

STUDENT SENATE MINUTES

April 23th, 2019

The Senate President called the Senate meeting to order at 7:30pm 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 74 senators present.

Not there for roll call:

- Alexander
- Berrocal
- Calvin
- Entringer
- Fernandez-Valle
- Garner
- Goren
- Herman
- Honeycutt
- Iyamu
- John
- Kanouse
- Kaufman
- Dilan Patel
- Shaan Patel
- Ramos
- Russell
- Shan
- Stein
- Stephens
- Weninger

PUBLIC DEBATE:

- Collin Solomon
 - Thanks the chamber and the Judiciary committee for adding Student Senate Bill 2019-1059: Resolution to Stand in Solidarity with the People of Paris and the Christian Community, and recognizes the co-authors and sponsors of the legislation.
 - Hopes that bipartisanship can continue through the summer
- Melody Castilla:
 - Here to talk about the resolution for installing blue lights on Fraternity Row.
 - Is here as an ally for all who has been affected by sexual assault.
 - If we are going to pride ourselves as a top ten university, we must recognize that fraternity houses are very dangerous for women.
 - Cites research studies that supports this claim.
 - In an administered survey at UF, 1/3 of women at UF will be sexually assaulted.

- Further provides stats regarding sexual assault on college campuses.
 - Fraternities are places where dangerous things in general can happen.
 - When so much violence is centered on this area, something needs to be done.
 - With someone being a member of the Judiciary Committee and also a fraternity, she asks that one would think unbiased on this issue.
 - Expresses his disappointment with the Student Body President.
 - Implores the chamber and Judiciary Committee to reflect on the decision to fail this legislation, and hopes that it can be added.
- Senator Amrose:
 - Shares a presentation of his proposed legislation regarding condemning anti-Semitism, and how he believes that it was plagiarized by the authors of a similar piece that was passed by the Judiciary Committee
- Senator Witte:
 - Has a profound respect for the student body.
 - We give a voice to the student body.
 - A voice can do peculiar things.
 - Takes great umbrage in what happen at last Tuesday's meeting.
 - A senator objected to public debate.
 - Is disturbed by this motion.
 - Ecstatic that the body decided to allow the people to speak for public debate.
 - The first amendment of the United States was originally the third amendment, but it was moved up based on the importance of free speech.
 - Besides everything else, one thing we can agree on is that free speech is important, and it is something that should be protected.
 - "We can do better."
 - "I am asking that we continue to do better, and for certain individuals, to do a heck of a lot better."
- Senator Zelin:
 - Wants to speak on the previous issue based on the similarities of two bills submitted to the Judiciary Committee.
 - Was very disappointed to see this on the day of Passover.
 - Considering that if they reached out to more sponsors, as it did not have enough, this is not one of the 5 criteria of reviewing legislation.
 - Is happy to see that the chamber will decide to reconsider the legislation.
 - Considering that these things have continued to happen, Senator Zelin hopes that we can come together to do something that is an easy step to make together.
 - Seeing the bill coming in on that day that it did, seemed as if it was design to stir a reaction.
 - Hopes that we can come together to work on this issue. Happy to see people on both sides of the aisle working on this initiative.
 - Will be drafting a new bill that includes sponsors from both sides of the aisle.
- Alfredo Ortiz:
 - Loves the resolution written by Colin Solomon, Student Senate Bill 2019-1059: Resolution to Stand in Solidarity with the People of Paris and the Christian

Community, but at the same time, recognizes that we should also look at things that have been lost by other people.

- There are many tragedies that have occurred that have caused resolutions written by the Senate.
- Asks the Senate to consider using more lightweight, summer-friendly clothes in the summer terms, like the “Guayabera” Shirt.
- For those who are leaving after this semester, Ortiz is excited to see what they will do in the future.
- Senator Jenkins:
 - Senator Jenkins gives his goodbye speech.
- Senator Jackson:
 - Wants to clarify that she will be moving to remove Student Senate Bill 2019-1062: Respect Students’ Identities act from the agenda.
 - Briefly talks about what we have done and what we can do in the future:
 - Notes that points of privilege should not be taken seriously, and it has not been up to now.
 - Asks the chamber to show respect for the students in the chamber.
 - As one for the LGBTQ caucus leaders, shares facts on the state of Florida’s process on how to legally change one’s name.
- Senator Sneh Patel:
 - It is sad to see all of these seniors leaving the chamber.
 - Congratulates Senator Jenkins for what he has done as a Senator.
 - Has been an inspiration to Senator Patel.
 - States that the tabling of the resolution opposing change to the Title IX regulation is wrong. There is nothing wrong with this legislation.
 - Passing bills regarding sexual assault should not be difficult.
 - We were elected because our constituents trust us.
 - This resolution has the potential to save someone’s life.
 - “Is this what your constituents want?”
 - Wants each person to vote in favor of this.
 - Also wants people to support the drafting of a resolution standing against the 908 Group tearing down businesses at Midtown.
- Senator Martinez:
 - Wishes that the senators keep in mind what is behind these bills that are being attempted to be added to the floor.
 - One resolution was in standing against the 908 Group tearing down businesses at Midtown.
 - This bill was not heard by the Judiciary Committee, based on the due date for legislation being changed.
 - All chamber business has showed zero bipartisanship.
 - Hopes everyone reflects on the meaning of bipartisanship.
- Senator Chou:
 - Plagiarism is something that has bothered Senator Chou.
 - Drafted legislation that would require closed captioning on all SG videos, and notes that Senator Pearson drafted a very similar piece of legislation that was passed by the Judiciary Committee.

- If we are going to be promoting bipartisanship, we should not be stealing language from each other.
- Gives a goodbye for to the chamber for the summer.
- Thinks that people in the chamber must speak up more, in general.
 - Your voices, regardless of what opinions you have, should be heard.
 - Asks the senators to not lose track of what they are here for, which is to help your constituents.
 - “It’s not too late to do stuff.”
- Asks if students want to be a game changer.
- Minority Party Leader Grabowski
 - Shares a presentation, “Making an impact isn’t necessarily a good thing.”
 - Notes the things that have been done by the Impact Caucus, like appointed unqualified candidates, giving preferential treatment, voting against legislation, and much more.
 - Shares violations of the Senate Rules and Procedures, as well as when they happened in meetings.

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

AMENDMENTS TO THE MINUTES:

- Senator

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA:

- Chairwoman Morris moves to add the approved absences from last week’s meeting by unanimous consent. Approved.
- Chairwoman Morris moves to add the failed absence from last week’s meeting: Michael Dormeus by unanimous consent. Approved.
- Chairwoman Morris moves to hear approved absences as a block by unanimous consent. Approved.
 - Motion to approve the aforementioned block by unanimous consent. Approved.
- Chairwoman Morris moves to hear the failed absences as a block by unanimous consent. Approved
 - Motion to approve the aforementioned block by unanimous consent. Approved.
- Minority Party Leader Grabowski moves to suspend the rules and procedures to add legislation to the agenda from the floor. That motion is seconded.
 - In a roll call vote of 28 to 42, that motion fails.
- Majority Party Leader Emmett moves to make friendly amendments: Strike Kaitlyn Day from Summer C replacements, change the spelling of various replacement senators, and move Seth Piatek from Summer C to Summer B, Alfredo Ortiz from Summer C to Summer A, move Melody Ocasio to Summer B, and Tristan Wood to Summer B by unanimous consent. Approved.

- Chairwoman Hernandez moves to friendly amend Student Senate Bill 2019-1052: Funding for Gators Billiards Club to read the correct grand total by unanimous consent. Approved.
- Majority Party Leader Emmett moves to hear the Replacement and Agenda Committee recommendations for the Summer C, A and B replacement seats as a block by unanimous consent. Approved.
- Majority Party Leader Emmett moves to hear Student Bills 2019-1044 through 2019-1056 as a block by unanimous consent. Approved.
- Majority Party Leader Emmett moves to hear Student Bills 2019-1058 through 2019-1060 as a block by unanimous consent. Approved.
- Senator Jackson moves to strike Student Senate Bill 2019-1062: Respect Students' Identities Act by unanimous consent. Approved.

SENATE PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

- Senate President Shaw Welcomes the senators.
- Invites a representative from the Office of Sustainability in celebration of Earth Day:
 - When resolutions come through with sustainability issues, it is often passed from the President's office to the office of sustainability.
 - Have been able to work with countless senators on various issues with sustainability in the Gainesville and University of Florida area.
 - There is a lot moving in the sustainability world.
 - The university works very closely with the city commission on this initiative.
 - The university honors the ordinance prohibiting the use of plastic bags and Styrofoam cups, even though they do not technically fall under it.
 - Thanks the chamber for their efforts.
 - Sustainability touches on each major, as many different graduates from different colleges.
 - You can email the office at info@ufsustainability.ufl.edu
 - Look forward to working with all senators in the coming months.

REPLACEMENT AND AGENDA COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

District A: David Gunby

- Majority Party Leader Emmett moves to call the previous question by unanimous consent. Approved.

In a rising vote, in the eyes of the chair, that motion passes. David Gunby has been appointed to the open District A Senate Seat.

Summer C, A and B Replacement seats

- Majority Party Leader Emmett moves to call the previous question by unanimous consent. Approved.

In a rising vote, in the eyes of the chair, this block is approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

REPLACEMENT & AGENDA:

- Senate President Pro-Tempore Dunson welcomes the senators.
- Wishes the senators luck with exams coming up.
- Wishes the senators who are leaving for summer a great break.
- Open seats:
 - District D
 - Veterinary Medicine
 - Keys residential complex
- One on one signups will be given out soon.

MINORITY PARTY REPORT:

- Gives thanks for the professionalism in the Replacement and Agenda Committee.
- The introduction of special rules, motioned by Majority Party Leader Emmett limits speech.
 - We must make constituents feel prioritized.
- Proposes that the majority party does things that does not want the minority party to fight.
 - Asks to do things ethical, fair, in the interest of students.
- The minority party has made strides to work across the aisle.
- Circumventing debate is a bad precedent, and should not be done by future leaders.
- After the first time hearing of Student Senate 2019-1046, Minority Party Leader Grabowski stated that the bill should be invalidated.
- If your goal is to get out early, they you should find something else to do.
 - There are many students who want to help serve the student body.
- Wants to see a change in priorities in the chamber, and in committees.
- If things are not done correctly, the Minority Party will do everything in their power to fix that.
- Argues that even the second reading of Student Senate Bill-2019-1046 should be invalidated.
- Recommends everyone in the chamber to learn how to speak in the chamber.
 - Many senators have reached out wanting to speak up, but not knowing how to.
 - It is our responsibility to learn them.
- Until we can properly follow codes in the senate, Minority Party Leader Grabowski would not be surprised if students cannot trust Student Government.

BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS:

- Chairman Brown welcomes the senators.
- Good luck to all leaving the chamber for the summer.
- Asks the chamber to use RecSports facilities for upcoming finals.
- The budget season is around the corner.
- Thanks Senator Jenkins for his work done in the chamber.

ALLOCATIONS:

- Chairwoman Hernandez welcomes the senators.
- After the passing the funding legislation, the allocations total will go from \$24,959.58 to \$6,383.09 before the fiscal year to expire.

- Encourages the senators to keep sharing allocations information.
- Asks senators to make outreach to expound the remaining allocations budget.
 - This fiscal year ends on June 30th.
- Office hours:
 - 11:00-12:30pm in the SG office.

JUDICIARY:

- Chairman Sandifer welcomes the senators.
- Thanks the two senators leaving the committee for the summer for their service on the committee.
- Will be meeting soon in Summer A, before the first meeting.
- All legislation will need to be resubmitted for the upcoming summer term.

RULES & ETHICS:

- Chairwoman Morris welcomes the senators.
- Chairwoman Morris moves to approve the approved absences block by unanimous consent. Approved.
- Chairwoman Morris moves to approve the failed absences block by unanimous consent. Approved.
- Chairwoman Morris moves to approve the reinstatement as Spencer Nguyen as District B Senator by unanimous consent. Approved.
- Wishes senators luck on their upcoming exams.
- Absences since the beginning of the spring term do carry into fall, but not into summer.
- Information regarding probation for senators will be sent out soon.

INFORMATION & COMMUNICATION:

- Chairwoman Jones welcomes the senators.
- Thanks everyone who came to the Senate Retreat.
- Senator Alexander will be doing headshots next Wednesday.
- Encourages senators to keep interacting and sharing the posts that have been posted by Student Government.
- Thanks Senator Jenkins for the work done with Information and Communication.
- Will be revealing mentors/mentees tonight at the end of the meeting.

FIRST READING

Block of Student Senate Bills 2019-1044 through 2019-1056:

- Majority Party Leader Emmett moves to call the previous question by unanimous consent. Approved.

In a standing vote, in the eyes of the chair, that block is approved.

Minority Party Leader Grabowski moves to strike Strike Student Senate Bill 2019-1064: Campaign Clarification Act - 700 Code Revision, Student Senate Bill 2019-1065: Committee Meeting Transparency Act, Student Senate Bill 2019-1066: Majority to Appeal Act, and Student

Senate Bill 2019-1067: Publicization of Senate Meetings and Events Act from the agenda by unanimous consent. Approved.

BILLS CONSIDERED UNDER SPECIAL RULES

Student Senate Bill 2019-1061

First round of con:

- Chairman Sandifer: The Judiciary Committee has already failed this legislation. It is a bad precedent to bypass the Judiciary Committee.

First round of pro:

- Minority Party Leader Grabowski: The reason that the legislation was failed was not sufficient enough, that being that the authors did not speak with fraternity presidents. Because the blue lights would not be on fraternity property, this was not necessary to do. The authors are more worried about helping the students who might need these lights instead.

Second round of con:

- Chairman Sandifer: The Judiciary Committee has already failed this legislation. It is a bad precedent to bypass the Judiciary Committee.

Second round of pro:

- Senator Jackson: You are told at Preview that blue lights are able to be seen anywhere on campus, and since fraternity row is a very high density housing area, there should be blue lights located here. Furthermore, these lights are used for all types of emergencies, making them even more necessary.
- Senator Zelin: The 5 criteria used to review legislation does not include talking to fraternity presidents.

Minority Party Leader moves for a roll call vote. That motion passes.

In a roll call vote of 36 to 36, in which a tiebreaker vote is needed by Senate President Shaw, the chair votes no. That motion fails 36 to 37.

Student Senate Bill 2019-1063

First round of con:

- Chairman Sandifer: The Judiciary Committee has already failed this legislation. It is a bad precedent to bypass the Judiciary Committee.
- Chairwoman Hernandez: The definition for “anti-Semitism” is not explained in the piece. More collaborative efforts will be needed.

First round of pro:

- Minority Party Leader Grabowski: Those who want to collaborate should not plagiarize work.
- Senator Zelin: Agrees with Chairwoman Hernandez, and suggests we add amendments to the floor right not. None of the 5 criteria to review were used to fail this legislation.
- Senator Amrose: Suggest to add a friendly amendment to add a clause that explains what anti-Semitism is.

Second round of con:

- Chairwoman Hernandez: Adding friendly amendments would not allow for sponsors to be carried over to the new legislation.

Second round of pro:

- Senator Amrose: Many have not responded when Senator Amrose reached out to entities like Zeta Beta Tau Fraternity. Also adds that a good amount of the Jewish Community is behind this legislation.

Minority Party Leader Grabowski moves for a roll call vote.

In a roll call vote of 27 to 45, that motion fails.

Bill on the table: Student Senate Bill 2019-1068

Minority Party Leader Grabowski moves to take Student Senate Bill 2019-1068: Resolution Opposing Proposed Changes to Title IX Regulations off of the table, in which two rounds of con-pro debate will follow.

First round of con:

- Chairman Sandifer: The Judiciary Committee has already failed this legislation. It is a bad precedent to bypass the Judiciary Committee.

Second round of pro:

- Senator Jackson: Sexual assault survivors are still with us, and it is important that we stand with them.
- Senator Gant: We must consider how the Judiciary Committee has been failing these pieces of legislation, in which it might be necessary to bypass the committee.

Second round of con:

- There were none.

Second round of pro:

- Senator Diaz: due to time sensitivity, it would be appropriate to bypass the legislation.
- Senator Sneh Patel: There were no cons in the last round of con. This bill will also help students immensely.
- Senator Gatos: This bill is important. We have heard many different stories over the past weeks about how this legislation will help them.

In a roll call vote of 45 to 28, that motion passes. Student Senate Bill 2019-1068: Resolution Opposing Proposed Changes to Title IX Regulations will be heard.

Five minutes of presentation:

- Minority Party Leader Grabowski:
 - These changes to Title IX rules will change how colleges can pursue sexual assault cases. The term for “sexual assault” used to be overarching, but this would change.
- Senator Diaz:
 - In a landscape where universities sweep sexual assault under the rug, it is immensely important to oppose these changes. Thanks the chamber for allowing this piece to be heard.
- Collin Solomon:
 - If you want to be a top-5 university, this is it. If you want a legacy, make this it. It is as easy as a yes.
- Senator Sneh Patel:
 - Thanks the chamber for voting yes to hear the legislation.
 - We must make sure this bill is passed, to give sexual assault resources to survivors.
- Senator Amrose:
 - Glad that this bill is being considered.
 - We must remember the crying faces those who have been affected by sexual assault. We must be empathetic. Continue to support this bill. This is how you make an impact.
- Senator Jackson:
 - Spoke previously about standing with constituents you do not necessarily identify with, this how you can do it.
 - These changes will negatively affect people.
 - Sexual assault, even though it is often times not on campus, is still a university issue.
 - Reached out to many universities, and they have passed similar legislation.
 - This issue should not be ignored.
 - Many universities standing against these changes can make a difference, despite public comment being closed.

Five minutes of non-debatable technical questions

- Senator Lima: Can you talk about how this bill came to be?
 - Minority Party Leader Grabowski: This was a bipartisan bill in nature in drafting legislation. Many universities across this country had a role in collaborating on this legislation.
 - Senator Jackson: It started with the authors reaching out to people from universities all across the state of Florida, and eventually the United States.
- Senator Gatos: Have you seen positive responses from other university passing similar legislation?

- Minority Party Leader Grabowski: Yes. Mentions that students from across the country know about this legislation being drafted. Our actions as a chamber could make a difference in students' lives. Asks Senator Jackson to elaborate.
- Senator Jackson: Mentions all colleges that have passed similar legislation, but the number could be much more.
- Minority Party Leader Grabowski: There is also a Slack channel based on this initiative from not only Gainesville, but across the country. Other universities have actually had collaboration on this issue in a social media platform like Slack.

Chairman Brown moves to call the previous question by unanimous consent. Approved.

Chairman Brown moves to approve Student Senate Bill 2019-1068: Resolution Opposing Proposed Changes to Title IX Regulations by unanimous consent. Approved.

FIRST READING CONTINUED

Majority Party Leader Emmett moves to table Student Senate Bill 2019-1057: Resolution Standing against Anti-Semitism to the Judiciary Committee by unanimous consent.

Student Senate Bills 2019-1058 through 2019-1060

Majority Party Leader Emmett moves to call the previous question by unanimous consent. Approved.

SECOND READING

- There were none.

FIRST READING:

- There were none.

BILLS PENDING SIGNATURES:

- There were none.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Senator Meyer: (Inaudible).
- Senator Bond: Project Grow Love Benefit Concert Wednesday, April 17, 2019 at 11 AM – 10 PM.
- Chairwoman Jones: Mentor Mentee reveal will happen tonight.
- Senator Matei: Reminds the chamber of the terrorist attacks in Sri Lanka, and asks for a moment of silence.
- Senator Alexander: Will be taking headshots this Thursday.
- Senate President Pro-Tempore Dunson: Instructs how to correctly fill out the voter record.

ROLL CALL:

- A motion to use voting records for final roll call by unanimous consent. Motion is objected

ADJOURNMENT:

- The meeting was adjourned at 9:56pm.