

## **STUDENT SENATE MINUTES**

### **January 5<sup>th</sup>, 2016**

The Senate President called the meeting to order at 7:30 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:**

- |          |              |
|----------|--------------|
| • Christ | • Reemsnyder |
| • Fish   | • A. Smith   |
| • Irvin  | • Stillword  |
| • Levy   | • Twymon     |
| • Meyers | • Valdes     |
| • Moodie | • Weiner     |
| • Noun   |              |

#### **AMENDMENTS TO THE PREVIOUS MINUTES:**

There were no amendments to the previous minutes for December 8th.

#### **AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA:**

- Chairman Richards moves to approve Student Senate Resolution 2016-1000 by unanimous consent. Approved.
- Majority Party Leader Smith moves to hear CITF appointments as a block by unanimous consent. Approved.
  - Moves to approve the block by unanimous consent. Approved.
- Chairwoman McClinton moves to hear R&E absence petitions as a block by unanimous consent. Approved.
  - Moves to approve the block by unanimous consent. Approved.

#### **PUBLIC DEBATE:**

- Senator Nelson shares a message from Islam on Campus as a thank you to all who wrote notes last meeting to the Muslim community. There will be a “Stronger than Stigma” event in Matherly 108 at 8pm on Wednesday, January 13<sup>th</sup>.
- Senator Titus yields his time to the chair.

#### **OFFICE OF THE STUDENT BODY PRESIDENT:**

- Student Body President Padron-Rasines thanks everyone for approving the CITF appointments.
- She has updated her office hours on Tuesdays from 9am-2pm and Wednesdays from 12-5pm. They are updated on the website and there will be fliers updated on social media as well. Appointments are also welcome.
- GAU (Graduate Assistants United) have had their contracts renegotiated and approved, but there are faculty members in UFF that have reached an impasse in negotiating their contracts. The Board of Trustees will have to vote on where they stand on those contracts.
- There has been discussion of a nighttime transportation provider and they are moving forward with the bargaining process for that. They are hoping to announce the results of that in the upcoming months.
- If any senators have questions, feel free to email her and she wishes everyone luck on their semesters.
- Supervisor of Elections Baker presents the contingency plan for the upcoming elections.
- Students are now able to access the absentee ballot forms online; they are able to access this form on the SG website.
- Party registration is on January 17<sup>th</sup> at the SG office and the elections information meeting is on January 19<sup>th</sup> at the Arredondo Café.

### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT:**

- Senate President Webster welcomes everyone back for the spring semester.
- The Senate meeting next week will be at the Harn Museum at 7:30pm. Directors of the Cultural Plaza will be in attendance as well. A reminder email will be sent out.
- Her office hours will be announced soon but please email her if you would like to meet with her.
- She will keep senators posted as to when SG will be moving into its new permanent office.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

#### **REPLACEMENT & AGENDA:**

- Senate Pro-Tempore Clements announces that there are open seats:
  - Dentistry and Medicine will be due on Friday, January 8<sup>th</sup> at noon.
  - Graduate, Freshman, Engineering, and Rules & Ethics (1) will be due on Friday, January 15<sup>th</sup> at noon.
- The Professional Clothing Closet now has a space and they will be moving forward with that project.

- Any students with formal clothing that they no longer need can be donated to the Closet.

### **BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS:**

- Vice Chair Robare reminds everyone again that next week's meeting is at the Harn Museum.
- Spring hearings are about two months away, and the committee is still working on outreach.

### **ALLOCATIONS:**

- Chairman Champoux shares that the committee will be meeting on Sunday at 9:45am in the food court. They will be having five hearings on that day beginning at 10am.
- The Finance Forum is on January 21<sup>st</sup>; it is intended to reach out to student organizations who would like to be funded by SG and to educate them about the process.
- They are finishing filming for their video; senators are welcome to sign up to participate in the video.
- The committee will not be able to hear any requests beginning two weeks before elections due to the codes, so organizations are encouraged to get their requests in now.
- His office hours will be on Fridays from 10am-12pm in the SG office.

### **JUDICIARY:**

- Chairman Richards shares that the committee did not meet last weekend but that they will meet this upcoming weekend.
- He thanks senators for approving tonight's resolution.
- His bill writing workshop will be on Thursday from 11:30am-1:30pm.
- They have been working on creating a Campus Safety Town Hall and that time will be announced in the upcoming week.
- All legislation will be due Friday at noon.
- Projects for the semester will be finalized this weekend and will be announced next week.

### **RULES & ETHICS:**

- Chairwoman McClinton says that her office hours this week will be from 10am-12pm in the SG office.

- She reviews the requirements for constituency for the semester. Senators on probation must complete their requirements by January 26th.
- Absences carry over from the fall term, and will not be erased until the new senators from spring elections are sworn in.
- Feel free to contact Chairwoman McClinton with any questions or concerns.
- There is an open R&E seat; please apply!
- The committee should meet at the front at the end of the meeting.

#### **INFORMATION & COMMUNICATION:**

- Chairwoman Newport-Jones reminds senators to please log on to their SG emails and check for an email about listservs.
- Senators should keep an eye out for “Senate In Review” newsletter and share that on social media.
- The committee should meet in the back following the meeting tonight.

#### **DIVERSITY OUTREACH AD HOC:**

- Chairman Buiey says that they will be coming up with a regular meeting time tonight after the meeting.
- They are hoping to create a Town Hall that will happen before Senate on January 26<sup>th</sup>.
- Please continue to show support for BSU events and other organizations.
- Multicultural and Diversity Affairs will be hosting a month of events beginning on January 13<sup>th</sup> to honor Martin Luther King Jr. They will be hosting a Town Hall on January 23<sup>rd</sup> at 10:30am in the Reitz Grand Ballroom and senators are encouraged to participate in that.
- Chairman Fletcher says he was made aware of an old program called PAACT: Pledging to Achieve Academic Competency. It was essentially a Preview for black students and they are looking into bringing it back to campus.
- They are continuing their talks with the Black Student Task Force and are working with other organizations researching the decline in black students at UF.

#### **MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS AD HOC:**

- Chairwoman Werk says that the committee will be setting a meeting time after the meeting tonight for this week.
- They are continuing research and contacting committees to continue their projects before the end of the term.

#### **FIRST READING:**

- There are no bills remaining for first reading.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- Senator Guerra shares that RUB is playing Space Jam on January 7-10<sup>th</sup> in the Reitz Union.
- Senator Campanale shares that Congressman Ted Yoho will be visiting and will have an open forum setup. Anyone interested in attending should contact her directly as space will be limited.
- Senator Todd shares that the Ronald McNair Scholars Program is still accepting applications; they will be due on January 29<sup>th</sup>.
- Senator Selogy shares that a service member was killed in Afghanistan and asks senators to please keep that family in their thoughts and prayers.

## **ROLL CALL:**

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

### **No Vote Record Received:**

- |          |              |
|----------|--------------|
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| • Irvin  | • Stillword  |
| • Levy   | • Twymon     |
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## **MEETING ADJOURNED:**

The meeting adjourned at 8:04 p.m.