STUDENT SENATE MINUTES
January 16th, 2018

The Senate President called the Senate meeting to order at 7:32 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 74 senators present.

Not there for roll call:
- Astudillo
- Bazan
- Brannan
- Chan
- Cohen
- Dhir
- Dubinsky
- Esperanza
- Fatzinger
- Garcia
- Gardezi
- Horland
- Krause
- Martinez
- Perez
- Vista
- Walters
- Warner
- Allie Watson
- Stephanie Watson
- Wilson

AMENDMENTS TO THE MINUTES:
- There were none.

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA:
- Majority Party Leader Nickas moves to approve Student Senate Bill 2018-1002: Resolution Thanking Provost Joseph Glover for Restoring Library West and Newell Hall as 24/7 by unanimous consent. Approved.
• Chairman Stanford moves to approve Student Senate Bill 2018-1003: Funding for Nepalese Student Association by unanimous consent. Approved.
• Chairman Stanford moves to approve Student Senate Bill 2018-1004: Funding for Knitting Gators by unanimous consent. Approved.
• Minority Party Leader Morse moves to add Student Senate Bill 2018-1005 to the agenda.
  ○ Voice vote: In favor of nays.

PUBLIC DEBATE:
• Senator Pearson yields his time to Senator Joachim.
• Senator Calvin yields his time to Senator Joachim.
• Minority Party Leader Morse yields his time to Senator Joachim.
• Senator Joachim:
  ○ Wishes everyone a good evening.
  ○ Mentions original speech was geared towards President Trump’s recent degrading comment about Haiti and other immigrants.
  ○ Implores to not use African Americans for the sole advantage of saying you are diverse.
  ○ Second time an African American has spoken out against tokenization in student government.
  ○ Will resign his position as a stand of protest against using African-Americans for political gain.
  ○ No longer wishes to have a more diverse senate if those who are a minority do not have a seat at the table or voice their opinions.
  ○ To black student organizations, it is time to stand up.
  ○ Demanding better treatment of minorities.
• Senator Kratt yields his time to Senator Chou.
• Senator Chou:
  ○ Commends Senator Joachim for taking a stand.
  ○ Working on code revisions on the closed captioning and transcription of SG videos.
    ■ Although this is already done, wants codes to make it permanent and positive in Senate.
  ○ Looking for a positive change for years to come.
  ○ Looks forward to working with everyone.
• Senator Rauseo yields his time to Austin Young.
• Senator Gatos yields his time to Austin Young.
• Senator German yields his time to Austin Young.
• Senator Belinski yields her time to Austin Young.
• Austin Young:
○ Wants to speak to allow context for a recent bill that was introduced to Judiciary last week.
○ Worked on chomp the vote a few semesters ago.
○ Also worked on Global Vote a non-partisan campaign for online voting.
  ■ Earned 3,000 student petitions, around 70% of the vote.
○ The following summer the rules for the constitution and how the votes are counted were changed and reinterpreted.
○ They were no longer yes/no votes but also voting against the amendment.
○ “Removes every constitutional amendment” making student government less accessible, less democratic, and took power away from students.
○ Supreme Court doubled the number of petitions necessary to reach the ballot.
  ■ Causing Senate to be the only ones who could really pass constitutional amendments.
○ It was a radical move two years ago causing Senate to have to calculate ballots in ways that most democracies don’t.
○ We don’t inform students that when they abstain from voting they are counted as a “no.”
○ Introduced 11 amendments on the ballot last year none passed.
  ■ 9 of them would have passed under the older rules.
  ■ New interpretation is not working for students.
○ Wants it to go back to old ways where it is just a “yes/no” vote.
  ■ Judiciary committee voted to not send this bill to the floor.
○ It is realistic, practical, and just for the Judiciary committee to send the bills to the floor for a vote to restore old rules.
○ It was mentioned at a Judiciary meeting that if a majority of people are abstaining voting then it shouldn’t pass. Yet democracy runs on complete opposite principle.
○ People who care should get to make the decisions
  ■ People who do not, and decide to abstain are not factored in.
○ Wants to give students more of a voice.
○ Asking the judiciary committee to reconsider to bring bill to the floor and is willing to work with them.
○ Appreciates the work that the SG Senate does for the University.

• Nicole Smith yields her time to Zachary Amrose.
• Rebecca Ragan yields her time to Zachary Amrose.
• Arielle Gregory yields her time to Zachary Amrose.
• Zachary Amrose:
  ○ Last fall the University of Florida only had one hall that had 24 hour study space.
Students were discontent with having only one hall open for 24 hours.
- Both parties wanted to bring in 24/7 libraries.
  - Yet neither Impact nor Inspire advocated either Library West or Marston for 24 hour operation.
- A survey was conducted but it had flaws by only having Newell and Lib West listed as options and not Marston.
- Newell is not sufficient for students’ needs.
- Never allowed for consideration of Marston Library being open 24/7.
- Student’s voices have not been considered when deciding which library should be open 24 hours.
- Wrote and introduced a bill for students to indicate their optimal library for 24 hour operation.
- Certain concerns over the mechanism of the bill caused Judiciary to table the bill.
- Concern of the current state of democracy on UF campus.
- There are 600 petition signatures needed for results of the library.
- Troubling lack of regard for democracy.

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

- In conclusion to Public Debate:
  - Senator Pearson moves to suspend rules to add Senate Bill 2018-1005.
  - Senator Pearson moves to have a roll call vote in motion to add Senate Bill 2018-1005 to the agenda. Motion Fails
  - In a vote of 50 (no) to 24 (yes).

**SENATE ELECTIONS:**
- Senate President Green moves to open the floor for Senate President Pro-Tempore nominations by unanimous consent. Approved.
  - Minority Party Leader Morse nominates Senator Chou.
    - Senator Chou accepts.
  - Majority Party Leader nominates Senator Schaettle.
    - Senator Schaettle accepts.
  - Senator Nickas moves to close the floor for further Senate President Pro-Tempore nomination by unanimous consent. Approved.
- Senator Chou 5 Minutes of Presentation:
  - Senator Chou tells quorum about himself:
    - The first nominated member from Infinity Hall.
    - Currently a Murphree Hall senator.
    - Has applied to 25 positions via R&A committee.
- Served as minority party leader last semester.
- Tables for SG, only wears SG apparel.
  - Uses this as proof to how dedicated he is to SG.
- Senator Chou’s goals as Senate President Pro-Tempore:
  - Ensure applications are fully read.
  - Pilot outside office hours.
    - Office hours are difficult to remember, wants to be accessible via being outside the Reitz Union, etc.
  - Pilot exit interviews.
    - Why do people leave senate?
  - Treat Individuals as individuals.
- Senator Joachim asks, “What will you do for minority senators, to make sure that their voices are heard?”
  - Utilize Listserv.
  - Working with R&A Committee to use people’s resumes and their references as a tool.
- Senator Santalo, “Because you have been rejected from many committees, how will you apply senators’ skill sets to various committees?”
  - Sometimes when people don’t invite you to sit at the table sometimes you have to pull up a chair and invite yourself.
  - One does not have to be involved in a committee to understand one.
  - If you are there for the experience, you will learn about the committee, which is what Senator Chou has done.
- Senator Murphy asks, “How as a chamber can we support you to be the senate president pro-tempore when you were voted to be taken off as the minority party leader?”
  - People inside his own caucus spoke against him, which he respects. Believes it is brave.
  - The one who voices his opinion is working very close with Senator Chou.
  - Open arms; heart is open.
- Minority Party Leader Morse asks, “What is the most important quality of being senate president pro-tempore? How do you exemplify that?”
  - Believes integrity is the most important quality needed.
  - Says what is on his mind.
• For better or for worse it is best to have unwavering integrity.

• Senator Schaettle 5 mins of presentation:
  o During time:
    o Nominated as a District A replacement seat sophomore year. Most recently a district B senator.
      ■ Has had the opportunity to give back to the students of UF.
      ■ Voiced concerns of students through Food Service and Advisory Committee, Parking and Transportation Committee, 700 Code Revisions Ad-Hoc Committee.
      ■ Has also been on the Newell Hall Advisory Board committee and Career Resource Advisory Committee which have allowed him to realize the tangible change that UF students are capable of.
    o Served as Judiciary Chairman for over 2 semesters.
      ■ Work on judiciary video, helped educate students on legislation.
      ■ Worked with Student Organizations and Campus Events within SAI and former allocations committee chairwoman Janae Moody to expedite the approval process of organizational constitutions.
      ■ Worked with many students, to highlight legislation that will better the university.
    o Most recently, during the spring 2017, he had the ability to serve as the Senate President Pro-Tempore.
      ■ Focused on outreach and accountability.
      ■ Filling the senate committees with the most qualified and passionate applicants as chair of R&A Committee.
      ■ Worked with IT to make the application process easier with resume and email attachments.
      ■ Reach to as many students as possible by working the IFC as well as the Gator Times.
    o Transition from chairman to Senate President Pro-Tempore was a period that took just two weeks.
      ■ Senate cannot miss out on the lack of productivity in appointing someone unfamiliar with the tasks at hand.
  o Hoping Senate will continue productivity.
  o Has had the opportunity to work with both caucuses.
  o Wants to make sure that he is accessible to the student body.
  o Will have open office hours and have an open door to be accessible to those who need him.
  o “I will work along every single one of you to better Gator Nation.”
  o Questions
Senator Murphy asks, “How have your previous roles prepared you for the role of Pro-Temp?”

- Initially a replacement senator.
  - Was denied District A seat twice before getting a chance to occupy a seat.
- As Pro-Temp, was able to work alongside many of the senators.
- Was able to serve on the R&A committee for almost over a year.
- As majority party leader, has reached across the aisle to make things happen in SG.

Senator Joachim asks, “How will you make sure that minorities have a voice and opinion in the senate, as well as senate committees, and on campus?”

- To his point in The Alligator, he believes that student government is very diverse.
  - We all come from different backgrounds.
- Believes that you cannot mark diversity by a checkbox.
- Will continue to have an open door policy.
- Offers open office hours.
  - Would love to bring up a seat.
- “Would love to bring a seat up for you.”

Senator Grosse asks, “What was your biggest takeaway serving during the senate pro-temp? How will you use those takeaways to help you serve better?”

- Replacement senators was his favorite time
- Loved setting up one-on-ones.
- Wants to make it feel familiar and have them know someone when they come back.

Senator Victorianne asks, “How can we trust that you can provide unity when SG needs it the most?”

- Impact does not necessarily agree with allegations of misrepresentation.
- Does not think that this problem lies only in the Impact Party.
- Does, in fact, recognizes various problems in misrepresentation and will continue to help.

Senator Pope asks, “What makes you want to come back as serving as the senate pro-temp?”
● With four weeks left in the term, the senate does not need a transition period, which is why being familiar with the job is imperative.
● Senator Schaettle’s 5 minutes expire, leaving him unable to completely answer the question.
● Per the Rules and Procedures, a roll call vote was cast of the 74 present senators for appointment of senate president pro-tempore:
  ○ Chou: 20.
  ○ Schaettle: 54.
  ○ Senator Schaettle is appointed Student Senate President Pro-Tempore.

OFFICE OF THE STUDENT BODY PRESIDENT’S REPORT:
● Action SG Chairwoman Phillips:
  ○ President Meyers would like to apologize for not being present.
  ○ Office Hours:
    ■ 9:00am-2:00pm on Mondays and Wednesdays
  ○ Platform Tracker Video over Bright Futures will be released later this week on Facebook. Please make sure to like, share and let your constituencies know.
  ○ Applications due:
    ■ Gator Innovators: January 19th.
    ■ Student Honor Codes Administration: January 21st.
    ■ Students Taking Action Against Racism: February 2nd.
  ○ Outreach events will start next week:
    ■ First week: Slices with Smitty: Friday, January 26th at 11:00am in Turlington.
    ■ Second week: Mingle with Mario.
    ■ Third week: Refuel with Revel
    ■ Fourth week: Lunch on the Lawn.
  ○ Working on WiFi problems on campus
    ■ Survey will be sent out, asking about the largest Wi-Fi problems across campus.
  ○ Working on advertising the upcoming elections and important dates.
    ■ Posted in various areas on the UF campus.
  ○ Putting in an order form for SG quarter zips soon.
    ■ Prices will be given soon.
  ○ Advertising of SG elections for social media are being created and specific dates will be released shortly.

SENATE PRESIDENT’S REPORT:
Senate President Green welcomes the senators and that everyone had an efficient MLK day.

Liaison Report for UFPD with Senator Pearson:
  ○ This morning met with UFPD and Leadership and Service. About details on Ride-Alive program about drinking/texting and driving.
  ○ February 27th on Reitz Union North Lawn.
  ○ UFPD Ride-Along opportunity:
    ■ Senator Pearson participated last Saturday and assures that is a very great and interesting experience.
    ○ Officer Holcomb will be speaking next meeting.

Spring into Involvement Event:
  ○ Will be held next Thursday from 12:00pm-3:00pm in the Plaza of the Americas.
  ○ Great for constituency.

Liaison for Reitz Union:
  ○ Arts and Crafts center will be reopening this week
  ○ Times:
    ■ Wednesday: 1:00pm-5:00pm.
    ■ Thursday: 1:00pm-5:00pm.
    ■ Friday: 1:00pm-8:00pm.

Tomorrow, January 18th is the Gator Career Closet Expo in Plaza of the Americas.
  ○ From 11:00am-1:00pm.

All students were sent a transportation survey:
  ○ Due on January 26th.
  ○ Allows parking and transportation services to get a clear view of how students really feel about the on-campus parking and transportation services, in order to make appropriate adjustments.

Applauds Senator Joachim on stance taken on minority representation.

Speaks about Treasurer Lubin’s recent change of party affiliation around time of elections.
  ○ Believes he is using it as political theatre for his campaign for Student Body President.
  ○ No more party politics in the chamber for the rest of the term.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

REPLACEMENT & AGENDA:
  • Senate President Pro-Tempore Schaettle welcomes the senators.
  • District A and Vet Med seats are due Friday, January 19th at 12:00pm.
  • Open Liberal Arts seat due Friday, January 26th.
  • Graduate seat will also be open.
  • Opening on Rules and Ethics Committee because of vacancy in District A seat.
BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS:

- Chairwoman Dunson welcomes the senators and wishes everyone a good three day weekend.
- Shares her favorite quote by MLK Jr.:
  - “Life’s most persistent and urgent question is what are you doing for others?”
- Past Monday: met with committee about a line item transfer, and it failed based on misunderstanding by the author. Will be further discussed.
  - Committee also reviewed the Student Senate Bill: Gators Matter 800 Code Revisions.
  - Article written in the Alligator was not accurate and is disappointed in the lack of transparency.
  - Only denied the bill because they felt there wasn’t enough initiative to change codes but gave the option of further exploring possibilities to launch to work on code revisions.
- Further exploration in funding for menstrual hygiene products on campus is needed.
- Will organize any meetings needed amongst senators.

ALLOCATIONS:

- Chairman Stanford welcomes the senators.
- Allocations committee met in the Reitz Union food court this past Sunday.
- Thanks those for approving two bills tonight:
  - Knitting Gators.
  - Nepalese Student Association.
- Failed Stomp the Swamp, tabled Young Americans for Freedom for later.
- If there are any questions, please reach out to Chairman Stanford via email.

JUDICIARY:

- Chairwoman Dempsey welcomes the senators.
- Invites down Senator Nickas and Senator Dunn:
  - Worked on the Student Senate Bill 2018-1002: Resolution Thanking Provost Glover for Restoring Library West and Newell Hall 24/7.
    - Thanks the senators for passing the resolution.
    - Resolution was inspired by Student Body President Smith Meyers.
  - Our duty is first and foremost for the students.
- Committee will be meeting on Monday morning.
- Legislation will be done Saturday, January 20th at 12:00pm.

RULES & ETHICS:
Chairwoman Holloway welcomes the senators.
Senators on probation: constituency is due January 31st.
Senator Hassan:
  • Slices with Smitty: Friday Jan 26th at 11:00am in Turlington Plaza.
  • Spring into Involvement with SG from 12:00pm-3:00pm at Plaza of the Americas.
  • Keeping up With the Cabinet: January 19th, 12:00pm-2:00pm
  • College Council Meeting January 18th 5:00pm-7:00pm at Norman Hall.
  • Iranian Student Association first general body meeting on January 20th, at Maguire Village at 6:00pm.
Mentions open seat on Rules and Ethics Committee, and encourages them to apply.
R&A committee will be meeting this Friday at 12:00pm.

INFORMATION & COMMUNICATION:
Chairwoman Grosse welcomes the senators.
Met last night and discussed taking the responsibility of handling the livestream of meetings.
  • Working on logistics to make it consistent.
Check out open seats graphic on Facebook, pass to constituents.

CODE REVISIONS AD-HOC COMMITTEE:
Chairman Nickas welcomes the senators.
Thanks the senators for this opportunity to be chairman.
Purpose of committee is to streamline the process of code revisions.
Look at bills more closely before than they have been before.

SECOND READING
• There were none.

FIRST READING:
• There were none.

BILLS PENDING SIGNATURES:
• There were none.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:
Minority Party Leader:
  • Wants to echo Senate President Green’s mention on politics parties not taking part in this senate.
  • Welcomes Student Body Treasurer Lubin to Inspire party.
Senator Berkley:
○ Young Americans for Freedom meeting this Thursday at 7:30am, at Matherly 107.

● Senator Snyder:
  ○ Contact if interested in traveling to Israel.

● Senator Hassan:
  ○ Islam Appreciation Month starts January 31st, until the end of February.
  ○ January 31st: National Hijab Day.
    ■ Encourages senators to talk to those wearing hijab and their experience.
  ○ Events will be held through entire month of appreciation.

● Chairwoman Dempsey:
  ○ Florida Blue Key is hosting Health Professions Day in the Reitz Union Ballroom on Thursday, January 18th, from 5:00pm-7:30pm.

● Chairman Stanford:
  ○ Talks about the pottery arts event coming up Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday.

ROLL CALL:
● A motion to use voting records for final roll by unanimous consent. Approved.

MEETING ADJOURNED:
● The meeting adjourned at 8:53 PM.