

STUDENT SENATE MINUTES
October 16th, 2018

The Senate President called the Senate meeting to order at 7:30 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 80 senators present.

Not there for roll call:

- Barnes
- Kaighin
- Nguyen
- Pepple
- Probert
- Rangel
- Rosen

AMENDMENTS TO THE MINUTES:

- There were none.

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA:

- Majority Party Leader Brown Moves to approve the Replacement and Agenda Committee Recommendation of the Student Honor Code Vice Chair of Marketing: Hannah Medina by unanimous consent. Approved.

PUBLIC DEBATE:

- Senator Diaz
 - Had the pleasure of working with Senator Beltran and Alfredo Ortiz over the past week regarding misplaced freshmen Puerto Ricans from Hurricane Maria.
 - Speech Alfredo gave last week was incredibly moving.
 - States that being Puerto Rican himself, the issue hits close to home.
 - Has made significant progress on resolutions, with the help of Senator Beltran, Alfredo Ortiz and many others.
 - Encourages others to reach out to the authors of the resolution after the meeting.
 - Open to talk with anyone about any questions and/or concerns.
- Senator Ospina:
 - Had a meeting with Graduate Assistants United, a labor union for graduate and research assistants at the University of Florida.
 - An issue is child care for student parents.
 - Effect not only graduate students and faculty but also undergraduate students.
 - Brought Rebecca Pethus from GAU to talk about Baby Gator.
 - Working on two resolutions, one for the University of Florida to subsidize the cost of student/parent childcare and the second is to create an office or departmental presentation for UF Student Parent Affairs.
 - If interested in sponsoring the legislation, feel free to reach out after the meeting.

- Rebecca Pethus:
 - Chair of the Family and Child Committee for Graduate Assistants United.
 - Proud student parent.
 - Student parents, on average, spend 30 hours or more, a week taking care of a dependent.
 - 49% of student parents are likely to drop out after 6 years of not earning a degree.
 - Work related family issues of graduate students are nearly invisible.
 - Receiving a degree is more important than ever.
 - The likelihood that the years women are in school will coincide with childbearing years is high.
 - Child care is expensive and it is “next to impossible to make progress in degree completion without child-free time to work.
 - Baby Gator, established in 1969, is an organization on campus with child care.
 - Students with children are likely to wait a year or more for one of the “54 high class Baby Gator spaces”.
 - The inability to cover the shortfall has resulted in a 28% decline in student-parent child enrollment in the past 5 years.
 - “The options for off-campus childcare are few.”
 - There are only 12 licensed childcare centers and 2 childcare homes within 2 miles of the UF campus.
 - Recent findings show that developing a common psychiatric disorder is 2.4 times greater in student parents when compared to a highly-educated general population and 1.8 times higher when compared to other higher-educated students.
 - The greatest predictor of mental health illness is the inability to take care of family.
 - Ms. Rudolph, a 27-year old Biology major at UF could not afford to take the 6 weeks of unpaid maternity leave she was allowed.
 - There are currently 654 undergraduate and 927 graduate students who have a dependent.
 - Many top 10 universities are dealing with subsidies to help student parents.
- Senator Brandies
 - Introduces himself.
 - Senator for Health and Human Performance.
 - School did not close this past Wednesday for Hurricane Michael.
 - The storm has killed seventeen people and devastated cities, leaving many without power, food/water and shelter.
 - Asks those to support a resolution regarding support from the University of Florida.
 - Regarding any questions, feel free to talk to him after the meeting or email him at hhp@sg.ufl.edu.
- Senator Calvin:
 - Introduces himself.
 - Nuclear Engineering PhD student.
 - Should global temperatures raises 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial temperatures, the results will be devastating.

- Would result in the death and displacement of million, maybe billions, of people in the coming decades.
- Humans are causing massive changes to the environment.
- Mass extinctions have occurred when this has happened in history.
- Gives statistics on how to avoid this problem.
- Gives an answer to this problem: nuclear power.
- Nuclear power provides 10% of the world's electricity.
- It is the “second highest global, low-carbon electricity source, after hydropower”.
- It is the highest source of low-carbon electricity in the United States.
- The rest of the world has learned a lot from nuclear power.
 - France and Sweden have demonstrated that a modern economy can be run on nuclear power.
- There are more nuclear reactors in the United States than more natural gas.
- Nuclear Engineering is the smallest engineering major at UF.
- Does not see a future for the human population without nuclear power.
- There is no way to combat climate change without nuclear energy.
- Asks those to educate themselves on nuclear energy.
- Senator Chou:
 - There is a petition on Facebook concerning the CWC funding for mental health counselors.
 - Wanted to pass a message from the person who started the petition.
 - Shared the story of this person. Was forced to withdraw from this semester.
 - The Counseling and Wellness Center are very understaffed.
 - Many are forced to go to Shands Hospital due to wait time.
 - Hopes things will change with a new student body president.
 - Believes that UF should make data driven decisions, as well as story-driven decisions.

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

PRESIDENTS REPORT

OFFICE OF THE STUDENT BODY PRESIDENT:

- Young Leaders Conference Chairwoman Haven Garcia:
 - Registration for YLC just opened.
 - Gives an explanation of what YLC is.
 - Early Registration is \$270 and it closes on November 20th.
 - Regular registration is \$290 and it closes on December 10th.
 - Meetings occur on Wednesdays.

SENATE PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

- Senate President Murphy welcomes the senators.
- Introduces James Tyger.
 - Welcomes senators.
 - Senior Director of Student Government and Advising Operations.
 - Opportunity to work with team of advisors across the UF campus.

- Believes many people get caught up in the titles given to them and they do not take the time to get to know themselves as people.
- Gives story of his life and what he was involved in throughout his college career.
- Virginia Tech shooting of 2007 happened when he was enrolled in school at VA Tech.
- Always wanted to be a lawyer, however that experience changed who he was and what he wanted to do.
- Came to the Florida, as he was accepted and enrolled in law school at the University of Florida.
- Found himself getting involved in the same things he was involved in as an undergraduate.
- Enjoyed the student experience side of higher education.
- Worked for a law firm between his second and third year of school.
- Eventually realized that he did not want to be a lawyer.
- Passed the bar exam, but went on to graduate school.
- Went to Vanderbilt University and graduated with a masters in Higher Education Administration.
- Position opened up at the University of Florida after graduation and has been here for 6 years.
- Loves what he does and the experience that has come with it.
- Gives fun facts about himself.
- Excited to become a “Double Gator.”
- Can always email him.
- Announces this term’s Senate Liaisons:
 - Cabinet Executive Branch: Molishka Heriveaux
 - Judiciary: Tyler Kendrick
 - Finance: Pete Stavisky
 - University of Florida Police Department: Branden Pearson
 - Reitz Union: Danielle Grosse
 - Department of Rec Sports: Travis Hoffman
 - Parliamentarian: Adam Kozloski
- Last day of State of the Campus Address is on October 30th in the University Auditorium.
 - Will be sending out an email with the graphic design and the details.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

REPLACEMENT & AGENDA:

- Senate President Pro-Tempore Shaw welcomes the senators.
- All applications for permanent replacement and committee seats are due this Friday at 12:00pm.
- Committee seats:
 - 1 Budget seat.
 - 2 Judiciary seats.
 - 1 Rules and Ethics seat.
 - 1 Information and Communication seat.
- Permanent replacement seats:
 - Agriculture and Life Sciences.

- Architecture.
- Building Construction.
- Business.
- Dentistry.
- Graduate seats (3).
- Liberal Arts and Sciences (2).
- Medicine.
- Pharmacy.
- Veterinary Medicine.

BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS:

- Chairwoman Dunson welcomes the senators.
- Office Hours:
 - Monday: 3:00-4:00pm.
 - Wednesday 12:00-1:00pm.
 - Thursday 12:30-1:30pm.
- Asks the senators to keep up with the organizations that are represented and funded by Student Government.
 - Wednesday, October 17th at 3:00pm: SG will be having a Budgeting Seminar.
 - Thursday, October 18th: Kusa and AKM hosting a Korean Language Workshop.
 - Thursday, October 18th: Islam on Campus “Fast-a-thon.”
 - Thursday, October 18th: General Body Meeting for Hispanic Student Association and African Student Union.
- There is an open committee seat.
- Reach out for questions via email or appointment.

ALLOCATIONS:

- Chairwoman Hernandez welcomes the senators.
- Committee scribe: Nick Meyers.
- Committee meeting will be on Friday, October 19th at 3:30pm in the SG Conference Room.
- Office Hours
 - Wednesday: 9:00-11:00am.
 - Friday: 10:00am-12:00pm.

JUDICIARY:

- Chairman Sandifer welcomes the senators.
- Did not meet this past weekend.
- Legislation is due this Friday at 12:00pm.
- One committee seat is open.

RULES & ETHICS:

- Chairman Hurdle welcomes the senators.
- Committee will be meeting tomorrow at 4:15pm.
- Each individually will be hearing on constituency from the committee.
- Aim questions regarding constituency to the Rules and Ethics Committee.

INFORMATION & COMMUNICATION:

- Chairwoman Jones welcomes the senators.
- Sent out a tabling email.
 - Wear an SG polo or dress business casual.
 - Engage with the constituency.
- Asks the senators to follow the SG accounts on social media.
- Asks the senators to share and engage with the pages.
- There will be a social media push on Thursday, encouraging followers to follow the social media pages.
- Committee will be meeting this Thursday at 11:00am in the SG conference room.
- There is one open seat.

FIRST READING:

- There were none.

SECOND READING:

- There were none.

BILLS PENDING SIGNATURES:

- There were none.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Pro-Tempore Shaw:
 - Explains what the voter record should reflect.
- Senator Adler:
 - First event this Tuesday: Homecoming Pageant in the University Auditorium from 6:00pm-9:00pm.
- Senator Beltran:
 - Anti-Racism Week hosted by MCDA, with other organizations attending.
 - Tomorrow 6:00pm, “Documenting Hate.”
 - Thursday: Cultural Exchange Fair 11:00am-2:00pm on the Reitz North Lawn.
- Minority Party Leader Gatos:
 - SAI involvement applications close this Thursday.
- Senator:
 - Food Truck Rally at Kappa Alpha Theta on Sunday.
- Senate President Murphy:
 - Asks the senators to wish Chairwoman Dunson a happy birthday tomorrow.

ROLL CALL:

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

ADJOURNMENT:

- The meeting was adjourned at 8:11 PM.