

STUDENT SENATE MINUTES

April 19, 2016

The Senate President called the meeting to order at 7:39 p.m. and announced that the meeting may be filmed or audio taped and may be available to the public. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

ROLL CALL:

Roll was called and quorum was established with 70 senators present.

Not there for roll call:

- Alt
- Ball
- Burden
- Fontenot
- Ginsburg
- Goff
- Goyal
- Holloway
- Hood
- Jiang
- Jones, T
- Khan
- Laky
- Makela
- Marsh
- McCleary
- Natal
- Nelson
- Noun
- Patel, J
- Patel, P
- Perry
- Rong
- Soni
- Sultania
- Varanasi, P
- Wang
- Weiner

AMENDMENTS TO THE PREVIOUS MINUTES:

- There are no amendments to the minutes for April 5th.

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA:

- Senator Dwyer moves to discharge the Judiciary Committee of a single responsibility and that responsibility being to hear, confirm or deny the Supreme Court nominees Adam Trumbly and Kenneth Cunningham.
 - Pro-Con Debate
 - First Round of Con
 - Majority Party Leader Werk
 - Chairman Champoux
 - First Round of Pro
 - Minority Party Leader Jones
 - Senator Dwyer
 - Second Round of Con
 - Chairman Champoux

- Chairwoman Long
 - Chairman Weiner
 - Second Round of Pro
 - Senator Feliciano
 - Final Vote. There is a call for division. The motion fails.
- Senator Jones moves to add Gators Going Green--Matthew Glover to the agenda by unanimous consent. Approved.
- Chairman Champoux moves to approve Student Senate Bill 2016-1021 Funding for Chi Alpha Christian Ministry by unanimous consent. Approved.
- Chairman Weiner moves to approve Student Senate Bill 2016-1022 Resolution Honoring Vice President of Student Affairs Major General (Ret.) David E. Kratzer for His Service to the University of Florida by unanimous consent. Approved.
- Chairwoman Long moves to hear approved absence petitions as a block by unanimous consent. Approved.
- Chairwoman Long moves to approve the aforementioned block by unanimous consent. Approved.
- Chairwoman Long moves to approve the failed absence petition by unanimous consent. Approved.
- Majority Party Leader Werk moves to approve Gators Going Green--Matthew Glover by unanimous consent. Approved.
- Senator Jones moves to add Kenneth Cunningham to the agenda for the Supreme Court.
 - Pro-Con Debate
 - First Round of Con
 - Chairman Selogy
 - Senator Titus
 - First Round of Pro
 - Senator Dwyer
 - Senator Varanasi
 - Second Round of Con
 - Chairman Selogy
 - Second Round of Pro
 - Senator Feliciano
 - Final Vote. The motion fails.
- Chairman Brown moves to approve Student Senate Law 2016-1019 2016-2017 Student Government Funded Organizational Budget by unanimous consent. There is an objection.

PUBLIC DEBATE:

- Tyler Richards yields his time to Benjamin Duong.
- Hammaad Saber reserves his time.

- Christina DeVarona yields her time to Reina Saco.
- Daniel Batista, president of the Latino Law Student Association, congratulates the Senate for making a motion towards diversity on the Supreme Court. He however feels that there is an issue right now because the Court will be half empty after graduation.
- Warren Hayes yields his time to Reina Saco.
- Pausha Taghdiri, president of Phi Alpha Delta, asks the Senate to please hear out the candidates for the Supreme Court. He yields the rest of his time to Reina Saco.
- Nicholas Gurney, Solicitor General of the Student Government, discusses legislative precedent.
- Ben King asks the Senate to consider the nominees for the Supreme Court and yields the rest of his time to Reina Saco.
- Audrey Guerra explains the issues associated with using the word “diversity” in debate and relates it to the Supreme Court nominations. She urges Senate to reconsider their decision.
- Mark Tracz yields his time to Senator Rozsa.
- Brittany Munyer yields her time to Hammaad Saber.
- Brooke Azzaro yields her time to Hammaad Saber.
- Alexandra Larro yields her time to Hammaad Saber.
- Preston Jones yields his time to Miriam Martinez-Cabrera
- Ricardo Sabater yields his time to Lillian Rozsa.
- Austin Young expresses his concern that this issue with nominations will be similar to last summer’s vacancies in the executive branch.
- Estevan Torres discusses his worries regarding the previous Senate meeting and the decision of the body to reject the nominees.
- Benjamin Duong reserves his time.
- Matthew Bizer yields his time to Benjamin Duong.
- Brandon Rosenthal yields his time to Benjamin Duong.
- Ian Green yields his time to Chairman Weiner.
- Lillian Rozsa believes the word “woman” was thrown out a lot last week. As a woman, she sees no problem with the appointments that were made. She expresses that Student Body President Padron-Rasines worked very hard to fulfill ‘diversity’ in appointing the Supreme Court. She believes the Supreme Court nominations should be heard again in the Chamber.
- Adam Trumbly used his time for silence.
- Randall Martin yields his time to Reina Saco.
- Ford Dwyer reserves his time.

- Ken Cunningham talks to the Senate about impartiality and prior assumptions. He asks senators to reconsider, given that many people admitted that he was actually qualified, and hopes that he will be reconsidered.
- Illya Sakharuk yields time to Tiffany Nelson.
- Tiffany Nelson, the Director of Outreach for Florida Players, came up to express her concern in the Supreme Court Nominees that were declined. She believes that just because of gender, the nominees should not be negated. As a woman, she believes qualified men would do a better job than unqualified women.
- Senator Bethencourt yields her time to Uttam Gaulee.
- Senator Gabriel yields his time to Uttam Gaulee.
- Senator Janae Moodie yields her time to Uttam Gaulee.
- Jackie Phillips yields her time to Uttam Gaulee.
- Matthew Hoeck reserves his time.
- Uttam Gaulee thanks the Senate for passing the Global Garden Resolution last September and announces that thanks to that he has been able to start on the project. He comes up to present his idea of Global Garden in the University of Florida. He announces that he will
- Nicki Baldwin reserves her time.
- Amanda Nelson yields to Benjamin Doung
- Wayne Selogy yields his time to the chair.
- Lizzie Frankenthal announces she is frustrated by the acts of Student Government. She believes using diversity as an excuse is unjust to the qualifications the nominees have.
- Jason Feliciano reserves his time.
- Anthony Close yields his time to Chairman Weiner.
- Sean Titus yields his time to Chairman Weiner
- Austin Champoux yields his time to Chairman Weiner.
- Senator Belin, President of Dentistry Association, announces they are holding their Annual 5K at the GCM Community Ministry. Please come out and show support.
- Damian Gonzalez, Co-President of Pride, announces his concern with the negation of the Supreme Court nominees. He says to NOT fail the students or the law school. He says these nominees NEED to be heard. He says minorities need to stop silencing other minorities.
- Amanda Kincaid, President of International Law Society and a woman and student, puts her full support behind the Supreme Court nominees. She yields the rest of her time to Senator Dwyer.
- Reina Saco, a former Senator, talks about her past experiences in the Senate and the parallels between last summer's debates and tonight's Supreme Court nominee debate. She implores the Senate to please reconsider these men for

their qualifications and to consider the implications of arguments made last meeting regarding gender.

- Daniela Saetta yields her time to Ford Dwyer.
- Angel Gonzalez yields his time to Sabrina Phillip.
- Sabrina Philipp reserves her time.
- Gabriela Larios yields her time to Ford Dwyer.
- Chairman Weiner reserves his time.
- Hammaad Saber asks senators to consider the implications of tonight's appointments and how they go against the arguments made for denying the Supreme Court nominees.
- Benjamin Duong speaks to the Senate regarding the nominees for the Supreme Court.
- Senator Dwyer shares a letter from a constituent who was a former Senator.
- Matthew Hoeck yields his time to Susan Webster.
- Susan Webster yields her time to the chair.
- Nicki Baldwin gives her goodbye speech to the Senate.
- Senator Feliciano gives his goodbye speech to the Senate.
- Sabrina Phillip hopes that in the future she Chamber can complete the jobs they are meant to fulfill. She came up to argue about the hypocrisy that the Chamber and SG has presented. According to the statutes, it is understood that University SG falls under State Law and State Law mandates Student Body President to share the information she is requested.
- Chairman Weiner starts off by thanking the constituents that came up to express their voices. He clarifies that these appointments were denied not for personal matter, but for the Student Body and the rules we have. He explains why hearing the same nominations would be unconstitutional and would break the rules the Student Government has.

OFFICE OF THE STUDENT BODY PRESIDENT:

- Student Body President Joselin Padron-Rasines allows Nicholas Gurney, the Solicitor General, to express his concerns with the miscommunication he sees in Senate as part of his final report. He shares all the fallacies he sees in negating the Supreme Court nominations.
- Student Body Treasurer Nick Carre announces that today \$20,000 were approved for the Gator Emergency Medical Response Unit. He also talks about how sick and appalled he is after listening to the tape from last Senate meeting. As part of his last report, he shares how he disagrees with Senate and their decision with the Supreme Court nominees.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

- Senate President Clements reminds senator that tonight is the last meeting of the spring semester. She wishes everyone luck on exams.
- She thanks all of the seniors that have served over the past few months; she appreciates all of the work that they have done.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

REPLACEMENT & AGENDA:

- Senate Pro-Tempore Meyers begins with the recommendations for executive nominations.
- Senator Dwyer moves to reconsider... (same motion from before)
 - Pro-Con Debate
 - First Round of Con
 - Majority Party Leader Werk
 - First Round of Pro
 - Senator Varanasi
 - Senator Sabater
 - Second Round of Con
 - Majority Party Leader Werk
 - Second Round of Pro
 - Senator Sabater
 - Final Vote. The motion fails.
- Majority Party Leader Werk moves to hear the nominations for Executive Secretaries as a block by unanimous consent.
 - Moves to approve the Executive Secretaries block. Approved.
- Majority Party Leader Werk moves to hear the nominations for Cabinet Chairs and Directors as a block.
 - Moves to approve the Cabinet Directors and Chairs block. Approved.
- Senate Pro-Tempore Meyers begins the recommendations for the Agency Heads.
- Majority Party Leader Werk moves to hear Agency Heads as a block.
 - Pro-Con Debate
 - First Round of Con
 - Minority Party Leader Jones
 - First Round of Pro
 - Majority Party Leader Werk
 - Second Round of Con
 - Senator Varanasi

- Chairwoman Phillips
 - Third Round of Con
 - Minority Party Leader Jones
 - Senator Varanasi
 - Third Round of Pro
 - Chairman Brown
 - Senator Hariton
 - Senator Bethencourt
 - There is a motion to call the previous question. Approved.
 - Final vote. The nominees are approved.
- Chairman Meyers continues his report by announcing the open Senate and Committee Seats (fill in later)
 - Permanent: May 13th at noon
 - Open A replacement seats: May 6th at noon
 - Open Summer C: due May 6th at noon
 - Committee seats: 2 R&E, I&C, 5 Judiciary

BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS:

- Chairman Brown shares that the committee discussed the Big 4 Speaker Series as well as a Senate Finance Forum in conjunction with the allocations committee. This is to make sure that everyone understands the financial aspects of Senate.

ALLOCATIONS:

- Chairman Champoux announces that the allocations committee met this past Thursday. They heard 2 organizations; one was failed and the other was passed. The one organization failed because the organization's constitution did not 100% fall in accordance with the Allocation's committee requirements.

JUDICIARY:

- Chairman Weiner shares that the committee passed one resolution this past weekend. They are tentatively setting their next meeting for May 15th with all agenda items due on May 13th.

RULES & ETHICS:

- Chairwoman Long reminds the Senators that constituency was due at the beginning of the meeting. She clarifies that some Senators posted events from the past and they will not be accepted because of the 7 day submission rule; the event must be reported within a 7 day time frame after it occurs.

- Meeting tomorrow at the SG Conference Room to look over constituency.
 - If you did not complete constituency, you will be put on Probation.

INFORMATION & COMMUNICATION:

- Chairwoman Phillips says that the committee will be meeting tomorrow at 6pm.
- T-shirts are available tonight and will be distributed following tonight's meeting.
- She also announces that Senator Spotlight is back (with a little twist)! Nominate Senators by emailing Chairwoman Phillips.
- She reminds everyone to share and like Facebook posts so Senate can improve outreach.

Online Voting Implementation Ad Hoc:

- Chairman Selogy shares that the committee met on Thursday and did introductions while also going over individual action plans and understanding of the rights of members.
- He invites senators to please attend their meetings; they will resume in Summer A.

SECOND READING:

- Minority Party Leader Jones moves to approve Student Senate Law 2016-1019 by unanimous consent. Approved.
- He moves to approve Student Senate Law 2016-1020 by unanimous consent. Approved.

FIRST READING:

- There are no bills remaining.

BILLS PENDING SIGNATURES:

- There are no bills pending signatures.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Senator Netzer shares that he met two men starting Flex Philanthropy. If you have any leftover Flex Bucks, check this out.
- Chairman Champoux explains what the "Intent Line" on the Chi Alpha bill means.
- Senator Moodie gives her goodbye speech to the Senate.

- Senator Trawick announces that they will be meeting at Applebee's tonight following Senate and that everyone is invited.
- Senator Feliciano asks senators to please also advertise the open journalism seat.
- Chairman Brown announces that the Big 4 hearings will be held May 9-11th. He is unsure of the room but he will have it public noticed tomorrow.
- Senator Rozsa announces an event hosted by He for She on the Plaza of the
- Senator Everitt discusses the mental health initiatives that he and Senator Feliciano had been working on and asks senators to please contact him if interested in helping with that or transportation initiatives.
- Senator Bahmad
- Senate President Clements reminds senators about filling out vote records and the additions that should be included. She also talks about the Gator Career Closet and asks for donations to include in the Closet.
- Senators are asked to please clean up their surroundings before leaving.

ROLL CALL:

A motion to use voting records for final roll call passed.

No Vote Record Received:

- | | |
|-------------|------------|
| ● Alt | ● Makela |
| ● Ball | ● Marsh |
| ● Burden | ● McCleary |
| ● Folkes | ● McMillan |
| ● Fontenot | ● Natal |
| ● Goff | ● Nelson |
| ● Goyal | ● Patel, J |
| ● Holloway | ● Perry |
| ● Hood | ● Rong |
| ● Jiang | ● Soni |
| ● Jones, T | ● Sultania |
| ● Kasmirski | ● Wang |
| ● Laky | |

MEETING ADJOURNED:

The meeting adjourned at 10:52 p.m.