

STUDENT SENATE MEETING MINUTES

February 27th, 2018 Meeting 2

The Senate President called the Senate meeting to order at 10:26 p.m. and announced that the meeting may be filmed or audio taped and may be available to the public. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

ROLL CALL:

Roll was called and quorum was established with 86 senators present.

Not there for roll call:

- Baer
- Barta
- Berkley
- Bloshinsky
- Carnes
- Dunn
- Eastland
- Harris
- Hoffman
- Victorianne
- Wheilan
- Zhou

AMENDMENTS TO THE PREVIOUS MINUTES:

- No amendments were made to the previous meeting.

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA:

- Newly Elected Chief Justice, McCarthy swears in newly elected Senators.

PUBLIC DEBATE:

SENATE ELECTIONS

- Senate President Schaettle moves to open the floor for Senate President nominations by unanimous consent. Approved.
 - Senator Lima nominates Minority Party Leader Morse.
 - Minority Party Leader accepts.
 - Senator Shaw nominates Senator Grosse.
 - Senator Grosse accepts.

- Senator Stanford moves to close the floor for Senate President nominations by unanimous consent. Approved.
- Senate President Nominees:
- Minority Party Leader Morse gives 5 minutes of presentation.
 - Has had the incredible opportunity to work with many leaders in senate.
 - Expanded the outreach and accessibility of Student Government.
 - To the newly elected senators, I am truly excited to work with you.
 - We are the voice and servants of the students.
 - It is for this reason that he is honored to be running for Senate President.
 - His experiences at UF have been preparing him for becoming Senate President.
 - He joined two organizations that shaped him as a person. The first was the Liberal Arts College Student Council.
 - He has been working on expanding mentorship programs, career events, and academic advocacy for the college.
 - As Treasurer for the college council, was responsible for 20 sub-organizations.
 - Became an active member of the Student Conduct Committee.
 - Putting aside prejudice to hear certain cases.
 - Has sat through multiple experiences where he has had to deal with others he strongly disagrees with.
 - “We must be unafraid to challenge problems we see no matter how uncomfortable it makes us.”
 - Wants to fight against the epidemic of sexual assault.
 - Wants to tear down systematic barriers of minorities.
 - Has served as Minority Party Leader.
 - Has seen what happens when you exhibit bipartisanship.
 - Will have an open door policy and really listen to others.
 - Wants more social events.
 - Wants to create an environment of change and bipartisanship.
 - Has no doubt that this senate is capable of great change.
- 5 Minutes Q&A:
 - Senator Kratt: What are your plans to with the MCDA Liaison?
 - Minority Party Leader Morse: The MCDA liaison is a great step and add it to the codes. Wants to actually reach out to and work with MCDA. It is important to encourage people outside of senate to apply.

- Majority Party Leader Shaw: If you were on probation for completing constituency, how will you uphold the image of Student Senate?
- Minority Party Leader Morse: Believes that the opportunities to complete constituency have to be more accessible for senators so they are more aware of the events. Also wants a more consistent constituency tracker.
- Senator Brown: He knows that Senator Grosse served as a chairwoman - do you have any qualifications or similar experiences that allow you to serve this position?
- Minority Party Leader Morse: Has learned a lot about leadership in these cases. Also serves as a chair of the Finance Committee for the Reitz board of managers. Is also the VP of College of Liberal Arts Student Council. You do not need to have served as a chair to know how senate works and to have leadership.
- Senator Pearson: One of the responsibilities of being Senate President is to lead by example - how can that be done if you were on probation last term?
- Minority Party Leader Morse: We must make sure we are communicating clearly with everyone. Constituency is a very usual thing to be on probation for and a minor thing. States he attends many events and involves hi
- Senator Belinski: How do you plan as the Senate President since you were previously the Minority Party Leader to make sure that the minority party is heard on decisions and integrated?
- Minority Party Leader Morse: Members of minority parties do serve on committees in the federal and various governing bodies. Wants to try and get the minority party on committees. Also wants to submit a new version of previously failed legislation that will help with his goal.

Nominee: Senator Grosse

- Senator Grosse 5 minutes of presentation:
 - Congratulates and welcomes all the new senators.
 - Wants to create an environment that will encourage everyone to work together.
 - Was able to serve as the clerk for the Budget and Appropriations Committee.
 - Time with senate has been the most rewarding experience.
 - Went into Budget hearings with little experience but was able to come out understanding how important SG is.

- Being a part of senate that summer really helped her see that she wanted to serve permanently.
- Advocated for students living on campus.
- Was able to secure 6 proctoru booths on campus to serve the students.
- Her most significant leadership role was being the Information & Communications Chair:
 - Has been able to extend senate’s outreach to more intentionally advertise open seats.
 - Was able to have multiple “meet your senators” day.
 - I&C was able to organize 3 senate retreats.
 - Her and her committee were able to create a positive and focus environment through the mentorship program and socials at the end of the semester.
- Plans to continue fostering this environment, encourages senators to know each other outside of the chamber.
- As a result of her experiences she is confident she could lead senate.
- Wants dignity and respect to be upheld by every student and senator.
- Wants to keep with senate’s tradition of open dialogue and debate.
- There will always be more that can be accomplished and is excited to work towards those things.
- She is passionate about UF and this student body.
- Is so thankful for the opportunities given, and would be honored to serve as Senate President.
- 5 minutes Q&A:
 - Senator Santalo: How do you plan on continuing to build a community in Senate?
 - Senator Grosse: Used senate socials, mentorship, and retreats last term as well as the 2+2 program. Wants to implement these practices more so during the term.
 - Senator Weeks: How has your time as chair for I&C committee prepared you for the Senate President position?
 - Senator Grosse: A lot of the focus of Information and Communication is to create a friendly environment in the chamber and she believes that having two parties in senate means each should respect each other and both parties are representing the same group of people therefore everyone should be able to work together.

- Senator Kratt: What are your plans with the MCDA Liaison position?
 - Senator Grosse: Is very glad the position was added. Will definitely continue the position. It has done a great job in reaching constituency groups, but it does not stop there and it will be great to reach specific parts of campus and let them know what is going on with senate.
 - Senator Shah: What do you hope to accomplish as Senate President?
 - Senator Grosse: Wants everyone respecting each other because it is the only way we get things done. Wants an environment that fosters productivity both inside and outside the chamber.
 - Senator Dunson: You spoke a lot on the importance of how students are first, can you talk about how important constituency is?
 - Senator Grosse: Constituency is extremely important. Tabling is integral in reaching out to students to make sure they are able to get involved. It is important to be attending SG funded events to show them support. It is also important to reach out to the council of your college to sit in on meetings so you can educate them about senate and also learn about what is going on for them. Regarding the district senators, it is important that you go to city commission meetings they are an interesting experience and that we also reach people who are not UF members.
 - Senator Belinski: How do you plan to integrate the minority party?
 - Senator Grosse: We should see each other as a student first and a representation of the students, not a party member. That requires reaching over the aisle.
- In a roll-call vote of 64 to 25, Senator Grosse is elected Senate President.
 - Vote. Approved.
 - Chief Justice, McCarthy swears in newly elected Senate President Grosse.
 - Senate President Grosse moves to open the floor for Senate President Pro-Tempore nominations by unanimous consent. Approved.
 - Senator Kratt nominates Senator Joachim.
 - Senator Joachim accepts.
 - Senator Shaw nominates Senator Murphry.
 - Senator Murphry accepts.
 - Senator Stanford moves to close the floor for Senate President Pro-Tempore nominations by unanimous consent. Approved.
 - Senate President Pro-Tempore

- Senator Joachim gives 5 minutes of presentation.
 - Serving as the MCDA Liaison and Graham Area senator has shown him the everyday struggles that students are facing.
 - Fighting for the living conditions of the Graham Area.
 - There are certain groups of people that are being underrepresented and underappreciated across campus.
 - Middle Eastern and African students do not have a spot in MCDA.
 - He is conducting a survey to try to see ways that these students can feel more comfortable.
 - Believes that when every student can feel safe and become successful, then so will the University of Florida.
 - In the past, have seen many senators leave the chamber because they thought they were not making a difference.
 - Wants every senator to feel the joy of helping for the gator good.
 - Will hold a portion of his office hours outside of the Reitz Union so that he can meet people where they are.
 - Elected to serve the students, not the other way around.
 - Wants to further use his relationships with other community leaders to help him in his position.
 - Believes that we can move the Gator nation forward, but first must further the under-represented group.
 - Truly believes together they will shine.

5 Minutes Q&A:

- Senator Pearson: Do you believe that you are fit for Senate President Pro-Tempore if you were weighing resigning.
- Senator Joachim: I do believe so, I said that because I was highly disappointed at how many black senators were elected in this chamber. A lot of leaders have told him that Senate was not for black students and he should get away but if he does not fight, who will?
- Senator Krause: What experiences do you have to lead this chamber?
- Senator Joachim: He has served these students multiple times and with his charm he could lead this chamber.
- Senator Dunson: Can you touch on various leadership positions you have had on campus?
- Senator Joachim: I am within the Graham area council and the MCDA Liaison which both have allowed him to learn how to be non-partisan and non-bias.

- Senator Boone: Can you describe the responsibilities of the Senate President Pro-Tempore.
- Senator Joachim: The senate Pro-Tempore assists the senate president in his duties and if the senate president were not able to fulfill those duties the senate Pro-Tempore steps in. The senate pro-temp also serves as the chair for the R&A committee.
- Senator: You released a letter to the Alligator talking about the majority party, because of that how can we expect you to serve us all in a non-partisan?
- Senator Joachim: My letter was not regarding anybody. It was talking about how I feel that culture around this university will not change on campus just because we have a black student body president.
- Senator Lima: What unique perspective do you believe you can bring to senate?
- Senator Joachim: First off, I am a freshman so to be honest he does not have much bias towards anyone. Believes he is one of the most unbiased people on campus and nicest person ever.
- Senator Pearson: As senate Pro-Tempore you are the R&A chair, since you have never served on a committee how will you select qualified candidates?
- Senator Joachim: States that he believes in unorthodox questions that help him view people for who they are.
- Senator Shaw: Can you name all of the senators that make up the R&A committee?
- Senator Murphy gives 5 minutes of presentation:
 - Being a senator gives the exciting chance of making tangible changes on campus.
 - Encourages everyone to not be only a Tuesday night senator. Be engaged and willing to work.
 - Left his hometown in Virginia to come to UF during summer.
 - Wanted to do more than just go to class.
 - Had the honor of passing out t-shirts during conference.
 - Although he knew he was at the bottom of the totem pole he was happy to get to work and help in any way he could.
 - Has had many opportunities of giving to the student community.
 - Is on the tech-free committee which has allowed him to hear technology proposals.
 - Served as the director of Special Projects for External Affairs.
 - Has gone lobbying state legislators

- Was a small group leader for the young leaders conference.
- First entered senate as a Yulee senator during Fall 2016.
- Now serving as a District A Senator.
- Has been able to pass legislation in both terms.
- Wants to be accessible as a Senate Pro-Tempore.
- An open door policy is a good start but it is not enough.
- Will post his office hours on every UF class page and attend organization meetings.
- Wants people to know he is here to listen.
- Wants to get to know everyone in the chamber.
- Has written bipartisan legislation.
- Does not care what party you are from, if you are qualified, knowledgeable, and hardworking he will always be supporting you.

5 minute Q&A:

- Senator Shaw: What are the main duties of the Senate Pro-Tempore and what are your goals?
 - Senator Murphy: Main duties consist constructing agenda, working with the I&C Committee, creating the agenda for the meetings supporting the Senate President. While serving time with YLC he had to teach kids how to be unbiased so he is very confident that he has the skills to be unbiased. We need to be way more proactive in hearing underrepresented students at the University of Florida. Wants to see more bipartisan legislation and to get to know everyone. Wants the chamber to be one cohesive environment. He also wants to be extremely accessible to both the senators and the students.
 - Senator Sandifer: How has your experience of being an out of state Gator influenced your experience?
 - Senator Murphy: Believes it is important to speak about where he comes from. He is from Fairfax, Virginia where the D.C. area is one of the most diverse areas in the country it has allowed him to celebrate and appreciate culture. He loves this university, but he only knew three people coming into Gainesville.
 - Senator Pearson: You currently serve on the Budget Committee, how has serving on the committee given you experience for this position?
- In a roll-call vote of 63 to 25, Senator Murphy is elected the new Senate Pro-Tempore.
 - Vote. Approved.

- Chief Justice McCarthy swears in newly elected Senate President Pro-Tempore Murphy.
- Senate President Grosse moves to open the floor for Member-at-Large nominations by unanimous consent. Approved.
 - Senator Calvin nominates Senator German.
 - Senator German accepts.
 - Senator Shaw nominates Senator Hernandez.
 - Senator Hernandez accepts.
- There is a motion to close the floor for Member-at-Large nominations by unanimous consent. Approved.
- Member-at-Large
 - Senator German gives 5 minutes of presentation.
 - Wishes senators a good evening.
 - Currently represents District D.
 - Congratulates new senators.
 - Growing up in Gainesville means that he has been a Gator since day one.
 - “How can I give back to the university that has given so much to me?”
 - One of the most influential organizations is student government.
 - “Top 5 public university” status is very attainable.
 - If elected he will not only be willing to listen but to also compromise and making sure students know that they are heard.
 - His qualifications for this position are plentiful.
 - He has served on the AD Hoc Code Revision committee.
 - Will provide a unique perspective that he gained as an ambassador for the department of student involvement and activities.
 - Has also served as a member on the mock trial team which taught him a lot of valuable skills for the position.
 - Will be able to nominate students that will truly represent every corner of the remarkable gator nation.
 - If you have any questions, please reach out.
 - 5 Minutes Q&A:
 - Senator Pearson: Recently you authored a code revision that limits independent senators to serve on committees. How will you ensure that you will select qualified applicants and represent everyone?
 - Senator German: Would like to say that the question misrepresents his stance. There were seats in the bill that were unaffiliated which are left for independent senators. Wants senate to be as diverse as the government in the US.

- Senator Pope: How do you plan on dealing with conflict when choosing qualified members for the R&A committee?
- Senator German: I've learned how diverse and how unique every individual in the student body is. Has always been willing to work across the aisle.
- Senator Morse: You mentioned that you worked a lot on bipartisan effort, what have you done and will continue to do to ensure bipartisan work?
- Senator German: Best example is reaching out to Senator Nickas on the Ad-Hoc Committee. As well as Senator Snyder. Senators need to focus on serving their student body, and not themselves.
- Senator Lima: How do you believe that serving on the AD-Hoc Committee as the only minority member gave you perspective on the minority participation in senate?
- Senator German: Feels that he certainly impacted that committee. Was able to pass 6 different bills while on the committee. Serving on this committee definitely allowed him to see how much work has to be done on making the minority party more involved.
- Senator Shaw: Have you interviewed anyone for anything?
- Senator German: He has not in college, but did in high school.
- Senator Santalo: Earlier you said you wanted to pass minorities yet your bill does not reflect that.
- Senator German: The idea for the bill came directly from the state and national legislator and we were trying to reflect that.
- Senator Dunson: Why do you feel so passionate to serve as a member-at-large?
- Senator German: Wants to make sure SG is representative of every side of campus and that on committees every view is represented.
- Senator Hernandez gives 5 minutes of presentation.
 - She wanted to make an impact as soon as she stepped on campus.
 - Hopes to continue to advocate for the Gator Nation as a member-at-large.
 - Comes from a unique set of ethnic background.
 - Very involved with the Spanish and Latin community and her college.
 - Has a unique voice and passions.
 - Has been able to learn about the legislative body as a member of the allocations committee as well as the AD-Hoc committee.

- Will make sure that the most qualified and hardworking students are chosen.
- 5 Minutes Q&A:
 - Senator Pearson: Can you discuss how your time on the allocations committee has prepared you to serve on the R&A committee?
 - Senator Hernandez: Feels that she is familiar with the process the Replacement and Agenda Committee carries in picking members. As part of the allocations committee she knows what it takes to get on the committees.
 - Senator Krause: What previous roles have you served that could help you serve as a bi-partisan leader?
 - Senator Hernandez: One of the district C senators from the inspire party reached out for a newsletter campaign and she has been working on that successfully for the past few weeks.
 - Senator Dunson: How do you make sure that you will be knowledgeable of every committee for the process of picking members?
 - Senator Hernandez: As being the clerk of the R&A committee and part of allocations has been able to help her see those committees. She has also successfully passed legislation which has allowed her to see how the Judiciary committee works as well. No one can learn enough, so she is willing to sit through each committee meetings to help her gain more knowledge.
 - Senator Santalo: Can you touch on some previous experience regarding diversity in the chamber?
 - Senator Hernandez: She is part of the Hispanic Leap program which allow her to work with hispanic students who want to get involved on campus which will help her in reaching that community. She is also willing to work with other MCDA groups and speaking to them about senate.
 - Senator Honeycut: Why do you want to serve as Member at Large and what are your goals?
 - Senator Hernandez: I think the R&A has a really powerful effect on the chamber. I hope I can get to know everyone and will be able to select the most successful and qualified members in senate.
 - Senator Shaw: What qualifications will you be looking for when interviewing?
 - Senator Hernandez: It is important to see their resume but also really important to see where their goals and aspirations are going.

- Senator: What are some of your personal strengths that could help you with this position?
 - Senator Hernandez: I was a very big person in the FFA at school and is very familiar with the interview style because she does a lot of mock interviews each week which can help her help others with their interviews and also use those skills in the interview process.
 - Senator Belinski: You stated that you wanted to make sure that resumes don't dictate someone's qualification to serve how will you work on implementing that during the interview process?
 - Senator Hernandez: A resume does not have to come from Student Senate. There are plenty of ways to get involved on campus to build your resume. The primary thing she is trying to say it is important to see how someone is willing to work and get to their goals.
 - Senator Bradley: How will you address criticism of keeping bipartisan as a member of the majority party?
- In a roll call vote of 62 to 23, Senator Hernandez is elected as the new member at large.
- Senator Hernandez is approved as Member-at-Large.
- Senate President Grosse moves to open the floor for Member-at-Large nominations by unanimous consent. Approved.
 - Minority Party Leader Morse nominates Senator Calvin.
 - Senator Calvin accepts.
 - Senator Shaw nominates Senator Grodi.
 - Senator Grodi accepts.
- Senator Shaw moves to close the floor for Member-at-Large nominations by unanimous consent. Approved.
- Member-at-Large
 - Senator Calvin gives 5 minutes of presentation.
 - In spring of 2017 he received his undergraduate degree from UF, in fall of 2017 he started working towards his PHD at UF.
 - He has served as a teaching assistant and an undergraduate research assistant.
 - Has been a part of UF's United Nations team. Participated in competitions and was also able to direct 7 committee competitions.
 - Was able to serve in a student organization where he attended all events.
 - He also served as team leader for his designing team.
 - Has a plethora amount of experience that qualifies him.
 - Believes that minorities have been underrepresented for too long.

- Grad students make up over 1/5th of the student body yet many do not know about senate.
 - Pledges that he will make sure qualified individuals are chosen to serve senate.
 - Regardless of outcome he is ecstatic to work with everyone.
- 5 Minutes Q&A:
 - Senator Dunson: You spoke a little bit about reaching out to graduate students and making sure they are represented in this chamber what are some specific initiatives you want to implement to work towards that?
 - Senator Calvin: I will be working on making a listserv that will reach out to graduate students to make them aware of student government and making sure they are informed.
 - Senator Pearson: How can we trust that you will be nonpartisan based on your intentions to limit committee seats?
 - Senator Calvin: First off, that rule revision was not put into effect therefore I will not be implementing something that was not passed. I was working on that to make it resemble the US senate as much as possible. We will work on a revision to make sure independents are represented.
 - Minority Party Leader Morse: Can you touch on representing graduate students and why your involvements qualify you?
 - Senator Calvin: With regards to graduate students, the simple fact is that we are supposed to represent the graduate students proportionally. We normally have the lowest turnout but because graduate students pay the same amount as undergraduate students it is important that they are equally represented in senate and their voices are heard.
 - Senator Shaw: Can you give some specific examples where you worked in a bipartisan effort?
 - Senator Calvin: I was a co-author and sponsor of a couple of the bills passed at the previous senate meeting which were bipartisan efforts.
 - Senator Lima: As the member at large how will you make sure there is fair representation of all parties?
 - Senator Calvin: The goal of the member at large is to represent the senate at large. Both parties deserves representation.
- Senator Grodi gives 5 minutes of presentation.
 - Wishes senators a good evening.
 - Coming to UF, never expected a campus so focused on change.

- When he saw that culture inside the chamber he knew it was something special.
 - Considers himself very fortunate to be involved with senate.
 - There is nowhere on campus to make such direct change than in Student Senate.
 - There is a lot of room for improvement which he wants to work on.
 - Wants to hone out some of the problems within senate.
 - Particular sets of seats are always open.
 - Having 100 members in the chamber should be the norm, not the goal which lately has not been the case.
 - Began his time in senate as the senate parliamentarian which is a nonpartisan position over his sophomore summer.
 - His time as senate parliamentarian allowed him to sit through senate meetings and make sure he learned all the codes and revisions and how senate works through a nonpartisan stance.
 - Will work to review applicants in a nonpartisan and unbiased way so that only the most qualified and passionate students get seats.
 - Looks forward to working with everyone.
- 5 Minutes Q&A:
 - Senator Pearson: Previously you served as our senate parliamentarian, how will that experience help you serve as a member at large?
 - Senator Grodi: It helped him view senators as people without a party or affiliation.
 - Senator Dempsey: Why are you passionate about the position and what made you want to run?
 - Senator Grodi: I see that there are so many regular “Tuesday” senators that could make a difference. Wants to make sure that the most passionate people get the seats they deserve.
 - Senator Dunson: Can you discuss some of your experience outside of the chamber that will help you in this position?
 - Senator Grodi: As the longest serving members of the Florida Greek ambassadors he was able to go through many applications that have taught him how to choose the right people for each position. Also worked on two campaigns and was able to slate many people who sit in this chamber today. That experience has allowed him to know the qualifications it takes for someone to serve in senate.
 - Senator Shaw: What are some the qualifications you will look for in candidates?

- Senator Grodi: Motivation and integrity are the most important qualifications. Someone who has a lot of qualification yet no motivation is not good. Integrity will help lead in a nonpartisan way which is important.
- Senator Pope: What are some qualities that you have that could make you a good member at large?
- Senator Grodi: I believe that I am a very nonpartisan person. Focused and raised on integrity as an eagle scout in youth. Feels he is a big rule follower.
- Senator Jones: How will you encourage people to apply for these open seats?
- Senator Grodi: I will go out into the community and look for people trying to apply for these seats. It is depressing to see people jump in and out of seats. Wants to make sure that he finds the people that are most passionate. He would like to go above and beyond at the member at large role.
- There was a motion to suspend the rules by a standing vote.
 - $\frac{2}{3}$ reached.
 - Motion approved.
- In a standing vote of 62 to 26, Senator Grodi is elected Member at Large.
- Senator Grodi is approved as Member-at-Large.

OFFICE OF THE STUDENT BODY PRESIDENT

OFFICE OF THE STUDENT BODY VICE-PRESIDENT

OFFICE OF THE STUDENT BODY TREASURER

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

- Senate President Grosse welcomes senators.
- Congratulates all new senators.
- Thanks senate for trusting President Grosse in the position.
- Mandatory new senator orientation meeting before next meeting
- All senators must turn in an affiliation form by his or her third meeting or they will be removed from senate.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

REPLACEMENT & AGENDA:

- Senate President Pro-Tempore Murphy welcomes the senators.
- Open committee seats will be due Friday, March 16th except Budget. Budget seats are due Friday, March 9th.
- All chair seats are open due Friday, March 9th.
- Email will be sent out regarding office hours.

BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS:

- Chairwoman Dunson welcomes the senators.
- Motion to send all other committee reports electronically by unanimous consent. Approved.

ALLOCATIONS:

- This report will be sent electronically.

JUDICIARY:

- This report will be sent electronically.

RULES & ETHICS:

- This report will be sent electronically.

INFORMATION & COMMUNICATION:

- This report will be sent electronically.

SECOND READING

- There were none

FIRST READING:

- There were none

BILLS PENDING SIGNATURES:

- There are no bills pending signatures.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Senator Hasan:
 - Islam on Campus: last Islam Appreciation event at 7pm in grand ballroom.
 - Counts as constituency.

ROLL CALL:

- A motion to use voting records for final roll call passed.

MEETING ADJOURNED:

- The meeting adjourned at 12:11 am.