



Student Senate

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STUDENT SENATE BILL 2025-1195

TITLE: Rules and Procedures Reconstruction Authorization (Volume 5)

AUTHOR(S): Senate President Julia Seifer and Senate President Pro Tempore Aaron Rubaii

SPONSOR(S):

Rule IV Agenda

(Amended: 2014-106, 2019-124, 2020-1064, 2021-104, 2023-124, 2023-147, 2024-201, 2024-239, 2024-240, 2024-246, 2025-115, 2025-143, 2025-180)

A. Procedure

- a. The Replacement and Agenda Committee shall prepare the agenda for regular meetings.
- b. The order of Agenda items can be amended through the creation of a special rule by the Replacement and Agenda Committee.
- c. The order of Agenda items can be amended on the floor by a majority vote.
- d. If the Replacement and Agenda Committee fails to meet, prepare, and send the agenda by 5:00 PM ET on the day before the meeting of the Senate, the Senate Secretary shall prepare a skeleton agenda.
 - i. A skeleton agenda contains the framework of the agenda without any specific agenda items.
- e. The agenda shall begin with the following statement: "We shall be respectful of each other even when we disagree. We shall direct all comments to the issues. We shall avoid personal attacks." A Student Senator who acts contrary to this statement, as determined by the Chair of the Senate, shall be issued a warning for disruptive conduct.

B. Items

- a. Pledge Of Allegiance

- i. Senators may be nominated by the Senate President to recite the Pledge of Allegiance before the chamber at the start of every meeting. If no senator is willing or able to recite the Pledge of Allegiance, this duty shall be performed by the Senate President.
- b. Indigenous Land Acknowledgement
 - i. Senators may be nominated by the Senate President to read the Indigenous Land Acknowledgement before the chamber at the start of every meeting. If no senator is willing or able, this duty shall be performed by the Senate President.
 - ii. The University of Florida Student Government hereby adopts the following Indigenous Land Acknowledgement statement. We acknowledge that the University of Florida is located on the ancestral and present homelands of the Ais, Apalachee, Calusa, Creek, Miccosukee, and Yamasee peoples, with our main campus located on the ancestral territory of the Potano and of the Seminole peoples. The Potano, of Timucua affiliation, lived here in the Alachua region until the destruction of their towns in the early 1700s. We pay our respects to these Indigenous elders and descendants of the past and present, especially those who have called the University of Florida home within their lifetime.
- c. Moment of Silence
 - i. Following the Pledge of Allegiance and the reading of the Indigenous Land Acknowledgement, the Senate President will call for a moment of silence.
- d. Public Comment
 - i. All members of the Student Body, excluding current Student Senators, may speak during public comment.
 - ii. University administrative officers and college deans may speak during public comment.
 - iii. Individuals may sign up for public comment by submitting an electronic request that specifies the matter on which the student wishes to speak to the Senate President and Senate Secretary which is received no later than 5:00 PM ET on the day of the meeting of the Senate.
 - iv. Speakers must be present in the Senate Chamber to receive public comment time.
 - v. Each individual signed up for public comment must be afforded exactly five minutes to speak. If a student does not exhaust their speaking time, it shall automatically be yielded to the Chair of the Senate.
 - 1. The Senate is prohibited from extending or limiting the speaking time of any speaker.

- vi. Speakers must direct all comments to the Chair of the Senate. Any speaker that directs a comment at an individual other than the Chair of the Senate shall be issued a warning for disruptive conduct. A speaker shall automatically yield their time to the Chair if they receive two warnings.
- vii. Speakers may project a presentation or other digital media during Public Comment. All materials projected must be submitted to the Senate President and Senate Secretary along with the electronic request to speak by 5:00 PM ET on the day of the meeting of the Senate.
- e. Executive Branch Reports
 - i. The following individuals or their designees shall be allowed as much time before the Senate as is necessary to present items germane to their administrations.
 - 1. Student Body President (Current or Elect)
 - 2. Student Body Vice President (Current or Elect)
 - 3. Student Body Treasurer (Current or Elect)
 - 4. Agency Heads
 - 5. Cabinet Chairs
 - 6. Cabinet Directors
 - 7. Executive Secretaries
- f. Judicial Branch Reports
 - i. The following people or their designees shall be allowed as much time before the Senate as is necessary to present items germane to their administrations.
 - 1. Chief Justice of the Supreme Court
 - 2. Justices of the Supreme Court
 - 3. Chair of the Elections Commission
 - 4. Supervisor of Elections
- g. Goodbye Speeches
 - i. A Senator must notify the Senate President and Senate Secretary in writing by 5:00 PM ET on the day of the meeting of the Senate to give a goodbye speech.
 - ii. Senators whose terms conclude and are not up for validation may sign up to deliver a goodbye speech at the final meeting of the Senate term.
 - iii. Individuals who resign from the Senate may sign up to deliver a goodbye speech at the first meeting following their resignation.
 - 1. Senators who resign by nonattendance or noncompliance are not afforded the opportunity to give a goodbye speech.
 - iv. A Senator who is giving a goodbye speech shall be allowed exactly 10 minutes to deliver their speech. If a Senator does not exhaust their speaking time, it shall be automatically yielded to the Senate President.

- h. Amendments to the Minutes
 - i. Senators may amend the minutes of the most recent previous Senate meeting by a majority vote.
- i. Amendments to the Agenda
 - i. Senators may amend the structure of the agenda by a majority vote.
 - ii. Senators may move to approve agenda items by unanimous consent.
 - iii. Senators may add or suspend special rules on the agenda by a two-thirds vote.
 - iv. Motions under Amendments to the Agenda are non-debatable and non-amendable.
 - v. The Senate must adopt the agenda by a majority vote and if passed, shall end amendments to the agenda. The motion to adopt the agenda shall only be considered if there are no other Senators waiting to be recognized by the Chair.
- j. Executive Branch Nominations
 - i. All nominations to the Executive Branch of Student Government requiring Senate approval shall be considered under this section.
 - ii. Debate over this question shall begin with five minutes of questions of the Nominating Individual (or their designee) or the nominee in question.
 - iii. After the question period, debate shall be structured with three rounds of alternating con and pro with three minutes per side per round.
 - iv. Approval of Executive Branch nominations requires a majority vote.
 - v. Executive Branch nominations that are not pending on the agenda will be submitted to the Replacement and Agenda Committee Chair no later than 12:00 PM ET two days before the Replacement and Agenda Committee's meeting date.
- k. Judicial Branch Nominations
 - i. All nominations to the Judicial Branch of Student Government requiring Senate approval shall be considered under this section.
 - ii. Debate over this question shall begin with five minutes of questions of the Nominating Individual (or their designee) or the nominee in question.
 - iii. After the question period, debate shall be structured with three rounds of alternating con and pro with three minutes per side per round.
 - iv. Approval of Judicial Branch nominations requires a majority vote.
 - v. Judicial Branch nominations that are not pending on the agenda will be submitted to the Replacement and Agenda Committee Chair no later than 12:00 PM ET two days before the Replacement and Agenda Committee's meeting date.
- l. Legislative Branch Nominations

- i. All nominations made by the Senate President or the Replacement and Agenda Committee shall be considered under this section.
 - 1. The following nominations are subject to this rule.
 - a. Standing Committee Chairs
 - b. Standing Committee Members
 - c. Permanent Senate Vacancy Replacements
 - d. Summer Senate Vacancy Replacements
- ii. The approval process for these nominations shall be as follows: three minutes of presentation, three minutes of questions and answers, three rounds of alternating con and pro debate with three minutes per round per side, and three minutes final privilege.
- iii. Approval of Legislative Branch nominations requires a majority vote.
- iv. If the Senate does not adopt the Legislative Branch nomination, the opening shall remain vacant.
- m. Legislation under First Reading
 - i. All legislation approved by the Judiciary Committee and Budget and Appropriations Committee at their most recent meeting shall be placed on the agenda under first reading.
- n. Legislation under Second Reading
 - i. All bills of law passed in the student senate shall automatically be placed under second reading.
- o. Veto
 - i. All legislation vetoed by an appropriate authority shall be placed under this section.
- p. Absences
 - i. All excused and unexcused absences shall be placed under this section.
 - ii. Absences shall be heard as a bloc.
 - iii. Approval of absences requires a majority vote.
- q. Announcements
 - i. Senate President Report
 - 1. The Senate President or their designee shall give a report regarding items germane to Senate business and the student body.
 - ii. Committee Reports
 - 1. All Standing Committees must deliver a report at every regular Senate meeting regarding items germane to committee business
 - 2. The report shall be given by the Committee Chair (or designee in the event of their absence).
 - 3. Standing Committee reports must not exceed 10 minutes in duration (excluding the Legislation Workshop and Budget Presentation).

- a. If a committee report does not exhaust its full allotted time, the remainder of the time shall be automatically yielded to the Chair of the Senate.
 - 4. Minority reports may be given by a committee member whose vote dissented from the majority on a specific agenda item at the most recent committee meeting.
 - a. Minority reports must not exceed 5 minutes in duration.
 - 5. The Replacement and Agenda Committee Chair (or their designee) must state all open committee seats and vacancies during their report.
- iii. Ad Hoc Committee Reports
 - 1. All Ad Hoc Committees must give a report at every regular Senate meeting.
 - 2. The Ad Hoc Committee report shall be given by the Ad Hoc Committee chair (or designee in the event of their absence).
 - 3. Ad Hoc Committee reports must not exceed 5 minutes in duration.
- iv. General Announcements
 - 1. There shall be a period at the end of every regular Senate meeting for announcements that are germane to Senate business or the Student Body.
 - 2. All Senators are afforded the opportunity to give an announcement during this period.
 - 3. The Chair of the Senate must recognize every member wishing to give an announcement before the meeting is adjourned.
- r. Adjournment
 - i. Following the completion of all items on the agenda, the Chair of the Senate shall adjourn the meeting.
 - 1. Thirty (30) minutes prior to the space where the meeting of the Student Senate is being held shall close, the Chair of the Senate shall use their discretion to allow the current business to conclude or to proceed to the Announcements section of the meeting to allow the Student Senate to adjourn in an orderly manner. Any agenda item left unconsidered shall be postponed to the next Senate meeting without the need to be reheard in a committee of the Student Senate.

Proviso: This authorization shall not go into effect until the third Senate meeting following the validation of the Fall 2025 election results.


Julia Seifer
Senate President

10/7/25
Date