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 the 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 millions, 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.