

STUDENT SENATE MINUTES

March 20th, 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 82 senators present.

Not there for roll call:

- Bartra
- Berrocal
- Carnes
- Fine
- Goetz
- Grodi
- Igharas
- Lo
- McMillan
- Murphy
- Robusto
- Rosen
- Saint
- Stanford
- Temeliescu
- Zhou

AMENDMENTS TO THE MINUTES:

- There were none.

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA:

- Chairman Pope moves to approve Student Senate Bill 2018-1026: Funding for Students for New Urbanism by unanimous consent. Approved.
- Majority Party Leader Shaw moves to strike Pranjali Tyagi from the R&A recommendations for open Allocation Committee seat by unanimous consent. Approved.
- Majority Party Leader Shaw moves to approve Robert Schulte for the R&A committee recommendation for the open Allocations seat by unanimous consent. Approved.

- Majority Party Leader Shaw moves to hear the R&A committee recommendation for Lauren Adler, Paula Costas, Abby Morris, and Lisette Pellet for the Rules and Ethics committee as a block by unanimous consent. Approved.
 - Motions to approve aforementioned block by unanimous consent. Approved.
- Majority Party Leader Shaw moves to hear Paige Eastland and Carmen Flores for the R&A committee recommendation for the open Rules and Ethics seats as a block by unanimous consent. Approved.
 - Motions to approve aforementioned block by unanimous consent. Approved.
- Majority Party Leader Shaw moves to hear the R&A committee recommendation for Caroline Baldwin, Sophia Bond, Corey Brandies, Felipe Gatos, and Chad Grodi for the open Information and Communication seats as a block by unanimous consent. Approved
 - Motions to approve aforementioned block by unanimous consent. Approved.
- Majority Party Leader Shaw moves to suspend Rule 11, part 7d of the Rules and Procedures.
 - Motion to suspend Rule 11, part 7d goes to a standing vote:
 - The motion fails.

PUBLIC DEBATE:

- Larry Schwandes:
 - Hear to talk about the number “211.”
 - 211 is a number that people can call if they are stressed out, having financial problems, or other things of that manner.
 - It is funded by United Ways.
 - Not many people know about it.
 - He brought 50 flyers for the senators, which he will be handing out.
 - Last year he had a roommate that he had to evict. It is a very difficult process, which is how he found out about 211.
- Former Senator Avichaim Snyder:
 - Wishes senator a good evening.
 - Tomorrow at 7pm in the Reitz Union, Kasim Hafeez is coming to speak for Christians for Israel. Would love to see everyone come out.
- Senator Calvin yields his time to the chair.
- Minority Party Leader Morse:
 - Wishes senators good evening.
 - Thanks everyone who applied for committee seats and came out to be interviewed.

- In SG, hard work, qualifications, merit and character should be rewarded.
- For the second week in a row the Replacement & Agenda committee has lost sight of these values.
- To those who received a seat that we are objecting, “it is not personal.” There were just other more qualified people up for the seat.
- For the Information and Communications seat, one worked to build a listserv for 5,000 people, while working across the aisle. Also increased traffic on a political news website by 50%. He maintained strong relationships between both parties and has respect from both parties.
- The other candidate has only had experience with social media in high school, while also giving “generic” ideas to the table.
- Another candidate for Judiciary has had four bills sponsored by the committee before, most of which in intent to make Student Senate more accessible.
- Another candidate has just been elected as a senator, and has no experience regarding the judiciary process in Student Government.
- Last week when Senator Pro-Temp Murphy stated he wanted to do things differently.
- As long as R&A continues to be partisan, so will these meetings.
- Senator Rauseo yields his time to Senator Jenkins.
- Senator Jenkins:
 - Sent out first “Weekly Emails” to District C constituents.
 - Senator Hernandez explained the layout of senate.
 - Senator Belinski mentioned many resources one can use in regards to dealing with the tragedy that occurred at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School.
 - Senator Pope explained the allocations process for student organizations on campus.
 - The meeting tonight will also be explained.
 - This listserv is creating more conversation between senators and their constituents.
 - Other email listservs are in the process of being created for other districts and colleges.
 - Senator Gatos, Senator Belinski, Senator Rauseo and Senator Jenkins are still having office hours on Tuesdays.

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

OFFICE OF THE STUDENT BODY PRESIDENT

- There were none.

SENATE PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

- Senate President Grosse welcomes the senators.
- Look out for a presentation in the next few weeks on the ___ process.
- Liaison Position Announcements:
 - Cabinet Liaison: Senator Nguyen.
 - Judiciary Liaison: Senator German.
 - Finance Liaison: Senator Jones.
 - UPD Liaison: Senator Baldwin.
 - Reitz Union Liaison: Senator Morris.
 - Rec Sports Liaison: Senator Eastland.
 - SAI Liaison: Senator Gatos.
 - MCDA Liaison: Carmen Flores.
 - Sergeant. At Arms: Senator Sanford and Senator McMillan.
 - Parliamentarians: Preston Jones and Katherine Meyers.

REPLACEMENT AND AGENDA COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:

Judiciary

- Senator Brown:
 - 3 minutes of Presentation:
 - Great to be back up here and potentially serve on the Judiciary committee.
 - Really wants to serve.
 - It is their chance as senators to tangibly affect students on campus.
 - Found it very enticing.
 - 3 Minutes of Questions:
 - Senator Pearson: How did serving on Budget committee will help you be objective as a member of the Judiciary committee?
 - Senator Brown: Being able to hear all the organizations come out and talk about what they are passionate about and being able to help them was so rewarding. Has an idea as a judiciary member to create transparency between SG and the organizations.
 - Majority Party Leader Shaw: Can you talk about 3 qualifications that prepare you for the judiciary committee?
 - Senator Brown: Served as a finance intern for the city hall of Winter Park, Florida. Saw how legislation impacted the people of Winter Park and sees how legislation can impact students on campus.
 - Senator Kratt: How many Judiciary Committee meetings have you attended
 - Senator Brown: I have not attended any.
 - Senator Hernandez: Can you explain your ideas regarding the Judiciary Committee?

- Senator Brown: Wants to be able to organize an archive system on a Facebook page. Will provide transparency and accessibility.
 - 1st Round Con:
 - Minority Party Leader Morse: Senator Brown has not had any judiciary committee experience. Serving on Budget does not help specifically with Judiciary Committee.
 - Senator Lima: There are other more qualified applicants, and according to the Rules and Procedures, the senate must put the most qualified person on the committee.
 - Senator Kratt: One of the main qualifications to serve on Judiciary committee is being knowledge on the codes and believes that by not attending any judiciary committee and being author on any resolutions there are other qualified senators.
 - Senator: Feels that Senator Brown has no experience and is “too new” to know how to serve the senate properly.
 - Senator German: He applauds Senator Brown’s fire, however, this does not make up for a lack of experience. Budget committee experience will not translate well to the Judiciary committee.
 - 1st Round Pro:
 - Senator Hernandez: We always say that this chamber has to represent local, state, and federal legislation. Mentions that Senator Brown has experience in that while working in in Winter Park.
 - Majority Party Leader Shaw: Senator Brown has had plenty experience as per his internship in Winter Park’s city hall this past summer. Regarded as the “Mayor of Orlando.”
 - Chairwoman Dunson: Senator Brown has been a rapid learner and had knowledge on the 800 codes.
 - Senator Boone: Was impressed by Senator Brown’s resolve through 14 hours of Budget hearings over the weekend.
 - Senator Abraham: Also sat with Senator Brown through budget hearings was really impressed with his willingness to learn the 800 codes and how quickly he learned them.
 - Senator Jones: Senator Brown was extremely knowledgeable and insightful during the Budget hearings.
 - 2nd Round of Con:
 - Senator Chou: It is good to remind the chamber that friendly nicknames are not qualifications for a seat. Senator Chou has been here for a long time and knows that many senators have experience with legislation. Senator Brown talked about the tangible solution to legislations but here it is more a reactive than

proactive. Knows that he is not the only one that is experienced in legislation.

- Senator Lima: Wants to return to the topic of the actual rules and procedures saying they have to pick the most qualified candidates. Not saying Senator Brown can't be qualified but it is about the most qualified. Mentions Senator Kratt and Senator German arguing legislation in the Judiciary
- Senator German: Asks to hear what specific bills Senator Brown worked on this summer. Also, he believes that the best way to know how a bill will affect the student body and senate is through being in the senate, and he feels his inexperience being a freshman does not support this.
- 2nd Round of Pro:
 - Senator Pearson: Had the pleasure of working with Senator Brown on Budget Hearings this past weekend and an important part of the Budget committee is objectivity and he showed that this weekend. He also has experience with legislation in the real world which is impressive. His commitment to the students is inspiring and he believes that he would be extremely qualified for the position.
 - Chairwoman Dempsey: Argues that he has plentiful experience outside of senate, and specifically that experience on the judicial committee is not a requirement to serve or write legislation.
 - Senator Honeycutt: Not many people have talked about Senator Browns hard working ethic and being able to work on a team. He also has worked with city government and participated in the budget committee.
 - Senator Santalo: Keeps hearing about the "most qualified". Senator Brown has extensive qualifications that show he qualifies for this position. If that doesn't show to be "qualified" he is not sure what it is.
- 3rd Round of Con:
 - Senator Victorianne: Does not believe that Senator Brown is the most qualified student. Although he might be good enough, there are more deserving senators.
 - Senator Belinski: A big issue why we are objecting Senator Brown getting this seat is because it is supposed to go to the most qualified. He seems like a great person and that he could work hard but that is not the issue. It is supposed to be going to the most qualified.

- Senator Calvin: “Well enough is not good enough”. Senator Brown is not the best option.
 - Senator Smith: As a freshman senator as well but is coming from the University of Alabama where he has a lot of experience with SG. “Why put a pup where a dog should be?”
 - 3rd Round of Pro:
 - Majority Party Leader Shaw: The R&A committee knows that we have to be choosing the most qualified members. That is how the process and voting works. Votes were split between party lines. Senator Brown is up there for a reason.
 - Senator Hernandez: Was told not to simply go by the resume, but rather.
 - Senator Schulte: Was able to serve with him on the FLC and on budget committee and has showed good character in both.
 - Senator Krause: Believes that youth is necessary to committees so that the committees may carry on legacies and learn as they go.
 - 2 minutes of final privilege:
 - Senator Brown:
 - Thanks everyone for kind words and constructive criticism.
 - Looks forward for serving the Students of University of Florida.
 - Senator Lima moves to open the floor for nominations by unanimous consent. Objected.
 - In a voice vote for electing Senator Brown for the Judiciary Committee, the “ayes” have it.
- Senator Piper:
 - 3 minutes of Presentation:
 - Is an engineering student.
 - Wanted to join senate to get involved with the school.
 - Has SG experience from high school.
 - Wants to reach out to the big nine.
 - Create social media graphics for legislative process.
 - 3 minutes of Q&A:
 - Chairman Pope: What previous experience make you qualified?
 - Senator Piper: Revised codes in high school SGA elections. Also changed the requirements to run for positions.
 - Majority Party Leader Shaw: What are some goals you have for this position?
 - Senator Piper: Wants to get senators and students more aware of the legislative process.

- Senator Hernandez: Can you elaborate on your experience of revising your high school constitution?
- Senator Piper: Before the meeting, they had to go to administration and go through the structure of bills and resolutions. It was similar to the process here.
- Senator Honeycutt: What made you decide to apply for the judicial committee and why are you qualified for this committee?
- Senator Piper: Saw the Judiciary committee as one of the most powerful. Has always wanted to get behind the decision making process. Knows that the Judiciary Committee can impact so many students.
- Senator Brue: Can you go through the 5 criteria for the committee?
- Senator Piper: Recites the 5 criteria.
- Senator Pearson: How do you plan on being an objective member of the committee?
- Senator Piper: It is important to be unbiased, aware of both sides of an issue.
- 1st Round Con:
 - Senator Lima: Wants to talk about the lack of experience despite other senators having more qualifications. Wants to open the floor to nominations.
 - Senator German: Both sides of the aisle should direct their questions towards qualifications not character. Believes that high school student government experience is not good enough. While applauding high school experience, believes that college experience is far more valuable.
 - Senator Chou: Finds irony that Senator Piper values experience as he authored a revision to his HS constitution to bar freshman from running for a position, yet he is a freshman.
 - Senator: Wants to address Senator Piper saying that the committee was the “most powerful” is wanting the seat for the wrong reasons.
- 1st Round Pro:
 - Majority Party Leader Shaw: Wants to address what was said last week about not just choosing someone on a list of qualifications. Believes that Senator Piper shows good character and potential to grow in his qualifications.
 - Chairwoman Dunson: Had the opportunity to meet with Senator Piper, mentions honesty and great character. Mentioned that these qualifications are very important for the Judiciary Committee.

- Senator Sandifer: Wants to address the comment on Senator Piper saying he wanted to join the “most powerful” committee. Senator Piper mentioned shortly after that it is the best way to reach the students and make an impact on his constituents.
 - Senator Boone: Wanted to join the Judiciary Committee for the same reasons that Senator Piper mentioned.
 - Senator Calzon: Sees the many characteristics in judicial leaders in Senator Piper.
 - Senator Girschick: Mentions that the younger candidates running show that they have used as many opportunities as possible to grow and become better.
- 2nd round of con:
 - Senator Chou: When you bring it back to their characteristics, what are you trying to say about those that were not selected? It is dangerous to bring character in. You can’t only pull certain arguments when it is convenient.
 - Senator Gatos: Character and ethics should be requirements, not qualifications. He believes there were applicants with ethics, character and higher qualifications.
 - Senator Morse: He reiterates Senator Gatos’ sentiments.
 - Senator Belinski: Heard someone say that a list of qualifications is not what it is all about. But someone who has written a lot of legislation and been to judiciary committee meetings is more knowledgeable.
- 2nd round of pro:
 - Senator Hernandez: We are trying to make sure that committee seats are not about seniority. He came in for two seats but said he was extremely passionate about the judiciary committee and didn’t want to be interviewed for the other.
 - Majority Party Leader Shaw: Senator Piper’s interview was very strong.
 - Senator Ritterband: She trusts the R&A Committee’s judgement for this recommendation.
 - Senator Baldwin: Going off what Senator Shaw and Chairwoman Dunson said, for whatever position you are interviewing for, you are not focused on just one thing such as qualifications, you look for other things that could make them qualified for the position.
- 3rd Round of Con:
 - Minority Party Leader Morse: He was in on the interview and believes that his interview and qualifications were not as good as

- others. Mentions that many different applicants possessed the same qualifications that Senator Piper did.
 - Senator Smith: In his experience in interviews, interviewers care most about qualifications.
 - Senator Kratt: Echoes Minority Party Leader Morse's sentiments. There are other qualified senators.
 - Senator Probert: Regarding his constitution in high school, he doubts that he allowed for experience in other organizations made them eligible for the position and that carries through the senate here vs senate in high school.
 - 3rd round of pro:
 - Senator Pearson: Has sat and watched other pro-con debates and 15 of 24 come from people who ran for the same committee seat. Are you objecting towards him because you wanted the seat? Encourages self-reflection.
 - Senator Hernandez: She believes that Senator Piper's ideas of bringing social media to legislation will make it more appealing to students.
 - 2 Minutes of Final Privilege:
 - Thanks everyone for their comments.
 - Will take the constructive criticism and better himself.
 - Has already reviewed much of the legislation, codes, and rules and procedures.
 - He thinks he will be a valuable, unbiased member of the committee.
 - Minority Party Leader Morse moves to open the floor to nominations by a standing vote. Motion is second.
 - In a standing vote, 2/5 of the chamber was not reached. Motion Fails.
 - Motion to approve Senator Piper for the Judiciary Committee by a voice vote. The Ayes have it.
- Senator Shah:
 - 3 Minutes of Presentation:
 - Was really excited for her interview.
 - Wanted to make sure she was qualified to hold high seat.
 - Has authored and sponsored legislation in senate.
 - 3 Minutes of Q&A:
 - Chairman Pope: After waiting this long to apply to a committee why did you choose the Judiciary committee and what qualifies you for the position?

- Senator Shah: Has had experience writing legislation and believes that they provide a tangible impact for the student body.
- Senator Dempsey: Can you provide the difference between a bill and resolution?
- Senator Shah: A resolution gives sentiment and a bill is an action to act upon it.
- Majority Party Leader Shaw: Can you describe your experience outside the chamber?
- Senator Shah: Has had many experiences ranging from Gator Growl to Indian Student Associations. Also mentions MLC and is on the administrative team now.
- Senator Morse: How many pieces of legislation have you worked on and how many judiciary meetings have you been to?
- Senator Shah: Has worked on 3 resolutions, and been to 2 meetings.
- Senator Kratt: Can you tell us what the codes stand for?
- Senator Shah: No but is more than willing to learn.
- Senator Hudson: Can you talk about your experience as a member at large?
- 1st Round of Con:
 - Senator German: Understands why you have to vote a certain way but why is the chamber unwillingly to open the floor for nominations?
 - Minority Party Leader Morse: Believes that this applicant is the most qualified out of the three being heard, but is not the most qualified of the entire applicant pool.
- 1st Round of Pro:
 - Senator Hernandez: Emphasizes that Senator Shah has worked on resolutions she is passionate about, and that she works hard on the things she is passionate about, not to build her resume.
 - Senator Dempsey: Judiciary committee is not just about looking at bills and resolutions. The committee also works on constitutions, and Senator Shah was able to sit on and watch this process.
 - Senator Pearson: Another function that is forgotten about in the Judiciary Committee is reviewing Supreme Court nominees, in which it is imperative to be objective while reviewing. She has this experience while working with the Replacement and Agenda Committee. She is by far the most qualified of the 3 being heard tonight.

- Senator Hasan: Has seen Senator Shah's experience in many facets in and outside of Student Government and believes she is extremely qualified.
 - Senator Belinski: Will stand behind Senator Shah as being qualified for the position.
- 2nd round of Con:
 - Senator German: motions to call the previous question by unanimous consent. Approved.
- Final Privilege:
 - She goes all in for one thing, Senate is her one thing.
 - She will work hard to be unbiased and does not believe in party politics.
- Motion to approve Senator Shah for the Judiciary Committee by a voice vote. The Ayes have it.

Rules and Ethics Committee

- Senator Florez and Senator Eastland for Rules and Ethics Committee:
 - 3 Minutes of Presentation:
 - Senator Eastland: Interviewed for Senate in Summer B before she even started classes at UF. Worked with I/C committee over the summer. Was elected as the Yulee area senator. Still is a member of the Information and Communication committee.
 - Senator Florez: When she came to senate she realized how important R&E is. Appreciates that the committee values honesty and integrity. Wants to both prevent the wrong from happening, while also commending the ones who do things right.
 - 3 Minutes of Q&A:
 - Senator Hasan: What are your constituency requirements?
 - Senator Eastland: Explains her constituency requirements as a Yulee area senator.
 - Senator Florez: Explains her constituency requirements as a College of Liberal Arts and Sciences senator.
 - Majority Party Leader Shaw: Can you talk about some of your goals in the committee upon election?
 - Senator Florez: Wants to create something that would make constituency easier to follow.
 - Senator Eastland: Wants events to be posted on the board because she is aware that they don't have enough time to write down all their events when announced.
 - 1st Round of Con:

- Minority Party Morse: Believes there are senators who are more qualified. Stresses finding the most qualified candidates.
 - 1st Round of Pro:
 - Chairwoman Holloway: Is very impressed with Senator Eastland and Senator Florez. Many people emailed her asking her what her suggestions were but they both came to her with their own ideas and reached out to meet with her. They both wanted to meet in person as well.
 - Senator Adler: It is not just about their resume but also about what they do outside of the chamber because they need to reach constituencies and they do that.
 - Chairwoman Dunson: Believes that they have more than enough qualifications and knowledge of R&E based on the qualifications stated and their resume.
 - Majority Party Leader Shaw: Shares the same sentiment of R&A committee, believing that they are both qualified and will make great additions to the R&E committee.
 - Senator Hernandez: Both applicants are very dedicated.
 - Senator Beltran: Sees both senators around campus all the time which shows their dedication.
 - 2nd Round of Con:
 - There was a motion to call the previous question by unanimous consent. Approved.
 - Final Privilege:
 - Senator Florez: Hopes to answer any questions and put any doubts to bed if approved.
 - Senator Eastland: Bias is pushed out in R&E committee. There will be no party politics.
 - In a motion to approve Senator Eastland and Senator Florez for the Rules and Ethics Committee by a voice vote, the “ayes” have it.

Information and Communication

- Senator Rosen
 - 3 Minutes of Presentation:
 - Senator Hernandez: Speaks on Senator Rosen’s behalf. Many ideas he has can be immediately implemented once he is elected. Believes he is more than qualified and brings new ideas to the committee. Is a very passionate senator, which is why he received the Replacement and Agenda committee’s recommendation.
 - 3 Minutes of Q&A:

- Minority Party Leader Morse: Motions to postpone this recommendation for next week by standing vote. Approved
 - In eyes of the chair, this recommendation will be postponed until next week.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

REPLACEMENT & AGENDA:

- Senator Hernandez welcomes the senators.
- 1 Medicine seat open, 1 District B seat open, and 1 Allocations seat open. The Allocations and District B seat are due Friday at 12:00pm. The Medicine seat is due Next Friday, March 30th at 12:00pm.
- Minority Party Leader Morse gives his minority report.
 - Thanks everyone for remaining diplomatic and hopes all the applicants who were approved prove him wrong.

BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS:

- Motion to send all reports electronically by unanimous consent. Approved.
- This report will be sent out electronically.

ALLOCATIONS:

- This report will be sent out electronically.

JUDICIARY

- This report will be sent electronically.

RULES & ETHICS:

- Chairwoman Holloway welcomes the senators.

INFORMATION & COMMUNICATION:

- Chairwoman Weeks welcomes the senators.

SECOND READING

- There were none.

FIRST READING:

- There were none.

BILLS PENDING SIGNATURES:

- There were none.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Senator President Grosse: Medical seat is not due until next Friday.

- Allocations and District D seat are due this Friday at noon.
- Senator Brown: There is a box in the SG office for clothing drive. Please keep donating for the homeless community.
- Senator Beltran: Puerto Rican Student Association is having a Chipotle Fundraiser on Sunday, March 25th 5:00pm-9:00pm
- Senator Abraham: The Holi event is this Sunday, March 25th. First 1,000 get a free t-shirt and Krishna lunch.
- Majority Party Leader Shaw: be on the lookout for Assistant Director for Gator Growl Applications will be open soon.
- Chairwoman Dunson: Dance Marathon benefiting Children's Miracle Network is this weekend, be sure to come by. It starts at 12:00pm on Saturday, and should end around 2:00pm on Sunday.
- Senator Brandies: 25-30 applicants being hired for a summer term program.
- Senator Batten: If anyone would like to split a storage unit for the summer please let her know.
- Senator Girschick: April 7th is the big event, as a delegate she'd love for everyone to apply, she will have the link at the end of the meeting.
- Senator Gatos: SAI will be hosting an event at the Plaza of the Americas Thursday at 11:00am-2:00pm and every Tuesday thereafter at the same time.
- Senator Rauseo: There will be an event in the Reitz Union on Tuesday.
- Senator Victorianne: April 14th and 15th Mock Trial team at UF will be needs volunteers.
- Senator Florez: Needs help with her Psych project, please help her by filling out a survey at the end of the meeting.
- Senator: Calls on senators in both parties to talk about partisanship he has noticed in the chamber after the meeting adjourns.
- Chairman Pope: There is an allocations seat open, please reach out to me if you are interested in applying. Invites those to come to allocations hearing.

ROLL CALL:

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

MEETING ADJOURNED:

- The meeting adjourned at 9:17 PM.