

STUDENT SENATE MINUTES

July 17th, 2018

The Senate President called the Senate meeting to order at 7:00 pm and announced that the meeting may be filmed or audio recorded and may be available to the public. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

ROLL CALL:

Roll was called and quorum was established with 66 senators present.

Not there for roll call:

- Bencivenga
- Bradley
- Grodi
- Marrero
- Murphy
- Rosello

AMENDMENTS TO THE MINUTES:

- There were none.

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA:

- Majority Party Leader Boone Moves to strike Sarah Duggan from the permanent replacement, Rawlings, seat by unanimous consent. Approved.
- Majority Party Leader Boone moves to approve the Replacement and Agenda committee recommendation for the Summer B Replacement seat, District C - Kailey Goede, by unanimous consent. Approved.
- Majority Party Leader Boone moves to approve the Replacement and Agenda committee recommendation for the Allocations committee seat, Sydney Honeycutt, by unanimous consent. Approved.
- Chairman Hurdle moves to approve the Rules and Ethics committee recommendation for the Approved Resignation appeal, Dakota Stanford, by unanimous consent. Approved.
- Chairman Hurdle moves to hear the Rules and Ethics committee recommendations for the Approved Absence petitions as a block by unanimous consent. Approved.
 - Motion to approve said block by unanimous consent. Approved.
- Chairman Hurdle moves to approve the Rules and Ethics committee recommendation for the Failed Absence petition, Dilan Patel, by unanimous consent. Approved.

- Chairman Pope moves to approve Student Senate Bill 2018-1064: Funding for Orthodox Christian Campus Ministries by unanimous consent. Approved.
- Chairman Pope moves to approve Student Senate Bill 2018-1065: Funding for Young Americans for Freedom by unanimous consent. Approved.
- Majority Party Leader Boone moves to approve Student Senate Bill 2018-1066: Resolution Supporting the Gator Baseball Team Advancing to the 2018 NCAA Division Baseball College World Series by unanimous consent. Approved.
- Majority Party Leader Boone moves to approve Student Senate Bill 2018-1067: Resolution Encouraging Fair Qualifications for the Dean's List for Innovation Academy Students by unanimous consent. Approved.
- Majority Party Leader Boone moves to table Student Senate Bill 2018-1068: Resolution Requesting that Student Government's Executive Branch Collaborate with the Provost to Fund a 24/7 Library During the 2018-2019 Academic Year until the next Judiciary committee meeting. Motion seconded.
 - In a voice vote, the ayes have it.
- Majority Party Leader Boone moves to approve Student Senate Bill 2018-1069: Resolution Honoring Rob Hiaasen and the Lives Taken in the Capital Gazette Shooting by unanimous consent. Approved.

PUBLIC DEBATE:

- Senator Lima
 - Welcomes the senators.
 - Is disappointed with the majority party that they did not communicate about the postponement of the Student Senate Bill 2018-1068.
 - Would like to collaborate more in the future in order to create a better process with the students.
 - Thanks the members of the Student Body for helping with the resolution involving the Student Government executive branch meeting to discuss the addition of a 24/7 library.
 - This bill has been tabled, however the speech is still relevant.
 - "Our job as senators is to represent you."
 - "I am glad that the committee recognizes that the bill to be important."
 - Quoted studies of Newell Hall and Library West on preferences of late-night study spaces.
 - Then, SG worked with the provost to make Library West 24/7.
 - There was no communication that another experiment would be conducted.
 - "Disturbing lack of transparency" that was not reflected after the budget was released.

- States that Newell Hall acts as more of a “learning commons” and that Library West acts as a “study space”.
- Benjamin Grossman
 - Thanks the senators for having him tonight.
 - States that the hallmark of any academic institution is a library; as a study space and source of academic resources.
 - Has spent several sleepless nights in Library West.
 - States that Newell Hall is not a fully capable area for academic purposes.
 - Mentions the advantages that Library West has over Newell Hall.
 - “A fully functional library has been proven to alleviate the cost of attending a full-fledged university.”
 - It is very possible to alleviate two very expensive requirements in college: textbooks and computers.
 - The purpose of a library is to create equal opportunity to academic material.
- Senator Kratt
 - Welcomes the senators.
 - Reads a statement from a constituent regarding the removal of 24/7 hours at Library West.
 - Sad to see that the bill was delayed relating to an action that was important to the students.
 - None of the authors were informed on the intentional tabling of Student Senate Bill 2018-1068.
- Senator Ragan:
 - Mentions that she could not find a seat in Newell Hall that would satisfy her needs for doing homework.
 - Mentions this story occurred during the summer and begs the questions of whether it would be worse during the Fall.
 - States that it is not suitable for Newell to be the sole 24/7 study space for an institution like UF.
 - Mentions that sound carries much easier than in Library West.
 - “Just because it has the capacity to hold all overnight students, doesn’t mean it has the ability to do so.”
- Senator Wonicker-Cook
 - Welcomes the senators.
 - Extends on Senator Ragan’s point on the noisiness of Newell Hall.
 - Newell Hall was introduced as a space for groups to meet and collaborate for work.
 - States that sounds carry so well throughout Newell Hall, she claimed to hear a roommate’s conversation on the floor above her.

- “Students need a *real* library”.
- Senator Witte
 - Welcomes the senators.
 - Believes that nobody is taking initiative.
 - Realizes a lot of partisan politics occur and that not everyone is on the same page.
 - Mentions many statistics that bring light to the removal of Library West’s 24/7 hours.
 - The cost to keep Library West open 24/7 is about \$150,000, compared to the UF’s endowment of \$1.5 billion.
 - “If there’s a will, there’s a way.”
 - Is a firm believer that anyone who has put work into Newell Hall knows what it is capable of doing.
 - “Newell Hall is an okay place; but everything has an end.”
 - “I don’t care how you get it done, I just want Library West back.”
- Senator Belinski
 - Welcomes the senators.
 - This is not a student vs. student issue. It is instead a student vs. administration issue.
 - Does not think that blame should be placed on any students; ultimately it was the Provost’s decision.
 - \$20 is the only portion of student tuition that students get to dictate what to spend it on.
 - Does not believe that Student Government funding should be spent on the library.
 - Asks where our tuition is being spent if a 24/7 library can not be funded, and what priorities do the administration have?
 - We can redirect our forces towards administration.
- Senator Ospina
 - Welcomes the senators.
 - Is certain that all of us take pride of UF being a Top-10 public university.
 - One of the largest reasons for this rating is the amount of research being conducted by graduates, professors, etc.
 - States that UF should allow access to 24/7 resources in order to keep this research consistently able.
 - Mentions what the libraries can supply to the student.
 - States several graduate constituents that implore that Newell Hall can not meet their research needs for overnight use.
 - Mentions that it has been argued that the responses to the removal of 24/7 hours at Library West is preemptive.

- Refutes this claim by stating that student satisfaction is unknown by administration.
 - No need for the administration to “put all its eggs in one basket” and place the strain and responsibility on Newell Hall when it has not proved itself.
- Ashley Grabowski
 - Welcomes the senators.
 - This is not a new conversation that Newell Hall is not an optimal 24/7 study hour building.
 - States multiple studies based on the student body; reads some of the constituents’ comments.
 - States that a petition to designate Library West as a 24/7 study space has over 1,000 signatures.
 - Mentions the comments left by those who signed the petition.
 - Textbook access is important, which is what Library West and Marston will bring.
 - States that Newell Hall is not an adequate space for studying for students at a Top-10 public university.
 - Welcomes those with questions to contact the Inspire Party.
- Senator Cowan yields to Minority Party Leader German.
- Senator Jenkins yields to Minority Party Leader German.
- Senator Chou yields to Minority Party Leader German.
- Francis Rivas
 - Serves as an IA ambassador.
 - Thanks senators for the passing of Student Senate Bill 2018-1067.
- Senator Perez
 - Is beyond excited to see the IA students and Ambassadors in the chamber.
 - States that the IA academy is an ever growing community and thanks the Senators for their votes.
- Majority Party Leader Boone
 - Welcomes the senators
 - Congratulates Senator Belinski for being able to see both sides of the issue regarding a 24/7 library.
 - “We hear your concerns.”
 - Recognizes that the students are not the only ones involved in this issue.
 - One of the reasons it was tabled is that it had a revision to it; and the party was already uncomfortable with the resolution itself.
 - Recalls Student Body President Ian Green’s comments on the issue at hand.

- Would like to make a resolution based more around what is holding the Senate back.
- Believes that Senator Witte does not understand the endowment completely.
 - Endowment is not correlated to being able to fix the funding immediately.
- States that the party did not announce the tabling, but says they have attempted to work with Inspire on this issue.
- “Let’s think about the parties involved.”
- “We [Impact] are for libraries.”
- “We [Impact] are not anti-library, we are pro-student.”
- Is confident that [Impact] will put forward a resolution that will adequately express our sentiments.”
- Minority Party Leader German
 - Welcomes the senators.
 - States that the legislation will be failed by Impact members on the Judiciary committee after being tabled this week.
 - Without this resolution, the Senate has no position on this issue.
 - Endorsing the issue empowers Student Body President Green.
 - States that Newell Hall does not have the current capacity and computers for the current demand; “Why use new resources we already have?”
 - Why do this against the student’s will?
 - States that efforts should be focused around Library West.
 - The research has been said to be biased, however there is no evidence that this research is not reputable, and it is information that the provost himself used the information as well.
 - States that it should not be the burden of the Provost to determine what to do with the hours of a 24/7 library.
 - “They wanted me to withdraw the resolution.”
 - Stated that Majority Party Leader Boone and Chairwoman Shaw failed to bring a copy of an upcoming resolution regarding the meeting with the Provost regarding funding for a 24/7 library.
 - Claims their intent of the majority party to make it an “Impact Only resolution.”
 - States that it is clear that the “senators across the aisle” do not feel the same way about the tabled resolution.
- Senator Sandifer
 - Welcomes the senators.
 - Mentions his background.

- States that it is not easily able for Student Government to increase access of 24/7 for the libraries with a 0% increase over the past 4 years for the Student Activity and Service Fees.
- Believes that the tabling of the resolution results from the lack of communication from the Inspire caucus.
- Believes the resolution fails to mention the financial implications of these actions expressed.
- Believes there are alternative routes to achieve this funding for academic study spaces.
- Agrees that Newell Hall does not have a “library” feel to it; states that it was not meant to be this way -- further mentions its future renovations.
- Claims a quote from a study that was taken out of context.

*****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:

- Student Body President Green welcomes the senators.
 - Thanks Senator Belinski, Boone, and Sandifer for taking the correct approach to the issue at hand.
 - States that the resolution has hindered his relationship with administration.
 - States that Senator Lima has not met with him, although other members of his party have.
 - Mentions the implementation of library hours on Saturdays in the fall.
 - 9:00AM -8:00PM on Saturdays for the upcoming Fall.
 - Mentions that the implementation of quiet study hours on floors 3 and 4 will reduce the sound that travels through Newell Hall.
 - Understands the frustration, but they should not be aimed towards Student Government.
 - Dealing with funding academic buildings would increase student tuition and fees.
 - Library West is an academic building, Newell Hall is a study space, which is a massive difference.
 - States that he wants a 24/7 Library West -- when others do things without talking to him, it hinders him.
 - Asks members of Inspire Caucus to ask questions directly to President Green:
 - Senator Belinski
 - Asks if the end goal is to receive a 24/7 library?
 - Student Body President Green

- Would like to improve Newell AND extend hours at Library West.
- Senator Berrocal
 - If you are trying to help the students, why would you remove 24/7 hours of a library on campus?
- Student Body President Green
 - “It’s not Student Government’s decision to fund academic buildings.”
 - States that a lot of narratives such as Preview occur within Newell Hall that can not occur at Library West.
- Senator Cowan:
 - Where did negotiations lead off in regards to 24/7 hours in Library West?
- Student Body President Green
 - Dealing with the 2 AM extension hours for Library West.
 - States that administration wants the funding for Library West would like to come through Student Government.
 - Does not believe these funds should originate from Student Government.
- Minority Party Leader German
 - “Can you assure me that the Inspire Party will be included on the development on a piece of legislation?”
- Student Body President Green
 - States that if he would like to collaborate on a piece of legislation, then meet up with him and they could get it done.
- Senator Kratt
 - Wants to confirm the statement that the Provost has shared initially.
 - “Have you spoken to him since then?”
 - “Why would the authoring of resolutions hinder you?”
- Student Body President Green
 - Has not had many meetings with the Provost due to vacations.
 - States that students don’t have to know-how on how to communicate with each other by diluting his effort to talk to the Provost -- makes it seem that students don’t know what they want.
 - Has a concern that someone did not meet with him to work on the resolution -- would like to meet up together to collaborate on the work for a 24/7 library.

- Senator Lima
 - Do you believe it would help negotiations, if you have endorsement of the senate?
- Student Body President Green
 - Will send emails on updates with the Provost every time he will get emailed.
 - Thinks that relations are good with the Provost.
- Senator Ospina
 - What can you do in order for graduate students to use Newell Hall more?
- Student Body President Green
 - Is making sure to implement the changes as seen on the survey.
- Senator Witte
 - “Did we or did we not partially pay for Library West for this past semester?”
 - “What do you suggest we do to work with you?”
- Student Body President Green
 - Student Government only chips in to fund Library West during finals week.
 - Encourages to create social support, a writing campaign i.e., to encourage positive interaction with administration.
 - Believes fixing of the petition would help aid meetings with the Provost.
- Senator Ragan
 - Asks if his administration has any plans to include various options within Newell, such as scooter parking and calculator rentals.
- Student Body President Green
 - Textbooks cannot be implemented for study spaces.
 - Academic building privileges are not applied to Newell Hall.
 - Thinks that meeting with the legislative branch is a way to encourage collaboration, but coercion of powers is what he aims to move away from.
 - Used what the data showed by surveys of the student body to help the process of Newell Hall.
 - Asks those with questions to email him.
- Senator Kratt
 - How does the process of writing the legislation muddy the relationship with the Provost?

- Student Body President Green
 - States that the Provost would have seen the legislation first before he had; causing some internal discussion.

SENATE PRESIDENT’S REPORT:

- Senate President Grosse welcomes the senators.
 - Explains the purpose of the letters to Provost Glover.
 - There will be letters written expressing the sentiments of a 24/7 library.

REPLACEMENT AND AGENDA COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:

- There were none.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

REPLACEMENT & AGENDA:

- Replacement and Agenda Vice-Chairwoman Hernandez welcomes the senators.
 - Would like everyone to like and share the open seats.
 - Applications are due July 27th at noon.

BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS:

- Chairwoman Dunson welcomes the senators.
 - Committee passed a Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Operational Budget.
 - Will be sending out the budget to all senators over the Listserv.
 - Gives a presentation of the Activity and Service Fee Budget.
 - Approved a 3% increase.

ALLOCATIONS:

- Chairman Pope welcomes the senators.
 - Thanks senators for approving Student Senate Bills 2018 1064-1065.
 - Allocations committee will not be meeting this week, but the week after.
 - Expecting a few requests in the upcoming days.
 - Committee “tabled to the tablers” at GatorMania -- was very proud.
 - Mentions the first ever Senate co-ed basketball team.
 - Encourages everyone to play/support.

JUDICIARY:

- Chairwoman Shaw welcomes the senators.
 - Invites everyone on the Judiciary committee to the front of the room.
 - Introduces activity regarding writing of legislation.
 - Legislation is due this Friday at 12:00pm

- Women's Caucus met.

RULES & ETHICS:

- Chairman Hurdle welcomes the senators.
 - Committee will be meeting tomorrow at 4:45PM
 - Encourages senators to start on their constituency requirements as half of the semester is almost done.
 - SG intramurals will count towards your constituency.
 - Thanks Chairman Hurdle's vice-chair.

INFORMATION & COMMUNICATION:

- Chairwoman Weeks welcomes the senators.
 - Mentions the Senate co-ed basketball game.
 - Requires light blue/gray shirt and a Gator1 card.
 - Tabling signups will be emailed out tonight.
 - Senate Retreat for this Sunday.
 - Come see Chairwoman Weeks if you have not picked up your polo.

SECOND READING

- There were none.

FIRST READING:

- There were none

BILLS PENDING SIGNATURES:

- There were none.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Senate President Grosse
 - Please reflect the correct voting record.
 - Struck Sarah Duggan.
 - Tabled Student Senate Bill 2018-1068.
- Senate Witte
 - Set up a couple meetings with leaders in the Disability community.
 - Plans to set up a resolution relating to ADA compliance.

ROLL CALL:

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

MEETING ADJOURNED:

- The meeting was adjourned at 8:52 pm.