

STUDENT SENATE MINUTES

July 19th, 2016

The Senate President called the meeting to order at 7:06 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 81 senators present.

Not there for roll call:

- Franke
- Gabriel
- Motwani
- Jasal Patel
- Roney
- Ser
- Wedemeyer
- Wright

AMENDMENTS TO THE PREVIOUS MINUTES:

- There are no amendments to the minutes for July 12th.

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA:

- Chairman Champoux motions to approve Student Senate Bill 2016-1041 Funding for Interfaith Ambassadors by unanimous consent. Approved.
- Chairman Champoux motions to approve Student Senate Bill 2016-1042 Funding for Japanese Student Association by unanimous consent. Approved.
- Chairman Champoux motions to approve Student Senate Bill 2016-1043 Funding for Asian American Student Union: Filipino Student Association by unanimous consent. Approved.
- Chairman Champoux motions to approve Student Senate Bill 2016-1044 Funding for Belly Gators by unanimous consent. Approved.
- Chairman Weiner motions to approve Student Senate Bill 2016-1040 700 Code Revisions by unanimous consent. Objected.
- Chairwoman Long motions to hear the failed absence petitions as a block by unanimous consent. Approved.
 - Motion to approve the aforementioned block by unanimous consent. Approved.
- Chairwoman Long motions to approve the Committee Absence Appeal by unanimous consent. Approved.
 - Moves to rescind the aforementioned and edit the agenda to make it say '*Committee Resignation Appeal.*'
 - She then moves to approve the failed aforementioned by unanimous consent. Approved.
- Majority Party Leader Werk motions to hear the Executive Nominations for the Election Commission as a block by unanimous consent. Approved.
 - Motion to approve the aforementioned block by unanimous consent. Approved.

- Majority Party Leader Werk motions to strike Ye Zhou as a Summer B Replacement Graduate seat by unanimous consent. Approved.
- Majority Party Leader Werk motions to hear the remaining Summer B Replacement seats as a block by unanimous consent. Approved.
 - Motion to approve the aforementioned block by unanimous consent. Approved.
- Chairman Brown motions to approve Student Senate Law 2016-1039 Fiscal Year 2017-2018 Activity and Service Fee Budget by unanimous consent. Approved.
- Senator Green motions to approve Student Senate Resolution 2016-1045 Resolution Commemorating the Lives Taken by the Senseless Shootings of Alton Sterling, Philando Castile, and the Five Dallas Police Officers by unanimous consent. Approved.

PUBLIC DEBATE:

- Senator Green yields to the chair.
- Chase Werther yields to Macey Wilson.
- Senator Sakharuk yields to Macey Wilson.
- Senator Wilson came up to speak her concerns about the 700 code revisions.
 - The revisions will make the Supervisor of Elections in charge of the debates.
 - She believes that it isn't a good idea because the Supervisor of Elections already is in charge of the entire election and is busy enough and should focus on the election.
 - In the past, the debates have been led by the Freshmen Leadership Council and she believes that it should continue to be hosted by the FLC.
 - She believes that Student Government has problems with their elections as well.
 - In 2011, Student Government Senate had to review the elections due to issues with missing ballots and districting errors.
 - She points out that the first point (719.0) of the revisions it says refusal to attend the debate is grounds for disqualification.
 - She believes that they are stealing First Amendment rights from anyone who is on the Executive ticket who cannot attend those meetings.
 - She says that it is their Freedom of Speech whether or not they want to go to that debate and if they choose not to, that is their own personal decision on their reasoning and they cannot take that away from them.
 - The second point (719.01) says that if only one party has a fully qualified executive slate, that they won't have to have the debates at all.
 - She believes that not only does it disqualify any Independents by stating one party but it also disqualifies anyone who might not have a Treasurer.
 - She believes that it is saying that they can no longer have a debate.

- If they don't have all 3 members then the UF students don't get to see these other potential candidates that they could vote for.
 - She points out that in past election results, numerous times it has been seen that Treasurers have more or fewer votes than the people they are running with because some students preferred one Treasurer to another and one President/Vice President combo to another. And made the conscious decision to vote for them over the others.
 - By taking that away from the UF students, we are robbing them of the knowledge of what these other candidates could have done.
 - She asks the Chamber to really think about these code revisions and not pass them tonight.
 - She yields the rest of her time to Senator Stein.
- Joco Mayo introduces himself as the President of the Filipino Student Association.
 - He thanks Student Government for allocating his organization the money for their biggest event, Def Talent Jam.
 - It is the largest student-run dance competition in the Southeast region of the nation.
 - When this event was created 24 years ago, the alumni could never imagine that it would go from the Orange and Brew to the Phillips Center.
 - Now with SG funding and the competition being open to all students, they believe they can show Gator Nation the true face of FSA.
- Senator Stein welcomes the senators.
 - He also had issues with the 700 code revisions.
 - He doesn't have a problem with the Supervisor of Elections putting on the debate, he thinks they did a really good job last year and if they want to take on that responsibility, that's great.
 - He has a problem with the disqualification clause.
 - He doesn't think that the Supervisor of Elections should have the power to compel attendance or have the ability to refer someone to the Supreme Court for non-attendance.
 - He says we are talking about who are running for office not people who have sworn the oath to stand here and be at every meeting like we have.
 - He believes that you can't take away the right to protest.
 - He believes that sometimes silence is louder than the loudest cry and that the silence shouldn't be compromised.
 - He also thinks that it is highly irregular and that no other organization requires attendance at the debate even the U.S. Government.
 - We seek to emulate these bodies in structure and believes that it is important to protect our First Amendment rights. He will move to strike these.
 - He believes that it is our duty to protect protest as an action. Even if we don't agree, a party's decision to not show up as a sign of protest it is our responsibility to protect their right to protest.

- He yields the rest of his time to the chair.

OFFICE OF THE STUDENT BODY PRESIDENT:

- Student Body President Susan Webster welcomes the Chamber.
 - The Student Government Executive Committee will meet Thursday July 21st at noon.
 - They will be doing a walk through for the SEC Exchange.
 - She offers an update on the poncho program, and hopefully next week there will be ponchos on campus.
 - They will be reusable and you can just throw them in your backpack!
 - External Affairs Director Jason Richards is working on a hammock rental program with Recreational Sports.
 - They will be putting Gatorade vending machines in the gyms.
 - Platform tracker video series has been a great program for us to offer.
 - Come see her, BJ, and Kishan tomorrow July 20th from 12-1:30pm.
 - Grab a sno cone and talk to some of your constituents.
- Chief of Staff Haley Smith introduces herself.
 - She is chairing the Sexual Assault Awareness Week and we are looking to promote the It's On Us Campaign.
 - She is assembling a task force that will last a year and anyone interested is welcome to reach out to her via email at sgchief@sg.ufl.edu.
- Action SG Chair Ty Robare wanted emphasize the sno cone event tomorrow July 20th from 12-1:30 pm.
 - It is always a good way to meet the new students who are here.
 - The platform tracker video series has pulled in about 2000 more followers to their account.
 - Please continue to share these videos to your constituents.
 - Also, look out for another one later this week.
- Senator Wilson asked when the hammock program will start.
 - As soon as they come in, Student Body President Webster will send out an email via listserv to let you know.
 - It will hopefully be a similar program to renting a tennis racket from Southwest Rec where you give your Gator 1 ID to rent it.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

- Senate President Clements reminds everyone that the SEC Exchange is this weekend.
 - She thanks everyone who reached out to help out.
- She congratulates the Budget committee for the approved first reading of the 17-18 Fiscal Year Budget.
- She congratulates all of the organizations that have been funded by allocations.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

REPLACEMENT & AGENDA:

- Senate Pro-Tempore Meyers welcomes the senators.
- The Graduate Summer B Replacement was struck from the agenda because that replacement failed to meet eligibility checks.
- Open Permanent Replacement Seat applications will be due July 22nd at noon:
 - District C
- Open Summer B Replacement Seat applications will be due July 22nd at noon:
 - Agricultural & Life Sciences
 - District E
 - Graduate (3)
 - Law
 - Nursing
 - Hume

BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS:

- Chairman Brown thanks the Chamber for the approval of the budget.
- He feels that the services for the students have been increased without increasing the fees for them.
- In the coming months, they will be working towards their outreach program to work with student organizations.
 - Student organizations will be assigned a member of the committee and it will make a daunting task more simplified and will help the organizations understand how the codes work and what money can and can't be spent on.
- He opens the floor for questions.
- Majority Party Leader Werk asks to explain what happened with the Music School budget.
 - He answers that when assessing the A&S Fee Budget, they were looking a few different things and they saw a line that was Musical School and University Gospel Choir support.
 - He met with the Director of the Music School to take a look at how the school was spending their money, the committee believed the money was not being spent necessarily so they allocated their budget differently.
 - They will come to the allocations committee and that is how they will get their funding. They will be able to get funding, just a different process.

ALLOCATIONS:

- Chairman Champoux welcomes the senators.
- The committee met this past Sunday July 17th and heard 4 requests.
 - The Filipino Student Association event will be free for all students.
- Belly Gators and Japanese Student Association and Interfaith Ambassadors are all new organizations, which proves that our outreach program has been going really well.
- The committee has revamped the liaison program to keep you up to date on organization events.

- They will meet tomorrow July 20th at 5 pm in Reitz Union Room 2350 to hear 4 more requests.

JUDICIARY:

- Chairman Weiner welcomes the senators.
- The committee met this past Monday at 8am and they passed 1 bill, 1 resolution, 2 student organization constitutions, and the eligibility checks for the Elections Commission.
- He will host the Bill Writing Workshop tomorrow July 20th from 2-4 pm in the SG Office.
- The committee will meet Sunday July 24th at 5pm in the SG Conference Room, so legislation will be due Friday July 22nd at noon.

RULES & ETHICS:

- Chairwoman Long welcomes the senators.
- She reminds the senators that probation is due tonight July 19th by midnight.
- The calendar has all types of events, it is not separated by constituency groups but they are color coded so do look at the key on the left-hand side.
 - Please add any events to the calendar that you know of so that we can do more outreach.
- Tonight is the last night to submit their form for the SG Finance Forum; it will then be overdue the 7 day deadline.
- She says that if anyone has questions on what constituency requirements you have done, you can log onto the tracker on GatorConnect.
- It is the midpoint of constituency, so you only have a little bit longer to complete your events.
 - The committee will send out emails on what you events you have done, and what you still have to do.
- The committee ran out of time so if you submitted a form from July 18th to July 19th, it will not approved so keep that in mind.
 - But next week when they update the tracker, they will be shown.

INFORMATION & COMMUNICATION:

- Chairwoman Phillips welcomes the senators.
- She wants the senators to get to know each other for a couple of minutes since it was an assigned seating night.
 - She encourages the senators to take advantage of the assigned seating and retreats to get to know one another.
- She announces that there are now Senate promotional items and they will be available to hand out during tabling.
- There are still 3 more Preview tabling sessions and 4 more Reitz tabling session, so please sign up through the link.

- Spike it With Senate, which is our Senate philanthropy event, will be September 1st!

SECOND READING:

- There are no bills in second reading.

FIRST READING:

- Student Senate Bill 2016-1040 700 Code Revisions.
- Senate President Pro-Tempore Meyers begins with 5 minutes of presentation:
 - Eric Hobbs, the Supervisor of Elections, has an exam and is unable to be here tonight, so Senate President Pro-Tempore will be speaking as one of the authors.
 - It moves the debate under the Supervisor of Elections. It is written this way for a couple of reasons.
 - First, the Supervisor of Elections is a non-partisan entity so it makes sense that the host of the election debates should be non-partisan.
 - Second, there have been issues with the Freshman Leadership Council hosting it in the past. It is a lengthy process to sort through the people who should host the debate to make sure they are non-partisan, so it would be under the Supervisor of Elections who is already known to be non-partisan.
 - The debate is during the Spring election. Also, it makes it a lot easier to book the meetings in the meeting places far in advance. For example, in the upcoming Spring election, the debate date is set and the room for the debate is set.
 - He yields the rest of his time.
- 5 Minutes of non-technical questions:
 - Senator Wilson asks about the point that reads “in the event that only one party has a fully qualified slate, the Supervisor of Elections will not be required to host the debate” to clarify what one party means; does that mean one slate or one of the two parties and not the Independent party.
 - Senate Pro-Tempore Meyers answers that it means only one set of qualified executive candidates.
- Pro/Con Debate:
 - 1st Con:
 - 1 Senator Stein
 - Moves to strike 719.01
 - It was properly seconded.
 - Presentation on the amendment:
 - He has a problem with the disqualification clause.
- 2 minutes of Q&A:
 - None

- Pro/Con Debate:
 - 1st Con:
 - 1 Majority Party Leader Werk
 - 1st Pro:
 - 1 Senator Stein
 - 2nd Con:
 - 1 Majority Party Leader Werk
 - 2nd Pro:
 - 1 Senator Wilson
- Final Privilege for Senator Stein
- Final Vote on bill amendment:
 - Striking 719.01
 - Objected

- (Returning to the remainder of Con round in bill debate)
 - 1st Con:
 - 1 Senator Wilson
 - 1st Pro:
 - 1 Chairman Phillips
 - 1 Chairman Champoux
 - 1 Majority Party Leader Werk
 - 2nd Con:
 - 1 Senator Wilson
 - 2nd Pro:
 - 1 Majority Party Leader Werk
 - 1 Chairman Champoux
 - 3rd Con:
 - 1 Senator Wilson
 - 3rd Pro:
 - Majority Party Leader Werk moves to hear previous question.
 - Objected.
 - 1 Majority Party Leader Werk
 - 1 Senator Carey
 - 1 Senator Netzer
 - 4th Con:
 - 4th Pro:
 - Majority Party Leader Werk moves to hear previous question by unanimous consent. Approved.
- Final Privilege for Senate President Pro-Tempore Meyers.
- Final Vote
 - Approved.

BILLS PENDING SIGNATURES:

There are no bills pending signatures.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Chairwoman Phillips wants to take a picture of the chamber for the Daily In Motion Challenge. Tonight's theme is CHOMP so please SMILE for Instagram!
- Senator Bethencourt thanks everyone for passing the Student Senate Bill 2016-1045 Resolution Commemorating the Lives Taken by the Senseless Shootings of Alton Sterling, Philando Castile, and the Five Dallas Police Officers.
 - It means a lot to the Black community here at the University of Florida and it is greatly appreciated.
 - She also thanks the Judiciary committee.
- Chairwoman Long just reminds the senators if they have any questions on constituency or probation, to please approach her.
- Senator Hanley says that headshots will be sent out on a Google drive for everyone to see.
 - If it's a dire need to have their headshot, please reach out to her by Friday July 22nd.
- Senator Green also thanks the senators for the approval of Senate Bill 2016-1045 Resolution Commemorating the Lives Taken by the Senseless Shootings of Alton Sterling, Philando Castile, and the Five Dallas Police Officers.
 - This is an example for Red, White, and Blue Lives Matter and events like these need to be stopped.
- Senate Pro-Tempore Meyers announces that if you are interested in participating in the Humans Vs Zombies event, to please see him after the meeting.

ROLL CALL:

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

No Vote Record Received:

- Franke
- Gabriel
- Motwani
- Jasal Patel
- Roney
- Ser
- Wedemeyer
- Wright

MEETING ADJOURNED:

The meeting adjourned at 8:03 p.m.