Myers for the Local Fee Committee by unanimous consent. Objected.
- Minority Party Leader Liang moves to approve Parker Rossignol for the Academic Assessment Committee by unanimous consent. That motion passes.
- Minority Party Leader Liang moves to approve Laura Thomas for the Cultural Plaza Advisory Committee by unanimous consent. That motion passes.
- Minority Party Leader Liang moves to approve Wesley Littleton for the Lakes, Vegetation, and Landscaping Committee by unanimous consent. Objected.
- Minority Party Leader Liang moves to approve Jordan Spira and Jacob Kanfer for the Commencement Committee positions by unanimous consent. Objected.
- Minority Party Leader Liang moves to approve Wiley Johannesmeyer and Sidney Ruedas for the Preservation of Historic Buildings and Sites Committee by unanimous consent. Objected.
- Minority Party Leader Liang moves to approve Kendrick Panoch for the Professional Curriculum Committee by unanimous consent. Objected.
- Minority Party Leader Liang moves to approve Dahlia Fabregat and Mitchell Mika for the General Education Committee by unanimous consent. That motion passes.
- Minority Party Leader Liang moves to approve Jessica Ellingsworth and Michael Chehade for the Student Petitions Committee by unanimous consent. Objected.
- Minority Party Leader Liang moves to approve Aubrey Mys and Kayla Sibble for the UF Core Values Advisory Council by unanimous consent. That motion passes.
- Minority Party Leader Liang moves to approve Jonathan Stephens for the Sustainability Committee by unanimous consent. Objected.

- Minority Party Leader Liang moves to approve Elizabeth Stokes and Emma Carter for the University Libraries Committee by unanimous consent. Objected.
- Minority Party Leader Liang moves to approve Jonathan Hurst, Fabie Jacques, and Joshua Thomas for the Student Financial Aid Committee by unanimous consent. Objected.
- Minority Party Leader Liang moves to approve Jacob Kanfer, Matthew Martinez, and Mason Solomon for the Land Use and Facilities Planning Committee by unanimous consent. Objected.
- Minority Party Leader Liang moves to approve Tor Moncrieff and Aneesh Chatrathi for the Environmental Health and Safety Committee by unanimous consent. That motion passes.
- Minority Party Leader Liang moves to approve Laura Thomas, Pelumi Okeowo, and Olivia Peiser for the Title IX - Intercollegiate Athletics Committee by unanimous consent. That motion passes.
- Minority Party Leader Liang moves to approve Karalyn Sammetinger, Kevin Senior, Vishnu Malhotra, and Justus Irwin for the Campus Student Housing Committee by unanimous consent. That motion passes.
- Minority Party Leader Liang moves to approve Parking Rossignol, Junhao Zhang, and Dahlia Fabregat for the University Curriculum Committee by unanimous consent. That motion passes.
- Minority Party Leader Liang moves to approve Rebecca Weinstein, Jackson Hacker, Lauren Bonet, and Douglas Harrison for the Career Connections Center Advisory Committee by unanimous consent. Objected.
- Minority Party Leader Liang moves to approve Riley Towbin, Jason DeHart, Madeline Flint, and Julia Seifer for the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Concerns Committee by unanimous consent. Objected.
- Minority Party Leader Liang moves to approve Aidan Coffey, Ayesha Khuddus, Clementine Dela Cruz, Ronin Lupien, and Mikhail Mikhaylov for the Persons with Disabilities Committee by unanimous consent. Objected.
- Minority Party Leader Liang moves to approve John Brinkman, Gamiyah Germany, Shelby Schultz, Hristina Kostadinova, and Jeremy Fuentes for the Transportation and Parking Advisory Committee by unanimous consent. Objected.
- Minority Party Leader Liang moves to approve Karalyn Sammetinger, Saketh Damera, Sazzad Mabud, Johnny Liu, Leah Golberg, Nikhil Patel, and Nicholas Blumenthal for the Food Service Advisory Committee by unanimous consent. Objected.
- Minority Party Leader Liang moves to approve Adreanne Martinez for the Elections Commission by unanimous consent. That motion passes.
- Chairperson Stephens moves to approve Ronin Lupien for the Persons with Disabilities Committee by unanimous consent. That motion passes.

- Chairperson Stephens moves to approve Nicholas Blumenthal for the Food Services Advisory Committee by unanimous consent. That motion passes.
- Chairperson Stephens moves to approve Gamiyah Germany for the Transportation and Parking Advisory Committee by unanimous consent.
- Senator Bowman moves to create a 10-minute voter record correction period before announcements by unanimous consent. That motion passes.
- Chairman Cox moves to add a special rule to allow the Senate President to verbally repeat to the entire chamber which of the university committee nominations were approved during amendments to the agenda following the conclusion of the amendments to the agenda by unanimous consent. Objected.
- Senator Rafanan moves to adopt the agenda by unanimous consent. Dilatory.
- Senator Mia moves to approve Jonathan Stephens and Samantha Simon for the Sustainability Committee by unanimous consent.
- Senator Mia moves to divide the question on approving Jonathan Stephens and Samantha Simon by unanimous consent.
- Senator Giordano receives her first warning.
- Senator Giordano receives her second warning.
- Senator Giordano receives her third warning and is deemed constructively absent.
- Chairman Cox calls for the orders of the day.
- Member-at-Large Liu moves to appeal the decision of the chair. Seconded.
- In a standing vote, that motion passes.
- Senator Giordano is restored back into the chamber and is currently on her second warning.
- Chairperson Stephens moves for a quorum call.

ROLL CALL:

Not there for roll call:

- **Arumilli**
- **Berekhovski**
- **Giordano**
- **Jaiswal**
- **Jayanti**
- **Losardo**
- **Nye**
- **Mys**
- **Nair**
- **Drashti Patel**
- **Pari Patel**
- **Patrick**
- **Scramoncin**
- **Singhal**

- **Valentin**
- **Wolcott**

Roll was called and quorum was established with a total of 67 senators present.

- Senator Mia moves to divide the question on approving Jonathan Stephens and Samantha Simon for the Sustainability Committee by unanimous consent. Objected.
- Senator Mia moves to approve Jonathan Stephens and Samantha Simon for the Sustainability Committee by unanimous consent. Objected.
- Minority Party Leader Liang moves to approve Karalyn Sammetinger for the Food Service Advisory Committee by unanimous consent. That motion passes.
- Minority Party Leader Liang moves to approve Nyla Pierre for the Local Fee Committee by unanimous consent. Objected.
- Minority Party Leader Liang moves to approve Jacob Kanfer for the Local Fee Committee by unanimous consent. Objected.
- Minority Party Leader Liang moves to approve John Brinkman for the Local Fee Committee by unanimous consent. That motion passes.
- Minority Party Leader Liang moves to approve Colin Lasch for the Local Fee Committee by unanimous consent. That motion passes.
- Minority Party Leader Liang moves to approve the alternate Kayla Myers for the Local Fee Committee by unanimous consent. That motion passes.
- Minority Party Leader Liang moves to approve Jordan Spira for the Commencement Committee by unanimous consent. That motion passes.
- Minority Party Leader Liang moves to approve Jacob Kanfer for the Commencement Committee by unanimous consent. Objected.
- Minority Party Leader Liang moves to approve Wiley Johannesmeyer for the Preservation of Historic Buildings and Sites Committee by unanimous consent. Objected.
- Minority Party Leader Liang moves to approve Sidney Ruedas for the Preservation of Historic Buildings and Sites Committee by unanimous consent. Objected.
- Minority Party Leader Liang moves to approve Matthew Martinez for the Land Use and Facilities Planning Committee by unanimous consent. That motion passes.
- Minority Party Leader Liang moves to approve Mason Solomon for the Land Use and Facilities Planning Committee by unanimous consent. Objected.
- Minority Party Leader Liang moves to approve Rebecca Weinstein for the Career Connections Center Advisory Committee by unanimous consent. That motion passes.
- Minority Party Leader Liang moves to approve Jackson Hacker for the Career Connections Center Advisory Committee by unanimous consent. That motion passes.
- Minority Party Leader Liang moves to approve Lauren Bonet for the Career Connections Center Advisory Committee by unanimous consent. Objected.
- Minority Party Leader Liang moves to approve Douglas Harrison for the Career Connections Center Advisory Committee by unanimous consent. That motion passes.

- Minority Party Leader Liang moves to approve Jason DeHart for the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Concerns Committee by unanimous consent. Objected.
- Minority Party Leader Liang moves to approve Madeline Flint for the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Concerns Committee by unanimous consent. That motion passes.
- Minority Party Leader Liang moves to approve Julia Seifer for the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Concerns Committee by unanimous consent. Objected.
- Minority Party Leader Liang moves to approve Aidan Coffey for the Persons with Disabilities Committee by unanimous consent. Objected.
- Minority Party Leader Liang moves to approve Clementine Dela Cruz for the Persons with Disabilities Committee by unanimous consent. That motion passes.
- Minority Party Leader Liang moves to approve Mikhail Mikhaylov for the Persons with Disabilities Committee by unanimous consent. Objected.
- Minority Party Leader Liang moves to approve John Brinkman for the Transportation and Parking Advisory Committee by unanimous consent. That motion passes.
- Minority Party Leader Liang moves to approve Gamiyah Germany for the Transportation and Parking Advisory Committee by unanimous consent. That motion passes.
- Minority Party Leader Liang moves to approve Shelby Schultz for the Transportation and Parking Advisory Committee by unanimous consent. Objected.
- Minority Party Leader Liang moves to approve Hristina Kostadinova for the Transportation and Parking Advisory Committee by unanimous consent. That motion passes.
- Minority Party Leader Liang moves to approve Jeremy Fuentes for the Transportation and Parking Advisory Committee by unanimous consent. That motion passes.
- Senate President Santiago Perez clarifies the voter record.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- There were none.

ROLL CALL:

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

ADJOURNMENT:

- The meeting was adjourned at 10:54 pm.