

STUDENT SENATE MINUTES

January 23rd, 2018

The Senate President called the Senate meeting to order at 7:31 p.m. 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 79 senators present.

Not there for roll call:

- Dubinsky
- Garcia
- Grodi
- Harden
- Lo
- Nelson
- Vista
- Wilson

AMENDMENTS TO THE PREVIOUS MINUTES:

- Senator Jones moves to amend the previous minutes on page 4, in conclusion to public debate by unanimous consent. Approved:
 - Strike, "in which 15 senators are needed to pass in a roll call vote."
 - Separate, "Senator Pearson moves to have a roll call vote in motion to add Senate Bill 2018-1005 to the agenda." Into its own line.
 - Add in, "Motion to suspend rules and add Senate Bill 2018-1005 to the agenda fails."
 - Strike "Bill will not be added to the agenda."

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA:

- Majority Party Leader Nickas moves to approve R&A committee recommendation for open District A, Paula Costas-Velasco by unanimous consent. Approved.
- Chairwoman Dempsey moves to approve Student Senate Bill 2018-1006: Resolution Supporting a Constitutional Amendment to Ensure Tuition Assistance to Families of Fallen First Responders and Military Members by unanimous consent. Approved.
- Chairwoman Dempsey moves to approve Student Senate Bill 2018-1007: Resolution Recognizing the Significance of the Temporary Protected Status Program by unanimous consent. Approved.
- Majority Party Leader Nickas moves to approve Student Senate Bill 2018-1008: Senate Live Streaming Act - Senate Rules and Procedures Revision by unanimous consent. Approved.
- Chairman Stanford moves to approve Student Senate Bill 2018-1009: Funding for Young Americans for Freedom by unanimous consent. Approved.

PUBLIC DEBATE:

- Senate President Green:
 - Would like to state for those in attendance and on livestream, SG has secured funding for free menstrual hygiene products across campus.
 - GatorWell (within the Reitz Union), field and fork pantry, and student healthcare center starting in February.
 - Proud to see that Student Government is active in making sure students on campus are being heard.
 - Would like to thank GatorWell, Chase Werther, Student Body President Meyers, Women's Student Association, Senator Pearson and Chairwoman Dunson as well as the students.
- Senator Kraus yields time to Senator Berrocal.
- Senator Calvin yields his time to Senator Berrocal.
- Senator Pope:
 - Welcomes everyone and introduces himself as the District C senator.
 - Would like to address the budget committee's decision to strike menstrual hygiene products across campus.
 - Commends the many initiatives and coalitions behind the issue.
 - Loves that this brought so much passion from the students.
 - Thanks all students who came to the senate meeting.
 - Senator Pope, alongside Student Government are on the students' side for the funding of free menstrual products.
 - Budget and Appropriations committee is responsible for making sure each decision is fiscally responsible.
 - Wants the money we spend to be available and accessible to every student on campus.
 - Stands by Chairwoman Dunson and the committee in their decision.
 - SG will work on permanent alternative methods to fund this initiative.
 - Every dollar that we spend must be beneficial to all students.
 - Wants to ensure women are getting their rights to menstrual products.
- Senator Berrocal reserves her time.
- Senator Chou yields to Sophia Ahmed.
- Sophia Ahmed reserves her time.
- Senator Libby Shaw:
 - Thanks everyone who came to the meeting to voice their concerns.
 - Important that we voice our opinions as students and young adults.
 - Most states don't consider tampons necessary.
 - Florida is one of only 9 states to exempt menstrual hygiene products from sales tax.
 - Contacted Field and Fork Pantry to see if they had feminine products available for students.
 - They said yes and they never run out because most students are unaware of their location and of what they do.
 - Was with Chairwoman Dunson when Alligator article released, was displeased with the way the article did not mention that the committee was

- supportive of free menstrual products, when they just wanted to find different outlets for funding.
 - If any senator wants to work on this project, please let Senator Shaw know.
 - Field and Fork Pantry is a great resource on the UF campus.
 - Staff makes sure that every person gets what they need.
 - Donations are a largely accepted.
 - Implores males to educate themselves on the issue at hand.
 - To the females who have bashed Chairwoman Dunson is extremely counterproductive and harsh.
 - Ignoring the reason behind a decision is unfair and cruel.
 - Women are not the majority of the senate, but is the majority on campus.
 - 4 chair members of committees are hard working women.
 - Promises that Chairwoman Dunson is on the students' side.
 - Urges those fired up behind the issue to make a stand.
 - Donate or organize a group to host a drive.
 - Reach out if you want to work together towards free menstrual products.
- Senator Gardezi yields his time to Shreyas Amol Jethwani.
- Nick Lefaurre yields his time to Shreyas Amol Jethwani.
- Irfan Kovoyarka yields his time to the chair.
- Matt Berocas yields his time to Rebecca Kravitz.
- Zulie Mederas yields her time to Rebecca Kravitz.
- Joel yields her time to Rebecca Kravitz.
- Michelle Aspina yields her time to Rebecca Kravitz.
- Rebecca Kravitz.
 - Wishes everyone a good evening.
 - Introduces herself as president of the Women's Student Association, speaking on behalf of Gators Matter Period.
 - Believes we can do more than just having menstrual hygiene products at only the Reitz, infirmary and Field and Fork Pantry.
 - Wants these products in every bathroom.
 - Thanks those who signed the petition and those who came to the meeting.
 - Consider changing the codes, and suggests to access student funding to provide menstrual products on campus for free.
 - Implores senators to listen to Gators Matter Period members', as well as other students' stories.
 - Can no longer hide her disappointment behind those who were in power who did not use their power correctly.
 - Shares her thoughts about Budget Committee meeting minutes.
 - At least 55% of the UF population menstruates.
 - The fact that men are needing to benefit is sexist.
 - Finds it interesting that senators feel that this not in the best interest of students.
 - Decided not to praise SG for the funding of menstrual hygiene products.
 - Believes the proposal should been passed to hearing in the meeting.

- This proposal is about equal opportunity.
 - Wonders if funding for this product took so long because it wasn't on Impact's agenda.
 - "Why can't we at least vote on this legislation?"
 - Here today to implore everyone to listen, to analyze, and to act.
 - "This is the only way I will know that Student Government, especially the Impact party acts in the best interest of their students."
- Ardyst Zeigler yields her time to the chair.
- Dariella Mora yields her time to Bailey Triggs.
- Bailey Triggs:
 - Loves many things about UF, but the culture is not one of them.
 - Women and underrepresented groups are interrupted, belittled, and silence.
 - Witnessed how sexual assault victims are treated, how "queers" are treated.
 - Noticed minorities being scared to attend class during Richard Spencer's speech, and how members of Greek Life are not held accountable for their actions.
 - Thought about transferring but made a commitment to make a stand against culture problem.
 - Trying to send a message that all students are being represented on campus.
 - Not all constituencies are fortunate enough to afford menstrual products.
 - Suffers from a disease in the reproductive organs called endometriosis, explains that the supplies given by the Field and Fork Pantry are not enough to help.
 - The few allocated products at Field and Fork Party cannot help everyone.
- Andrea Barrios yields her time Mauricio Perez.
- Mauricio Perez:
 - Likes to address the previous statement on Field and Fork Pantry menstrual products statement.
 - Pantry relies exclusively on donations.
 - Donations aren't secure which is why more needs to be done.
 - Field and Fork Pantry is only available during the weekdays.
 - It is assumed that bills should benefit a majority yet women make up a majority of our student population.
 - If this chamber can find funding for things like bike racks and Newell Hall, then they can find funding for menstrual hygiene products.
- John Etienne yields his time to Wallace Mazon.
- Wallace Mazon:
 - Thanks everyone for being here today.
 - Wanted to talk briefly about things happening in this chamber.
 - To him and a lot of other people, it seems that petty politics have gotten in the way of real progress.
 - Certain senators are acting merely in self-interest.
 - Came here today to talk about Gators Matter Period campaign.

- Glad that they found funding, but believes his point still stands.
 - Some of the problem lies in committees being represented by only one party in massive majority.
 - Upset that it only took 20 minutes to talk about issue.
 - Agrees with statement about female representation in senate.
 - Upset that president, treasurer, and vice-president positions are all filled by males.
 - Females are qualified and able to fill these positions.
 - Recognizes that he doesn't need to directly benefit from a bill.
 - Shouldn't have needed to protest or try so hard to have this bill looked at.
 - Decisions like this, "Will bring us back again."
 - People won't be defeated.
- Veronica Quesenbery yields her time to Shreyas Amil Jethwani.
- Alexa Barrios yields her time to Shreyas Amil Jethwani.
- Zachary Amrose yields his time to Nicole Smith.
- Kevin Lemos:
 - Thanks the body for letting him speak.
 - Condemns the "communists" for forcing the prices up for UF students for the funding of their free menstrual products.
 - Fork and Field Pantry does have free supplement of menstrual hygiene products.
 - Forcing students to pay higher students fees and increase debt that they already have is unfair and pointless.
- Shreyas Amol Jethwani:
 - Deputy Political Director for the Florida College Democrats.
 - Political Director of the UF College Democrats.
 - Candidate for the Florida House of Representatives District 21 seat, which represents UF.
 - Stands to repeat critical phrase, "SG's job is not to divide, SG's job is bringing Gators together."
 - Will be here every single Tuesday for however long it takes for Student Senate to do their job and represent constituents.
 - Implores senators to "do your job."
 - Regardless of the percentage of students that elected you, it is your job to represent the student body.
 - Commends Senate President Green's efforts to make menstrual hygiene products free to the student body.
 - It is the will of the student body to hear this initiative.
 - Will hold the senate responsible.
- Senator Lima:
 - Wishes senators a good evening.
 - Truly can feel the momentum behind Gators Matter Period.
 - Extends a sincere thank you for members of Gators' Matter Period for attending.
 - Thanks everyone for passing the Student Senate Bill 1008: Live Stream Act.

- Collaborated with both sides of the aisle, in order to make Student Government more accessible to the student body.
 - “Common sense step” that will have positive steps for constituencies.
 - Thanks Senator Pearson and Minority Party Leader Morse.
 - In bipartisan fashion, UF has joined the initiative in modernizing our democracy.
- Former Senator Weldon:
 - Thinks it is important to talk about issue.
 - Thinks there are many problems with Gators Matter Period.
 - Women’s Student Association came up here asking for \$3,000 but their budget is \$50,000.
 - Believes that Student Body President could donate \$3,000 in salary to free menstrual hygiene products.
 - No one has proven any research about free menstrual products benefiting students on campus.
 - Thinks that GMP’s movement is not as large as they express it to be.
 - Sometimes the people’s loudest voices aren’t representative of the whole population.
- Senator Fatzinger yields his time to the chair.
- Cassie Bell:
 - VP of Women’s Student Association.
 - Has smallest budget of the entire Big 9 Association and still expected to make the same amount of events.
 - Did do research and sent it to Judiciary Committee.
 - Wants this initiative to be held and reserved throughout the years.
 - Wants it to be in all bathrooms, even in gender neutral bathrooms.
 - Budget is actually \$24,000, not \$50,000.
 - Wants this to be sustained long term through Student Government.
- Anthony Sanchez yields his time to Meagan DiPolo.
- Meagan DiPolo:
 - First year at UF.
 - Wasn’t expected to be so disappointed by SG so fast.
 - Understands why the first bill was not passed. Dipolo wants the senators to understand their point of view.
 - Wants those who don’t get their menstrual period to imagine not getting funding for toilet paper.
 - Has become a health and social issue on campus. Does not understand because UF calls themselves the Ivy League of the South.
 - Brown University has menstrual products in men, women, and gender neutral bathrooms across campus.
- Jordan Brown:
 - Shares a personal story:
 - Working in the Marston Library from 9PM to 1AM.
 - Began her menstrual cycle at the beginning of her shift unexpectedly.
 - Could not leave her shift.

- Doesn't wish this experience on anyone because it is both embarrassing and stressful.
 - Suggests supplying Newel Hall, which is 24-hours.
- Jamie Kulik yields her time to the chair.
- Senator Pearson and Chairwoman Dunson reserve their time.
- Senator Berrocal:
 - Gators Matter Period is an initiative that benefits every student directly and indirectly.
 - We understand the concern of the senators on the Budget Committee.
 - A concern that was raised despite funding was given, was the thought that funding should only benefit 100% of the population.
 - Funds many different organizations for specific types of students.
 - Joined SG because of the representation of minorities.
 - It is sexist to not fund something because half of the students benefit from it.
 - Believes that half of the student population is more than enough.
 - "Why is it so bad for something to benefit women for once?"
- Sophia Ahmed:
 - Not just talking about Gators Matter Period.
 - Unaffiliated with any group in this chamber.
 - Quickly realized that things are not what they appear to be at UF.
 - Was bright eyed and optimistic coming into UF, but was unpleasantly surprised.
 - Believes that at UF, those who are privileged continue to gain, while those who are not continue to fall behind.
 - Tired of the status quo.
 - Disappointed in the support of mental health.
 - Started a petition to get more counselors, received 3,000 signatures.
 - Council was made, which was the only step taken.
 - Strides are being made but they are not enough.
 - Menstrual periods are not limited to just women.
 - Point of GMP was to have menstrual period all around campus not just in certain areas.
 - We need ready access to these products.
 - Students are beginning to have enough.
 - Are beginning to provide products themselves.
 - If there are any more problems on campus she will continue to fight.
 - If Florida State can provide menstrual hygiene products, so can we.
 - SG was scared of end bad press.
 - SG and the administration should be scared.
- Nicole Smith:
 - Attended a few senate meetings to view how elected senators have been discussing issues.
 - Disappointed in what she has seen.
 - Saw senators blatantly ignoring what she has to say.

- Unfortunately, her concerns were confirmed when other friends agreed with her.
- Last meeting, saw people using public debate to check their phones, computers, etc.
- Told her friends she felt unheard and ignored.
- Wants to amend the Student Senate Rules and Procedures, saying that no senator present should use their phone or computer for things not related to SG.
 - Ensure that students' voices are being heard when non-senators attend meetings.
- Looks forward to hearing those who want to help the initiative.
- Senator Pearson and Chairwoman Dunson:
 - Thanks students for attending and voicing their opinions.
 - Since last Monday, Senator Pearson and Chairwoman Dunson have been in constant contact on the menstrual free product initiative.
 - The fight is not over, measures will be further made.
 - This is a process:
 - First implementation is not the end of this initiative.
 - Funding for free menstrual products does not stop her, it begins here.
 - This issue is being addressed very proactively.
 - Appreciates everyone sharing their stories and their vulnerability in front of the chamber.
 - If you would like to help, reach out both Senator Pearson and Chairwoman Dunson.
 - They are actively working towards this goal.

*****If you wish to hear any speeches given during public debate please request the recordings from senatesecretary@sg.ufl.edu*****

SENATE PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

- Senate President Green welcomes the senators
- Apologizes to Officer Holcomb for the long wait.
- Officer Holcomb:
 - Spring Break Safety Fair is coming up.
 - Thanks Senator Pearson for making the fair a fun and informative event.
 - Safety fair will have the Arrive Alive Tour in appearance
 - Will include a simulator that demonstrates the effects of impaired driving.
 - Coffee with a Cop:
 - Will appear at either Broward or Gator Corner.
 - During lunch and dinner times.
 - In intention to help build relationships between students and officers.
 - February 6th at 6:00pm at Gator Corner.
 - February 14th at 12:00pm at Gator Corner.
 - Thanks everyone for their attention.

- Announces the appointment of MCDA Liaison to Senator Joachim.
- Bright Futures has been expanded permanently in State.
- Highlight the agenda, wants to highlight the bipartisanship in the chamber.
- The campaign season has officially started.
- Only way to serve all students is for all parties and independents to work together.
- Campaign season has officially started.
 - Party affiliated clothing not allowed in the SG office.
 - If you are seen with it, you will be asked to reverse the shirt or leave.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

REPLACEMENT & AGENDA:

- Senate President Pro-Tempore Schaettle welcomes the senators.
- Announces office hours:
 - Reach out via email or text to schedule an appointment meeting
 - Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 10:40am-12:30pm.
 - Thursday: 12:50pm-3:00pm.
- Graduate, Liberal Arts, Vet-Med seats open, and are due on Friday, January 26th at 12:00pm.
- HHP seat due Friday, February 2nd at 12:00pm.
- Rules and Ethics and Allocations seats due Friday, January 26th at 12:00pm.

BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS:

- Chairwoman Dunson welcomes the senators.
- Committee meeting will be later this week, time not announced.
 - Welcomes anyone to come to meeting.
- Will have office hours in the Reitz Union in the SG office starting next Wednesday from 12:00pm-1:00pm.
 - Will send an email if the time slot will be extended.
- Would like to meet with committee after the meeting.
- Wishes everyone a good week.

ALLOCATIONS:

- Chairman Stanford welcomes the senators.
- Committee met in SAI portal this Sunday.
 - People are always welcome to attend.
- Young Americans for Freedom, Democracy Matters, and Generational Relief in Prosthetics were reviewed.
- Thanks the senators for passing Senate Bill 2018-1009: Young Americans for Freedom.
- Young Americans for Freedom:
 - The bill that was passed is mainly involved with bringing a speaker to campus on April 15th.
 - Speaker is one of the most sought after conservative speakers.

- Great example on how the Allocations Committee should be ran, commends Chairman Stanford and members.
- Young Americans Foundation is putting forth \$10,000 and SG is putting \$5,000 forth.
- Tabled GRIP for further discussion.
- Passed Democracy Matters, waiting on constitution to be amended.

JUDICIARY

- Chairwoman Dempsey welcomes the senators.
- Invites down Senator Pearson and Senator Murphy to discuss Student Senate Bill 2018-1006: Resolution Supporting a Constitutional Amendment to Ensure Tuition Assistance to Families of Fallen First Responders and Military Members by unanimous:
 - Bill passed was for a constitutional amendment for the funding of tuition assistance of fallen military members' and first-responders' families.
 - Governor Scott has announced his support of this constitutional amendment.
 - State law does not mandate tuition assistance for fallen military members' families.
 - UF has a long standing tradition of supporting veterans and fallen military members.
 - Resolution serves as a reminder to the families of those who have fallen military members that UF supports them.
 - Is glad to take care of the families of those who made the ultimate sacrifice.
- Senator Pearson:
 - It was a bipartisan effort to pass this revision.
 - Thanks everyone for the help.
 - Wanted to make sure we address any issues that comes with the livestream, in order to make our government run smoothly.
- Senator Joachim and Senator Pearson:
 - Thanks Senate President Green for appointing him as MCDA Liaison.
 - Thanks everyone for passing the resolution.
 - Many around campus appreciate the passing of the resolution, including Haitians and others.
- Appreciates the bipartisan effort on these bills.
- Will be meeting Sunday at 5pm, legislation will be due Friday at noon.
- Would like to sit down with anyone wanting to discuss legislation.

RULES & ETHICS:

- Chairwoman Holloway welcomes the senators.
- Starts by reminding those that are on probation, it will be done on January 31st.
- Constituencies:
 - College of Liberal Arts and Sciences will be having a career event on January 29th from 9:00am to 3:00pm.
 - Slices with Smitty: Jan 26th 11:00am-1:00pm.
 - Black Student Union.

- Black History Month Opening Ceremony: January 28th from 10:00am-10:00pm in the Rion Ballroom.
- Charity Kickball Tournament: at Hume Field on January 25th, 5:00pm-8:00pm.
 - Women's Student Association will be having a general body meeting on January 25th from 6:15pm-7:15pm in Ustler hall.
- Open committee seat is open, please apply, and reach out with any questions.
- Committee will be meeting Friday at 12:00pm in the SG conference room.

INFORMATION & COMMUNICATION:

- Chairwoman Grosse welcomes the senators.
- Working on getting the live streaming equipment. It should be available next week.
- Email was sent yesterday about the tabling schedule.
- Please make sure you are not wearing any party affiliation, only SG wear and business casual attire.
- Quarter-Zips are being ordered through Action-SG, due February 1st.
- If you have anyone in mind to apply to the Open Vet-Med seat, please encourage them to apply.

AD-HOC REVISIONS COMMITTEE:

- Chairman Nickas welcomes the senators.
- First meeting will be this upcoming Sunday.
 - All are welcome to attend.
- Having general ideas for what is wanting to be put in the codes.
- Assigning codes to different committee members.
- Encourages everyone to reach out.

SECOND READING

- There were none.

FIRST READING:

- There were none.

BILLS PENDING SIGNATURES:

- There were none.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Senator Hernandez:
 - Hispanic Student Association General Body Meeting is Thursday, January 25th at 7:00pm.
- Senator Batten:
 - They will be going to DC during Spring Break and there are open spots for anyone who is interested.
 - Contact Senator Batten if interested.
- Chairman Stanford:
 - Retro Gator Nights: 8:00pm-12:00am this Friday, January 26th.

- Senator Rauseo:
 - Center of European Studies is hosting a speaker on February 1st, in Broward Hall room 219.
- Senator Hassan:
 - Islam on Campus will be starting Islam Appreciation Day will start next week.
 - Kicking off with Hijab Day please contact him if you have any questions.
 - All events are SG funded.
- Senator Rangel:
 - Vietnamese Student Organization is having Vietnamese New Year show, doors open at 6:00pm, show starts at 7:00pm.
- President Pro-Tempore Schaettle:
 - Please make sure everyone writes in the amendments to last week's meeting minutes in the lines, plus everything being passed unanimously.

ROLL CALL:

- A motion to use voting records for final roll by unanimous consent. Approved.

MEETING ADJOURNED:

- The meeting adjourned at 8:59 PM.